SAFETY ADVISORY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

APRIL 25, 2006 - 5:00 P.M. - Council Chambers - City Hall - City of Dover

Public comments are welcomed on any item and will be permitted at appropriate times. When possible, please notify the City Clerk (736-7008 or e-mail at Jgreen@dover.de.us) should you wish to be recognized.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

1. Authorization to Purchase - Reverse 911 Telephone System *(Police)*

2. Public Hearing - Parking of Boats, Motorhomes, Trailers, etc. in Residential Neighborhoods

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THE AGENDA ITEMS AS LISTED MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IN SEQUENCE. THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO INCLUDE THE ADDITION OR THE DELETION OF ITEMS, INCLUDING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS.

ACTION FORM

PROCEEDING: Safety Advisory and Transportation Committee	**AGENDA ITEM**: 4/25/06 – 1
DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Police	**DATE SUBMITTED**: 4/5/06
PREPARED BY:	Captain Ray M. Sammons III – Administrative Division Commander
SUBJECT:	Authorization to Purchase – Reverse 911 Telephone System
REFERENCE:	N/A
RELATED PROJECT:	N/A
APPROVALS:	City Manager, Finance Director
EXHIBITS:	N/A
EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: $53,584.00	**AMOUNT BUDGETED**: $0
FUNDING SOURCE (Dept./Page in CIP & Budget):	CJC Grant Funding / Federal Funding
TIMETABLE:	Once approved by Council, the system will be ordered and installed within a timely manner.
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve the expenditure and sole source justification

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

The Police Department researched different methods available to public safety agencies regarding mass telephone notifications. There are two different types of systems available. The first type of system is owned and operated by the company with whom we would contract for their services. This system charges a cost for each call every time we use the system to make a mass notification. We are requesting approval for the purchase of the second type of system from Reverse 911 (name of the vendor) with grant funds. In this type of system we buy access to a block of phone lines, make calls using a computer mapping program that interfaces with an extensive address/phone directory and is owned/operated by the Police Department. The system will be used to notify citizens of emergency situations, non-emergency situations and other items of public interest.

The concept of mass telephone notifications appeals to the Police Department because it will provide the Department the ability to notify a large number of citizens in a relatively short period of time regarding specific situations. We are excited about the possibility of having a system like this available to us and to our city government. We justified the grant funds for this system based on our plan to improve our Sex Offender Notification process. The process currently used to make the notifications is a tremendous burden on our manpower. The mass telephone notifications will eliminate the necessity for officers to go door to door to notify the residents and businesses. Using the new system, all the officers will have to do is select the area to be notified using the mapping program; tape the audio recording to be used for the notification, and send it out through the system. For those citizens who do not have access to telephones or do not wish to participate in the program, their notification will be completed as before. We believe most residents will want to participate based on the convenience, ease and reliability of the system. The system can also be used by city government during brown-water notifications and other incidents of importance to our citizens.

The system we are requesting is a 16-port system, capable of making **twenty-four hundred** (2,400), **thirty** (30) second calls per minute. This system is currently used by the United States House of Representatives as well as the Wilmington and New Castle Police Departments within our state. Rehoboth Beach Police Department is purchasing the system in the near future, and the Seaford Police Department has been inquiring about purchasing the system. This system is capable of interconnecting with other agencies using the same system, utilizing their phone lines for an even larger call volume. However, there is an annual fee for this module which could be shared with the other agencies involved.

SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS/COMPONENTS:

- **Reverse 911 Base System** 16 port turn-key solution that includes all of the hardware, software, mapping, commercial database, installation, training and 1st year support and maintenance. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week telephone support. Twenty-four hour response time for hardware problems.

- **Mobilization Plus** A module which contacts pre-determined individuals by way of multiple devices. Tracks who has responded to the notification (call).

- **Community Information Line** A module which offers information to the community without them calling 911. Ideal for calendar of community events, Police, Fire, City Government directories, Crime Watch and other community information of interest to the public.

- **Line Grabber** A module which utilizes existing telephone lines which are not in use to make calls. No need to pay additional money for additional telephone lines just for the system.

- **Guarding Calling** A module which allows us to establish a list of senior citizens or shut-in citizens and monitor their well-being by scheduling automatic "check-in" calls as a public service. ***(This module was included for no additional cost)***

- **Public Telephone Database** The system includes the public telephone number database. This is continually updated by Reverse 911 at no charge to the City.

Additional Items

- **E911 Database** This is a database of unlisted/private telephone numbers which Verizon Telephone Company owns and we will have to obtain from them for a fee which is included in our grant funding.

FUNDING

The Department obtained funding from a Criminal Justice Council grant program and federal funding to cover the cost of this system and was justified as an improvement for our Sex Offender Notification System. The only initial cost to the City is for one dedicated telephone line for the system. After the warranty period expires (after the third year), there will be a fixed price service contract ($4,728.00) that will never increase unless we increase the number of ports on our system.

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

The Department is requesting to sole source this expenditure because Reverse 911 was the original company to offer this type of product. As the founder of this type of system, it holds several patents on the product and is the industry leader/standard. In addition, it makes sense to purchase Reverse 911 since there are several other agencies within the state already using the system. Their systems will be capable of interconnecting with our system to increase the call volume capability if we decide to enter into an agreement with the other agencies, and together we purchase the module which is required. Another vendor's product cannot offer nearly the same degree of capability or flexibility.

As of this time, the Police Department has not contacted the City Purchasing Agent regarding this request. If the sole source request is not approved, the Police Department will contact the Purchasing Agent and request bids be advertised utilizing the specifications already obtained for the system.

NEWS RELEASE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the Safety Advisory and Transportation Committee on **Tuesday, April 25, 2006, at 5:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at City Hall, Loockerman Street, Dover. This public hearing has been scheduled to receive comments regarding the parking of boats, motor homes, trailers, etc. in residential neighborhoods to determine if any amendments to the City's ordinances are warranted. Members of the public are invited to review the current ordinances and offer their comments and suggestions during the committee meeting or by writing to the City Clerk, P.O. Box 475, Dover, DE 19903 (e-mail at Jgreen@dover.de.us).

The following guidelines will be used for the public comment period during the committee meeting:

1) Written testimony may be given to the City Clerk's Office to be distributed to members for their review up to 4:30 p.m. on April 25, 2006;

2) Citizens wishing to comment should contact the City Clerk' s Office at 736-7008 or e-mail at Jgreen@dover.de.us, in order to be placed on a list to assist the Chair in recognizing speakers.

3) Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes for their comments.

JANICE C. GREEN, CMC
CITY CLERK

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E-MAILED ON 4/14/2006:

DELAWARE STATE NEWS
NEWS JOURNAL
DOVER POST
WAFL - WMDT - WBOC-TV - WDOV RADIO - COMCAST

BOATS-RV-TRAILER PARKING
CITY OF DOVER - CURRENT ORDINANCES

Sec. 106-123. Vehicle parking time limited where carrying capacity is in excess of one ton, and trailer and motor home parking.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle with a carrying capacity of more than one ton, any trailer, which includes, but is not limited to, boat, utility, construction or one that is used to carry goods regardless of weight capacity and is designed to be towed or pulled by another vehicle, or any vehicle or trailer on the city streets for a period longer than two consecutive hours.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any commercial vehicle with a carrying capacity of more than one ton, any trailer, which includes, but is not limited to, utility, construction or one that is used to carry goods regardless of weight capacity and is designed to be towed or pulled by another vehicle, or any vehicle or trailer combination thereof, or any travel trailer in any residential zone in the city except for temporary parking for immediate deliveries, pickups, and/or service calls to residences or for construction work on residential properties. A commercial vehicle shall be one which is used or maintained for the transportation of persons or property for hire, compensation or profit, except taxicabs.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to park a trailered boat under 25 feet on the streets of Dover for a period longer than 12 consecutive hours. For any trailered boat 25 or greater, refer to subsection (a).

