



Department of Emergency Services

Memorandum

DATE: March 24, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Anthony W. Sutton, Commissioner of Emergency Services

RE: **Authorization for the County of Westchester to enter into agreements with 911 receiving hospitals whereby the County will provide each hospital with radiation detection equipment in order to detect radiological contamination, monitor patients and staff and prepare for, respond to and mitigate the effect of a radiological event, for a five year term commencing upon execution.**

Authorization is requested for the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through its Department of Emergency Services ("Department") to enter into agreements with the following 911 receiving hospitals:

Hudson Valley Hospital
Phelps Memorial Hospital
Northern Westchester Hospital
White Plains Hospital
Sound Shore Hospital
Lawrence Hospital
Dobbs Ferry Hospital
St. John's Riverside Hospital
St. Joseph's Hospital
Mount Vernon Hospital

(the "Hospital(s)") whereby the County will provide each Hospital with radiation detection equipment in order to detect radiological contamination, monitor patients and staff and prepare for, respond to and mitigate the effect of a radiological event. The Hospitals will use and operate the equipment, at no charge, in and around the Hospital and also during training, drills and exercises that it sponsors or in which it participates. The radiation detection equipment was obtained using grant funds awarded to the County by the New York State Office of Homeland Security ("NYSOHS") to be used to prevent, deter, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism involving the use radiological or nuclear weapons, as well as those from improvised explosive devices containing radiological sources. These agreements will enable the County to comply with the objectives of the NYSOHS grant program.

Agreements will have a five (5) year term commencing upon execution, with a mutual right to terminate on thirty (30) days written notice. In addition, the County will have an option to renew the Agreements, upon the same terms and conditions, for an additional five (5) year term. Upon expiration or termination, the radiation detection equipment will be returned to the County in good working order, subject to ordinary wear and tear.

The County intends to enter into a similar agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation (“WCHCC”), however, as you are aware, Section 3307(4) of the New York Public Authorities Law requires the approval of the Board of Legislators and Board of Acquisition and Contract for agreements between the County and the WCHCC. Accordingly, after authority of the Board of Legislators has been obtained for the agreement with the WCHCC, a resolution will be submitted to your Honorable Board for similar approval.

The goals and objectives of these agreements are to provide Westchester’s critical 911 receiving hospitals with enhanced ability to screen, detect and monitor radiation contamination on patients, visitors and staff entering an institution.

It is possible that a terrorist event, such as an improvised explosive device (IED) could be radiological in nature. An accident at a medical facility using radiological sources or a transportation accident involving a vehicle transporting radiological devices/sources is also possible. These agreements are in the best public interest because Westchester has only eleven hospitals receiving patients from the “911” system. If a patient, visitor, or staff member were to enter the facility with radioactive contamination, the resulting contamination could shut an emergency department or the entire institution until it could be completely decontaminated, monitored and declared “clean”. This program will give the Hospitals added ability to monitor persons entering and also to monitor the facility itself.

The Department will monitor the effectiveness of this effort through a series of trainings and exercises. The Department will also include program review in all its regularly scheduled meetings with the Hospital.

Your Honorable Board’s approval of the annexed Resolution authorizing the County to enter into agreements with the Hospitals listed above is respectfully requested.

AWS/tsa
attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION, CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
JAMES M. VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Emergency Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”), acting by and through its Department of Emergency Services (“Department”) is authorized to enter into agreements with the following 911 receiving hospitals:

- Hudson Valley Hospital
- Phelps Memorial Hospital
- Northern Westchester Hospital
- White Plains Hospital
- Sound Shore Hospital
- Lawrence Hospital
- Dobbs Ferry Hospital
- St. John’s Riverside Hospital
- St. Joseph’s Hospital
- Mount Vernon Hospital; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County shall provide each Hospital with radiation detection equipment in order to detect radiological contamination, monitor patients and staff and prepare for, respond to and mitigate the effect of a radiological event. The Hospitals shall use and operate the equipment, at no charge, in and around the Hospital and also during training, drills and exercises that it sponsors or in which it participates; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements shall have a five (5) year term commencing upon execution, with a mutual right to terminate on thirty (30) days written notice, and upon termination or expiration the equipment shall be returned to the County in good working order, subject to ordinary wear and tear; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County shall have an option to renew the Agreements, upon the same terms and conditions, for an additional five (5) year term; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/credited

Fund	Agency	Capital Project Or Org	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Activity	Dollars
						N/A

Budget Funding Year(s) 2010-2015 Start Date upon execution End Date 5 year term
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____

\$N/A Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____

*Note

- Equipment purchased with funds from (FY07SHSP- T873H)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 4-8-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY