



MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY
c/o Town of Corte Madera
300 Tamalpais Drive– Corte Madera, CA 94925
PHONE: (415) 927-5050
WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG

Governing Board
Regular Meeting Notice

DATE: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 **TIME:** 3:30pm

PLACE: Marin County Fire Department, MWPA Board Rom #335
1600 Los Gamos Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Teleconference participation is offered in the meeting via Zoom as a courtesy to the public. If no members of the Board are attending the meeting via teleconference, and a technical error or outage occurs on the teleconference feed, the Board will continue the meeting in public in the meeting place noted above.

Members of the public may observe and participate in the meeting remotely through the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86789311936?pwd=I1fbaiJZY6vD5aZwtVv5e4Vq0Tgl4p.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/jc/86789311936>

Meeting ID: 867 8931 1936

Passcode: 123456

(No pre-registration required - click on the link at the meeting start time)

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,86789311936# US

+16699006833,,86789311936# US (San Jose)

Members of the public may submit public comment by:

1. Joining the meeting by Zoom and selecting the "Raise Hand" icon during the meeting; or
2. Joining the meeting by phone and dialing *9 to add yourself to the speaker queue.

If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans With Disabilities Act ("ADA"), please contact Heather Plamondon, MERA Executive Officer at hplamondon@rgs.ca.gov. Notification at least 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Board to make reasonable accommodations to help ensure accessibility to this meeting. MERA Governing Board Satellite Meeting Participation is allowed under the Brown Act. The following locations will be satellite options:

Stinson Beach Fire Station, 3410 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970

Inverness Public Utilities District, 50 Inverness Wy, Inverness, CA 94937

Mill Valley City Hall, 26 Corte Madera Ave, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Ross Valley Fire Department 777 San Anselmo Ave, San Anselmo, CA 94960

Bolinas Fire Station, 100 Mesa Road, Bolinas, CA 94924

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Governing Board may change the order for consideration of items on the Agenda.

A. Consent Calendar

All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved with one motion unless a Member of the Governing Board or the public requests that a separate action be taken on a specific item.

1. Approve Minutes from May 13, 2026, Governing Board Regular Meeting
2. MERA August 2026 Operations Budget Report and Fund(s) Update

B. Regular Agenda

1. Executive Officers Update/Report (Plamondon-Report)

C. Operations Reports

1. System Usage

D. Open Time for Items Not on agenda (limited to two minutes per speaker)

Anyone wishing to address the Governing Board on matters not on the posted agenda may do so. Each speaker is limited to two minutes. California Government Code Section 54954.2 provides that the Governing Board may not take action on, or even consider or debate, items not on the agenda except under narrow circumstances that meet statutory tests for emergencies or urgent items that arise after the agenda is published. Accordingly, any response to comments on non-agenda items will be limited to factual information or clarifying questions from staff or Governing Board members. The President may refer the matter to staff for further follow up, or elect to have the matter placed on an agenda for a future meeting.

E. Adjournment

**NEXT: MERA Governing Board Regular Meeting
Wednesday – December 9, 2026 – 3:30pm**

AGENDA AND STAFF REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG

cc: TCM (for posting) MERA Staff General Counsel



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 Governing Board Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2026

Regular Meeting called to order by President Mark Pomi at 3:35PM at Marin County Fire Department, 1600 Los Gatos Drive, Suite # 302, San Rafael, CA 94903

Agency	Board Member		Alternate #1		Alternate #2	
City of Belvedere	Jason Wu		Robert Zadnik			
Town of Corte Madera	Adam Wolff		Chris Good			
Town of Fairfax	Rico Tabaranza				William Cade	
City of Larkspur	Shannon O'Hare	P	Julian Skinner			
City of Mill Valley	Todd Cusimano		Rick Navarro	P		
City of Novato	Kevin Jacobs	P	Tim O'Connor			
Town of Ross	Tom Gaffney	P				
Town of San Anselmo	Eileen Burke		Sean Condry		David Donery	
City of San Rafael	Roy Leon	P	David Spiller		Robert Sinnott	
County of Marin	Jason Weber	P	Derek Johnson			
City of Sausalito	Stacie Gregory		Brian Mather		Brandon Rodgers	
Town of Tiburon	Michelle Jean		Jarrod Yee		Matt Harris	P
Bolinas Fire Protection Dist.	George Krakauer	V	Isaac Taylor		Steve Marcotte	
Inverness Public Utility Dist.	Shelley Redding	V	David Briggs			
Kentfield Fire Protection Dist.	Mark Pomi	P	Ron Naso	P		
Marin Community College Dist.	Martin Langeveld		Eresa Puch			
Marin Transit	Kyle French		Mohamed Osman	P	Robert Betts	
Marin Water	Ben Horenstein		Don Wick			
Marinwood Community Services District	Eric Dreikosen	P				
Novato Fire Protection Dist.	L.J. Silverman	P	Michael Hadfield			
Ross Valley Fire Department	Dan Mahoney	V	Jake Peterson			
Southern Marin Fire Protection Dist.	Cathryn Hilliard		Chris Tubbs	P		
Stinson Beach Fire Protection Dist.	Jesse Peri	V	Robert Guidi		Carey Crosby	
Tiburon Fire Protection Dist.	Tommy Hellyer		Cheryl Woodford			
Central Marin Police Authority	Michael Norton		Hamid Khalili	P		

