

**MEMORANDUM**

March 1, 2022

**TO:** Joint Public Safety Committee and Government Operations & Fiscal Policy Committee

**FROM:** Susan J. Farag, Legislative Analyst

**SUBJECT:** CIP: FY23-28 County Radio Life Cycle Replacement

**PURPOSE:** To review the CIP for County Radio Life Cycle Replacement and recommend approval.

Those expected to attend the worksession include:

Mike Knuppel, Manager, Technology & Enterprise Business Solutions (TEBS)  
Gerry Adcock, Manager, Radio Communication Services Project Manager, TEBS  
Alison Dollar, Chief Budget Officer, TEBS  
Julie Knight, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

**Overview**

This new \$41 million project will provide for the phased replacement of voice radio systems used primarily by the County's public safety first responder agencies including Police, Fire and Rescue, Sheriff, Correction and Rehabilitation, the Department of Transportation, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission that have reached the end of their expected 10-year service life. In FY23, radios and related chargers, as needed, will be requested for DOCR, FRS, Police, and Sheriff.

**Public Hearing Testimony**

To date, Council has not received any public hearing testimony.

## History

While this is a new project, several other projects have performed the same function. On subproject in the Public Safety System Modernization (PSSM) project<sup>1</sup> provided \$20 million for the replacement of about 5,200 public safety radios in 2011 to meet the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated 800 MHZ frequency rebanding requirements for nationwide public safety radio frequency interoperability. Last year, the Amended CIP included a new project for County Radio Replacement and Related Equipment<sup>2</sup> which completed the remaining County radio transition to 800 MHZ. That included 412 P25 radios in the Department of Transportation (DOT) as well 10 radios and splitters for bi-directional amplifiers within the Montgomery County Detention Center (MCDC) for the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (DOCR). This work was completed last year, and the project is pending closeout.

## Current Project Status

The new project will provide replacements of radios purchased in 2011, which have reached the end of their lifecycle. The radios purchased in 2011 have some obsolescence concerns like their batteries, which are FM and no longer made. The County uses UL to replace them, which may invalidate certification. TEBS will begin replacing Police, Sheriff, and Fire radios. Other agencies scheduled for the out-years include DOCR in 2027 and DOT and DGS in 2031.

It would be helpful for the Joint Committee to understand the procurement process for the new radios. Are these available under an existing contract or will the County issue a request for proposals? Due to the inherent safety and reliability needs public safety personnel have regarding radio communications, the Joint Committee should understand what radio features are required to provide those elements. Additionally, it would be helpful for the Committee to better understand whether and how new radios will be compatible with the \$2.7 million subproject in the PSSM that provides Astro Advanced Messaging and Responder Location solution.

## Council Staff Recommendation

Council staff recommends approval as submitted by the Executive. Council staff also recommends that the Joint Committee receive periodic updates on radio purchase and replacement.

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### **This staff report contains**

County Radio Life Cycle Replacement

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<sup>1</sup> [PSSM \(P340901\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [County Radio Replacement and Equipment \(P342102\)](#)



# County Radio Life Cycle Replacement (P342301)

Category	General Government	Date Last Modified	01/10/22
SubCategory	Technology Services	Administering Agency	Technology Services
Planning Area	Countywide	Status	Planning Stage

## EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Cost Elements	Total	Thru FY21	Est FY22	Total 6 Years	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	Beyond 6 Years
Other	45,036	-	-	41,292	9,830	10,845	12,347	2,728	4,830	712	3,744
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>45,036</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41,292</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>10,845</b>	<b>12,347</b>	<b>2,728</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>3,744</b>

## FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Funding Source	Total	Thru FY21	Est FY22	Total 6 Years	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	Beyond 6 Years
Short-Term Financing	45,036	-	-	41,292	9,830	10,845	12,347	2,728	4,830	712	3,744
<b>TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES</b>	<b>45,036</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41,292</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>10,845</b>	<b>12,347</b>	<b>2,728</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>3,744</b>

## APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (\$000s)

Appropriation FY 23 Request	9,830	Year First Appropriation	
Appropriation FY 24 Request	10,845	Last FY's Cost Estimate	-
Cumulative Appropriation	-		
Expenditure / Encumbrances	-		
Unencumbered Balance	-		

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This program will provide for the phased replacement of voice radio systems used primarily by the County's public safety first responder agencies including Police, Fire and Rescue, Sheriff, Correction and Rehabilitation, the Department of Transportation, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission that have reached the end of their expected 10-year service life. In FY23, radios and related chargers, as needed, will be requested for DOCR, FRS, Police, and Sheriff.

## FISCAL NOTE

**FY23:** Radio Communication Services - \$55,713 (7 APX 8500); DOCR - \$502,010 (85 APX 6000); Fire and Rescue - \$6,117,510 (570 APX 6000XE and 282 APX 7000XE); Police - \$2,302,408 (233 APX 6500 and 111 APX 7000); Sheriff - \$533,253 (67 APX 7500); and \$319,344 for 280 APX 6/8000 Gang (multi-unit) and 480 APX 6/8000 desk (single unit) chargers

**FY24:** Fire and Rescue Services - \$1,711,615 (215 APX 7000) and Police - \$9,133,500 (1500 APX 6500)

**FY25:** Fire and Rescue Services - \$3,213,030 (495 APX 6500 and 25 APX 7500) and Sheriff - \$9,133,500 (1500 APX 6500)

## COORDINATION

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Department of Technology & Enterprise Business Solutions, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Fire and Rescue Services, Police, Sheriff, Department of Transportation and MNCPPC.