Description of the Need:

The City of Denton is experiencing rapid population growth, placing increasing demands on public safety services. Alongside this growth, the city has seen a rise in complex incidents involving violent crime, mental health crises, and large-scale public events.

Currently, the Denton Police Department lacks a centralized capability to collect, analyze, and disseminate real-time intelligence during critical incidents. Without this capacity, command staff and field supervisors are forced to make decisions based on incomplete or outdated information. This can lead to a misallocation of resources, missed opportunities to de-escalate or contain threats, and increased risk to officers and civilians. The lack of robust situational awareness makes it difficult to track suspect movements, monitor crowd behavior, or identify and proactively intervene in incidents of violence. According to the National Institute of Justice's Criminal Justice Technology, Training, and Education Center (2023), jurisdictions with Real Time Information Centers (sometimes called Real Time Crime Centers) see significantly increased clearance rates for property and violent crimes.

The City of Denton is experiencing the same police recruitment challenges as departments across the country. To mitigate the challenges created by shorter staffing, the department endeavors to leverage technology, including an RTIC, to supplement the work of officers and investigators and to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness. Without federal funding, the department lacks the financial capacity to design and construct a Real-Time Information Center (RTIC) that would address this critical need.

Project Goals and Objectives:

Project Goal:
To enhance public safety and emergency response capabilities in the City of Denton by establishing a Real-Time Information Center that leverages technology and intelligence to support law enforcement operations.

Project Objectives:
1. Integrate real-time data sources (e.g., surveillance systems, license plate readers, CAD, RMS) into a centralized platform to support regional agencies and public events.
    a. Establish shared RTIC protocols with UNT Police, TWU Police, and Denton County Sheriff's Office by the end of 2026 to improve coordination during major incidents.
2. Provide 24/7 intelligence support to field personnel during critical incidents and large-scale events.
    a. Train 100% of RTIC analysts and dispatchers on unified dashboard tools within 30 days of system rollout.
    b. Ensure RTIC analysts assist in 90% of felony investigations in the first 48 hours after the crime within six months using integrated surveillance and license plate recognition (LPR) data.
3. Improve response times and situational awareness for public safety professionals.
    a. Incorporate real-time video feeds to 100% of patrol units within 3 months to

enhance pre-arrival threat assessment.
   b. Train 100% of operational personnel on unified dashboard tools within 30 days of system rollout.
4. Increase community safety through proactive crime detection and prevention.
   a. Reduce average response time to priority calls by 15% within 12 months by integrating RTIC data into dispatch protocols.
   b. Identify and monitor 3 high-crime zones in Denton using crime analytics and deploy targeted patrols to reduce crime and disorder problems.

These objectives align with the goals of the NOFO by promoting innovative, technology-driven solutions to enhance public safety and reduce violent crime.

Project Design and Implementation:
The RTIC will be constructed in available space at the Denton Police Department Substation. The project will be implemented in three phases:

1. **Design and Planning (Months 1–3):**
   - Finalize architectural and technical specifications.
   - Procure necessary permits and approvals.
   - Identify and contract with vendors for construction and technology integration.

   Risk Mitigation:
   - Engage internal and external stakeholders, including IT personnel, early to ensure specifications align with operational needs and cybersecurity standards.

2. **Construction and Infrastructure Setup (Months 4–9):**
   - Build out the physical space for the RTIC.
   - Install IT infrastructure, workstations, and secure data systems.
   - Integrate surveillance feeds, CAD/RMS, and other data sources.

   Risk Mitigation:
   - Conduct pre-construction site assessments to identify and resolve structural or utility issues.
   - Ensure all systems meet CJIS compliance and cybersecurity protocols
   - Collaborate with City of Denton Facilities and Capital Improvement Departments to ensure construction complies with internal design specifications and requirements.

3. **Operational Launch and Training (Months 10–12):**
   - Identify and train RTIC personnel (sworn and non-sworn).
   - Conduct system testing and simulations.
   - Launch RTIC operation during peak hours of calls for service.

   Risk Mitigation:
   - Develop a comprehensive training curriculum with redundancy to account for staff turnover or scheduling conflicts.

- Conduct multiple simulation scenarios to test system resilience and staff readiness.
- Establish a feedback loop post-launch to identify operational gaps and implement rapid adjustments.

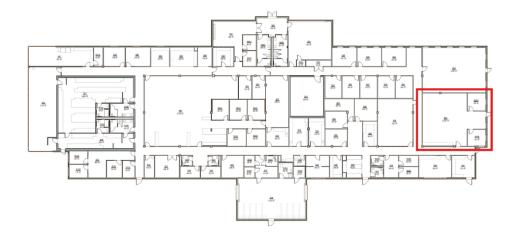**Sustainability and Leveraged Resources:**
The City of Denton is committed to sustaining the RTIC beyond the grant period. Future funding for staffing, maintenance, and technology upgrades will be incorporated into the city's annual budget. The software intended for use in the RTIC has already been procured by the department and is paid for with regular budget funds. Ongoing maintenance of the computer and A/V systems will be handled through the city's existing Technology Services Department procedures, including the maintenance of all manufacturer warranties and available service plans.

The department will also explore partnerships with regional agencies such as the University of North Texas (Denton), Texas Woman's University (Denton), the Denton Independent School District, and the Denton County Sheriff's Office, and seek additional state and federal funding opportunities.

Capabilities and Competencies:
The City of Denton and the Denton Police Department have a proven track record of implementing complex public safety initiatives and managing federal grant programs, including, but not limited to, the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI), the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and multiple Justice Assistance Grants (JAG). The department's leadership team includes experienced professionals in law enforcement operations, technology integration, and project management.

Performance data will be collected and reported by the department's Logistics & Training Bureau and the department's Grants Management Unit, which has experience in managing performance metrics and ensuring compliance with federal reporting requirements. The department will also collaborate with Technology Services and Finance personnel to maintain internal controls and ensure proper use of grant funds.

LEVEL 1 PLAN SCALE: 3/64" = 1'-0"
POLICE - SUBSTATION
4111 VINTAGE BLVD, DENTON, TX

Conceptual Renderings of RTIC