(d) It shall be unlawful for any motor home to park on any residential street for a period longer than 12 consecutive hours without a permit. A resident owner of a motor home may request a parking permit from the city to park on a residential street in the vicinity of their residence for a period not to exceed 72 hours. The permit would be made available at no cost to the resident. The parking permit shall be displayed in the front window of the vehicle visible from the street. A resident may only request such a permit three times in any 12-month period.

(e) Nonresidents are exempt from subsection (d) for a period of up to seven days as long as their motor home or travel trailer does not create a safety hazard or interfere with traffic in the residential area that they are parked in.

(f) All parking allowed in this section only applies to streets that can accommodate parking in compliance with appendix A, article VI, section A.

(Code 1981, § 13-30.2; Ord. of 2-22-1982; Ord. of 9-10-1990; Ord. of 12-11-1995; Ord. of 7-25-2005)

ARTICLE 6. OFF-STREET PARKING, DRIVEWAYS AND LOADING FACILITIES

Section 1. Permitted accessory parking.

1.1 [Off-street parking spaces.]Off-street parking spaces, open or enclosed, are permitted accessory to any use. One commercial vehicle may be parked on a lot in any residence zone only if less than one ton in carrying capacity.

1.12 [1.2] Trailers and boats. The storage or parking and use of a house trailer by any person or persons is prohibited in all residential zones, except the mobile home park (MHP) zone. A boat with its trailer, a utility trailer, and an unoccupied travel trailer under 31 feet body length or an unoccupied motor home may be parked within a garage or anywhere behind the setback line if screened from adjacent lots. However, none of the vehicles shall be parked in a required side yard if alley parking adjacent to the lot is available.

1.13 [1.3] Driveways. No driveway shall provide access to a lot located in another zone, which lot is used for any use prohibited in the zone in which such driveway is located.
(Ord. of 9-12-1983; Ord. of 1-10-1996)

ARTICLE 7. NONCONFORMING BUILDINGS AND USES
(with reference to parking see ✱ below)

Section 1. Nonconforming buildings and uses.

The following provisions shall apply to all buildings and uses existing on the effective date of this ordinance, which buildings and uses do not conform to the requirements set forth in this ordinance; to all buildings and uses that become nonconforming by reason of any subsequent amendment to this ordinance and the zoning map which is a part thereof; and to all conforming buildings housing nonconforming uses:

1.1 Any nonconforming use, except those nonconforming uses specified in [sub]section 1.5, may be continued indefinitely, but:

1.11 Shall not be enlarged, extended, reconstructed or placed on a different portion of the lot or parcel of land occupied by such uses on the effective date of this ordinance, nor shall any external evidence of such use such as traffic, noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odor, heat or glare be increased by any means whatsoever; or

1.12 Shall not be changed to another nonconforming use without a special permit from the board of adjustment, and then only to a use which, in the opinion of said board, is of the same or a more restricted nature; or

1.13 Shall not be reestablished if such use has been discontinued for any reason for a period of one year or more, or has been changed to, or replaced by, a conforming use. Intent to resume a nonconforming use shall not confer the right to do so.

1.2 Except as provided in paragraph [subsection] 1.4 below, no building which houses a non-conforming use shall be:

1.21 Structurally altered or enlarged; or

1.22 Moved to another location where such use would be nonconforming; or

1.23 Restored for other than a conforming use after damage from any cause exceeding 75 percent of the replacement cost of such building, exclusive of foundations. Any such building damage[d] to a lesser extent may be restored, but not enlarged, and the nonconforming use reinstated within one year of such damage; [however,] if the restoration of such building is not completed within the said one-year period, the nonconforming use of such building shall be deemed to have been discontinued, unless such nonconforming use is carried on without interruption in the undamaged portion of such building.

