

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** WIRELESS NETWORK SYSTEM, Authorization for application to the Department of Justice, COPS Office and acceptance of a grant of \$1,000,000 to construct a Fixed, Wireless, Interoperable Network to transmit Secure Data throughout the City (Chief Administrative Officer).

**REPORT:** 1431-07

**ADVICE:** Approval

### BACKGROUND

The City of New Haven and its Departments of CAO, IT and Police Services is looking to build a wireless municipal area network to cover the entire City of New Haven. This network will augment the existing hard wired public switch and limited fiber optic networks in the city. This proposed project will make drastic improvements to public safety communications correcting deficiencies and achieving expanded data interoperability. The enhanced wireless fixed broadband network that are proposed will enable high speed data transmission to all public safety facilities, including substations, 911 PSAP, training academies and other key facilities throughout the City. This will enable the city to fill in blank areas not currently receiving data because of the terrain. This system will also become a backup for the existing mobile network (900 MHZ system) and limited fiber network. Currently, the city's police substations and fire stations are dependent on T-1 and DSL lines that are overloaded, at times inoperable and expensive. T1 and DSL are single points of failure and not designed to carry additional data traffic. Implementing this wireless network will eliminate the problems and position the city in the future with another path that is expandable and also capable of VOIP.

As part of this infrastructure, the City will be purchasing approximately 30 wireless cameras. These cameras will be strategically placed among the 10 policing districts within the City of New Haven. A determination of where the cameras are most needed will be assessed by the New Haven Police Department based on local and current crime statistics within each district. Each policing district will also receive a computer/laptop in order to monitor the cameras. The cameras will be IP addressable and easily accessible through security enabled and password protection. Therefore, the City's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) respectfully advises the Honorable Board of Aldermen to authorize the Mayor of the City of New Haven to submit an application to the Department of Justice, COPS office in the amount of \$1,000,000 and to accept such funds, if offered, and to execute all documents and contracts as necessary. There is no local match on this grant.

A portion of this grant (\$169,203) would be used for providing salary to personnel up to three years and also to provide one-time costs for contractor and equipment (\$742,135). Thus, a total of \$911,338 would be used for both personnel and non-personnel costs, and \$88,662 would be used to provide fringe benefits to personnel up to three years. This is primarily an IT project with an additional 30 cameras that will also be purchased by the Department of Emergency Management. This project involves outside contractor, equipment purchase, and hiring. This item will not result in any revenues for the City.

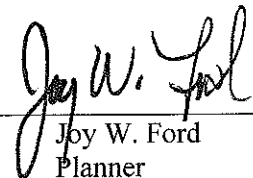
### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The cameras and the "larger" conduit for data and information flow will directly impact crime prevention and response to criminal activities in the City of New Haven. The ability to monitor and record problem areas and respond to an incident faster will have an immediate impact on businesses and residents and deter criminal activity. The most reliable and cost effective solution to the problem of sending data (911 dispatch, preplans, GIS, streaming video, photos) to the City's police substations and other identified key sites is this secure wireless broadband system. The State of Connecticut Interoperable Plan also calls for "creation of an integrated voice and data network to connect all emergency response, assisting and supporting organizations." This system is entirely expandable; not only the fixed wireless infrastructure but also cameras can be added, as needed, to the public right of way.

**ADVICE** Approval

**ADOPTED:** August 19, 2009  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:**

  
Joy W. Ford  
Planner