



# AGENDA

## LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY ("AUTHORITY")

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, February 5, 2026, ■ 9:00 a.m.

LA-RICS Headquarters  
2525 Corporate Pl., Suite 200,  
Large Conference Room  
Monterey Park, CA 91754

**Microsoft Teams Meeting Link for the Public:** [Click here to join the meeting.](#)

**Call-in Number for the Public:**

Public may submit a Public Comment during the meeting to the Board by accessing the Microsoft Teams Meeting Link above or by the Call-In Telephone Number below.

**Telephone Number:** (323) 886-6924

**Conference ID:** 973 394 499#

**AGENDA POSTED: January 30, 2026**

Complete agendas are available on the Authority's website at <http://www.la-rics.org>.

MEMBERS		ALTERNATES	
1.	<b>Fesia Davenport</b> , CEO County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office	1.	<b>Leslie Luke</b> , Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
2.	<b>Anthony Marrone (Chair)</b> , Fire Chief County of Los Angeles Fire Department	2.	<b>Michael Inman</b> , Deputy Fire Chief County of Los Angeles Fire Department
3.	<b>Robert Luna (Vice-Chair)</b> , Sheriff County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department	3.	<b>Marshall Yelverton</b> , Captain County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
4.	<b>Richard Tadeo</b> , Director, EMS Agency County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services	4.	<b>Jacqueline Rifenburg</b> , Assistant Director, EMS Agency County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
5.	<b>Michael Alegria</b> , Fire Chief (Avalon) Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association	5.	<b>Michael Browne</b> , Acting Fire Chief (West Covina) Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
6.	<b>Scott Wiese</b> , Police Chief (Monterey Park) Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association	6.	<b>Gustavo Jimenez</b> , Police Captain (Monterey Park) Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association
7.	<b>Joshua Nelson</b> , City Manager (City of Industry) California Contract Cities Association	7.	<b>Marcel Rodarte</b> , Executive Director California Contract Cities Association
8.	<b>Ric Walczak</b> , Police Chief At-Large Seat #3 (City of Covina Police Department)	8.	<b>Antonio Zavala</b> , Lieutenant At-Large Seat #3 (City of Covina Police Department)
9.	<b>Mark Fronterotta</b> , Police Chief At-Large Seat #2 (City of Inglewood Police Department)	9.	<b>Cardell Hurt</b> , Captain At-Large Seat #2 (City of Inglewood Police Department)
10.	<b>Brandon Coatney</b> , Deputy Fire Chief At-Large Seat #4 (City of La Verne Fire Department)	10.	<b>Vacant</b> At-Large Seat #4

#### OFFICERS

**Scott Edson**, LA-RICS Executive Director

**Oscar Valdez**, County of Los Angeles, Auditor-Controller

**Elizabeth Buenrostro Ginsberg**, County of Los Angeles, Treasurer and Tax Collector



**NOTE: ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM IDENTIFIED ON THE AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (A)**

**A. January 8, 2026 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS –**

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE**

**VI. REPORTS (B – D)**

**B. Director's Report – Scott Edson**

**C. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chair's Report – Lt. Joe Dominguez**

**D. Finance Committee Chair's Report – NONE**

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (E – F)**

**E. Land Mobile Radio Network Operations Status and Issues – Ted Pao**

Agenda Item E

**F. Outreach Update – Lt. Joe Dominguez**

Agenda Item F

**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - NONE**

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**

**X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD**

**XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT –**

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)) Title: Executive Director



## **XII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., at the LA-RICS Headquarters, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Monterey Park, CA 91754.



## BOARD MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public may also address the Board on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The Board will entertain such comments during the Public Comment period. Public Comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual for each item addressed, unless there are more than ten (10) requests for each item, in which case the Public Comment will be limited to one (1) minute per individual. The aforementioned limitation may be waived by the Board's Chair.

*(NOTE: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3(b) the legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.)*

It is requested that individuals who require the services of a translator contact the Board Secretary no later than the day preceding the meeting. Whenever possible, a translator will be provided. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request as soon as possible. (323) 881-8291 or (323) 881-8295.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR LA OFICINA LO MAS PRONTO POSIBLE. (323) 881-8291 o (323) 881-8295.

The meeting is recorded, and the recording is kept for 30 days.



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

**Thursday, January 8, 2026 • 9:00 a.m.**

LA-RICS Headquarters  
2525 Corporate Pl., Suite 200,  
Large Conference Room  
Monterey Park, CA 91754

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Richard Tadeo**, Director, EMS Agency County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

**Joshua Nelson**, City Manager (City of Industry) California Contract Cities Association

## **ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Leslie Luke**, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office

**Nicholas Berkuta**, Assistant Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Area Fire Department

**Michael Marion**, Lieutenant, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

**Antonio Zavala**, Lieutenant, At-Large Seat #3 (City of Covina Police Department)

**Cardell Hurt**, Captain, At-Large Seat #2 (City of Inglewood Police Department)

## **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT**

**Michael Alegria**, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association

**Scott Wiese**, Police Chief (Monterey Park), Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

**Brandon Coatney**, Deputy Fire Chief, At-Large Seat #4, (City of La Verne Fire Department)

## **OFFICERS PRESENT**

**Scott Edson**, LA-RICS Executive Director

**Laura Vasquez**, LA-RICS Board Secretary



**NOTE: ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM IDENTIFIED ON THE AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Alternate Board Chair Nicholas Berkuta called the Regular meeting of the Board to order at 9:07 a.m.

**II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL**

LA-RICS Project Team Member Marissa Bosque took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present.

**III.**

**IV. OF MINUTES (A)**

**A. November 6, 2025 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked the Board if there were any questions to the attached Regular meeting minutes for November 6, 2025; hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

Alternate Board Member Cardell Hurt motioned first, seconded by Board Member Josh Nelson.

Ayes (7): Tadeo, Nelson, Luke, Berkuta, Marion, Zavala, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment.

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no consent items on the Regular Meeting Agenda.



## **VII. REPORTS (B - D)**

### **B. Director's Report – Scott Edson**

Executive Director Scott Edson greeted the Board and wished them a Happy New Year.

Executive Director Edson reported the atmospheric river storms in November and December capped off a tumultuous 2025 for the Los Angeles region. Executive Director Edson stated that exactly one year ago, the region experienced its most destructive wind-driven wildland fires which broke out in multiple areas of the County of Los Angeles (County), and the scale of structure destruction, evacuation orders, and demand for first responders was unmatched in recent memory, and was rivaled by the Los Angeles riots in 1992 and the Northridge Earthquake in 1994.

Executive Director Edson further stated that throughout 2025, additional wildland fires and emergency events occurred, and the year ended with historic rainstorms; these storms not only threatened burn scar areas with potential debris flows but also caused flash floods, landslides, and rockslides across many parts of the County. Executive Director Edson went on to say the heavy rains impacted the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System in various ways, and LA-RICS was still assessing the full extent of the storm damage, as some sites remained inaccessible. Executive Director Edson expressed that despite last year's challenges, the LA-RICS network did not experience any downtime, and all systems continued to perform flawlessly. Executive Director Edson said that he would update the Board in the future of any damage to the sites that were caused by the storms.

Regarding regional interoperability, Executive Director Edson said that in his November 2025 report to the Board, he noted that LA-RICS had made significant progress toward regional interoperability by implementing a Hub-and-Spoke System of Systems approach. Executive Director Edson stated that he also brought LMR Amendment No. 133 to the Board for approval to procure the necessary Inter RF Subsystem Interface (ISSI) licenses, which were implementation licenses for other agencies, and implementation services. Executive Director Edson expressed that he was pleased to report that LA-RICS staff, along with working with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI), have now completed the Hub-and-Spoke interoperability implementation for the region. Executive Director Edson further expressed that LA-RICS was the central hub for interconnecting with the City of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), Port of Los Angeles (POLA), City of Long Beach, San Bernardino County, and the California Governor's



Office of Emergency Services' (Cal OES) California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS). Executive Director Edson went on to say the interconnections were completed during the busy holiday season. Executive Director Edson said that while LA-RICS was already connected with Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI), LA-RICS could now leverage automatic ISSI roaming with ICI, and all the other ISSI-connected P25 systems in the region.

Executive Director Edson shared this work that was accomplished in the last few weeks of 2025, however, the road to achieving this interoperability connectivity was nearly ten (10) years in the making, which had certainly caused challenges, misunderstandings, unproven rumors, and conflicts for all agencies involved. Executive Director Edson further shared that instead of continuing to wait for other systems to procure the necessary licenses and services, LA-RICS took the initiative to contract with MSI for the completion of System-of-Systems interconnections. Executive Director Edson went on to say that with properly programmed radios and talk groups provisioned from each system, radios could communicate across systems entirely within the Los Angeles region.

