

**MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY**

c/o Novato Fire Protection District

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[WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG)

**DATE:** March 14, 2018  
**TO:** MERA Executive Board  
**FROM:** Dave Jeffries, Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen Project  
**SUBJECT:** AGENDA ITEM **B-2**: Report No. 38 on Next Gen System Project

Recommended Action: Review, discuss and accept report.

Background:

We are currently in Customer Design Review (CDR) with Motorola. MERA is represented in these discussions by our new Federal Engineering Project Manager, David Mortimer, MERA Operations Officer Ernest Klock, Richard Chuck and myself, supported by additional County and Federal Engineering staff, as needed. A few key issues:

- 1) Recent Project Meetings and Conference Calls:
  - a. MERA Project Calls: 02/05/18, 02/20/18, 03/05/18
  - b. MERA Overhead Meetings: 02/14/18
  - c. Motorola Project Meetings: 01/25/18, 02/01/18, 02/08/18, 02/15/18, 02/22/18 and 03/01/18
  - d. Motorola Technical Calls: 02/08/18, 02/15/18 and 03/01/18
  - e. Motorola Special Meetings:
    - i. Talkgroups and Cutover: 01/25/18
    - ii. Site Audit Reports: 02/01/18
    - iii. Architectural and Engineering Packages: 02/08/18
    - iv. Microwave Design: 02/15/18
    - v. Fleetmapping: 03/01/18 and 03/06/18
- 2) Project Staff Change
  - a. Mr. David Mortimer has replaced Denis Marin as our Project Manager from Federal Engineering. Mr. Marin will still be available to support the project.
- 3) Fire Station Alerting – While not currently a critical time path, we have been working with the Fire Station Alerting vendor, DCR, and the Sheriff's CAD system vendor, Hexagon.
- 4) Frequency Licensing
  - a. The Regional Planning Committee meeting was in Milpitas on 01/11/18. MERA received unanimous approval of our Project.
  - b. Frequency Coordination has also now been completed.
  - c. The final step in licensing our radio frequencies was completed on 02/09/18 by the FCC and we received notification on 02/16/18.

5) Motorola Equipment Commitment

- a. MERA has received a letter from Motorola (attached) confirming their commitment to providing equipment for the two additional RF sites now proposed as well as amendments to the Service Upgrade Agreement and Extended Warranties. Discussions continue as to the additional equipment now needed for the Sonoma Mountain microwave equipment and as to Legacy support for the Gen I system.

6) Dual Band Radio Order

- a. Early Order #1 – Completed and forwarded to Motorola. Included 33 radios for San Rafael Police and Fire, as well as for Novato Police. These were to fill urgent needs by San Rafael Fire and Police, as well as Novato Police.
- b. Around 05/01/18, accept orders from any MERA agency wanting dual band radios.
- c. These radios will be an early delivery from each agency/s final order and the warranty will be re-started at system acceptance. Programming costs will be a local agency expense for these early delivered radios.
- d. We are working with Motorola to clarify the discount for delivery of all radios in conjunction with opportunities to accelerate the project thru the ability to reprogram radios thru use of MERA data channels or local Wi-Fi hotspots. We anticipate having a proposal at the next Governing Board meeting after review by the Next Gen Project Oversight Committee on 03/19/18.

7) Project Schedule

- a. A revised draft schedule has been received from Motorola and is still under review. This draft shortens the schedule by three months from the past version. As part of the discussion of radio deliveries, we are reviewing the possibility of shortening the schedule by additional months.

8) Talkgroup Templates

- a. Draft templates are under review with a change in use of encrypted talkgroups.
- b. Mr. Chuck and I are meeting with BayRICS to discuss regional interoperability expectations on 03/15/18.

9) CEQA:

- a. Contracts with WRA and JRA for the next phase of CEQA were approved by the Board of Supervisors at their 02/27/18 meeting.
- b. Work continues on site diagrams to support the CEQA process and the development of a CEQA Project Description.

10) Low Income Senior Parcel Tax Exemption:

- a. Copy of materials attached with copies to be provided at the Governing Board meeting.
- b. Media Releases scheduled for: 03/05/18, 04/16/18, and 05/07/18 with applications due on or before 06/01/18.

**ATTACHMENTS: (not included for G.B. 4/25/18 – reference respective item as noted below)**

B-2a Mill Valley and Tiburon Additional Sites letter from Motorola, dated 02/13/18

B-2b Report #34 on the Next Gen System Project (Governing Board, 11/29/17)

B-2c Report #35 on the Next Gen System Project (Governing Board, 12/13/17)

B-2d Report #36 on the Next Gen System Project (Governing Board, 01/24/18)

B-2e Report #37 on the Next Gen System Project (Governing Board, 02/28/18)