



**CITY CLERKS: PLEASE POST**

**AGENDA**

**PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023  
7:30 A.M.**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Public Safety Committee for Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 7:30 a.m., will be conducted via teleconference using the Zoom platform. Members of the public may participate virtually in the meeting in the following ways:

*- Members of the public may listen to the meeting live by calling 1-646-931-3860 from any phone, Meeting ID: 814 6367 4194, Meeting Password: 459987. (Please note you will not have the ability to speak using the call-in option from a phone line.)*

*-Public correspondence may be emailed to the City Clerk at [lauren@rollinghillsestates.gov](mailto:lauren@rollinghillsestates.gov).*

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**NOTE:** *This is the appropriate time for members of the public to make comments regarding items not listed on this agenda.*

- V. COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION**
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2023**

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) UPDATE (SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT)
- B. UPDATE ON MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE (RPV WRITTEN)
- C. UPDATE ON THE PENINSULA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TASKFORCE (RHE VERBAL REPORT)
- D. ZONEHAVEN EVACUATION PLATFORM UPDATE (RHE VERBAL REPORT)
- E. STATUS UPDATE ON PENINSULA WILDFIRE CAMERAS (RPV VERBAL REPORT)
- F. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS STRATEGIC PLAN STATUS REPORT (RH WRITTEN)

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. CITY OF ROLLING HILLS UPDATE ON OUTDOOR SIREN PROJECT (RH WRITTEN REPORT)

**IX. OTHER MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**NOTE:** *This is the appropriate time for Committee Members to direct the placement of items for future action on upcoming agendas.*

Next regular meeting Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.



**PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES TO MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Public Safety Committee was called to order by Chair Zuckerman at 7:39 a.m. via Zoom.

**II. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT:

**Rancho Palos Verdes**

David Bradley, Mayor

Eric Alegria, Councilmember

**Rolling Hills Estates**

Frank Zerunyan, Mayor

Steve Zuckerman, Councilmember

**Rolling Hills**

Bea Dieringer, Councilmember

Patrick Wilson, Councilmember

**Palos Verdes Estates**

David McGowan, Councilmember

Dawn Murdock, Mayor Pro Tem

ALSO PRESENT:

**Rancho Palos Verdes**

Ara Mihranian, City Manager

Karina Bañales, Deputy City Manager

Jesse Villalpando, Emergency Services Coordinator

McKenzie Bright, Administrative Analyst

**Rolling Hills Estates**

Greg Grammer, City Manager

Alexa Davis, Assistant City Manager

**Rolling Hills**

Elaine Jeng, City Manager

**Palos Verdes Estates**

Tony Best, Police Chief

David Merlin, Community Relations Officer

**Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD)**

Brenna Terrones, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

Rick Philips, School Board Member

**Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department**  
Captain James Powers, Lomita Sheriff's Station  
**Los Angeles County Fire Department**  
Assistant Chief Brian Bennett, Division 1  
Rosemary Vivero, Community Services Liaison

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**V. CEREMONIAL**

**A. RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT OF PVE PD CHIEF TONY BEST AND  
PPSC / RCL COMMITTEE CHAIR STEVE ZUCKERMAN**

Member Alegria expressed his gratitude to both retiring Palos Verdes Estates Police Chief Tony Best, and retiring Chair Steve Zuckerman.

Member Zerunyan expressed his gratitude to Chair Zuckerman, for his long tenure on the City Council and all the work he's done for the City and surrounding community. He also thanked Chief Best for his contributions to the Peninsula and the safety of the community.

Chief Best provided outgoing remarks, and thanked Chair Zuckerman and the entire Committee for their work together towards public safety.

Member Dieringer thanked Chief Best for his work on the Committee and as Police Chief for the community. She thanked Chair Zuckerman for his partnership on the Committee and for the time they served as Mayors together.

Member Wilson expressed his gratitude to Chief Best, and to Chair Zuckerman.

School Board Member Phillips echoed these comments, thanking both Chief Best and Chair Zuckerman for their work on the Committee and for the community.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2022**

Motion by Member Alegria, seconded by Member Zerunyan to approve the minutes as presented.

**AYES:** Members: Alegria, Bradley, McGowan, Murdock, Wilson, Zerunyan and Zuckerman  
**NOES:** Members: None  
**ABSTAIN:** Members: Dieringer  
**ABSENT:** Members: None

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) UPDATE (SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT)**

Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD) Assistant Superintendent Brenna Terrones provided a report (as per the agenda material).

