MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Town of Corte Madera
300 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera, CA 94925
PHONE: (415) 927-5050
WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG

DATE: November 18, 2020

TO: MERA Executive Board

FROM: Betsy Swenerton, Acting Operations Officer

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM C-2**:** Request for Additional Radios – Southern Marin Fire District and Town of Tiburon

Recommended Action: Approve two requests for additional radios from Southern Marin Fire District and Town of Tiburon.

Background: On September 29th, DPW staff received the attached request from Tom Welch of Southern Marin Fire District (SMFD) for one new radio ID to be added to the MERA system. SMFD plans to buy an APX8500 Tri-band radio (wifi update compatible) for a new ambulance. The MERA Operational Issues Working Group reviewed this request at their October 7th meeting and recommends that the Executive Board approve the request.

On October 20th, DPW staff received the attached request from Patrick Kerslake, Superintendent of Public Works for the Town of Tiburon. Mr. Kerslake is requesting ten (10) additional radio IDs for new portable radios they plan on purchasing so that Police Department staff won't have to share radios. The MERA Operational Issues Working Group reviewed this request at their November 4th meeting and recommends that the Executive Board approve the request.

Swenerton, Betsy

From: Tom Welch <twelch@smfd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Swenerton, Betsy
Cc: McTigue, Bret; Matt Barnes
Subject: Medic 6 Ambulance Tri-band

Betsy,

I hope that this note finds you well.

We need to add a radio to the MERA system for a new SMEMPS ambulance. This will be one additional license and not a replacement for an existing radio on the system. I have heard that this is a pro forma request, however we are happy to go through any process necessary.

We will be purchasing an APX 8500 Tri-band radio (wifi update compatible) and fully understand that one band won't be operational once we cut over to the new system.

Let me know your thoughts and process.

Best,

Tom Welch Deputy Chief
Operations/Training

O 415-389-4142
C 415-320-3852

BETTER TOGETHER

SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MILL VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Town of Tiburon • 1505 Tiburon Boulevard • Tiburon, CA 94920 • P. 415.435.7373 F. 415.435.2438 • www.townoftiburon.org

October 20, 2020

Alice Fredericks
Mayor

Holli Thier
Vice Mayor

David Kulik
Councilmember

Jack Ryan
Councilmember

Jon Welner
Councilmember

Greg Chanis
Town Manager

RE: MERA Radio Aliases

Betsy Swenerton
Senior Project Manager
County of Marin
Department of Public Works, Engineering Division
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 404
San Rafael, CA 94903
415 473-6680
415 999-2717 C
bswenerton@marincounty.org

Ms. Swenerton:

Please accept this letter as a formal request for the addition of ten aliases to the MERA system. The Town of Tiburon intends on purchasing and assigning portable radios to each member of its Police Department staff rather than sharing radios as is the current practice. This will enable our department to be better suited for critical incidents, emergencies, and other periods of operation when all staff are at work.

We propose using single-band radios for use on the existing MERA system and it is understood that a new radio will have to be purchased to work on the MERA Next Gen System.

I am aware that the addition of these is not a commitment for replacement and that I must provide my own equipment, to be programmed at the expense of our agency. We authorize MERA to remove the code plug programming at such time we no longer need the radio. Additionally, radio training will be provided to end users.

Please let me know if there is anything else you require from me for this submission. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Kerslake
Superintendent of Public Works
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1505 Tiburon Boulevard
Tiburon, CA 94920
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