



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

---

**MEETING DATE:** October 2, 2007

**ITEM NUMBER:** Item Number

**SUBJECT:** MOBILE AVL/GPS DEVICES & SYSTEMS

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 18, 2007

**FROM:** FIRE DEPARTMENT/OPERATIONS

**PRESENTATION BY:** KEITH JONES, DEPUTY CHIEF/OPERATIONS

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** KEITH JONES, DEPUTY CHIEF ( 714) 754-5135

---

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Fire Department recommends City Council authorize and sign the acceptance of Mobile AVL/GPS Devices & Systems as provided by FATPOT Technologies, Inc. in conjunction with the Orange County Fire Authority.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Through the leadership of the Orange County Fire Chief's Association (OCFCA), the Orange County Regional Public Safety Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) System was envisioned and initiated to enhance interagency coordination and collaboration. AVL is a technology that enhances the ability of the public safety providers to manage emergency resources through improved unit recommendation and resource allocation. Currently, Costa Mesa Fire and Orange County Fire Authority are the only fire agencies in Orange County without this technology. Costa Mesa Fire was invited to partner with Orange County in this AVL project.

Funding for this project is made available through the 2006 Urban Area Security Initiative (USAI) grant support. Due to the nature of UASI funding, the Orange County Regional Public Safety AVL System will need to satisfy budget, schedule and scope requirements as outlined by the USAI grant. The grant requires that this project be substantially complete by December 31, 2007.

The OCFCA has designated the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) as project manager for this program. The Core Project Team is comprised of members of the OCFA and those individuals from other fire agencies that have accepted the invitation to join the Core Project Team (Costa Mesa). Costa Mesa will be represented by members from Fire, Telecommunications and M.I.S. Oversight will be provided by the OCFCA Technical Committee and grant administrators from the city of Anaheim.

In order to fulfill UASI grant requisites for this project, the project team will engage in "open architecture" methodologies, thus ensuring that multiple agencies, disciplines and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems (including AVL systems already in existence) will be able to interface with the regional AVL system.

## **ANALYSIS:**

With this technology, the Costa Mesa Dispatch Center will ultimately be able to locate and dispatch the nearest unit to an emergency, therefore reducing response times to the citizens of Costa Mesa. The system will interface with and build upon the success of previous county projects such as CAD to CAD, Regional GIS and Regional Wireless Interoperability projects also funded through UASI grants.

The AVL project has five functional requirements:

1. Ensure that all agencies have functional AVL/GPS devices in their units, and an application and display system (or CAD interface) in their communication center to view unit location and status.
2. Ensure that all agencies have satisfactory AVL interface in their communication centers.
3. Establishment of a new central server that allows centralized collection and distribution of countywide data back out to the user community including interface with existing AVL systems.
4. Provide web based access to county wide AVL data using the countywide GIS database.
5. Provide available unit mapping and routing.
  - a. Costa Mesa has requested 17 Mobile Data Units

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

To achieve the goal of closest unit dispatching within Orange County, Costa Mesa Fire along with the Orange County Fire Authority, developed and distributed requests for proposals for AVL/GPS technology. Five different companies responded to the RFP and from there were narrowed to three. Vendor demonstrations were provided and evaluated by end users. It was determined that FATPOT Technologies Inc. provided the best solution and agreements are pending between FATPOT and OCFA and FATPOT and Costa Mesa. No other alternatives were considered due to the specific nature of this technology.

## **FISCAL REVIEW:**

Funding for this project is included in the 2006 UASI grant. This includes a one year warranty and a one year maintenance agreement. After one year, annual maintenance fees will apply. The projected annual fees will be \$15,000. These fees will be included in the Fiscal Year 08-09 Fire department budget request.

## **LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney is working with OCFA and FATPOT to finalize a license agreement which will allow the City to acquire the software from FATPOT and use it once the hardware has been acquired and installed. If Council acts to accept the equipment, the license agreements will be finalized for the City Manager's signature.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends that City Council approve the acceptance of equipment provided through the UASI grant along with the annual maintenance fees.

---

KEITH JONES  
Deputy Chief / Operations

---

MIKE MORGAN  
Fire Chief

---

MARC R. PUCKETT  
Director of Finance

---

KIMBERLY HALL BARLOW  
City Attorney

DISTRIBUTION:   City Manager  
                      City Attorney  
                      Deputy City Clerk  
                      Director of Finance  
                      Fire Department Staff  
                      Anna Tellez  
                      Rick Kirkbride  
                      Bill Verderber  
                      Jim Liu

| ATTACHMENTS:   1   [Cost Detail Form](#)

File Name 09182007-Mobile AVL.GPS devices & systems

Date 9/18/07

Time 4:30 p.m.