

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

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DIRECTOR

September 10, 2014

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MEMA Executive Board  
95 Rowland Way  
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**Re: Review of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Radio Transmissions**

Dear Directors:

Accounting

At your May 7, 2014 meeting, you requested review of EMS radio transmission times.

Airport

Building Maintenance

Below is data for EMS calls. The average overall MEMA transmission was 6.4 seconds in FY 2013.

Capital Projects

Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)

2006	2007	2008	2009
Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission
18.9	10.8	10.8	20.3

Communications Maintenance

County Garage

Disability Access

2010	2011	2012	2013
Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission	Average Seconds per Transmission
19.7	11.0	10.9	10.7

Engineering & Survey

Note: In 2010 the system was upgraded and training was held with all users

Flood Control & Water Resources

DPW staff contacted Marin EMS Agency staff who provided the following summary:

Land Development

Several years ago EMS shortened the amount of information that is required to be given to the hospitals about the patient for what is called "patient report". The EMS Techs still have a longer transmission if they do a physician consult (which isn't used as often) but that information needs to be detail oriented.

Purchasing

Real Estate

Reprographic Services

Road Maintenance

Stormwater Program

Transportation & Traffic Operations

Waste Management

- Each 911 patient transport requires a radio report to the receiving facility; there is an average of 32 transports per day.
- Private ambulances perform very few 911 transports but do use the radio for notifying the hospitals of those non-911 patients that get delivered to the ED.

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- There are also some non-transport situations that result in a hospital contact but they don't have numbers for those rare occurrences.
- The EMS channel is being used appropriately for its designed purpose, conversations with the hospitals

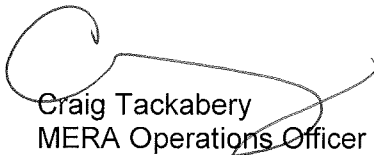
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At the June 4, 2014 MERA Ops this request was agendized for discussion. Following is a summary of the feedback provided:

- EMS uses the system about 15 hours a month, a small percentage of total use of about 750 to 800 hours.
- Patient communications are essential mutual aid
- Communications are concise
- The current training program is adequate

Based on the above review, we feel there is no need at this time to make any changes regarding EMS usage of MERA. We recommend that the Executive Board concur with this recommendation.

Very truly yours,



Craig Tackabery  
MERA Operations Officer