

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Grants to Unincorporated Communities (AS 37.05.317)

Grant Recipient: Hollis

Federal Tax ID: 94-3045383

Project Title:

Project Type: Equipment and Materials

Hollis - Volunteer Fire Department Emergency Radio Communication Equipment

State Funding Requested: \$15,711
 One-Time Need

House District: 33 / Q

Brief Project Description:

Purchase VHF Portable Radios with Voice and Vibrate features, a 100W Repeater, Power Supply Packs, and Antennas.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$15,711
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$15,711)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

We have acquired a 55-foot high metal tower to install a repeater/antenna at the top for better radio reception. We will provide the labor to install the tower, repeater/antenna and other equipment to get the system operational.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Hollis Volunteer Fire Department and EMS personnel are in dire need of an efficient communications system so they can be notified of and react immediately to emergency situations in the Hollis area. Presently there is none. The Fire Department and EMS have tried cell phones, CB Radios and older model two-way radios and the effective range is too limited. The radios and CBs are line-of-sight and were essentially useless because of the numerous hills and mountains surrounding Hollis. There are several "dead zones" in the Hollis area where cell phones cannot be used, so cell phones are of very limited use. A repeater relay station has been placed on Sunnahae Mountain in Craig, but its range is 20 miles, at least five miles short of benefiting the Hollis area.

This lack of emergency communications delayed Hollis firefighters from responding to two structure fires last summer and fall because State Troopers in Ketchikan and Klawock could not immediately contact Hollis first responders because there is no viable communication link with Hollis Emergency Services. The procedure is for the Trooper's dispatcher to call one of two Hollis dispatchers on their home phones, presuming that they will be at home to hear the phone ring. After receiving the emergency call, the Hollis dispatchers then call the first responders' home phones hoping to catch them at home. Total fire damage was estimated at \$200,000 plus, and thousands of dollars damage could likely have been prevented had the firefighters responded sooner. If each Hollis dispatcher and firefighter had a VHF radio on his/her person, they could be notified wherever they happen to be. The plan is to have first responders carry the radios with them at all times. We plan to have a link with the Craig 911 dispatcher who could dial one special programmed number in the Hollis VHF radios and all Hollis first responders would be notified of emergency situations at the same time. This is the viable emergency

Total Project Snapshot Report

2013 Legislature

TPS Report 60360v1

communication link we need, but it can only happen if we have the VHF radios and repeater antenna.

A worst case scenario occurred last fall when 911 was notified of a structure fire in Hollis and it took Trooper dispatchers 30 minutes to finally contact a Hollis Dispatcher/First Responder at home to answer the phone. It was just one of those times when no one was at home or within hearing distance of the phone. That does happen occasionally with an all volunteer fire department. The 30-minute delay allowed the Klawock Fire Department fire truck and crew, which had to travel 22 miles, to arrive at the fire scene at the same time the Hollis fire trucks and crews arrived. Klawock has a viable communication system and have first responders on call 24-7. Hollis first responders are volunteers and can only be reached for emergency calls at their home phones. With VHF radios they could be reached 24-7

The emergency communication problem for the Hollis Fire Department/EMS has been discussed several times at Hollis Council and Fire Department public meetings, which did result in our trying the two-way radios, CB Radios and Cell Phones. The Council, Fire Department and community as a whole approve of seeking funding through this grant application to purchase 15 VHF Portable Radios with voice and vibrate features and a repeater that could be placed at the top of the 55-foot tower, to enable transmitting and receiving emergency communications to and from Craig and Klawock.

Hollis First Responders have compared market prices for the equipment they need and the best offer was for ICOM VHF radios and equipment from Tacoma, Washington. The list of communication equipment we need is listed below:

PRICING IS BASED ON WSCA CONTRACT #3033

IC-F50V 11 RC ICOM VHF PORTABLE RADIO WITH VOICE AND VIBRATE 15 ea @ \$461.21 = \$6,918.22

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AS 100WV ICOM 150-174MHz 100W REPEATER WITH CABINET, DUPLEXER, 70AMP POWER SUPPLY, 15AMP SURGE SUPPRESSION PANEL AND TPL AMP THAT OPERATES ON DC VOLTAGE, IN CASE OF A/C POWER FAILURE. 1 ea @ \$5,354.45 = \$53354.45 ABOVE UNIT COMES

IC-F5021 51 B ICOM VHF 50 WATT 128 CH. MOBILE RADIO W/POWER SUPP 1 ea @ \$404.73 = \$404.73

MISCL/MPARTS NEW ANTENNA SYSTEM MISC L/M 2 ea @ \$165.00 = \$330.00 \$330.00

PARTS 2 600.00 1,200.00EWA BASE/REP... EWA NEW OR MODIFICATION PER SITE/PERFREQ PAIR

EWA FORM 601 EWA FORM PREPARATION/ COMPLETION 1 ea @ \$133.50 = \$133.50
1 260.00 260.00EWA MOBILE/P... EWA NEW OR MODIFICATION INCREMENTS OF 5FREQS

EWA NEW APPL... EWA NEW APPLICATION FCC FILING FEE 1 ea @ \$350.00 = \$350.00

L/MBILLCUS PROGRAM, TEST AND TUNE ALL EQUIPMENT 1 ea @ \$760.00 = \$760.00
 Total: \$15,710.90

Hollis is not an incorporated community and consequently does not have a tax base. The primary sources of revenue are raffles, yard sales, bake sales, dinner fund raising events and out-of pocket cash donations/contributions.

Project Timeline:

Radios will be used immediately after the repeater is installed on the 55-foot tower--and the repeater will be installed on the tower upon receipt. The repeater will allow communication between Hollis firefighters, 911 Trooper dispatchers, and EMS personnel in Craig and Klawock. At present, land lines in HOLLIS firemen's homes are the only means of communication.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Hollis Community Council/Volunteer Fire Department

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Budd Burnett
 Title: President
 Address: P.O. Box 706
 cRAIG, Alaska 99921
 Phone Number: (907)530-7033
 Email: burnett76@aol.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No