



## RANCHO CUCAMONGA FIRE DISTRICT



**DATE:** June 2, 2021

**TO:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** John R. Gillison, City Manager

**INITIATED BY:** Ivan Rojer, Fire Chief  
Augie Barreda, Deputy Fire Chief  
Michelle Cowles, Management Analyst II

**SUBJECT:** Consideration to Renew an Agreement with the County of San Bernardino for the 800 MHz Radio Communications System Access/Paging and Equipment Maintenance Services for \$147,480 in FY 2021-22 and an Estimated Total Contract Amount of \$737,400 over Five Years. (FIRE)

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Fire Board approve a renewal agreement between the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District and the County of San Bernardino for 800 MHz Radio Communications System Access/Paging and Equipment Maintenance Services for \$147,480 in FY 2021-22 and an estimated total contract amount of \$737,400 over five (5) years.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The West End Communications Authority (WECA) was a joint powers agency established in 1991 to implement and administer a public safety trunked radio system used by the West End cities of Chino, Montclair, Ontario, Upland, and Rancho Cucamonga; as well as the Rancho Cucamonga Fire District and the Cucamonga Valley Water District.

In 2005, WECA approached the County for a proposal to provide a technology upgrade, ongoing maintenance, and support and administration of their 800 MHz radio system. Through a collaborative process, The County's Innovation and Technology Department (ITD) and WECA's executive board developed an operational model wherein WECA would provide the County with funds to purchase and install simulcast radio equipment and accessories for the WECA facilities upgrade. This Agreement, formalized in 2007, required WECA to transfer all their technological assets to the County. ITD was needed to operate and maintain the WECA system independently of the County's 800 MHz radio system for the duration of the five (5) year Agreement. Once the Agreement terminated, the two independent systems would be integrated into one County system.

In 2013, at the end of the five-year term, WECA had the option to end services with the County and purchase back their portion of the 800 MHz radio system. If WECA decided to renew services, the cost of services would be provided to it at the current Board approved rate; if WECA declined, each member agency agreed to enter into separate five-year subscriber agreements at the current Board approved rate.

In December 2019, the Fire District and San Bernardino County renewed Contract #FD19-020 for

a 19-month term with an expiration date of June 30, 2021.

**ANALYSIS:**

The ITD operates and maintains the County's Public Safety Radio Communications System that provides the means by which dispatch centers, public safety locations, and mobile/portable radios communicate via voice transmission. This system is primarily for local government agency use and subsequently for additional governmental and related nongovernmental users to facilitate public safety.

The County's Public Safety Radio Communications System is considered a vital piece of infrastructure used daily by Fire District personnel during emergency and nonemergency situations. Communications must always remain operable to maintain personnel safety and to relay information effectively.

Staff recommends renewal of the Agreement with the County effective July 1, 2021. The Agreement will continue to renew annually for five (5) years thereafter, through June 30, 2026.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The County has proposed an annual contract amount of \$147,480 (226 radios per 12 months). This is a decrease of \$11,720 from the existing FY 2020-21 contract of \$159,200 (223 radios per 12 months). In anticipation of this Agreement, the District budgeted the following funds for FY 2021-22:

Account No.	Funding Source	Description	Amount
3281502-5300	Fire Fund	Communications	\$73,740
3282502-5300	CFD 85-1	Communications	\$58,990
3283502-5300	CFD 88-1	Communications	\$14,750

The District also considers the possibility to rate changes for radio maintenance and service cost as stated in the Agreement and budgets accordingly.

**COUNCIL MISSION / VISION / GOAL(S) ADDRESSED:**

This Agreement encompasses the Fire Board's core values of promoting a safe and healthy community for all, as well as working together cooperatively and respectfully with each other, staff, and all stakeholders. Maintaining effective communications between Fire District personnel, surrounding agencies, and dispatch centers ensures our responders have the resources necessary during any emergency or disaster.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1 - CON-Standard 800 MHz-RANCHO FIRE DISTRICT