

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVING A REVISED
PROJECT DESCRIPTION FOR THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM "BACKBONE" WITH FINDINGS PURSUANT
TO THE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NOS. 010-261-02, 011-051-02, 015-250-21, 028-001-06, 16 & 21,
058-261-32, 100-190-07, 109-160-23, 125-180-17, 136-190-09, 153-061-28, 164-300-07, 166-
080-08, 179-270-11, 188-090-15, and 197-120-30 & 31**

SECTION 1: GENERAL FINDINGS

- I. WHEREAS, the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (hereinafter, "MERA") on February 24, 2000 certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (Resolution No. 00-01) for its proposed regional communications system "Backbone", and
- II. WHEREAS, the MERA Board of Directors on February 24, 2000, subsequent to its certification of the Final EIR, approved a Project Description and Detailed Design Documents (Resolution No. 00-02) to replace the existing public agency telecommunications system with one that allows for regional communication between dispatch operators and mobile units who are linked by a digital microwave system and independent radio sites at seventeen (17) key locations (the "backbone"). Each city and various public agencies will share this common backbone to compartmentalize communication links and allow for interdepartmental group communications to improve public safety; and
- III. WHEREAS, by the summer of 2005 MERA had constructed and implemented almost its entire regional "Backbone" system; the one exception being the West Marin portion of the system planned for the Bolinas Fire Station property; and
- IV. WHEREAS, on August 9, 2005 the President of the Board of Directors of the Bolinas Fire Protection District sent a letter to the President of the Board of Directors of the Marin Emergency Radio Authority requesting that the MERA Board relocate its planned West Marin tower and communications facilities from the Bolinas Fire Station site to a site on the Martinelli property also located in West Marin, and
- V. WHEREAS, the MERA staff in the summer and fall of 2005 evaluated a number of alternate locations for a West Marin site on the Martinelli property, and identified a preferred location on the Martinelli site for its West Marin facilities, and

- VI. WHEREAS, the MERA staff and its consultants formulated a site plan and facilities description for the preferred site on the Martinelli Ranch, and
- VII. WHEREAS, the MERA staff in consultation with professionals in the field of environmental analysis studied the potential environmental impacts of relocating its West Marin site from the Bolinas Fire Station property to the preferred site on the Martinelli property; and
- VIII. WHEREAS, the environmental studies found that the relocation of MERA's West Marin site from the Bolinas Fire Station Property to the preferred site on the Martinelli property would not result in any new or potentially more severe adverse environmental impacts beyond those identified and discussed in the previously certified Final EIR for the MERA project, and
- IX. WHEREAS, the findings of these environmental studies and their relevance to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutes and guidelines are documented in an Addendum to the certified Final EIR.

SECTION 2: CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS

- I. WHEREAS, based on the findings contained in the Addendum and pursuant to CEQA §21166 and CEQA Guidelines §15162 and §15163 no Subsequent or Supplemental EIR is required for MERA to approve this single change in its previously approved Project Description, and
- II. WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15164(c) the Addendum was not circulated for public review because the environmental impacts of the proposed revision to the project description did not result in any new or more severe environmental impacts beyond those described in the certified Final EIR, and
- III. WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15164(d) the MERA Board of Directors has considered the information and findings contained in the Addendum and the certified Final EIR, and
- IV. WHEREAS, on January 12, 2006 the MERA Board of Directors conducted a public meeting to consider the proposed revision to the Project Description, and
- V. WHEREAS, the MERA Board of Directors finds the Final EIR consisting of the September 16, 1999, Initial Study, the November 1999 Draft EIR, the February 2000 Response to Comments, the Staff Report Responding to Comments received on the Final EIR, the January 2006 Addendum, and the administrative record is adequate and complete for purposes for making a decision on the merits of the proposed revision to the Project Description; and

- VI. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby makes findings pursuant to CEQA as contained in “Exhibit 1” attached to this Resolution approving the Revised Project Description. Exhibit 1 is incorporated herein by reference.
- XII. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby makes findings of “Overriding Considerations” pursuant to CEQA as contained in “Exhibit 2” attached to this Resolution approving the Revised Project Description. Exhibit 2 is incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 3: FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED REVISED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- I. WHEREAS, the MERA proposes to revise the Project Description approved by the Board of Directors on February 24, 2000 by relocating its West Marin emergency communications site. The Project Description is amended by deleting the Bolinas Fire Station site (APN 193-030-20) and adding the Martinelli Property (APN 188-090-15). The location, Assessor's Parcel Number, and zoning designation for each site in the Revised Project Description are identified below.

