

Senator David Vitter

Fiscal Year 2008 Appropriations Request

1. Provide the exact name and location of the potential grant recipient, along with the name, title, address, phone and fax number, and email of a contact at the organization. Also, please provide a contact person, if different from the grant recipient.

The potential grant recipient is Washington Parish Government, 909 Pearl Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438, acting for the Washington Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Washington Parish Communications District E 9-1-1.

The contact for this grant request is :

**Fred W. Grages
Director of Finance
Washington Parish Government
909 Pearl Street
Franklinton, Louisiana 70438
Phone: 985-839-7825
fgrages@wpgov.org**

2. Describe the organization's main activities, and whether it is public, private or non-profit entity.

The Parish of Washington is a local Government subdivision, which operates under a Home Rule Charter. The plan of Government provided by this Home Rule Charter shall be known as the "President-Council" form of Government. It shall consist of an elected Council, known as the Washington Parish Council and constitute the legislative Branch of the Government and an elected President who shall be the Chief Executive Officer and head of the Executive Branch.

The Washington Parish Office Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness formed by Washington Parish government in 1993, is responsible for the management of all area emergencies including those related to weather, hazardous materials and terrorism. It is run under the supervision of the parish president, with direct control in the hands of an appointed Director. The Washington Parish organization is affiliated with the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

The Washington Parish Communications District was created by the Washington Parish Government on May 17, 1988, under the provisions authorized by Louisiana Revised Statue 33:9101-9106, and is a component unit of the Washington Parish Government. The purpose of the district is to establish and manage operations of

an emergency communications system in Washington Parish. The district is governed by a seven member board appointed by the parish government.

All three organizations are public entities.

3. Provide a brief description (**150-200 words maximum**) of the activity or project for which the funding is requested. The description should provide a brief summary of the project including its history, current status, and most importantly, a justification for funding. Also, please include how the project will positively impact the community, parish, state, and/or nation. If the request is for construction, please identify the programmatic activity that will be carried out in the facility. Please indicate whether this request is for construction, equipment, or other one-time expenses, or if the funding is for ongoing expenses.

Washington Parish requests one-time funding to construct and equip a state-of-the-art combined Emergency Operations / 9-1-1 / Multi-Agency Communications Center. This facility will provide an effective means for local emergency response and government officials to coordinate, monitor, and direct emergency response and related activities during an emergency.

The combined facility will also provide the ability to direct and control resources, automate processes and methodologies, assign and track tasks, and efficiently communicate real-time emergency management information. In addition, the facility will be designed and constructed to protect communication and data with needed redundancy, security and flexibility.

In order to provide emergency communication services in the event of natural or man made disasters, terrorism, bio-terrorism, hazardous materials, and other emergencies within Washington Parish and those which affect the greater New Orleans area, Louisiana Emergency Response Region 9 - Office of Public Health, and adjacent Mississippi counties; it is proposed to construct and equip a new, centrally located facility. It will provide coordinated electronic, telephone, satellite and radio communications to, from, and between all law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, hospitals, and emergency management agencies within Washington Parish and the surrounding parishes and counties.

The emergency management and response related improvements inherent to this project will serve as a foundation for economic development in the area. The ability to attract investment by new businesses is, in many ways, tied to the ability of local government to respond to natural and man made disasters. A perceived weakness in this area undercuts the future economic development in Washington Parish.

Job creation in Washington Parish and the surrounding area will be enhanced by the proposed emergency operations command center and consolidated communications center. In addition to indirect enhancement, the center itself will employ nine 9-1-1 call takers not currently being utilized and will provide

workspace for two emergency management personnel to assist the current Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Response.

4. What is the total project cost? How much funding is needed to complete this project?

Total Project	\$7,758,811
Less, Local Funds for Land	-\$75,000
Less, Army National Guard Site Work	-\$50,000
Total New Funding	\$7,633,811

5. What is the amount you are requesting for FY 2008? Please note that the Appropriations committee, in general, provides only one year of funding at a time. If your request involves more than one year, please indicate the one-year amount. Include a break down of the requested funding? For example, equipment \$40,000; computers \$3,000 etc.)

PROJECT SPENDING PLAN

<u>Category</u>	<u>Jul-07</u> <u>Jan-08</u>	<u>Jan-08</u> <u>Jul-08</u>	<u>Jul-08</u> <u>Jan-09</u>	<u>Jan-09</u> <u>Jul-09</u>	<u>Jul-09</u> <u>Jan-10</u>	<u>Jan-10</u> <u>Jul-10</u>
<i>A. Building</i>	\$ -	\$ 740,552	\$ 1,110,828	\$ 1,110,828	\$740,552	
<i>B. Additional Site</i>	\$ -	\$ 273,000	\$ 136,000	\$ 24,100	\$216,900	
<i>C. Equipment</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$811,965	\$ 1,648,535
<i>D. Other</i>	<i>A/E/L/I</i>	\$ 23,055	\$ 18,270	\$ 18,270	\$ 14,355	\$ 2,451
	<i>Conting.</i>	\$ 87,000	\$ 87,000	\$ 130,500	\$ 87,000	\$ 43,776
<i>E. Land</i>	\$ 75,000					
<i>Total by Period</i>	\$ 433,875	\$ 1,123,607	\$ 1,352,098	\$ 1,283,698	\$1,870,772	\$ 1,694,762
<i>Local Funds</i>	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<i>Requested Funds</i>	\$ 358,875	\$ 1,073,607	\$ 1,352,098	\$ 1,283,698	\$1,870,772	\$ 1,694,762

6. Federal funding history (Important). Please indicate whether funding was received in the past four fiscal years. If so, what appropriation bill or government agency provided that funding? Also, include any federal grant funding received in the past 2 years.

No federal or private funding has been received for this project during the past four years.

7. What other funding sources (local, state, private) are contributing to the project and what amounts?

Less, Local Funds for Land	\$ 75,000
Less, Army National Guard Site Work	\$ 50,000
Total	<u>\$125,000</u>

8. Has this program ever been included in the President's budget request? If so, what was the requested amount?

This project has never been included in the President's budget request.

9. Are you requesting specific bill or report language? If so, what language are you requesting in what bill and/or report?

No specific bill or report language is requested.

10. What appropriation bill/ subcommittee are you seeking funds from? The 13 appropriations bills/ subcommittees are (1) Agriculture and Rural Development; (2) Commerce, Justice, and Science; (3) Defense; (4) District of Columbia; (5) Energy and Water; (6) State and Foreign Operations; (7) Interior and EPA; (8) Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; (9) Legislative Branch; (10) Military Construction and Veterans Affairs; (11) Transportation and HUD, (12) Homeland Security, and (13) Financial Services/Small Business Administration.

Funds are being requested from appropriation bill / subcommittee as determined by the Louisiana delegation.

11. Is authorization required for this project? If so, what is the status of authorization?

Authorization for this project is indicated by its inclusion in the Louisiana Speaks, Long Term Recovery Plan as shown in : <http://www.louisianaspeaksparishplans.org>

12. Many projects require a local funding match. Is the local funding match currently available if the project receives FY 2008 federal appropriations?

Local funding is available as per item 7 above.

13. What regional entities or other parishes/ municipalities would benefit from your request?

The proposed project will provide emergency communication services in the event of natural or man made disasters, terrorism, bio-terrorism, hazardous materials, and other emergencies within Washington Parish and those which affect the greater

New Orleans area, Louisiana Emergency Response Region 9 - Office of Public Health, and adjacent Mississippi counties.

14. Any other pertinent information you would like to include.

Please see attached project summary, “EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER FOR WASHINGTON PARISH, LOUISIANA REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATIONS”