EXHIBIT A

Minnesota Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Communication Networks

NOTICE OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY FY2016

2015 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP)

Federal Funds Interoperable Communications Projects

As part of the FY2015 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP), \$800,000.00 has been awarded to DECN. Fifty thousand dollars will be allocated to DPS-ECN for M&A and planning costs. Twenty-five thousand dollars will be distributed to each region to be used for training and/or exercises. The remaining five hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars will be available to regions on a competitive grants process in order to continue the investment in Strengthening Interoperable Communication Systems. SHSP funds have been allocated to Homeland Security and Emergency Management regions or individual counties and earmarked for Interoperable Communication planning since the FY2007 SHSP grant process for this purpose.

Minnesota Statute §403.36, subdivision 1g provides that the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB), which has been designated as Minnesota's State Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) shall "advise the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety on public safety communications interoperability and on the allocation and use of funds made available to Minnesota to support public safety communications interoperability." Information on the SECB procedures to fulfill this requirement is available on the SECB website (https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ecn/Pages/default.aspx) under "Grants."

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Each of the following regional emergency services board/regional emergency communications boards (ESB/ECB) are eligible to make application through e-grants under this grant:

- Northeast MN Emergency Communications Board
- Northwest MN Emergency Communications Board .
- Central Emergency Services Board
- South Central MN Regional Emergency Communications Board
- Southwest MN Emergency Communications Board
- Southeast MN Emergency Communications Board
- . Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

This is a competitive grant. All interested regions will submit an application to the Division of Emergency Communication Networks by 3:00 p.m., January 29, 2016. All regional requests will be reviewed by the Grants Work Group and grants will be awarded based upon alignment of the region's goals with the SECB's Goals and Initiatives for the next 5 years.

Based upon the Investment Hierarchy that was approved by the Grant Work group for the 2015 SHSP, the priorities for this grant are:

| Priority | Purpose |
|------------|--|
| Priority 1 | Training and Exercises |
| Priority 2 | ARMER Integration Costs (Infrastructure Enhancements) |
| Priority 3 | Local ARMER Integration Costs (Subscriber Equipment) |
| Priority 4 | Other Non-ARMER Interoperability Infrastructure (must be consistent with the SCIP) |
| Priority 5 | Planning |

The Grants Workgroup unanimously decided that in order to prevent individual entities from becoming dependent on State funding, there is a matching fund requirement for equipment that is two times the amount of the state grant. Invoices and proof of payment must demonstrate that the agency paid the equivalent.

Sub grantees may utilize a total of 5% of the total awarded amount towards the Management and Administrative category. This includes the original \$25,000 that will be allocated to the regions for Training and Exercises. If a sub grantee believes that this amount will not cover these costs, they may apply for more funding in the planning category.

A detailed Investment Hierarchy is available in e-grants.

Tribal governments should pass a resolution to move to ARMER, submit an approved full participation plan and join their Regional Emergency Services Board/Regional Emergency Communications Boards (ESB/ECB). They should participate in the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meetings and the Regional Users and Owners and Operators meetings.

PROJECT DATES (PERFORMANCE PERIODS)

The funds available for this purpose must be encumbered through a fully executed grant no later than March 31, 2016. The grant performance period will extend through December 01, 2016. The grant period cannot be extended.

In order to ensure all funds are spent and not returned to HSEM the Grants Work Group has decided that if, by July 1, 2016, the applicant(s) that are awarded the funding are unable to provide adequate documentation that the funds will be spent by the projected deadline OR the Grants Work Group representative feels that their assigned region cannot fulfill their obligation of spending the awarded monies, the unallocated monies will revert back to ECN for further re-distribution. Re-distribution of these funds will be decided upon by the Grants Work Group and based upon applications originally on file.

Any funds not anticipated to be expended by December 01, 2016 will revert to HSEM.

