



**\* \* \* \* \* EBRCSA BULLETIN \* \* \* \* \***

**December 2011**

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**November Progress Review**

- **NICE Master Logger**-Completed.
- **MCC 7500 Consoles**-Tested and shipped from staging.
- **ASTRO 7.9 Upgrade** – Completed.

**About the System**

EBRCSA, Motorola Solutions, and AECOM have finalized the site selection and coverage design for the two-county EBRCSA P25 trunked radio system. The EBRCSA 36 site system once completed in June 2012 will provide coverage and interoperability to all agencies operating on the EBRCSA system. This system will improve safety, eliminate duplication of overlapping independent systems, and provide effective interoperable voice communications. This will enable EBRCSA to provide improved public safety services.

The EBRCSA P25 System consists of an IP-based P25 Phase I simulcast subsystem and ASTRO 25 standalone repeater sites. The Motorola ASTRO 25 trunked system incorporates the latest technology, delivering the flexibility of an IP transport, FDMA operation and simulcast frequency efficiency. The site and channel count information for each simulcast cell has been identified below.

For site locations please use this link:  
[http://www.ebrcsa.org/site\\_maps.aspx](http://www.ebrcsa.org/site_maps.aspx)

# Decommissioning of the Alameda County 800MHz Radio System



AKI K. NAKAO, Director

1401 LAKESIDE DRIVE, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612 510 208 9700 FAX 510 208 9711 [www.acgov.org/gsa/](http://www.acgov.org/gsa/)

November 8, 2011

Dear ALCO 800MHz Radio System Users:

Over the past several years, the region has come together to create a new regional communications system to replace the existing land mobile radio systems within Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The East Bay Regional Communications System Authority (EBRCSA), a Joint Powers Authority, was formed to oversee the build-out, ongoing operations and maintenance of the system. The EBRCSA system is scheduled to become partially operational by July of 2012, with the users of the current systems transitioning during the following six-month period. The entire transition will be completed by January 1, 2013.

The decommissioning of the current Alameda County 800MHz radio system is necessary, as the current system was purchased over 19 years ago and has become more difficult to maintain and will become obsolete. The coverage from the current system has been improved with the new system, and the technology we are moving to will provide the region with infrastructure that will serve the region well into the future. The new system also provides region-wide interoperability which has been a goal for some time. Given that the current Alameda County system will no longer be operational after the January 1, 2013 date, all current Alameda County 800MHz trunked radio system users need to prepare to transition to the new system.

## **What does this mean for your agency and the radios you currently operate on the County system?**

Each agency needs to enter into an agreement with the EBRCSA in order to operate radios on the EBRCSA system. As the technology has changed, the current radios your agency owns may not be compatible with the new Project 25 system, and will have to be replaced. Based upon data collected during the Rebanding Project, we have compiled an inventory of your current radios to determine whether or not your radios will be compatible with the new system. The inventory serves as a basis for determining which radios are analog and which are P25 capable. The GSA Communications Department will send each ALCO 800MHz Radio System User agency a list of subscriber radios by November 18, 2011.

Alameda County will continue to play a key role in the new EBRCSA system. The County will still provide maintenance services to EBRCSA, and as such will provide radio installation and maintenance to the system agencies. We have appreciated your participation as a user of the Alameda County radio system. The transition to the new system is a step forward for the region, and we hope your agency will continue to participate with the new EBRCSA system.

EBRCSA will be contacting you as well in the near future to work with your agency on the transition. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill McCammon at (925) 803-7802, or by email at [bill.mccammon@acgov.org](mailto:bill.mccammon@acgov.org).

