

Alaska Land Mobile Radio**FY2004 Request: \$680,000**
Reference No: 37949**AP/AL:** Appropriation
Category: Development**Project Type:** Construction**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Dan Spencer**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5655**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2003 - 06/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Funding will be used to continue the process of converting Federal, State, and local emergency communications systems to technology that will provide for interoperability (the ability of different agencies with different communications systems to communicate across jurisdictions and with each other).

Funding:	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$680,000						\$680,000
Total:	\$680,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$680,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

FY1998 \$485,000 GF; FY2001 \$850,000 ISF, \$350,000 Federal; FY2002 \$1,153,178 GF, \$539,900 ISF, \$14,893,700 Federal

Project Description/Justification:**Alaska Land Mobile Radio Project**

Communications is an important aspect of Homeland Defense, and land mobile radio systems are the most essential component of communications. The inability to effectively communicate between public safety responders at all levels of government during day-to-day operations and responding to natural and man-made disasters has been problematic over the years. The events of September 11th have emphasized the immediate need for improvements in secure interoperable communications among public safety first responders.

The federal, state and local public safety community in Alaska is currently using a wide variety of aged (10-30 year old) unsecure radio communication systems, which are the primary communications devices that support mutual aid and task force/homeland defense missions. Each of these systems has been implemented independently, use different manufacturers proprietary technology and different portions of the radio frequency spectrum. The result is an inability to communicate with one another when needed.

To address this problem, the Alaska Land Mobile Radio Project team has completed a planning and system design phase of the ALMR project and is currently implementing the Concept Demonstration phase of the project.

The Concept Demonstration Project will implement a demonstration system to illustrate the increased benefits and new interoperable capabilities of ALMR. The ALMR project team has developed functional goals that will be met during the Concept Demonstration Project and are listed below:

- ? Total federal, state and local government public safety, first responder interoperability in the Fairbanks area,
- ? Wide area connectivity (seamless statewide secure interoperable communications for first responders),
- ? Ted Stevens Airport and Municipality of Anchorage, first responder interoperability with existing 800Mhz system,
- ? Command & control and first responder connectivity and interoperability with statewide remote FAA sites through FAA backbone,
- ? Evaluation of APCO P25 standards based public safety communications multiple vendor equipment,
- ? Connectivity to and secure communications with DOT/Coast Guard maritime communications systems,
- ? Connectivity to DOT highway communications system for mobile data transmission to expedite road maintenance in urban and rural Alaska and interoperable communications for road maintenance personnel,
- ? Business model that will define a fiscally sound path to implement and operate a fully deployed ALMR system across the state by federal, state, and local government public safety entities,

To meet these goals critical equipment was purchased which includes a system controller and related equipment for the build out of 5 sites. Concurrent to the Concept Demonstration Project the DOD will be building out the first 9 northern region sites of Phase 1 and also purchase a controller. Redundant controllers will ensure future system redundancy, security and reliability.

Homeland Security Exercise Support, March 10-14, 2003:

In November 2002 the DoD requested that the ALMR Concept Demonstration system support the communications needs of the Northern Edge training exercise in Valdez on March 10-15, 2003. Approval was subsequently received from the ALMR Executive Council and the ALMR State Steering Committee to proceed. The plan calls for the relocation of existing Concept Demonstration equipment and collocating it with existing equipment at the State of Alaska facilities in Valdez. The exercise will involve the use of up to 300 radios, loaned to the project by the Department of Justice, and will be issued to Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, State Trooper, Valdez Police, Fire and EMS, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, Doyon, Valdez Community Hospital and Marine Highways.

At the conclusion of the Concept Demonstration Project and completion of DOD initial 9 site build out anticipated for the end of second quarter 2003, the Fairbanks coverage area will have "a live" land mobile radio system operating that will provide interoperable capabilities for public safety first responders including the military. The Fairbanks area system will be showcased to gain further support from the user communities and show increased benefits and capabilities of the new equipment. Transition plans as well as operations and maintenance plans are currently underway. Also costs of operation, existing site preparation and implementation costs will be captured and used as a baseline estimates for future project deployment.

The completion of the North Zone phase of the ALMR project has been estimated to cost a total of \$6.8 million for the following projects:

- ? Site preparation upgrades for 34 north zone radio sites (Phase 1 – 8 sites, Phase 2 - 20 sites)
- ? Installation and implementation of radio repeaters at these sites servicing the highway from Fairbanks to Valdez and Fairbanks to the Mat-Su Valley, where the south zone begins,
- ? Program and systems implementation management,
- ? Preparation of frequency applications and licensing fees,
- ? Subscriber units for users in the northern region.

The State anticipates this will be funded on a 90% Federal, 10% State funding ratio. The project has already received enough Federal Receipts authority from past legislative appropriations. We continue to work with the Alaska delegation in Washington D.C. to secure federal appropriations and/or grants, and expect to receive additional federal grants over the next year. This request for \$680,000 from the general fund is the amount expected to be needed for the state's match.

