



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD RADIO TECHNICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

September 23, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

This meeting will be conducted in-person at the **MESB Board Room, 2099 University Ave W, St. Paul** and online at [WebEx Link](#). If prompted, please use meeting number 2550 269 8323 and password Radio. To call in by phone, dial 408.418.9388.

1. **Call to Order** – Chair
2. **Roll Call/Attendance**
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Chair
4. **Approval of Minutes of August 19, 2026 Meeting (page 2)** – Chair
5. **Action Items**
 - A. MAC Participation Plan Amendment (page 6)– Adam Vnuk
 - B. Metro Transit Participation Plan Amendment Follow-Up (page 9) – Chad LeVasseur
 - C. 2027 Regional Funding Priorities (page 14) – Tracey Fredrick
 - D. Remaining 2026 Meeting Dates Follow-Up – Fredrick
6. **Moves, Additions, & Changes to the System**
7. **Committee Reports**
 - A. System Managers Group/Metro Administrators – Ron Jansen
 - B. MnDOT ARMER System Update – Nick Schatz/Dave Klema
 - C. SECB Committees
 - i. Steering – Fredrick/Jill Rohret
 - ii. LMR – Mike Mihelich/Nate Timm
 - iii. WBBA – Rod Olson/Ryan Emberland
 - iv. IOC/ICT Workgroup – Timm/Jansen/Dan Anderson
 - v. IPAWS – Scott Haas
 - vi. Finance/Grants Workgroup – Fredrick/Rohret
8. **Other Business**
 - A. ME TAC Permissions Update – Fredrick
 - B. Stier Bill/Legislative Task Force Update – Open Discussion
 - C. Change Management Items – Open Discussion
9. **Adjourn**

Reminder: Next meeting scheduled for October 28, 2026.

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

Radio Technical Operations Committee

**August 19, 2026
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Members

Airport – Jeff Bjorklund
Anoka County – Chris Spetcher
Carver County – **absent**
Chisago County – Mike Parker
Dakota County – Ron Jansen
Hennepin County – Jake Thompson
Isanti County – Clinton Maxson
Metro Region EMS – Victoria Vadnais

Metro Transit – Chad LeVasseur
Minneapolis – Rod Olson
Minnesota Fire Chiefs – Jon Rasch (*remote*)
Ramsey County – Mike Mihelich
Scott County – Scott Haas
Sherburne County – **absent**
Washington County – Nate Timm (*remote, late arrival*)
U of M – **absent**

Reason(s) for Remote Attendance: Not in a position to travel at this time.

Guests: Kristen Aronen, *Hennepin County (remote)*; Leticia Cardenas, *City of Minneapolis*; Derek DiPietro, *Motorola*; Mark Erickson, *South Metro Fire (remote)*; Dalton Gruber, *City of Bloomington*; Ted Hutson, *Motorola*; Merlin Koskela, *Hennepin County (remote)*; Mike Melby, *North Memorial (remote)*; Marty O'Malley, *Motorola*; Nick Schatz, *MnDOT*; Adam Vnuk, *Airport*; Susie Wiegele, *Motorola*; and Scott Zaputil, *Motorola*.

MESB Staff: Tracey Fredrick and Jacob Kallenbach.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by 2026 Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) Chair, Jake Thompson, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was performed.

3. Approval of Agenda

Tracey Fredrick said items '5D: Meeting Dates 2026/2027' and '8D: Regional Funding Priorities' will be added to the August 2026 Radio TOC meeting agenda.

Motion made by Victoria Vadnais, seconded by Clinton Maxson to approve the August 2026 Radio TOC meeting agenda. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2026 Meeting

Motion made by Chad LeVasseur, seconded by Mike Mihelich to approve the June 24, 2026, Radio TOC meeting minutes. Motion carried.

5. Action Items

A. COMU Recognitions/Renewals

i. Alex Babcock INTD Recognition

Fredrick said Alex Babcock is seeking his initial INTD recognition. Babcock currently works for Dakota 911. He attended the Camp Ripley COMMEX in 2024 to complete the position task book. The meeting materials include all necessary course certificates and agency approval to be initially recognized as an INTD.

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

Motion made by Ron Jansen, seconded by Vadnais to approve the initial INTD recognition of Alex Babcock. Motion carried.

ii. Elias Charif COML Renewal

Fredrick said Elias Charif is seeking a COML renewal. Charif works at M Health Fairview. He is gaining renewal points for attending an exercise where he functioned as a COML and an additional exercise where he served as a COML evaluator. Charif has agency support to continue to be recognized as a COML.

