

1121 SE Everett Mall Way
Suite 200
Everett, WA 98208

DATE: 4/3/2021

TO: Fire-TAC & All SNO911 Fire Agency Members

FROM: Brad Steiner

RE: Updated Uniform Policy for Fire Subscriber Replacements provided by Radio ReplacementProject

The purpose of this memo is to propose updates to the Uniform Policy for Fire Subscriber Replacements that was approved previously by Fire-TAC and the SNO911 board and dated 5/14/2020. With your review and approval of this update, this document will replace the previous policy entirely. The following sections are a reproduction of the original policy, with changes/additions highlighted in red for ease of review.

Background

In 2018 SERS requested each agency to complete a questionnaire to refine their needs with regards to mobile, portable, and station radios. This information was used to determine the scope of the fire subscriber equipment and services in our current contract. During the design review, the PPC noted that some of the quantities and agency information was inconsistent, and would likely result in certain agencies receiving less than what was needed. It was strongly desired for a uniform method to be adopted to ensure that all agencies: 1) account for their existing equipment and staff in the same manner, and 2) are provided equipment based upon this to ensure that all existing staff and apparatus are accounted for.

Confirmation of Method

The PPC determined that a formula-based approach based on staff and apparatus counts was desired to maintain flexibility should mergers or other large-scale organization changes be made. This allows a policy that should be “flexible with the times” rather than a hard-rule that may not apply years from now. In addition, the PPC requested a more detailed inventory count from each agency to allow a fact-check of the formula to ensure that all existing radio equipment is accounted for.

The combination of a formula-based approach with an inventory double-check should provide the assurance to each agency that they will be receiving the right amount of replacement equipment today, and justification for additional equipment can be provided automatically with the addition of staff or apparatus.

Proposed Agency Distributions

The PPC is recommending the following replacement policy for fire agencies under the RRP:

“Mobile” Radios:

- The RRP will provide mobile radio units to each identified agency per the quantities listed later in this document

- New radio IDs will be assigned for the new radios
 - The RRP considers “jerk and run” configurations less reliable and will replace them with a mobile installation
- The number of mobile radios provided is limited to one (1) per operational vehicle (e.g. automobile, fire truck/apparatus, ambulance, boat/hovercraft, etc.) and that vehicle must be registered to the agency. An agency may opt. to reduce this quantity if desired.
- The RRP will supply a single multi-band antenna to be installed on the roof of the vehicle where the existing 800 MHz antenna is today
- Limited customizations can be performed for other specialized vehicles as identified by the agency (assumed limited quantities)
- The number of existing “desktop” mobile radios (a.k.a. control stations, station audio, or Fire Station Alerting – FSA - radios) provided is limited to one (1) per existing operational desktop, and the RRP-provided equipment and services are limited to the radio unit and RF-equipment only, and does not include considerations for specialized microphones, telephone desk-sets or other custom-audio distribution methods within the station.
 - Please note that station radios fall into two classes:
 - Fire station alerting audio
 - Station discretionary audio (a.k.a. “Desktop”)
 - For fire station alerting deployments, a single APX1500 is provided that will be capable of reaching the 800 MHz system on a clear (unencrypted) talk-group.
 - For station discretionary audio, an APX6500 is provided that will be capable of reaching the 800 MHz system in both clear (unencrypted) and secure (encrypted) talkgroups. Multi-band operation is not provided for station radios.

Portable Radios:

- The RRP will provide portable radio units to each identified agency per the quantities listed later in this document
 - New radio IDs will be assigned for the new radios
- The portables provided are the Motorola APX8000 XE model, which is “HazLoc” Div. 1-rated and includes the following additional hardware:
 - Single-band antenna (7/800 MHz)
 - Motorola XE500 corded speaker microphone
 - Radio and XE500 Mic. will be “lime green” in color
 - One additional “standard” battery

- Single-unit charger
 - Six can be combined/replaced with a single “gang”-charger
- Belt-Clip or Leather/Plastic Swivel-Case as detailed further in this document

Encryption

While all new radios provided to a user agency through the RRP are capable of encryption, the radios will not be initially provisioned for encryption on the existing system unless they are replacing a current encryption-provisioned radio. I.e. if an agency has 10 encryption-activated radios today, they will continue to have 10 encryption-activated radios with their new radios on the existing system.

All fire radios will be capable of encryption, and can be encrypted in the updated programming templates that will be updated post-cutover to the P25 system if desired. Current plans for fire encryption are to only ensure monitoring of encrypted law talk-groups upon transition to the P25 system.

Spare Radios

Based on the latest agency feedback, it is desired that SNO911 own and maintain the subscriber (mobiles and portables) equipment moving forward. SNO911 is preparing to maintain a cache of mobile and portable radios for both emergency/increased demand situations as well spares for replacement during repairs.

The on-call staff at SNO911 will be available to assist and deliver additional radios should additional units be necessary.

Installations

The RRP is providing for programming and installation (installation is excluded for agencies who have elected to perform their own installation) of RRP-provided equipment as a one-time effort. At no time will SNO911 take possession of any existing agency radio equipment. Existing mobiles and portables will be “blanked” and returned immediately with the new radios, as well as any associated hardware removed during installation. This is so each agency can follow their own inventory and disposal policies.

Agencies with staff for installation are welcome to have their staff present and provide quality oversight for the RRP-provided installation teams. All work is subject to agency inspection at any time. Agency staff will also have input on the installation practices prior to installation beginning should they desire.

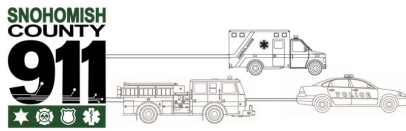
Additional Options

The RRP does provide additional portable communication options for consideration. Agencies do have access to the full line of APX-series hardware through the contract as well. In addition, the radio system will have secure communications to cellular phones provided by the Motorola WAVE application.

It is highly encouraged by the PPC for agencies to consider these alternatives for their civilian/volunteer staff. While outside of the scope of the RRP, other vendor radio equipment is also an option for agencies to consider. The staff at SNO911 are available for consultation at any time.

Quantities & Configurations Provided by RRP

The following table is summarized from the spreadsheet calculations distributed amongst the Fire agencies by the PPC. The detailed spreadsheet can also be provided for further detail (and is a part of the Fire-TAC meeting distribution).



**HELP
STARTS
HERE**

1121 SE Everett Mall Way
Suite 200
Everett, WA 98208

Note: These quantities represent the final counts of subscriber equipment provided by the RRP. Additional subscriber equipment will be treated as additional scope or non-RRP equipment

| Agency Name | Portable | Mobile Radios | | | | Desktop | Portable Case | Control Head Substitutions |
|---------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|
| | | Auto-Dash | Auto-Remote, Single Head | Apparatus-Remote, Dual Head | Boat-Remote, Single Head | | | |
| Arlington FD | 44 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 per Station | Swivel-Case, leather | |
| Everett Fire | 124 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| Marysville Fire | 76 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 0 | 1 per Station | 38 Belt-Clip; 38 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| Mukilteo Fire | 31 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 per Station | 11 Belt-Clip; 10 Swivel-Case, plastic; 10 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| North County Fire | 75 | 8 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 1 per Station | Swivel-Case, leather | |
| Paine Field Fire | 24 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 1 per Station | Swivel-Case, leather | |
| South County Fire | 209 | 0 | 86 | 7 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD4 | 53 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD5 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 per Station | 33 Belt-Clip, 5 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| FD 7 (incl. FD 8) | 185 | 51 | 17 | 18 | 2 | 1 per Station | 130 Belt-Clip, 50 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| FD10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | |
| FD15 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 1 per Station | Swivel-Case, plastic | |
| FD16 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD17 | 24 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | 3 "O3s" (Dual H.) |
| FD19 | 32 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 1 per Station | 16 Swivel-Case, leather, 16 Swivel-Case, plastic | |
| FD21 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 per Station | 25 Belt-Clip; 4 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| FD22 | 37 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD23 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD24 | 39 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | 1 "O2" |
| FD25 | 23 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 per Station | 7 Belt-Clip; 10 Swivel-Case, leather | |
| FD26 | 65 | 0 | 19 | 9 | 1 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| FD27 | 16 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 per Station | Belt-Clip | |
| SNOCO Fire Marshall | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 3 Swivel-Case, plastic; 2 Belt-Clip | |