

## **Agenda Item C-5**

### **MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY**

DATE: May 8, 2019

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Maureen Cassingham, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM **C-5**: REPORT ON MARIN TRANSIT NON-MEMBER CONTRACTORS LETTERS OF AGREEMENT (LOA'S) AND MARIN CIVIL GRAND JURY WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

**Recommended Action:** Receive and file the Report on Marin Transit Non-Member Contractor Letters of Agreement and provide direction on response to Marin Civil Grand Jury Wildfire Preparedness Report.

**Background:** In early December 2018, Marin Transit Staff reached out to the DPW Radio Shop to program their spare radios for their contractors use and add them to all MCTD talk groups. These radios would be used for day-to-day and emergency coordination for communications between the Marin Transit Supervisors and other bus agency dispatchers. Marin Transit and the Radio Shop reached out to Dave Jeffries later in December to provide some talk group history and various clarifications to expedite this request.

In February 2019, Radio Shop Staff requested confirmation from me as to whether Whistlestop, MV Transportation, GGBHTD and Marin Transporter had LOAs with MERA before proceeding with Marin Transit radio reprogramming. I confirmed none had been executed by these contractors and proceeded to customize LOAs for them in consultation with Marin Transit Governing Board Member Van Doren. LOAs were finalized and issued on April 16. Two executed copies are now on file, for Marin Airporter and Whistlestop, with 2 pending. LOAs are being forwarded on receipt to the Radio Shop to commence radio programming.

Governing Board Member Van Doren was interviewed by the Marin Civil Grand Jury in December 2018 to inform her of their report "Wildfire Preparedness – A New Approach". In addition to her Marin Transit representation on the MERA Governing Board, Member Van Doren serves as the Transportation Logistic Lead for the Marin Emergency Operations Center. The Grand Jury Report was released to the public on April 25, 2019. MERA Governing Board Member Kelly contacted me thereafter noting MERA had been cited on Pages 15, 23 and 24 of the Report (see attached excerpt) with concerns about the lack of integration of Marin Transit contractors emergency communications with MERA. It should be noted that MERA was never contacted by the Grand Jury during the development of their Report and its findings and was not requested to respond.

Staff is seeking direction from the Governing Board regarding whether a response to the Grand Jury regarding its references to MERA is appropriate or is in order.

ATTACHMENT: C-5a EXCERPT: Pages 15, 23 and 24 of 2018-19 Marin Civil Grand Jury Report: "Wildfire Preparedness – A new Approach" Dated: April 18, 2019