2015 SHSP Grant

STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT PROGRAM

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

Grant Program Title: 2015 SHSP Grant – Federal Funds

| Applicant (Region | nal Board Name) | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----|
| Name: | City of Duluth | |
| Address: | 411 West First Street, Room 10 | 57 |
| | Duly th, MN 55802 | |
| Phone: | 218-730-5450 | |

<u>Applicant Contact</u> (must be an individual of the representative County/Tribal Government)

| Name: John Hyde |
|------------------------------------|
| Address: 1532 West MichigAn Street |
| Duluth, MN 55802 |
| Phone: 218-730-4410 |
| e-mail: 1hyde & which mr. Por |
| Application Date: $12 - 21 - 2015$ |
| Amount Requested: \$ 99623,26 |

Preliminary proposal from vendor is needed.

1

Detailed Narrative Description of Proposed Project(s) Include detailed project timelines.

ADio)or

FY2015 SHSP Grant Program State Homeland Security Program Notice of Grant Opportunity

MATCH REQUIREMENTS

The matching fund requirement is two times the amount of the state grant. Other state funds CANNOT count toward the matching fund requirement. Matching funds may consist of cash and/or in-kind contributions. You must include a detailed description of each match source in the application budget.

PROJECT GOALS

The funding goal of this grant is to provide funds to assist counties and tribal governments to achieve regional funding priorities. Regions need to continually adjust their funding priorities based upon changes in interoperability needs and training requirements. These funding priorities should follow closely along with the Statewide Emergency Communications Board 5 year plan.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted as follows:

| Paper submissions: | Division of Emergency Communication Networks | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Department of Public Safety | | | | | | | |
| | 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 137 | | | | | | | |
| | St. Paul, MN 55101 | | | | | | | |
| | Attn: Statewide Interoperability Program Manager | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

e-mail submissions: <u>david.denton@state.mn.us</u>

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All county or tribal government applications for interoperable communication funding under this grant must be submitted to the Division of Emergency Communication Networks by 3:00 p.m. on January 29, 2016.

APPLICATION PROCESS

ADDITIONAL GRANT CRITERIA

The following additional considerations will be applicable to this grant process:

- Grant funds cannot be used to meet a match requirement under any other state or federal grant program.
- Applications must be consistent with the participation plans approved for counties and other local units of government within each region.
- Due to the variability and speculative nature of costs provided to counties in their participation plans, costs may be assigned to various infrastructure elements required for local integration to the ARMER system.
- All other terms and conditions for SHSP apply (see <u>http://www.fema.gov/fy-2014-homeland-security-grant-program</u>.

- Applicants must demonstrate the ability to meet the match requirements as set forth by the Grants Work Group.
- Applicants must demonstrate a clear plan to expend the requested funds within the grant performance period.
- Applicants must have a plan showing that the allocated funding will be spent by December 01, 2016.
- In order to ensure all funds are spent and not returned to HSEM the Grants Work Group has decided that if, by July 1, 2016, the applicant(s) that are awarded the funding are unable to provide adequate documentation that the funds will be spent by the projected deadline OR the Grants Work Group representative feels that their assigned region cannot fulfill their obligation of spending the awarded monies, the unallocated monies will revert back to ECN for further redistribution.
- Re-distribution of these funds will be decided upon by the Grants Work Group based upon the original applications on file.

APPLICATION CONTENT

The application will consist of an applicant information sheet, a narrative attachment, a comprehensive project budget and description of the projects alignment with SCIP priorities. Any proposal that does not include the following components will not be considered for funding.

1. Applicant Information Sheet:

The information required in this section is specified in the attached Application Information Sheet. This information is necessary to administer the application process, to assure that any questions concerning an application are promptly addressed, and to assure prompt notification of applicants concerning the application.

2. Project Overview:

This section of the application should provide a detailed description of the proposed project(s) for the county or tribal government based upon details provided in each county or tribal government's approved full participation plan. Note: The short timelines do not allow time to seek additional follow up information from applicants.

