



JUNE 29, 2011

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY 
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: LONNIE MITCHELL 
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

**SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (LA-RICS)**

ISSUE

In June 2009, Board Member Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa put forward a motion instructing Metro staff to work with the LA-RICS Joint Powers Authority (JPA) in developing a plan to replace the separate radio communications systems used by Metro and its major public safety services providers in Metro's underground rail system. Metro staff was instructed to report back during the September 2009 Board cycle with quarterly updates/progress reports thereafter.

This is the fifth quarterly report regarding Metro's staff participation and findings to date as related to the LA-RICS project.

DISCUSSION

LA-RICS has received proposals from several companies. The LA-RICS Evaluation Team is continuing to review the proposals and expects to complete in the review in the third quarter of 2011. The third quarter 2011 date is a revision from the prior reported Request for Proposal (RFP) review completion date of December 2010.

Current funding as provided by prior approved grants is \$143,344,970. A second grant application has been filed for \$155,000,000.

Estimated LA-RICS project costs now exceed \$1 Billion. Several funding proposals are being considered including a countywide property tax assessment for all properties in LA County.

Also, because of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) narrow band requirements of 2013, some of the participants in the LA-RICS project, including Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), will be in violation without narrow band frequency migration. It is likely that several entities, including LACFD and LASD, will not meet the FCC 2013 narrowband mandate. LACFD and LASD will monitor the proposed rule changes for non-complying entities. This has the potential to have Metro found liable for FCC violations and fines made by LASD, as they are transmitting wide band from Metro's subway via Metro owned radio equipment.

NEXT STEPS

Metro's staff will continue to support LA-RICS staff during the Evaluation Phase, Project Design/Implementation, and Installation Phases of LA-RICS providing technical, installation, and escort support as required. Staff will work with LA-RICS in negotiating a fiber optic agreement including monetary compensation to Metro.