Motion made by Vadnais, seconded by Jeff Bjorklund to approve the COML renewal of Elias Charif. Motion carried.

iii. Bobby Adney COML Renewal

Fredrick said Bobby Adney is seeking a COML renewal. Adney currently works for the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. He is seeking renewal points from attending continuing education courses and for authorizing ICS 205s. Adney does have agency support to continue to be recognized as a COML. Fredrick raised concerns that have been provided to her about the application.

Motion made by Mike Mihelich, seconded by Jansen to send the application for further review to the CRTF Steering Committee. Motion carried.

B. Bloomington Participation Plan Amendment

Dalton Gruber said the City of Bloomington is requesting a participation plan amendment regarding its console connection to the zone 2 controller. Bloomington is looking to geo-diversify its console site links. The city is looking to keep the microwave link but connect one of its console site routers to a point-to-point fiber link from Bloomington PSAP to the Parkers Lake Zone 2 controller. This will provide redundancy for its PSAP. MnDOT has reviewed and approved the plan.

Motion made by Scott Haas, seconded by Bjorklund to approve the Bloomington Participation Plan amendment. Motion carried.

C. Metro Transit Participation Plan Amendment

Chad LeVasseur said Metro Transit is requesting a participation plan amendment as it is planning on upgrading and expanding its Transit Communication Center (TCC) and Emergency Backup Center (EBC) consoles. Metro Transit plans to upgrade the 14 TCC consoles from MCC 7500 to the Motorola AXS consoles and add an additional 16 Motorola AXS to the TCC location. Metro Transit plans to move 4 of the MCC 7500 consoles currently at the TCC site to the EBC site for a total of 10 consoles at the EBC location. Metro Transit is requesting approval for 35 new talkgroup ID's, bringing the grand total to 95 talkgroups. LeVasseur stated this is an emergency request as the current site has had construction damage that makes the building dangerous for work.

Nick Schatz asked for the console site numbers and for more design details.

LeVasseur said the Minneapolis site would have 30, and the St Paul site would have 15. He will look to provide more design details in the future.

Haas suggests that the committee approve the initial nine console move to the backup center for the sake of the building emergency, and table the remaining, more in-depth portions of the 30 counsel backhaul/bandwidth issues for the next Radio TOC meeting.

Motion made by Mihelich, seconded by Vadnais to approve Metro Transit's nine console move

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

to the backup center, and to table the remaining 30 console backhaul/bandwidth/talkgroup portion for a future Radio TOC meeting. Motion carried.

D. Meeting Dates for Rest of 2026/Early 2027

Fredrick said there is potential for meeting date conflicts with the ARMER Task Force and proposed the Radio TOC meet on an every other month schedule for the remainder of 2026 and early 2027 until the Task Force work is completed.

Motion made by Bjorklund, seconded by Chris Spetcher to approve every other month Radio TOC meeting schedule for the remainder of 2026 and early 2027. Motion carried.

6. Moves, Additions, and Changes to the System – None

7. Committee Reports

A. Metro Mobility Usage Update

There are no new updates.

B. System Managers Group/Metro Administrators

There are no new updates.

C. MnDOT ARMER System Update

Schatz said the quarter 2 Moto patch window security updates became available in late July 2026. The Genesis update will be received in September 2026 and will provide free training for the newly updated application.

D. SECB Committees

i. Steering

Fredrick said the committee met and had no action items. The committee heard a presentation from the Director of the SECB and discussed continuing plans for the SCIP.

ii. LMR

Mihelich said the LMR committee meeting was cancelled.

iii. WBBA

Rod Olson said the committee met and had a presentation on the history of the SECB and Radio Board. The committee also discussed WBBA priorities.

iv. IOC/ICT

There are no new updates.

v. IPAWS

Haas said the committee discussed the creation of a standard for requesting participation in changes that would align with other Technical Operations Committees (TOCs) and how they authorize changes/requests.

vi. Finance/Grants

Fredrick said the committees met and discussed SECB grant applications. The evaluation team will meet and score the grants prior to Labor Day and the intent is to have a grant award proposal to the SECB for its September meeting. Both committees also discussed creating a standard template for the Regional Needs Documents and a review of the SECB budget.

8. Other Business

A. ME TAC Permissions Update

There are no new requests.

