

Emergency Communications Radio System Upgrade Project

April 16, 2020

Overview

This is an approved CIP project for the county-wide Motorola P25 radio system upgrade. The current radio system has reached end-of-life and is no longer viable for our current needs or the future growth of the county.

History

Over the last 4-5 years, the county has worked with several vendors, such as AECOM and Motorola to review our current system, conduct a needs assessment and provide a solution for a county-wide radio system. Emergency Communications has worked with county departments and agency stakeholders to ensure their needs are met and the county is positioned for the future growth coming to the area.

System Design

The county has selected to partner with the North Carolina Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) managed by the NC Department of Public Safety and State Highway Patrol. Our county system will include a total of eight (8) radio towers, five (5) of which are new construction. This design allows for the needed radio coverage across the county, as well as, connect all of the towers via microwave equipment. Our new system will increase our interoperability within the county and across the region and state.

Grant Funding

The county received a grant from the NC 911 Board in the amount of \$2,339,608 for this project.

Project Status

The project team continues to meet bi-weekly via conference call. Work on the architectural and engineering phase of the project continues as scheduled. Equipment (towers, shelters, etc.) is being ordered and shipped according to the project timeline. Radio towers which will go through the conditional use permit (CUP) process may be delayed due to current public meeting restrictions. However, other towers not part of the CUP process will be able to continue construction or upgrades according to the project timeline. Radio equipment for the two (2) 911 centers is being ordered and should be installed within the next couple of months. Radios for individual agencies will be ordered and installed as needed to coincide with the project timeline.