



East Bay Regional Communications System Authority



Participating agencies include Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the following cities and special districts: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Berkeley, Brentwood, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Dublin, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Hercules, Lafayette, Livermore, Martinez, Moraga, Newark, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Pleasanton, Richmond, San Leandro, San Pablo, San Ramon, Union City, Walnut Creek, East Bay Regional Park District, Kensington Police Community Services District, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, San Ramon Valley Fire District, California Department of Transportation, Ohlone Community College District, Contra Costa Community College District, Dublin-San Ramon Services District and University of California, Berkeley

SPECIAL JOINT OPERATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: August 28, 2026

TIME: 10:15 a.m.

PLACE: Alameda County Office of Emergency Services,
4985 Broder Blvd. Room 1013, Dublin, CA 94568

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of the Operations Committee to establish quorum of the Operations Committee

Roll Call of the Finance Committee to establish quorum of the Finance Committee

a. Introductions

3. Public Comments (Meeting Open to the Public):

At this time, the public is permitted to address the Committee on items within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction that do not appear on the agenda. Please limit comments to a maximum of three (3) minutes. If you wish to comment on an item that is on the agenda, please wait until the item is read for consideration.

4. Review of Staff Report and Potential Action by each Committee, respectively to recommend severally to the Authority Board, or to provide a joint recommendation to the Authority Board, regarding the Authority's Radio Infrastructure Replacement Strategy

5. Adjournment

This AGENDA is posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a)

If requested, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.2, this agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Section 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. To make a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, please contact the EBRCSA at (925) 803-7802 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

I hereby certify that the attached agenda was posted 24 hours before the noted meeting.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Swing".

David Swing, Executive Director

August 24, 2026



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AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

AGENDA STATEMENT JOINT OPERATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING DATE: AUGUST 28, 2026

TO: Operations and Finance Committees
FROM: David Swing, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Recommend Radio Infrastructure Replacement Strategy

SUMMARY / BACKGROUND

The East Bay Regional Communications System Authority owns and operates a regional land-mobile radio system that primarily supports local government operations and critical emergency first-responders. While the Authority manages core infrastructure and dispatch consoles, individual member agencies remain responsible for purchasing and maintaining their own subscriber radio units. Motorola Solutions Inc.(Motorola), the original builder and ongoing service vendor for the system, has indicated that support for most of the current infrastructure will end in 2029.

While the Master Site Core, radio antennas, and other primary IT infrastructure do not require replacement, replacing prime site controllers, dispatch consoles, and radio repeaters will be necessary to ensure system reliability. Because these upgrades fall outside existing maintenance agreements, the replacement project presents an opportunity to evaluate broader system architecture, lower long-term costs, improve redundancies, and enhance regional interoperability. Federal Engineering will attend the meeting to present technical considerations and answer questions about potential next steps.



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OPTIONS AND NEXT STEPS: The Committee may consider four strategic paths moving forward. It is possible to explore multiple options concurrently.

Option 1: The first path involves entering into direct negotiations with Motorola for a platform migration. This approach maintains the existing vendor relationship and system architecture while upgrading key equipment. It offers complete operational continuity, known service quality, and seamless function without feature loss on existing subscriber units. However, it continues sole reliance on Motorola without competitive pricing checks. If selected, staff will continue discussions on cost and schedule, returning to the Committees in November 2026 for contract consideration.

Option 2: The second path is to issue a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) for complete system replacement. This option solicits proposals from alternative radio vendors to encourage financial transparency and potential cost savings for member agencies. While open market competition could reduce overall expenses, changing vendors introduces technical complexity. Existing subscriber units would lose proprietary Motorola features such as GPS, technician retraining would be required, and transition logistics—such as power requirements and potential new site engineering—could temporarily complicate operations. If chosen, staff will conduct a proposal process and present a proposed plan and costs in 2027.

Option 3: The third path proposes direct negotiations with Motorola to establish a regional system replacement with redundant Master Site Cores. Eight separate systems in the broader region - including six in the local Bay Area - are Motorola systems facing similar 2029 support deadlines. The Bay Area Rapid Transit District uses a non-Motorola system and the County of Santa Cruz is in the final design and construction phase of a non-Motorola system intended to be operational by 2029.

Each of the Motorola systems have some degree of overlapping coverage with independent, non-redundant core architectures. Partnering with regional providers to build a shared Motorola network leverages economies of scale, enhances system reliability through core redundancies, and streamlines cross-agency communication. Next steps for this option require collaborating with regional system directors to align stakeholders and develop a joint system design with Motorola before returning to the Committees in 2027. The critical path for any regional based solution is achieving buy-in from disparate governance structures. Two of the other systems are governed through a JPA, similar to EBRCSA, while the others are County owned and managed systems – see Table 1 for a detailed list of potential regional partners.

**Alameda County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin CA 94568 • (925) 803-7802 • www.ebrcsa.org**



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Table 1: List of Radio Systems

Jurisdiction	Vendor	Governance
Alameda/Contra Costa	Motorola	Joint Powers Authority
BART	L3 Harris	District Owned/Managed
Marin	Motorola	Joint Powers Authority
Sacramento	Motorola	County Owned/Managed
San Francisco	Motorola	County Owned/Managed
San Joaquin*	Motorola	County Owned/Managed
San Mateo*	Motorola	County Owned/Managed
Santa Clara	Motorola	Joint Powers Authority
Santa Cruz	EF Johnson/Kenwood	County Owned/Managed
Solano	Motorola	County Owned/Managed

*System used by county staff, not used by most other non-County agencies

Option 4: The fourth path combines regional collaboration with open market competition by partnering with neighboring systems to issue a joint Request for Information (RFI) for a regional replacement. This approach maximizes purchasing power across multiple entities while exploring advanced open-architecture designs and structural redundancies. However, coordinating across multiple agencies multiplies the transition challenges of changing vendors, especially if multiple vendors are selected. If pursued, staff will collaborate with regional system directors and report back in 2027 with findings and recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

Provide a recommended radio infrastructure replacement strategy or strategies for the Board of Directors to consider.