Staff Present: MERA Executive Officer
MERA General Counsel
MERA Senior Advisor
Recording Secretary

Heather Plamondon
Trisha Ortiz
Matt McCue
Lorena Barrera

A. Consent Calendar

All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved with one motion unless a Member of the Governing Board or the public requests that a separate action be taken on a specific item.

1. Approve Minutes from December 10, 2025, Governing Board Regular Meeting (No Quorum March 25, 2026)
2. MERA April 2026 Operations Budget Report and Fund(s) Update (Reports pending)
3. Approve MERA Meeting Schedule for FY 26-27

MOTION: M/S (Jacobs/Khalili) to approve consent. Shannon O'Hare not present for vote of consent calendar.

B. Regular Agenda

1. Executive Officers Update/Report : **No Action.**
2. Review, Approve and Adopt Resolution 2026-01 for the FY 26/27 Operating Budget and Member Contributions:
MOTION: M/S (Khalili/Tubbs) to approve item.
3. Review and Approve Amendment to extend RGS Service Agreement for one year.
MOTION: M/S (Dreikosen/Gaffney) to approve item.
4. Review and Approve the Support Services Agreement with County of Marin Department of Public Works for one year.
MOTION: M/S (Osman/Jacobs) to approve item.

C. Operations Reports Provided. **No Action**

D. Adjournment 4:14PM

Marin Emergency Radio Authority
Budget vs. Actual - 30 Operating
July 01, 2026 through August 31, 2026

		<u>August 2026</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget (Under Budget)</u>	<u>% of Budget Earned/Spent</u>	<u>% of Reporting Fiscal Year</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
5020	Contributions for Services - Agencies	\$ 3,545,111	\$ 2,922,744	\$ 622,367	121%	17%
5200	Interest Earnings	-	1,000	(1,000)	0%	17%
5600	Transfer In	-	-	-	0%	17%
5650	Transfer Out	-	-	-	0%	17%
Total Income		<u>3,545,111</u>	<u>2,923,744</u>	<u>621,367</u>	<u>121%</u>	<u>17%</u>
Expenses						
Contract Services						
6010	Professional Services	-	363,900	(363,900)	0%	17%
6020	Financial and Administrative Services	-	14,209	(14,209)	0%	17%
6030	Website	300	10,000	(9,700)	3%	17%
Total 6000 - Contract Services		<u>300</u>	<u>388,109</u>	<u>(387,809)</u>	<u>0%</u>	<u>17%</u>
County Systems Maintenance						
6110	Preventive and Corrective	-	950,000	(950,000)	0%	17%
6130	Parts, Materials, Factory Repairs	-	100,000	(100,000)	0%	17%
Total 6100 - County Systems Maintenance		<u>-</u>	<u>1,050,000</u>	<u>(1,050,000)</u>	<u>0%</u>	<u>17%</u>
County Technical Services						
6210	Training	-	-	-	0%	
6220	Technical Services	9,224	57,750	(48,526)	16%	17%
6230	Administrative Services	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	17%
6240	Cyber Security	-	118,320			
Total 6200 County Technical Services		<u>9,224</u>	<u>176,070</u>	<u>(48,526)</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>17%</u>

6300 County Communications	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	17%
Site Rentals and Leases					
6400 Site Rentals and Leases - Other	110,299	765,807	(655,508)	14%	17%
6410 Rent and Operating Leases	-	-	-	0%	
Total 6400 Site Rentals and Leases	<u>110,299</u>	<u>765,807</u>	<u>(655,508)</u>	<u>14%</u>	17%
Site Utilities					
6430 Site Expenses	-	80,000	(80,000)	0%	17%
6460 Site Utilities - Other	(16,744)	61,916	(78,660)	-	17%
6480 Utilities - Electricity	<u>17,193</u>	<u>161,342</u>	<u>(144,149)</u>	<u>11%</u>	17%
Total Site Expenses	<u>449</u>	<u>303,258</u>	<u>(302,809)</u>	<u>0%</u>	17%
6500 Insurance	127,091	165,500	(38,409)	77%	17%
6600 Auditing Services	-	35,000	(35,000)	0%	17%
6620 Legal Services	-	20,000	(20,000)	0%	17%
6950 General Contingency	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	17%
6700 Miscellaneous Expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>0%</u>	17%
Total Expenses	<u>247,363</u>	<u>2,923,744</u>	<u>(2,676,381)</u>	<u>8%</u>	
Net Income	<u><u>\$ 3,297,748</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	

Marin Emergency Radio Authority
Cash Balances
8/31/2026

1030 · Cash - Marin County 30 - 8012 Operating	\$ 852,321
1032 · Cash - Marin County 32 - 8014 Project	285
1036 · Cash - Marin County 36 - 8015 Replacement	3,523,560
1037 · Cash - Marin County 37 - 8016 Emergency	504,919
1038 · Cash - Marin County 38 - 8127 Next Generation Project	575,909
1071 - US Bank 226055002 2024 Bond Parcel Tax Revenue	576,791
1072 - US Bank 226055001 202 Bond Principal	750,649
1073 - US Bank 226055000 2024 Bond Interest	621,060
1081 · US Bank Interest 234778001	282,026
1082 · US Bank Principal 234778002	1,886,009
1083 · US Bank Surplus 234778003	29,190
1086 · US Bank Project Fund 234778006	-
1089 · US Bank Revenue 234778000	2,543,944
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 12,146,661</u></u>

TO: MERA Governing Board

FROM: Heather Tannehill-Plamondon, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Executive Officers Next Gen Update

Recommended Action: Discussion, provide direction.

Summary:

- **Novato Coverage Issues:**
After months of system checks, drive testing around the city, diagnostic assessments of the repeater antenna sites and tuning and alignment of each portable radio it has been determined that the AFG/Early Order purchased portable radios (APX8000) need to have their antennas replaced. Motorola has agreed to replace them at no cost to MERA. As of 9/17/26 the antennas have been ordered and we are awaiting a ship date. Once the new antennas arrive the Radio Shop will coordinate the delivery and installation on all of the radios purchased during the AFG/Early Order process County wide.
- **Motorola Next Series Subscribers**
During all of the work that was being done to identify and address the coverage concerns one of the things that MERA and the Radio Shop tested is new Motorola Radios that have “smart connect” capability. These radios allow the user to roam from the MERA Radio network onto a cellular network if the cellular coverage is stronger. This requires a different portable radio from those that have been deployed to date and each radio requires a cellular Sim Card (service agreement). MERA has begun the process of adding these radios as purchasable items under the master MERA contract with Motorola (Contract amendment pending). At this time MERA expects that each agency that wants this type of portable radio will make the purchase from Motorola and be responsible for not only the cost of the unit, but also the necessary cellular “subscription”.
- **Motorola Technology Roadmap**
As we are nearing completion of the second year of operation on the NG System, we have begun discussions with Motorola about the lifecycle of the equipment that was deployed under the NG contract (2017).

The equipment that was purchased for the MERA Next Gen System was at the midpoint of its life cycle in 2017, and even closer to its end of support when MERA NG became operational. Usually, these systems and the infrastructure equipment are expected to have 20-25 year supported life.

September 23, 2026

2017	2024	2025-2027	2028-2039	5/2025	2/2027	2029	2031	2033	2035	2037	2039
contract	Go-live Shipped v2022	Warranty years 1-3	SUAll Years 4-15	First upgrade to v2024.1	Second upgrade to v2026						