Executive Director Edson expressed that LA-RICS crossed the major interoperability obstacle, and now the focus would be on talk group provisioning, radio programming, standard operating procedures for interoperability, and ongoing training. Executive Director Edson further expressed that without them, it would be impossible to fully communicate efficiently in a multi-agency responding event.

Executive Director Edson reported that in the last two (2) years, LA-RICS advocated for the Los Angeles Urban Area Securities Initiative (UASI) Approval Authority to fund staff members who could dedicate various interoperability tasks, including radio programming, for agencies in the region, however, this was unsuccessful. Executive Director Edson further reported the priorities have been the completion of systems and various upgrades to established systems. Executive Director Edson went on to say with the accomplishment of the physical connections, LA-RICS would like to think there may be a more sincere effort to complete the needed interoperability work, considering the major planned events coming to the Los Angeles region. Executive Director Edson expressed LA-RICS could use the Board's help in leveraging their associations and Chief's meetings to work with LA-RICS move forward and achieve full interoperability in the region.

Regarding Budget items, Executive Director Edson reported LA-RICS continued to fund the operations and maintenance of the LA-RICS network in accordance with the Revised Funding Plan that offsets the operations and maintenance costs with subscription revenue. Executive Director Edson further reported the LA-RICS





Budget Team is closely monitoring expenditures in accordance with the LA-RICS Adopted Budget and identifying areas that were realizing savings and those projected to exceed expenditures to mitigate any such variance well ahead of its occurrence.

Executive Director Edson stated that as the Board was aware, and as the annual audits have documented, LA-RICS always operated within their budget parameters and often realized savings thanks to the Budget Team's diligent contract and procurement negotiations, monitoring vendor performance, and validation and acceptance of work to quality and specifications. Executive Director Edson further stated that areas in which LA-RICS had realized savings were in filling vacancies that existed within the LA-RICS team, as the County hiring process was quite lengthy. Executive Director Edson went on to say that LA-RICS would continue to monitor all budgeted expenditures as had been done in the past and would address any variances with both the Finance Committee and the Board ahead of any occurrences.

Regarding Grants, Executive Director Edson shared that with the one-year anniversary of the Palisades and Eaton Fires, he was happy to report that the UASI 2023 Grant was successfully depleted and ahead of the grant closeout schedule. Executive Director Edson expressed his gratitude to Jacobs Project Management Team member Jesse Brenton, LA-RICS Technical Lead Ted Pao, and the MSI team for completing the interoperable communications interconnection work which included the various ISSI connections and configurations with the previously mentioned cities and Critical Connect interconnection with the State of California in addition to other work that would improve interoperable communications in the region; this was one of the key recommendations identified in the various after-action reports following last year's fire disaster. Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS was working closely with the City of Los Angeles (City), MSI, and the regional stakeholders to ensure interoperable communications maintained their place as a priority in the region. Executive Director Edson mentioned that before the region used grant funds for desirable options, the UASI Approval Authority should ensure that interoperable communications are fully in place for public safety in the community before the next large event.

Regarding Contracts, Executive Director Edson shared that as LA-RICS grows and learns through the operations and maintenance phase of the LMR Network, LA-RICS identified improvements they would like to incorporate into their data management via Genesis on the GenWatch System. Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item G requested the Executive Director to have delegated authority to enter into an amendment to the LA-RICS agreement with Genesis for



the Subscriber Access Manager (SAM), which was a comprehensive radio accountability solution that would provide LA-RICS with the tools to secure which radios could access the LMR System and prevent unauthorized duplicate radio IDs on the same system. Executive Director Edson said he would provide additional details regarding this Amendment under Agenda Item G.

Executive Director Edson reported that under Agenda Item H was LMR Amendment No. 134 to the MSI agreement; this amendment was for unforeseen grounding work needed at three (3) sites and the movement of the Digital Trunked Voice Radio System 700MHz equipment from mobile communication trailer, Station B, which was a large mobile communications vehicle to the LA-RICS Cell on Wheels, which was a smaller and easier to maneuver vehicle, for easier deployment to areas with coverage issues especially during emergencies. Executive Director Edson further reported he would provide additional detail regarding this Amendment under Agenda Item H.

In closing, Executive Director Edson expressed his gratitude to Board Member Chris Nigg for his participation on the Board as an At-Large member. Executive Director Edson stated that Board Member Nigg was appointed to Fire Chief in the City of Fountain Valley and that his questions and discussions, as with all the Board members over the years, would benefit public safety for years to come.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item B by Executive Director Edson. There was no further discussion.

