

Whatcom County Sheriff
App # 2019-02

Whatcom County
Economic Development
Investments Program

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JACK LOUWS
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Application for Funding



Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive

Whatcom County Economic Development Investment (EDI) Program

Revolving Loan and Grant Program to Encourage Creation or Retention of Private Sector Jobs

Preliminary Information and Application

Note: The intent of this Program is to be consistent with State law, RCW 82.14.370

- 1. Who is eligible to apply:** Local general or special-purpose governments and higher education.
- 2. What projects are covered:** Construction of publically-owned infrastructure, facilities, and related improvements, which enable or encourage the creation or retention of private sector businesses and jobs in Whatcom County consistent with EDI Program Policy Objectives.
- 3. What activities are fundable:** New construction, refurbishment, replacement, rehabilitation, renovation or repair. Demolition is allowable if tied to construction. Soft costs allowed within scope of construction budget. No land acquisition except right-of-way included in a construction project.
- 4. What can you use the funds for:** Transportation (roads, bridges, rail), utility services (water, sewer, storm, energy, telecom) and public buildings or structures.
- 5. Other Limitations:** Planning/feasibility only projects are not eligible. Minimum local match is 10% of EDI request. EDI Board will make recommendations to the County Council which makes the final decision.

Preferential Project Types

First Preference – “JOBS IN HAND PROJECTS” – These types of projects will allow for the immediate creation and/or retention of jobs by providing public infrastructure that directly supports jobs. A perfect example would be a private business that will build or move into a facility and hire employees if a road is built or if water/sewer lines are extended to the site. These types of proposals would include a commitment by the private sector employer to create jobs and provide private investment.

Second Preference – “BUILD IT AND JOBS WILL COME PROJECTS” – These types of projects will construct public infrastructure but are not associated with a specific commitment from a private business to locate and/or create jobs. A perfect example would be the construction of roads and utility infrastructure to serve a new business park that would benefit multiple businesses.

Third Preference – COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS” – These types of projects generally improve the physical appearance or create community assets to enhance the business climate. Examples would be boardwalk, streetscaping, downtown structures, and other publicly-owned facilities that make a community or region more attractive to existing or future businesses.

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Preferential Project Terms

First Preference – EDI LOAN – Due to the preferred revolving nature of EDI funds, proposals that are loan only will receive higher scoring. Loan terms and interest rate structure matches the Public Works Trust Fund program. The county will maintain discretion to modify such as including a deferral period.

Second Preference – LOAN/GRANT COMBINATION – The preferred combination of grant funds and loan funds is 1/3 grant, 2/3 loan.

Third Preference – EDI GRANT – Due to the “one-shot” nature of grants, projects of equal scoring requesting a grant only will be scored lower than another similar project requesting a loan/grant mix.

Preferential* Project Amounts (Guidelines)

JOBS IN HAND PROJECTS - \$1,000,000 limit if grant only. \$2,000,000 limit if combination of grant and loan. \$3,000,000 limit if loan only.

BUILD IT AND JOBS WILL COME PROJECTS - \$500,000 limit if grant only. \$1,000,000 limit if combination of grant and loan. \$1,500,000 limit if loan only.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS - \$250,000 limit if grant only. \$500,000 limit if combination of grant and loan. \$750,000 limit if loan only.

*Based on compelling reasons, the EDI Board and County Council may consider exceptions.

Past Performance

Have you received EDI Program funding in the past? _____ Yes No

If yes, provide project name and EDI grant/loan awarded: _____

If yes, EDI Program staff and/or the EDI Board may conduct an audit to review performance measures against projected outcomes, such as job creation projections.

Has your jurisdiction received any audit findings from the Washington State Auditor in the past 10 years?
_____ Yes; _____ No. If yes, provide details:

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THRESHOLD PROJECT CRITERIA

Evidence of Planning

YES NO

 X

Project included on an adopted regional economic strategy ("CEDS" list).

 X

Project included in the applicant's Comprehensive Plan.

 X

Project included in the applicant's Capital Expenditure Plan or adopted budget.

COMMENTS: _____

THRESHOLD PROJECT SCORING

POINTS

Preferential Project Type

 10

 X Jobs In Hand

10 points

 X Build It And Jobs Will Come

5 points

 X Community Enhancement

2 points

 2

Preferential Project Terms

 Loan Only

10 points

 Loan/Grant

5 points

 2 Grant Only

2 points

 5

Preferential Project Amounts

 5 Within Dollar Limits

5 points

 Outside Preferred Dollar Limits

0 points

 17

TOTAL POINTS

To proceed to other parts of the application and to receive EDI Board review, a proposed project must score 10 or more points on the above section.

