

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Crisis Track Damage Assessment Software

DATE OF MEETING: May 28, 2024

BUDGET IMPACT: \$6,237.00

FUNDING SOURCE:

- Annual - \$6,237.00
- Capital
- N/A
- SPLOST
- TSPLOST

Work
Session/Regular
Session

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Approval of Service Agreement for Crisis Track

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: Hurricane Idalia highlighted a need for a more efficient method to conduct post-storm damage assessments, utilizing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines. Crisis Track is a damage assessment software that can be installed as an app on any smartphone or tablet for users in the field to quickly collect damage assessment information and provide it to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This will allow Emergency Management to provide damage assessment numbers more quickly to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), enabling them to notify FEMA of a request for assistance more quickly. Another advantage is that it collects all the information needed for the damage assessment and the labor and equipment costs for conducting the assessment and places it on the appropriate FEMA forms. This will make submitting those costs for reimbursement easier, if it becomes available. Cook County EMA has been using Crisis Track for several years and indicated it has improved their processes during emergencies and in some routine operations. Berrien County EMA is in the process of implementing Crisis Track as well. Lowndes County EMA reached out to several other counties that use Crisis Track or a similar product, and all spoke affirmatively about how much it improved their recovery process following an incident.

This was originally intended to be part of the FY 2025 budget request. However, GEMA recently made some additional grant funds available that will cover the initial implementation funding and allow us to have the system in place with personnel trained ahead of the peak hurricane season.

- OPTIONS: 1. Approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Service Agreement for Crisis Track.
2. Board's Pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Management

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Ashley Tye

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: