



JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Tuesday, August 20, 2024, • 1:30 p.m.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Todd Denerson, (Vice Chair), County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Adam Martinez, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Joshua Nelson, California Contract Cities Association
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #2
OPERATIONS ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Bennett Cummings, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Robert J. Weber, (Chair), County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Michael Browne, Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association
Paul Villalobos, Monterey Park Police Department
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #3
Brandon Coatney, At-Large Seat #4
OPERATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lipin Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Ted Pao, (Chair), County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Joshua Nelson, California Contract Cities Association
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #2
TECHNICAL ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Bennett Cummings, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Robert J. Weber, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Adam Martinez, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Michael Browne, Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #3
Brandon Coatney, At-Large Seat #4
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
Scott England, (Vice Chair), County of Los Angeles Fire Department
OFFICERS PRESENT:
Scott Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director
Marissa Bosque, LA-RICS Project Team Member for Committee Secretary, Beatriz Cojulun



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Operations Committee Alternate Chair Lieutenant Robert Weber called both the Joint Operations and Technical Committees meetings to order at 1:33 p.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

Marissa Bosque took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present for both Joint Operations and Technical Committees.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber welcomed the Joint Operations and Technical Committees Members and proceeded with Approval of the Minutes.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (A)

A. June 18, 2024 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked the Joint Committees for approval of the minutes. Joint Committee Member Joshua Nelson motioned first, seconded by Joint Committee Alternate Member Ric Walczak.

Operations Committee:

Ayes (10): Cummings, Denerson, Weber, Martinez, Browne, Villalobos, Nelson, Walczak, LaGreek, Coatney

Technical Committee:

Ayes (9): Cummings, Weber, Tan, Browne, Pao, Nelson, Walczak, LaGreek, Coatney

MOTION APPROVED

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

There was no public comment.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

There were no Consent Calendar items.

VI. REPORTS (B – G)



B. Land Mobile Radio System Update – Riad ElMasri

Program Manager ElMasri reported the annual Los Angeles Regional Tactical Conventional Subsystem (LARTCS) and Analog Conventional Voice Radio Subsystem (ACVRS) Radio Frequency (RF) Preventative Maintenance activities started on June 20, 2024, and would conclude on October 16, 2024. Program Manager ElMasri further reported these Preventative Maintenance activities would include approximately one hundred and eighty-two (182) LARTCS and ACVRS sites, with approximately ninety (90) of them completed to date. Program Manager ElMasri went on to say Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) planned to complete all other PM activities by October 15, 2024, which included: backup power generator service, DC power plant, fuel polishing, fuel calibration, fire suppression system, heating / ventilation / air conditioner (HVAC), and weed abatement.

Program Manager ElMasri stated the Jacobs Project Management (PM) Team has been working with several LA-RICS team members to review site specific security issues and concerns to decide on the best combination of camera types, quantity, and location, which would eventually decide the scope of work the contractor will use to install the security system at each site.

In regard to utility power at site Green Mountain (GRM), Program Manager ElMasri further stated California State Parks and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) reached a settlement regarding LADWP environmental violations at Topanga State Park, and this settlement would enable LADWP to obtain a Right of Entry (ROE) permit from State Parks that would cover the replacement and upgrading of all LADWP utility poles at Topanga State Park, which includes the one specific utility pole needed to provide power /service to the LA-RICS site.

Program Manager ElMasri went on to say that LA-RICS would schedule a pre-construction walk with LADWP and resume trenching work to the new pole location once the Authority hears back from State Parks.

Program Manager shared that as far as Burnt Peak (BUR) utility power, LA-RICS was in the process of re-submitting the power application to Southern California Edison (SCE), which would allow SCE to develop and provide a design covering distribution from the upcoming remote grid solar plant to the LA-RICS site. Program Manager further shared project completion is on track for the end of 2024.



Regarding the site access road to the Grass Mountain (GMT) site, Program Manager reported LA-RICS is working on a scope for the County of Los Angeles (County) Internal Services Department (ISD) to perform road repair work.

Program Manager EIMasri further reported the repair work for the generator enclosure roof and portion of the site fence that was damaged in 2023 was completed in July 2024 by the insurance company vendor as MSI declined to do the repair work.

Program Manager EIMasri stated the work for rekeying all Land Mobile Radio (LMR) sites is to begin on August 21, 2024, and this work will be performed by County Sherriff's Department (LASD) facilities.