Sincerely,

*John Kitching for*

Aki K. Nakao

Director, General Services Agency

AKN:RH:dls/I:/Agency Administration/Director/800 MHz-2.docx

# **EBRCS Participant Implementation Plan**

## **Complete Fleetmap Process**

### **Subscriber Implementation**

- Complete subscriber inventory for each agency
- Verify which subscribers are P25 capable
- Procure subscribers if necessary
- Develop programming templates
- Have user representatives test radios based on templates and approve
- Train the Trainer training
- Actual subscriber programming/testing/FCC check and alignment
- User Subscriber training
- Activate subscriber IDs in Master Site DB
- Develop template mobile installations per agency
- Develop mobile installation plan and schedule

### **Dispatch**

- All console installations complete
- Dispatch Console Training Room Complete
- Console Configuration - Screen Layout
- Backup Control Station templates
- Backup Control Station Testing
- Console Testing
- Dispatcher Training

### **Logging**

- Identify Logging Solution
- Procure Logging Solution if necessary
- Configure/Test Solution
- Training

### **Cutover**

- Develop cutover plan
- Testing
- Agency Prep
- Cutover

### **Mobile Installations**

#### **Police Mobiles**

- Trunk-mount Installs
- Dash Mount Installs
- Motorcycle Installs
- Control Station Installs

#### **Fire Mobiles**

- Dual-head Installs
- Dash Mount Installs
- Control Station Installs

### **Transition Complete**

Transition team meetings will be scheduled with all areas over the next several weeks. Meeting time and location will be announced shortly. The teams will be assigned by cell. ALCO North West, ALCO South West, ALCO East, Contra Costa West, Contra Costa Central, and Contra Costa East. If you wish to be involved in transition team, please send an email to Bob Simmons [[bob.simmons@cdxwireless.com](mailto:bob.simmons@cdxwireless.com)] and indicate your agency and your cell.

## **ALCO East Simulcast Cell – 700 MHz- 10 Channel- COMPLETED**

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The Alameda County East simulcast cell (ALCO East) has four sites and ten channels per site configured for 700MHz operation. The four radio sites are the Doolan Prime Site, Sunol Ridge, Patterson Pass and East Dublin BART station. The ALCO East cell provides coverage in the Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton region.

## **ALCO Northwest Simulcast Cell – 700 MHz- 16 CHANNEL**

The Alameda County Northwest simulcast system (ALCO Northwest) has four sites and sixteen channels per site configured for 700 MHz operation. The four radio sites in the ALCO Northwest are Glenn Dyer Prime Site, Seneca Reservoir, U.C.-Berkeley and Skyline Reservoir sites. The Northwest simulcast cell has been designed to provide coverage in Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, and Piedmont.

**GLENN DYER JAIL – COMPLETED**

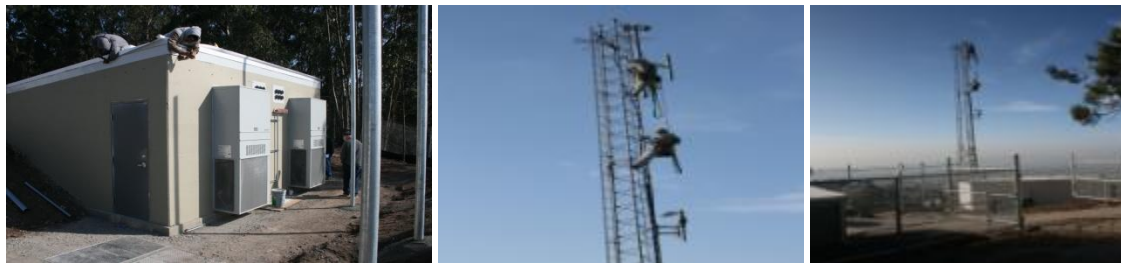
**U.C. BERKELEY – INSTALLING**

**SKYLINE – INSTALLING**

**SENECA – PLANNING / PERMITTING**



Skyline shelter delivery and antenna installation



UC Berkeley shelter receives finishing touches while old antenna are removed from the tower

## **ALCO Southwest Simulcast Cell – 700 MHz – 12 Channel**

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The Alameda County Southwest simulcast system (ALCO Southwest) has seven sites and twelve channels per site configured for 700MHz operation. The seven sites are San Leandro Hills Prime Site, Coyote Hills, Garin water tank, Fremont Police Department, Warm Springs BART station, Walpert Ridge and Hayward Police Department. The Southwest simulcast cell has been designed to provide coverage in Fremont, Hayward, Newark, San Leandro, and Union City.

