

Project Status Report  
3/21/2012

Current Project Team:

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Discussion: The user community has indicated an interest in exploring alternatives to the Motorola radios proposed with our new system. To that end, the fire service has arranged a few presentations from several other vendors. An all-vendors fair will take place in June and is expected to be at the Midway fairgrounds. That information will be communicated from the Fire Advisory Board leadership. The police community is endorsing Motorola radios for their members, inclusive of the Constables.

In an effort to help our users make sound decisions regarding the expenditure of financial resources, we have compiled a list of pros and cons, and things for you to consider as you plan your budgets and future purchases.

Pros:

1. Project 25 operational standards are industry wide and tested under the CAP (Compliance Assessment Program) testing. All P25 Phase 2 CAP certified radios will provide the functionality of the standard.
2. Encryption is AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) and certified by the federal government for interoperability with federal agencies
3. Initial per unit cost may be lower for the subscribers.
4. There are desirable features found in competitive radios not available in Motorola radios such as 3 band operation, FAA certification for aircraft installation, integrated vehicular repeater into mobile radios and other features specific to that vendor.
5. Competitive suppliers will be required to demonstrate full Project 25 standards functionality on the system prior to being authorized for use on the system. Equipment vendors will be responsible to assure user agencies that their radios will meet the expected 95/95 commitment.
6. Current plans are for competitive radios to be used at Factory Acceptance Testing to test the ability of the Motorola infrastructure to accommodate competitive radios. Further field tests will be conducted following installation. We have requested the Motorola project manager present this request to senior decision makers at their organization.

Cons:

1. Motorola-proprietary functionality may not be available. This includes Over-the-Air radio programming and some mobile data applications such as GPS based vehicle and personnel tracking. This may vary from vendor to vendor.
2. County technicians will only be training on Motorola equipment and users will not have access to the County radio shop or our first level support.
3. Emergency Alert Reset functionality varies from vendor to vendor. May require different operational tasks to reset the emergency alert at both dispatch and field user levels.
4. Roaming between the north and south cells may be challenging because of security protocols.
5. User radio warranty and post-warranty service and maintenance plans vary from vendor to vendor. Some may not be as good as the Motorola offering. Some may be better.
6. Bulk purchase discounts could be impacted if we don't purchase all of the radios from Motorola.
7. Financing will not be available from the County to assist your organization with the purchase of equipment other than what has been contracted.
8. If an organization opts to purchase equipment other than the Motorola products, that organization will be required to purchase the hardware and software for the other radios. Further, the County will bill for man hours that the technicians spend programming non-Motorola radios and a flat rate for the training time we will incur to learn how to program non-Motorola radios.

Status of the waiver:

The waiver has been processed and submitted to the FCC. We are asking for a one year extension. Current FCC records show 27 pending waivers with dates ranging from 11/29/2011 – 3/19/2012. To date, only one waiver has been issued to a city in Missouri. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of six (6) months to process our request. When we see that the information is uploaded to the FCC database, we will put an update out on the project website.

Advisory Boards:

The County's project staff will be meeting monthly with the Police and Fire Advisory Boards to give project reports and gather feedback from the users. The Advisory Board will communicate the latest project updates out at the monthly meetings with the members they represent.

### Site Acquisition:

A major piece of the project is site acquisition. Currently, we have identified 24 sites that will be deployed in the new radio system. There is one new site proposed for use, and the rest are existing tower sites. We also expect to reuse some of our current sites in the new infrastructure.

The County consulting firm, L.R. Kimball, is contracted to assist with the site certification and acquisition process and they have deployed resources to assist the county with this effort. For non-County owned sites, we are contacting the owners to begin negotiations to place equipment on their towers. As this part of the project moves forward, we will keep you posted on our progress. We anticipate that we will finalize the sites in mid-April. Once those are officially adopted, we will make that information available to the services.