

Solicitation for Public Comment

The Richmond Police Department, the Berea Police Department and the Madison County Sheriff's Office, in an effort to provide better service to our community, are jointly applying for Federal funds through the Economic Stimulus Package by way of the **Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance Grant**. Funds requested through this grant will be utilized to enhance our equipment, training and community services with the goal of providing the best professional service possible to our citizens. Funding for equipment and training will be sought in the following areas:

Bicycle Instructor/Training School - Training to enrich our community policing efforts through Bike Patrol.

Accident Reconstruction Training and Equipment - To provide much needed professional training and technology for our officers to handle fatal and serious injury accidents and to map crime scenes.

Community Service Equipment – To further support and enhance our efforts to blend and partner with the community.

Generators - To provide emergency power to major intersections during power outages to provide for the public safety and free officers for other much needed duties during such times.

Patrol Rifles and Ammunition – To further update and maintain our capabilities to respond properly to critical and high risk incidents.

Simunition Equipment and Ammunition – To allow for the highest level of non-lethal training exercises for our officers to enhance their skills and abilities in firearms training.

Protective Vests – High level protective vests for members of our Emergency Response Unit who must handle high risk incidents.

Breaching School - Enhanced training for ERU members to handle high risk entries and situations.

Advanced Hostage Negotiations Training – To improve the skills of our hostage negotiators in the most trying circumstances.

Legal Training - To keep officers abreast of recent developments in the law to reduce liability and make them more effective in their law enforcement efforts.

Computer Aided Dispatch Updates - To keep up with changing technology and maintain our dispatch center at the highest level.

Police Vehicles – To help maintain our fleet to service our growing community.

Evidence Room Upgrades – Software and/or hardware, such as bar code scanners, to upgrade evidence room and provide for proper tracking, accountability, etc., of evidence.

This equipment and training is an investment in the infrastructure of the three departments. It will provide long-term benefits and assist in stabilizing local budgets and possibly avoid a reduction of essential services. While these are items we hope to acquire, there is no guarantee that all will be funded.

Any public comments are welcome concerning our request for federal funds. The guidelines for spending these federal funds must address crime through the provision of services designed to help improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the three departments.

Public comments should be made to Major Mitch Brown at the Richmond Police Department, 859-623-1162, or mbrown@richmond.ky.us; to Chief Dwayne Brumley at the Berea Police Department, 859-986-8456, or dwaynebrumley@cityofberea.com; or Major Teri Begley at the Madison County Sheriff's Office, 859-623-1511, or teri.begley@madisoncountky.us.