Regarding tower removal at the Castro Peak (CPK) site, Program Manager EIMasri shared, in preparation for the removal of the County tower, LA-RICS received a Special Use Permit from the National Park Services to use the lot next to the site to stage a crane during tower demolition.

This concluded the Project Managers report with no additional discussion.

C. Regional Interoperability Update – Operations Lead Lt. Weber

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported he met with the City of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to discuss Interoperability, and there are pathways forward. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported he met with Ray Eady from the Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI), and Interoperability discussions are moving forward. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated several agencies are nearing completion of their codeplugs and associated technical issues to finalize the plans for Interoperability and Mutual Aid communication throughout the County, and at least three (3) agencies are close to finalizing programming of their regional Interoperability talk groups and shared IDs. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further stated discussions are moving forward and updates will be provided as they are received.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber concluded his report with no additional discussion.

D. LMR Network Operation Status and Issues – Ted Pao

Technical Lead Ted Pao greeted the Committees and presented Agenda Item D.



Technical Lead Pao reported the network operated without major incidents in June and July 2024, including during the Fourth of July celebrations. Technical Lead Pao further reported an increase in LACoFD Talkgroup activities was observed, and he would share the network operations statistics in his report.

Technical Lead Pao expressed of a rise in interference activities in June and July 2024, and despite LA-RICS' efforts to locate the interference sources, the intermittent nature of the interference and the availability of resources made it challenging. Technical Lead Pao further expressed in July, a technician successfully traced one interference source to a film/commercial production crew that was using a wireless microphone system at a car dealership. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the issue of microphone interference was on LA-RICS' radar from the beginning, as professional sound system manufacturers and operators relied on the TV spectrum to operate these systems which were commonly found at concert venues, TV events, and film productions. Technical Lead Pao mentioned these events were often short term, occurring during the night or on weekends, which made it difficult to dispatch resources for interference hunting.

Technical Lead Pao shared, in another incident, the fixed license cameras on the border of the City of La Verne and San Dimas were found to emit frequencies that were impacting both LASD and the LA-RICS ACVRS subsystem. Technical Lead Pao further shared LA-RICS contacted the City of La Verne, and it was determined the camera was no longer needed and will be removed.

Technical Lead Pao stated, to address these interference issues, LA-RICS is working with vendors who could provide technical solutions to quickly identify, locate, and log interference signals continuously, reducing the need for constant monitoring by technical personnel. Technical Lead Pao further stated LA-RICS will conduct proof-of-concept tests with these vendors and will provide a report to the Committees on whether this was successful.

Technical Lead Pao presented the monthly network operational statistics for July, and a few updates from June as a Committee meeting was not held for that month.

Technical Lead Pao reported the Narrowband Mobile Data Network (NMDN) message count for July, the daily average for outbound messages was around nine thousand, five hundred and sixty-two (9,562), with a peak day at ten thousand, three hundred and twenty-eight (10,328); inbound



messages had a daily average of four thousand, three hundred and twenty-seven (4,327) with peak days at five thousand, eight hundred and ninety-three (5,893) and five thousand, seven hundred and sixty-six (5,766).

Technical Lead Pao further reported the NMDN message count by month in 2024, with both inbound and outbound message counts increasing through July. Technical Lead Pao went on to say there was a twenty-eight (28) percent increase in outbound messages and a nineteen (19) percent increase in inbound messages from January to July.

Technical Lead Pao further reported data for Push-to-Talk (PTT) counts for the top ten (10) ACVRS channels with the LACoFD dispatch channels being the busiest.

Technical Lead Pao shared talk time minutes for all conventional channels, which averaged about five thousand (5,000) to six thousand (6,000) minutes for July.

Technical Lead Pao reported the statistics for July 2024 ACVRS Talk Time by cell which includes the ACVRS Countywide, TRO5 CAT, TRO6, TRO8, and TRO9 channels.

Technical Lead Pao further reported the statistics for July 2024 ACVRS PTTs by simulcast cells, with the TRO5 cell showing about one hundred thirty-seven thousand (137,000) calls, and the TRO8 cell with one hundred thirty-eight thousand (138,000) calls.

Technical Lead Pao shared statistics for the July 2024 Conventional PTTs by cell which includes the patched analog channels such as the City Inglewood Police Department (IGPD) and Low band.

