

78687

Date: August 18, 2020

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Marguerite Beirne
Chief Information Officer

Re: Authority to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”), Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (“IPAWS”) Program Management Office regarding the use and security of the County of Westchester’s Interoperable Systems which interoperate with IPAWS Open Platform for Emergency Networks (“IPAWS-OPEN”).
Agreement No. IT-1670.

FEMA's IPAWS Program provides an internet-based capability for federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local authorities to issue critical public alerts and warnings. IPAWS is a modernization and integration of the nation's alert and warning infrastructure. In order to comply with Department of Homeland Security policy, all systems interoperating with IPAWS must be documented and supported by a memorandum of agreement.

Accordingly, authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Information Technology (“DoIT”), to enter into an MOA with FEMA regarding the utilization and security of the County’s interoperable communications system(s) which interoperate with IPAWS-OPEN. The MOA will establish a standardized web based application interface between IPAWS-OPEN and the County’s Vista Alert System to facilitate the exchange of emergency messages within the production environment.

The MOA will remain in effect based on the life of the Authority to Operate (ATO) for IPAWS or a maximum of three (3) years from the date the MOA is signed (whichever comes first). There shall be no additional cost to the County for its participation in the MOA.

The public purpose of the MOA is to enable information interoperability across emergency response organizations and systems as intended by the FEMA IPAWS Program.

As the MOA does not constitute the procurement of goods or services, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

Your Honorable Board’s approval of the annexed resolution is respectfully requested.

RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER,
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”), Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (“IPAWS”) Program Management Office regarding the utilization and security of the County’s interoperable communications system(s) which interoperate with the IPAWS Open Platform for Emergency Networks (“IPAWS-OPEN”); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the MOA will remain in effect based on the life of the Authority to Operate (ATO) for IPAWS, or a maximum of three (3) years from the date the MOA is signed (whichever comes first); and be it further

RESOLVED, that there shall be no additional cost to the County for its participation in the MOA; and be it further.

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute and deliver any and all documents and to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited:

Agreement No. IT-1670

Year	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
						N/A

Budget Funding Year(s): Start Date: Upon Execution End Date: _____

Funding Source: Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
\$ N/A Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____