



Project Schedule

1. System Design – Completed
2. Environmental Quality Act – Completed
3. Site Leases – Completed
4. Site Construction – 50% Complete with all remaining sites under contract
5. Motorola Equipment Installs – 33% Complete
6. Nokia Microwave Installs – Q1, 2024
7. System Configuration – Q2, 2024
8. End User Cutover – Q3, 2024
9. Final Acceptance – Q1, 2025



Sources: National Geographic Basemap, WRA | Prepared By: czumwalt, 5/3/2018

MERA Next Gen Sites and microwave connectivity

Updates

1. **Assistance to Firefighters Grant:**

Marin fire agencies received a federal grant that allowed all covered MERA member agencies to upgrade their radios to tri-band mobile and portable radios, supporting mutual aid. With this grant, all the fire agency radios have been acquired, installed, and are currently in service.

2. **Connectivity:**

Final plans are being prepared to support three separate connectivity issues:

- a. **Dispatch Centers** – To provide all the Public Safety Dispatch Centers with reliable connection to the MERA System.
- b. **Fire Station Alerting** – To provide MERA fire stations with redundant connectivity to support dispatch alerting.
- c. **Remote Radio Programming** – To be able to provide programming changes to all MERA radios wirelessly. This provides a faster means to deliver programming changes and eliminates the need for radio technicians to manually program radios.

3. **Training Committee:**

A training committee of MERA end users has been developed and is currently meeting to discuss training for the transition from Gen I to the Next Gen System, as well as offering training for new hires. These trainings will include agency presentations and job aids.

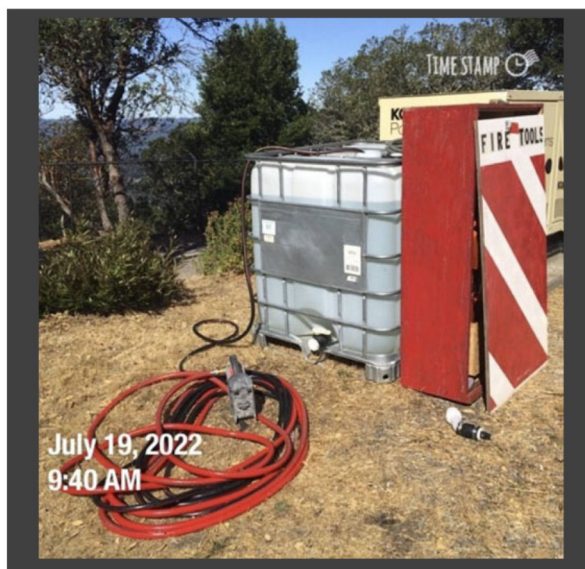
4. **Talkgroup Templates and Code Plugs:**

MERA staff and committees have developed a series of talkgroup templates (the chart of available channels and talkgroups) available to the system, as well as a set of features for each radio. When MERA agencies cut over to the Next Gen System, these updates will be programmed into all MERA radios using the remote radio programming features mentioned above.

Current Events

1. **Bid Package #3** – Consisting of the MERA Sites at Tomales, Skyview Terrace, Mill Valley and Wolfback Ridge, these sites have been awarded to a contractor at the 10/26/22 meeting of the MERA Governing Board. A detailed construction schedule is being developed.
2. **Bid Package #4** – Consisting of the MERA Sites at Coyote Peak, Muir Beach, Pt. Reyes, Mt. Tamalpais and OTA (Mt. Burdell), these sites have been awarded to a contractor at the December 14th, 2022, meeting of the MERA Governing Board. These are the final group of sites requiring construction.
3. As Motorola completes their equipment installations at the Bid Package #1A Sites, located at Tiburon and Stewart Point, their attention will turn to the Bid Package #2 sites, located at Sonoma Mountain, Big Rock Ridge and San Pedro.

Construction Contractors bring a set of fire tools and a tank holding water when they work at a remote MERA site. Crews are alert to the surroundings and have communications activated when on site. The Marin County DPW crews clear brush around MERA sites during fire season.



For more information, please go to <http://www.meraonline.org>

As a reminder, please refer any public or media inquiries regarding the MERA Next Gen System to MERA Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen System Dave Jeffries, 707-483-1098 or dave@jeffriespsc.com.