- Motorola has announced that the Prime Site Hardware equipment, we have two sets of this East and West Cell, will reach its end of support in 2029. We are covered for applicable software upgrades through the existing SUAll but once the hardware fails, we will need to replace it.
 - This has been estimated to cost roughly \$2.2M (in 2028 dollars)
- The SDM 3000 RTU's, which we have 18 deployed in our network will also reach end of support in 2029. This falls under the same software protection but once the hardware fails, they will also need to be replaced.
 - This has been estimated to cost roughly \$1.4M (in 2028 dollars)
 - MERA has a balance of \$3.5M in the replacement account as of 8/31/26
- The MCC7500 Consoles will reach their end of support in 2030. The software for the consoles will be upgraded in 2027, and again in 2029. However, once we reach 2030 there will not be software upgrades available under the SUA.
 - MERA replaced all of the consoles throughout the network with Measure A Funds as a part of the NG implementation, a decision needs to be made if MERA will replace them again system wide or if the Dispatch Agencies will be responsible for the replacement, either way replacement fund planning needs to be discussed, as the estimate to replace one for one is \$4.6M (in 2028 dollars)
- The D-series radios which we have throughout the sites (164) will reach their end of support in 2032.
 - We will have at least 3 more software upgrades for these devices, with the final one coming in late 2031. The projected replacement cost for these devices is \$16.5M (in 2028 dollars)

While we have started discussions with Motorola about how these dates and timelines will impact MERA and be impacted by our on-going SUAll commitment through 2039. We need to start talking about the replacement planning and costs associated within MERA and the MERA agencies so funding planning can begin with at least a few years to make necessary adjustments, these discussions need to also include the replacement of subscriber equipment, including mobile and portable radios as well as base stations and consolettes that are deployed throughout the system. No End of Services dates have been discussed for this subscriber equipment yet, but there is a significant price tag associated and when we do have that window opened, we don't want to be caught off guard. Finally, this conversation is critical so we can be prepared



for where MERA might enter the equipment lifecycle this time around. Staff will continue to discuss these items with Motorola, with the MERA Executive Board and the EB Subcommittee as items surface.

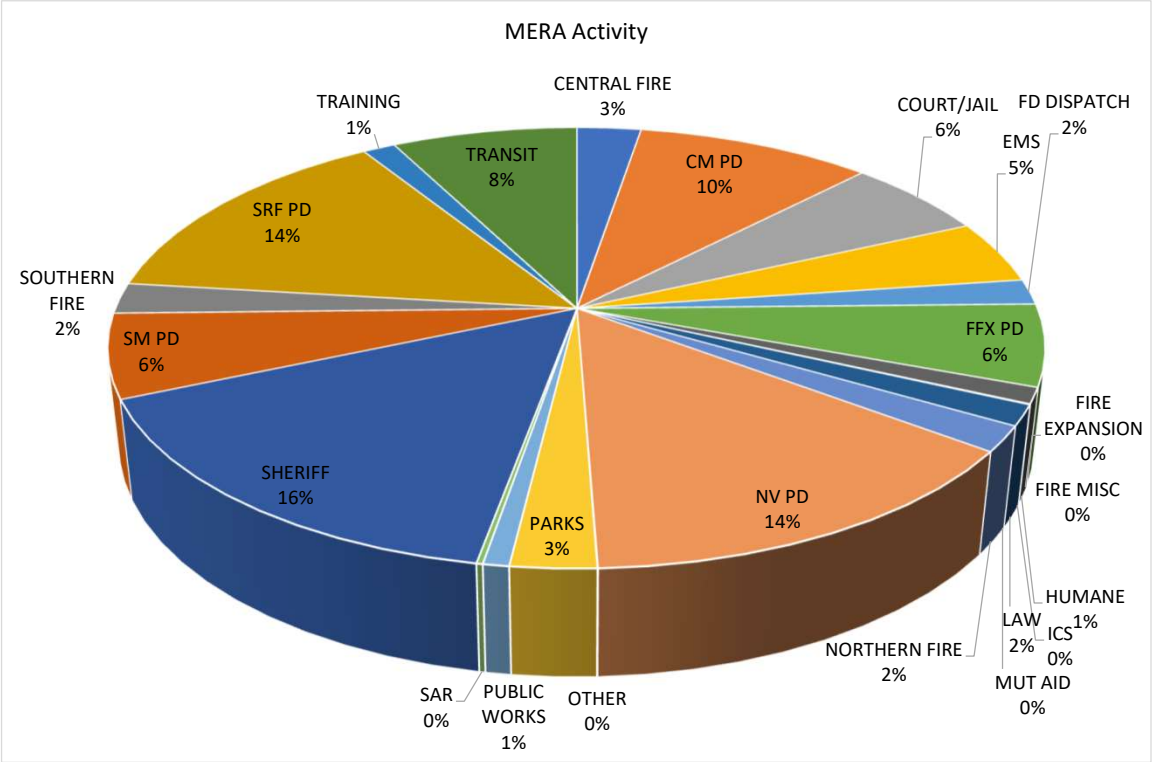
- Bay Area Regional Partner Discussions

Several years ago, with support from the Bay Area UASI, a regional group was established known as Bay RICS (Regional Interoperable Communications Systems). The nine Bay Area Counties worked together on interoperability, regional projects and events, and built relationships between the Radio Shops and users. This official group, governed by a JPA for a time, has fallen apart with the UASI no longer staffing the JPA Administration, but the agency members have begun to meet again to discuss systems, costs, shared opportunities and to reestablish the relationships between our shops and users. Within the region there are 8 of 9 Counties and JPAs that run Motorola systems, we see this as an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about redundancy (which none of us have at the System Core level), coverage overlap and potentially cost savings with the vendors as a larger group rather than as individuals. All of us are at different stages of use of our Motorola systems, but we are all facing the same lifecycle discussions. This has prompted us to talk about opportunities for a possible regional replacement plan, maximizing purchasing power across multiple agencies while exploring advanced open-architecture designs and structural redundancies.

