



To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority

From: Barry Fraser, Interim General Manager, BayRICS Authority

Date: July 12, 2012

RE: Item 8: Report from the Bay Area Regional Interoperable Communications System Joint Powers Authority (BayRICS JPA)

REPORT

1. BayRICS Administration

At the July 12 BayRICS Authority meeting, the BayRICS Board is scheduled to elect officers for 2012-2013 and will consider a strategic collaboration agreement with the Corporation for Educational Networking Initiatives in California (CENIC). Staff is completing year-end closing of financial tasks and will provide a final report for FY 2011-2012 at the August BayRICS Board meeting. BayRICS Members are reminded that member annual fees were due July 1, 2012.

2. Site Status

The Livermore City Council unanimously approved a Site Access and Use Agreement (SAU) at its June 25, 2012 meeting. With this approval, the SAU process for Bay Area cities and counties has been completed.

In total, twelve jurisdictions have now committed 116 sites. The only incomplete SAU remaining is the BART agreement, constituting an additional 20 sites. Including the BART sites, the final site configuration will incorporate 136 sites. Although the May 31, 2012 deadline for substitution of sites in the BOOM agreement has passed, Motorola and BayRICS will continue to review and may approve, on a case by case basis, site substitution and addition requests.

3. BayLoop

Staff and members of the BayLoop Working Group met with Aviat Networks to initiate negotiation of a maintenance and network monitoring agreement, to include maintenance services, technical support, repair services, onsite corrective maintenance, preventive maintenance, remote monitoring and advanced Network Operations Center (NOC) services.



Initial discussions on pricing indicate that the cost of these services can be fully recovered for at least 12 months with available UASI maintenance and sustainment grant funding.

The BayLoop Working Group has also begun the process of drafting a standard Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each of the eight jurisdictions operating BayLoop equipment. Each jurisdiction will be required to execute the MOU in order to take advantage of the maintenance and monitoring services

4. CENIC

Staff has facilitated several meetings with CENIC and Motorola engineers to evaluate ways to incorporate CENIC resources into BayWEB. Parties are reviewing the engineering feasibility and costs of enhancing the system by integrating CENIC infrastructure connecting California State University campuses in Santa Clara County, Sonoma County, Alameda County and Contra Costa County. Staff is also evaluating CENIC connectivity to the Sacramento Region.

5. Regional and State Coordination on FirstNet Planning Grants

As part of ongoing coordination and planning for the FirstNet nationwide public safety broadband network, staff from BayRICS and the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (LA-RICS) worked with staff from the California Technology Office and Cal-EMA to develop consistent responses to the NTIA's State and Local Implementation Grant Program Request for Information (RFI). Additional FirstNet planning meetings with these stakeholders are scheduled for mid-July.

6. 700MHz Spectrum Waiver and FirstNet Update

Meetings in Washington DC: BayRICS legal counsel and staff had meetings in Washington DC on June 13-14 with: (1) Tom Power, Administration Office of Science and Technology Policy; (2) new FCC Public Safety Bureau Chief David Turetsky, Jennifer Manner and other Bureau staff; (3) Debra Courtright (Motorola VP); and (4) new FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai.

FCC Public Safety Bureau staff was interested in hearing about the nature of ongoing spectrum rights required by BayRICS and suggested a Special Temporary Authority (STA) authorizing temporary rights to use the spectrum for those waiver recipients demonstrating a substantial need.

We discussed possible criteria that the Commission could use to determine whether a jurisdiction would be eligible to obtain such rights. One benchmark might be the ability to demonstrate actual project funding and resource commitments (both grant funding and local jurisdiction contributions to the project).



Commissioner Pai is a newly-appointed FCC Commissioner, but he was well informed about BayRICS and our concerns. He also discussed the STA as a potential spectrum solution.

Interoperability Recommendations. On June 21, 2012, the FCC formally approved the FirstNet Technical Advisory Board’s Minimum Technical Requirements without change, and authorized the transmittal of the Requirements to the FirstNet Board when it is established.

NTIA Planning Grants Request for Information (RFI). Approximately 80 entities submitted written responses to the RFI, including BayRICS, LA-RICS, State of California and the waiver recipient Operator Advisory Committee (OAC). These responses have been collected and may be reviewed at this web address: <http://ntia.doc.gov/federal-register-notice/2012/comments-development-state-and-local-implementation-grant-program>. NTIA has indicated that grant guidelines will be developed and released to the public by August 22, with an anticipated grant application process beginning in late 2012 or early 2013. Up to \$135 million nationwide will be available for state and local planning for FirstNet deployment.

FirstNet Board Nominations. NTIA has indicated that the FirstNet Board will be named on or before August 22.

NTIA Partial Suspension Request: Motorola has submitted a letter to the NTIA in which they agree to accept the NTIA’s grant amendment imposing the partial suspension on LTE Equipment related purchases. This partial suspension will likely require budget and project changes, which may require modifications to the BOOM Agreement. BayRICS is awaiting Motorola and NTIA response and clarification.

The NTIA has also informed BayRICS staff that it submitted a formal request for a two-year extension of Motorola’s BTOP grant to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The NTIA has received verbal assurances that the request will be granted and is awaiting written confirmation.

FEMA Grant Programs Information Bulletin No. 386: On June 15, 2012, FEMA issued an Information Bulletin (IB) to provide guidance for grantees regarding investments in the 700MHz public safety broadband spectrum. FEMA’s goal is to ensure preparedness-funded activities support future Federal efforts to deploy the nationwide public safety broadband network. These guidelines are similar to the partial suspension restrictions that have been imposed on Motorola’s BTOP grant funding for BayWEB.

DHS/FEMA grantees are advised to delay acquiring and deploying broadband equipment until FirstNet develops final technical and operational requirements for the nationwide



network. However, grantees may direct funding toward low-risk broadband investments, including, but not limited to:

- Planning for broadband investments, including (but not limited to) developing assessments of existing infrastructure, and engaging the whole community in planning and defining needs
- Analyzing/transitioning existing narrowband LMR systems currently deployed in the broadband public safety spectrum
- Site upgrades: Documenting site capabilities, conducting tower analysis, assessing site upgrades and needs
- Backhaul: Upgrading connectivity capabilities for public safety broadband including network capacity planning and
- Ancillary equipment: Purchasing LTE test equipment, spectrum analyzers, etc.

In addition, grantees may continue to fund other emergency communications needs, including traditional LMR allowable costs and other communication priorities, including sustainment of current capabilities.

BayRICS is not relying on DHS/FEMA funding to acquire or deploy LTE Equipment, and is not aware of any other Bay Area UASI funding requests for broadband acquisitions and deployments. Therefore, these guidelines should result in minimal, if any, impact to Bay Area UASI grantees.

BayRICS underscores the fact that the costs of planning activities for 700MHz broadband deployment, as well as related site and backhaul upgrade costs, are allowable under DHS/FEMA grant guidelines. BayRICS strongly encourages the Bay Area UASI to consider allocating future DHS/FEMA grant funding to pay for local and regional planning costs, as the funding available from NTIA's State and Local Implementation Grant Program is not expected to cover the full cost of FirstNet planning and preparation.