Technical Lead Pao shared DTVRS usage by hours, which showed the average calls in a 24-hour period for each day of the week; data showed Sundays had the lowest usage with an increase on Mondays and peaking on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Technical Lead Pao presented additional data regarding the top fifteen (15) DTVRS cell usage by day in minutes in which the least activities occurred between the hours of 0300 and 0500 and started to increase around 0800 to 0900 hours which continued to about 2100 to 2200 hours.



Technical Lead Pao shared statistics for the top fifteen (15) DTVRS Cell Use (Time) for July 2024 with the busiest cell being the Downtown UHF cell followed closely by the Downtown 700 and South 700 cell.

Technical Lead Pao further shared statistics of the top fifteen (15) DTVRS Cell Use (Call Count) for July 2024, which is how many calls each cell processed in July, in which the Downtown 700 cell processed almost two hundred and forty thousand (240,000) calls, followed by Downtown UHF which processed about two hundred and twenty-four thousand (224,000) calls, then followed by the South 700 cell.

Regarding the top fifteen (15) DTVRS Talkgroups for June, Technical Lead Pao reported the LACoFD South Operations Talkgroup saw a significant increase and had the highest usage TalkGroup for June, accumulating just over fifty-six thousand (56,000) minutes in July, followed by the LASD-NORTH1 Talkgroup. Technical Lead Pao noted the LASD-NORTH1 Talkgroup, which was patched to the LASD analog dispatch channel for sites Lancaster Sheriff's Station (LAN) and Palmdale Sheriff's Station (PLM), rose to second position due to coverage issues with the legacy dispatch in the service area, particularly in Lake Los Angeles, with about twenty-eight thousand (28,000) minutes. Technical Lead Pao further reported the LASD-NORTH1 cell was followed by IGPD with about twenty-seven thousand Talkgroup minutes and the Men's Central Jail (MCJ) Talkgroup with almost twenty-four thousand (24,000) minutes.

Technical Lead Pao shared data for the top fifteen (15) DTVRS Talkgroups for July, which showed an increase in the Fire's South Operations Talkgroup minutes to almost eighty-thousand minutes (80,000) minutes, up from fifty-six thousand minutes (56,000) in June, followed by IGPD with just over twenty-six thousand, five hundred minutes (26,500) minutes. Technical Lead Pao noted IGPD was the biggest law agency in the system for July.

Technical Lead Pao shared statistics of all call counts by cell for July and for the DTVRS Top Agency Use for June, which showed the LASD Talkgroups led the way with about three hundred twelve thousand two hundred and seven (312,207) minutes, followed by LACoFD with about seventy-four thousand two hundred and sixty-seven minutes (74,267), followed by IGPD with almost twenty-eight thousand (28,000) minutes. Technical Lead Pao mentioned the District Attorney Talkgroup utilized almost five thousand (5,000) minutes.

Technical Lead Pao shared the DTVRS Top Agency Use for July 2024 with LASD leading the way using about two hundred eighty-eight thousand



(288,000) minutes, followed by LACoFD with about one hundred and six thousand (106,000) minutes and IGPD with almost twenty-eight thousand minutes.

Technical Lead Ted Pao concluded his report with no additional discussion.

E. Ad Hoc Update – Lt. Weber

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that an Ad Hoc Committee meeting was not held in the last two weeks; however, a meeting has been scheduled for August 21, 2024. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported the Ad Hoc Committee is diligently moving forward with a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) document the group continues to review for finalization.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber concluded his report with no additional discussion.

F. Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG) – Lt. Weber and Ted Pao

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported he and Technical Lead Ted Pao attended the APCO International conference that took place in Orlando, Florida and met with many different agencies. Operations Lead Weber further reported most of the agencies operate on one or two trunked cores for their whole state which makes Interoperability easier than working with several different connections, Inters Subsystem Interface (ISSI), etc. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say MSI presented informative material.

Technical Lead Ted Pao stated the APCO Conference that took place in Orlando, Florida allowed for a gathering of Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG) members from across the United States as well as international members. Technical Lead Pao further stated MSI corporate supports this user group meeting by providing the meeting spaces and resources used to present various topics such as current and future product road maps and answer members' inquiries.

