



## **NEXT GENERATION PROJECT** **February 2021 Governing Board UPDATE:**

- **Construction Bid Packages**

MERA released Bid Package 1 in January 2021, which involves construction work at Civic Center, EOF and Mt. Barnabe sites. Two proposed bids were received during the 3-week open bid period that closed on February 12, 2021 via PlanetBids. Fidato submitted the lowest cost bid at \$169,000. The next highest, and only other bid was submitted by LD Strobel for \$185,995, an approximate 10% increase in cost. Both proposals have satisfied the requirements as established in the bid documents and appear to be capable of performing the work as required. The Governing Board will be considering awarding Bid Package #1 at their meeting on 02/24/2021.

MERA's next Bid Package, Bid Package 1A, including Dollar Hill, Tiburon and Stewart Point, has been released with a Bid Award tentatively scheduled for the Governing Board at their 04/28/21 meeting.

- **Member Briefings Held**

On 01/26/21 and 01/28/21, MERA staff provided briefings on the MERA project to member agencies and their staffs. Discussion items included the MERA re-organization to support Next Gen implementation, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant that will provide tri-band radios to all Marin Fire Agencies starting in March 2021.

Project timelines were also provided with an emphasis on dispatch equipment installations, remaining field user equipment, Fire Station Alerting, and cutover to the Next Gen System.

Attendees were also briefed on upcoming technology requirements for Fire Stations and Dispatch centers as well as some of the enhanced capabilities of the Next Gen radios and mutual aid capabilities.

- **Tomales Site Power Trench**

As part of the development process, MERA was approached by the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) to consider sharing a power trench with AT&T at the Tomales Site. This eliminates the need for a full-length, approx. 700 ft. electrical trench for MERA, with a new approx. 50 ft trench being added, resulting in an environmental benefit as well as cost savings. This process created the need for an addendum to the current SEIR, which has been completed and will be presented to the Governing Board at the February 24, 2021 meeting for approval.

Questions? Contact Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen System David Jeffries at [dave@jeffriespsc.com](mailto:dave@jeffriespsc.com).

### **MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY**

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