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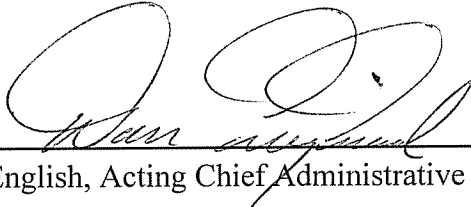


PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Halifax Regional Council
June 22, 2004

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: 17 June 2004

SUBJECT: **Integrated Communications System - Phase 3, Regional Police Upgrade**

ORIGIN

This project was derived in response to the need for a single integrated radio system capable of providing for the needs of all radio system users within HRM and inter-operability with Provincial and Federal Public Safety Agencies (RCMP).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council accept the proposal from Aliant to provide Halifax Regional Police with New Digital Radios and system integration in the amount of \$1,775,414 plus net HST for a total of \$1,836,293 from Capital Account No. CHA00160, Trunked Mobile Radio System (TMR) from the approved 2004-2005 Capital Budget. Operating funds to cover the cost of air time and other associated costs have been included in Account M315 of the 2004-2005 Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND

The requirement for new digital radios came about as a result of discussion within HRM between the Halifax Regional Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Both agencies police within the HRM boundaries and utilize the Trunked Mobile Radio System (TMR). The RCMP operate using digital technology. The HRP utilize the system using analog technology. The difference in operating systems has led to the inability for the HRP to monitor the RCMP channels, which hampered operations. The Policing Study recommendations of the perviale + taylor Report of August 2002 reinforced the need to have the police agencies both operating on a digital platform. The Policing Study created integrated investigative units that will operate on the same channels within integration of HRP and RCMP units working within the HRM boundaries. A percentage of the proposed digital radios will have the capability of going in an encrypted mode which will be able to be utilized on covert operations, eliminating the possibility of being scanned by unauthorized listeners.

The upgrading of the HRP radios is a part of the ongoing migration of HRM radio users to the TMR system. The original report to Council in July 2002 detailed the 3 year migration plan. In Phase one, Rural Fire and EMO purchased digital 418 radios; in Phase two Core fire added another 224 radios and expanded backup sites to include a repeater site for the harbour area. Phase three will be divided into two parts: the first is the HRP upgrade (purchase 305 to add to the existing 16 digital radios for a total of 321 radios) and later this year Public Works, Shared Services, Recreation and Transit will begin using the redeployed Police radios.

DISCUSSION

This is a sole source purchase because at this time the only digital radio equipment approved for use on the Aliant TMR system are Motorola products. The price quoted was received directly from the manufacturer. The radios requested are the same as those used by the RCMP and are the preferred models for policing.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This request deals specifically with the upgrade of HRP radio equipment. Another request dealing with the migration of existing HRP radio equipment to the remaining HRM business units that are not currently on the TMR system will follow.

Funding in the amount of \$1,775,414 plus net HST for a total of \$1,836,293 is available for this project from the approved 2004/05 Capital Budget. This has been confirmed by Financial Services.

Budget summary:

<u>Capital Account CHA00160, Trunked mobile Radio System (TMR)</u>	
Cumulative unspent	\$ 3,327,360
Equipment capital costs	\$ 1,728,889
System Integration costs	\$ 107,404
	<u>\$ 1,491,067</u>

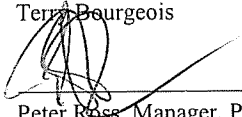
ALTERNATIVES

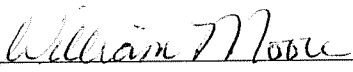
Alternative products were reviewed but are not compatible with the Aliant system or do not provide the required features of digital operations and encryption.

INFORMATION BLOCK

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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