Emergency Services Communications Users Board

August 10, 2012

TO: Rapid City Capital Improvement Planning Committee

FROM: Emergency Services Communications Users Board

RE: Request Support of Tower Expansion/Simulcast Project

The main purpose of the tower expansion simulcast project is to improve portable radio coverage and reliability for the safety of field responders in the Rapid City Metro Area. This project will improve local public safety and service responsiveness to the citizens, businesses and agencies of Pennington County and the Rapid City Metro Area through reliable voice communications for all law enforcement, fire, medical and other first responders and local public service agencies within the area. It will enhance communications coverage and reduce several existing communication gaps in the current system's coverage; selected sites provide optimum coverage for the service area. It will promote radio communications interoperability for city, county and state public safety and governmental agencies within the area as well as improve radio communications reliability with good security, redundancy and emergency power capabilities. Most importantly, it will support law enforcement, fire, medical and other first responders to increase public safety and possibly reduce loss of human life and property.

Financial support needed:
Construction costs: by first quarter of 2013: $118,800
Equipment costs: $681,480 in four annual payments of $170,370 in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017