

**7. Budgeted Reserve for Contingency**

**A.** Reserve for contingency requests in the General Fund, MSTU Law Enforcement and MSBU Fire Funds, and Stormwater Fund and Gas Tax Fund must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The Board will use the procedures and evaluation criteria set forth in this, and other policies. Such requests will be evaluated as to the:

**I. Urgency of the request**

The County-owned Armory is currently undergoing renovation to serve as the new Fire Rescue Headquarters and Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Part of the transition requires the replacement of critical audio-visual equipment that supports the EOC operations.

**II. Scope of services to be provided.**

A comprehensive, integrated audio/visual system designed to support real-time communication, information sharing, and operational coordination within the Emergency Operations Center.

**III. Short and long-term fiscal impact of the request**

This purchase will have a short-term impact on the General Fund Reserves; however, it includes a three-year warranty, service support, and maintenance coverage. No additional repair or maintenance costs are anticipated during that period.

**IV. Potential for alternative methods of funding or providing the service(s)**

No alternative funding sources were identified that would be appropriate or eligible to cover this expenditure

**V. Review for duplication of service(s) with other agencies**

There is no duplication of services.

**VI. Review of efforts to secure non-County funding.**

There are no viable non-County funding sources available to support this project.

**VII. Discussion of why funding was not sought during the normal budget cycle.**

The scope and system configuration/design requirements were not known during the regular budget development cycle, preventing the project from being planned or funded at that time.

**VIII.** Review of the impact of not funding or delaying funding to the next fiscal year.

If the audio/visual system is not replaced, the EOC's operational readiness will be significantly compromised during activations. Critical information sharing, coordination, and decision-making would be hindered. In addition, the EOC would be unable to support essential non-emergency functions such as training and meetings, limiting its overall availability and utility.