BJA FY 09 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program: Local Solicitation 2009-H2621-MD-DJ

Project Information

*Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project	Montgomery County Police Helicopter Iniatitive	
*Areas Affected by Project	Montgomery County, Maryland	
Proposed Project		
	*Start Date	October 01 2009
	*End Date	September 30 2012
*Congressional Districts of		
	Project	Congressional District 01, MD Congressional District 02, MD Congressional District 03, MD Congressional District 04, MD
*Estimated Funding		
Federal		$ 248894 .00
Applicant		$ 263274 .00
State		$ 0 .00
Local		$ 0 .00
Other		$ 0 .00
Program Income		$ 0 .00
TOTAL		$ 512168 .00

Save and Continue

Local	$0	
Other	$0	
Program Income	$0	**17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?**
TOTAL	$512,168	N
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED.		

Continue

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APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	**2. DATE SUBMITTED**	**Applicant Identifier**
1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION Application Non-Construction	**3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE**	**State Application Identifier**
	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	**Federal Identifier**

5.APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Legal Name Montgomery County	**Organizational Unit** Department of Police
Address 101 Monroe Street Executive Office Building 2nd floor Rockville, Maryland 20850-3294	**Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application** Martin, Susanne (240) 773-5208
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) 52-6000981	**7. TYPE OF APPLICANT** County
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION New	**9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY** Bureau of Justice Assistance
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 16.738 CFDA TITLE: EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM	**11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT** Montgomery County Police Helicopter Iniatitive
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT Montgomery County, Maryland	
13. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: October 01, 2009 End Date: September 30, 2012	**14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF** a. Applicant b. Project MD06 MD04 MD08

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING		**16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?**
Federal	$248,894	Program has not been selected by state for review
Applicant	$263,274	
State	$0	

Program Narrative

The mission of the Montgomery County Department of Police (MCPD) is to safeguard life and property, preserve the peace, prevent and detect crime, enforce the law, and protect the rights of citizens. This is accomplished through a philosophy of Community Policing and a strategy involving proactive policing and innovative problem-solving. As the County population continues to grow and development expands, it has become critical for MCPD to effectively and efficiently deploy its limited resources in order to successfully address community needs and quality of life issues. Key among this deployment strategy is the ability to provide innovative law enforcement resources to identified problems throughout the County.

Crime –Through the coordination of resources and a philosophy of directed patrol, MCPD strives to impact many areas of concern for our County's many residents including crime and other quality of life issues. The Helicopter Initiative will play a critical part in this mission. At this time Montgomery County and its residents cannot rely on other agencies to carry out its airborne law enforcement missions. The Maryland State Police Aviation Unit dedicates approximately 5 percent of its time to support all law enforcement efforts with the remaining tome spent fulfilling its primary role of medical evacuation and transport.

The Aviation Initiative seeks to impact the above areas of responsibility. Through proactive operational patrols this program looks toward crime reduction as an important benchmark. National studies have concluded that helicopter operations deter and thus reduce crime. The helicopter is able to increase the effectiveness of police operations to combat some of the most prevalent crimes within our communities.

Command & Control – The helicopter allows for greater command of resources while managing large scale events. Providing accurate and up-to-date information increases MCPD's ability to protect lives and property. Helicopters allow for Incident Commander to view the entire scene through real-time imaging and transmission to a designated command post or the Mobile Command Bus. Educated decisions may then be based upon first-hand intelligence and assets may then be directed based upon a known list of priorities.

Missing Persons

Many missing persons suffer from physical and mental limitations that affect their ability to find their way home. These members of our community are at risk especially during periods of threatening environmental conditions. Recently *Project Lifesaver* was funded in this jurisdiction improving our ability to locate lost persons often within minutes rather than hours or days. Project Lifesaver is a system whereby persons at risk are fitted with a bracelet that when activated emits a radio signal used to track and ultimately locate the missing individual. When utilized with a helicopter this program benefits directly from the ability of rescuers to cover great distances in virtually minutes greatly increasing the effectiveness of this program and the safety of our elder population.

In instances when Project Lifesaver is not employed, the airborne capability of a helicopter is an even greater asset to the Department. This vehicle is capable of covering great distances in little

time, search wooded and dangerous terrain and can deploy its Forward Looking Infrared Imaging (FLIR) that will detect heat signatures on the ground exponentially increasing the search capability and effectiveness of the patrol officer.

Counter Drug Interdiction

The ability of the airborne officer to interdict drugs is both successful and proven. There are numerous examples of surveillances being accomplished by helicopters in support of drug enforcement efforts. Helicopters greatly increase the ability of police officers to maintain covert surveillance of a suspect without requiring them to expose themselves or their vehicles.

This area of benefit needs little explanation. Quite simply, narcotics detection, deterrence and surveillance are more effective through the use of aircraft. The technology available to an airborne platform includes infra-red surveillance, vehicle "auto-track" and identification for eradication of narcotic crops.

Pursuit Management

Pursuit management through the use of aircraft improves the Departments performance in several important areas: suspect apprehension and safer vehicle operations.

