



### **Agenda Action Form Overview**

The Board is requested to Authorize the County Manager to execute a contract amendment for radio tower design services in the amount of \$136,304 with O'Brien Atkins Architects, for a total revised contract amount not to exceed \$4,956,814 for the Emergency Operations Center, Backup 911, and Sheriff's Backup Call Center.

### **Background/Justification**

The goal of this project is to replace the existing 1940's era EOC building with a modern, purpose built, complex that will also house the City/County backup 911/Sheriff's call center. The existing EOC facility initially served as the original Durham County Youth Home from 1946 to 1983 and has since undergone multiple renovations to meet the minimum needs of an EOC throughout the following years. In 2020, a detailed space program was developed by O'Brien Atkins for the EOC facility considering the needs of the EOC through the year 2040. Two program options were developed and determined a need for an approximately 24,000 GSF facility for the EOC itself and the Office of Emergency Management (OES) staff that would be assigned to this location. The programming effort determined the existing building is undersized for the current and future needs of the Emergency Operations Center.

In 2021, The County was approached by the City of Durham to investigate the possibility of including their backup 911 call center into the EOC project. The existing backup 911 call center is currently leased from Duke University, which is set to expire in Dec. of 2026. In addition, to consolidate resources, the Sheriff's backup call center was also programmed to be located within the new facility.

Based on existing interlocal agreements (ILA) between the City/County EOC & 911, the City and County are responsible for the following cost share percentages:

- Emergency Operations Center - 50/50 City/County split
- Backup 911 Call Center - 79/21 City/County Split
- Backup Sheriff's Call Center - 0/100 City/County Split

When taking into account the above ILA cost share percentages and the required space programmed for each entity (EM, 911, Sheriff) within the new facility, the City will be assuming approximately 53.4% of the project cost, while the County will be responsible for 46.6% of the project costs.

As the project team has went through the stages of schematic design for this project, it became apparent that the new facility would also require a radio tower to facilitate the operational needs of the backup 911 call center. Radio Tower Design is above and beyond the original scope of work for the facility, in which O'Brien Atkins has provided a proposal in conjunction with Mission Critical Partners (MCP) to provide technical specifications, regulatory & construction oversight, and Microwave implementation. These services are crucial to ensuring that all federal, state, and local codes and requirements are met to maintain secure and expedient 911/emergency communications services.

### **Policy Impact**



Approval of this design contract amendment for design development of a new Emergency Operations Center and Backup 911/Sheriff’s Call Center is consistent with the County’s support to facilitate best practices within the emergency management field while ensuring Durham County is properly prepared to manage and respond in emergency situations.

**Procurement Background**

**Type of purchase**

- Goods
- Services
- Architect, Engineer or Surveyor Services, CM@R
- Construction and Repair

**Did this request for purchase go through a bid process? Yes  No**

*Goods: Bids required if ≥ \$30,000, BOCC approval if ≥ \$90,000*  
*Services: Bids required if ≥ \$30,000, BOCC approval if > \$40,000*  
*Construction/Repair work: Bids required if ≥ \$30,000, BOCC approval if ≥ \$500,000*

If yes, attach a copy of bid tab and the minority and women business enterprise (MWBE) compliance review form provided by the Purchasing Division.

If no, why?

- Sole source exemption
- Cooperative purchasing program exemption
- State and federal contract exemption
- Contract is an amendment to an existing contract
- Other - RFQ process for design and engineering services

**If exempted from bidding, has this request been reviewed and approved by the Purchasing Division in the agenda Legistar system? Yes  No**

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Fiscal Impact**

Funding for this contract amendment is within the current capital project budget (4730DC158).

**Recommendation**

The County Manager recommends that the Board Authorize the County Manager to execute a contract amendment for radio tower design services in the amount of \$136,304 with O’Brien Atkins Architects, for a total revised contract amount not to exceed \$4,956,814 for the Emergency Operations Center, Backup 911, and Sheriff’s Backup Call Center.