



Governing Board Communication

**TO: MERA Governing Board**  
**FROM: Heather Tannehill-Plamondon, Executive Officer**  
**SUBJECT: Report # 120 on the Next Gen System (Accept Report)**

Recommended Action: For information or discussion only

Background:

- 1) Recent Project Meetings and Conference Calls
  - a. MERA Executive Staff Calls: Bi-Weekly
  - b. Motorola / Next Gen Staff Calls: Weekly
  - c. Fleetmapping/Implementation Calls: Weekly
  - d. Hexagon/Mach Alert Calls: Ad Hoc

2) Project Schedule: The following is based on the schedule dated 5/28/2024.

Description	04/28/22 Baseline	04/11/24 Update	5/28/24 Update
Site Work and Tower Turnover – Complete	09/25/23	03/04/24	NC
P25 Installation – Complete	09/08/23	04/26/24	05/31/24
Microwave Install, Optimize and Test – Complete	10/13/23	04/29/24	05/8/24
Perform System Functional Testing – Complete	12/11/23	07/18/24	07/19/24
Perform CATP (Coverage Testing) – Complete	03/14/24	08/15/24	08/14/24
Dispatch Site Installations – Complete	04/16/24	08/08/24	09/3/24
Field User Cutover – Complete	05/01/24	10/03/24	09/30/24
Final System Acceptance	10/08/24	06/24/25	NC

- 3) Key Project Summary Details:
  - a. Subscriber Programming:  
Novato PD, Most of the Sheriffs Office, San Rafael in progress, scheduled out through July.
  - b. Connectivity:
    - MERA Network: EOF, NPD, FFX and SRF Dispatch connected and proven.
    - Working on the on-going monitoring and maintenance plan for the CORE and Dispatch Center Equipment. Redundant connections are still pending.

- Fire Station Alerting (MACH Alert): In discussion with Fire agencies on FSA connectivity. FSA will work on an RF link as it does today until IP connections are implemented.
- Working on wi-fi programming alternatives. Current effort being done with either Wi-Fi Access Points or MERA Mobile Hot Spots
- c. End User Training: Training templates are finished. Will be presented to each agency for custom edits and delivery. Training Chairs tasked.
- d. Technician Training: Final class being held 6/24.
- e. Cutover Plan: Base document being reviewed and updated to incorporate Motorola Best Practices. Implementation Coordinator tasked with schedule and notification management.

4) Project Summary Table:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Tasks Completed</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Construction, except for punchlist items, and final Close out CO</li> <li>2. Infrastructure Install/Microwave Install</li> <li>3. Fire ECC Cutover Support</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Upcoming Tasks</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Connect M/W and bring up RF sites/test</li> <li>2. Dispatch Console/Back room Equipment Install</li> <li>3. Jail DAS System-Finish in July</li> </ol>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Tasks in Progress</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Programming of subscribers.</li> <li>2. Install of Console/Dispatch Equipment</li> <li>3. Remaining vehicle installations and mobile radio programming.</li> <li>4. Developing Training materials</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Next Six Months</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete End User training program</li> <li>2. Prepare for Cutover</li> <li>3. Portable radio programming.</li> <li>4. All users transition.</li> </ol>

5) Final Change Order Review for Construction Bid Package #4: Outstanding issue with OTA electrical equipment, working with PG&E and Electrical Engineer for design alternatives.

6) Construction Support Vendors:

As part of monitoring the construction project and MERA's ability to self-permit and inspect work, MERA hired a variety of firms to perform that work. At this time we have



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closed all but one of these agreements which remains open for final inspection reports. The unspent balance from the closed agreements is \$153,548 which will be unencumbered and available for other project costs within Fund 38.