

**Daniel P. Vrakas**  
County Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 31, 2010

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### **WAUKESHA COUNTY PLANS TECHNOLOGY UPDATES TO PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

WAUKESHA, Wis. – County Executive Dan Vrakas announced today that Waukesha County plans to make significant technology investments to Justice and Public Safety as part of the County’s 2011-2015 Capital Projects Plan. The plan includes updating the County’s 9-1-1 phone system and the radio equipment used by the Waukesha County Communications Center and municipal public safety responders including police and fire departments.

Emerging communications technology such as Internet Protocol (IP) based phone networks such as Skype, texting and video capable phones necessitate the implementation of next generation 9-1-1 phone systems. The 9-1-1 system, which will be implemented in 2012, must be updated to meet the changing needs of the residents served.

An additional project will modernize the County’s communication system, migrating the radio technology from analog to digital signal in 2014. This is made possible with County funding being supplemented by funding from municipal partners, many to receive County loans for a portion of their share to be paid back over 10 years.

“Public Safety is a top priority,” said Vrakas. “These investments are necessary to ensure that we are serving Waukesha County residents in the best and most efficient way possible.”

The Capital Plan portion of the budget will be introduced to the County Board of Supervisors on September 1<sup>st</sup>. The County Board will review Vrakas’ full 2011 Budget in late September with final passage expected in November.

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