



The Corporation of the City of Cornwall
Regular Meeting of Council
Report

Department: Fire Services
Division: Fire
Report Number: 2023-01-Fire Services
Prepared By: Matthew Stephenson, Chief, Fire Services
Meeting Date: January 23, 2023
Subject: Mobile Land Radio Update

Purpose

To provide Council with an update relating from a report submitted by our consultant Planetworks Consulting Group of the current radio system requirements of the police, fire and other municipal services considering the proposed land radio upgrade.

Recommendation

That Council receive Report 2023-01-Fire Services for information purposes.

Financial Implications

A submission of \$3.1 million has been included in the 2023 budget for Council's consideration. It is recommended that the project be financed.

Strategic Priority Implications

This report is focused on Council's Strategic Plan initiative to "continue to invest in effective services and infrastructure." The report also brings focus on the protection of staff and residents which will care and provide for the needs of its residents.



Background / Discussion

The objective of this project is to develop and implement a long-term approach to provide improved and supportable radio service for Cornwall Police Services (CPS), Cornwall Fire Services (CFS), Transit, and Departments of Infrastructure, Municipal Works, Planning, Development and Recreation. The project includes the upgrade and replacement of the existing radio system, which is at, or nearing, the end of its intended lifespan.

This project was selected based on the identified need to replace antiquated radio communication systems and to potentially combine services to promote better overall coverage within the identified city departments of CPS, CFS, Transit, Municipal Works (Roads, Water and Wastewater), and Parks and Recreation.

The goal is to look toward the best service that can be provided to city departments whether an in-house or externally managed system that would comply with public safety and industry standards, while addressing the specific needs for each of the City stakeholders. A managed service would address upfront investment costs and minimize the upfront infrastructure expenditures by each city department and reduce unexpected costs.

Through a grant from the Municipal Modernization Program – Intake 2, the City of Cornwall contracted a consultant from Planetworks Consulting Corp. The consultant prepared a report and identified:

- The present life expectancy of the equipment, warranties, or maintenance agreements still in effect.
- Prioritizing each of the departmental needs and estimated future cost to replace the infrastructure.
- Identified gaps in service and provided for enhancements to provide for better coverage overall for all stakeholders.

After a fulsome review, the consultant provided several options to the team to review and discuss.

Planetworks' recommendation to Cornwall for system configuration and technology is a Simulcast Trunked System.



This approach is recommended for the following reasons:

- Provides a supportable and reliable radio system which will fulfil user requirements for the next 10-15 years,
- Supports public safety, municipal, and transit users,
- Meets the stakeholder requirements,
- Meets system performance and functional requirements, and
- Meets capacity and performance requirements within the current radio service area.

Following discussions with Council with a direction to proceed with a Simulcast Trunked System is included in the 2023 budget process.

Document Title:	Land Mobile Radio Upgrade - 2023-01-Fire Services.docx
Attachments:	- Land Mobile Proposed Upgrade.docx
Final Approval Date:	Jan 19, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Matthew Stephenson - Jan 18, 2023 - 10:17 AM

Tracey Bailey - Jan 18, 2023 - 6:50 PM

Mark A. Boileau - Jan 19, 2023 - 9:02 AM