



FINANCE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, August 20, 2020 • 1:30 p.m.
Teams Teleconference Regular Meeting

Finance Committee Members Present:

John Geiger , County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Bill Song , County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept.
Mark Alexander , California Contract Cities Association
Kay Fruhwirth , County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Marie DiBernardo , City of Inglewood Police Department

Alternates for Finance Committee Members Present:

Helen Jo , County of Los Angeles LACoFD
Ric Walczak , City of Covina Police Department

Officers Present:

Scott Edson , Executive Director
Susy Orellana-Curtiss , LA-RICS Administrative Deputy
Beatriz Cojulun , Committee Secretary

Absent:

Leticia Rivera , County of Los Angeles LACoFD
John Curley , City of Covina Police Department



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Geiger called the Regular Meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Committee Secretary, Beatriz Cojulun made the following announcements:

- California Contract Cities Association – Board Member Mark Alexander, in the interim, will replace Committee Member Rebekka Hosken.
- Health Services –Kay Fruhwirth will continue to represent the Department.

Committee Secretary, Beatriz Cojulun performed a roll call and acknowledged the presence of a quorum.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. May 21, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Geiger read in the minutes for May 21, 2020. With the absence of any objections, Chair Geiger called for a motion to approve.

Committee Member Kay Fruhwirth motioned first, seconded by Alternate Committee Member Lt. Sven Crongeyer.

Ayes 6: Geiger, Crongeyer, Fruhwirth, DiBernardo, Jo, and Walczak.

Abstentions 1: Committee Member Mark Alexander abstained since he was not present at the May 21, 2020 meeting.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (None)

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – (None)

VI. REPORTS (None)



VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS – (B – C)

B. URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) GRANT STATUS REPORT

Administrative Deputy Susy Orellana-Curtiss provided the Committee with an update on the open UASI Grants and the LA-RICS Authority corresponding spend plans as approved by the Federal Grantor and the Grant Administrator.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss reminded the Committee that in May 2016, the Los Angeles and Long Beach regions, both committed in writing to fund the completion of the LA-RICS Authority's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System deployment along with the City of Los Angeles Communication System. In that commitment to the Federal Grantor, the region pledged to award to the LA-RICS Authority Program a total of \$105 million, which was broken out into three (3) consecutive grant awards:

- UASI '17 grant which was originally \$35 million, was adjusted to \$34.7 million due to the budget award;
- UASI '18 grant was \$35 million; and
- UASI '19 grant was \$35 million.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss referred Committee Members to the table attached to Agenda Item B, which included two (2) open UASI Grants in '18 and '19. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtis asked the Committee to review the performance period column and both notes for May 2021 and May 2022, respectively, for the performance period end-date. As a result of the LA-RICS Authority operating as a sub-recipient to the Mayor's Office, who serves as the local Grant Administrator for the grants, the performance period for the LA-RICS Program to complete activities is March 1, 2021, for the UASI '18 Grant and March 1, 2022 for the UASI '19 Grant. This allows the local Grant Administrator, the City Mayor's Office, to complete their closeout activities within the performance period allotted to the region.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated that spending plans are very intricate and carefully developed, which then are submitted for State and Federal Grantor approval. The spending plan has many lines which correspond to deliverables derived from Exhibit C (Schedule of Payments) of the LMR contract. Exhibit C (Schedule of Payments) has deliverables the LA-RICS Authority receives, accepts, and then remits its payment. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss explained that anytime there is a change in a line item, a cost, duration, anything that impacts the spending plan or the ability to spend those exact dollars by that exact date, the LA-RICS Authority is required to submit a modification request in writing to the local, State, and Federal Grantor, explaining the reason for the change and justifying the expense. She went on to inform the Committee that prior to the LA-RICS Authority incurring any cost