Site Name	Assessor Parcel Number	Jurisdiction	Designation
Prime Site	179-270-11	Marin County	P/QP
Civic Center	179-270-11	Marin County	P/QP
Big Rock	164-300-07	Marin County	RMP-0.31
Mt. Tamalpais	197-120-31	Marin County	O/A
Mt. Barnabe	166-080-08	Marin County	APR-20
<u>Martinelli Ranch</u>	<u>188-090-15</u>	Marin County	C- <u>APZ</u>
Bolinas Ridge	197-120-30	Marin County	O-A
Forbes Hill	010-261-02	City of San Rafael	P/QP
Dollar Hill	011-051-02	City of San Rafael	P/OS
San Pedro Ridge	015-250-21	City of San Rafael	P/OS
Mt. Tiburon Tank	058-261-32	Town of Tiburon	P/QP
Mt. Burdell	125-180-17	City of Novato	PC
Point Reyes Hill	109-160-23	NPS/County of Marin	O-A
Mill Valley City Hall	028-001-06, 16 and 21	Town of Mill Valley	O-A
Novato Police Dept.	153-061-28	City of Novato	C-P
Bay Hill Road	100-190-07	Sonoma County	AE-CC-B6
Sonoma Mountain	136-190-09	Sonoma County	RRD-WA-40

- II. WHEREAS, the MERA Board of Directors (“Board of Directors”) held duly noticed public hearings on January 12, 2006, to consider the merits of the Proposed Revision to the Project Description and hear testimony in favor of, and in opposition to, the proposal.
- III. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that the Proposed Revision to the Project Description is essential to the provision of emergency services in the County of Marin.
- IV. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that proposed emergency services communication facilities and uses, as well as related accessory uses, are principally permitted or conditionally permitted land uses under the governing zoning district for Martinelli property.
- V. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that pursuant to governing General Plans and Development Codes, proposed communication facilities and related accessory uses are permitted land uses that would benefit the public welfare and other properties in the community.
- VI. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that the Proposed Revision to the Project Description, subject to the mandatory EIR mitigation and monitoring measures and the recommended conditions of approval, complies with the governing requirements of Federal, State and local land use controls. All findings and mitigations contained in the Resolution Certifying the EIR, the mitigations contained in the Addendum, and the Findings of Overriding Consideration, are hereby incorporated in this action.
- VII. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that the Proposed Revision to the Project Description, subject to the mandatory EIR mitigation and monitoring measures, the mitigation measures in the Addendum, and the recommended conditions of approval contained herein, is consistent with the goals and applicable policies of *The Marin Countywide Plan and the Marin Telecommunications Plan*.

SECTION 4: FINDINGS RELEVANT TO THE REVISED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- I. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby finds that the revision to the Project Description, as generally described in the Addendum, provides adequate emergency communication in a manner that minimizes impacts and that is consistent with all plans and policies for the governing jurisdiction.
- II. WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby incorporates by reference the findings contained in Exhibit 1 (Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act) and Exhibit 2 (Statement of Overriding Considerations) of Board of Directors Resolution No. [REDACTED].

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISION TO THE MERA PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Directors hereby adopts a Resolution which approves the a Revised Project Description as generally described in the Addendum, and as modified by the Conditions of Approval (Exhibit 4, and implementation of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Exhibit 3).

SECTION 4: VOTE

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Marin Emergency Radio Authority on the 12th day of January 2006, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

President

Attest:

Clerk