SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-20-076

SUBJECT: Extension of Concurrence Agreement for Radio Frequency 855.9625 MHz with Salem County

COMMITTEE: Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: June 9, 2020

BOARD ACTION DATE: June 17, 2020

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to extend an existing cooperative agreement with the County of Salem, NJ; for Radio Frequency 855.9625 MHz.

Amount: $0.00

PURPOSE: To extend the existing cooperative agreement with the County of Salem, NJ to June 19, 2042. The DRPA has had a cooperative agreement with Salem County relative to the construction and utilization of an 800 MHz trunked radio communications system since June 20, 2002, allowing for renewals through June 19, 2042. This agreement allows the DRPA to use the channel as a communications option in the DRPA trunked radio system. The DRPA has priority over this channel as a result of this agreement.

BACKGROUND: Emergency communication is integral for proper operations at the DRPA. The EDACS compatible 800 MHz system that uses this channel within the trunked system is this critical emergency communication. It provides for seamless and secure communication among public safety members as well as the other trade departments present at DRPA facilities. This system also provides for interoperable emergency communications with surrounding agencies. Interoperable emergency communication is integral to initial response, public health, the safety of communities, national security, and economic stability. Of all the problems experienced during disaster events, one of the most severe problems is communication due to a lack of appropriate and efficient means to collect, process, and transmit essential 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 the
use of outdated equipment, limited availability of radio frequencies, loss of signal reducing coverage area, isolated or independent planning, lack of coordination and cooperation between agencies, community priorities competing for resources, funding, and ownership and control of communications systems. In order to maintain the status of our current radio system, including coverage area, signal strength, and frequency availability, it is critical to extend this cooperative agreement. This frequency availability will further be critical to pending radio system upgrades as related to FCC Project 25 (P25).

P25 is a 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 now used in the region by DRPA/PATCO, as well as, outside law enforcement agencies, prevents the public from listening to all or certain 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, signal coverage, system operability, and radio interoperability is crucial.

**SUMMARY:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of Funds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Project #</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Budget</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan Status</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Fund Sources</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of Contract</td>
<td>June 19, 2042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Parties Involved</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Number of Jobs Supported</td>
<td>168 Internally / 50 Externally</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes that the proper officers of the Delaware River Port Authority are hereby authorized to execute an extension of the concurrence agreement in place with the County of Salem, NJ for Radio Frequency 855.9625 MHz for a total cost not to exceed $0.00, through June 19, 2042; 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.

SUMMARY:

Amount: $0.00
Source of Funds: N/A
Capital Project #: N/A
Operating Budget: N/A
Master Plan Status: N/A
Other Fund Sources: N/A
Duration of Contract: June 19, 2042
Other Parties Involved: None
Estimated Number of Jobs Supported: 168 Internally / 50 Externally