**San Leandro Hills – Completed**

**Coyote Hills – Completed**

**Walpert Ridge – Completed**

**Fremont PD- Floor / Power Upgrade**

**Garin Water Tank- Upgrade PG&E/ Tower Extension**

**ALCO PW Annex Site – Planning**

**Warm Springs Bart- Completed**

## **CoCo West Simulcast Cell – 800 MHz- 10 Channel- COMPLETED**

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The Contra Costa West simulcast cell (CCCO West) has four sites and ten channels per site configured for 800 MHz operation. The four radio sites are Turquoise Prime Site, El Cerrito Police Department, Pearl Ridge Reservoir and Nichol Knob (Point Richmond). The CCCO West Cell provides coverage in El Cerrito, Hercules, Kensington, Pinole, Richmond, and San Pablo areas.

## **CoCo Central Simulcast Cell- 700 MHz- 10 Channel**

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The Contra Costa Central simulcast cell (CCCO Central) has eight sites and ten channels per site configured for 700 MHz. The eight radio sites are Cummings Peak Prime Site, 651 Pine Street in Martinez, Bald Peak, Highland Peak, Peter's Ranch Road / Apollo, Sydney Drive, Kregor Peak and Alta Mesa Moraga. (Note that Kregor Peak is a shared site with the CCCO East simulcast cell.) The CCCO Central cell will provide coverage in the areas of Walnut Creek, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, Moraga, Orinda, San Ramon and Pleasant Hill.

**Cummings Peak – Completed**

**Kregor Peak – Completed**

**Bald Peak – Completed**

**Highland Peak – Completed**

**651 Pine St. –Completed**

**Sydney - Planning**

**Peter's Ranch – Approval Process**

**Alta Mesa – Approval Process**

## **CoCo East Simulcast System- 700 MHz- 7 Channel**

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The Contra Costa East simulcast cell (CCCO East) has three sites and seven channels per site configured for 700MHz operation. The three radio sites are Kregor Peak Prime Site, Shadybrook and Los Vaqueros. The CCCO East Cell will provide coverage in the east county areas of Antioch, Pittsburg, Brentwood, and Oakley/Knightsen.

**Kregor Peak – Completed**

**Shadybrook- Installed**

**Los Vaqueros – Planning**

## **Stand Alone Repeater Sites**

Motorola has included six Astro 25 stand-alone repeater sites to provide fill-in coverage in rural areas in both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Many of these sites provide seamless coverage in canyons and rural areas not covered by the EBRCSA simulcast cells identified above.

These stand alone repeater sites in Alameda County are:

- ◆ **EB Parks (Gwin)- 4 Channel-800 MHz - Planning**
- ◆ **Crane Ridge- 4 Channel-800 MHz - Installed**
- ◆ **Niles Canyon- 5 Channel - 800 MHz - Planning**

In Contra Costa the stand alone repeater sites are:

- ◆ **Marsh Creek Detention Facility- 4 Channel-800 MHz - Site improvements**
- ◆ **Old Fire Station 53- 3 Channel-800 MHz - TBD**
- ◆ **Crockett - 6 Channel-800 MHz - Site improvements**

## Dispatch Console System

The EBRCSA is using a combination of upgraded Motorola Gold Elite and the IP based MCC 7500 consoles. Both consoles feature an easy to use Graphical User Interface (GUI). The seamless integration of the dispatch console into the radio system gives dispatchers full access to system functionality, allowing access and control of the Project 25 trunked resources, as well as superior audio quality.

