



Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive



Department of Emergency Services

Memorandum

OnBase 114045

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Susan Spear
Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services

DATE: July 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Authorization for the County of Westchester to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State, acting by and through its Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, to accept a grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 in federal funds under the state's FY 2023 Technical Rescue/Urban Search and Rescue Assets Grant Program, to be used by the County of Westchester to draft specifications and purchase Technical Rescue equipment for the County's Technical Rescue Response Team and the Putnam County's Technical Rescue Team, for the period April 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027.

Authorization is requested for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Emergency Services (the "Department"), to enter into a grant agreement - TR23-1006-E00 ("Grant Agreement") with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (the "State" or "DHSES") to accept federal funds in an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000 under the State's FY 2023 Technical Rescue/Urban Search and Rescue Assets ("USAR") Grant Program ("2023 Technical Rescue & USAR Program" or "Program"), in order for the Department, as the principal point of contact with the State, being the County of Putnam the participating partner under the Grant Agreement ("Putnam County" or "Participating Partner"), to draft specifications and purchase Technical Rescue equipment for the Department's Technical Rescue Response Team and the Putnam County's Technical Rescue Team. The term of the Grant Agreement is for the period April 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027.

Pursuant to the Grant Agreement, the County will purchase stabilization and shoring equipment, rope rescue equipment and related items and structural collapse rescue equipment to provide shared search and rescue services within Westchester County and/or Putnam County. Also, pursuant to the Grant Agreement, the Department will take delivery of the equipment, perform repair and maintenance of same under warranty and maintenance contract(s), and distribute same to the Participating Partner as well as establish an equipment inventory process to

be used by the Participating Partner. In addition, the Department will be responsible to continue to train with regional partners, maintain all title and interest to the Technical Rescue Equipment, submit all required fiscal reporting documents and maintain all appropriate records pertaining to the Program. Furthermore, the Participating Partner shall be responsible for coordinating with the Department to implement all projects funded under the 2023 Technical Rescue & USAR Program.

The Grant Agreement will require the County to indemnify the State as follows:

“The [County] shall be solely responsible and answerable in damages for any and all accidents, incidents, and/or injuries to persons (including death) or property arising out of or related to the services to be rendered by the [County] or its subcontractors pursuant to this [Grant Agreement]. The [County] shall indemnify and hold harmless the State and its officers and employees from claims, suits, actions, damages and cost of every nature arising out of the provision of services pursuant to the [Grant Agreement].”

Additionally, in order to receive funding from DHSES, the County is required to enter into a Regional Partnership Agreement (“RPA Agreement”) with Putnam County, for a term of five years, commencing upon execution by both parties, to effect the purposes of the Grant Agreement. It should be noted that on June 15, 2026 the Westchester County Board of Legislators approved the RPA Agreement, pursuant to Act No. 135 - 2026.

The goals and objectives of the Grant Agreement are, amongst other things, to improve Technical Rescue & USAR capabilities and help develop new response capabilities as it relates to high-risk incidents missions in Westchester County and Putnam County.

The goals and objectives of the Grant Agreement are directed towards the improvement of Technical Rescue & USAR capabilities and the enhancement of Technical Rescue and USAR teams (including Type IV or higher Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces) that provide services involving structural collapse rescue, structural collapse search, trench rescue, confined space rescue, and rope rescue which help New Yorkers respond to and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.

This Grant Agreement will serve the County’s best interests as it will enhance emergency preparedness and preserve the health, safety and general welfare of County residents.

The Department will monitor the progression of the work plan associated with the Grant Agreement to ensure compliance and progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the Grant Program. The Department will monitor the effectiveness of the Grant Agreement through a series of performance measures required by the State.

The Grant Agreement does not constitute the procurement of goods and services. As such, it is not subject to the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the “Grant

Terms”), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

In view of the importance of this program, I recommend approval of the attached resolution.

SS/cmc
Attachment

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Emergency Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Emergency Services (the “Department”), is authorized to enter into grant agreement - TR23-1006-E00 (“Grant Agreement”) with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (the “State” or “DHSES”) to accept federal funds in an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000 under the State’s FY 2023 Technical Rescue/Urban Search and Rescue Assets (“USAR”) Grant Program (“2023 Technical Rescue & USAR Program” or “Program”), in order for the Department to draft specifications and purchase Technical Rescue equipment for the Department’s Technical Rescue Response Team and the Putnam County’s Technical Rescue Team; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term of the Grant Agreement is for the period April 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027.

RESOLVED, that the County is authorized to defend and indemnify DHSES according to the following indemnification language contained in the Grant Agreement, as follows:

“The [County] shall be solely responsible and answerable in damages for any and all accidents, incidents and/or injuries to persons (including death) or property arising out of or related to the services to be rendered by the [County] or its subcontractors pursuant to this [Grant Agreement]. The [County] shall indemnify and hold harmless the State and its officers and employees from claims, suits, actions, damages and cost of every nature arising out of the provision of services pursuant to the [Grant Agreement].”

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/credited	Fund	Agency	Capital Project Or Org	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Activity	Dollars
	263	20	B124	9853	G124	8000	\$100,000

Budget Funding Year(s) 2026-2027 Start Date 4/1/2026 End Date 08/31/2027
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____

State Aid _____

\$100,000.00 Federal Aid \$100,000.00

(must match resolution)

Other _____