Member Alegria confirmed that the request for a third SRO is still being considered.

### **B. UPDATE ON MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE (RPV VERBAL REPORT – MEETING NOTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 & NOVEMBER 2, 2022)**

RPV Administrative Analyst McKenzie Bright provided a report (as per the agenda material), noting that at the most recent Subcommittee meeting, direction was given to create a communications plan leading up to a seminar and potentially a music festival geared toward mental health in partnership with the School District.

Member Alegria shared that he feels the recent Subcommittee meetings have been positive, and they are excited about the idea of a locally focused mental health seminar and collaboration on the peninsula for a music festival sometime next year to bring attention to mental health awareness.

Chair Zuckerman confirmed there will be guest speakers at future meetings to help develop these programs.

### **C. UPDATE ON THE PENINSULA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TASKFORCE (RHE VERBAL REPORT)**

RHE Assistant City Manager Alexa Davis shared that the Peninsula Emergency Task Force meeting was canceled this quarter due to preparation of the annual Prepared

Peninsula Expo (Peninsula cities, School District, Los Angeles County Sheriff and Fire, and utility companies represented at the Expo), and that the event was well received.

Assistant City Manager Davis also reported that attendance was a little lighter than the past year, and RPV Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando added that the event was well represented, in response to Chair Zuckerman.

#### **D. ZONEHAVEN EVACUATION PLATFORM UPDATE (RHE)**

RHE Assistant City Manager Alexa Davis provided a staff report (as per the agenda material), noting that City staff is working toward establishing an MOU with the Peninsula cities for a shared emergency preparedness resource page that will outline the terms and use of the shared webpage including how to access the “Zonehaven” platform. She further explained that in establishing this resource page, staff has addressed concerns about a future name change of the Zonehaven evacuation platform and will be using the public outreach slogan of “Know Your Zone”. Lastly, she added that the agreement is expected to be presented to each City Council for review and approval in December with the launch of the Zonehaven/Know Your Zone platform in early 2023.

Assistant City Manager Davis explained that the MOU should be ready for the City Councils in December, in response to Member Murdock. Member Murdock added that PVE has a new Management Analyst that should be brought into this working group.

Public comment was received from RPV resident Irene Lam who expressed concern about the current web address not being user friendly, and recommended changing to a short simple domain name. Assistant City Manager Davis responded that the cities are looking for a concerted, focused effort to have a joint platform to make it easy access to public.

Public comment was also received from Larry Maizlish, RPV Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair, who recommended the domain name ReadyPV.gov. Assistant City Manager Davis acknowledged his recommendation and thanked Mr. Maizlish for his involvement and work on this project.

Member Murdock inquired about previous discussions regarding timed evacuation routes. Assistant City Manager Davis responded that staff is hoping to launch the Zonehaven platform first and then explore timed evacuations if another level is needed.

Received and filed.

## **A. STATUS UPDATE ON PENINSULA WILDFIRE CAMERAS (RPV)**

RPV Emergency Services Coordinator Jesse Villalpando provided a staff report (as per the agenda material).

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando explained that the public safety agencies and Peninsula cities will have full government access to the cameras, while other agencies will simply be alerted if there is smoke detected, in response to Member Dieringer.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando noted that there is an unlimited number of people who can receive these alerts, and the MOU will outline exactly who will receive the alerts, in response to Member Murdock.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando and City Manager Mihranian explained that the funds set aside for this project are to be deposited with CalOES who will administer the reimbursement to the City, and that the City is not at risk of losing that money, in response to Member Murdock.

Member Murdock stated that as a representative of PVE, she would like to see a more detailed map of the City to make sure the jurisdiction is well covered and to know where the less covered areas are. Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando explained that the next step is for Pano AI to further assess and refine the coverage of the greater peninsula.

City Manager Mihranian expressed his gratitude to Assemblymember Muratsuchi for the grant funding provided for the camera system, as well as Rolling Hills City Clerk Christian Horvath for bringing the Wildfire Camera system project to Assemblymember Muratsuchi for consideration.

Public comment received from Larry Maizlish, RPV Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair, who also thanked to Assemblymember Muratsuchi and City Clerk Horvath for obtaining State funding. He then inquired about how the new State funding factors into the FEMA grant. He also noted that he feels it is important that residents of each city know their actual coverage.