**C. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chair's Report – NONE**

**D. Finance Committee Chair's Report – NONE**

## **VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (E – F)**

**E. Land Mobile Radio Network Operations Status and Issues – Ted Pao**

Technical Lead Ted Pao greeted the Board and said that, as reported by Executive Director Edson, the series of atmospheric river storms brought many concerns to the LMR operational staff members throughout the last two months of the year, and the heavy rain events resulted in road erosion issues, power outages, and other infrastructure operational challenges as described in the following:

### **Backhaul:**



Technical Lead Pao reported there were microwave performance related issues, most likely due to high winds and perhaps a combination of high winds and ice accumulation that reduced the signal level; however, it did not cause any service outages.

**RF System:**

Technical Lead Pao stated three (3) sites had coaxial lines that appeared to have moisture or water penetration, causing reflected power, reducing the output power at the antenna; however, it did not cause severe reflected power where the transmitter needed to be shut down. Technical Lead Pao mentioned there was no service impact outages that were reported on the RF system.

**Utility Power:**

Technical Lead Pao reported that with almost seven hundred (700) hours of generator runtime in the last two (2) months of the year to mitigate scheduled and unscheduled outages, systemwide, almost eight thousand six hundred (8,600) hours of generator runtime were accumulated in 2025. Technical Lead Pao further reported these hours did not include the scheduled exercise runtime and the two (2) LMR sites that were currently powered by the rental generators. Technical Lead Pao expressed that he hoped 2026 would be a much calmer year for power outages. Technical Lead Pao said that utility power outages remained to be the most consistently failed component of the LMR system.

**Site and Road Erosion:**

Technical Lead Pao shared that with many mountain-top sites that were accessible only by fire roads and dirt trails, it was not unusual to find small landslides, rockslides, or road erosions that could block access to LA-RICS' LMR sites, and with the sustained long rain events, the dirt roads were also too muddy to travel on and may have potentially caused additional unintended damage to the road. Technical Lead Pao further shared that once the roads were dry, LA-RICS would start to assess site access issues.

**Interoperability:**

Technical Lead Pao said that as reported by Executive Director Edson, the LA-RICS' end of the year push for Inter RF Subsystem Interface (ISSI) connectivity with other P25 radio systems in the region was extremely productive. Technical



Lead Pao stated the region had been discussing the Hub-and-Spoke System of Systems interoperability since 2016, and a point was finally reached where the systems were connected through ISSI. Technical Lead Pao further stated LA-RICS' connection to Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) almost two (2) years ago was a good test case for ISSI interoperability. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that LA-RICS established ISSI connections with the City of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), Port of Los Angeles (POLA), City of Long Beach, San Bernardino County, and to the California Interoperable Radio System (CRIS) with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

Technical Lead Pao expressed that LA-RICS wished to push all first responder agencies in the Los Angeles region to establish various protocols and standard operating procedures when a multi-agency mutual aid response was needed. Technical Lead Pao further expressed the radios, consoles, and cores would also need to be programmed and configured to meet the operational needs. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that time was running short for the 2026 World Cup, but the 2028 Olympics would be the true test for interoperability operations.

Technical Lead Pao shared a slide (Agenda Item A – Enclosure 1) which showed the Hub-and-Spoke ISSI configuration. Technical Lead Pao stated this configuration ensured that all radio systems in the Los Angeles and Long Beach region that were funded by the Urban Area Securities Initiative (UASI) were connected to the LA-RICS system as the hub. Technical Lead Pao further stated that LA-RICS also had ISSI connections to San Bernardino County and CRIS, which was the Cal OES statewide interoperable radio system. Technical Lead Pao went on to say CRIS was waiting for a patch to fix the ISSI issue at its core.

Technical Lead Pao reported that two (2) other ISSI-related connections were also completed in December, which were Critical Connect and ES Chat. Technical Lead Pao said that Critical Connect was the cloud-based ISSI solution hosted by MSI to accomplish similar functionality of a physical ISSI connection. Technical Lead Pao stated Critical Connect would allow roaming of any agencies, approved and provisioned, to roam onto another system without a one-to-one ISSI connection. Technical Lead Pao further stated LA-RICS would be conducting a Critical Connect test with Ventura County and CRIS. Technical Lead Pao shared the second ISSI-related connection was the broadband Push-to-Talk (PTT) application, ES Chat, which could bridge smartphone devices to LMR talk groups. Technical Lead Pao further shared that in the coming months, LA-RICS would be rolling out ES Chat licenses for agencies that were interested in a twelve (12) month trial period.