### MCC7500 Console Sites and positions:

- ◆ 5 Livermore dispatch center
- ◆ 5 Pleasanton dispatch center
- ◆ 27 Contra Costa Sheriff
- ◆ 9 Contra Costa Fire
- ◆ 6 Richmond dispatch center
- ◆ 3 Pinole dispatch center
- ◆ 2 Martinez Police
- ◆ 3 Pleasant Hill Police
- ◆ 6 Walnut Creek Police
- ◆ 8 Concord Police
- ◆ 4 San Ramon Valley Fire
- ◆ 2 Albany Police
- ◆ 8 Berkeley Police
- ◆ 2 Emeryville Police
- ◆ 4 East Bay Parks
- ◆ 2 UC Berkeley (Lakeside)

### Status:

The team has completed staging and testing of the equipment. The equipment will be delivered to the warehouses the week of 12/12.



### Gold Elite Consoles to be migrated to the P25 System:

- ◆ 3 Newark Police
- ◆ 9 Fremont Police
- ◆ 4 Union City Police
- ◆ 6 Alameda County Sheriff
- ◆ 3 San Leandro Police
- ◆ 5 Alameda City Police
- ◆ 2 ALCO EOC
- ◆ 9 ACRECC

### Status:

We will be transitioning the Alameda Gold Elite Dispatch Centers over to the new Embassy Switch this **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 6AM**. The preparation is complete and back up communications have been confirmed and tested for the dispatch centers. Cutover duration is expected to take 4-12 hours depending on size and complexity. We anticipate improving on the duration. 12 would be the extreme case.

## Working Groups

**EBRCS Technical Advisory Committee (TAG)** will address issues that have the possibility of affecting EBRCS users by developing system-level policy recommendations for the EBRCSA Operations Committee. The EBRCSA Board at its last meeting amended the By-Laws and established the TAG as a standing committee with the membership listed below.

- Alameda County Law Representative – Tom McCarthy, Dublin Police Chief
- Contra Costa County Law Representative – Tim Schultz, Captain Walnut Creek Police
- Alameda County Fire Representative – Andy Smith, Asst. Chief Alameda County Fire
- Contra Costa County Fire Representative – Kody Kerwin, Contra Costa Fire Protection District
- Public Services/Special District Representative – Lynette Journey, EBRPD Communications MGR
- Alameda County Technical Representative – Ed Valenzuela/ Manny Suarez, Alameda County GSA
- Contra Costa County Technical Representative – Randy Demerse/ Mike Wright, Contra Costa DOIT
- Combined Dispatch Representative – Margaret-Mary Goulart [Pleasanton PD], Glenn Jackson [ACSO Mg], Gerard Heidekamp [CCSO Technical Services], Brenda Velasquez [Berkeley PD]
- EBRCSA Executive Director – Bill McCammon, EBRCSA Executive Director

Bob Simmons

**CDX Wireless, Inc.**

**Technology Consultants**

Phone: 925-218-4213

Fax: 925-397-6799

Web: [www.cdxwireless.com](http://www.cdxwireless.com)

**West County Transition Team** will plan, prepare, and coordinate the agencies that will cutover / transition to the Contra Costa West Cell in Q1 2012.

- Byron Baptiste – Richmond – Team Leader- bbaptiste@richmondpd.net
- Charles Durley – Hercules
- Chysandra Nair – Richmond
- Erik Newman – Richmond
- Kevin Hui – Kensington
- Kevin Janes – El Cerrito
- Larry Johnson – San Pablo
- Matt Avery – Pinole
- Matt Messier - Pinole
- Robert De La Campa – El Cerrito
- Tim Stratmeyer – Hercules
- Tom Hughes – San Pablo
- Kody Kerwin – Contra Costa Fire Protection District
- Mike Regan – El Cerrito

Bob Simmons

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**ALCO East County Transition Team** will plan, prepare, and coordinate the agencies that will cutover / transition to the Alameda County East Cell in Q1 2012.

