



Kimberly Roberts, Ph.D.
Managing Director
Cobb County CDBG & NSP Program Offices
192 Anderson Street, Ste. 150
Marietta, GA 30060

November 9, 2023

Dear Ms. Roberts,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Powder Springs to express our sincere appreciation for the grant funding awarded to us through Cobb County's FY23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for the city's Bond Step Program. We are truly grateful for the opportunity to enhance the safety and well-being of our community through the grant program.

However, as we have continued to assess the evolving needs of our city, we have identified a pressing and critical requirement that aligns with the program's objectives and will further enhance public safety. We respectfully request the opportunity to redirect the FY23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funding to implement the FUSUS platform. This state-of-the-art solution has proven invaluable in enhancing community safety and law enforcement effectiveness.

The FUSUS platform is a comprehensive camera integration system that seamlessly combines camera streams from various sources, including FLOCK, security cameras, GDOT cameras, and more. It integrates police call-aided dispatch (CAD) with a geolocation feature that automatically displays camera feeds in the vicinity of an emergency call, allowing officers to monitor the area in real-time before their arrival. This advanced technology assists emergency response and is invaluable in investigations and event planning.

One of the standout features of the FUSUS platform is its utilization of artificial intelligence (AI). In real-time events, users can input specific search criteria, and the software will autonomously search video footage over a defined time frame for matches. For instance, in a crowded area, if a user inputs criteria like "white male wearing a red shirt," the software will retrieve all video clips featuring individuals matching that description. It can then escalate to facial recognition to closely track the suspect in real time.

PO Box 46, 4426 Marietta Street, Powder Springs, GA 30127
TEL (770) 943-1666
cityofpowdersprings.org

A recent and highly notable example of the FUSUS platform's effectiveness is its pivotal role in apprehending an active shooter at the Northside Doctor's Office in Atlanta. This incident involved a suspect who fled the scene in a stolen vehicle, leading officers on a high-stakes pursuit. The Cobb County Real-Time Crime Center used the FUSUS platform to locate the stolen vehicle, coordinate the law enforcement response, and safely apprehend the suspect. The platform allowed for the real-time monitoring of video feeds, radio traffic, and incoming 911 calls, which proved instrumental in resolving the situation without further incident.

The FUSUS platform is a tool for law enforcement and a mechanism through which the community can participate actively in ensuring their safety. It allows residents to grant access to their home security cameras, including popular devices like RING doorbell cameras, in case of an active threat or crime spree in the community. For registered citizens, the system can issue real-time notifications of events or threats, with the ability to highlight available cameras in the area, aiding law enforcement investigations.

In light of the immense potential of the FUSUS platform to enhance community safety, improve policing, and foster greater collaboration between law enforcement and residents, we respectfully request your consideration to redirect the grant funding towards this crucial initiative. This shift in focus aligns with the overarching goal of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, which is to enhance the safety and well-being of our communities.

We are prepared to provide any additional information, engage in discussions, or undergo any necessary processes to facilitate this change in using grant funds. We genuinely value our partnership with Cobb County and the opportunities it affords us to serve our community more effectively. We believe that this reallocation of funds to the FUSUS platform represents a strategic and proactive step toward achieving that goal.

Thank you for your attention to our request. We look forward to your positive response and the opportunity to discuss further the implementation of the FUSUS platform for the benefit of our community.

Sincerely,



Pamela Conner
City Manager