KVCR Project Update

UHF-to-VHF TRANSITION

SCOPE

KVCR will be transitioning from ultra-high frequency (UHF) channel 24 to very-high frequency (VHF) channel 5. The scope includes replacing the existing transmitter and antenna solutions systems located at 10550 Box Springs Mountain Rd., Moreno Valley, CA 92324. District Facilities Planning & Construction and KVCR have formed a collaborative and expert team and are working towards the successful delivery of this project.

SCHEDULE

The project has three major milestones. The District has successfully fulfilled the first one.

1. File FCC construction permit by July 12, 2017. ✓
2. Complete construction of new tower by December 1, 2018 and start testing.
3. Complete installation of both antenna and transmitter solution systems by1 December 1, 2018.
4. KVCR goes live by April 12, 2019.

CHALLENGES

- Constructing a new 345-foot structural steel broadcasting tower on top of the hill requires tremendous design and construction reviews by federal, state and local jurisdictions. The team is in the process of working toward filing the permit for constructing the new tower. It is imperative to start the design of the new tower to enable design of the antenna to be attached to it. It is also imperative that the tower is installed and permitted so the antenna can be erected and the transition complete by the FCC deadline to mitigate any potential penalties and loss of license.

- Through the chancellor's office, the District requested Riverside County to grant KVCR exemption for plot plan application and CEQA in the basis that we are replacing the existing tower.

PROCUREMENT

Construction services to remove and dispose the old UHF transmitter and install GatesAir transmitter and all its associated system at Moreno Valley.

COST

The District has secured major contractors for this transition and it is anticipated to be between $3.5 – $4.0 million. District staff and KVCR staff have managed this project initiative.

KVCR Project Update

THINGS TO FOLLOW

- Potentially amending the lease agreement with the property owner at Moreno Valley.
- Receive approvals from the County of Riverside for the tower design by the tower contractor.
- Tower installation, antenna and transmitter installation by December 1, 2018.

TECHNOLOGY CORE MODERNIZATION

SCOPE

KVCR will be transitioning from ultra-high frequency (UHF) channel 24 to very-high frequency (VHF) channel 5 and will need to upgrade its existing technology and equipment to accommodate the transition. The project scope includes modernizing and updating the TV and radio studio to better serve the station and community.

The overall scope of this initiative includes two major components:

1. Technology & Equipment Upgrades
2. Space Repurposing and Reutilization

SCHEDULE

- Hire a professional consultant (program manager) to oversee the project from programming development to closeout under the supervision of District staff. ✓
- Scope development, perform needs assessment, and develop an overall budget. ✓
- Solicit a design professional team to design the system upgrade by February 8, 2018. Done!
- Solicit an integrator (contractor) to procure, install the technology upgrade by December 1, 2018.

CHALLENGES

- It is imperative that the technology core equipment and system upgrades are complete and the transition is complete to maintain FCC deadline in order to mitigate any potential penalties and loss of license.

- System design discussions:

  - Introduce and implement advanced television system committee (ATSC 3.0) for KVCR.
  - Discuss and implement offsite master control, which could potentially save in the technology core upgrade's project budget but may introduce an increase to KVCR annually operating cost.

- Part of the scope is repurposing the existing space, which will require a building architect and engineer to maximize for potential KVCR/FNX staff growth.

KVCR Project Update

PROCUREMENT

- Procure a design professional team through an RFQ/RFP. ✓
- Finish the design and procure an integrator (contractor) through a prequalification and competitive public bidding process. Procurement of construction services has been started. Engineering estimate for the upgrade is $8.5 million.

COST

The overall cost for both project components is about $12.0 – $12.5 million.