

# CRC Infrastructure Sub-Committee

## Project Identification Template and Instructions

### Mobile County Public Safety Radio Safety

### And Microwave Loop for 800 Mhz System

#### **Project Identification Template**

**Instructions:** Please complete all of the information requested with the best information you have available. Limited attachments are acceptable if necessary to adequately describe the project but the **total length should be limited to 6 pages** one-sided (including attachments). This Identification Template is intended as a preliminary mechanism by which proposals and projects to improve the resiliency of Coastal Alabama are solicited and captured with some consistency of format, scope definition, and project benefits and impact. **This is only a first step: proposals and projects will not be funded based upon this submittal. Further information and details will be solicited at such time as the screening and funding process is more fully defined.**

Responses should be received by November 26, 2010, to be included in the appendix the Coastal Recovery Commission Report to the Governor to be submitted December 15, 2010. Submittals after that date will be accepted for consideration but will not be included in the Project Appendix.

Completed Templates may be submitted:

- Electronically (.pdf preferred) to: [crcalabama.templateresponse.com](http://crcalabama.templateresponse.com).
- By US mail to: Coastal Recovery Commission.

P.O. Box 881, Mobile, AL 36601-0881

#### **I. What – Project Information/Basic Facts**

1. Project Scope Reconfigure the Mobile County microwave system to increase resilience and ensure communication continuity. This project will add additional microwave communication towers to obtain complete coverage of Mobile County as well as uniform regional coverage.

2. Project duration or schedule by phase and status of any work in progress \_\_\_\_\_ A needs assessment has been completed identifying new tower locations and necessary hardware upgrades.
- 2.1. Conceptual and Feasibility Planning, Engineering, Construction \_\_\_\_\_ The feasibility planning has commenced as well as some limited engineering logistics. Construction has not commenced.
3. Estimated Cost (plus or minus 30%) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000,000
- 3.1. Indicate level of confidence in accuracy of these estimates \_\_\_\_\_ 75%

## II. Why - Project Description relative to Impact and Criteria

1. Identify what need, threat or opportunity that this project, study, or recommendation will address This project will result in a reconfiguration of the existing microwave communication system to a ring network to ensure that in the event of a failure , the equipment will be re-routed around the network to reach its destination. This will allow alternate paths and eliminate the potential for single point of failure. All public safety agencies in Mobile County rely on this communication system's functionality.
2. How does this project or recommendation address and impact the recommended evaluation criteria:
  - 2.1.1. Coastal Recovery Providing additional microwave towers will allow for continuous, uninterrupted, county-wide communication for all users of the 800 Mhz radio system. These upgrades will result in better response and recovery for future disasters.
  - 2.1.2. Resiliency Providing a loop network will prevent failure in the entire system in the event of a failure at a single point source. This ability to reroute signals and provide alternate paths makes the entire system more resilient and therefore much more reliable.
  - 2.1.3. Transformational The current 800 Mhz communication system is susceptible to interruption in service due to its current configuration. Improving this system will provide for the entire County to have uninterrupted reliable service and provide better regional coverage for users outside the County as well.
  - 2.1.4. Regionalism The proposed upgrades to the 800 Mhz communication system in Mobile County will provide improved and uniform regional coverage.

2.1.5. Economic Diversification \_\_\_\_\_ The effort on economic diversification from implementation of this project is minimal. The project will allow for continuous and expanded use of a very effective communication system serving the entire County.

3. Project Economics \_\_\_\_\_ The estimated cost of this project is \$5,000,000

4. Identify Direct Project benefits to Coastal Alabama, including avoided costs, consequence of “No Build” alternative. The benefits of this project include assuring compliance with FEMA’s Integrated Public Alert Warning System and National Incident Management systems. Further, this project will provide full interoperability among multi-agencies involved in any incident. If this project is not implemented, the 800 Mhz System with lack of coverage and potential for failure will remain in place.

4.1. Impact on employment, job training and development, both short term and permanent It is not anticipated that this project will result in the creation of new jobs for the operation and maintenance of the new system.

4.2. Oil spill mitigation outside of claims process \_\_\_\_\_ This project will enhance and expand the 800 Mhz communication system resulting in more efficient response and effective recovery in the event of future oil spills.

5. Identify Indirect benefits and costs

5.1. Collateral Benefits to the objectives of Healthy Environment, Healthy Economy and Healthy Society (subjective responses allowed) The improved communication system will result in a more effective response to all disasters either natural or man-made. An effective response will result in a quicker recovery allowing people to return to their normal lifestyle promoting a healthy society. A quicker recovery in response to a disaster also allows the economy to recover sooner, making a community and the entire region more resilient. A more effective response and recovery means the affected environment is restored sooner as well.

5.2. Collateral Costs or impacts to the objectives of Healthy Environment, Healthy Economy and Healthy Society ( subjective responses allowed) \_\_\_\_\_ There are no collateral costs for this project, only benefits.

5.3. Connectivity and Linkage to other projects or initiatives: Does this project complement or compete with other projects? What other projects would be precluded if this project is funded? This project will expand the 800 Mhz communication system for full coverage throughout all of Mobile County and more uniform regional coverage.

### III. Who/How – General Information

1. Name and contact information for Entity, Collaboration or Person submitting project or recommendation nomination. Joe Ruffer, P.E., Mobile County Engineer, Mobile County Public Works, Mobile County Commission, 205 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36644-1600 (251) 574-8595 phone, (251) 574-4722 fax, [jruffer@mobilecounty.net](mailto:jruffer@mobilecounty.net)

*1.1. Entities and communities sharing a common threat or need are encouraged to collaborate for a joint/combined project submittal to raise the profile of the issue and solution to be addressed. Also please indicate the level of community support or resistance and hurdles to collaboration. **This project has support from the Mobile County Commission, and all Departments operating under their direction.***

2. Identify Sponsoring Entity for oversight and accountability if different from above.

2.1. Existing or to be created? Existing

2.1.1. If to be created, what parties or interests must be involved and what level of effort is required to do so? Not Applicable

2.2. Describe governance, organizational capacity, availability of skills, experience of sponsoring entity to implement the Project The Mobile County Commission, operating through the Mobile County Public Works Department will be responsible for the maintenance of the project following construction and acceptance. The Mobile County Commission has the financial capability, expertise, and support personnel to maintain the project to function as designed. The facilities will be maintained for continuous use by the public. The Mobile County Commission will budget the necessary funds to maintain and make repairs as required.

2.3. Project complexity: Hurdles and barriers to project implementation, completion and sustainability. Identify regulatory issues. There will be permitting issues related to tower construction.

3. Identify any known or anticipated administrative, regulatory, or legislative action that would be required at either the local, state, or federal governmental level. None
4. Requested funding from Coastal Recovery Fund (CRF) \$5,000,000
5. Identified potential funding sources other than the CRF None exist at this time
  - 5.1. Leverage or multiplier on CRF investment: matching funds, public or private None exist at this time
  - 5.2. Public Private Opportunities, user fees, Federal funds, private foundation grants, bonding capacity, etc. None exist at this time
6. Forecast of ongoing maintenance or operating costs and source of funding if not self sustaining The Mobile County Commission will provide funding through the annual budget process for the maintenance of the system.