



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Council Session

Item G17

#2012-98 - Approving FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant for Siren Replacement

Staff Contact: Jon Rosenlund

Council Agenda Memo

From: Jon Rosenlund, Emergency Management Director

Meeting: April 10, 2012

Subject: Hazard Mitigation Grant - Sirens

Item #'s: G-17

Presenter(s): Jon Rosenlund, Emergency Management Director

Background

The Emergency Management Department operates and maintains 39 outdoor warning sirens to alert the public of dangerous weather and other hazards. Many of these devices were installed between 1979 and 1981. These devices have an anticipated life span of 30 years, and existing sirens are already failing at a rate of almost 1-2 annually over the past several years.

Unfortunately, many repair parts are no longer available for these older models. Sirens which fail are replaced at significant cost on a case-by-case basis. In the past few years, the Emergency Management Department had budgeted to replace one siren a year, as necessary. However, the department is experiencing repeated siren failures as these devices reach and exceed their 30-year life-span. Local funds are not likely to be sufficient to keep up with the anticipated number of replacements needed. The Department received a similar grant in 2010 to replace four sirens for the matching price of one device. This is a second phase of that siren replacement project.

Discussion

The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

The HMGP Grant funds up to 75% of approved projects with a local match of 25%. The Department intends to budget for the 25% match in Capital Outlay in the FY 2012-13.

This match is the same \$15,000 that the department regularly budgets for the replacement of one siren.

The Emergency Management Department, working with NEMA, has completed a grant application to install four (4) sirens to meet this looming problem. Three (3) of the new sirens will replace older models while one will be installed as an expansion to the current system (see table below). Siren replacement costs are typically \$15,000 for each device. In this second phase, sirens will be installed in the communities of Grand Island and Doniphan.

Each of these new sirens has a considerably larger effective radius of 70dB estimated at 6200 feet in all directions. Sirens listed to be replaced have much smaller radii, such as 1600 feet. This will allow fewer sirens to serve the community and can lead to lower utility costs over the long term.

| Phase II Siren Installation List | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Siren # | Description | Installed Year | Latitude / Longitude | Current 70dB Radius (ft) | New 70dB Radius (ft) |
| 4 | Doniphan, Village of - Fire Station | 1981 | N40 46.406 W98 22.181 | 1600 | 6200 |
| 13 | Anna & Broadwell - 1700 Block of West Anna (Alley City Property) | 1981 | N40 54.724 W98 21.189 | 3200 | 6200 |
| 18 | 4th Street & Congdon - 1500 E 4th St. | 1981 | N40 56.088 W98 19.603 | 3200 | 6200 |
| New | Veteran's Ball Fields | N/A | TBD | N/A | 6200 |

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the FEMA hazard mitigation grant for siren replacement.

Sample Motion

Move to approve.



FEMA

MAR 23 2012

Mr. Al Berndt, Assistant Director
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
1300 Military Road
Lincoln, NE 68508-0159

RE: FEMA-1924-DR-NE
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Project Approval
Subgrantee: Hall County
Project #: 0008
Siren Replacement

Dear Mr. Berndt:

We are pleased to notify you that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has granted approval for the application submitted by Hall County for the siren replacement project. FEMA will release funds to the State in the amount of \$45,000. The non-federal match requirement of \$15,000 will be provided through local funding.

The activity completion timeframe for this project is 24 months from the date of this approval letter. If the Subgrantee is unable to complete the project within the approved timeframe, the Subgrantee, through the grantee, must submit a formal written request for a time extension with justification to the Regional Administrator. FEMA must receive the request no later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the activity completion timeframe. Failure to submit timely and complete extension requests will result in a de-obligation of any funds not disbursed by the grantee within the approved activity completion timeframe.

Quarterly progress reports for HMGP projects are required. Please include this HMGP project in your future quarterly reports.

A change to the approved statement of work (SOW) requires prior approval from FEMA. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) stipulates that additions or amendments to a HMGP Subgrantee statement of work (SOW) shall be reviewed by all state and federal agencies participating in the NEPA process. NEPA sign-off for all SOW additions or amendments is essential before the revised SOW can be approved by FEMA or implemented by the HMGP Subgrantee.

Mr. Berndt
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If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Tina G. Williams, Hazard Mitigation Assistance Specialist, at (816) 283-7918 or Melissa Janssen, Chief, Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch, at (816) 283-7012.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Bissell, Director
Mitigation Division

CC: Sheila Hascall, State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Earl Imler, State Public Assistance Officer

GRANT AGREEMENT

between

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

And

Hall County

PROJECT TITLE: Siren Replacement Phase II

GRANT AGREEMENT NO: DR-1924-NE

PROJECT NO: 0008

FEDERAL TAX ID#: 47-6006205

DUNS No: 04-091-9607

FIPS Code: 079-19595-00

SCOPE OF WORK

This Grant Assistance Agreement (AGREEMENT) is to provide Hall County (SUBGRANTEE) with federal assistance from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds for the above-referenced mitigation grant. The federal share shall not exceed \$45,000.00 or 75% of actual allowable project costs, whichever is less. The SUBGRANTEE shall provide at least \$15,000.00 (25%) through local non-federal (cash and/or in-kind) sources for actual allowable project costs. These funds are to assist the SUBGRANTEE with completing the approved scope of work in accordance with the work schedule, milestones, and scope of work that was submitted to and approved by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Any changes to the approved scope of work and/or amount budgeted must be submitted to and approved by NEMA prior to executing the changes. The SUBGRANTEE is required to obtain all necessary permits before construction begins.

AGREEMENTS

NEMA will provide financial oversight and management in the role of GRANTEE based on the grant guidance, the grant financial guide and all other applicable State and federal guidelines. The GRANTEE will provide technical assistance and direction to the SUBGRANTEE on programmatic and financial requirements. The GRANTEE will provide all appropriate documents and forms and make payments to the SUBGRANTEE to complete the approved scope of work.

The GRANTEE is responsible for monitoring SUBGRANTEE activities to provide reasonable assurance that the SUBGRANTEE administers federal awards in compliance with federal and State requirements. Responsibilities include the accounting of receipts and expenditures, cash management and the maintaining of adequate financial records.

Additionally, the SUBGRANTEE will be monitored quarterly by the GRANTEE to ensure that the program goals, objectives, timelines, budgets, and other related program criteria are being met. Monitoring will be accomplished through a combination of quarterly reporting, reviewing of expenditures for reimbursement, and when necessary; on-site monitoring. Monitoring will involve the review and analysis of the financial, programmatic, and administrative issues relative to the program, and will identify areas where technical assistance and other support may be needed.

The SUBGRANTEE will pass appropriate resolutions to assure NEMA that it is participating, and will continue to participate, in the National Flood Insurance Program, if mapped.

The SUBGRANTEE and the SUBGRANTEE's AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE agree to provide all supervision, inspection, accounting, and other services necessary to complete the scope of work from inception to closeout with the requirements set forth below.

I. ACTIVITY COMPLETION TIMEFRAME

The approved activity completion timeframe for this grant is from ***March 23, 2012 through March 23, 2014***. All work must be completed prior to the activity completion timeframe ending. The SUBGRANTEE shall not incur costs or obligate funds for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the project, program, or activities beyond the expiration date of the activity completion timeframe.

If a time extension is needed it must be requested at least 75 days prior to the activity completion timeframe end date. All requests must be supported by adequate justification submitted to NEMA in order to be processed. This justification is a written explanation of the reason or reasons for the delay; an outline of remaining funds available to support the extended activity completion timeframe; and a description of performance measures necessary to complete the project. Without the justification, extension requests will not be processed.

II. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES.

The SUBGRANTEE shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations and policies as defined in the State of Nebraska Hazard Mitigation Administrative Plan. A non-exclusive list of laws and regulations commonly applicable to FEMA grants follows hereto for reference only.

- OMB Circular A-102 – Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments as implemented in 44 CFR Part 13
- Title 2 CFR Part 225 (OMB Circular A-87) – Cost Principles for State and Local Governments
- OMB Circular A-133 – Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133, as amended by Section 102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA)
- Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
- SUBGRANTEE's application that was received and approved by NEMA and FEMA

- State of Nebraska Administrative Plan for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

III. GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

To ensure that federal funds are awarded and expended appropriately, the SUBGRANTEE will establish and maintain a grant management system. The standards for SUBGRANTEE organizations stem from the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Uniform Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles. State, local and tribal organizations must follow the uniform administrative requirements standards in OMB Circular A-102, and cost principle standards in OMB Circular A-87. These standards combined with the audit standards provided within OMB Circular A-133, plus the requirements of the federal Cash Management Improvement Act constitute the basis for all policies, processes and procedures set forth in this grant management system for the SUBGRANTEE.