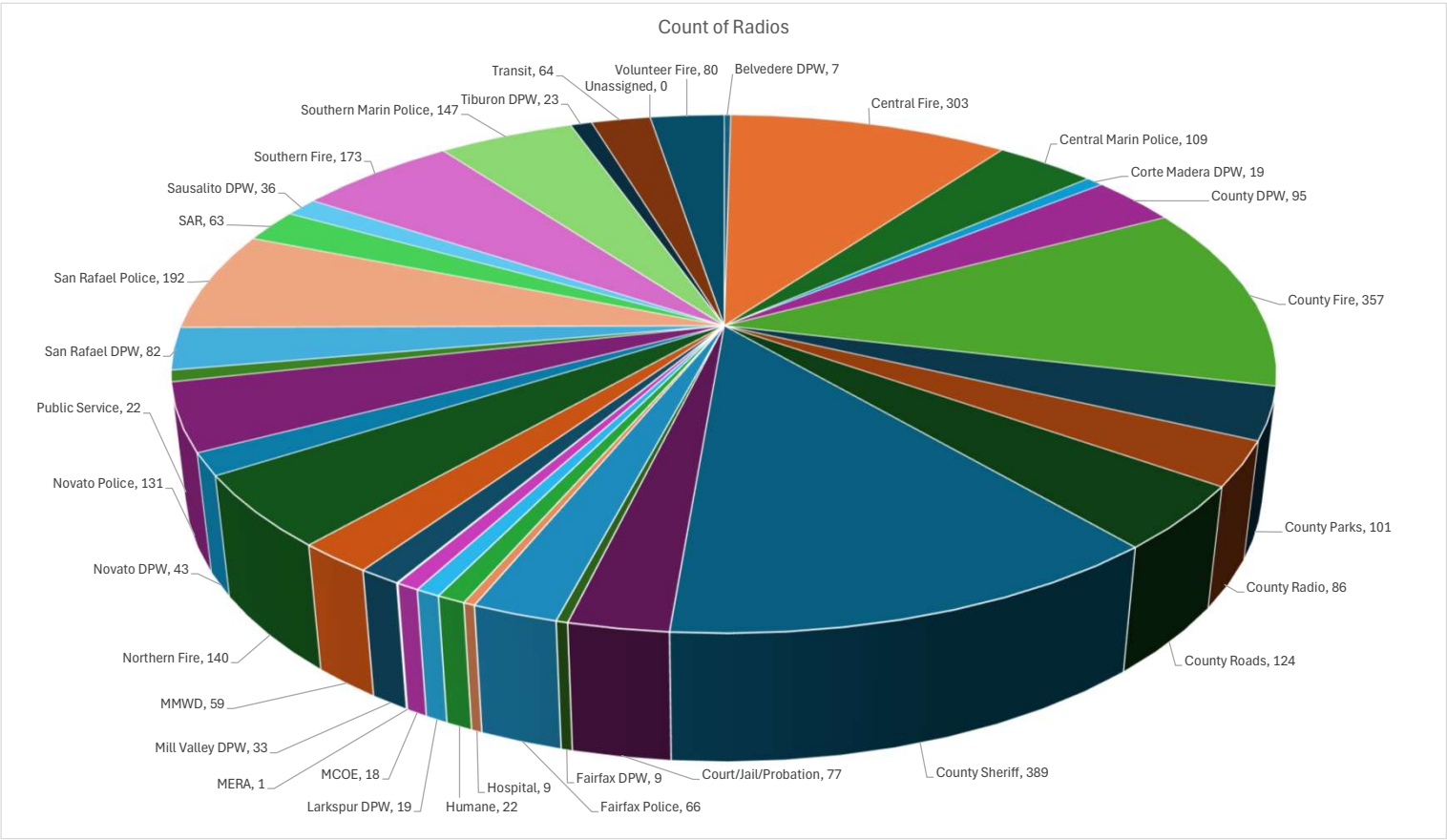
Report Date August 2026

Agency	Radio Calls	Call Time	Busy Time	Percent Usage
CENTRAL FIRE	6,667	13:36:16	0:00:00	2.62%
CM PD	21,011	50:12:08	0:00:00	9.66%
COURT/JAIL	16,340	30:38:01	0:00:00	5.90%
EMS	3,264	24:08:41	0:00:00	4.65%
FD DISPATCH	3,691	9:37:54	0:00:00	1.85%
FFX PD	11,340	31:00:23	0:00:00	5.97%
FIRE EXPANSION	2	0:00:12	0:00:00	0.00%
FIRE MISC	7	0:01:37	0:00:00	0.01%
HUMANE	2,237	5:57:43	0:00:00	1.15%
ICS	158	0:19:38	0:00:00	0.06%
LAW	3,396	7:47:58	0:00:00	1.50%
MUT AID	18	0:01:17	0:00:00	0.00%
NORTHERN FIRE	4,376	9:42:14	0:00:00	1.87%
NV PD	25,945	73:38:50	0:00:00	14.17%
OTHER	55	0:04:20	0:00:00	0.01%
PARKS	5,203	13:01:12	0:00:00	2.51%
PUBLIC WORKS	2,002	3:56:36	0:00:00	0.76%
SAR	375	0:57:43	0:00:00	0.19%
SHERIFF	30,176	81:14:54	0:00:00	15.64%
SM PD	11,947	31:53:27	0:00:00	6.14%
SOUTHERN FIRE	5,656	11:40:03	0:00:00	2.25%
SRF PD	28,421	73:43:15	0:00:00	14.19%
TRAINING	2,274	6:55:47	0:00:00	1.33%
TRANSIT	15,454	39:26:21	0:00:00	7.59%
Totals	200,015	519:36:30	0:00:00	100.00%

Category	Radio Calls	Call Times	Busy Time	Percent Usage	Category Descriptions
LAW TOTAL:	148,576	380:08:56	0:00:00	73.16%	All Law Enforcement Agencies
FIRE TOTAL:	20,399	44:38:16	0:00:00	8.59%	All Fire Enforcement Agencies
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL:	2,002	3:56:36	0:00:00	0.76%	All Public Works Agencies
MUTUAL AID TOTAL:	393	0:59:00	0:00:00	0.19%	911, EOC, EOM, SAR, Fair
PUBLIC SERVICE TOTAL:	28,487	89:34:04	0:00:00	17.24%	EMS, Transit, Schools, Training, Parks
ICS TOTAL:	158	0:19:38	0:00:00	0.06%	Interop Incident Command
	200,015	519:36:30	0:00:00	100.00%	



MERA Radio Assignment	
Report Date	August 2026
Agency Group	Count of Radios
Belvedere DPW	7
Central Fire	303
Central Marin Police	109
Corte Madera DPW	19
County DPW	95
County Fire	357
County Parks	101
County Radio	86
County Roads	124
County Sheriff	389
Court/Jail/Probation	77
Fairfax DPW	9
Fairfax Police	66
Hospital	9
Humane	22
Larkspur DPW	19
MCOE	18
MERA	1
Mill Valley DPW	33
MMWD	59
Northern Fire	140
Novato DPW	43
Novato Police	131
Public Service	22
San Rafael DPW	82
San Rafael Police	192
SAR	63
Sausalito DPW	36
Southern Fire	173
Southern Marin Police	147
Tiburon DPW	23
Transit	64
Unassigned	0
Volunteer Fire	80
Total Radio Count	3099
Total Licensed	52000
Total Provisioned	19274



MERA Interop Radio Assignment	
Report Date	August 2026
Agency Group	Count of Radios
BAYRICS - EBRICS	4709
BAYRICS - San Francisco	7680
BAYRICS - San Mateo	3107
BAYRICS - SVRCS	82
California Corrections	17
Mutual Aid	337
National Parks	162
US Marshals	47
Total Radio Count	16141
Total Licensed	52000
Total Provisioned	19274

Mutual Aid Organizations
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms
California Highway Patrol
California OES
NorCal Ambulance
San Quentin Fire Department

