

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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FROM: Riverside County Information Technology

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 21, 2005

SUBJECT: Approval in principle to issue a Request for Proposal to resolve 800MHz radio coverage issues.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Purchasing Agent to release an RFP to solicit proposals from qualified vendors to resolve the radio coverage and operational issues associated with the County's 800MHz radio system.

BACKGROUND: On October 7, 2003, the Board directed the Executive Office to work with the Sheriff's Department, Riverside County Information Technology, and the Purchasing Department to secure the services of a consultant to review and analyze the existing 800MHz radio system for effectiveness, coverage, and safety. In addition, the Board directed that the consultant define a fix to ensure that coverage is provided at some level for areas that do not have coverage today.

An RFP was awarded to RCC Consultants on January 20, 2004 to provide the consulting services necessary to study the coverage and operational concerns associated with the current radio system, develop an RFP for submittal to industry vendors that would provide a fix for the problems identified in the study, and assist the county in the selection of a qualified vendor to design and implement a solution that will resolve the coverage and operational issues documented in the study and RFP.

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<i>Bob Doyle</i> Bob Doyle Sheriff-Coroner-PA	<i>Craig Anthony</i> Craig Anthony Chief -Fire Department	<i>Matthew W. Frymire</i> Matthew W. Frymire Chief Information Officer
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FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	In Current Year Budget: Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	Budget Adjustment: NO
	Annual Net County Cost:	For Fiscal Year: 2004/2005

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30 <input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote <input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVE** SEE ATTACHED LETTER

County Executive Office Signature *Mary M. Christmas*

Meredith Jones
 Director of Facilities Management
 Departmental Concurrence

Policy Policy
 Consent Consent
 Dept't Recomm.: Per Exec. Ofc.:

BACKGROUND (Continued)

An integral component of the RCC Consultant engagement was to interview Sheriff field operations staff to gather detailed information on existing coverage and operational issues. This effort included interviews at ten (10) Sheriff Stations including the Deputies, Mid-level Management and the Captain at each station. During these interview sessions, Deputies "marked-up" the County's radio coverage maps to identify areas where radio coverage did not exist or is less than adequate. Then, working with the Planning Department, the coverage maps were "marked-up" to identify areas of projected development over the next ten years. These Coverage maps were provided to RCC for review and inclusion in their report deliverables and are included in the requirements of this RFP. The deliverables of the RFP require the awarded vendor to certify the radio coverage and operational functionality of the system they are proposing.

The final Conceptual Design delivered by RCC Consulting was reviewed and approved by Sheriff and RCIT staff on November 2, 2004. RCC Consulting has estimated the cost to "fix" the current radio system to be between \$46 Million to \$83 Million. The cost range is dependent upon how the vendors propose to meet the certification requirements of the RFP. For example, one of the scenarios could be that the vendor would propose adding new radio sites and additional equipment to the existing radio system to address the requirements of the RFP. This is the scenario that was used to estimate the lower figure in the range (\$46 Million). The high estimate (\$83 Million) is based upon a scenario where the vendor would add new sites and replace all of the equipment, which could be a possibility if the vendor could not augment the existing system to meet the certification requirements identified in the RFP.

The certification requirements spelled out in the RFP require the vendor to field certify the radio coverage and signal strength throughout the predicted coverage ranges, and to certify that the operational modifications are functioning as specified. The County will hold back final payment to the vendor until the system is certified. There is a possibility that the vendors may not be willing to certify a system that utilizes the existing radio system design and equipment to meet our extended needs. This could be due to any of the following reasons;

1. The age / type of equipment we currently own may no longer be available.
2. Incompatibilities between the equipment we currently own and their current product line.
3. A redesign of the existing system would require the vendor to backward engineer the design in order to augment it, making service prediction difficult to quantify and certify.

The initial draft of the RFP was delivered on September 20, 2004, and was reviewed and edited during the months of October, November, and December. During this time period additional radio data network requirements were added to the RFP to support the data transmission requirements of County Fire. This data transmission capability will provide County Fire with the infrastructure required to reduce call transmission time, and therefore call response, by as much as 30 to 45 seconds. To validate the findings of RCC and to assist the County in the finalization of the RFP, the Sheriff and RCIT agreed to hire Dr. Richter of the Richter Group as an independent radio consultant. The RFP is the final compilation of all the requirements identified by RCC Consulting, Sheriff, Fire, Purchasing, County Counsel, RCIT and the Richter Group.

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BACKGROUND (Continued)

The RFP stipulates that vendors provide estimated costs for all materials and services required for a complete turnkey Radio System; including building new or modifications to existing radio sites (to include HVAC, backup facilities and security); modifications to existing radio base station/repeaters and ancillary equipment; modifications to existing dispatch consoles and ancillary equipment; software upgrades; replacement of desktop control stations with full-featured dispatch consoles; and the cost to provision new microwave links to connect new sites to the County's existing digital microwave system.

The costs for the purchase/lease of property for new radio sites will not be included in the vendor cost proposals and will be provided by Facilities Management once the vendor identifies new site locations. For planning purposes Facilities Management is estimating the total acquisition costs for the fifteen (15) new sites identified in the RCC Conceptual Design to be \$1,800,000 or \$120,000 per site.

To ensure issues are raised and addressed in a timely manner, a Project Steering Committee will be formed with membership from the Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, Facilities Management, RCIT and the Executive Office. This committee will be responsible for monitoring the progress of the project and making high level decisions as required to keep the project on time and within budget.

The Executive Office is reviewing different funding options, and to ensure the County has multiple funding options, the RFP also includes a request for the vendors to provide financing options.

Following the completion of the RFP process, RCIT and the Sheriff will make recommendations and return to the Board for final approval to proceed and award a contract to the selected vendor, and provide potential funding options.

Responses will be due 120 days after the RFP is published. The Project Team will evaluate the responses over a 60 day period, after which they will provide their findings and recommendations to the Project Steering Committee. The RFP requires all work that is part of this project to be completed no later than 24 months following receipt of Notice To Proceed from the County.