3. Project Budget Elements:

This section of the application should include detail cost items for each county included in the regional application, as follows:

| Number | Item | Cost Per Item | Total Cost |
|--------|--|---------------|------------|
| | Radio Console | | |
| | Radio Console Replacements | | |
| 2 | Control Stations (backup or for non-Motorola implementation) | 6248.95 | 12 497.90 |

| | PSAP to ARMER Backbone | | T |
|----|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| | Connection | | |
| | Microwave Connection | | |
| | Other connection | | |
| | ARMER Backbone sites in county | | |
| | Added Radio Channels | | |
| | Added Base Radio Sites | | |
| 74 | Added ARMER RF Equipment | 2523.63 | 1867486 |
| | Added Microwave | | |
| | New/Rebuilt Tower Site | | |
| | Training | | |
| | Exercises | | |
| | Planning | | |
| | Other (specify) | | |
| | Total Cost | | 199246.52 |

Additional items may be listed separately, including description and estimated cost, but may not necessarily be used as a basis for the allocation of funds to the region.

4. Other Relevant Information:

The applicant should provide a detailed explanation of any other information that might be relevant in the evaluation of the grant proposal.

Applicants may be required to provide additional information including but not limited to equipment pricing proposals, the basis for any cost estimates and application for other grants that may be relevant to the consideration of an application.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Grantees will be required to submit Interoperable Communication-Grant Project Status Reports quarterly and will be subject to verification of grant project status throughout the term of the project in addition to audit and reporting requirements contained in the standard grant agreement.

Grantees will also be required to submit a detailed invoice when submitting a request for payment.

Investment Hierarchy

Grants Workgroup Review Rating Form (Step3)

FY2015 SHSP

Applicant projects should fit within the scope of the priorities listed below. This hierarchy pertains to this grant only. The matching fund requirement for equipment is two times the amount of the state grant. Invoices and proof of payment must demonstrate that the agency paid the equivalent.

Priority 1 Training & Exercises

Training and exercise events that enhance the abilities of emergency responders to achieve seamless interoperable communications. Examples are ARMER Train the Trainer; Refresher ARMER Train the Trainer, System Admin Training; Dispatch training; ICS/Communication Workshops; Radio Programming; ICS 300; Interoperability Conference; CASM training; tabletop exercises for planned events, dispatch exercises.

NOTE: All training costs must be **pre-approved** by the DECN per HSEM requirements. Forms can be found on the ECN website.

Priority 2 ARMER Integration Costs (Infrastructure Enhancements):

Investments into infrastructure projects which result in a material enhancement to the performance of the ARMER backbone by expanding its capacity, coverage area, or wide-area network. Examples of such are channel additions, tower sites, MCC7500 consoles and outdoor BDAs as needed to fill in coverage gaps. NOTE: All outdoor BDAs must be approved through OTC to ensure MNDOT is aware of them and they are set up correctly so as not to cause interference with ARMER backbone.

Priority 3 Local ARMER Integration Costs (Subscriber Equipment)

Investments in end-user subscriber equipment that is required for users to utilize the ARMER system. Includes radios, control stations and equipment in PSAPs to deal with site trunking. (Only SHSP Grants can be used to purchase radios)

Priority 4 Other ARMER Interoperability Infrastructure (must be consistent with the SCIP)

Infrastructure investments which generally enhance radio interoperability but do not provide any material enhancement to the performance of the ARMER backbone. Examples include indoor BDAs for public safety sites such as LECs, jails or courthouse and schools only.

Priority 5 Planning

Associated costs for planning events. Examples are Food and Beverages provided at meetings; contractor fees; and employee labor costs for administrating grant applications.

STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

Continued

Project Budget Elements:

This section of the application should include detail cost items for each county included in the regional application, as follows:

| Number | Item | Cost Per Item | Total Cost |
|--------|--|---------------|------------|
| | Radio Console | | |
| | Radio Console Replacements | | |
| 2 | Control Stations (backup or for non-Motorola implementation) | 6248.95 | 12497.90 |
| | PSAP to ARMER Backbone | | |
| | Connection | | |
| | Microwave Connection | | |
| | Other connection | | |
| | ARMER Backbone sites in county | | |
| | Added Radio Channels | | |
| | Added Base Radio Sites | | |
| 74 | Added ARMER RF Equipment | 2523.63 | 186748.62 |
| | Added Microwave | | |
| | New/Rebuilt Tower Site | | |
| | Training | | |
| | Exercises | | |
| | Planning | | |
| | Other (specify) | | |
| | Total Cost | | 199246.52 |

FY2015 SHSP Grant Program State Homeland Security Program Notice of Grant Opportunity

| | 1 CA01598 | | | G | | | 1 G361 | 648 | | 0, | 1 GA00244 | IPW1 N | <u>Qty.</u> Model | APX 7500 Dual Band Consolette | Fax : | Phone : 218-730-4402 | Company : City of Duluth | Prepared For : John Hyde | Prepared £ Mike Fink | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| LINE ITEM TOTAL | ADD: AC Line Cord US | ADD: Control Station Desk Mic | ADD: 2-Year Express Service Plan | ADD: Multiple Key Encryption Operation | ADD: AES/DES-XL/DES-OFB | ADD: Limited Front Panel/Keypad/Clock VU | ADD: P25 Trunking Software | ADD: Advanced System Key-Hardware Key | ENH: Smartzone Operation | Astro Digital CAI Operation Software | ADD: 7/800 Primary Band | APX7500 Single Band 7/800 Band Model | Description | | Duluth, MN 55802 | 402 Room 107 | luth Address: 411 W. First Street | e Bill To City of Duluth Auditor's Office | Mike Fink Phone: 612-567-2911 | | |
| \$ | 761 25% \$ | 656 25% \$ | 185 0% \$ | 656 25% \$ | | | | | | 25% | | 761 25% \$ | APC APC Disc | | | | | Office | Fax: 952-979-1401 | | |
| 8,236.00 \$ | | | | | 799.00 S | | | | 0.00 | 515.00 | • | 3,980.00 \$ | List Price | | D | 411 | Address: Ro | Ship to Du | - | | |
| 8,236.00 | , | 169.00 | 158.00 | 330.00 | 799.00 | 480.00 | 300.00 | 5.00 | 1,500.00 | 515.00 | • | 8 | Total Price | | Duluth, MN 55802-1185 | 411 W. 1st Street | Address: Room 104 City Hall | Duluth Police Administration Office | | | |
| \$ 6,248.95 | ۰ ۲ | \$ 135.20 | \$ 158.00 | \$ 247.50 | \$ 599.25 | \$ 384.00 | | \$ 3.75 | S 1,125.00 | S 386.25 | s ' | S 2,985.00 | Contract Price | | 1185 | | _ | inistration Office | Customer #: 1011232246 | Contract #: 40071 | Date: |
| \$ 6,248.95 | s | S 135.20 | | S 247.50 | S 599.25 | | N | | S 1.125.00 | \$ 386.25 | s | \$ 2,985.00 | Contract price ext | | | | | œ | stomer #: 1011232246 | 40071 | Date: Jan. 21, 2015 |

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| LINE | | | | ADD | ADL | ADD | ADD | ADL | | | | | - 18-/ 30-44UZ | Company City of Duluth | John Hyde | Fiebared E Milke Fillk | Dropping & Miles | WO I OROLA INC. | MOTODO |
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| | ervice Advani | r I JVV | e | MHz antenna | | ad Software | Head | m Key-Hardv | | MODIIE | | | | Address: | Bill To | Phone: | 2 | | |
| | tage | | | | | | | vare Key | | | | Duluth, MN 55802 | Room 107 | Address: 411 W. First Street | Bill To City of Duluth Auditor's Office | Phone: 612-567-2911 | | | |
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