

ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CRAIG D. APPLE, SR.
SHERIFF



MICHAEL S. MONTELEONE
EXECUTIVE UNDERSHERIFF

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May 6, 2026

Honorable Joanne Cunningham
Legislative Chairwoman
112 State Street, Room 710
Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairwoman ^{JO}Cunningham:

The attached correspondence is forwarded for presentation to the Albany County Legislature.

Legislative approval is required in order to allow the Albany County Sheriff's Office to apply for, accept grant funding and enter into a contract with the State of New York, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, for the Combined SFY2025 & 2026 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program (Formula – Based Grant Program).

Our award is in the amount of \$2,011,036.00 with no match.

The grant period is for 5 years, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2030.

We will be purchasing items over \$100,000.00 under this grant. These items will include Land Mobile Radio (LMR) maintenance through Motorola Solutions, our present provider of these services.

Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,


Craig D. Apple, Sr.
Sheriff

Cc: Hon. Daniel P. McCoy, County Executive
Hon. Wanda F. Willingham, Chairwoman Audit & Finance

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Description (e.g., Contract Authorization for Information Services):

..title

Legislative approval to apply, accept the SFY2025-2026 Emergency Services Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program.

..body

Date: May 6, 2026 Submitted By: Craig D. Apple, Sr.
Department: Sheriff's Office Title: Sheriff
Attending Meeting: Sheriff Craig D. Apple, Sr. Phone: 518-487-5440

Purpose of Request: Contract Authorization 01/01/2026-12/31/2030

CONTRACT TERMS/CONDITIONS:

Party Names and Addresses:

NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services 1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg7A Suite 710 Albany, NY 12226

Term: (Start/end date or duration) 01/01/2026-12/31/2030
Amount/Raise Schedule/Fee: \$2,011,036.00

BUDGET INFORMATION:

Is there a Fiscal Impact: Yes No
Anticipated in Budget: Yes No
Spreadsheet attached: Yes No

Source of Funding – (Percentages)

Federal: 0 County: 0
State: 100% Local: 0

County Budget Accounts:

Revenue Account and Line: Enter text.
Revenue Amount: Enter text.
Appropriation Account and Line: Enter text.
Appropriation Amount: Enter text.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mandated Program/Service: Yes No
If Mandated, Cite Authority: Enter text.
Request for Bids / Proposals:
Competitive Bidding Exempt: Yes No
of Response(s): Enter text.
of MWBE: Enter text.
of Veteran Business: Enter text.
Bond Resolution No.: Enter text.
Apprenticeship Program Yes No

Previous requests for Identical or Similar Action:

Resolution/Law Number and Date: Enter text.

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST: (state briefly why legislative action is requested)

These funds will assist in our Land Mobile Radio (LMR) maintenance through Motorola Solutions.

I. Introduction

The purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to solicit applications for the Combined SFY2025 & SFY2026 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program (SICG-Formula Grant Program). The SICG-Formula Grant Program focuses on minimizing gaps in interoperable communications by aligning technology acquisitions with its operational use by first responders, providing the foundation necessary to accomplish a high level of interoperability. In support of that critical mission, the State Budget for 2025 & 2026 (State Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026) appropriates \$45 million each fiscal year in grants, which is appropriated from the Statewide Public Safety Communications Account, established by New York State Finance Law Section 97-qq, to eligible applicants in support of improving interoperability and operability of communication systems across New York State. This RFA represents a combined allocation total of \$90 million from the SFY2025 and SFY2026 accounts.

The SICG-Formula Grant Program is State support in the form of reimbursement for eligible expenses that aid localities in sustaining and improving Land Mobile Radio Systems (LMR); maintaining components that support interoperability; training and exercises that include communications as a focus; and sustaining and developing governance structures to improve interoperable communications. The Combined SFY2025 & SFY2026 SICG-Formula Grant Program also supports public safety organizations within the county in enhancing emergency response, improving on capability and performance results from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Emergency Communications Plan, improving operating procedures and infrastructure development, and addressing SAFECOM guidance from the DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

For public safety purposes, "interoperability" is defined as the ability of emergency responders to work seamlessly with other systems or products without any special effort. "Wireless communications interoperability" specifically refers to the ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized.

II. Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for and receive grant funding for the Combined SFY2025 & SFY2026 SICG Formula Grant Program, applicants must:

- Be a county government within New York State or New York City requesting funding for the benefit of the county as a single entity. Applications must be submitted by the county government. (The five boroughs which comprise New York City [Bronx, Kings, Queens, New York, and Richmond] must apply as a

single entity.)

- Be an active member of at least one New York State Regional Interoperable Communications Consortium.
- Have an established Interoperability Coordinator (single point of contact).
- Affirmatively agree to accessibility for other jurisdictions and levels of government, including State agencies, to share communications systems (to include accessibility, tower space, and reservation of channels/talk groups for public safety state operations) and DHSES employees to transmit and receive on all radio channels utilized by public safety radio systems in the county.
- Agree to allow for other public safety/public service agencies (including State agencies and authorities) and jurisdictions in its region to operate on county's radio system(s) when required for incident response, regardless of the total percentage of system funding the county is receiving from the State. As part of this process, the county will cooperate with these agencies and jurisdictions in planning and integrating radios, programming, identifiers, and radio procedures.
- Ensure new LMR trunked systems and equipment are public safety grade P-25 Phase 2 compliant (can be operated as P-25 Phase 1 or Phase 2).
 - **Note:** this requirement does not preclude the limited expansion of existing conventional systems in analog mode, although subscriber equipment must still adhere to the requirements above. Also, as directed by guidelines published by OIEC and DHS's National Interoperability Field Operations Guide, VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz National Interoperability and State Common Channels equipment must meet the above requirements, regardless of how they will be operated in analog mode on those channels.
 - **Exceptions:** VHF "low band" (e.g., 30-50 MHz) equipment purchased as part of an existing system may be purchased and operated as analog only, and equipment purchased for use by and in a county-supported Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) may be analog only.
- Utilize Advanced Encryption Standard-256 if encryption is utilized.
- Implement and/or maintain interoperability channels on the infrastructure/system and program interoperability channels in public safety subscriber equipment.
 - Interoperability base stations for VHF, UHF, 700, and 800 MHz National Interoperability and State Common Channels must operate in accordance with guidelines published by OIEC, which can be found on the DHSES website.
- Utilize open-standard/vendor-neutral technologies and equipment.

