



## **NEXT GENERATION PROJECT**

### **July 2021 Governing Board UPDATE:**

- **MERA Site Construction**

MERA site construction is underway. Fidato has begun working at the three site locations covered under Bid Package 1, including Mt. Barnabe, Civic Center, and EOF, as scheduled. Additional construction with Fidato for Bid Package 1A will begin in August 2021 for the MERA sites located at Mt. Tiburon, Stewarts Point, and Dollar Hill, with an estimated completion of November 2021. This will conclude the construction phase of the project for six out of the total 18 MERA sites by the end of the year. We are looking at releasing Bid Package 2 in the next few weeks. The full construction schedule is currently being revised and will be released once MERA has received the finalized recommendations from Arcadis and Motorola.

- **Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

MERA began the installation process for fire agencies covered under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant in April 2021. As of July 19, 2021, we have passed the halfway point of mobile radio installations and portable radio issues. Currently, four of MERA's seven fire districts have been fully completed with the distribution of 284 portable radios and 100 mobile radio installations. Of note, a priority was placed on the Type III engines in order to have the installations of these wildland engines completed prior to local fires or mutual aid requests. Those Type III engines are now completed. A new feature to note, the Wi-Fi reprogramming component, which makes updates easily available at the installation site, has already proven to be a significant time-saver.

- **Nokia Staging**

The initial effort to complete System Staging with Nokia had to be rescheduled. System staging with Nokia is scheduled to begin again the week of July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Nokia has provided the MERA team with updated system and testing documentation, which is currently being reviewed.

This follows our very successful Motorola System Staging in Elgin, IL. Motorola is scheduled to begin installation of the Motorola and Nokia equipment later this Fall.

**Our MERA team relies on the input and participation of all our 25 member agencies! Please be sure to share the above Project update with others at your agency.**

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

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