- Rhonda Bishop - Livermore Police Department – Team Leader- RBishop@ci.livermore.ca.us
- Randy Werner- Livermore Water Resources Division
- Rich Fraser- Livermore Public Works
- Joe Testa - Livermore Pleasanton Fire
- Joe Rodondi - Livermore Pleasanton Fire
- Mike Elerick - Pleasanton Police Department
- Margaret Mary Goulart - Pleasanton Police Department
- Mike Nicholson - Livermore Area Recreation & Parks District

Bob Simmons

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**ALCO NorthWest County Transition Team** will plan, prepare, and coordinate the agencies that will cutover / transition to the ALCO NorthWest Cell in Q2 2012.

- Andy Smith – ACFD
- Brenda Velasquez – City of Berkeley
- Greg Marwick – City of Berkeley
- Carl Woo – UC Berkeley
- Robin Adair – UC Berkeley
- Eric Agee – City of Albany
- Gil Dong – City of Berkeley
- Dan Adams – City of Albany
- Rich Frankland – City of Alameda
- A Robin Orden – City of Berkeley
- Don Owyang – City of Alameda
- Mike Leuthold – City of Berkeley
- Mike Loyola – City of Berkeley
- Ferdinand Suba – City of Emeryville

Bob Simmons

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## Scheduled Events

### MAJOR MILESTONE EVENTS

- Master Site Functional Testing – December 2011
- Contra Costa West Cell Functional Testing –December 2011
- Alameda East Cell Functional Testing – December 2011
- Alameda East Cell Coverage Testing by Motorola Solutions – December 2011
- Contra Costa West Cell & Alameda East Cell On Line – Q1 2012
- EBRCS RF Infrastructure System Complete – June 2012

## Upcoming Articles

Please tell us what you are most interested in. Use the link below for your suggestions:

[http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm\\_ContactUs.aspx](http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm_ContactUs.aspx)

## FAQ's

**Question: When will the system be completed?**

Answer: July 1, 2012

**Question: Where do I go to find more information and status of the project?**

Answer: [www.EBRCSA.org](http://www.EBRCSA.org)

**Question: The radio system is live next June 2012. Does that mean all the radios have to be purchased and operational by that time? Or is there a time when CCC dispatch will continue to broadcast on the old system until all installations are complete for the new radio?**

Answer: The plan is to start migrations onto the system starting in that timeframe. One of the drivers for this is narrow banding which will be required for VHF and UHF users and would need to be completed by January 1, 2013. By migrating onto the EBRCS system before January 1, 2013 UHF and VHF system owners avoid the cost of reprogramming their conventional systems for narrowband operation.

**Question: What about Training? We have made it through the hard part of getting the infrastructure in place to support a regional radio system between 2 counties. Now it is time to start working on developing a good training package that all agencies can provide to their end users. We have a unique opportunity to develop a fundamental training package that will address the following areas:**

- **Standardized Interoperability Radio Training so everyone is being trained the same way with the same information based upon a common set of goals.**
- **What a P25 Digital Radio System is and what it means to the end user.**
- **Common and Consistent radio terminology between disciplines**
- **Identify and develop SOP's for Interoperability between disciplines and agencies.**

Answer: With the implementation schedule of putting agencies on the new EBRCS first quarter of 2012, it is time to start working on a regional training package. Please contact Kody Kerwin with Contra Costa Fire at 925-941-3553 or email at [KKerw@cccfd.org](mailto:KKerw@cccfd.org) if you have questions, suggestions, or would like to be part of the team.

Please submit your questions using the link below:

[http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm\\_ContactUs.aspx](http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm_ContactUs.aspx)

Please visit the [www.EBRCSA.org](http://www.EBRCSA.org) for all FAQ's.

If you have suggestions for the EBRCSA Newsletter, please submit them via the link below:

[http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm\\_ContactUs.aspx](http://www.ebrcsa.org/Lists/ContactUs/NewForm_ContactUs.aspx)

## Contacts

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