



**RESOLUTION TITLE: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF THE NC STATE HIGHWAY PATROL VOICE INTEROPERABILITY PLAN FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (VIPER) AS THE NEXT GENERATION EMERGENCY SERVICES RADIO SYSTEM PLATFORM FOR GASTON COUNTY; SPECIFICALLY, TO ENDORSE THE FIRE SERVICE APPLICATION FOR A 2016 FEMA ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT AND TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED 10% MATCHING FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Gaston County are currently protected by an antiquated and obsolete UHF/VHF emergency services radio system that is approaching 15 years of service and becoming increasingly difficult to maintain adequately; and

WHEREAS, in September 2013 a multi-agency subcommittee of public safety officials along with County staff was commissioned to evaluate available options for the next generation emergency services radio system platform; and

WHEREAS, following an extensive evaluation of multiple system options the subcommittee voted unanimously to designate the NC VIPER system as the preferred system for implementation; and

WHEREAS, due to the predicted cost burden, it was deemed to be in the public interest for all agencies to develop creative funding sources where possible, and specifically for the fire service, to collaboratively seek a Joint Regional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to more cost-effectively purchase and install the county-wide VIPER radio system; and

WHEREAS, the FEMA AFG program limits such radio system grant awards to non-infrastructure purchases to a maximum of \$2 million dollars and requires the regional grant partners to provide a one-time 10% fund match;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners wishes to designate the NC State Highway Patrol Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

*Donna S. Buff*

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	Brown	Carpenter	Fraleigh	Kelgher	Phillbeck	Price	Williams	Vote
2016-318	11/10/2016	CB	AF	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF THE NC STATE HIGHWAY PATROL VOICE INTEROPERABILITY PLAN FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (VIPER) AS THE NEXT GENERATION EMERGENCY SERVICES RADIO SYSTEM PLATFORM FOR GASTON COUNTY; SPECIFICALLY, TO ENDORSE THE FIRE SERVICE APPLICATION FOR A 2016 FEMA ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT AND TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED 10% MATCHING FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000**

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Responders (VIPER) as the next generation emergency services radio system platform and to endorse the county-wide fire service bid for a Joint Regional Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant by providing the required 10% matching grant funds not to exceed \$200,000 dollars.



**FEMA**

# Assistance to Firefighters Grant - Program Info



Navigation

Search

Languages

This page is for fire departments and nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Service organizations and contains links to the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG), Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) and Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (FP&S) programs. Links to other resources such as success stories, AFG E-mail and regional contacts are also available.

Assistance To Firefighters Grant Program (/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program)

E-Grant Application Access (/e-grant-application-access)

▼ Program Info (/assistance-firefighters-grant-program-info)

E-Mail Alert Signup (/assistance-firefighters-grants-e-mail-alert-signup)

E-Mail Alert Archive (/e-mail-alert-archive)

Contact Info (/fire-grant-contact-information)

➤ Expand All Sections

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## ▼ Assistance To Firefighters Grants (AFG)

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

[Click here for more information. \(/assistance-firefighters-grant\)](#)

- > Assistance to Firefighters Grant (/assistance-firefighters-grant)
- > Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grants (/staffing-adequate-fire-emergency-response-grants)
- > Fire Prevention & Safety Grants (/fire-prevention-safety-grants)
- > Rules & Tools (/rules-tools)

- > Staffing For Adequate Fire And Emergency Response Grants (SAFER)
- > Fire Prevention & Safety Grants (FP&S)
- > Other Resources

Last Updated: 08/29/2016 - 15:37

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 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Fire Marshal Board Action

File #: 16-459

Commissioners Brown and Fraley - Resolution To Support the Designation of the NC State Highway Patrol Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) as the Next Generation Emergency Services Radio System Platform for Gaston County; Specifically, to Endorse the Fire Service Application for a 2016 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant and to Provide the Required 10% Matching Funds Not to Exceed \$200,000

### STAFF CONTACT

Eric Hendrix - Fire Marshal - Fire Department - 704-866-3231

### BUDGET IMPACT

Fund Balance Appropriation. Maximum of \$200,000 in County funds (10% match for \$2 million Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program)

### BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

### BACKGROUND

Due to the estimated cost burden of upgrading the County's antiquated emergency services radio system to the next generation platform, departments providing fire and emergency services throughout Gaston County wish to collaboratively seek a Joint Regional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to more cost-effectively purchase and install the NC State Highway Patrol Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) county-wide radio system. The AFG program limits such radio system grant awards to non-infrastructure purchases to a maximum of \$2 million dollars and requires the regional grant partners to provide a one-time 10% fund match. This Board Action seeks to gain the endorsement of the Gaston County BOC to designate the NC VIPER radio system as the next generation emergency services radio system platform, support the Joint Regional FEMA AFG application, and to provide the required one-time 10% matching grant funds not to exceed \$200,000 dollars.

### POLICY IMPACT

N/A

### ATTACHMENTS

Resolution and AFG Informational Document(s)

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	Brown	Carpenter	Fraley	Kelgher	Phillbeck	Price	Williams	Vote
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