|  |
| --- |
| ***Emails can be sent to:*** ***RA-OB-RACP-PPR@pa.gov*** ***Please note “2020 Funding Round Public Comment – Delco 911 Communications” in the subject line. Please also send a copy to:*** RACP@co.delaware.pa.us |

I am writing to you to support the grant request from Delaware County for the project noted above.

The County’s request for a $6 million Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant will support a more-than $40 million project to rehabilitate and modernize its 911 emergency communications system, covering 24 sites across the County, changing radio frequencies and replacing subscriber radios.

Delaware County’s current 911 emergency communications system has serious service and security deficiencies and is long overdue for modernization, which makes this project a matter of critical importance, and the availability of RACP funds will make a significant difference in being able to address the need.

This project will contribute to the critical public safety infrastructure that protects not only the 560,000 residents of Delaware County but also the thousands of people who work here and who travel our highways and who otherwise require the services the 911 system supports.

The grant will fund part of a comprehensive public safety project that will:

* Enable radio signals to consistently reach first responders and emergency services providers.
* Secure new dedicated and secure public safety radio channels.
* Connect first responders in real time with local businesses, hospitals, schools and universities to ensure they have direct access during a disaster.
* Support emergency dispatchers, law enforcement officers and the paid and volunteer first responders who keep all of us safe every day.

The project will generate more than 27,000 hours of work and stimulate significant economic impact, while supporting the 130 County emergency services staff who answer 911 calls and coordinate emergency response.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.