



## Board Summary Report

**Date:** August 18, 2020  
**To:** Board of County Commissioners  
**Through:** Tyler Brown, Sheriff  
**From:** Robert Stef, Support Services Bureau Chief  
**Subject:** Fourth Amendment to the License Agreement.

### Request and Recommendation

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office requests the Board of County Commissioners to authorize the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners to sign the Fourth Amendment to the License Agreement allowing the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office to continue the placement of necessary radio equipment on the roof of the Plaza Tower One building at 6400 South Fiddler's Green Circle for a period of five additional years.

### Background

Since the early 1990's the Sheriff's Office has had an agreement with Property Colorado OBLW One Corporation, commonly known as the "Chevron Tower" or "Plaza Tower One" to place our radio equipment on the roof. The successor in interest to Property Colorado OBLW One Corporation is GPI PLAZA TOWER, LP, a Texas limited partnership.

In 1993 Arapahoe County formed a Radio Communications Network System (RCNS). The purpose of the RCNS was to standardize radio communications across all of the County agencies, such as the Sheriff's Office, Road & Bridge, Animal Control, etc. Later the RCNS was integrated with the state's Colorado Communications Network of Colorado (CCNC). The CCNC is the users group for the Colorado Digital Trunked Radio (DTR) System. When the RCNS was formed, it was designed with plenty of capacity for later expansion. The idea was to have other government agencies participate as well. The advantages to this program included having radios programmed with all of the different users talk groups. This would be especially useful during mutual aid calls, or critical incidents involving different agencies.

Intergovernmental Agreements were made where other agencies within Arapahoe County, such as police and fire departments, to allow them to participate in the RCNS. These other agencies agreed to pay a one-time fee per radio, mobile or portable, and an annual fee of twenty-five dollars per radio. The fees are paid to Arapahoe County, and the funds go into a special fund that is allocated to pay the expenses to operate the RCNS. Arapahoe County provides personnel to service, program, and maintain mobile and portable radios used by the other government entities.

**Links to Align Arapahoe**

The 2020 Fourth Amendment to the license agreement will optimize the use and ability of technology by adding a redundant microwave system to this location.

**Discussion**

In December 2005 the County entered into an agreement with the owners of Plaza Tower One for the Sheriff’s Office to keep radio equipment placed on the roof of the Tower. That has been renewed, with the current Agreement expiring on December 31, 2020. The Fourth Amendment will renew for an additional five years.

**Alternatives**

There are few other options available, and none of them are reasonable or acceptable at this time. Currently the Plaza Tower One is the prime location in Arapahoe County for locating the radio equipment. It has the necessary height and overlooks a relatively flat expanse of land. If this site were lost there would be numerous “dead spots” around the area. These “dead spots” would adversely affect many agencies in the south end of the metro area. The agencies currently participating in the RCNS are listed below:

- Arapahoe County
- Arapahoe Community College
- Centennial Airport
- Cherry Creek Schools
- Cherry Hills Village
- Columbine/Bowmar
- Englewood Fire
- Glendale
- Greenwood Village
- Littleton Fire
- Littleton Police
- Littleton Schools
- Sheridan
- Sheridan Schools
- South Suburban Parks

Other agencies, not members of the RCNS, also benefit from the radio transmissions from the Plaza Tower One equipment because they are part of the CCNC backbone. Those agencies include:

- Douglas County Sheriff’s Office
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado State Patrol
- Cherry Creek State Park Rangers
- South Metro Fire
- Cunningham Fire Department
- Parker Fire Department

Another alternative would be to purchase land and erect our own tower. This alternative would be expensive and in October of 1998 such a tower would have cost \$300,000 to \$350,000 to erect. Twenty-two years later, this cost will be significantly higher and any land purchased to erect such a tower would have to be outside the Centennial Airport influence area.

**Fiscal Impact**

The money to cover this annual agreement should come from the RCNS Fund, so there would not be a direct short-term fiscal obligation from the County. Paragraph 7 of the RCNS Intergovernmental Agreement states:

“The County shall pay for all expenses of every kind or nature incurred in the operation of the CNS. Subscriber shall not be liable for any debts or liabilities contracted or incurred by the County or any other entity which may utilize the CNS”.

The proposed payment schedule is as such with \$2,400 per year increase moving forward and an annual renewal increase of 3% on anniversary date of Agreement:

<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>License Fee</u>
January 1, 2021	\$47,365.96
January 1, 2022	\$48,786.94
January 1, 2023	\$50,250.55
January 1, 2024	\$51,758.06
January 1, 2025	\$53,310.81

**Concurrence**

The Sheriff’s Office Administration and the Support Services Bureau are in full support of entering into this Fourth Amendment with Plaza Tower One.

**Attorney Comments**

**Reviewed By:**

Kevin Heaton, Support Services Lieutenant  
Robert Stef, Support Services Bureau Chief  
Olga Fujaros, Budget & Logistics Manager  
Tyler Brown, Sheriff  
Finance Department  
County Attorney