



BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 409 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7362 • FAX 954-357-7360

September 4, 2018

To: Municipal Managers

**Subject: Consolidation of Radio Channels**

Dear Municipal Managers:

As you are aware, the County contracted with Fitch and Associates (Fitch), a national firm specializing in consulting for local government services, including emergency medical services, fire, communications, and technology to assess and recommend improvements to the Consolidated Regional E-911 System.

As noted in their Phase II report, the County's regional system was not truly a consolidated system, but a colocation of previous public safety answer points (PSAPs). The Phase III report further clarified base level of service and how consolidation of radio channels can be accomplished. As indicated in the report, a focus was placed on the primary radio channels for both fire and law enforcement – and modelling their performance in a true consolidated environment. Base levels of service were identified, and limits identified where additional resources are required.

The results show that consolidation of radio channels can occur completely for certain fire radio channels. In addition, both fire and law radio channels have an opportunity to consolidate overnight when workload drops significantly, though each is handled differently based on their specific needs. Finally, three law enforcement radio channels were found to exceed recommended workloads and therefore resources are shifted from nighttime hours to daytime hours when needed. I have attached the recommended consolidation of radio changes and staffing from the Fitch report on (Figure 1).

County staff will begin discussions with the Police and Fire Chiefs' Associations on the consolidation of radio channels. If your municipality desires to have additional radio channels above the base level of service, there is an opportunity to procure special municipal services for those additional channels.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant County Administrator at 954-357-7352.

Sincerely,

  
Bertha Henry  
County Administrator

Attachment

cc: Board of County Commissioners  
Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant County Administrator  
Tracy Jackson, Director, Regional Emergency Services and Communications

**Figure 1: Recommended Changes in Radio Channel Staffing**

<b>FIRE Radio Main Channel Staffing</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Current - 9 talkgroups staffed 24-hours per day	216		
FLF-DISP1 Fort Lauderdale remains unchanged from current		24	
BCF-D3 (Hallandale/Miramar) & BCF-D4 (Davie) consolidate for 24-hours per day		24	
BCF-D5 (Lighthouse Point/Pompano) & BCF-D6 (Margate/Coconut Creek/N. Laud./Tamarac) consolidate for 24-hours per day		24	
BCF-D8 (Hollywood) & BCF-D9 (Pembroke Pines) consolidate for 24-hours per day		24	
BCF-D1 (Sunrise/etc.) & BCF-D2 (B50 Fire) consolidate for 8-hours per day overnight (from 2300 till 0700)		40	
<b>Fire Total Staffing Hours/Day</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>-37.0%</b>
<b>LAW Radio Main Channel Staffing</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Current - 19 talkgroups staffed 24-hours per day	456		
B50-07-DISP remains unchanged from Current		24	
CPK-MAIN remains unchanged from current		24	
Hollywood consolidates their 2 channels to a single channel for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
Fort Lauderdale consolidates their 3 channels to 2 channels for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		66	
B50-06-DISP (Lauderhill) & 5NP-DISP (Sunrise) for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
B50-11-Area1 & B50-11-Area2 (Pompano) consolidate to a single channel for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
B50-10-DISP (Miramar) & PPP-MAIN (Pines) for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
B50-08-DISP (N.Laud./Parkland/Tamarac) & B50-09-DISP (Deerfield Beach) for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
B50-02-DISP (Dania/Ports) & B50-05-DISP (Davie) for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
B50-03-DISP (Cooper City/Weston) & B50-04-DISP (Pembroke Park/West Park) for 6-hours per day overnight (from 0100 till 0700)		42	
PPP-MAIN additional radio hours needed		8	
B50-7 additional radio hours needed		8	
HWD-A1 additional radio hours needed		8	
<b>Law Total Staffing Hours/Day</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>Total of Fire &amp; Law Main Dispatch Channels</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>-15.5%</b>