relating to those changes, the State and the Federal government needs to provide written approval.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss further explained that when modifications are made they need to be accommodated from within those existing awarded allocations. She provided the Committee with the following example, if the LA-RICS Authority were to build a site and new site costs resulted from a site owners request (e.g. to disguise a monopole), adding unforeseen costs, the LA-RICS Authority is required to identify within the existing awarded funds, how to pay for that change, and provide justification why the modifications are necessary to achieve the purpose of the grant. As a result, when any changes are necessitated, whether from unforeseen design modifications to changing construction conditions, from cost increases to cost savings, the LA-RICS Authority must identify how it will accommodate those new charges within the awarded funds.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated the team and Executive Director has been providing regular updates to the Board over the course of the last few months including updates regarding items that may potentially impact the spending plan and LA-RICS Authority's ability to meet the LMR System Completion in accordance with the schedule timeline.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to introduce the Technical Lead Ted Pao, as well as Program Director Chris Odenthal. They proceeded to provide the Committee with some detailed updates based on the information contained in the attachment to Agenda Item B, which specifically detailed items that may impact the schedule duration as well as items that may impact the cost currently captured in the spending plan for the delivery of the final LMR System.

Program Director Odenthal greeted the committee and provided an overview of the construction status of LMR System Sites as follows:

- 25 sites are completed;
- 18 sites are under construction; leaving 15 sites remaining for construction.

Program Director Odenthal went on to explain how the Project Management team has been focused on ensuring LA-RICS Authority sites that currently fall under the California Coastal Commission jurisdiction appropriately go through their coastal zoning processes.

Of the sites, Mr. Odenthal updated the following:



- There are two (2) coastal sites that were found to be exempt. The Topanga (TOP) site is under construction today and the Castro Peak (CPK) is finalizing their final power examination and will begin its construction very soon.
- With respect to other sites, LACF072, Saddle Peak (SPN), and the three (3) sites on Catalina Island, (Black Jack Mountain [BJM], Dakin Peak [DPK], and Tower Peak [TWR]), have all passed their initial Coastal Commission Board Hearing. The Significant Ecological Areas Technical Advisory Committee (SETAC), which are the Catalina sites and the Environmental Review Board for Santa Monica locations, have approved of them going forward. Program Director Odenthal informed the Committee the LA-RICS Authority is currently waiting for the final hearing from the California Coastal Commission and expects their decision to be finalized sometime between October through the beginning of November, respectively. Construction is expected to begin on those sites immediately upon approval.
- From an LMR construction perspective, Program Director Odenthal explained the big effort at present is to ensure the LA-RICS Authority gets the thirteen (13) Forest sites built, most of which are currently under construction. He informed the Committee there are only two (2) sites that are not under construction at this time, which are Burnt Peak (BUR) and East Sunset Ridge (ESR).
- Program Director Odenthal reported that Pine Mountain (PMT), one of LA-RICS Authority solar sites, received final permitting approval from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (DPW) this week and will begin construction next week.
- Lastly, Program Director Odenthal informed the Committee the LA-RICS Authority has encountered issues due to the Lake Fire. He went on to further report that one of the sites, Burnt Peak (BUR), is completely within the confines of the fire, and construction has not started at that particular site yet, but there is no damage to report. Other sites in the area that are under construction have also been threatened by the Lake Fire are Portal Ridge (PMT) and Grass Mountain (GMT).

Program Director Odenthal reported to the Committee the LA-RICS Authority has been working with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (Motorola) diligently for the past three (3) months examining the schedule; explaining that Motorola's current submission, which has not been approved by the LA-RICS Authority, reflects Final System Acceptance in mid to late 2022. The LA-RICS Authority is working through the thousands of line items in the schedule to bring that activity into the Spring of 2022.



Program Director Odenthal went on to report some issues with frequency availability, which he noted Technical Lead Ted Pao will be expanding on during the technical aspect in his report.

Program Director Odenthal concluded his report by informing the Committee the report they were provided is similar to the overview the Board of Directors has been receiving and provides a general status where the LA-RICS Authority stands on both the construction and planning side, as well as the technical side of the LMR Project.

