



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 20, 2025

DATE: March 24, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Quinn Korbolic, IT Manager, Technology Services

775-328-2348, qkorbolic@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Behzad Zamanian, Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve and ratify the First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement, June 2020. The addendum specifically addresses increased construction costs associated with the P25 Radio System, which have increased by [\$3,963,706] since the execution of the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement. The addendum specifies the shared financial responsibility among Partner Agencies ensuring that each entity contributes proportionately based on their usage of the system. Washoe County's share of the increased cost is [\$876,031.21] of which [\$452,954.99] would be utilized in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and [\$423,076.22] in Fiscal Year 2026-2027. (All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve and ratify the First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement, June 2020. The addendum specifically addresses increased construction costs associated with the P25 Radio System, which have increased by [\$3,963,706] since the execution of the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement. The addendum specifies the shared financial responsibility among Partner Agencies ensuring that each entity contributes proportionately based on their usage of the system. Washoe County's share of the increased cost is [\$876,031.21] of which [\$452,954.99] would be utilized in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and [\$423,076.22] in Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

The First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement of June 2020 primarily addresses the increased construction costs of the P25 Radio System. The addendum also establishes procedures for project management of future capital projects for the P25 Radio System, ensuring that industry standards for construction contracts, administration, and management are followed. Additionally, the Addendum provides payment options for Partner Agencies to cover the increased construction costs. Agencies can choose between an annual "Pay-As-You-Go" option, a pre-payment option, or a periodic pay-as-you-go option. The addendum also includes provisions for handling insufficient funds, excess funds, and late or non-payment by Partner Agencies. The addendum contains two appendices: a detailed listing of anticipated projects and future

AGENDA ITEM # _____

costs is provided in Appendix B, and the specific contributions of each agency are outlined in Appendix A.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability

PREVIOUS ACTION

On October 14, 2014, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County, the Washoe County School District, the Nevada Department of Transportation, the City of Reno, the City of Sparks and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to provide for the continued development and operation of the Washoe County Regional Communications System (WCRCS).

On July 14, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) confirming the intent of the State of Nevada, Washoe County Regional Communications System (WCRCS) and NV Energy to move forward as a cohesive communications system to obtain a replacement public safety Project 25 Phase II communications system of a common manufacturer to assure a fully compatible statewide system.

On December 13, 2016, the Board held a second reading adopted an amendment to WCC 5.456 authorizing the Chief Information Officer to negotiate and execute agreements with other public and private entities as are required to assure the continued present and future operation of Washoe County's emergency radio system(s) and to present such agreements to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners for final approval when required by law or policy; and describing that such agreements may include, without limitation, provisions for sharing the use, governance, operation, maintenance, and upgrade of any Washoe County radio system with other public or private entities, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

On May 9, 2017, the Board approved of and directed the Washoe County Manager to sign the Nevada Shared Radio System Contract by and between the State of Nevada acting through its Department of Transportation, NV Energy and Washoe County, Nevada, as recommended by the Joint Operating Committee (JOC) of the Washoe County Regional Communications System (WCRCS)

On September 25th, 2018, the Board approved the System Purchase Agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, Communications System Segment, in the amount of [\$26,537,510.68]; and authorized the Washoe County Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the agreement.

On May 26, 2020, the Board accepted and ratified the Washoe County Regional Communication System P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement which establishes an operational and management structure that provides the opportunity for signing agencies to participate in the ongoing governance, administration and management of the P25 Radio System; and a framework to allocate costs of the system to signing agencies proportionate to their use of the radio system.

The Board's actions reflect a strategic commitment to enhancing public safety communications infrastructure through collaborative governance and financial responsibility. These decisions align with the Washoe County Strategic Objective(s) of Fiscal Sustainability and fostering Safe, Secure, and Healthy Communities by partnering

with regional and statewide agencies to share the cost-burden of building and upgrading these important public safety systems; and ensuring robust communication systems for emergency services.

BACKGROUND

The Washoe County P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement, initially executed in June 2020, was established to provide a comprehensive framework for the financing, development, operation, and management of the Washoe County Regional Communications P25 Radio System. This system is a critical component of the Washoe County Regional Communication System and the Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS), designed to enhance public safety communications across the region and state. The agreement involves multiple Partner Agencies, each responsible for a proportionate share of the system's costs based on their usage, as determined by the number of radios in operation.

The origins of the Washoe County Regional Communication System date back to October 1999, with subsequent amendments in 2002 and 2014 to address evolving needs and technological advancements. In September 2018, Washoe County entered into a Systems Purchase Agreement with Harris Corporation to construct the P25 System, marking a significant milestone in the system's development. However, since the execution of this agreement, construction costs have increased by [\$3,963,706], necessitating the First Addendum to the Interlocal Agreement.

The First Addendum, proposed for approval, addresses these increased construction costs by outlining a shared financial responsibility among the Partner and Sponsored Agencies. This addendum ensures that each agency contributes proportionately to the additional expenses, maintaining the financial integrity and operational effectiveness of the P25 System. The addendum also introduces flexible payment options, including annual pay-as-you-go, pre-payment, and periodic pay-as-you-go, to accommodate the varying financial capabilities of the agencies involved.

The P25 Radio System is integral to the Washoe County Strategic Objective of fostering Safe, Secure, and Healthy Communities. By ensuring robust and reliable communication systems for emergency services, the system enhances regional and community leadership in public safety communications. The strategic alignment with these objectives underscores the importance of the system in maintaining public safety and operational efficiency.

Legal and regulatory frameworks play a crucial role in the governance of the P25 System. The June 2020 Interlocal Agreement, under Section 13.1, mandates that each Partner Agency pays a proportionate share of the total purchase and construction costs. This legal structure ensures transparency and accountability in financial commitments, providing a clear basis for the cost-sharing arrangements outlined in the First Addendum.

The project aligns with the broader Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) Agreement, established in 2017, which set the framework for system governance and infrastructure ownership for the statewide system. This agreement, involving the State of Nevada Department of Transportation, NV Energy, and Washoe County, highlights the collaborative efforts to establish a shared statewide communications network for daily operations, interagency communication, and emergency services.

In summary, the First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement is a necessary step to address the increased construction costs and ensure the continued effectiveness of the Washoe County Regional Communication System. By maintaining a proportionate cost-sharing model and offering flexible payment options, the addendum supports the strategic objectives of public safety and community leadership, while adhering to established legal and regulatory frameworks.

FISCAL IMPACT

Of the [\$3,963,706] addressed by the P25 Interlocal Addendum, Washoe County's responsibility is [\$876,031.21] ([\$452,954.99] in Fiscal Year 2026 and [\$423,076.22] in Fiscal Year 2027). By agreeing to the terms of the Addendum, other agencies have agreed to pay their proportionate share of the remaining [\$3,087,674.79] in Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 (see table 1).

Washoe County will recommend the additional agency costs of [\$1,779,439.43] in Fiscal Year 2026 and [\$1,308,235.18] in Fiscal Year 2027. There is sufficient budget authority for Washoe County's portion of [\$876,031.21] in Fiscal Year 2025 Budget in the Capital Improvements Fund (402), NSRS Debt 2020 (PW920408).

Table 1

Agency	Radio IDs June 30, 2024	Percent Share June 30, 2024	Agency Contribution FY26	Agency Contribution FY27	Total Agency Contribution FY26-FY27
Reno Tahoe Airport Authority	281	4.94%	\$75,717.04	\$70,722.44	\$146,439.48
US Drug Enforcement Agency	24	0.42%	\$6,466.94	\$6,040.35	\$12,507.29
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	85	1.49%	\$22,903.73	\$21,392.91	\$44,296.64
City of Reno	1,344	23.63%	\$362,148.43	\$338,259.63	\$700,408.06
Reno Sparks Indian Colony	71	1.25%	\$19,131.35	\$17,869.37	\$37,000.72
City of Sparks	474	8.33%	\$127,721.99	\$119,296.92	\$247,018.91
Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue	342	6.01%	\$92,153.84	\$86,075.00	\$178,228.84
Nevada System of Higher Education, UNR, TMCC	78	1.37%	\$21,017.54	\$19,631.14	\$40,648.68
North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District	102	1.79%	\$27,484.48	\$25,671.49	\$53,155.97
US Department of Veteran's Affairs	22	0.39%	\$5,928.02	\$5,536.99	\$11,465.01
Truckee Meadows Water Authority	19	0.33%	\$5,119.66	\$4,781.94	\$9,901.60
Washoe County School District	1,122	19.73%	\$302,329.27	\$282,386.39	\$584,715.66
Air National Guard	42	0.74%	\$11,317.14	\$10,570.61	\$21,887.75
Washoe County	1,681	29.56%	\$452,954.99	\$423,076.22	\$876,031.21
WCRCs Infrastructure			\$700,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
Total	5,687		\$2,232,394.42	\$1,731,311.40	\$3,963,705.82

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve and ratify the First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement, June 2020. The addendum specifically addresses increased construction costs associated with the P25 Radio System, which have increased by [\$3,963,706] since the execution of the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement. The addendum specifies the shared financial responsibility among Partner Agencies ensuring that each entity contributes proportionately based on their usage of the system. Washoe County's share of the increased cost is [\$876,031.21] of which [\$452,954.99] would be utilized in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and [\$423,076.22] in Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to approve and ratify the First Addendum to the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement, June 2020. The addendum specifically addresses increased construction costs associated with the P25 Radio System, which have increased by [\$3,963,706] since the execution of the P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement. The addendum specifies the shared financial responsibility among Partner Agencies ensuring that each entity contributes proportionately based on their usage of the system. Washoe County's share of the increased cost is [\$876,031.21] of which [\$452,954.99] would be utilized in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and [\$423,076.22] in Fiscal Year 2026-2027.”