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PROJECT APPLICANT

Applicant Name: Whatcom County Sheriff's Office

Applicant Address: 311 Grand Avenue

Applicant Contact Person: Sheriff Bill Elfo

Applicant Email and Phone Number: belfo@co.whatcom.wa.us 360.778.6605

PROJECT TITLE

Phase 1 - Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project

PROJECT AMOUNT REQUESTED

\$ 515,000 EDI TOTAL - (Loan \$ _____; Grant \$ 515,000)

\$ 65,000 Local Match (10% of EDI request minimum)

PROJECT TYPE

Jobs In Hand

Build It And Jobs Will Come

Community Enhancement

PROJECT TERMS

Loan Only

Grant/Loan

Grant Only

If a loan, term requested: _____ (years)

PROJECT LOCATION: Whatcom County, Mount Constitution, Post Point and Lummi Island

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project builds a public safety radio system for use by all first responder agencies in Whatcom County, its political subdivisions, as well as adjacent counties. Whatcom County's communications backbone has been in use since the mid 1980's and has only minor upgrades since. The age of the equipment, coupled with technology changes, and increasing equipment failures have resulted in a system that is not only incompatible with regional partners, it is outdated and failing. Whatcom County arguably has the poorest public safety radio system in the State of Washington. Many areas within Whatcom County do not have adequate, or in some cases any, reliable public safety communications. Emergency Responders and the public are at risk.

The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project is an outgrowth of a multiyear effort by Emergency Responders, including Law Enforcement, Fire and Emergency Medical Services, to understand options, costs and engineering requirements. Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Electrical Engineers was retained by Whatcom County in 2015 to develop a system design to build a public safety

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radio system that maximizes public safety services and interoperable communications at the local, regional, state, federal and international levels and recommended two broad goals:

1. Hiring and training Whatcom County Radio Systems Manager;
2. Build, implement and provide interoperable communications for all Public Safety partners and agencies in Whatcom County;

The current estimated cost for this project is \$6,500,000. This EDI Project request is for Phase One – repair of failing equipment and a 50% match for hiring of a Whatcom County Radio Systems Manager.

Repair of Failing Equipment

The failing and broken communications equipment is located at Mount Constitution, Post Point, and Lummi Island. The microwave equipment is used to provide public safety dispatch for Law Enforcement and Fire in Whatcom County. The existing service has gone down numerous times over the last 10 years, and has continued to fail since July of 2018, most notably around Thanksgiving of 2018. The consequence is that WhatComm 911 cannot hear Whatcom County Sheriff's Office units, and they can no longer broadcast off of Mount Constitution. The microwave equipment between Post Point and Lummi Island is not public safety grade and causes interference. This results in problematic communications by EMS units in the field. These problems are putting public safety at risk both for the responders and the public. The estimated cost to repair this is \$450,000.

Radio Systems Manager

The Radio Systems Manager is a major identified deficiency in the Hatfield & Dawson design study and a required resource to design, build out, implement and maintain the system. In order to ensure that the immediate repairs are made to the failing systems, and to ensure that the project is implemented as designed, this request seeks a 50% match (\$65,000) of the first year's salary for the Radio System Manager, with the other 50% (\$65,000) coming from the Whatcom County General Fund.

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BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Complete the public project budget and status of funds below. If EDI funds are approved is funding 100% complete? ___ Yes X No

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Planned/Applied For</u>		<u>Secured</u>	
Federal Dollars	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	Yes ___	No <u>X</u>	Yes ___	No <u>X</u>
State Dollars	<u>\$6,500,000</u>	Yes <u>X</u>	No ___	Yes ___	No <u>X</u>
Local Dollars	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	Yes <u>X</u>	No ___	Yes ___	No <u>X</u>
EDI Funding	<u>\$515,000</u>	Yes <u>X</u>	No ___	Yes ___	No <u>X</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$9,015,000</u>				

2. Describe the amount of outside (private) funding committed to the project (eg. Plant and equipment).

This project will be funded by grant funding, general revenue funds and possibly bonds or loans.

3. Describe the public infrastructure being proposed. Include engineering estimates and a site map detailing the proposed improvements as Attachments A and B.

The infrastructure that is being proposed is described in detail in the Hatfield Dawson Study delivered in 2017. The Hatfield Dawson study is attached and includes engineering estimates and site maps for the needs of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office. Currently underway is a contract between the Fire Agency Radio System (FARS) and Hatfield Dawson to integrate the FARS system into the Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System.

Implementation of the Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project will most likely be done in Phases, beginning with this immediate repair of the broken and failing equipment; part of the "Western Whatcom" Subsystem. The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System is based on six major subsystems which can be implemented as phases. The total capital costs associated with each subsystem is shown in the table below. Breaking up the costs by sub-systems may assist with system budgeting over multiple budget cycles and with system implementation planning.

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Subsystem	Equipment Costs	Cost. Eng./ Soft Costs	Total Capital
Western Whatcom	\$2,114,395	\$713,309	\$2,827,704
Highway 542	\$205,667	\$69,387	\$275,054
Baker Lake	\$106,613	\$35,967	\$142,580
Newhalem	\$161,066	\$54,337	\$215,403
Whatcom County Emergency Operations Center	\$475,250	\$75,950	\$551,200
Whatcom County Fire Authority Radio System	\$2,100,000	\$350,000	\$2,450,000
Total	\$5,162,991	\$1,298,950	\$6,461,941

Specific project implementation are outlined below, and described in more detail in the Hatfield & Dawson report, but will include:

1. Hire Radio System Manager

In order to properly implement and maintain the new **Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System** **Whatcom County must hire a Radio System Manager**. One of the functions of a radio system manager is to interact with system users and develop an understanding of how they use the radio system and what system improvements and modifications could help make the users' daily work easier and provide improvements in day-to-day operations. Other critical functions that a Radio System Manager would provide would be to oversee the system upgrade process and assist with logistics and vendor supervision and coordination as the new system proposed in this report is implemented. Having a person on board who has a long-term interest in seeing that the system is properly installed and configured and who can respond quickly to issues brought up by the radio system contractor will help avoid having small issues escalate into larger issues, which can result in delays and associated increases in system installation costs. Having a Radio System Manager will allow for a budgeting process and prioritization of system improvements and upgrades through multiple annual budget cycles, rather than a "crisis management" approach in which system issues are only addressed when a particular piece of equipment fails or part of the system goes down. The Radio System Manager will work for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office, assigned to the Division of Emergency Management to develop both technical and operational plans for incident and disaster management. Having someone who is familiar with the entire radio system and its capabilities will definitely help develop more simple and effective ways to use the radio system as part of an emergency response plan. **The Radio System Manager must** coordinate with Washington State Patrol, WSDOT, the City of Bellingham, other Whatcom County agencies, and public safety agencies in adjacent counties to develop mutually beneficial system modifications or improvements that could be implemented on a cost-sharing basis, thereby making more efficient use of public safety funds provided by Whatcom County taxpayers.

2. Determine Funding Sources for Recommended System Replacement

The system replacement is significant enough that funding via Homeland Security funding or other sources of grant funding in addition to any funding available to Whatcom County Sheriff's Office. One of the first tasks for the group of stakeholders working on implementing this system will be to pursue system funding sources that will allow the recommended system replacement to be accomplished.

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3. Obtain Approval and “Buy-in” for the Final System Design Configuration from All Agencies Involved

This step is important to complete before an RFP for purchase of equipment is prepared and before the site approval and lease agreement process.

4. Prepare an RFP and Specifications for Purchase of Radio, Microwave, and Network Equipment

Once a system design and configuration is finalized, an RFP and a set of specification documents (equipment and installation specifications and detailed installation drawings) should be prepared to procure the equipment needed to construct the new radio system.

5. Add Repeater Sites and Microwave Interconnect Sites to Implement the Radio System Design

The steps required to add additional repeater sites to the Whatcom County public safety radio systems in order to provide the coverage and simulcast operation.

6. Determine Site Availability of Recommended Repeater and Microwave Sites

Once the decision is made to move forward with system implementation, the current availability of both tower space for antennas and building space or ground space within the site compound for equipment would need to be determined for each of the sites.

7. Modify FCC Licenses to Add New Sites to System Licenses

There will be modifications to existing radio licenses, and new sites that need to be added.

8. Obtain Land Use and/or Building Permits Required for Antenna and Equipment Installation

Depending upon the local land use and building permit requirements in each jurisdiction, permits may be required, and preparation of the application materials (including drawings) may require contracting with a firm that can provide these materials and assist with the permitting process.

9. Purchase Radio System Fixed Infrastructure Equipment, Select an Installation Contractor, and Install Site Equipment

This step includes both purchase and installation of new site equipment, as well as integration of the new site into an existing system and system optimization.

10. Purchase Any New Portable Radio Equipment, Develop a Standard Programming Template (or Templates), and Program the New Equipment for Operation on the New System.

This step includes both purchase and programming of new portable radio equipment and re-programming of existing mobile and portable radios, as well as (potentially) the development of new standard programming templates for all agencies using the new radios.

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11. User Training

Before the new system is cut over, some user training will be required to familiarize system users with the use of each simulcast subsystem, new dispatch procedures, which areas are covered by each sub-system, new radio templates, etc.

12. System Optimization, Migration and Cutover

It will be necessary to migrate to the new system as existing radio systems will have to remain in use.

13. Notify FCC of Construction Completion

Once system construction is completed, and the new system is either being tested or is in regular use, the FCC should be notified of the completion of construction for all new or modified system licenses. This is a very important step, especially since the FCC has implemented its "Auto Termination" process as part of the Universal Licensing System.

4. Describe how these improvements will enhance or encourage community vitality and stimulate other private development in the area.

Currently the ability for WhatComm & Prospect dispatch centers to use the existing Mount Constitution repeater is limited by the failing equipment and infrastructure. These improvements will enable public safety to receive dispatches and communicate with the dispatch centers.

5. List all permits and environmental reviews required for the public project and detail their status (completed, in-process, etc.)

For replacement of equipment on the existing sites, including Mount Constitution, Post Point and Lummi Island that are the three sites to be upgraded in this Phase One project, there should be few, if any, permits required as this is replacement of existing equipment on existing towers.

While this is replacement of existing infrastructure, and the engineering is 90% completed, there may be permits and environmental reviews required depending upon the local land use and building permit requirements in each jurisdiction that new equipment may be placed, permits may be required, and preparation of the application materials (including drawings) may require contracting with a firm that can provide these materials and assist with the permitting process. Permits may be driven by funding sources as well. For example, certain Department of Homeland Security Grants requires Archeological and Historical reviews and permits. For new towers and sites there will also be Federal Communication Commission permits and licenses that will be required.

	In Process	Date Completed
Preliminary Engineering	_____	4/17
Environmental Review	_____	_____

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Design Engineering	_____	4/17
Right-of-Way	_____	_____
Construction Permits	_____	_____
Environmental Permits	_____	_____
Bid Documents	_____	_____
Award Construction Contract	_____	_____
Begin Construction	_____	_____
Project Operational	_____	_____

6. Are any other public jurisdictions involved in this project? If so, in what way?

The City of Bellingham Public Works is serving as technical advisors on this as they provide radio services to WhatComm and Prospect, as well as the City of Bellingham. Skagit County 911 is also serving as technical advisors as Whatcom County and Skagit County are trying to work together where ever possible. The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System will involve multiple local partners and public jurisdictions as users of the system. This project touches and improves our entire community. Currently the following alphabetical lists of organizations have Public Safety communications requirements with Whatcom County and may be users of the system:

Whatcom County Agencies

1. Bellingham Fire Department / Medic One
2. Bellingham Police Department
3. Bellingham School District
4. Bellingham Technical College
5. Blaine School District
6. Amateur Radio Groups (WECG, Races, ARES)
7. City of Blaine Police Department
8. City of Blaine Public Works
9. City of Everson Police Department
10. City of Everson Public Works
11. City of Ferndale Police Department
12. City of Ferndale Public Works
13. City of Lynden Fire Department
14. City of Lynden Police Department
15. City of Lynden Public Works
16. City of Nooksack Police Department
17. City of Sumas Police Department
18. City of Sumas Public Works
19. Everson/Nooksack Police Department
20. Ferndale Police Department
21. Ferndale School District

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22. Lummi Nation
23. Lummi Nation Police Department
24. Lynden School District
25. Meridian School District
26. Mount Baker School District
27. Nooksack Indian Tribe
28. Nooksack Tribal Police
29. Nooksack Valley School District
30. Western Washington University Police Department
31. Whatcom Community College
32. Whatcom County Fire District 01 (Everson, Nooksack, Deming and the Nooksack Indian Tribe)
33. Whatcom County Fire District 04 (Britton Road, Agate Bay, and Van Wyck)
34. Whatcom County Fire District 05 (Point Roberts)
35. Whatcom County Fire District 07 (Ferndale, North Bellingham, and Point Whitehorn)
36. Whatcom County Fire District 11 (Lummi Island)
37. Whatcom County Fire District 14 (Sumas, Kendall, and Welcome)
38. Whatcom County Fire District 17 (Sandy Point)
39. Whatcom County Fire District 18 (South Lake Whatcom, Glenhaven, and South Bay)
40. Whatcom County Fire District 19 (Glacier)
41. Whatcom County Fire District 21 (North Whatcom Fire Rescue)
42. Whatcom County Fire District 08 (Marietta and Gooseberry Point)
43. Whatcom County Health Department
44. Whatcom County Medical Examiner
45. Whatcom County Parks and Recreation
46. Whatcom County Public Works
47. Whatcom County Search and Rescue
48. Whatcom County Sheriff
49. Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management
50. Whatcom Transit Authority
51. Port of Bellingham
52. Whatcom County Search and Rescue
53. Unincorporated Community of Diablo
54. Unincorporated Community of Newhalem
55. Unincorporated Community of Sudden Valley
56. South Whatcom Regional Fire Authority

Canadian Agencies

1. Abbotsford Police Department
2. British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program
3. Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA)
4. City of Abbotsford (British Columbia)
5. City of Delta (British Columbia)
6. City of Langley (British Columbia)

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7. City of Surry (British Columbia)
8. American Red Cross
9. Delta Police Department
10. E-Comm 911 (Lower Mainland B.C.)
11. Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Private Sector

1. BNSF Railroad
2. BP Cherry Point
3. Cascade Natural Gas
4. Century Link
5. Comcast
6. Kinder Morgan Pipeline
7. Seattle City Light
8. Shell Oil Anacortes
9. Peace Health St. Joseph Hospital
10. Phillips 66
11. Puget Sound Energy
12. Transalta Gas
13. Williams Pipeline

Adjoining Counties

1. Island County Sheriff's Office
2. San Juan County Sheriff's Office
3. Skagit County Sheriff's Office

United States Federal Agencies

1. US Coast Guard
2. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Air & Marine Operations
3. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Border Patrol
4. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Field Operations

Washington State Agencies

1. Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division
2. Washington State Department of Ecology
3. Washington State Department of Natural Resources
4. Washington State Department of Transportation
5. Washington State Patrol

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7. Who will maintain the public facility/infrastructure to be completed with EDI funds? Will this project impact utility rates within the jurisdiction?

This public infrastructure will be maintained by the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office's Radio System Manger. As described in the attached Hatfield & Dawson report, the Operations and Maintenance costs for the entire system, including all of the subsystems, are over a 15 year lifecycle. These costs include the annual full-time position for the Radio System Manager, monthly site lease costs for the sites, an annual support agreement for the alarm and monitoring system, and the annual cost of maintenance and repair of the entire new radio system. The assumed cost of system maintenance and repair is based on 5% of the total capital cost for the equipment used in the system.

While this project is not based on utility fees, users of the system will have to participate in the Operations and Maintenance costs. The exact costs will be determined by the number of users, however in other Washington jurisdictions there are costs down to the per radio annual cost. These prices range from \$30 per month (per radio) up to \$100 per month (per radio). The variability is determined by the level of service provided. On the low end users pay per radio for the use of backbone infrastructure but provide their own equipment, and on the high end users pay per radio for both backbone infrastructure and end user equipment.

8. Will this project directly generate a revenue stream that could be used to repay an EDI loan? Will this project spur indirect revenues that could be used to repay an EDI loan? If no to either question – why?

The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project may generate a revenue stream from public safety agencies for use of the system as described above for ongoing costs.

9. What other revenue sources are available for this project and have they been considered. This includes forming a Local Improvement District (LID or ULID), issuing Councilmanic Bonds, Revenue Bonds, or other source(s).

There have been no other local revenue sources for this project identified on the capital side. On the maintenance side there would be user fees to offset the ongoing Operations & Maintenance. Application for State funding has been made for the larger Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project in the amount of \$6,500,000. Whatcom County also has a small carryover budget of approximately \$60,000 in NWLEARN that is used to provide ongoing support and maintenance to the existing older system. These funds would be used for continued maintenance and support of the new system as well.

10. Describe the private development project that will be supported by this public facility project. If there is a committed private sector partner include Contingency Agreement (Attachment C).

There is no private development in this project.

11. Explain why the private development requires the proposed public improvement(s).

There is no private development in this project.

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12. What is the status of the associated private development review and permits. List all permits required and give the current status (applied for, being reviewed, issued).

	In Process	Date Completed
Environmental Review	_____	_____
Construction Permits	_____	_____
Environmental Permits	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

13. Describe the type of industry or economic activity the public development will attract. What is the strategy to attract industry to the project site?

Having a robust public safety radio network for first responders will be an attraction for any new business or industry looking to locate in Whatcom County or any of the local jurisdictions.

14. List the number of projected jobs, by type, to be retained and/or created by the private entity.

Occupation	Current Jobs Retained** (In FTEs)	# Of Jobs Created Year 1 (In FTEs)	# Of Jobs Created by Year 5 (In FTEs)	Hourly Wage of current or new position	Local Occupational Hourly Wages***
Mgmt./Admin*		1		50	N/A
Technical/Prof			2	35	
Office/Clerical			1	25	
Production					
Sales					
Skilled Crafts					
Others					
Totals				N/A	N/A

* Indicate Management positions in annual salary.

** Retained jobs are defined as jobs that would otherwise be lost from the county without this project.

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*** This column will be populated with data from the state before application is distributed and revised annually.

- a. Projected annual gross payroll for all job classifications \$220,000
- b. Describe fringe benefits the company offers to regular full time employees?

(health insurance, retirement plans, etc.)

The positions that may be created over the life of this project would all be Whatcom County employees. The Radio System Manager would be an Unrepresented Employee, and the technical and office clerical would be Master Employees. Attached to this application are descriptions for both classifications.

15. How does this project support the economy of Whatcom County and how does it fit into a county-wide economic development strategy?

When companies look to relocate, expand their existing business, or are recruiting new employees to come to Whatcom County, one of the cornerstones for our economic development strategy should be *"In addition to all the other benefits here in Whatcom County, we have a world class public safety infrastructure"* A robust public safety radio network for first responders will be an attraction for any new business or industry looking at Whatcom County.

16. What will the effect of this project be on the natural environment – does the project address any issues related to public health, pollution, or quality of life?

There should be no effect on the natural environment as this is replacement of existing and outdated equipment on existing sites.

17. Does this project address any existing issues related to public safety and/or does it increase public safety in the future or address a potential future public safety issue?

This project is a public safety project and will increase public safety now, and into the future. The Whatcom County Integrated Public Safety Radio System Project builds a public safety radio system for use by all first responder agencies in Whatcom County, its political subdivisions, as well as adjacent counties. Whatcom County's communications backbone has been in use since the mid 1980's and has only minor upgrades since. The age of the equipment, coupled with technology changes, and increasing equipment failures have resulted in a system that is not only incompatible with regional partners, it is outdated and failing. Whatcom County arguably has the poorest public safety radio system in the State of Washington. Many areas within Whatcom County do not have adequate, or in some cases any, reliable public safety communications. Emergency Responders and the public are at risk.

18. Describe specific quantifiable measures of the outcomes, other than purely jobs, that will demonstrate project success. Describe how you will measure this and explain what you expect to show as progress toward the outcome.

This project can be measured by an operational public safety radio system.

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Application for Funding – Certification

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THIS APPLICATION TO WHATCOM COUNTY FOR INVESTMENTS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.



Signature of Responsible Public Official: _

4.11.2019

Date _

Attachment A - Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers Study Summary Statement

This ***“System Design Report Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office & Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office Division of Emergency Management”*** contains a complete system design for a new Public Safety radio system intended to provide improved radio coverage and system capacity for Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS agencies in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County, and to provide for interoperable communication among these agencies and agencies in adjacent counties.

The system design is based on specific design objectives which were developed from the user needs and requirements identified through the surveys, user interviews, and other information gathered and summarized in a previous report by Hatfield & Dawson titled: ***“Needs Analysis Report; City Of Bellingham/Whatcom County Emergency Communications System Engineering Project”***.

These design objectives and the system design constraints imposed on the system design by both the physical circumstances in Whatcom County (topography and required coverage areas), and the regulatory environment and system licensing requirements imposed by the FCC and by Whatcom County’s proximity to Canada, are described in detail in the report.

The proposed system is based on six major subsystems which can be implemented as phases. The total capital costs associated with each subsystem is shown in the table below. Breaking up the costs by subsystems may assist with system budgeting over multiple budget cycles and with system implementation planning.

Subsystem	Equipment Costs	Cost. Eng./ Soft Costs	Total Capital
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Whatcom County Fire Authority Radio System	\$2,100,000	\$350,000	\$2,450,000
Total	\$5,162,991	\$1,298,950	\$6,461,941

The new system consists of four separate “simulcast” subsystems, one of which covers western Whatcom County, and the other three which cover areas in the eastern portion of the County: the Mt. Baker Highway, the Baker Lake area, and the Newhalem-Ross Dam area.

The system design includes a new interconnect system made up of both fiber links and new and existing licensed microwave radio links. The interconnect system

provides the audio and control connections necessary to link the simulcast repeater sites back to the WhatComm dispatch center which provides Law Enforcement dispatch services for Whatcom County

The report concludes with a high level Implementation Plan which describes the steps required to put the proposed system into operation.

The O&M (“Operations and Maintenance”) costs for the entire system (including all of the subsystems shown above) over a 15 year lifecycle are shown in the table below. These costs include the one annual full-time Radio System Manager, monthly site lease costs for the sites shown in the system design that will require site leases, an annual support agreement for the alarm and monitoring system proposed for the new system, and the annual cost of maintenance and repair of the entire new radio system. The assumed cost of system maintenance and repair is based on 5% of the total capital cost for the equipment used in the system.

Present Value (PV) of Recurring Costs (15-Years, 4% cost of money, 3% Inflation)

Item or Category	Quantity	Unit	Annual or Monthly Cost	NPV - 15 Years
Radio System Manager (annual)	1	LOT	\$113,299	\$1,673,200
Maintenance, Repair & Upgrades (annual)	1	LOT	\$103,113	\$1,522,700
Monitor & Alarm System Support (annual)	1	LOT	\$5,622	\$83,000
New Site Leases (monthly)	1	LOT	\$20,350	\$3,634,000
Total Recurring O&M Costs - 15 Years			\$242,384	\$6,912,900

NOTE: NPV = Net Present Value; FV =

Attachment B - Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers Western Whatcom Simulcast

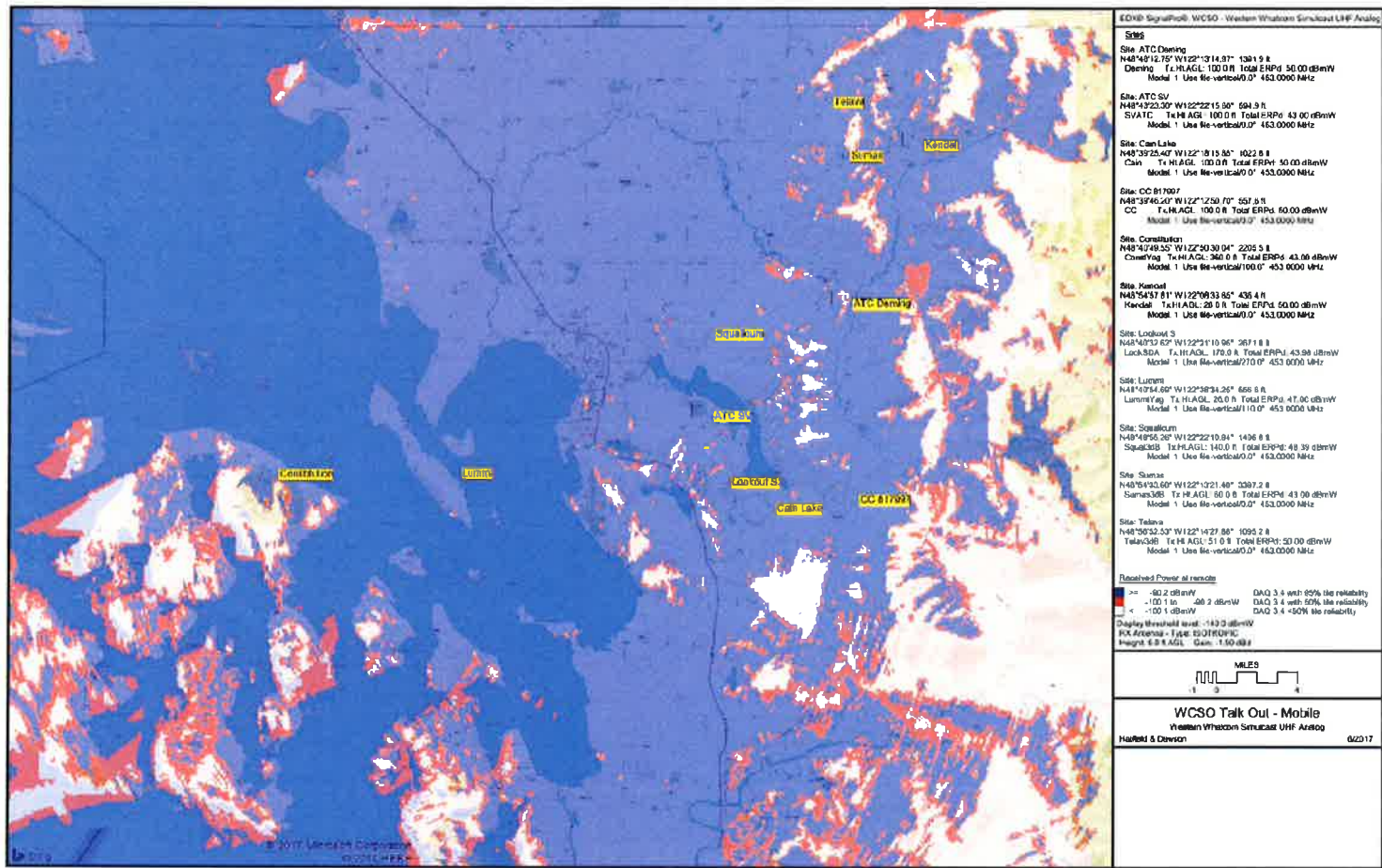


Figure 17 – Western Whatcom County Simulcast Sub-System – UHF Narrowband Analog Mobile Radio Talk-Out Coverage

Attachment B - Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers Baker Lake Non-Simulcast

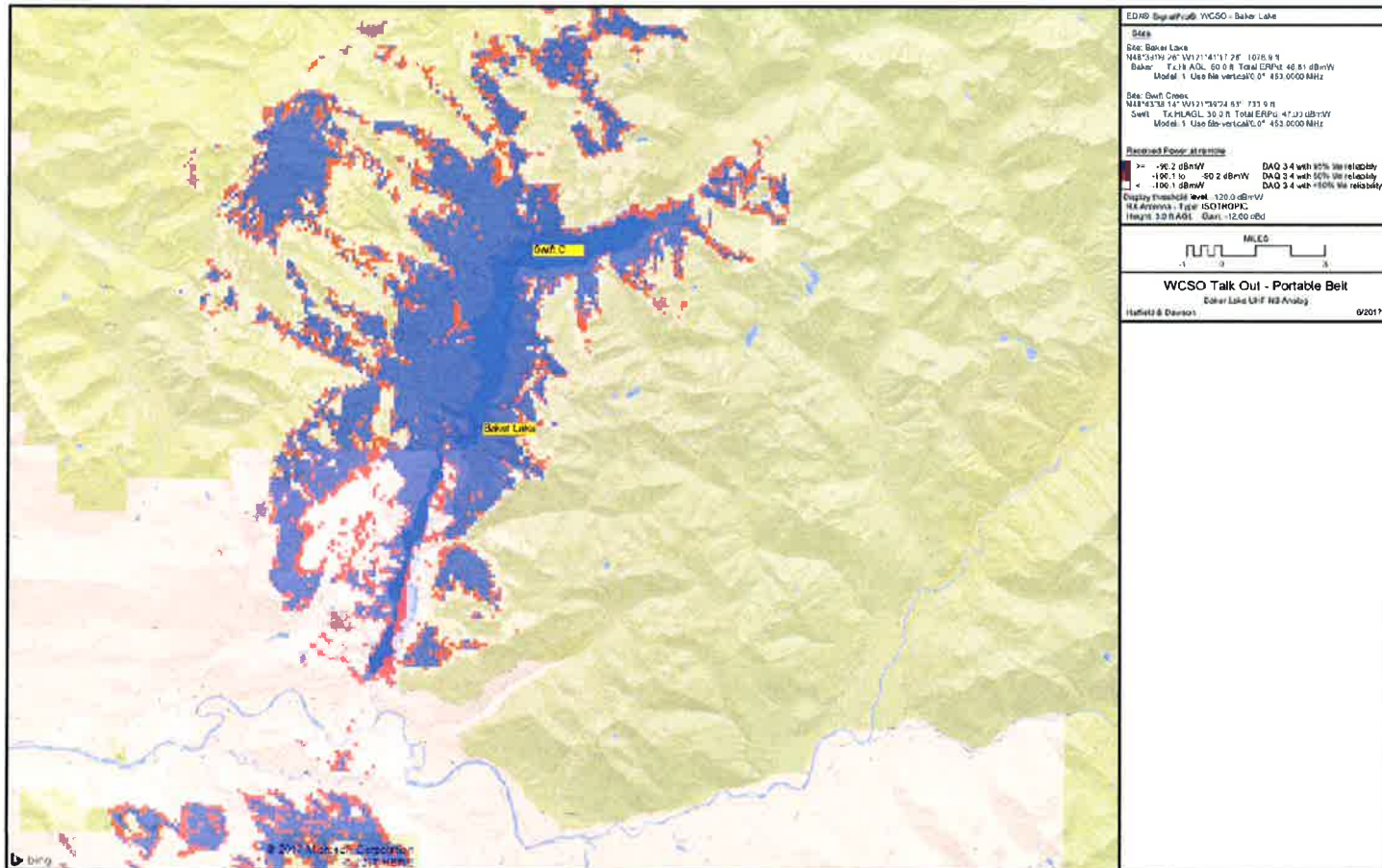
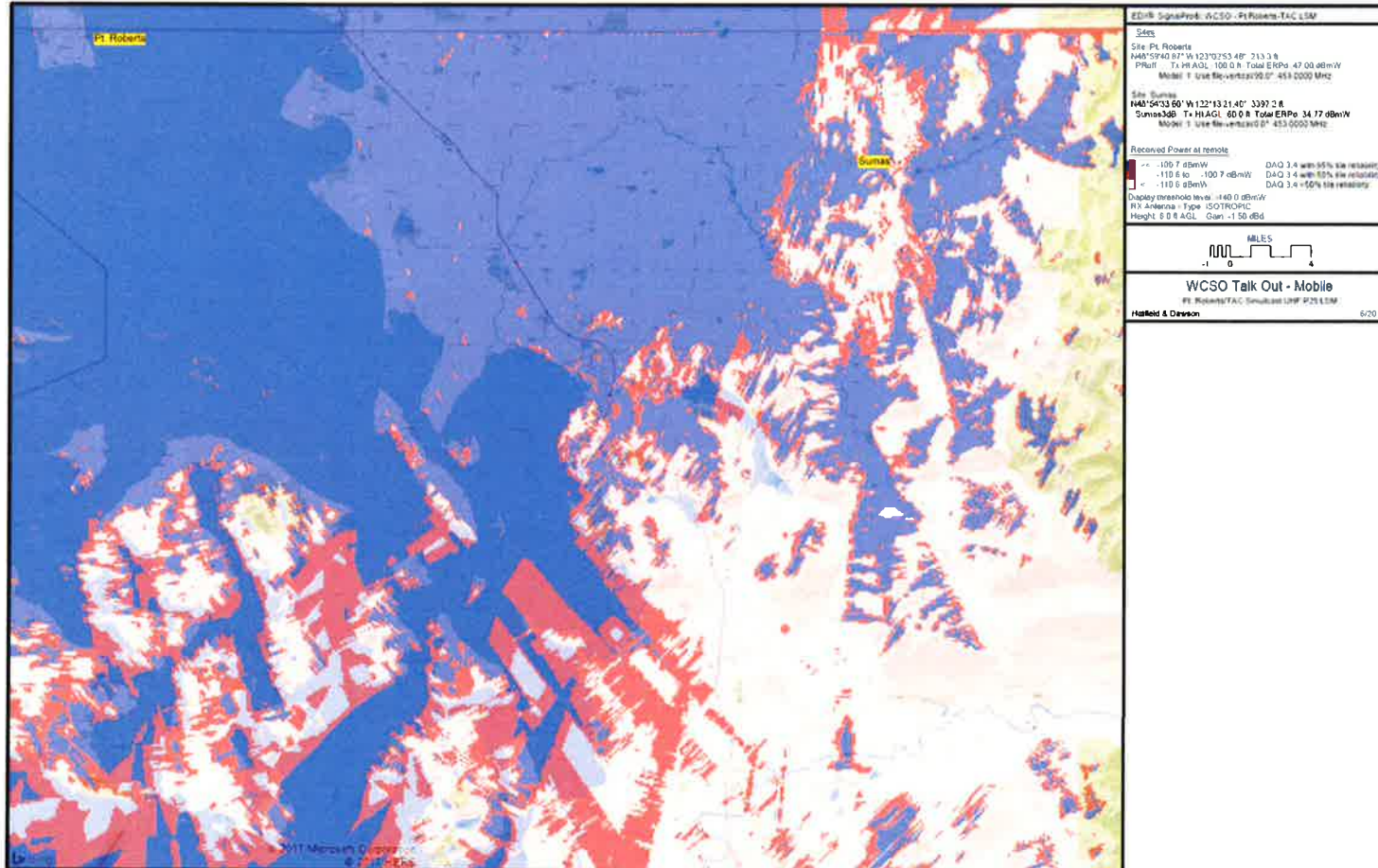


Figure 21 – Baker Lake Non-Simulcast Sub-System – UHF Narrowband Analog Portable Radio Talk-Out Coverage

Attachment B - Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers Pt. Roberts/TAC Simulcast Sub-System



Attachment B - Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers Mt. Baker Highway Simulcast Sub-System

