



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

Rod M. Rojas
DIRECTOR

May 10, 2016

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Administration
PO Box 4186
San Rafael, CA 94913-4186
415 473 6528 T
415 473 3799 F
415 473 3232 TTY
CRS Dial 711
www.marincounty.org/pw

SUBJECT: Marin Emergency Radio Authority Next Generation System Update

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the report.

SUMMARY: The Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA) is a collection of public agencies formed in 1998 to plan, implement, and manage a countywide public safety and emergency radio system for the use of all member agencies. MERA provides crucial communications to 25 member agencies for both routine and emergency/natural disaster responses. The MERA radio communications system is the backbone of the 911 emergency response system. On June 30, 2015, your Board approved the Next Generation Radio System (NextGen) Implementation Agreement with MERA, which provides for County implementation of the NextGen project on behalf of MERA. On September 22, 2015, your Board authorized an agreement with Federal Engineering, Inc. (FE) to provide wireless communications consulting services for the NextGen project. Since that time, FE has completed a number of tasks including development of NextGen system specifications, hosting a system coverage analysis workshop, and preparation of a Request for Proposals (RFP).

The RFP was approved by the MERA Governing Board at their April 27 meeting and will be distributed to potential NextGen system vendors starting on May 6. Vendor proposals will be due on July 22, 2016 and will be reviewed by pertinent MERA committees, FE and County staff. There will also be a series of review meetings held with the MERA's Operations Issues Working Group and Next Generation Project Oversight Committee. Once a preferred vendor is identified through this process, MERA/County staff will negotiate a final contract scope and cost. The contract will be submitted for the MERA Governing Board and your Board for approval in December 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT: There are no fiscal impacts by this action.

REVIEWED BY: [] Department of Finance [X] N/A
[] County Counsel [X] N/A
[] Human Resources [X] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Echols
Assistant Director

cc: Maureen Cassingham, MERA Executive Officer

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