



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Information Services Dept.

Subject: Defer Contract Award for the Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System Request for Proposal

Meeting Date: January 28, 2025

Formal Title: Defer to on or before May 20, 2025, the contract award for the Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System Request for Proposal

Recommended Actions

Defer to on or before May 20, 2025, the contract award for the Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System Request for Proposal (RFP).

Executive Summary

On October 8, 2024, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors approved deferring the contract award for the Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System RFP to January 2025. A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has completed the review of submitted proposals, and a vendor award is now expected in early February 2025. Contract negotiations are anticipated to take 8 to 12 weeks, with staff planning to return to the Board with a finalized contract by May 2025.

Discussion

On February 27, 2024, the Board authorized the release of an RFP for the Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System to enhance communication capabilities for first responders and emergency personnel across the county. The initial timeline anticipated awarding the contract by October 2024. However, the complexity of the project and the need for vendors to respond comprehensively led to extensions of the RFP deadline to September 18, 2024, and the contract award to January 2025.

Since then, a Technical Advisory Group comprising representatives from the Cities of Watsonville and Santa Cruz, Fire Districts, the Sheriff's Office, and the ISD Radio Shop has completed its review of the proposals. A vendor award is now expected in early February 2025. Following the award, contract negotiations are projected to take 8 to 12 weeks, allowing staff to return to the Board with a finalized contract by May 2025.

The Next Generation P25 Countywide Radio System is a key project that aims to improve public safety and emergency response communication infrastructure throughout the county.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this deferral.

Strategic Initiatives

Equity Framework - County Facilities & Infrastructure

Submitted By:

Tammie Weigl

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

OpenAI ChatGPT 4o, an Artificial Intelligence (AI) large language model tool, significantly contributed to the development of this agenda item, including Staff Report, in compliance with the County of Santa Cruz AI Appropriate Use Policy.