The SUBGRANTEE's grant management system must:

- Include internal controls based on the American Institute for Certified Public Accountant's (AICPA) definitions and requirements in the government-wide administrative requirements and cost principles
- Include a chart of accounts that includes a separate cost center, fund, or accounting codes for each federal grant or program
- Be in compliance with the Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA), good business processes and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)
- Include procedures to minimize federal cash on hand
- Include the ability to track expenditures on a cash or accrual basis
- Include the ability to track expenditures in both financial and program budgets
- Include procedures to document all grant-related expenditures
- Include procedures to ensure expenditures are eligible and allowable
- Include the ability to fulfill government-required financial reporting forms

IV. PROCUREMENT

This agreement requires that all procurement is executed by the SUBGRANTEE. Procurement standards must be in accordance with the written adopted procedures of the SUBGRANTEE, provided that the local procurement standards conform to applicable State and Federal law and the standards identified in the 44 CFR. The SUBGRANTEE will ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by Federal statutes and executive orders and their implementing regulations.

V. AUDIT

SUBGRANTEE must comply with the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133. Reference: Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA).

VI. PAYMENT REQUEST PROCESS

Payments to SUBGRANTEES are based on eligible expenditures that are specifically related to the approved grant budget and scope of work. SUBGRANTEES can request **Reimbursement** for allowable expenditures already paid at anytime during the activity completion timeframe.

Payments shall be limited to the documented cash requirements submitted by the SUBGRANTEE. The SUBGRANTEE must submit a completed Payment Request Form and provide supporting documentation of eligible project costs to receive payment of funds.

Reimbursement requests must include payment verification (i.e. paid invoices, receipts, payroll records with personnel activity reports, cancelled checks, general ledger print outs, etc.).

Payment of funds will not be made to a SUBGRANTEE until NEMA has this grant agreement signed and on file.

VII. Match Verification

The maximum federal share to this mitigation grant cannot exceed 75% of eligible grant expenditures. Therefore, the matching funds (cash and in-kind) must be at least 25% of eligible grant expenditures. The subgrantee is responsible for submitting proof of the local **non-federal** match that was used for their mitigation grant to NEMA. Expenditures must be in accordance with the approved scope of work and budget and in accordance with the 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 13.24, "Matching or cost sharing"

Cash match can be money contributed to the subgrantee by the subgrantee, other public agencies and institutions, private organizations and individuals as long as it comes from a non-federal source. Cash spent must be for allowable costs in accordance with the SUBGRANTEE's approved scope of work and budget and must be applicable to the period to which the cost sharing or matching requirement applies.

In-kind match must comply with the requirements of the 44 CFR, Section 13.24 (matching or cost sharing). The value of in-kind contributions is also applicable to the period to which the cost sharing or matching requirement applies. The in-kind match provided must be documented by the third party contributing the in-kind services. The in-kind match must be specifically stated in the SUBGRANTEE's scope of work and budget before in-kind match will be allowed to match any mitigation grant. Documentation can be a letter (on letterhead) from the third party stating the scope of their work, what is being contributed as it relates to the scope of work, the value, a statement to the effect that the value is normally charged, and a statement that the value is being waived on behalf of the subgrantee to meet the matching requirements to the

subgrantee's mitigation grant or a spreadsheet detailing in-kind contributions certified by the Authorized Representative.

If the local match is insufficient to satisfy the local match requirements for receiving all available federal funds, the awarded federal funds will be reduced accordingly so as not to exceed the maximum federal share allowed under this award.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The mitigation grant requires quarterly programmatic and financial reporting and progress relative to the approved scope of work. SUBGRANTEES are required to complete the quarterly progress report forms that are provided by NEMA and submit them by the 15th day following each federal fiscal quarter. (See administrative plan for specific date.)

WAIVERS

No conditions or provisions of this AGREEMENT can be waived unless approved by NEMA and the SUBGRANTEE, in writing. Unless otherwise stated in writing, NEMA's failure to insist upon strict performance of any provision of this AGREEMENT, or to exercise any right based upon a breach, shall not constitute a waiver of any right or obligation specified under this AGREEMENT.

AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS

This AGREEMENT may be amended or modified in reference to the grant funds provided, administrative procedures, or any other necessary matter, but not to take effect until approved, in writing, by NEMA and the SUBGRANTEE.

COMPLIANCE, TERMINATION AND OTHER REMEDIES

Unless otherwise stated in writing, NEMA requires strict compliance by the SUBGRANTEE and its authorized representative(s) with the terms of this AGREEMENT, and the requirements of any applicable local, state and federal statute, rules, regulations; particularly those included in the Assurances attached to this grant agreement.

NEMA may suspend or terminate any obligation to provide funding or demand return of grant funds, following notice from NEMA, if the SUBGRANTEE fails to meet any obligations under this AGREEMENT or fails to make satisfactory progress toward administration or completion of said project.

The SUBGRANTEE understands and agrees that NEMA may enforce the terms of this AGREEMENT by any combination, or all remedies available to NEMA under this AGREEMENT, or under any other provision of law, common law, or equity.

INDEMNIFICATION

1. It is understood and agreed by NEMA and the SUBGRANTEE and its agents that this AGREEMENT is solely for the benefit of the parties to this grant and gives no right to any other party.

2. The SUBGRANTEE, on behalf of itself and its successors and assigns, agrees to protect, save, and hold harmless NEMA and the State of Nebraska, and their authorized agents and employees, from all claims, actions, costs, damages, or expenses of any nature whatsoever by reason of the negligent acts, errors, or omissions of the SUBGRANTEE or its authorized representative, its contractors, subcontractors, assigns, agents, licensees, arising out of or in connection with any acts or activities authorized by this AGREEMENT. The SUBGRANTEE's obligation to protect, save, and hold harmless as herein provided shall not extend to claims or causes of action for costs, damages, or expenses caused by or resulting from the negligent acts, errors, or omissions of NEMA, the State of Nebraska, or any of their authorized agents or employees.

3. The SUBGRANTEE further agrees to defend NEMA, the State of Nebraska, and their authorized agents and employees against any claim or cause of action, or to pay reasonable attorney's fees incurred in the defense of any such claim or cause of action, as to which the SUBGRANTEE is required to protect, save, or hold harmless said parties pursuant to paragraph 2 of this part. The SUBGRANTEE's obligation to defend, or to pay attorney's fees for the defense of such claims or causes of action as herein provided, shall not extend to claims or causes of action for costs, damages, or expenses caused by or resulting from the negligent acts, errors, or omissions of NEMA, the State of Nebraska, or any of their authorized agents or employees.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The SUBGRANTEE shall include, in any public or private release of information regarding the project, language that acknowledges the funding contribution through NEMA by FEMA.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS OF APPLICANT

The SUBGRANTEE, its officers, employees, agents and council members shall all perform their obligations under this AGREEMENT as an independent contractor and not in any manner as officers, employees or agents of NEMA or the State of Nebraska. All references herein to the SUBGRANTEE shall include its officers, employees, city council/board members, and agents.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECT

While NEMA undertakes to provide technical assistance to the SUBGRANTEE and its authorized representative in the administration of the project, said project remains the sole responsibility of the applicant in accomplishing grant objectives and goals. NEMA undertakes

no responsibility to the SUBGRANTEE, or any third party, other than what is expressly set out in this AGREEMENT.

ENTIRE GRANT AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT sets forth the entire AGREEMENT between NEMA and the SUBGRANTEE with respect to subject matter hereof. Commitments, warranties, representations and understandings or agreements not contained, or referred to, herein or amended thereto shall not be binding on either NEMA or the SUBGRANTEE. Except as may be expressly provided herein, no alteration of any of the terms or conditions of this AGREEMENT will be effective without written consent of both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, NEMA and the SUBGRANTEE have executed this AGREEMENT by the signatures of authorized persons of both entities and on the dates indicated below:

**Nebraska Emergency
Management Agency**

Al Berndt, Governors Authorized Representative Authorized Representative

Date

Date

Signature of Alternate Authorized Representative (optional)

Date

RESOLUTION 2012-98

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, is an eligible unit of a general local government authorized to file an application through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency for a Hazard Mitigation Program Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency are presently accepting grant applications for hazard mitigation; and

WHEREAS, a grant application has been prepared to request funding to conduct an Outdoor Warning Siren Replacement and Installation Project for the City of Grand Island and other Hall County Communities; and

WHEREAS, FEMA has approved a \$60,000 siren replacement project, providing \$45,000 in Hazard Mitigation Grant Funds for the program, and

WHEREAS, the required 25% cash match of \$15,000 will be provided by the City, and

WHEREAS, the grant allows for two years (until March 2014) to complete this grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that:

1. The City of Grand Island, Nebraska is hereby authorized to apply for financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency for the purpose of conducting an Outdoor Warning Siren Replacement and Installation Project for the City of Grand Island and other Hall County Communities; and
2. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute such grant application and other documentation on behalf of the City of Grand Island for such grant process.

- - -

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, April 10, 2012.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk