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**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 20, 2018

TO: Commissioners' Court

FROM: Candy Blair  
Healthcare Care Services Administrator

RE: Renewal Application for Texas Department of Health Services (DSHS) FY2019 Hazards/Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant

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Attached is the FY2019 Hazards renewal grant application for one year grant period 7/1/2018-6/30/2019 in the amount of \$545,327 to support the county's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) activities. The County match required for this funding is \$54,540 and will be met by using existing staff members' salaries and fringe. Due to the grant application deadline being 2/6/18, the application was submitted to DSHS in a timely manner and needs approval.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness is a valuable source of funding for Collin County. The Hazards grant creates the abilities to effectively prepare and respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events. Preparedness activities funded by the PHEP cooperative agreement are targeted specifically for the development of emergency-ready public health departments that are flexible and adaptable.

PHEP follows the guidance of the CDC's fifteen public health capabilities, including; Community Preparedness and Recovery, Fatality Management, Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiological Investigation, Mass Care, and Volunteer Management (MRC). CCHCS plans to use the allocated DSHS Hazards funds towards the current salaries of seven PHEP staff members. As a onetime purchase in FY 2019 fiscal year budget, a custom built morgue trailer has been identified as a critical need for our public health infrastructure. The trailer will be used by the medical examiner's office in response to mass casualty/mass fatality incidents, to support essential operations related to transporting and storing human remains. Other program costs such as mileage, travel for training, and medical supplies are included in the budget for review.

CB/lh