

In July 2013, the Los Angeles City Council launched the *Fire Strategic Technology Integration Master Plan* (C.F. 13-0862), which sets forth a comprehensive vision and roadmap for enhancing the technological capabilities of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) through the use of integrated mobile devices, tablets, and apps. The goal of the master plan is to provide firefighters with the tools and technology necessary to work smarter, safer, and more productively through collaborative partnerships with local technology developers. The objectives of the master plan include providing first responders with mission critical information in real-time, increasing situational awareness, reducing response times, and ultimately improving the service delivery model for the citizens of Los Angeles. The master plan specifically identifies the need to upgrade the LAFD Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) systems in a prudent manner that ensures the seamless integration of these technologies.

Under the leadership of Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas, the LAFD has fully embraced the master plan and initiated partnerships with several outside firms and institutions. One such partnership launched in the first half of 2017 has led to the deployment of a first-of-its-kind dispatch, mapping, and vehicle navigation platform, designed specifically for first responders. This platform enables all first responders to have full situational awareness of other LAFD vehicles, incidents, accidents, and hydrants, along with a wide-range of other critical operational information. The platform further enables first responders to view this information and navigate to incidents seamlessly across a variety of devices, including tablets, smartphones, vehicle-mounted Mobile Data Computers, and computers at fire stations. This seamless link between dispatch, mapping, and navigation represents the most cutting-edge emergency response technology available today and has significantly improved operational efficiency, reduced response times, and resulted in a greater number of successful patient outcomes.

During the course of this project, tests revealed a significant threat to the integrity of the LAFD's deployment of CAD-based AVL technology, which is scheduled to be officially launched in November 2017. These tests determined that a significant portion of the GPS messages that communicate the location of the LAFD fleet contain errors that inaccurately place the vehicle anywhere from 1 to 25 miles from its actual position. Initiating the new AVL-enabled dispatching system without robust software and processes to address these errors, and protections to ensure the integrity and reliability of the CAD system, could result in catastrophic outcomes for citizens calling 9-1-1. It is therefore imperative that the LAFD be provided with the necessary resources and funding to resolve this problem prior to the scheduled November 2017 launch.

I THEREFORE MOVE to instruct the Fire Department, the LAFD Chief Information Officer and a representative from the LAFD dispatch and navigation project, to present the findings of the AVL project to the Public Safety Committee, including a plan for ensuring the reliability of this enhanced method of dispatching.

I FURTHER MOVE to instruct the Fire Department and City Administrative Officer to immediately report to both the Public Safety and Budget & Finance Committees regarding the resources necessary to ensure the reliability of the AVL system prior to the November 2017 launch date, and to identify and transfer \$1.6 million in funding for completion of this critical project.

PRESENTED BY:


MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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