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ERIE COUNTY NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEM

MCM CONSULTING GROUP, INC.

MARCH 7, 2016

WELCOME

ERIE COUNTY NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEM

PROJECT UPDATE

MARCH 7, 2016

PROJECT RECAP

- **October 2013:** Project began with a “needs assessment”
- **November 2013:** Interviews conducted with first responders
- **December 2013:** Equipment & site surveys completed
- **February 2014:** Department & employee interviews completed
- **February 2014:** Preliminary system design

PROJECT RECAP

- **February 2014:** RFI (request for information) issued to vendors
- **March / April 2014:** Vendor presentations were held
- **April – August 2014:** Information reviewed, refined and began strategic plan
- **September 2014:** Final “needs assessment & strategic plan” report completed
- **Oct. – Dec. 2014:** Conducted public meetings

Note: Time period also includes bi-weekly project status meetings

PROJECT RECAP

- **January 13, 2015:** Erie County Council passed a resolution to support the “Erie County Next Generation Public Safety Radio System.”

- **January 29, 2015:** MCM Consulting Group placed under contract to begin work on the new “Next Generation Public Safety Radio System.”

PROJECT TO DATE

- **January 29, 2015:** Moved from a “preliminary” system design status to an “in depth” system design that included:
 - (a) FCC frequency acquisitions.
 - (b) Search / identify potential tower site locations.
 - (c) Product update presentations by the Vendors.
 - (d) Development of RFP (request for proposal).

PROJECT TO DATE

- **August 11, 2015:** Erie County Council passed the capital improvement bond (26.5 M) for the design, procurement, construction and implementation of the new Next Generation Public Safety Radio System.

The Next Generation Public Safety Radio System is the second largest capital investment in Public Safety for the protection of the emergency first responders, the citizens and visitors of Erie County.

PROJECT TO DATE

- **November 17, 2015:** RFP (request for proposal) was issued.
- **Five vendors responded:**
 - Airbus DS Communications (Cassidian)
 - E.F Johnson (JVC Kenwood)
 - Harris
 - Motorola
 - Tait
- **November 17, 2015 through February 15, 2016:** Mandatory site walks were conducted, vendors submitted questions and **in-building** field signal level test were conducted by several vendors.
- **February 15, 2016:** Last day for questions. (Quiet period for vendors to compose their formal proposals).

EVALUATION / REVIEW PERIOD

- **March 15, 2016 :** Proposals are due, to be opened and tabled for review. Evaluation / review period begins (approx. 45 days).
- An evaluation / selection committee will be established consisting of five representatives:
 - Charles Crane, Director, Department of Purchasing
 - John Grappy, Director, Department of Public Safety
 - Michael McGrady, President, MCM Consulting Group
 - James Rosenbaum, Chair, Public Safety Advisory Committee
 - At large member

EVALUATION / REVIEW PERIOD

- **April 30, 2016:** Completion of evaluation period.
- **May 1, 2016:** (on or about) Contract award.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

May 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017: Project implementation period.

1. Contracts and agreements will be executed.
2. Equipment (radio infrastructure) ordering will begin.
3. Based on the system design, tower sites selected by the successful vendor:
 - (a) action will be taken to formally secure the locations (properties) and begin the construction process of new communications towers, if required.
 - (b) additional FCC licensing will be submitted, if required.
 - (c) proceed with acquisition of new microwave (MPLS) system.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

May 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017: Project implementation period.

4. A new dispatch console system, as part of the project, may (depending on costs) be ordered and placed into service prior to the implementation of the new public safety radio system.

ACTIVITY TO DATE

- FCC licensing process continues:
 - (a) Fourteen frequency pairs (actually 28 pairs under a Phase II plan) have been identified for the core of the “digital trunked radio system.”
 - (b) An analog paging frequency has been identified.
 - (c) Additional frequency pairs will be secured for “zoned operations and TAC channels.”
 - (d) The “initial” FCC application for six perimeter sites around the county is being finalized. The applications will be submitted for the United States and Canadian approval.