Technical Lead Ted Pao stated that as reported at the August 6, 2020, Board meeting, the LA-RICS Authority has been having some frequency issues due to interference from a television station in Tijuana, and as a result, the LA-RICS Authority had to do a frequency shift on certain LA-RICS Authority equipment in which has been performed effective 2019. Technical Lead Pao went on to further report the shuffling of frequencies due to the TV interference causes transition of agencies onto the LA-RICS Authority to occur in a sequential order. During this time, Motorola continued with other sub-system optimization and testing.

Technical Lead Pao reported to the Committee the LA-RICS Authority also has to narrowband its equipment in order for Motorola to accomplish the requisite LA-RICS system optimization and coverage tests.

Technical Lead Pao concluded his report by informing the Committee that frequency interference and narrowbanding is being addressed by the LA-RICS Authority.

There were no questions asked at the conclusion of the reports.

C. BTOP GRANT CLOSEOUT UPDATE

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss provided the Committee with an update on the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) grant and went on to report that since the Committee last met, the Program received an award with two (2) Specific Award Conditions as follows:

- 1) The Grantor allowed the LA-RICS Authority to complete construction at sites 1-20 out of the 26 sites through July 7, 2020. The Grantor gave the LA-RICS Authority a seven (7) day extension allowing completion of construction activity at these sites.
- 2) In late June 2020, the Grantor provided the LA-RICS Authority with another award condition, which allowed for the completion of equipment orders under the grant for Sites 21-26, as well as complete entitlement work, which included zoning, permitting, and final design work at Sites 21-26 by July 31, 2020.



Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss happily reported that Saturday, August 15, 2020, the Grants Team submitted its final BTOP Grant Closing documentation, which included final invoices for payment of the work completed in accordance with the specific award conditions and grant requirements. The Grantor is currently reviewing the grant documentation and invoiced items. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to further report the Grantor has a Grant Performance end-date of September 30, 2020. Therefore, during this review period, Authority staff responds to any questions the Grantor may present, and the Grantor would approve drawdowns and invoices made that need to be completed by September 30, 2020, which is when the Federal performance period ends.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated the LA-RICS Authority would be providing the Committee with updates as they are received. Although she informed the Committee the LA-RICS Authority doesn't anticipate any issues with the invoices submitted to-date.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss transitioned topics to cover construction for Sites 21-26, which would finish off the Program as originally planned. Since the last Finance Committee meeting, the LA-RICS Authority amended the Business Agreement with AT&T in conjunction with the Federal Grantors' approval, to complete the construction of Sites 21-26. This amendment provided, among other things, additional funding of approximately \$2.3 million dollars, which was to allow the LA-RICS Authority to construct the final six (6) sites.

Program Director Odenthal provided the Committee with specific details related to the construction of Sites 21-26:

- Magic Mountain (MML2) is a collocation site on an existing LMR tower location that is currently under construction and moving toward completion. The tower is up and Long Term Evolution Round 2 (LTE2) is well on its way.
- Montebello Police Department (MNTBLPD) currently in discussion with the City of Montebello in an effort to identify a tower location, due to the discovery of unknown utility issues.
- Port of Los Angeles (POLA) has two (2) sites POLA1 and POLA2, which are cellblock designs that have been delivered and construction is going forward. The poles are expected to be in next week; therefore, the towers will be up at both of those locations.



- Port of Long Beach (POLB1), the final Zoning Planning Commission meeting is tonight, which is the final approval process needed. The LA-RICS Authority has gone through all of the harbor development side as well as Long Beach City side. The LA-RICS Authority is collocating with an existing tower at that location as well.
- Pomona Courthouse (POM2), it is an existing LMR location and a rooftop installation. The crane technician will start next week, and as for construction to begin, the LA-RICS Authority is pending final electrical approval from the Judicial Council of California (JCC).

There were no questions asked at the conclusion of the report.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – (None)

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS – (None)

IX. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – (None)

The Committee did not enter into Closed Session.

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT and NEXT MEETING:

Chair Geiger moved for a motion to adjourn.

Committee Member Fruhwirth motioned first, seconded by Committee Member DiBernardo.

Ayes 6: Geiger, Crongeyer, Fruhwirth, DiBernardo, Jo, and Walczak.

The Finance Committee meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., via Teleconference Meeting.