

Agenda Item C-6a

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

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2014 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON AUTHORITY OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

In accordance with Section 8.4 of the Marin Emergency Radio Authority Joint Powers Agreement, this Annual Report summarizes for the member agencies significant Authority operations and activities undertaken in 2014.

Listed below are significant system operating and administrative enhancements, along with Strategic Plan Implementation milestones, which have been completed or are underway.

Administration

- Facilitation and support for 17 meetings of the Finance Committee, Project Oversight Committee, and Executive and Governing Boards to continue implementation of MERA's Strategic Plan, Outreach Plan and Next Gen System Project
- Completion of Second Public Opinion Poll on MERA and Next Gen Project and implementation of Phase I MERA Outreach
- Completion of City Managers, Finance Directors and Round Two Member Next Gen System and Parcel Tax Presentations leading to 24 Member Resolutions of Support for the Project and Tax
- Implementation of MERA Public Education Program including Next Gen System website, cable TV ads, digital ads and direct mailer
- Analysis of Funding Options for Non-Police and Fire Next Gen Project Costs
- Presentation of MERA Resolution to Marin County Board of Supervisors Requesting Placement of the Parcel Tax Measure on the November Ballot and approval by the BOS
- Adoption of Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding between MERA and County of Marin in Support of the Next Gen System requiring sole use of Parcel Tax proceeds for the Project
- Completion of Eleven (11) Community Presentations on MERA and Next Gen Project

- Development of MERA Resolution to Marin County Board of Supervisors on Qualifications for Exemption for Low Income Seniors from Parcel Tax
- Review of Citizens Oversight Committee implementation by Ad Hoc Subcommittee including requirements, applications, selection and bylaws and Governing Board approval of same
- Refinement of Next Gen System Financing Options in the absence of a parcel tax
- Development of Recommendations on a Gen III System Reserve and System Upgrade Agreement
- Development of Recommendations Implementing Next Gen System including Bond Financing Plan, Member Apportionment Formula, Oversight Committee and Contract Services
- Completion of Dollar Hill Tower Site Sublicense with Golden Gate Bridge and Highway Transit District for Microwave Dishes for San Rafael Transit Center Security
- Evaluation of Bodega/Bay Hill Tower and Site Leases and Negotiation of New Sublease
- Allocation of T1 Circuit and Acquisition of Owner Consent for Marin County Fire Department Fire Detection Camera Project at Pt. Reyes, Big Rock and Mt. Barnabe Tower Sites
- Allocation of T1 Circuit and Acquisition of Consent for Martinelli Ranch Tower Site for Bolinas Fire Volunteer Transmitter Relocation Project
- Completion of Bay Hill Sublease Generator Cost Recovery from Sonoma County
- Completion of Forbes Reservoir's Utilities Undergrounding Project

Operations:

- Updates to Next Gen Feasibility Study for Outreach and Public Education
- Extension of Coastal Permit and Finalization of Tomales Site Lease, MALT Agricultural Conservation Easement Resolution of Necessity and Road Access and Maintenance Agreements
- Review of Next Gen System Grants Research and Applications

- Continued monitoring of Martha Development for MERA Tower Siting
- Review of Mutual Aid and Non-Member System Users
- Replacement of Prime Site Batteries
- Replacement of San Pedro and Big Rock Ridge Generators
- Review of Technical Services Agreement Training Budget for reimbursement of Member Training Expense
- Analysis of Gateway Repeaters for Next Gen System Project
- Review of Generator Shelter Options
- Review of EMS Radio Transmissions and MERA System Usage
- Revision of Additional Radios Policy and Procedures to address Non-Member Sponsorship and Dual-Band Radio Purchasing Requirements
- Continued coordination of MERA Prime Site Relocation to New County EOF
- Continued representation of MERA and all Agencies within the County on Local and Regional Work Groups, Committees and Associations working on Bay Area Public Safety communications projects and funding for studies, equipment and training.