



King County

Ron Sims
King County Executive
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3210
Seattle, WA 98104
206-296-4040 Fax 206-296-0194
TTY Relay: 711
www.kingcounty.gov

RECEIVED
2009 MAR 30 AM 9:00
CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

March 20, 2009

The Honorable Dow Constantine
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Constantine;

I am pleased to provide the King County Council a progress report on the status of the Emergency Radio System Equipment Replacement Assessment and Proposal Project. The status is as of the January 26, 2009 Radio Executive Policy Committee Meeting.

The report is submitted in response to the following proviso included in the 2009 Adopted Budget (ordinance 16312):

Of this appropriation, \$25,000 shall not be expended until two reports on the status of the emergency radio replacement project (CIP Project number 347301) have been transmitted to council. It is the intent of the council that progress reports for emergency radio replacement project shall be transmitted to the council twice annually.

The progress reports shall describe all of the project activities undertaken during the reporting period. The first progress report shall be due April 1, 2009, and also shall include an inventory of county owned hand held radios, a report on the number of new radios needed to serve the new sound transit service contracts and a report on how the radios needed to serve the new sound transit contract will be funded.

The progress reports shall be transmitted in the form of 11 copies with the clerk of the council, who shall retain the original and will forward copies to each councilmember and to the lead staff for the general government and labor relations committee, or its successor.

As reported to the Council on April 8, 2008, the Office of Information Resource Management has begun a project to assess the current emergency radio system environment and work towards answering a series of questions which were posed by the Radio Communication Services 2007-2011 Business Plan.

As part of this project, a regional Radio Executive Policy Committee ("REPC") was established and met for the first time July 2, 2008. The REPC is chaired by me, and its membership is composed primarily of elected officials representing King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties as well as some of the jurisdictions within the counties and a representative from the Governor's office. At its first meeting in July, the REPC adopted a charter (Enclosure 1 contains the charter statement and Enclosure 2 contains the REPC Membership) and agreed to move forward as a three county region. Also at its first meeting, the REPC directed the formation of three subcommittees to determine the requirements for a Next Generation Radio Network.

These subcommittees met seven times each through the summer and early fall of 2008 to define the requirements. 128 individuals from 61 agencies (Enclosure 3) participated in the meetings. These individuals comprised a truly multidisciplinary and multiagency effort that represented Police and Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAP")/Dispatching Services and Utilities from throughout the three county areas. Once the requirements were collected from the three subcommittees their chairpersons met with REPC Staff to develop a unified set of requirements for consideration by the REPC. Prior to presenting the draft requirements to the REPC, the draft requirements were presented at a meeting of approximately 80 Police and Fire Chiefs along with PSAP and Emergency Management Directors from the three counties. Attendees reviewed and approved the requirements.

The REPC once again met on October 20, 2008, where it adopted the requirements list. Also at this meeting the REPC established two additional subcommittees and directed staff to develop a Request for Proposal ("RFP") document to seek an Engineering Consultant.

King County anticipated that an Engineering Consultant would be needed and funding was appropriated by the County Council when the project was established. However, the cost of the engineering consultant is expected to exceed the King County appropriation authority; therefore, County staff has sought funding participation from other project participants. Several agencies have made verbal commitments and staff has submitted three grant proposals to gain additional funding. Currently County staff is working on a draft Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with our financial partners in the project. The agreement will define the financial commitments, roles and responsibilities related to the management of those funds and the engineering consultant contract. The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement will be transmitted to council over the next two to three months. Depending on how funds are to be managed under the agreement, additional revenue backed appropriation may be needed to obtain expenditure authority for the full amount of the contract.

