

SIGB RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNOR BULLOCK

WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Governing Board (SIGB) was established on Sept. 30, 2011 and was continued by Governor Bullock's Executive Order No. 10-2013;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 10-2013, the SIGB was tasked with overseeing and coordinating the completion of the statewide public safety land mobile radio (LMR) backbone by strategic planning and prioritization of tasks, resources and grant dollars to local jurisdictions as required by the DHS, including therein the engagement of all public safety stakeholders in the development of a long-term, viable plan for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the public safety LMR system in Montana;

WHEREAS, the SIGB members and staff have spent significant time and resources in gathering specific information to support those assignments referenced in Executive Order No. 10-2013, including identifying which public entities currently own what components of the system, current system usage and coverage, and a prioritization of additional backbone build-out opportunities;

WHEREAS, LMR has historically been funded through one time only appropriations;

WHEREAS, the SIGB finds that the ongoing, basic maintenance of a statewide public safety radio communications system is better built into a designated agency's base budget in order to provide ongoing predictability and reliance for public safety agencies across Montana; and

WHEREAS, the SIGB believes that the additional build-out of the LMR backbone system over time is necessary to meet the State's future public radio infrastructure needs and enhance public safety for the benefit of all Montanans.

Accordingly, the SIGB hereby recommends the following:

1. LMR administrative obligations be transferred from Department of Administration to either the Department of Justice (DOJ) or Department of Transportation (DOT).
2. LMR ongoing maintenance and operations, including technology upgrades and replacement parts, be built into the base budget of either the DOJ or DOT. The official budget request for this effort is \$7,311,200 and shall be designated as the "Statewide Public Safety Radio Communications System".
3. An appropriation of \$8,002,300 be added to the long-range building legislation to complete the Phase I additional build-out of the LMR backbone. Through a due diligence process, SIGB staff and stakeholders have prioritized the additional build-out of the LMR backbone.
4. That any remaining base budget monies be used by the supervising agency to continue the build-out of the LMR backbone consistent with the identified and agreed upon priorities.
5. Build-out of the LMR backbone with appropriated monies should be completed utilizing public-private partnerships with existing infrastructure including towers, buildings and fiber optic cable if it can be done in a fiscally responsible manner. In the event existing infrastructure doesn't exist or is more expensive over the long term, new construction including Microwave transport can be utilized.
6. The counties should lead the legislative effort to effectuate these recommendations, with other SIGB members and trade associations supporting those efforts.
7. As applied to LMR, the SIGB should be re-constituted for an additional two years to: (1) research, identify, and recommend a long-term funding mechanism to continue the build-out and support for the LMR backbone; and (2) document the State of Montana's total spend for land mobile radio communications at the state and local government levels.

SIGB LMR Findings

SFY 16-17

Maintenance & Management team

4 FTEs in DOJ/DOT	\$ 640,000
Tools and Equipment	\$ 232,000
Training	\$ 44,000
Travel Per diem	\$ 172,800
Cell phone cost	\$ 14,400
4 ¾ Ton 4x4 trucks	\$ 240,000
Fuel cost	\$ 48,000
Vehicle Maintenance	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
Total	\$ 1,411,200

Ongoing Technology Upgrades and Replacement Parts

Replacement parts	\$ 700,000
Quantar replacements	\$ 3,100,000
Control Software Update	<u>\$ 2,100,000</u>
Total	\$ 5,900,000

Total request for inclusion in an agency's base budget is \$7,311,200

Backbone Coverage Enhancement Program

Completion of Phase I \$ 8,002,300

Improves coverage in the following counties: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Carbon, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Jefferson, Madison, Missoula, Park, Pondera, Rosebud, Teton, Treasure, Wheatland and Yellowstone.