



BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator

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November 5, 2018

Sheriff Gualtieri and Members of the Governor's MSDHS Public Safety Commission
c/o Jennifer Miller (JenniferMiller2@fdle.state.fl.us)

Senior Management Analyst Supervisor

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

2331 Phillips Road

Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Sheriff Gualtieri and Esteemed Commission Members,

Please allow this letter to serve as an update on recent developments related to the Broward County Regional Communications/E-911 program.

Computer Aided Dispatch: Coral Springs vs. the Regional Dispatch System

A second meeting between the City and County was conducted to review impediments to the City migrating to the County's Regional CAD system. Some of the concerns initially raised by the City were alleviated during or prior to the meeting while others remain. Below, please find the three remaining issues that continue to give pause for the City; and, as a result, the City has advised it will not be coming on to the regional system.

- Inability to Interface with Broward's CAD System for auto GPS tracking of the City's emergency personnel - The Coral Springs system tracks users of their mobile and portable radios devices from their radio system to their CAD system at a 15 second polling rate. When the County's Regional P25 radio system goes live, plans include using PTTs (push to talks) to trigger the transmission of GPS coordinates for its users. Unfortunately, the County's CAD system does not allow for a technical interface of this type for more than one P25 radio system. While we inquired of Motorola, they have not identified a solution that will allow for a second P25 radio system for tracking user GPS location information. It should be noted that it is unclear whether replicating the Coral Springs practice would be a sustainable best practice for thousands of users on the Regional System. We are advised the City continues to explore all CAD interoperability options to include potentially procuring Motorola's Premier 1 CAD to interface with the regional system and potentially mitigating the GPS and geofile issues.
- Use of a 'general' flag to prompt across location, name and vehicle parameters for officer awareness - Coral Springs represented that, through a query interface between their CAD and Law Records System (LRMS), their CAD system stores and notifies dispatch personnel of a variety of hazards pertaining to people, places and vehicles. The County's CAD system has several classifications of premise flags such as AED, Gate Code, Medical Alert, Officer Safety, Premise Hazard, and Trespass Program,

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which are all triggered for notification to dispatch personnel based on location information entered by the 911 operator. The County's CAD system can be set up with a query interface to Coral Springs' LRMS system to retrieve and notify dispatch personnel of information pertaining to people and vehicles, however the display of this information would be in the same manner as other query returns (e.g. FCIC/NCIC information), not in the same manner as a premise flag.

- Ability to add, change and update common place information in Geofiles - Currently, the City can enter updates to street and address information in their CAD geofile on-demand. The Regional CAD system includes a single, global geofile that is centrally administered and maintained by County Public Safety GIS specialists and does not allow for the geofile to be parsed or partitioned to enable individual cities/agencies to enter updates independently. The County's CAD geofile is updated at the beginning of every month, based on input received from the end users. The actual geo-file update refresh process takes nearly a week to complete within the Motorola CAD system due to its sophistication.

Notwithstanding the items discussed above, while the County maintains its goals of eliminating call transfers, improving interoperability, and creating efficiencies, the ultimate decision to the join the regional system resides with a City.

New P25 radio system implementation (Tower Location and Permits)

As of this date, we are advised by Motorola that we are still on track to have the system up and running in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2019. Listed below is a status update on the towers:

The *City of Tamarac* recently agreed to a Ground Lease that identifies a site location for construction of the new public safety radio tower, contingent upon the County receiving certain development waiver approvals necessary to build the tower at the height needed for the system. We will be before the City on November 7, 2018 and will advise accordingly.

We are concluding the eminent domain proceedings for the *Unincorporated area site (adjacent to the city of Parkland)*, which allows the County to take ownership of the parcel where the tower will be constructed.

Finally, two County owned sites in the city of Hollywood are being pursued for rezoning and height variance approvals. At the initial Commission Meeting of October 17, we were asked to perform additional community outreach and site selection analyses. Having complied with the City's requests, we will be back before the city commission on November 7, 2018, and expect that approvals will be granted barring any unforeseen issues.

Local Government Radio System (LGRS) Migration

Implementation of the LGRS, which allows non-public safety radio users to conduct communications on a separate radio system remains on track for the first quarter of 2019 for

County agencies. Discussions are ongoing with the Broward School Board to better understand their requirements prior to its migration onto the LGRS.

Implementation of Radio Stop Gap Measures

To enhance radio performance during a major incident, new measures have been implemented. These include: Coral Springs main dispatch talk groups have been added to the County's radio dispatch consoles; updated announcements to be used by dispatchers for radio operations during critical incidents; and formal radio communications training began this summer, including the production and delivery of officer tips on palm cards and an on-line training video developed in conjunction with the Police and Fire Chiefs Associations. It should be noted that the County has interoperability with the city of Plantation and no technical modifications are necessary.

Radio Communications Review by the Police Foundation

As you are aware, the County contracted with the Police Foundation to review aspects of the February 14, 2018, incident at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The Police Foundation is finalizing their review of the radio communications and data, and I expect a final report on radio communications to be release in the early part of December 2018.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bertha Henry
County Administrator

- cc: Board of County Commissioners
- Superintendent Robert Runcie, Broward Schools
- Michael Cernech, City Manager, City of Tamarac
- Mike Goodrum, City Manager, City of Coral Springs
- Dr. Wazir Ishmael, City Manager, City of Hollywood
- Bob Payton, City Manager, City of Parkland
- Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant County Administrator
- Tracy Jackson, Director, Regional Emergency Services and Communications