

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Town of Corte Madera
300 Tamalpais Drive – Corte Madera, CA 94925
PHONE: (415) 927-5050
WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG

DATE: March 11, 2020
TO: MERA Executive Board
FROM: Dave Jeffries, Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen Project
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM B-2: Report No 66 on Next Gen System Project and Budget

Recommended Action: Review, discuss and accept report.

Background:

We are currently in Customer Design Review (CDR) with Motorola. MERA is represented in these discussions by our Federal Engineering Project Manager, David Mortimer, MERA Operations Officer Ernest Klock and me, supported by additional County and Federal Engineering staff, as needed.

- 1) Recent Project Meetings and Conference Calls:
 - a. MERA Project Calls: 1/21/20, 02/03/20, 02/18/20
 - b. Motorola Project Team: 1/23/20, 02/13/20

- 2) AECOM to provide Customer Design Review Assessment: At their 02/26/2020 meeting the MERA Governing Board approved a contract with AECOM to conduct a review of the Customer Design Review package over 60 documents. The review has already started and is estimated to take 12 to 13 weeks. AECOM staff will tentatively be here the week of 03/23/2020 to meet with members of the MERA Project Team as part of that process. This contract is reflected as its own line item in the attached Budget Summary.

- 3) Regional Interoperability: MERA initiated a discussion with our regional partners via the Bay Area Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (BayRICS) to plan ahead for identifying radios across systems in a Mutual Aid event. This capability is a new as part of our move to the Next Gen system in the 700/800 MHz bands. Working with BayRICS, the group has recently agreed to a scheme to develop regional radio aliases (The identifier for each individual radio that appears to dispatchers upon each transmission). This will allow dispatchers to immediately recognize the home county and discipline of a mutual aid unit transmitting in a mutual aid event. While other regional systems will be moving to this scheme, by completing this now, this will be part of our initial programming for Next Gen.

4) Media: The Point Reyes Light published an article on the MERA SEIR approval on 01/15/2020.
A copy is attached.

5) Budget Summary: An updated version of the Budget and Expenditure Summary is attached.

Attachments:

B-2a – MERA Next Gen Project Budget and Expenditures Summary, 03/04/2020

B-2b – Point Reyes Light Article, 01/15/2020

B-2c – Report No 64 – Next Gen System Project (G.B. 01/22/20)

B-2d – Report No 65 – Next Gen System Project (G.B. 02/26/20)