

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Novato Fire Protection District

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DATE: August 23, 2017
TO: MERA Governing Board
FROM: Dave Jeffries, Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen Project
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM **B-1**: REPORT NO. 30 ON NEXT GEN SYSTEM PROJECT

Recommended Action: Review, discuss and accept report.

Background:

- 1) Radio Packages – A preliminary list of potential equipment packages was approved by this board at their last meeting. We also held an equipment fair on 08/10/17 with over 80 attendees that were able to examine and ask questions about the proposed equipment. Based on feedback and the radio inventory we have been developing, we will begin working with Motorola to develop the subscriber equipment order.
- 2) Agency Radio Inventory – Preliminary surveys on end user equipment and consolettes were conducted and agencies are currently reviewing their proposed equipment orders.
- 3) Talkgroup Templates – Fire and Law committees have completing work to devise the talkgroup templates they would like to see implemented with the Next Gen system. Once finalized, these will likely drive the format of the other discipline talkgroup templates as well as affect the details of the eventual cutover plan in 2018. Several conventional channels currently in use will no longer be available. In addition, there are a number of new channels in the 700/800 Mhz range that will be available in addition to the 700 Mhz Bay Area Interoperability channels. We have set a due date of 09/01/2017 for this effort.
- 4) Cutover Plan – We are currently in discussion with Motorola on technical details of the cutover plan as it relates to the transition period in which both the Gen I and Next Gen systems need to be operational and interoperable to allow users on both systems to work together.
- 5) Frequencies – We are currently in discussion with Motorola regarding details of the use of 700 and 800 MHz frequencies with the new Next Gen System.
- 6) Project Schedule – We anticipate a revised project schedule from Motorola in the next few weeks after some of the above project issues have been addressed.

ATTACHMENT: (not included for E.B. 11/8/17 – reference respective item as noted below)

B-1a Report #29 on the Next Gen System Project (Executive Board, 07/12/2017)