LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF

April 9, 2012

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. **12-058**

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Brian L. Cummings, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: STATUS OF AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LOCATION IMPLEMENTATION

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:	_____ Approved	_____ Approved w/Corrections	_____ Withdrawn
	_____ Denied	_____ Received & Filed	_____ Other

For Information Only

Background:

In Fiscal Year 2009-2010, as a result of the successful Tactical Information Program (TIP) pilot project, the LAFD was provided seed monies in the amount of $400k for the beginning phase of an automatic vehicle location (AVL) system. The monies were utilized to acquire 500 GPS antennas, 500 mobile mapping software licenses, and an integration services contract with our software vendor, Optimetrics/ADASHI.

The AVL system will utilize the existing Mobile Data Computer (MDC) system and add some additional in-vehicle components: add a GPS receiver, add mapping software to each vehicle.

Overview of current efforts:

Work continues on phase 1 of the AVL project. Approximately 328 apparatus have had the GPS antenna installed. Our CAD integration efforts have been on hold anticipating the transition of operations to the Metropolitan Fire Communications center. Efforts will resume during the month of April. It is anticipated that within 8 months, the following objectives of the AVL project will be completed:

- Complete the remaining 172 GPS installations.
- Capable emergency apparatus will have in vehicle, nation-wide mapping and automatic entry routing capability.
- Provide "real-time" vehicle locating via the application of GPS integrated to the on-board mapping.

- Two way communication between the AVL system and the current computer aided dispatch(CAD) system.
- The system will be able to provide a "real time" visualization on a digital map of the actual location of the each capable vehicle.
- Complete the current CAD integration efforts.

Challenges and Limitations:

The seed monies provided were enough for the purchase of only 500 GPS receivers and 500 software licenses in the vehicles. Given our fleet is over 600 vehicles we will need additional GPS and mapping software licenses. Half of the LAFD fleet (300 units) will need new laptops, as the existing units are too old and not capable of running modern mapping software. We are expecting to acquire 219 MDCs next year through a successful grant application.

The seed monies provided allowed for a partial integration to our CAD system. Although the integration will be two-way, the CAD will not utilize real-time locations to make unit recommendations in this phase. The AVL system is ready to provide the location information to the CAD however, the CAD is not capable of utilizing the data. The CAD will need significant programming in order to make automatic decisions based on actual vehicle location.

The seed monies provided did not allow for the purchase of software for the dispatcher consoles. We are utilizing the 30 licenses acquired for the TIP project, however the new Metropolitan Fire Communications has 64 dispatcher console and support computers requiring mapping licenses.

Board report prepared by Xenophon A. Gikas, Jr., Captain, Metropolitan Fire Communications, "A" Platoon.