

Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant – FY2027

Applicant Organization: Tyler County, Texas

Project Title: Tyler County Interoperable Emergency Radio Infrastructure Enhancement Project

Funding Requested: \$1,842,500

Project Period: September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2028

1. Executive Summary

Tyler County, Texas seeks funding to enhance emergency communications infrastructure to improve interoperability and coverage for law enforcement, fire departments, EMS, and emergency management.

Tyler County is a rural East Texas county with dense forests, large unincorporated areas, and limited radio tower coverage. Current communications infrastructure results in:

- Coverage gaps in northern and southeastern portions of the county
- Limited interoperability with neighboring counties
- Reduced reliability during severe weather and disasters

The proposed project will:

- Construct two new interoperable radio tower sites
- Upgrade existing communications shelters and backup power
- Expand coverage into underserved areas
- Connect county systems to regional interoperability networks

This project aligns with the statewide goal to improve interoperable emergency radio infrastructure across Texas.

2. Statement of Need

Tyler County covers approximately 936 square miles of rural East Texas terrain dominated by forests and low-lying flood-prone areas.

Primary emergency responders include:

- Tyler County Sheriff's Office
- Volunteer fire departments
- EMS services
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Forest Service

Current Communications Challenges

1. Coverage Gaps
 - Northern county areas
 - Neches River corridor

- Remote forestry and logging areas
- 2. Limited Redundancy
Current system relies heavily on a small number of tower sites.
- 3. Disaster Vulnerability
Hurricanes, tornadoes, and severe storms frequently disrupt communications infrastructure.
- 4. Interoperability Limitations
Neighboring counties often operate on different systems.

Impact

These gaps affect:

- Officer safety
- Fireground communications
- Disaster coordination
- Mutual aid operations

The proposed infrastructure will close coverage gaps and improve communications resilience.

3. Project Description

The Tyler County Interoperable Emergency Radio Infrastructure Enhancement Project will:

Component 1 — New Radio Tower Infrastructure

Two new radio sites:

1. Northern Tyler County Site
 - Approximate area: Chester / Colmesneil corridor
2. Southern Tyler County Site
 - Approximate area: Fred or Wildwood area

Each site will include:

- 300 ft self-supporting radio tower
 - P25 compatible radio equipment
 - hardened communications shelter
 - generator and battery backup
 - microwave backhaul
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Component 2 — Existing Tower Upgrades

Upgrades to existing county infrastructure including:

- hardened shelters
- generator backup
- microwave network improvements
- network monitoring systems

