## TODD NOVAK

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 51<sup>ST</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

November 18, 2020

RECEIVED

Richland County Board of Supervisors PO Box 310 Richland Center, WI 53581 NOV 23 2020

VICTOR V. VLASAK RICHLAND COUNTY CLERK

Richland County Board Members,

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of a resolution urging Governor Evers and the Wisconsin State legislature to provide \$15 million annually in state funds for counties to upgrade their 911 emergency response systems.

Thank you for taking the time to draft this resolution. I agree that the need to upgrade our county 911 systems is urgent. Upgrading to Next Generation 9-1-1 will drastically improve public emergency communications in our modern society. Benefits include improved response times and location data, improved reliability, the ability to transmit text, images, and videos, and improved usability for citizens who are deaf and hearing impaired. While the benefits are clear, it is also expensive, as you note, costing the county upwards of \$250,000.

In our current session, I was proud to support Act 26 which laid the groundwork for the Department of Military Affairs to begin the rule-making process for future grants. I look forward to continued work alongside Richland County as the legislature works to craft the upcoming budget. I value the Richland County Board's position on this important matter and I thank you for taking the time to bring needed attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Todd Novak

State Representative

51st Assembly District