



**TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

Board Meeting Date: February 4, 2025

DATE: January 24, 2025
TO: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Chris Ketring, Deputy Fire Chief
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THROUGH: Dale Way, Interim Fire Chief
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve an addendum to an Interlocal Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County providing financing, development, operation, and management of a Regional Communications P25 Public Safety Radio System. The total cost to the District for the addendum the to the interlocal agreement is \$178,228.84 to be made in two payments over Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for \$92,153.84 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for \$86,075. (All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve an addendum to an Interlocal Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and Washoe County providing financing, development, operation, and management of a Regional Communications P25 Public Safety Radio System. The total cost to the District for the addendum the to the interlocal agreement is \$178,228.84 to be made in two payments over Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for \$92,153.84 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for \$86,075.

PREVIOUS ACTION

March 4, 2020, The Board of Fire Commissioners approved an Interlocal Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County to provides for possible financing, development, operation and management of a new Regional Communications P25 Public Safety Radio System.

BACKGROUND

Regional parties have agreed to fund the next generation of radio communications, called the P25 Public Safety Radio System. Construction of the network has begun, however cost increases in building out the system have manifested.

This agreement is TMFPD's commitment to funding its share, over time.

The regional radio system is a mission critical component of public safety services. The current regional radio system “EDACS” which stands for “Enhanced Digital Access Communication System” is nearing end of life; most notable is the difficulty in finding replacement parts to effect repairs. The EDACS radio system is used by firefighters to talk to dispatch, to each other, and to mutual aid partners. There are areas of the County – and areas served by TMFPD that do not have adequate radio coverage. In these areas, firefighters cannot talk to dispatch. Two of these areas are portions of the I-80 corridor east of Sparks, and parts of the Red Rock and Rancho Haven.

The current EDACS system is very near maximum capacity, which means few additional radios for new personnel cannot “fit” into the system. This is true for all user agencies – not just TM. The new radio system will provide reliability for communications and eliminate the coverage areas and lack of capacity. Coverage will also increase to anywhere in the state of Nevada.

A replacement system has been designed and proposed by Washoe County to meet the needs of all regional public safety agencies into the future. The District has completed integration of its hand held and mobile radios to be compliant with the new system.

There are no purchases of replacement radio equipment necessary for the crossover.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost to the District for the addendum to the interlocal agreement is \$178,228.84 to be made in two payments over Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for \$92,153.84 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for \$86,075. The District will include these payments in the District’s Capital Projects fund for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend approval of an addendum to an Interlocal Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County providing financing, development, operation, and management of a Regional Communications P25 Public Safety Radio System

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion could be:

“I move to approve an addendum to an Interlocal Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County providing financing, development, operation, and management of a Regional Communications P25 Public Safety Radio System.”