

Project #	30-14-01	Project Title	Radio System Enhancement - Simulcast
Department	Sheriff's Office	Manager	Chief Deputy Daniel Kontos
Phase	Construction		
Budget Action	Delay	Date	March 1, 2013

CAPITAL BUDGET SUMMARY						
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017	Total
Project Phase	Construction	Design	Construction	Construction	Construction	Project
Expenditure Budget	7,410,000					7,410,000
Revenue Budget						0
Net County Cost	7,410,000	0	0	0	0	7,410,000
COST DOCUMENTATION				REVENUE		
Architect/Engineering		100,000			State Grant	-
Land		-			User Fees	-
Land Improvements		-				-
Building		20,000				-
Building Improvements		20,000				-
Plans		20,000				-
Project Manager/Contractor		-				-
Site Preparation		-				-
Equipment		7,250,000				-
Furniture		-				-
Fixtures		-				-
Advertising/Legal Notices		-				-
Total Project Cost		7,410,000			Total Revenue	-
Expenditure Budget		7,410,000			Revenue Budget	-

Project Scope & Description:

A radio upgrade to a simulcast system that would include the Sheriff's Office, County Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and paging channels. Each of the four channels will transmit at the exact same time from eight different sites, giving a wide area of coverage. Current equipment would need to be upgraded and new equipment would need to be purchased. Some of the existing tower sites may need to be moved to new locations, the number of towers and their equipment used/maintained may be able to be consolidated and reduced, and current mobile/portable radios would be upgraded to ensure full compatibility. This project is intended to improve public safety, improve delivery of services to emergency responders, and reduce maintenance, operating, and lease/rental costs by eliminating unnecessary sites, while providing better coverage to the entire County. If approved Capital Project Request 30-12-07 can be cancelled.

Location:

This is a county-wide project dealing with each public safety radio tower owned/leased by the County, the Communications Center, and each public safety mobile/portable radio in the County.

Analysis of Need:

Safety is the predominant factor for the radio upgrade. Currently, users need to locate and select the tower site that is closest to their location, for both vehicle and portable radios. A simulcast system was chosen because it gives a wide area of coverage using one frequency pair and is easy for all users to operate. Rather than receiving a signal from only one tower, which is the case today, the user will receive the signal from many towers collectively. All eight sites will provide greater reception for Dispatch. All too often Dispatch cannot understand the transmission and has to direct the user to use a different tower, and even then, other responders using a different tower may not hear the transmission. The new system will allow the user to have total coverage on one channel. No time will be lost in trying to locate the correct tower, and emergency radio traffic from all users will be more easily and accurately received the first time, enhancing both public and officer/responder safety when seconds

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count, or when they only have the opportunity to make one transmission. This project is supported by both the Portage County Fire Chief's and EMS Associations, and has been indicated to be the number one communications priority for the County's Fire/EMS responders.

Alternatives:

Failing to implement this system will mean operating with the current system. This will mean accepting a deficient level of public and responder safety, a reduced level of efficiency and effectiveness, and an increasing level of maintenance costs as the aging components need to be replaced. The mobile and portable radios in the county will need to be replaced over the next several years anyway if this project is not approved (see CIP 30-12-07).

Additionally, a separate option will be explored and priced that will allow for the transition of the City of Stevens Point's separate radio system, and possibly incorporate it into the County's radio system. This would conceptually save money, make operations more efficient, and ease operations. It is offered for discussion purposes.

Ongoing Operation Costs:

To be determined in Request for Proposal process.

Previous Action:

2014-2019 Capital Plan: Approved as new project.

2015-2020 Capital Plan: Updated scope and project expense estimates for extended municipality radios.

Project #	30-16-01	Project Title	Radio Tower Construction
Department	Sheriff's Office	Manager	Captain Dale O'Kray
Phase	Construction	Alternate	Communications Manager Denise Schultz
Budget Action	New	Date	June 10, 2015

Current charges for leasing space is approximately \$55,000. If towers are constructed, this annual cost would be converted to maintenance and operational costs for powering and maintaining these sites.

Previous Action:

\$50,000 was approved to conduct an engineering study to determine costs more accurately by County Board resolution on May 19, 2015.