III. Awards

The \$90 million in funding through the Combined SFY2025 & SFY2026 SICG Formula Grant Program will be distributed noncompetitively among all eligible applicants, providing a base level funding total of \$26,680,000 (\$460,000 per applicant) and incorporating population, square mileage (based on official census data), and prior award information for the remaining \$63,320,000.

The chart below depicts each eligible recipient and their award amount.

Please note that all projects submitted in the "Budget" tab of the Application Worksheet should total the award amount listed below for each recipient.

Recipient	Award Amount	Recipient	Award Amount
* Albany	\$2,011,036	Niagara	\$1,416,668
Allegany	\$1,232,212	Oneida	\$1,706,830
Broome	\$1,436,884	Onondaga	\$2,454,890
Cattaraugus	\$1,233,480	Ontario	\$1,106,038
Cayuga	\$1,201,396	Orange	\$1,986,096
Chautauqua	\$1,319,226	Orleans	\$872,190
Chemung	\$914,684	Oswego	\$1,344,814
Chenango	\$968,746	Otsego	\$1,203,144
Clinton	\$1,140,176	Putnam	\$895,262
Columbia	\$921,076	Rensselaer	\$1,282,720
Cortland	\$1,336,038	Rockland	\$1,722,494
Delaware	\$1,168,150	Saratoga	\$1,607,978
Dutchess	\$1,250,992	Schenectady	\$1,100,732
Erie	\$2,736,718	Schoharie	\$802,608
Essex	\$1,411,982	Schuyler	\$725,734
Franklin	\$1,251,036	Seneca	\$703,354
Fulton	\$838,514	St. Lawrence	\$1,843,106
Genesee	\$1,168,988	Steuben	\$1,323,874
Greene	\$877,238	Suffolk	\$2,512,226
Hamilton	\$1,133,398	Sullivan	\$1,109,208
Herkimer	\$1,212,350	Tioga	\$830,060
Jefferson	\$1,359,508	Tompkins	\$1,037,238
Lewis	\$1,146,942	Ulster	\$1,258,750
Livingston	\$1,032,416	Warren	\$1,024,736
Madison	\$1,216,278	Washington	\$1,270,600
Monroe	\$3,231,362	Wayne	\$1,015,174
Montgomery	\$789,704	Westchester	\$1,549,916
Nassau	\$2,050,446	Wyoming	\$830,046
New York City	\$15,195,902	Yates	\$676,636

The final authority to administer this grant program rests with DHSES, including amendments or modifications to these guidelines, award distribution, and/or the amount available for award distribution.

The period of performance for contracts supported by the Combined SFY2025 & SFY2026 SICG Grant Program funds is January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2030.

Recipient (Grantee):	Albany County
Project Title:	Combined SFY2025 - SFY2026 Statewide Interoperable Communications Formula Grant (SICG-Formula)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Please provide a brief description of your project in the following space.	
Description: Funding from the Combined SFY2025 - SFY 2026 Statewide Interoperable Communications formula grant will be utilized to pay for Land Mobile Radio (LMR) maintenance costs for 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030. The outcome will be keeping operating expenses for our Land Mobile Radio system to a manageable level while providing the best communications system possible and thus providing relief to the taxpayers of Albany County.	

DIRECTIONS: Recipients must provide clear, detailed project descriptions which justify the funding requests for each item listed in the budget plan. Please begin by selecting the appropriate column from the project type drop-down menu. Next, provide a brief-level description of the project outlining its purpose and scope. Then, check the applicable SICG category and enter the total cost of the project. When completing this worksheet, please fill out each column for every row. You may use as many rows as you desire. The total of all projects equals the award amount listed for your county outlined in the Combined SFY 2025-2026 SICG Formula Request for Applications (RFA). For personnel costs exceeding \$100,000 and non-personnel resources, please use the Personnel tab to provide additional information.

Item #	Project Name	Project Description	Project Category	Fund Code
	LMR maintenance costs	Land Mobile Radio (LMR) maintenance	All other	\$2,011,036
	Please select from the drop-down menu		All other	
	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	

8	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
9	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
10	Please select from the drop-down menu		Please select from the drop-down menu	
			PROJECT TOTAL	\$2,011,036

2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT

				APPROPRIATIONS			
RESOLUTION NO.	BTCH	ACCOUNT NO.		RESOLUTION DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE	
A9	3110	4 4046	SIG25	COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT	2,011,036.00		CREATE
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS					2,011,036.00	0.00	

				REVENUES			
RESOLUTION NO.	BTCH	ACCOUNT NO.		RESOLUTION DESCRIPTION	DECREASE	INCREASE	
A3	3110	03306	SIG25	HOMELAND SECURITY		2,011,036.00	CREATE
TOTAL REVENUES					0.00	2,011,036.00	
GRAND TOTALS					2,011,036.00	2,011,036.00	

Attn: Comptrollers Office - new project code - SIG25 (Description "STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT 2025")

