

Equity in Support

Safety and Emergency Preparedness

ISSUE

Enhance emergency preparedness and response capabilities for many crises, including earthquakes, wildfires, and active shooters.

BACKGROUND

In recent years, California has faced the looming specter of severe natural disasters and man-made emergencies. In this challenging environment, it is imperative for educational institutions, particularly community colleges, to take proactive steps to enhance their readiness and response capabilities. The safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff depend on this crucial endeavor. This comprehensive initiative encompasses two pivotal dimensions: reinforcing the preparedness of facilities to handle potential active shooter incidents; and fortifying the overall capacity to respond effectively to a diverse array of crises, including earthquakes, wildfires and active shooter events.

REQUESTS

In pursuit of these goals, the proposed strategy involves advocating for annual increases in funding to facilitate vital enhancements in the following key areas:

- Funding for a comprehensive assessment and subsequent upgrading of lock systems across the District, enabling more

efficient execution of lockdown and shelter-in-place protocols. Estimated cost: \$4 million to implement.

- Funding to modernize security camera systems to facilitate remote access to security footage by law enforcement personnel, enhancing their situational awareness. Estimated cost: \$7 million to implement.
- Funding to upgrade or replace existing sirens to seamlessly integrate them with the RAVE mass notification system, enabling more comprehensive and timely alerts during emergencies. Estimated cost: \$3 million to implement.
- Funding to upgrade campus-wide lighting to enhance safety and security. Estimated cost: \$4 million to implement.
- Funding to install and maintain emergency generators for District central emergency operations centers, college emergency operations centers, and emergency operations center supplies ensuring sustained functionality of the emergency operations centers. Estimated cost: \$7 million to establish the center and \$250,000 for supplies and maintenance.
- Establish a mobile command post using a supervisory vehicle from the police department during an active shooter event,

facilitating rapid deployment and coordination. Estimated cost: \$320,000 to implement.

- Micro Grids: A Micro Grid is a small network of electricity users with a local source of supply (solar, battery or generator) that is usually connected to the centralized power grid, but able to function independently in the event of an outage in the centralized grid. Estimated cost: \$15-20 million to implement.
- Funding to implement a multi-mode communication infrastructure that includes redundant links across wireless and hardwired channels. This ensures uninterrupted and reliable communication capabilities, even when one or more channels fail, thereby strengthening resilience of emergency response mechanisms. Estimated cost: \$5 million to implement.

RCCD is requesting \$50,570,000 in total to address our Safety and Emergency Preparedness needs. By advocating for these funding increases and implementing these specific measures, the Riverside Community College District can significantly enhance its capacity to respond effectively to a wide spectrum of emergencies, safeguarding the well-being of campus communities, and fostering a culture of safety and preparedness.