

INTRODUCED: March 23, 2026

AN ORDINANCE No. 2026-072

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response called the “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund,” and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response’s “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund” by \$150,000.00 for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission.

Patron – Mayor Avula

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: APR 13 2026 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, is hereby authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission.

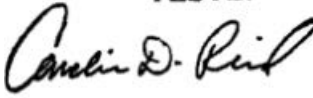
AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: APR 13 2026 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

§ 2. That Article I, Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2025-057, adopted May 12, 2025, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by creating a new special fund for the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response called the “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund” for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission.

§ 3. That the funds received from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management are hereby appropriated to the Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, by increasing estimated revenues by \$150,000.00, increasing the amount appropriated for expenditures by \$150,000.00, and allotting to the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response’s “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund” the sum of \$150,000.00 for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission.

§ 4. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:

City Clerk

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: December 16, 2025

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Dr. Danny Avula, Mayor

THROUGH: Odie Donald II., Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Tanikia Jackson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Letitia Jackson, Director Department of Finance

THROUGH: Meghan Brown, Director, Budget and Strategic Planning

THROUGH: Stephen M. Willoughby, Director, Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response

FROM: Jonathan Fetterman, Senior Manager, Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response

RE: Acceptance of grant funds from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and appropriation of funds to a new Special Fund for DECPR for the purpose of implementing transcription service for radio transmission

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response called the “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund,” and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response’s “FY26 NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Special Fund” by \$150,000.00 for the purpose of

implementing a transcription service for radio transmission. This system will create transcriptions of public safety radio communications.

This system will provide real-time transcription of radio communications, converting spoken radio traffic into accurate, time-stamped, and searchable text. The technology will:

- Improve communication accuracy by reducing the likelihood of missed or misheard transmissions;
- Enhance dispatcher and first responder situational awareness through immediate access to written versions of radio traffic;
- Allow personnel to quickly review and verify critical information during fast-moving incidents;
- Support post-incident analysis, quality assurance, and training by preserving clear, accessible communication records; and
- Increase overall operational efficiency by giving staff a reliable supplemental tool during periods of high call volume or complex events.

This implementation will strengthen the City's emergency communication capabilities and help ensure more effective, informed, and timely responses to the public's needs.

BACKGROUND: The City was awarded \$150,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management as part of the state Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Grant for the NG9-1-1 Additional Funding Grant program for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission. which will assist emergency communications officers validate information communicated through radio in real-time and will enhance safety of first responders.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: N/A

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT: The City of Richmond will receive a \$150,000.00 grant for the purpose of implementing a transcription service for radio transmission. which will assist emergency

communications officers validate information communicated through radio in real-time and will enhance safety of first responders.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: March 23, 2026

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: April 13, 2026

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Public Safety

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, Department of Finance, Department of Budget

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Ord. 2025-057

ATTACHMENTS: Award Letter

STAFF: Jonathan Fetterman, Senior Manager (646-1340)



Dorothy Spears-Dean, Ph.D.
Deputy State Coordinator
VDEM
(804) 840-7260

Mary Binford
PSC Coordinator
VDEM
(804) 536-8177

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia 9-1-1 Services Board

July 17, 2025

Dear Richmond, City of PSAP:

I am pleased to advise you that the Virginia 9-1-1 Services Board has approved your **FY26 NG911 Additional Funding** grant request. You have been awarded **\$150,000.00** for eligible costs for the: **FY26 NG911 Additional Funding** outlined in [the PSAP Grant Guidelines for the FY26 Additional Funding](#). Funding for this grant award will be available beginning July 1, 2025.

The Grant Payment Reimbursement Process is described in the Grant Guidelines. Payment will be made on a reimbursement basis only for allowable costs. All funding requests must be submitted in the in vdem.emgrants.com system. For the request to be processed, invoice(s) that support the amount requested should be attached to the form when it is submitted. All invoices should be submitted within 30 calendar days and dated after July 1, 2025. Finally, grant payment requests will be held until all required reports are received.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, 911 Grant Program Specialist Marcus Grant, or your NGS Outreach Manager. Questions can also be directed to the PSAP Grants mailbox: psapgrants@vdem.virginia.gov.

Congratulations on your grant award!

Sincerely,

Marcus Grant

Marcus Grant
911 Grant Program Specialist