Memorandum



DATE:

April 8, 2016

TO:

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee: Adam Medrano (Chair), B. Adam McGough (Vice Chair), Sandy Greyson, Tiffinni A. Young, Jennifer S. Gates, Philip T. Kingston

SUBJECT:

Portable Radio Inventory

On Monday, April 11, 2016, you will be briefed on the Portable Radio Inventory by Communications Specialist Shawn Kelley of the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department.

The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Eric D. Campbell

Assistant City Manager

Lin Plangbell

[Attachment]

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer Sana Syed, Public Information Officer Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager - Mayor & Council

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department Portable Radio Inventory



Public Safety Committee
April 11, 2016



Purpose

- Dallas Fire-Rescue Department's (DFR) portable radio inventory overview
- Fire service design requirements
- Discuss radio interoperability
- In-building radio coverage
- Field communications support



Portable Radio Inventory

- Inventory includes 966 portable radios
- Entire inventory acquired in 2012 – To meet Federal Communications Commission (FCC) narrowband frequency use mandate



Unique Requirements - Fire Service

- Not just for dispatch Crucial tool used for effective tactical operations
- Lifeline for firefighters engaged in hazardous environments



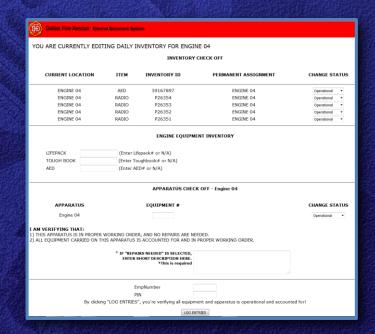
Unique Requirements - Fire Service

- Radio Design and Ergonomics Durability as well as accessible controls use is critical
- Programming Radio features tailored for use in hazardous environments, while wearing firefighting ensembles



Unique Requirements - Fire Service

- Radios assigned to positions rather than persons
- Inventory control procedures employed daily
- Backup radio equipment is always available if needed



Radio Interoperability

- Dallas radios used for Mutual Aid and Auto Assist (AAA) communications with other agencies (Plano Fire Dept., Duncanville Fire Dept., etc.)
- Coordinate for radio channel sharing with neighboring agencies (Mutual Aid and AAA)



In-Building Radio Coverage

- Need for coverage inside of structures: Building size and construction features hinder effective communications
- Below ground: Communications are also hindered
- Radio enhancement systems



Field Communications Support

- Deployable portable radio cache – Radios must be constantly maintained and conditioned
- Utilized for special events (e.g., Super Bowl, JFK Presidential Commemoration, etc.)



Field Communications Support

- Deployable repeater to boost radio signal communications
- Enhanced service for planned events



Questions