Technical Lead Pao shared information from the conference, such as the ASTRO System on premise core will continue to be supported and developed, which may be a change of MSI's roadmap for core development and support where cloud hosting was going to be the future. Technical Lead Pao further shared MSI was pushing hard to host the core in their cloud, so on premise hardware would no longer be needed, but there may be a change



in that direction. Technical Lead Pao went on to say there may be agencies that are pushing back on cloud hosting.

Technical Lead Pao shared the second big news from MSI is they announced a new base station platform to replace the GTR, which is now called the DBR. Technical Lead Pao further shared the GTR platform was introduced in 2008, and support will end in 2032 into 2034 depending on the band, which is a twenty (20) plus year production platform. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the DBR platform can house up to twelve (12) base stations in a single rack as opposed to the current six (6) GTR base stations, which will allow for easier remote management and configuration on a larger scale than the GTR platform.

Technical Lead Pao expressed the DBR platform is more secure from cyber-hacking and has more processing power than the GTR platform. Technical Lead Pao further expressed the 700-800 megahertz (MHz) will be the first to be released and UHF and VHF will follow a year or so after. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the DBR platform should be compatible with the GTR platform in terms of the simulcast operation in that a mix of DBR and GTR simulcast cells is possible. Technical Lead Pao mentioned if this is true, this will make migrations from GTR to DBR platforms more graceful and less deflating as the system operations will not have to use a forklift for a whole simulcast cell at once.

Technical Lead Pao reported currently, the DBR platform can support forty (40) watts of output at the top of a rack, and a seventy (70) watts version of the DBR platform is being worked on.

Technical Lead Pao further reported a slew of end of support equipment platforms were announced, which included the GCV 8000 which are the site controllers, and the MCC7500, which are the dispatch consoles. Technical Lead Pao mentioned MSI would end support for both in 2030. Technical Lead Pao noted they were extended an extra two (2) years. Technical Lead Pao shared support for the GTR 7800 will end support in 2032, the DSC 8000 will end support in 2033, and the GTR UHF and VHF platforms will end in 2033 and 2034 respectively.

Technical Lead Pao further shared the GRV, the conventional comparator will end support in 2034, and the MCC 7500E support will end in 2030. Technical Lead Pao expressed if an agency is using these consoles, the agency should start preparing to budget the next generation of consoles since they will no longer be supported after 2030.



Technical Lead Pao reported the biggest reason MSI cannot guarantee longer life cycle support of certain equipment is due to supplier guarantees as MSI does not have control over suppliers' commitment to support certain critical semi-conductors and components such as the CPU. Technical Lead Pao further reported the current worldwide shortage of electronic components has demonstrated to MSI that its guaranteed supplier contract with suppliers were not effective to ensure timely delivery of the component under the contract. Technical Lead Pao went on to say MSI had problems obtaining components from their suppliers during the 2022 and 2024 supplier electronic component shortage, therefore, MSI cannot guarantee being able to support the components beyond the dates mentioned.

Technical Lead Pao stated MSI announced an improved version of an all-band mobile model – the APEX 8500 High Power, APEX 8500 Mid-Power, and an all band consolette. Technical Lead Pao further stated these models have five (5) gigahertz Wi-Fi and, more importantly, improved LTE interference performance when operating on a 700-800 band. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the newly improved APEX mobile radios would be better protected from adjacent carriers' signals, however, specifications were not given on these improvements, and the members will have to take MSI's word for it.

Technical Lead Pao expressed the APEX 2000 and 4000 are being cancelled and are being replaced by APEX N50 radios. Technical Lead Pao further expressed the last support date for the APEX 2000 and 4000 is March 31, 2030.

Technical Lead Pao mentioned the alpha update of the future roadmap of various APEX N-Series radios, such as the multi-factor authentication pin, Bluetooth, hands-free profile support, and multi code plug programming. Technical Lead Pao shared MSI indicated the future system upgrade would continue to support end-of-life equipment support, and, if this is confirmed, this may mean a system with end-of-life equipment can continue to function if customers are able to support it with their own spare inventory. Technical Lead Pao further shared large system operators would still be able to operate on GTR platforms and upgrade their systems. Technical Lead Pao mentioned a few months ago, MSI informed LA-RICS they must upgrade to virtual prime sites, which would be costly, and if what MSI stated is true, then MSI's future system upgrade will continue to support end-of-life equipment support, and LA-RICS will not be forced to upgrade and will have a longer time to prepare for an upgrade to the next generation of prime sites, whether it is a virtual prime site or a new platform.



Ted Pao concluded his report with no additional discussion.

G. World Cup Soccer Meeting Update – Lt. Weber

Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated he hoped to have Captain Masis Sossikian from Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) in attendance to provide the World Cup Soccer Meeting report, however, he was called away to an emergency meeting, and Operations Lead Lt. Weber would provide information regarding the meeting. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned he hoped to have Captain Sossikian at the next Ad-Hoc Committee meeting.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported his attendance at the National Homeland Security Conference in Miami, Florida, where a briefing was given by the Chief Safety and Security Officer for International Federation of Association Football (FIFA), G.B. Jones, who is also a retired Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent and former head of security for the National Football League (NFL). Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned Mr. Jones is very experienced in large scale events, and this was evident through his presentation.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared key notes from Mr. Jones' presentation and shared there will be about four hundred sixty (460) sites for World Cup in three (3) nations. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say Mr. Jones cautioned on being too comfortable with security at large events, especially with the City of Los Angeles being so large and having numerous large events. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further shared soccer fans are very passionate, and some cities have been able to work with soccer fans, however, some tend to go in their own direction at times.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say Mr. Jones suggested the World Cup Soccer event be used as a best practices test and to partner with other countries. Operations Lead Lt. Weber expressed the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency will provide support.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated there was not much information given regarding intelligence, and images were shared of incidents during different soccer events. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned an incident in Florida that took place recently where soccer fans broke into the stadium, and this was an example of soccer having more passionate fans.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported the inside of the stadium will be handled by FIFA, and the local jurisdiction will handle events outside of the stadium,



which includes fan experiences. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported the locations of these fan experiences are not yet known, and he would provide updates on this.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber noted the World Cup is not a National Special Security Event (NSSE), therefore, it will not be handled by the United States Secret Service such as the Olympics, however, other countries such as Mexico is treating it as such, but the level of seriousness is there. Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported host cities, including the City of Inglewood, would meet to discuss universal security standards to meet host cities' desired goal. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported how the NFL was able to accomplish this, and, in addition, the plan to ground drones during these events. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say how he hoped Captain Sossikian would attend next the Ad Hoc Committee meeting as he attended the direct briefing that was held with the host cities.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned he believes two (2) World Cup events will be held in jurisdictions covered by the LA-RICS system, and another important factor to consider is it is unknown which soccer teams will be playing, and it is possible to have two (2) teams playing that do not have diplomatic relations with each other, and playing in the World Cup event together may create issues. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned further updates will be given regarding this. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated these factors highlight even more the need for Interoperability.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated Captain Sossikian gave a brief in the previous week's UASI meeting, and there would be more updates to follow. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared a different posture may be needed considering past events.

Technical Lead Pao mentioned one difference between other sports fans and soccer fans is soccer fans, especially from other countries, tend to assemble some distance away from the stadium and march in a large group often without a permit, and the jurisdiction will have to deal with traffic control and other issues that may arise from the march.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared first responders are counting on mass transit to help with these big events and noted an instance in at least one location where fans stopped mass transit and blocked it from operating. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further emphasized the need for Interoperability in the region.

Technical Lead Pao shared an update from the APCO International



Conference, which no longer allows jurisdictions to purchase their own core, as the state has too many. Technical Lead Pao further shared to have one's own system, one must connect to an existing core. Technical Lead Pao mentioned he believes the state concluded, despite having numerous cores, they would ultimately have to be connected to each other and the cost of maintaining this was not feasible. Operations Lead Lt Weber further mentioned the state would not fund systems or provide supplemental funding for their own core, and it is telling that a whole state can run their system on two (2) cores – a primary and a backup, and the County is as big as some states, therefore, running a system on two (2) cores for the County is possible. Operations Lead Lt. Weber noted this was something to consider and briefings would be given moving forward.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – NONE

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE – NONE

X. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

XI. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Operations Lead Lt. Weber adjourned the Regular Joint Operations and Technical Committee Meeting at 2:16 p.m. and stated the next Joint Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 1:30 p.m., at the LA-RICS Headquarters, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Monterey Park, California, 91754.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Joint Committee Meeting, to which Operations Alternate Villalobos motioned first.