

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE July 28, 2023

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **New Project 25 Land Mobile Radio Network**

The Dallas Police Department, Dallas Fire Rescue and City of Dallas announce the use of a new Public Safety Radio System to improve emergency communications across the entire Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

The new land mobile radio (LMR) network is built on Project 25 (P25) standards to ensure full interoperability across the public safety community.

The system, from Motorola Solutions, significantly increases radio coverage, improves signal reception and voice quality, and enhances interoperability for first responders, including police, fire and EMS.

The new P25 system replaces the city's prior public safety radio system which was more than 25 years old and reaching end-of-life. It is comprised of 29 radio towers in the greater Dallas area, plus 3 water sites in East Texas, and utilizes more than 650 radio transmitters to ensure high performing, redundant, and reliable public safety communication services.

The transition to the all-new system was completed in May 2023 with more than 10,000 radios programmed and distributed to City of Dallas users.

In addition to the City of Dallas, the new system will provide a full range of services to Dallas County and will support more than 10 additional outside agencies. The project represents a collaboration between multiple jurisdictions in the Dallas area with Irving, Garland, Sachse, Dallas County, Mesquite, Desoto, Parkland Hospital, and Texas Instruments all sharing in the tower infrastructure supporting the system.

System performance has been exemplary and exceeded established targets. With the transition to the new system completed for City of Dallas users, the team is now focused on decommissioning the equipment from the old system, onboarding external agencies onto the system, and completing planned enhancements leveraging the new technology.

With this trusted technology, we can move forward with full confidence in the usability, security, and reliability of radio communications in our community.

It provides resiliency against service disruptions, coverage where it is needed and secure communications between first responders.

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As was the case with the prior public safety radio system, all primary dispatch channels on the new P25 system are unencrypted and are publicly available transmitted radio channels. This has not changed. In the transition to the new system, the City of Dallas retained the same channel structure and channel lineup, and these channels continue to be accessible to the public, just in a digital format and from a digital system. Those who would like to listen to the accessible radio channels should seek consultation from a radio professional.

The benefits include:

Increased interoperability with all City of Dallas Departments using the radio system.

Increased interoperability with regional public safety agencies.

Improved signal coverage.

The system is easier to use and navigate for first responders, assisting in quick response and communication.

The network was built and is maintained by Motorola Solutions.



Jon Fortune
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors