



MEMORANDUM

FILED

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DAVID H. YAMASAKI
Chief Executive Officer/Clerk,
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY T. ALDYCK

DATE: August 23, 2011

TO: Honorable Richard J. Loftus, Presiding Judge, Santa Clara County Superior Court

FROM: Governing Body, City of Los Altos

SUBJECT: Responses to Findings and Recommendations in the Final Report by the 2010-2011 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury; "Can You Hear Me Now?" Emergency Dispatch in Santa Clara County.

Finding 1

Dispatch consolidation would result in more cost-effective and efficient emergency response and should be implemented throughout Santa Clara County.

Response 1

Respondent (City of Los Altos) agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1

Jurisdictions which maintain their own dispatching centers – Campbell, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, the City of Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale – and all jurisdictions which use Santa Clara County Communications for dispatch – Cupertino, Los Altos Hills, and Saratoga – should consolidate dispatch with neighboring jurisdictions and, where appropriate, should issue RFPs to do so.

Response 1

The recommendation has been implemented. The cities of Los Altos, Palo Alto and Mountain View are in the process of collaborating on a joint virtual dispatch center consolidation project. Requests For Proposals (RFPs) for portions of the project have been issued.

Finding 2

Radio equipment has not been standardized and impedes effective countywide communication and emergency dispatch.

Response 2

Respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 2

Jurisdictions which maintain their own dispatching centers – Campbell, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, the City of Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale; all jurisdictions which use Santa Clara County Communications for dispatch – Cupertino, Los Altos Hills, and Saratoga; the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office; and Santa Clara County, should continue to work with the Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Association to achieve countywide standardization of radio technology.

Response 2

The recommendation has been implemented. The City is now working with the Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Association (SVRIA) to achieve a countywide standardization of radio technology. A City representative sits on the SVRIA Working Committee and Radio Interoperability sub-committee. The City has issued an RFP to implement a mutual aid radio channel for the cities of Los Altos, Palo Alto and Mountain View. The system will be scalable to allow other agencies to join.

End of Response Report