

Site Development Status:

Construction teams have been very busy over the past weeks. Here is the current activity in the field:

1. Completed Civil Work, including electrical work:

- a. Courthouse
- b. Thiokol
- c. Plumsteadville
- d. Newtown
- e. Ivyland
- f. Solebury
- g. Data Center
- h. Lower South

2. Completed Installation of Lines and Antennas (RF only)

- a. Thiokol
- b. Ivyland
- c. Plumsteadville
- d. Courthouse

3. Up Next:

- a. I95 – Line and antenna installation
- b. Nockamixon – we have broken ground for the new shelter at this site and are in the process of pouring the concrete slab. Shelter is due for delivery in mid-April. Pictures to come!
- c. West Rockhill – civil work and permitting process
- d. Buckwampum – electrical work and civil work underway

Ordering Process Information:

The County continues to work with Motorola to resolve a handful of open purchase orders and we hope to come to a resolution shortly. Until this matter is resolved, please continue to work with our representatives at the Radio Shop if you have questions or need additional equipment. Motorola is not yet allowing the re-seller community to place orders.

Please contact the Bucks County Finance Department to sign your promissory notes. This can be scheduled by calling the finance office at 215-348-6564. Once your promissory notes are completed, you can schedule a time to pick up your equipment from the radio shop.

Cutover Work Session:

We held a cutover work session with the chairs from the three advisory boards, Motorola and the project team in March. It was a productive meeting and we will continue holding these work sessions quarterly to work out the plans for our cutover. The priorities that have been identified so far include:

- Programming/Profiles
- Portable based cutover planning
- User training
- Nailing down key dates

The project staff will be holding smaller work group discussions with each of the disciplines to further develop the plans.

- Police Communications Advisory Chairman – Fred Harran, fharran@bensalem-township.org
- EMS Communications Advisory Chairman – Jason Dowd, jdowd@tri-hampton.org
- Fire Communications Advisory Chairman – Adam Selisker, aselisker@ntvfc.org

Advisory Boards Q & A:

The Communications Advisory Boards submit questions to the county that they get from their respective disciplines. We will continue to provide responses to the questions as we receive them. Please review these below.

1. Battery life questions
 - a. Motorola presented the County with a battery warranty document that was circulated out to the system users and posted to the website. Since the cutover to the system has moved to 2015, we have asked Motorola about a possible extension to the warranty. At this time, they do not offer additional years of warranty but indicated they would work with the County on options. The county awaits these options.
 - b. A battery storage service bulletin was shared with the emergency responders and posted to the project page last week.
2. Clearinghouse for Old Radios
 - a. If your agency has purchased dual band radios and have functional old radio equipment that other agencies may be able to borrow until cutover to the new system, please contact Mike Dydak who is maintaining an equipment list.
3. Patching of 500 MHz and 700 MHz systems
 - a. We will not be patching the existing system and the new system together at cutover.
4. Programming
 - a. The working plan is to align our new channel line ups in a similar configuration to what we have today. The new system has far greater flexibility than the current system and the extra functionality will be built into the radio profiles.
 - b. A draft profile layout has been shared with the advisory boards.
 - c. The project team is also working with the PA State Police about programming. PSP has indicated they are willing to meet with our Law Enforcement Advisory group about potential future programming.
 - d. Montgomery County programming – this continues to be an issue we will address, but please remember that both counties are in the process of building out their new radio networks. As we have stated previously, we will work with Montgomery County as soon as time permits for both counties to deliver a workable solution for those agencies that are impacted by the county line.
5. System testing
 - a. The project team wants to do pilot testing around the entire coverage area. Doing so will help us to more quickly identify any trouble spots ahead of our cutover and will give our emergency responders the ability to gain familiarity and comfort with the performance of the new network. We will be asking for help with this process as we get closer to the first quarter of 2015.

6. Training

- a. We will be providing user training to agencies that will take place at the Bucks County Training Center in Doylestown. It will be a train-the-trainer type program so the representative that is sent to the training session can come back and be the subject matter expert for your department.
- b. The county will also be providing an electronic training program that you can use at your stations for continuing education as needed.
- c. Fred Blunt from the 911 Training Division is the liaison for the project team regarding the training sessions and will communicate updates on this process closer to system cutover.