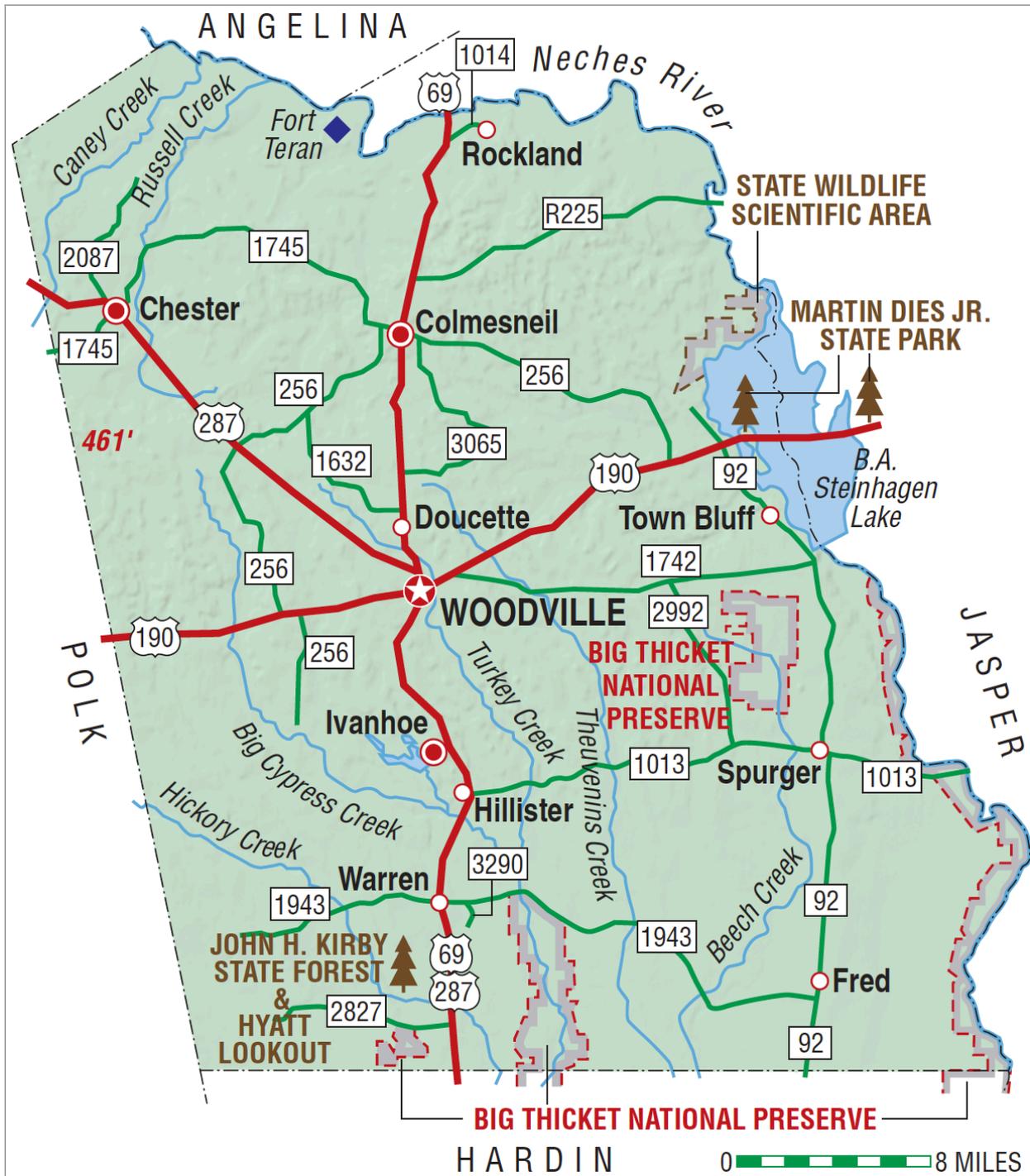
Component 3 — Regional Connectivity

The project will integrate Tyler County infrastructure with regional systems to improve interoperability.

Grant funds will support infrastructure that strengthens statewide communications networks as permitted under Texas law.

4. Proposed Infrastructure Map

Below is a conceptual layout of the project area.



Proposed Sites

Site 1 – Northern Coverage Tower

- Near Chester / Colmesneil corridor
- Closes gap along US-287

Site 2 – Southern Coverage Tower

- Near Fred or Wildwood
- Improves coverage along FM-92 corridor

Existing Sites Upgraded

- Woodville area
 - Emergency Operations Center communications
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5. Goals and Objectives

Goal 1

Improve emergency radio coverage throughout Tyler County.

Objective

- Increase portable radio coverage from ~65% to 90% of county area.
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Goal 2

Enhance interoperability with regional partners.

Objective

- Connect county infrastructure to regional interoperability systems.
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Goal 3

Strengthen disaster resilience.

Objective

- Ensure radio infrastructure operates during prolonged power outages.
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6. Project Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeline
Engineering and Planning	Sept–Nov 2026
Site Acquisition	Oct–Dec 2026
Tower Construction	Jan–Jun 2027

Equipment Installation	Jul–Sep 2027
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Testing and Optimization	Oct–Dec 2027
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Full Operational Status	Jan 2028
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7. Budget

Item	Cost
Two 300ft radio towers	\$900,000
Shelters and backup generators	\$360,000
Microwave backhaul	\$260,000
Engineering and installation	\$230,000
Network monitoring and integration	\$60,000
Project administration (≤5%)	\$32,500

Total Requested: \$1,842,500

8. Sustainability Plan

Tyler County will sustain the infrastructure through:

- County communications budget

- annual maintenance contracts
- emergency management funding

Infrastructure will be integrated into county operational budgets.

9. Performance Measures

Project success will be measured through:

- radio coverage testing
 - interoperability exercises
 - emergency response performance metrics
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12. Compliance Statements

Tyler County certifies:

- Compliance with Texas Grant Management Standards
- Registration in SAM with UEI
- Criminal history reporting compliance

Applications must include these certifications to be eligible for funding.

13. Attachments Checklist

Required attachments for submission:

- Tyler County Commissioners Court Resolution
- Infrastructure map
- Letters of support- Tyler County Sheriff's Office, Tyler County Volunteer Fire Departments, and Tyler County Office of Emergency Management
- Proposed Emergency Radio Infrastructure – Tyler County, Texas
- UEI / SAM registration
- Training certification