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

B. Stier Bill/Legislative Task Force Update

The task force had an introductory meeting focused on dates, goals, and site visits. Additional updates will be mentioned as the task force continues to meet.

C. Change Management Items

There are no new items.

D. Regional Funding Priorities

Fredrick said the Radio TOC members should think about and discuss regional funding priorities as the group will need to take action in the October 2026 meeting.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

DRAFT



Metropolitan Airports Commission

6040 - 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450 • 612-726-8100 • metroairports.org

September 10, 2026

Chair Thompson
MESB Radio TOC

Chair Thompson,

The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) is building a new PSAP on the MSP Airport campus and is set to open sometime later in 2027. As part of this addition the MAC is requesting a couple changes to our participation plan to allow for training on the new Motorola AXS consoles as well as the addition of a new console site and finally reconfiguration of our existing console site.

Existing Conditions

Today the MAC operates 1 PSAP which consists of 5 MCC7500E console positions with VPMs, an AIS and NM Client. We are connected to Zone 2 and operate as console site 23 with dual site links. One link utilizes our microwave spur link to the Hennepin County Golden Valley site, the second link utilizes Hennepin County fiber. Our site equipment is located in an equipment room on the other end of the building and we are currently connecting the AMRER switches between the PSAP and the main equipment room in the building using fiber media converters.

Phase 1

The MAC is requesting to add 1 new AXS console to our existing console site, Zone 2, site 23. We currently have 5 console positions in our existing PSAP. We have a backup site that currently utilizes our Motorola Avtec consoles. We plan to add one AXS console to this backup center to allow staff time to train on this new technology as well as acceptance testing. We intend to connect this single console via MAC fiber utilizing media converters.

As part of this first phase of work, we are also planning to upgrade the links between our console site equipment and the PSAP computer room by removing the media converters currently in use and connect the ARMER switches together using single mode fiber SFPs inserted into the switches. This work was designed and procured through Motorola. This will remove a point of failure by removing the media converters now that Motorola supports the SFP configuration.

Phase 2

The MAC will build out our new console site, Zone 2, site 24 (assigned by MnDOT). This new site will eventually consist of 10 AXS console positions, however when we open we will have 7 positions installed, 2 site routers, 2 CCGWs, 4 switches, a conventional site controller, MC Edge Aux I/O server, and a couple APX 8000 control stations for backup resources. We plan to move the 1 AXS console from our backup site that was used for training to our new PSAP as an 8th position as well as moving our existing NM client to the new site. Radio logging will currently remain at our existing site.

The MAC currently utilizes two diverse connections back to Zone 2. The MAC owns a microwave spur link to the Hennepin County Golden Valley site. The second link utilizes Hennepin County fiber. The new console site will require 20 mbps of bandwidth per the Motorola design. That bandwidth will not be an issue on the fiber link. The existing microwave link will be upgraded in 2027 to ethernet backhaul and will not have an issue with the proposed bandwidth either.

Phase 3

This final phase will consist of upgrading our existing PSAP from 5 MCC7500E consoles and 1 AIS to AXS consoles and relocating 2 of the 5 positions to our new PSAP. This work will happen after we move operations to our new PSAP. This would complete our new PSAP build to the final total of 10 positions and our existing PSAP would be transitioned to a hot backup center with 3 console positions. Both sites would have the same equipment for continuity.

The MAC has contracted with Motorola Solutions to do the installation of each phase.

See the attached diagram.

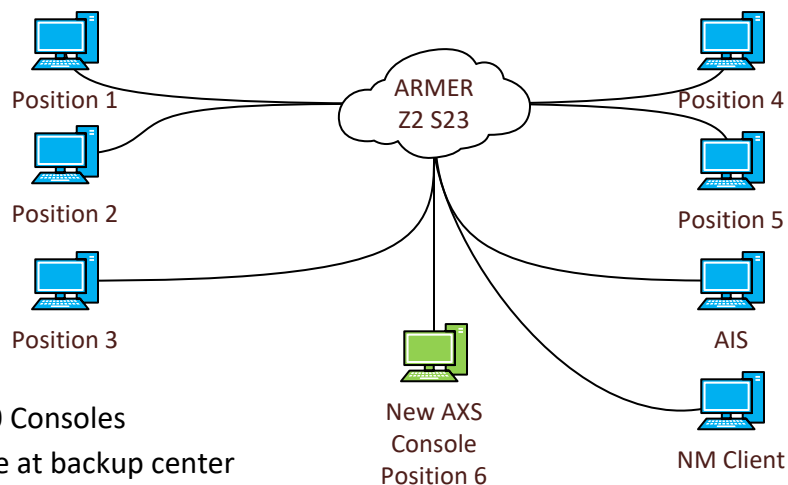
Respectfully,

Jeff Bjorklund
Principal Telecommunications Engineer
Metropolitan Airports Commission

Z2 S23 = Existing PSAP
Z2 S24 = New PSAP

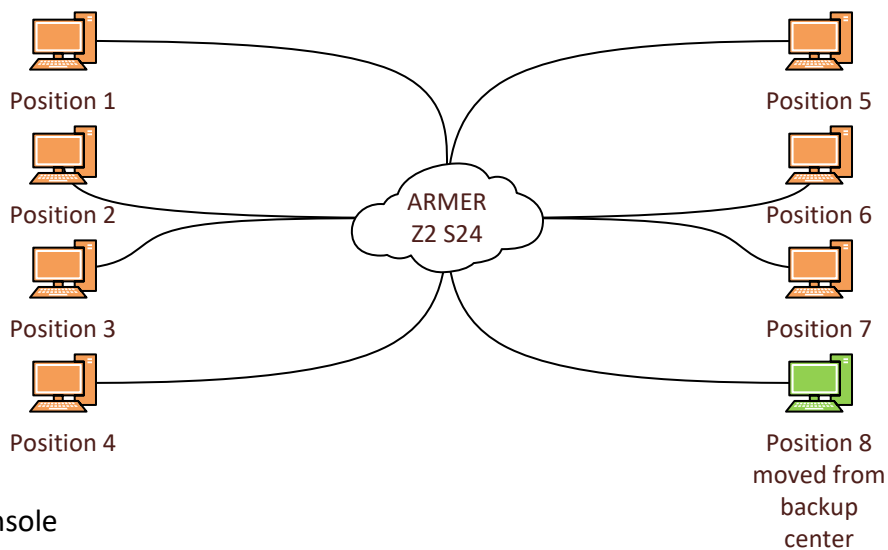


Phase 1



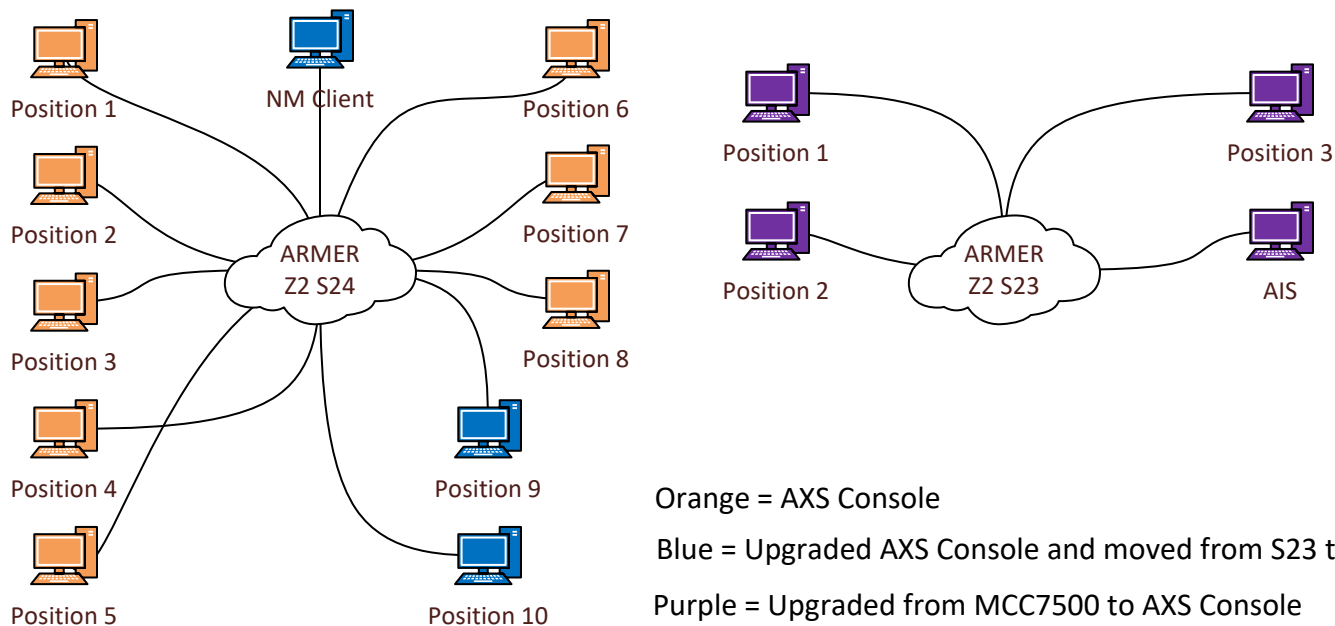
Blue = Existing MCC 7500 Consoles
Green = New AXS Console at backup center

