DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NEXT GENERATION OF RADIO TECHNOLOGY FOR RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS

October 2, 2017

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED
WHY ARE WE HERE

• Review the need to replace this critical communication system
• Summarize steps to replace the Land Mobile Radio system
• Request Board action to authorize Request for Proposal (RFP) for Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)
SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

• Land Mobile Radio System
  – Dedicated and purpose-built radio system used to deliver critical voice communication to District personnel

• Microwave System
  – Highly reliable radio-based transmission system used to transport critical voice and data traffic
WHY SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE REPLACED

• Important component of safe and efficient operations Districtwide
• System provides reliable communications for mobile crews
• It has exceeded its useful life
  – 20-year old equipment
  – No longer supported
  – Increasing risk of failure
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

• Feasibility Study - 2015
  – Recommended replacement with Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)

• Coverage Study - 2016
  – Recommended replacement first, followed by coverage expansion

• Project Recommendation and Business Case
  – Replace Microwave and Radio systems
PROJECT APPROVAL

• Conducted extended outreach to radio users to validate core requirements, eliminating alternatives
• Confirmed Microwave and Radio systems are essential to District operations and safety
• Reinforced recommendation of original feasibility study
• Business Case approved by Senior Management Team
• Presented project to the Board on February 6
REPLACEMENT PROJECT

• Site and Power Improvements
  – Under construction
• Microwave Network Replacement
  – Finalizing scope of work with Nokia to use State Contract
  – Anticipate replacement 2018 Q2
• Land Mobile Radio Replacement
  – Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) standard selected
  – Ready to publish Request for Proposals (RFP)
  – Anticipate replacement starting 2018 Q3
DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO

• Benefits
  – Open Standard
  – Digital Audio Quality
  – Double Channel Capacity
  – Longer Battery Life
  – Advanced Features
    • Data applications
    • Caller ID
    • Enhanced Security
NEXT STEPS

• Request Commission approval of resolution to authorize advertisement of RFP 17-50 Digital Mobile Radio

• If approved, begin outreach to employees
QUESTIONS?

Burch Mountain Microwave/Radio Tower