

# **House Appropriations Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting**

January 21, 2009





# **STARS Update**

## ***VEHICLES***

- **Phase II Software Updates**
  - All VSP vehicles are complete.
  - Currently completing UARC Agencies.
- **Vehicle installations of STARS radios VSP**
  - Divisions I, II, V, and VII are complete for BFO cars. Division I is complete for BCI cars.



# STARS Update

## *VEHICLES (cont.)*

- **UARC Agencies-**

- Capitol Police, Virginia Port Authority, Virginia Information Technologies Agencies, and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel Police installations are complete. The other agencies are being scheduled by Division. The Department is in discussions with Motorola on the possibility of re-locating the install facility to the western part of the state to address new installs.

- **Covert Radios-**

- The replacement radio for the covert vehicles has been tested and approved. A purchase order has been delivered to Motorola to purchase the encryption option. A partial shipment has been received and BCI/UARC Radio Installations are being scheduled for covert vehicles.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION I*

- **Towers Pending:**

- EDGEHILL: The construction is complete. The tower went live on December 22, 2008.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION II*

- The Communications Center is operating in Conventional Mode on new Motorola Consoles.
  - Towers Pending:
    - MASSANUTTEN - The Tower and Equipment Shelter are finished. The Legacy Equipment was recently removed from the site to include the tower, shelter and fuel tanks.
    - We are considering co-location on Rockingham County sites to improve coverage; they are Little North Mountain, Feedstone and Bergton.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION III*

- The Communications Center must be renovated, removing the existing Dispatch Consoles and installing seven STARS Consoles. This work will begin within 30 days.
  - Towers Pending
    - ELLIOT KNOB - Site approval has been requested from Federal Forestry to build. This will be a microwave-only site.
    - HIGHTOP MOUNTAIN - A Nelson County Site. Final approval from the Nature Conservatory is expected, but lease negotiations among five parties is slow.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION IV*

- The Communications Center must be renovated, removing the existing Dispatch Consoles and installing five STARS Consoles. This work will begin around mid-year of 2009. This work was delayed while attempting to obtain funding for a Unified Dispatch Center (Bland County, Wythe County, Virginia State Police, and Town of Wytheville).
  - Towers Pending:
    - DIVISION IV HQ TOWER - In Design Phase.
    - WALKER MOUNTAIN - This site has been removed from the design and replaced by Elkins Branch.
    - DISMAL MOUNTAIN - The site is ready to begin the final design drawings.
    - BEAMER KNOB - This site is on private land. A new lease for a larger site is being negotiated with prospective site sketches already in progress.
    - WHITE TOP - This site will be built by a private cellular company.
    - EAST RIVER MOUNTAIN - This site is on private land - A lease is pending.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION IV (sites)*

### - Towers Pending

- BIG A MOUNTAIN - This site is on VDOT Property. The design is underway.
- HIGH KNOB - This site will be built by a private cellular company.
- HUNTER MOUNTAIN - This site is on private property. A new lease for a larger site is being negotiated.
- DEAD PINE - This is an existing site. The final permitting approval from the FCC is pending.
- SAND MOUNTAIN - This is a new site within the Town of Wytheville. A lease is pending.
- BRUMLEY MOUNTAIN - This site will be built by a private cellular company.
- KEEN MOUNTAIN - This site is on the Department of Corrections property. A location has been selected for this site and a site sketch is in progress.
- BUCK MOUNTAIN - This site is in design.
- ELKINS BRANCH - This is a site that VSP is adding to the design in replacement for Walker Mountain.





# **STARS Update**

## ***DIVISION V***

**All Seven Sites for Division V are Completed.**

**The Department is in the process of addressing problems which were identified in the installation of equipment in the Tidewater Area tunnels.**



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION VI*

- The Communications Center is complete and an occupancy permit has been issued. The Dispatchers will be scheduled for training.
  - Towers Pending:
    - POOR MOUNTAIN - This is an existing site that will be reused for STARS.
    - FORT LEWIS MOUNTAIN - This is an existing site that will be reused for STARS.
    - BULL MOUNTAIN - A site visit is scheduled to determine if Patrick County is receptive to the site.
    - MARTINSVILLE AREA OFFICE - This site will be a spur.
    - WHITE OAK - This site is on private property. A lease has been executed. The site is ready to build.
    - NORTH MOUNTAIN - This site is in preparations with drilling reports underway.
    - DUNCAN KNOB – Site clearing and excavation construction in progress.
    - SOUNDING KNOB – Road improvement construction in progress.
    - GREENS KNOB - This is an existing site that will be reused for STARS. Construction is complete.
    - APPLE ORCHARD MOUNTAIN - This is a Federal Forestry site. Final approval to build is pending.
    - SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE - This is currently a DGIF site. STARS is negotiating a lease transfer.
    - PETERS MOUNTAIN - This is a new site. The design is in progress.



# STARS Update

## *DIVISION VII*

- The Dispatchers will be relocated to the Fairfax County PSTOC. The Dispatch Consoles have been installed. The overall construction is 90% complete.
  - Towers Pending
    - CAMP 30 - This site is in the permitting process.
    - COLUMBIA PIKE - This site is in the permitting process.
    - DIVISION VII HEADQUARTERS – Construction underway – tower foundation drilling in progress.
    - MOUNT WEATHER – Existing tower will be upgraded, starting in late December.



# STARS Update

## *FUTURE TIMELINE*

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>ORIGINAL CONTRACT DATE</b>	<b>CURRENT SCHEDULE</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>June 2006</b>	<b>March 2007</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>May 2008</b>	<b>July 2008</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>July 2008</b>	<b>April 2009</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>April 2009</b>	<b>January 2010</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>May 2009</b>	<b>December 2009</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>September 2009</b>	<b>February 2010</b>
<b>VII</b>	<b>October 2008</b>	<b>September 2009</b>



# EXPENDITURES

<b>• BOND FUNDS-</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Actual</b>
– Cumulative through November 2008	236,950,405.82	237,314,225.54
December 2008	<u>3,847,000.00</u>	<u>3,904,811.31</u>
Total	240,797,405.82	241,219,036.85
<b>• GENERAL FUNDS-</b>		
– As of FY 02 - FY 08	16,342,485.00	15,873,670.00



# **STARS Update**

## **Problem Issues**

### **ROBOTICS**

**The problem was identified early in the project. The Department has been providing Motorola with all information to assist in identifying the cause.**

**(1) Changes were made to the network by the place on timing clock on each microwave ring.**

**(2) Changes were made to the control antenna on the towers. In addition, the microwave antennas were re-aligned to provided optimum performance.**

**(3) Changes were made to the in-car video capture system due to RF interference.**

**(4) A new product was designed by Dodge, but we are addressing legal matters on who will pay for the Dodge Charger spark plugs and ignition coils.**



# STARS Update

## Problem Issues

- **Robotics – (Cont.)**

The field engineering team received a new release of subscriber radio code. There were positive results, namely a reduction by approximately 50% in the total occurrence of robotic instances, as well as a reduction in the duration of each occurrence (*from the entire conversation being "robotic" and unintelligible to just the first syllable or two.*) Another release of optimized code was sent to the field team for testing. The team experienced further improvement and reduction of occurrence of robotic issues.



# STARS Update

## Problem Issues

- **Mobile Data - MCT**

- The Phase I ML900 Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT) are being taken out-of-service. The Phase II ML900s are currently experiencing a failure rate of 15 to 18%, our concerns have been expressed to Motorola.
- Motorola's proposal was to replace the Phase I MCTs with a ML 910; a new computer product by Motorola. The Department has identified a few issues of concern for the ML 910.





# STARS Update

## Problem Issues

- **Mobile Data – MCT – (*Cont.*)**
  - The Department has submitted a proposal to Motorola to address the replacement of all MCTs with another product which has a better performance record as compared to the current Motorola products.



# STARS Update

## Problem Issues

- **Mobile Data - SOFTWARE**

- The issues with Mobile Data Delivery and PMDC Software problems were identified early in the project.
- The Department has requested that Motorola provide us with a plan to test another software solution on the current system. In order to address any possible systems conflicts, this will require a three part test.



# MOVING FORWARD

- Motorola assigned a replacement Program Director, Mr. Wes Jones. He assumed his position in early October.
- Mr. Randy Peeler was assigned to the STARS Team as Program Manager, reporting to Captain Bolton.
- Together, Wes Jones and Randy Peeler are jointly preparing an implementation strategy to move the project to completion.
- The Department is having meetings with Motorola's Upper Management Personnel on a quarterly basis in order to remedy our concerns with problems being identified in the project.