Phase 2



Orange = New AXS Console
Green = AXS Console moved from S23 backup center to new center

Phase 3



Orange = AXS Console
Blue = Upgraded AXS Console and moved from S23 to S24
Purple = Upgraded from MCC7500 to AXS Console



Date: 8/20/26

To: Chair T. John Cunningham, DPS, SECB

From: Chad LeVasseur, Metro Transit

RE: Participation Plan Emergency Variance

Metro Transit would like to request an emergency variance for its ARMER participation plan under the SECB's Gov-1 emergency variance procedure.

Reason for Request

The Transit Control Center (TCC) is under construction, during a brief period we have been operating out of our Emergency Backup Center (EBC). The original plan was to return to the TCC once the roof was completed as the EBC is not large enough to sustain long-term operations. Our Safety Department has unexpectedly deemed the TCC unsafe for employees to return until all construction is completed at the end of the year. The State Fair is the busiest time of the year for Metro Transit and following the normal amendment process would put us past the end of the State Fair before the MESB and LMR would meet for approval.

Description of Requested Variance

Metro Transit is requesting to move nine MCC 7500 consoles from the TCC location in Minneapolis to the EBC location in St Paul. This would expand the EBC from six MCC 7500 consoles to fifteen.

Timeline for Variance

Metro Transit is requesting a 1-month emergency variance until the LMR and MESB can meet for approval on September 8th and 9th respectively.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this request.

X 

Chad LeVasseur

Metro Transit Communications System Mana...

Best Regards,
Chad LeVasseur
Metro Transit Communications Systems Manager
Chad.LeVasseur@metrotransit.org

cc-ed: Eamonn Schmitz, SECB Executive Director

Shane Chatleain, Statewide Radio Communications Director, MnDOT

Chad LeVasseur
Manager, Communication Systems
Metro Transit

Good afternoon,

This letter is to notify you of the results of your request for an emergency variance under the SECB's [Gov-1](#) emergency variance procedure.

This procedure allows for the Chair of the SECB, or designee, to approve a temporary variance until the official consideration process is completed and a permanent amendment can be approved.

Your request to move nine MCC 7500 consoles from the Metro Transit "Transit Control Center" (TCC) location in Minneapolis to the Metro Transit "Emergency Backup Center" (EBC) location in St Paul is **approved**.

This variance **extends to September 24, 2026**, at which point the full request will have been considered by the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Committee of the SECB and the full Board of the SECB, as well as all applicable Metropolitan Emergency Services Board committees. At that point the variance will expire, and the decision of those bodies will stand.

To comply with the text of the SECB's Gov-1 procedure, **please submit both the original amendment request and the emergency request separately**, to allow the Committees and Boards to consider each independently.

Thank you,

T. John Cunningham
Chair of the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB)
Minnesota Department of Public Safety

X

T. John Cunningham
Assistant Commissioner of Emergency Services,...

X

Jill Rohret
Executive Director, Metropolitan Emergency Ser...

08/20/2026

cc-ed:

Eamonn Schmitz, SECB

Nathan Smolinski, DPS

Shane Chatleain, MnDOT

Tracey Fredrick, MESB

EBC Temporary Expansion Plan



Comcast Backhaul
2 10 mbps circuits



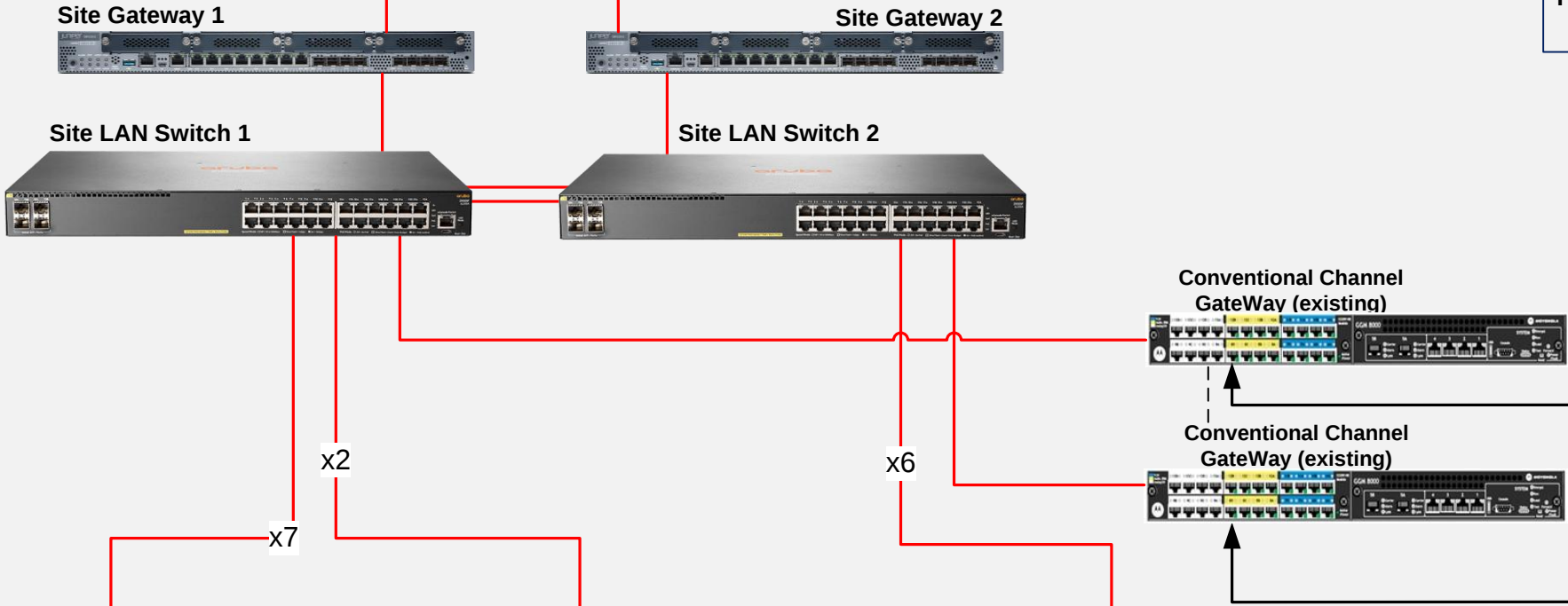
Located:
DOT Central Office, Saint Paul
Water Edge, Roseville

LEGEND

- T1/ Leased Line
- 10/100 BaseT
- Freq Reference
- Other

Black text - Existing equipment
Blue text - New equipment

EBC Computer Room



TNCT Minimum CIR (kbps):
2504

Backup Radio
Consolettes x6

Dispatch Console #1

...

Dispatch Console #7

Room 1007

Dispatch Console #1

...

Dispatch Console #2

EBC Supervisor Office

Dispatch Console #1

...

Dispatch Console #6

Existing EBC Consoles



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date:

October 28, 2026

Agenda Item:

**4C. Approval of 2027 Regional
Funding Priorities**

Presenter:

Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio TOC must determine annual funding priorities to apply for any open grants.

MESB Staff applied for the following items from the recommended list in 2026 (in priority order):

- Communications Response Task Force (CRTF) training/exercise (\$2000)
- Assistance to attend Public Safety Communications Conferences (\$17000)

It is recommended to come up with a list of 3-5 top priorities for application, should funding be available.

BACKGROUND

Emergency Communication Networks (ECN) Division and the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) require regions to annually approve regional funding priorities. These priorities are to include projects/items/concepts for which regions can apply for grant funds through the SECB process. In the past, grants were only open to radio projects.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

The SECB grant is structured so that both 9-1-1 and radio projects apply for the same grant funds and are included in the same competitive structure.

State grant objectives and SECB funding hierarchy will determine which projects MESB staff will include in the grant applications. Generally, staff will apply for the highest priority project from both areas.

At this time, the only anticipated grant to apply for in 2027 will be the SECB grant. Should any opportunities become available that are not for a specific purpose (ex – TCPR training), the region would like to have the list of needs available to make applications.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to the MESB other than staff time to apply for and process grants. Equipment will likely require a 50% match from the awarded agency.

MOTION BY:

SECONDED BY:

MOTION:

PASS/FAIL