1.3 Normal maintenance and repair, structural alteration in, and moving, reconstruction or enlargement of a building which does not house a nonconforming use, but is nonconforming as to the district regulations for lot area, lot width, front yard, side yard, rear yard, maximum height, maximum lot coverage, or minimum livable floor area per dwelling is permitted if the same does not increase the degree of, or create any new nonconformity with such regulations in such building.

1.4 Nothing in this article shall be deemed to prevent normal maintenance and repair of any building, or the carrying out, upon the issuance of a building permit, of major structural alterations or demolitions necessary in the interest of public safety. In granting such a permit, the building inspector shall state the precise reason why such alterations were deemed necessary.

1.5 Each of the nonconforming uses specified below is deemed sufficiently objectionable, undesirable, and out of character in the district in which such use is located as to depreciate the value of other property and uses permitted in the district, and blight the proper and orderly development and general welfare of such district and the city to the point that each of such nonconforming uses shall be terminated on or before the expiration of the specified period of time after the effective date of this ordinance; which period of time is specified for the purpose of permitting the amortization of the remaining value, if any, of such use.

* 1.51 In any residence zone, any nonconforming use of open land, including such uses as a parking lot, junkyard, or open storage yard for materials or equipment, may be continued for three years after the effective date of this ordinance, or after annexation of the property into the City of Dover, provided that, after the expiration of that period, such nonconforming use shall be terminated (see also article 6, section 1.12). Any "house trailer," as that term is defined in article 12 hereof, that was located within the limits of the City of Dover at the effective date of this ordinance [November 22, 1976], or that was in place on any land subsequently annexed into the City of Dover, in any zone other than the mobile home park zone (MHP), shall constitute a nonconforming use and shall be permitted to be maintained as a nonconforming use indefinitely. However, such house trailer shall be required to connect to city sewer and water mains, if available, and such house trailer shall be subject to and shall comply with all other city codes and ordinances applicable to structures and residences.

1.52 In any residence zone, any sign not of a type permitted, or of a permitted type, but greater than two times the maximum permitted size may be continued for one year following the effective date of this ordinance, provided that, after the expiration of that period, such nonconforming use shall be terminated.

1.53 In any residence zone, any non-conforming use of buildings which is not permitted under the provisions of this ordinance may be continued for a period of:

(a) Twenty years after the effective date of this ordinance, or

(b) Forty years after the initial construction of the building containing such use or of any addition thereto adding 50 percent or more to the floor area occupied by such use,

whichever is the longer period, provided that, after the expiration of that period, such nonconforming use shall be terminated. However, no such nonconforming use shall be permitted to continue for a period exceeding two years, unless such use shall be operated in conformance with performance standards established in article 5, section 8.

1.6 Residential occupancies that meet the definition of "student home," as provided in article 12 of this ordinance, that can be proven to have been in existence as a student home use prior to the enactment of regulations governing student homes, shall be permitted to remain as legal nonconforming uses as to location and shall not be subject to the conditional use approval requirements set forth in article 10, section 2, provided that all such uses shall be made to conform with all other provisions of article 3, section 2.4, subsection (b), with regard to licensing as a student home, off-street parking requirements and number of students in residence in the student home, within six months of the effective date of the ordinance amendment establishing article 3, section 2.4, subsection (b). Documentation to prove that a student home use existed prior to the enactment of this ordinance shall be limited to executed lease agreements, City of Dover licensing data, and/or [a] sworn legal affidavit from the owner of record of the property. Failure to bring a nonconforming student home use into compliance within the specified six-month period shall be deemed a violation of this ordinance and subject to penalties as set forth in article 8 of the zoning ordinance [this appendix] and all applicable provisions of [the] Dover Code of Ordinances.

Any student home use that existed prior to the enactment of this ordinance, that ceases to exist or that is changed to any form of occupancy other than a student home use for a period in excess of 120 days, shall not be reactivated as a student home use without conditional use approval as set forth in article 3, section 2.4 and article 10, section 1 of this ordinance.

(Ord. of 11-22-1976, § 1; Ord. of 7-12-1993, § 12; Ord. of 2-12-2001; Ord. of 1-13-2003)

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