The RFP has been developed through meetings and staff work. In the first two meetings representatives stakeholder agencies defined key points in the RFP including:

- Overall Philosophy
- Project Deliverables

- Vendor Qualifications and RFP Scoring
- Milestones and Payment Schedules

Staff and a review committee, made up of representatives from funding agencies and the three subcommittees, did additional work on the draft. From these meetings a draft RFP has been developed and circulated to subcommittee members for comment. At its January 26, 2009 meeting the RECP reviewed and adopted the draft RFP and directed the establishment of the RFP Review Subcommittee, Chaired by Redmond Mayor John Marchione. This subcommittee will oversee the RFP process culminating in selection of an apparent successful bidder. King County will act as the lead agency as defined by the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement in securing a contract with this apparent successful bidder. Additionally REPC Staff are working with various County departments and divisions, including the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and Risk Management to complete all the procurement requirements necessary to complete an RFP. The intent will be to issue the RFP with in the next two to three months. Key deliverables from the RFP will be the Analysis and Recommendations for:

- Technologies suitable to meet the requirements defined by the REPC
- Governance models for the radio system
- Operational models for the radio system.

Looking ahead, the project expects to continue to reach out to and coordinate activities with agencies throughout the region. For example, County staff recently met with the Bellevue City Manager, Police Chief, and the Deputy Police Chief (Enclosure 4 is a partial list of agencies contacted through staff outreach to date) to brief them on the status of the project and to discuss how the project fits in with the City's future emergency radio and dispatch center plans.

With the RFP being advertised soon, we are also looking forward to having a consultant identified and under contract. Once that occurs, staff will be working with the consultant to achieve project deliverables, beginning with a data collection effort which will be facilitated by staff. In addition staff is expected to act as a liaison between project stakeholders and the consultant to coordinate dialogue and guide the progress of the project.

As mentioned earlier, the REPC directed during its October 2008 meeting that two more subcommittees be convened. These subcommittees are charged with the responsibility of looking into radio system funding options and operations of the resulting network. Over the next six months work will begin in these subcommittees. Lastly coordination will continue with the State of Washington to ensure that alignment is occurring between state and local efforts related to interoperable communications.

Enclosure 5 contains a summary and detailed inventory of all radios owned and operated county agencies. King County Radio Communication Services (RCS) is responsible for all non-Metro Transit Communications and therefore has equipment responsibilities for "legacy" UHF and VHF systems which extend beyond the 800 MHz Emergency Radio System. Additionally 800 MHz operations include physical assets substantially beyond just handheld

The Honorable Dow Constantine

March 20, 2009

Page 4

radios including mobile (or vehicular) mounted radios and several other types of radios. All these radio are included with Enclosure 5.

The proviso also asks a question related to the new Sound Transit contract and the number of radios required and funding for them. The following response was provided by King County Sheriff's Office, (KCSO) staff who is the administrator of this contract:

The Sound Transit contract mirrors King County's contracts with cities for law enforcement services, in that the County purchases and maintains ownership of the equipment, while leasing the radio to the contract entity with a replacement charge included in the rate. Contract entities pay the exact rate Radio Services charges the KCSO as a pass-thru cost. The budget concept for 2009 was to transfer radios from vehicles turned in due to eliminated positions and save the initial purchase cost.

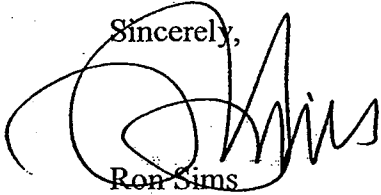
However, the majority of the vehicles were non-patrol vehicles with radios that could not be transferred to Sound Transit vehicles. In conjunction with Radio Services, we are conducting a comprehensive inventory of radios in 2009 that will be cross checked against our current charges. The KCSO will turn in any excess radios freed up from these eliminated positions and absorb the remaining purchase cost of the radios within our 2009 appropriation.

Office of information resource management will work with KCSO and Sound Transit in providing radio services for Sound Transit.

The Honorable Dow Constantine
March 20, 2009
Page 5

Thank you in advance for your anticipated support of this project. If you have any questions, please contact David Martinez, Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Resource Management at 206- 263-7887.

Sincerely,



Ron Sims
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Tom Bristow, Interim Chief of Staff

Saroja Reddy, Policy Staff Director

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Frank Abe, Communications Director

Bob Cowan, Director, Office of Management & Budget

David Martinez, Chief Information Officer, OIRM

Gary Lemenager, Director of Enterprise Services Division, OIRM

David Mendel, Manager of Radio Communication Services, OIRM

DeWayne Pitts, Chief Financial Officer, KCSO

