

SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-17-053

SUBJECT: Public Safety 800 MHZ Radio Replacement Project

COMMITTEE:

Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:

July 11, 2017

BOARD ACTION DATE:

July 19, 2017

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to negotiate an agreement with Tactical Public Safety, West Berlin, NJ; for the purchase of new Harris Communications P25 compliant 800 MHz radios. These radios will be purchased over a period of five (5) years to replace the current portable, mobile, and control station radios. These radios will be used by both the DRPA and PATCO Public Safety Staff. This proposal is year 5 for the 800 MHz radio replacement plan. The radio replacement project is under NJ State Contract is T-0109 (award #83932).

Amount: \$223,118.11

Design/Builder: Tactical Public Safety
1036 Industrial Drive
West Berlin, NJ 08091

Other Proposers: None.

PURPOSE: To replace the current aging radio hardware in use currently throughout all of public safety while increasing radio interoperability via upgrade to Phase II P25 TDMA compliant technology using AES 256 bit encryption. To ensure continuing provisions of police/security service on behalf of DRPA, PATCO and its fare payers while enhancing security, safety and streamlining productivity and staffing.

BACKGROUND: Interoperable emergency communication is integral to initial response, public health, safety of communities, national security and economic stability. Of all the problems experienced during disaster events, one of the most serious problems is communication due to lack of appropriate and efficient means to collect, process and transmit important and timely information. In some cases, radio communication systems are not compatible and inoperable not just within a jurisdiction but within departments or agencies within the same community. Non-operability occurs due to use of outdated equipment, limited availability of radio

frequencies, isolated or independent planning, lack of coordination and cooperation between agencies, community priorities competing for resources, funding and ownership and control of communications systems. Recognizing and understanding this need, Project 25 (P25) was initiated collaboratively by public safety agencies and manufacturers to address the issue with emergency communication systems. P25 is collaborative project to ensure that two-way radios are interoperable. The goal of P25 is to enable public safety responders to communicate with each other and, thus, achieve enhanced coordination, timely response, and efficient and effective use of communications equipment.

P25 was established to address the need for common digital public safety radio communications standards for first-responders and homeland security/emergency response professionals. Encryption is now used in the region by outside law enforcement agencies to prevent the public from listening to their voice transmissions.

Due to the multi-jurisdictional nature of the footprint that the DRPA Police Department operates in and the sensitive nature of the DRPA properties, radio interoperability is crucial. This radio replacement project will not only allow the agency to continue to effectively and safely communicate internally, but it will also allow for DRPA Police personnel to assist more seamlessly throughout the region in the event of a major incident/disaster. This communication would then be reciprocal as we may require assistance from outside agencies in a time of need.

SUMMARY:	Amount:	\$223,118.11
	Source of Funds:	General Funds
	Capital Project #:	Project # TEP.01203
	Operating Budget:	\$223,118.11
	Master Plan Status:	N/A
	Other Fund Sources:	N/A
	Duration of Contract:	N/A
	Other Parties Involved:	None
	Estimated Number of Jobs Supported:	160 Internally / 25 Externally

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RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes that the proper officers of the Delaware River Port Authority are hereby authorized to negotiate a contract to purchase, through Tactical Public Safety West Berlin, NJ for a total cost not to exceed \$223,118.11; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chair, Vice Chair and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive Officer and if thereafter either the Chair or Vice Chair is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent and/or unavailable and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s) while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such documents on behalf of DRPA.

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