During high speed pursuits of dangerous felons the support of a helicopter greatly increases the chances that these threats to the community's safety will be neutralized. The ability to locate, anticipate and direct police assets into locations in order to apprehend the suspect increase exponentially. Suspect movements, flight path and exact location are all examples of benefits. Officers may reduce their speeds and their need to be "eyes on" with the suspect's vehicle when being supported by the aviation unit.

<u>It is a fact that when high speed pursuits end in accidents followed by litigation the average amount paid out is $1.5 million per person involved.</u> A helicopter is the only proven tool to be safe and efficient in managing high speed pursuits.

Canine Team Deployment

Due to the size of our County it is often necessary to deploy K9 teams from great distances. We sometimes don't have a team in the area or a "Specialty Dog" – such as a Bloodhound or Bomb Dog. Helicopters have the ability to transport the handler and his canine to any area of the county in minutes.

This increases the Department's effectiveness through efficient use of resources and decreased response times. This is often referred to as a "force-multiplier" because it allows MCP to assign its limited resources to key areas in need of police attention. One team can cover great distances regardless of time of day (rush-hour) or location through the use if helicopters.

Budget and Budget Narrative

The following items will be required within the first three years to efficiently establish a proactive Helicopter Initiative capable of completing law enforcement operations within the County.

					TOTAL
Aircraft Refurbishment	$ 70,000 each	x	2	=	$140,000

These aircraft must be refurbished and converted to law enforcement use. This includes a complete inspection and restoration, including painting and detailing, rewiring of the internal systems for acceptance of civilian equipment, radios and associated avionic systems.

Communications	$ 28,000 each	x	2	=	$56,000

Navigational, voice and dynamic mapping is all part of this communications package.

Flight Helmets	$1,028 each	x	6	=	$ 6,168

The SPH-5® is the commercial version of the current U.S. Army and Coast Guard helicopter helmets. It includes a Graphlon® composite shell made from graphite and ballistic nylon, lightweight impact-absorbing earcups, and comfortable SCL® liner. Chinstrap, napestrap, and retention assembly provide good helmet stability. Optional visor housing adapts to ANVIS night vision goggles.

Aircrew Equipment	$2,500 each	x	6	=	$ 15,000

The includes flight suits, footwear, flight gloves, eyewear, shoulder holsters, personal equipment related to navigation, goggles and other miscellaneous equipment and uniforms.

Refresher Training	$5,000 each	x	6	=	$ 30,000

Pilot refresher training providing a thorough review of VFR or IFR flying rules and procedures and demonstration and practice of normal and simulated emergency procedures while establishing proficiency and safety in every phase of flight.

Nightsun	$15,000 each	x	1	=	$ 15,000

Used for night searches or night approaches for landing the aircraft. The Night Sun is remotely controlled by the Crewman from within the Helicopter and has strength of 30 million candlepower. The Night Sun is attached under the nose of the Helicopter.

FLIR	$ 250,000	x	1	=	$250,000

Forward Looking Infrared Imaging (FLIR) System allows for night operations and to detect heat signatures emitted by missing people or criminal suspects. This system includes the internal wiring and monitor necessary for address allocation and directional guidance.

TOTAL BUDGET	=	$512,168

Abstract

Applicant's Name: Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Police

Project Title: Montgomery County Police Helicopter

The **Helicopter Initiative** fills many needs within the operational sphere of Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD). Mobility, effectiveness, command and control of the various incidents and scenes are important elements in this operation. This program provides many benefits to include School Security, Active Shooter Scenarios, High Speed Pursuit Management, Force Multiplier, Missing Persons, Project Lifesaver, Enhanced Officer Safety, Narcotics Detection and Surveillance, Traffic Management, Lo-Jack deployment, K-9 Deployment, Patrol Enhancement, Access to all areas regardless of terrain, Homeland Security Missions consistent with the Governor's Homeland Security goals, Management of Large Events – the County Fair, AT&T Tournament, Video Downlink to Command Bus/communications.

This program strives to impact crime in a positive manner by assisting in the reduction of crime statistics. Through proactive operational patrols, the Helicopter Initiative will contribute to the successful conclusion of law enforcement operations by acting as a force multiplier and increasing the effectiveness of our Department personnel. Further, this asset will play a critical role in achieving the County Executive's strategic policy of providing 1) safe streets and secure neighborhoods; and 2) provide an efficient transportation network through traffic management and control.

MCPD is creating an Aviation Unit with the acquisition of two (2) military surplus OH-58 Bell Helicopters. This grant funding will be used to purchase equipment and pay for training directly related to the operation of these aircraft in a proactive law enforcement role.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT SOLICITATION

Montgomery County proposes the use of the Federal grant funds received under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S. C. 3751(a)) in the amount of $248,894 for the following:

	FEDERAL FUNDS	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
Department of Police:		
Mont. Co. Police Helicopter Initiative	$248,894	$263,274

Public written comment regarding the proposed allocation of these Federal funds will be accepted through August 8, 2009. Written comments should be forwarded to the Department of Police, 2350 Research Blvd. Room 201, Rockville Maryland 20850. For questions regarding this solicitation, please contact Susanne Martin, Montgomery County Department of Police @ 240-773-5208.