PROPOSED FREQUENCY LIST FOR ERIE COUNTY TRUNKED RADIO SYSTEM

Freq.	Licensee	Call sign	Comment	Need LOC
453.05	County of Erie	WQEX785		no
			125 KHz.	
453.175	Grove City	WPJZ746	Mercer County, south eastern corner.	no
			100 KHz.	
453.275	Albion	WNUI478	Being used as a 2 watt vehicular repeater channel, 2 watts with Canadian restrictions?	yes
			137 KHz.	
453.4125	Millcreek	WPTU704	MO use only?	yes
			137 KHz.	
453.55	West County	KNDB551	RF link	yes
			100 KHz.	
453.65	Millcreek	WPTU704		yes
			100 KHz.	
453.75	Painesville Ohio	KNHY290		no
			100 KHz.	
453.85	Greenwood Twp.	WNPZ821	Crawford County, southern tip of Conneaut Lake.	no
			100 KHz.	
453.95	Millcreek	WPTU704	Possible paging channel if 453.850 is secured from Greenwood Twp.	yes
460.05	City of Erie	KGA237		no
			100 KHz.	
460.15	Lawrence Park	WNKF751		yes
			100 KHz.	
460.25	City of Erie	KGA237		no
			100 KHz.	
460.35	Hempfield Twp.	KKV419	Mercer County, Greenville PA, northwest corner of county	no
			100 KHz.	
460.45	Hempfield Twp	KKV419	Mercer County, Greenville PA, northwest corner of county	no
			100 KHz.	
460.55	Mercyhurst Univ.	WPXV827	Erie, PA	yes

ACTIVITY TO DATE

- Potential tower site acquisition continues:

(a) Twenty seven potential site locations have been selected using “tax free properties.”

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- **October 20, 2015:** Interagency Agreements
- The Interagency (user) agreement provides a detailed description and defines the use of the system, equipment requirements, system access, license and warranties, liabilities and indemnification.
- Based on the recommendations for implementation and funding by the “Report of the Next Generation Radio Committee of County Council,” “any police, fire, medical, and local emergency management agency designated by the local municipality as their emergency service provider was provided an opportunity to “opt in” or “opt out” of the Next Generation Public Safety Radio Project by December 15, 2015.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- Interagency Agreements – Cont'd
- However, any police, fire, medical, and local emergency management agency choosing to “opt out” of the Next Generation Public Safety Radio Project will be responsible for 100% of the costs associated with purchasing the equipment necessary to interface with Next Generation Public Safety Radio System.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- Interagency Agreements – Cont'd
- By this agreement, Erie County is covering 100% of end user equipment costs based on the pre-determined quantity as defined in the final report and recommendation by MCM Consulting Group.
- Any additional equipment requested by any police, fire, medical, and local emergency management agencies not outlined in the report of the MCM Consulting Group's study will be the sole financial responsibility of the respective agency (Based on county/manufacturers specifications).

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- **November 24, 2015:** Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program
- On Friday, January 15, 2016, four regional grant applications were submitted through the Federal (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program.
- Four Fire Departments sponsored the regional grant applications:
 - Fairview Fire Department
 - Harborcreek Fire Department
 - Lake City Fire Company
 - Lake Shore Fire Department

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program – Cont'd
- If we're successful with all four grant requests, funds totaling **\$2,658,888**, will offset the capital cost of the next generation public safety radio system's subscriber equipment (mobiles, portables and pagers).
- Our efforts are to reduce the overall costs by applying for grant opportunities that may reduce the capital costs of this project to the taxpayers while providing every county public safety user a pre-determined quantity of subscriber units.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- Public Safety Advisory Committee – Communications Subcommittee
- The communications subcommittee is in the process of being established, comprised of representatives from every discipline to include law enforcement, fire, medical and emergency management officials.
- The communications subcommittee chairperson is Jeff Hawryliw, Assistant Chief, Fairfield Fire Department; co-chairperson is Charlie Heffner, retired dispatcher, Millcreek Township; former Fire Chief, West Ridge Fire Department.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE:

- Communications Subcommittee – Cont'd
- The communications subcommittee will be assigned various tasks, related to the Next Generation Public Safety Radio System Project.
- Assist in the development of:
 - Operational policy and procedures
 - Operational “talk groups”
 - An alert / tone plan for activation of pagers & sirens
 - “Push-to-talk” (PTT) identifiers for all users (mobiles / portables)

Questions?



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THANK YOU!