

**DISCUSSION**

4800 E. Huron River Drive  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

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Subject  
Public Safety Distributed Antenna System

Date  
October 22, 2019

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**Background**

The Washtenaw Community College Public Safety department operates on the Michigan Public Safety Communications System's 800 MHz radio system. This system provides a stable, secure framework for interoperable communications among local, state, federal, tribal and private first responders. It provides rapid response and facilitates cooperation of emergency personnel through statewide coverage and advanced technology. This system is used by all first responders in Washtenaw County and nearly all statewide.

As part of the ongoing efforts to ensure the highest level of public safety on the WCC campus the radio system signal strength was evaluated. It was determined that there are several critical areas within our buildings where first responders do not have the ability to communicate due to the signal being too weak to transmit or receive. Since all first responders in Washtenaw County operate on this same radio system this means that not only will our own public safety staff not be able to communicate but none of our area partners responding to campus would be either. This could greatly impact the emergency response in a critical incident and jeopardize the safety of our community members.

The College solicited bids from 4 vendors and 3 vendors responded to the proposal request. It is our recommendation that ComSource be selected to complete the proposed a plan to amplify the signal strength in our most critical areas so we will have communication ability during non-emergency and emergency situations.

**Recommendation**

It is the recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve a contract with ComSource for the installation of a distributed antenna system to amply the signal strength in an amount not to exceed \$114,257.

**IF MOVED TO ACTION, A ROLL CALL VOTE WILL BE TAKEN**

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Prepared by: Linda Blakey  
Title: Executive Vice President  
Student and Academic services

Recommended by: Rose B. Bellanca Ed.D.  
Rose B. Bellanca, President

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