



October 11, 2010

Admiral James Arden Barnett, Jr.  
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: City of Charlotte, North Carolina  
700 MHz Public Safety Broadband Network- Quarterly Report  
October 2010 - PS Docket No. 06-229

Dear Admiral Barnett:

On behalf of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina (Charlotte), this letter submits the October 2010 quarterly report required by the Commission's *May 12, 2010 Order* addressing the 700 MHz public safety broadband segment.<sup>1</sup> The *May 12, 2010 Order* granted conditional waivers to twenty-one state or local agencies for early deployment of public safety broadband networks in the 700 MHz public safety broadband spectrum. Charlotte is a waiver recipient. The CharMeck Connect project is a partnership encompassing the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill and Pineville.

Paragraph 64 of the *May 12, 2010 Order* states that each waiver recipient, on a quarterly basis, must provide the Commission information addressing Planning, Funding and Deployment of the project. Charlotte submitted a report in July 2010. The following information is an update.

## **I. Planning**

In this section, the Commission inquires of the status of any Request for Information (RFI)/Request for Proposals (RFP) and the acquisition process in general. An RFP was released on Friday, July 16, 2010. The RFP response date closed on September 24, 2010; three responses were received and are being evaluated.

A lease with the Public Safety Spectrum Trust (PSST) to use the 700 MHz band has been executed. Payment to the PSST has been processed.

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<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Requests for Waiver of Various Petitioners to Allow the Establishment of 700 MHz Interoperable Public Safety Wireless Broadband Networks, *Order*, FCC 10-79, PS Docket 06-229, Paragraph 64 (May 12, 2010).

Charlotte has communicated with officials of the State of North Carolina and commenced the dialogue referenced by the Commission in paragraph 52 of the *May 12, 2010 Order* relating to advising state authorities of deployment plans and making commitment to work with North Carolina representatives to ensure technical interoperability and cooperation in governance matters. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

## **II. Funding**

Charlotte had submitted an application to the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the Department of Commerce. NTIA recognized the value of a nationwide, interoperable public safety wireless broadband network and promoted the availability of funding under American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. On August 17, 2010, Charlotte was notified by the Department of Commerce that it is being awarded \$16.7 million in economic stimulus funds to develop CharMeck Connect. On September 13, 2010, the Charlotte City Council accepted the award and its responsibilities.

Beyond the capital investment required, estimates continued to be developed to determine the costs associated with managing the network. As noted in our July report, the network's funding requirements also depend on the yet defined technical and operational requirements that will be established by the Commission.

## **III. Deployment**

There have been no changes to the project's deployment plans addressed in the July 2010 report. The Emergency Response Interoperability Center (ERIC) and other Commission review processes will influence specific subscriber equipment and/or application development. Charlotte has designated Project representatives to attend the NTIA BTOP Workshop in Washington on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Project representatives will also attend and participate in the 700 MHz Waiver Recipient and ERIC working group session in Boulder, Colorado on December 1,2,3. Administratively, a transition to a new Technology Services Director is underway.

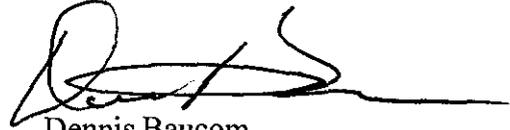
## **Summary**

Charlotte continues to dedicate substantial resources to funding, designing and deploying a public safety broadband network in the 700 MHz consistent with the Commission's policies. It will continue to draw on a range of public and private expertise to assist the project. Charlotte reiterates its commitment to work closely with the Commission and other federal agencies, including NTIA, as well as State of North Carolina and potential adjoining jurisdictions. The objective is a critical priority that will advance the important responsibility to respond effectively to the citizen facing an emergency. Charlotte appreciates the Commission's important role in bringing it to reality.

We have provided a copy of this quarterly report to Chief McEwen of the Public Safety Spectrum Trust.

Please call upon me if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis Baucom', written over a horizontal line.

Dennis Baucom  
Network Technology Services Director  
Business Support Services  
527 Spratt Street  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28206  
704-336-5349

Enclosure

Copy Provided to:

Chief Harlan McEwen  
Chairman, Public Safety Spectrum Trust



**CHARLOTTE  
BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Mr. Michael T. Hodgson, Technical Engineer, North Carolina Highway Patrol  
Mr. P. Allan Sadowski, IT Manager, North Carolina State Highway Patrol  
Percina Curtis-Diggs, State of North Carolina Interoperability Coordinator**

**FROM: Dennis Baucom, Network Technology Director**

**RE: 700 MHz Broadband Network Implementation**

**DATE: September 30, 2010**

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As you know, the City of Charlotte received authority from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to design, deploy and manage a broadband network in the 700 MHz band. This spectrum was originally committed to the Public Safety Spectrum Trust (PSST). My purpose in writing is to relate Charlotte's commitment to coordinate our efforts with the State of North Carolina and to seek your assistance. Charlotte is pursuing a network that provides pervasive interoperability with public agencies, particularly those of the State of North Carolina and understands the need for close working relationships on technical, operational and all matters of mutual concern.

Charlotte's immediate partners in the CharMeck Connect Network are Mecklenburg County and the communities of Cornelius, Huntersville, Davidson, Mathews, and Mint Hill. The network will provide broadband service to any and all eligible entities that operate within the service area. We will work closely with you to ensure that the network provides seamless and transparent network operation for State users, including areas of overlap.

CharMeck Connect's intention is to deploy Long Term Evolution (LTE) Technology operating at 758-763 MHz and 788-793 MHz. The R8 LTE standards based system will allow CharMeck to be interoperable with other public safety agencies on LTE networks and to those on the network envisioned to be operated by the PSST. Our plan is deploy

multiple applications such as Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Live Incident Video, Automated Vehicle Location (AVL), High Resolution images of suspects/vehicles, building plans and patient details. The network's core objective is to enable multiple providers interoperable communication and data exchange among police, fire, emergency medical and other emergency services personnel. It is also out intent to make the network core available to any authorized public safety agency in the State of North Carolina that wishes to deploy a network in their jurisdiction.

The FCC has or will establish base technical, operational and governance protocols for the network. Additionally, the design and deployment of the network will be subject to review and approval by through the FCC's Emergency Response Interoperability Center (ERIC), of which Mr. Sadowski is a member. Charlotte understands that an important element of the process is demonstrating our coordination with the State of North Carolina. This responsibility is reflected in the network's compatibility with other agencies and is critical to the objective that emergency response benefit from modern communications technology.

Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum and provide any comments you may have.

Charlotte looks forward to working with you on this project, we appreciate very much your commitment and expertise.