

Marin Emergency Radio Authority

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DATE: January 23, 2019
TO: MERA Governing Board
FROM: Ernest Klock, Operations Officer
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM C-3: CEQA Process and Schedule Update – Next Gen Project

Recommended Action: Accept this report on the status of the CEQA process and schedule for the MERA Next Gen Project.

With the close of the public comment period on June 18, 2018 for the scoping portion of Next Gen Project Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), the project team has been working diligently on the development of the Draft SEIR. Special studies and investigations to inform the development of the Draft SEIR are complete and included, among others: Biological Surveys, Cultural Resource Studies, Radio Frequency Hazards Analyses, and Aesthetic Resources Analyses. Consultation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria have been ongoing and we are working to address any concerns they may have with regard to the Next Gen System Project.

Additionally, the project team has been conducting informational presentations with stakeholder groups including the City of Mill Valley, the Tomales Design Review Board, the Skyview Terrace neighborhood, and the Marin County Office of Education for the Coyote Peak site. The stakeholder group informational meeting with the Muir Beach community was held on December 12, 2018 and well received. Additional outreach has also been conducted with National Park Service staff related to potential project impacts adjacent to Golden Gate National Recreation Area lands, as well as Marin County Parks and Open Space for similar concerns. Both agencies have indicated support for the Next Gen Project.

The Draft SEIR is expected to be completed and open for public review in early 2019, which is a month or two behind the original schedule of the end of 2018 target. The project team has received several sections of the Draft SEIR and we are setting up a review process to ensure all comments are captured in an effective and timely manner. Updates to the overall project schedule will be provided as we move closer to the close of the CEQA process.