Technical Lead Pao shared a slide regarding Subscriber Radio Location Services (Agenda Item A – Enclosure 2). Technical Lead Pao reported this allowed radios to send its location data to the core, and then the locations of the radios could be displayed. Technical Lead Pao further reported the radios needed to be configured to support location data.

Technical Lead Pao shared another slide (Agenda Item A – Enclosure 3) which showed a map that was generated using the Genesis mapping application to view a radio location breadcrumb.

Technical Lead Pao shared the final slide (Agenda Item A – Enclosure 4) which provided another example of the breadcrumb but with a different radio. In this slide, Technical Lead Pao stated the cadence of location data could overload a cell; as a result, LA-RICS would need to look at traffic loading analysis to determine what that cadence may be, or it may be a polled location data from dispatch or the CAD. Technical Lead Pao stated that in the coming months, LA-RICS would also engage with agencies on utilization of the location service as part of a feature they could offer to the subscribers.

Alternate Chair Berkuta mentioned that a few years ago, some site access roads to LA-RICS sites were affected by rainstorms, and these roads crossed multiple jurisdictions. Alternate Chair Berkuta further mentioned there were issues regarding who would resurface or repair the roads to enable site access. Alternate Chair Berkuta asked Technical Lead Pao if there were any outstanding issues related to site access. Technical Lead Pao stated that, unfortunately, this remained a challenging issue for LA-RICS.

Executive Director Edson stated some LA-RICS LMR sites were in the Angeles National Forest, and the United States Forest Service did not have the budget to provide services to all sites. Executive Director Edson further stated that both the City Fire Department and LACoFD had been assisting in clearing site access roads on a gratis basis when possible. Executive Director Edson went on to say LA-RICS was in the process of assessing road conditions.

Alternate Chair Berkuta asked Executive Director Edson what the path forward was from his point on view regarding this challenging issue. Executive Director Edson said LA-RICS would need to budget for certain sites; LA-RICS had success with the County sites and with sites that LA-RICS shares with the County Internal Services Department, and it was a matter of LA-RICS doing their best to pay now versus paying when it becomes a bigger problem.



Regarding Technical Lead Pao's presentation, Executive Director Edson stated LA-RICS planned on making ES Chat available to every Board member's organization free of charge for a year to try. Executive Director Edson further stated that with ES Chat, a user could input different frequencies in for any radio system being used, and the user would have the opportunity to use a cell phone and an ES Chat application to replace a portable or mobile radio; ES Chat would be available for the same rate as the subscription. Executive Director Edson went on to say that if a user wanted to enhance the portable or mobile radio systems, one for one, if another user had a portable radio, the user could add on ES Chat for a lesser cost, to enable the user to have access to the system when they were away from a portable radio.

Executive Director Edson expressed that a disadvantage of ES Chat was that it only worked off a cell or Wi-Fi service, and this was something the Board members should consider when evaluating their budgets and how they would want to move forward. Executive Director Edson shared that LA-RICS would be contacting each Board Member and their respective agencies independently to provide them with an opportunity to use the application for free for a year or to use it as add on.

Alternate Chair Berkuta mentioned that ES Chat could be used in any location that had cell service to which Executive Director Edson confirmed as so. Technical Lead Pao added this may also be an attractive option for executives.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item E. There was no further discussion.

**F. Outreach Update – Lieutenant Joseph F. Dominguez**

Operations Lead Lieutenant Joseph F. Dominguez greeted Board members and referenced the detailed Outreach Summary document for the months of November and December 2025 included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that during the months of November and December, the Authority staff continued comprehensive Subscriber and Affiliate outreach efforts while simultaneously supporting several operational initiatives. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that Authority staff remained actively engaged in site security upgrade projects and provided escort services to multiple facilities requiring inspections and maintenance. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that outreach with the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department's (LASD) contract cities continued and included several meetings with the City of Compton and other municipal partners to discuss LA-RICS' ability to





provide secure communications and connection services. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that discussions also continued regarding enhanced coordination with LASD and custody operations.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that Authority staff continued to coordinate with members of the ICI system regarding affiliate radio ID management and programming of the regional ISSI interoperability talk groups, and these efforts continued to progress in a very positive and collaborative manner.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that Authority staff attended the ICI Technical and Operations Committees Meeting, which was held on December 11, 2025, in the City of Glendale, which included a presentation by MSI in which issues were discussed regarding system support and information updates.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that significant progress was achieved in regional interoperability efforts. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that Authority staff met with several federal agencies to further coordinate programming standards and interoperability processes, and, additionally, LA-RICS collaborated with Cal OES to support the programming and encryption of mobile radios for the California Highway Patrol; this was to help enhance their statewide interoperability capabilities. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated the Authority staff followed up with Cal OES a few days ago and were told those radios were deployed to the field.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that an Affiliate User Agreement for had been executed between LA-RICS and the Union Pacific Railroad Police Department. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared that Authority staff was coordinating on what would be required to access regional interoperability talk groups. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared that outreach with the Beverly Hills Unified School District Public Safety Department had been very successful, and they were active LA-RICS subscribers.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that Authority staff also continued to work with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department to finalize certain requirements to establish system connection through the affiliate program with them. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that engagement with the LAPD continued to move in a very positive direction as Authority staff had been able to provide technical guidance, documentation, and system tools to assist the LAPD in aligning radio programming, infrastructure, and equipment with regional interoperability goals.



Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that Authority staff continued to participate in the regional interoperable working group meetings during which member agencies reported on programming status and system integration processes; overall progress remained positive and continued to move steadily towards enhanced regional interoperability. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that Authority staff was actively involved in the World Cup Emergency Communications Planning Meetings, and current discussions were with the completion of the incident radio communications plans and who would be responsible for those plans; those plans would be incorporated into the overall incident action plan for the World Cup Games.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that Authority staff maintained consistent coordination with federal and state partners to ensure interoperable communications during major planned events and emergency operations. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that LA-RICS welcomed Lt. Paul Villalobos from PV Communications who would be joining the Authority staff later this month and would be beneficial to LA-RICS especially on the programming side of the system. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez expressed his gratitude to Sergeant Alvaro Sierra for his tireless efforts in installing new monitors in the Large Conference Room in the LA-RICS Headquarters.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said he felt very fortunate to be a part of the LA-RICS team, and he looked forward to working with the LA-RICS Board.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item F. There was no further discussion.

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (G – H)**

### **G. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 025 WITH GENCORE CANDEO, LTD. Dba THE GENESIS GROUP**

Executive Director Edson shared that Agenda Item G was requesting the Board's approval for the Executive Director to have authorization to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement between the Authority and The Genesis Group to allow The Genesis Group to integrate a Genesis Subscriber Access Manager (SAM) to monitor the LMR system for suspicious activity, particularly unauthorized duplicate radio IDs and increase the Total Contract Sum by twelve thousand six hundred and eighteen dollars (\$12,618), which would be funded by the UASI grants.

Executive Director Edson reported the Genesis SAM was a comprehensive radio accountability solution which would identify unauthorized radios and validate them





against predefined rules or behaviors in the SAM interface. Executive Director Edson further reported that unauthorized radios would be added to a suspect list, monitored closely, and alert the Authority for further investigation.

Alternate Chair Berkuta asked Executive Director Edson if the funds for Genesis SAM would come out of LA-RICS' operations and maintenance budget once the UASI grant funds were depleted. Executive Director Edson confirmed this.

Alternate Board Member Hurt asked Technical Lead Pao if any suspicious activity was identified. Technical Lead Pao mentioned there was potential suspicious activity involving clone or duplicate Inglewood Police radio IDs.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Hurt motioned first, seconded by Board Member Nelson.

Ayes (7): Tadeo, Nelson, Luke, Berkuta, Marion, Zavala, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

#### **H. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 134 AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007**

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item H requested the Board's approval to execute Amendment No. 134 with MSI to incorporate a Change Order and increase the Maximum Contract Sum in the amount of thirty-seven thousand and ninety-one dollars (\$37,091). Executive Director Edson further reported that if approved by the Board, this would be funded by the UASI grants in accordance with the LA-RICS Adopted Operating Budget.

Executive Director Edson stated this Change Order was needed for certain unanticipated work and / or services not included in the base maintenance plan, but necessary to ensure the sites remained operable. Executive Director Edson further stated the Change Order for the Board's consideration was to allow MSI, via Airwave, to perform work necessary to provide and install mitigating grounding upgrades at three (3) County of Los Angeles Sheriff Department's custody sites (MCJ, NCCF, and the PDC Ranch Water Tank). Executive Director Edson went on to say that, additionally, this Change Order included removing and reinstalling the Digital Trunked Voice Radio System (DTVRS) 700MHz equipment from Station B to the LA-RICS Cell on Wheels (COW). Executive Director Edson said that considering these changes to the LMR Agreement, he was requesting the Board to



delegate Authority to the Executive Director to executive LMR Amendment No. 134 and issue one or more Notices to Proceed for this work.

Executive Director Edson asked if there were any questions to which there were none. There was no further discussion.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Luke motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Marion.

Ayes (7): Tadeo, Nelson, Luke, Berkuta, Marion, Zavala, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**

There were no Miscellaneous Items for the Regular Meeting.

**X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD**

There were no Future Discussion and/or Action Items for the Regular Meeting.

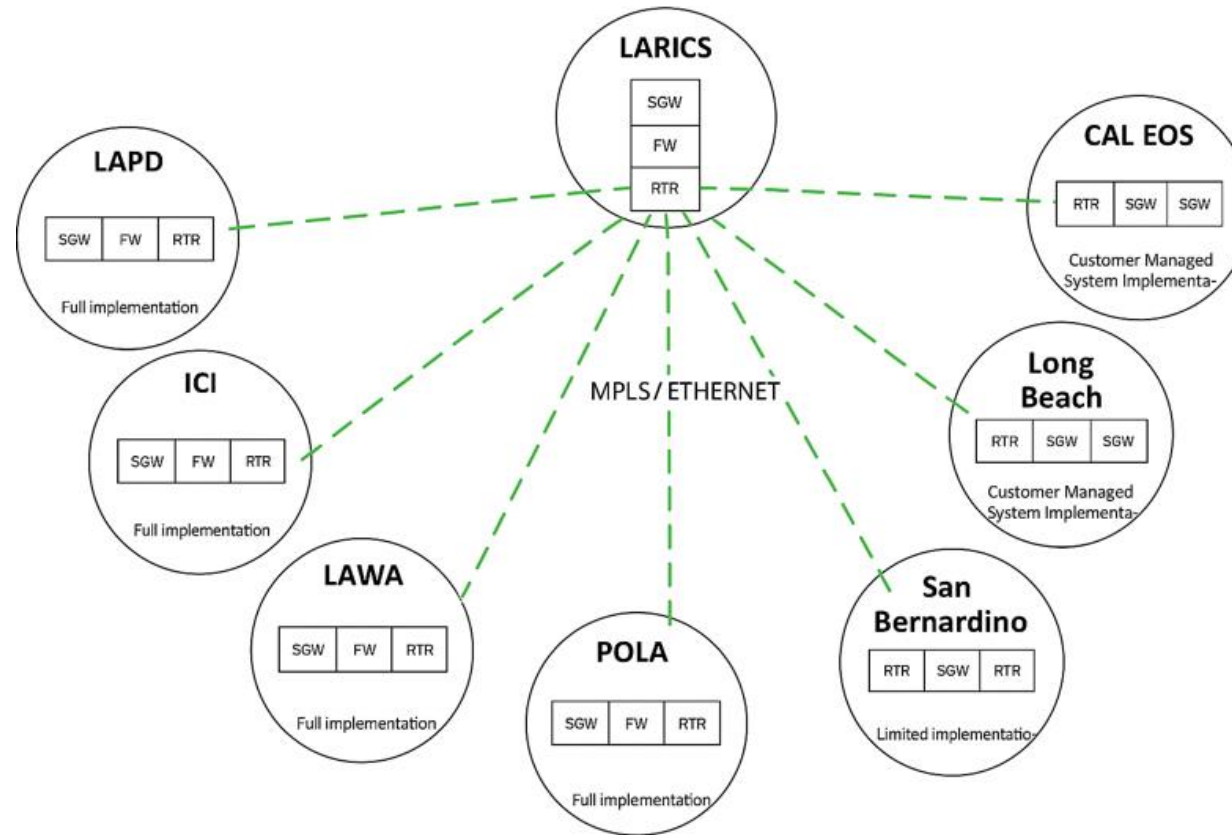
**XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:38 a.m. and stated the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the LA-RICS Headquarters.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Board Member Nelson made a motion.

# System-of-Systems Hub and Spoke



# Subscriber Radio Location Service






**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE  
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200  
Monterey Park, California 91754  
Telephone: (323) 881-8291  
<http://www.la-rics.org>

SCOTT EDSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 5, 2026

To: LA-RICS Authority Board of Directors

From: Scott Edson   
Executive Director

**LMR NETWORK OPERATION STATUS AND ISSUES**

The purpose of this discussion item is to update your Board on the LMR Network operation status and issues that may be impacting LA-RICS and/or end users.

TP:mb





## LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

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Monterey Park, California 91754  
Telephone: (323) 881-8291  
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SCOTT EDSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 5, 2026

To: LA-RICS Authority Board of Directors

From: Scott Edson   
Executive Director

### OUTREACH UPDATE

The purpose of this discussion item is to update your Board on the status of outreach activities pertaining to the LA-RICS Land Mobile Radio (LMR) project. The meetings below occurred since our last report to you:

MUNICIPALITY	MEETING DATE
ESChat Roll-Out Meeting	January 8, 2026
LA World Cup Sub-Committee Meeting	January 13, 2026
Outreach with California State Parks	January 13, 2026
LA-RICS Joint Operations-Technical Committee	January 20, 2026
McChrystal Group Interviews (After Action Eaton and Palisades Fires)	January 22, 2026
UCLA Radio System Migration Meeting	January 22, 2026
Interagency Communications / Interoperability Olympic Sub-Committee	January 27, 2026
Outreach with United States Secret Service	January 28, 2026
Introduction Meeting LA28 (SWIC, USSS, OCI, LASD, LAPD, CISA)	January 28, 2026
Outreach with City of Maywood	January 28, 2026

The Executive Director participated in regional and statewide association meetings centered on public safety communications, emerging technologies, and interoperability efforts. These meetings enhanced collaboration with partner agencies, strengthened interagency relationships, and reaffirmed LA-RICS' leadership position in advancing regional public safety communications. Through active engagement in these forums, the Executive Director also remained informed on evolving industry trends and best practices that support the agency's mission.

During the month of January 2026, Authority staff continued comprehensive outreach efforts with both Subscriber and Affiliate agencies while simultaneously supporting multiple operational initiatives. Staff remained actively engaged in providing on-site escorts for facilities requiring inspections and maintenance, ensuring continued system integrity and operational compliance.

Outreach activities have proven effective in strengthening partnerships and expanding engagement among public safety stakeholders. Agencies supported during this period included the City of Compton Public Safety (Subscription), Beverly Hills Unified School District (Subscription), United States Air Force (Affiliate), City of Maywood Public Safety (Subscription), Los Angeles County Probation Department (Subscription), and Los Angeles School Police (Affiliate).

Authority staff has initiated the rollout of ESChat to users operating on the LA-RICS system. ESChat is a secure, enterprise-grade push-to-talk communication application that enables the use of mobile devices for radio communications over cellular and Wi-Fi networks. The implementation of ESChat is intended to strengthen real-time communications, enhance interagency coordination, and improve overall operational effectiveness. This platform serves as a scalable and reliable supplement to traditional radio systems, supporting improved connectivity across geographically dispersed operations.

The following Subscriber agencies have been programmed, granted access, and have begun utilizing the ESChat application: Lancaster Police Department, Rio Hondo College Police Department, Cerritos College Police Department, City of Norwalk, City of Duarte, Palos Verdes Estates Police Department, City of Avalon, California State University, Los Angeles Police Department, Beverly Hills Unified School District, and Claremont Police Department.

Authority staff met with representatives of the UCLA Police Department to address access and security concerns related to the UCLA Factor Building site. As a result of this meeting, security enhancements were implemented, and plans are underway to install additional signage as a proactive and preventative measure. Further discussions included the potential installation of electronic door locking systems with card-reader access to enhance controlled entry and improve overall site security. Authority staff will continue to collaborate with UCLA Police Department to evaluate these improvements and identify additional measures to ensure the safety and integrity of the facility.

Authority staff conducted a comprehensive site visit to Pine Mountain (PMT) to assess challenges related to road access for maintenance and security operations. Recent heavy



rains have rendered access difficult due to washouts and debris flow. Authority staff will evaluate options for clearing the debris and explore alternative methods of reaching the site to ensure continued operational support. These efforts will focus on restoring reliable access to the site to facilitate ongoing maintenance and security operations.

Authority staff has actively participated in multiple meetings and maintained ongoing coordination with the Los Angeles Police Department to establish reliable communications between LAPD and LA-RICS agencies. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2026, to explore alternative methods for connectivity, as the LAPD communications system has experienced operational challenges. These efforts underscore the commitment to ensuring seamless interagency communication and enhancing regional public safety coordination.

Authority staff remains directly engaged in World Cup emergency communications planning and 2028 Olympics coordination. We have met with State and Federal partners to ensure interoperability and strengthen regional public safety communications, supporting seamless operations and overall event security.

JD;mb