Rolling Hills City Manager Elaine Jeng thanked Rancho Palos Verdes staff, particularly City Manager Mihranian, Council Member Bradley, Council Member Alegria, and Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando for their efforts in this project. Member Dieringer echoed her sentiments.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando noted that the cities are working on a joint thank you letter to Assemblymember Muratsuchi, in response to Chair Zuckerman.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando noted that there is a coverage map that is being revised and updated, and will be provided in the future once further refined, in response to Chair Zuckerman.

RPV City Manager Mihranian noted that there can be press release made once the cameras are up and running, including on social media, in response to Chair Zuckerman.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando explained that a coverage map for the shared website can be explored, as well as public alerts, in response to Member Murdock.

RPV City Manager added that a second alert system may cause confusion for residents.

RHE City Manager Grammer suggested having a ribbon cutting ceremony once the system is installed.

Emergency Services Coordinator Villalpando noted that they plan to proceed with the CalOES grant, and RPV City Manager Mihranian added that they are working on figuring out the logistics of using the grant funding.

Chair Zuckerman summarized that the Committee is directing staff to proceed with developing the MOU.

**AYES:** Members: Alegria, Bradley, Dieringer, McGowan, Murdock, Wilson, Zerunyan and Zuckerman

**NOES:** Members: None

**ABSTAIN:** Members: None

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **VIII. OTHER MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Member Dieringer requested to agendaize a future agenda item that Rolling Hills has been researching, regarding a siren system for when there is no cell service with an alarm or voice command to direct residents during an emergency.



Member Alegria stated that he would be interested in receiving more information about how the siren system could work in conjunction with the broader emergency communications plan.

Member Zerunyan commented about the siren system, and stated he would be concerned about mass panic in the event it is a false alarm or something that may not be as big as we think. He suggested bringing in telecommunications companies to ensure cell coverage for the entire Peninsula in the event of an emergency.

Member Wilson further commented that Rolling Hills is continuing to work through the details of this potential program, and noted that in addition to the siren itself there would be a speaker system that would be audible to all residents. He added that cell phone providers don't have good coverage on the Peninsula, and it's a problem in most of Rolling Hills.

Member Dieringer added that this would be designed to be used in instances where cell service is not available, and thinks everyone on the Peninsula should explore this idea.

RHE City Manager Grammer suggested this item be placed on the next agenda.

There being no further business before the Palos Verdes Peninsula Regional Emergency Preparedness Committee, Chair Zuckerman adjourned the meeting at 8:56 a.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

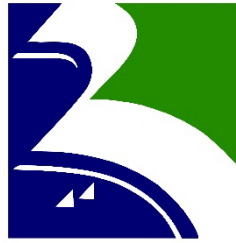
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Lauren Pettit  
City Clerk  
City of Rolling Hills Estates

Approved,

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Steve Zuckerman  
Chair  
City of Rolling Hills Estates



Public Safety Committee  
Agenda Item No. 7-B  
Meeting Date: 3-9-23

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: PENINSULA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**FROM: CITY MANAGERS**  
**DATE: MARCH 09, 2023**  
**SUBJECT: MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE**  
**PREPARED BY: McKenzie Bright, Rancho Palos Verdes Administrative Analyst**

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### RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Receive and file a report on the PPSC Mental Health Subcommittee.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The Mental Health Subcommittee continues to meet with representation from each of the four cities and the school district, with a focus on connecting recent graduates to mental health support. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD) is currently working on developing public service announcements produced by students, which the cities will help distribute, to educate youth about mental health support available. A community roundtable is in development for mid-2023, and a mental health-focused music festival has tentatively been scheduled for fall 2024.

In addition to mental health services provided by PVPUSD, allcove Beach Cities recently opened, providing youths and young adults (12-25 years old) with a range of emotional, physical, and social support services. Additional information on allcove is available in the attached document, Exhibit A. Discussions are ongoing to bring a satellite office to the Peninsula.

### CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the PPSC receive and file this report.

**EXHIBIT A:** *allcove document*



## allcove Beach Cities

Opening Fall 2022

Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) is partnering with allcove, a program developing an innovative network of integrated youth mental health centers across the state of California. Funded by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and supported by the Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health & Wellbeing, the \$2 million, 4-year grant will establish “allcove Beach Cities,” a youth wellness center, opening this fall at Beach Cities Health District, 514 N. Prospect Ave., 4th Floor, Redondo Beach.

allcove Beach Cities will offer the following services for young people ages 12 to 25:

- Mental health
- Physical health
- Substance use
- Peer support
- Family support
- Supported education and employment
- Life Skills and Wellness Services



### The need:

#### Mental health crisis among young people



**50%**

of all lifetime cases of mental illness start by age 14.



**75%**

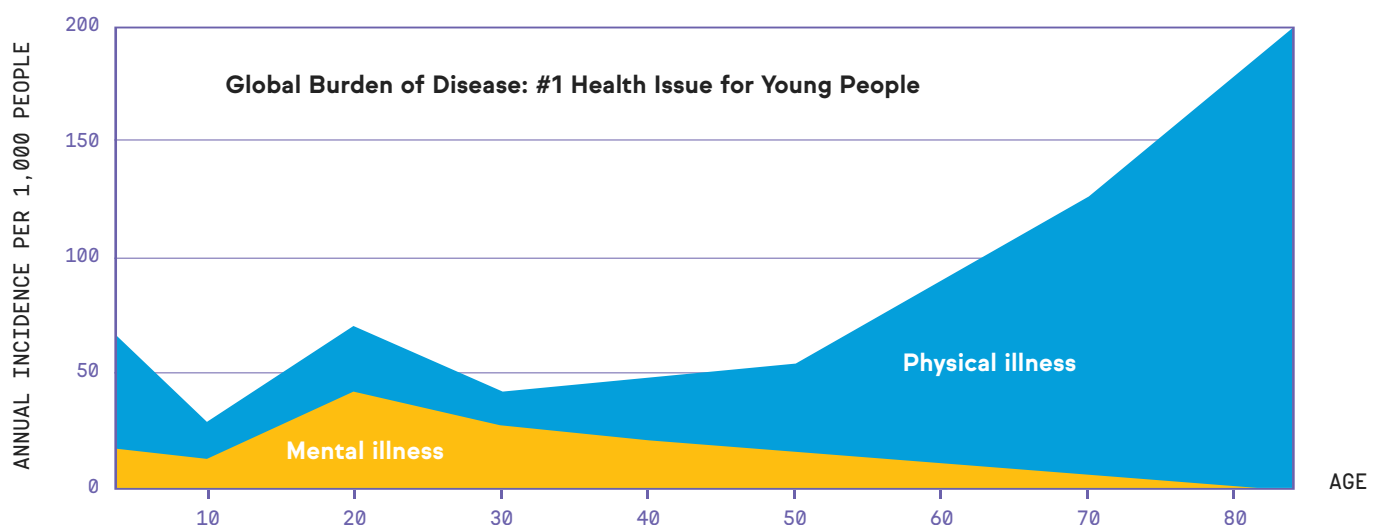
start by age 24.



**79%**

do not access care.

Kessler, R., Berglund, P., Demler, O. (2005). Lifetime Prevalence and Age-of-Onset Distributions of DSM-IV Disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication



Victorian Burden of Disease Study, Mortality and Morbidity in 2001

## Services offered:



### Mental Health

#### **Recommended evidence-based short-term mental health services may include:**

- Assessment and screening
- Brief face-to-face mental health interventions with the young person and their family
- Psychological or psychiatric consultation and brief intervention
- Individual motivational interviewing with the young person
- Mental health awareness and psychoeducation with the young person
- Mental health awareness and psychoeducation with family
- General family support to assist families in supporting their young people
- Group programs for young people and families
- Referral and linkages to other services



### Substance Use

#### **Recommended evidence-based short-term substance use services may include:**

- Assessment and screening
- Brief face-to-face substance use interventions with the young person and their family
- Counseling
- Group programs for young people and families
- Referral and linkages to other services
- Narcan/Naloxone education
- Overdose prevention and response trainings
- Prevention education
- Youth-led advocacy opportunities
- Smoking cessation
- Harm reduction initiatives like anonymous medication surrender or needle exchanges



### Physical Health

#### **Physical health services at allcove may include:**

- Physical exam and checkup
- Gynecological exam (pap, breast)
- STD testing and treatment
- HIV prevention pre-exposure prophylaxis (assessment and prescription)
- Pregnancy testing
- Birth control and emergency contraceptive
- Nutrition service
- Flu shot
- TB testing
- Immunization
- Vision and hearing exam

## Services offered:



### Peer Support

**Young people can connect with peers their own age who've been through what they are going through and can help them make sense of it all.**

**Peer support services at allcove may include:**

- Peer welcome upon entrance to allcove Beach Cities
- Peer support resource referrals and case management by Peer Support Specialists
- Peer-to-peer tutoring
- Peer support groups for young people
- Peer-led workshops and trainings



### Family Support

**For family members seeking to connect the young people in their lives to resources and support with whatever they are facing.**

**Family support services at allcove may include:**

- Parent/Family support groups
- Parent/Family psychoeducation and workshops
- Skill development supports: parent/guardian model, how to motivate your teen, for example



### Supported Education and Employment

**Supported education and employment services at allcove may include:**






- Tutoring
- Career coaching
- Financial literacy workshops
- Mentorship
- College application supports
- Resume-building and interviewing practice
- Job placement referrals
- Job readiness (what to do after you get a job, what to ask, etc.)
- Time management preparation
- Strengths assessments
- Training courses



**In addition to the core services listed above, allcove Beach Cities will also offer life skills and wellness services to the community:**

- Workshops and trainings on culinary arts, housing, independence, gardening and laundry
- Courses and classes in yoga, mindfulness, hope, coping skills and more
- Therapeutic opportunities for art and music, and other creative outlets
- Purpose workshops
- Outdoor field trips/nature days
- Certifications in CPR, babysitting, emergency preparedness
- Animal therapy

## Service Continuum of Mental Health Care for Young People:

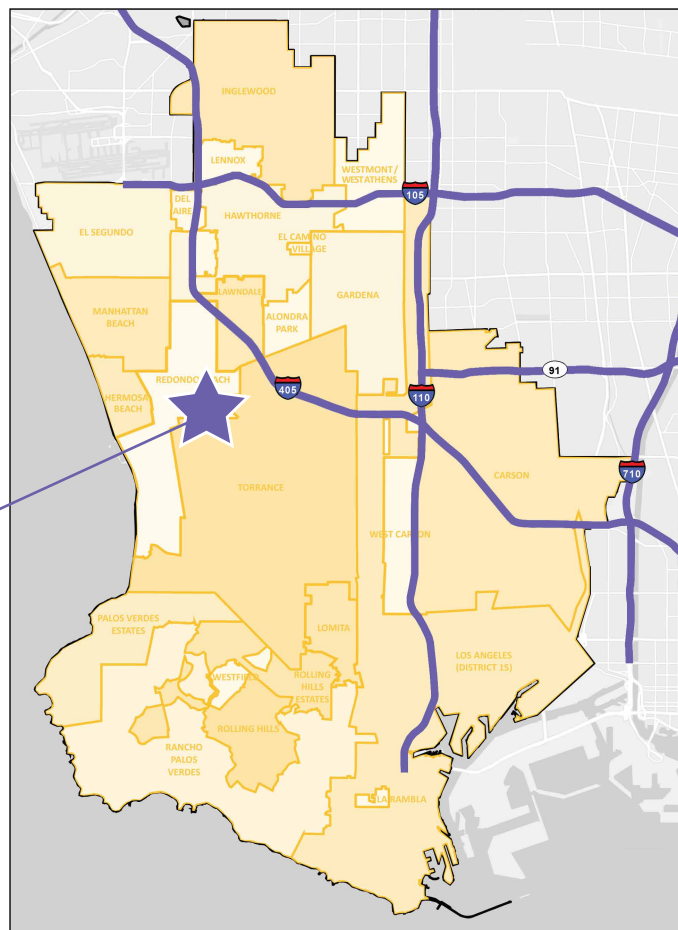
 <b>PREVENTION</b>	 <b>EARLY INTERVENTION</b>	 <b>ENGAGE &amp; SUPPORT</b>	 <b>INTENSIVELY TREAT</b>	 <b>STABILIZE CRISES</b>
Services provided at allcove			Services linked through allcove	
Education Skill-building Support protective factors, reduce risk factors Training	Screening to detect risk, trauma and early signs Link and refer to support, self-help, counseling	Client-centered plan Case management Counseling and education Medication, if needed and desired	Rehabilitation and recovery services Residential treatment, if needed and desired	24/7 response Naloxone and withdrawal management Partial hospitalization or psychiatric health facility Intensive outpatient or crisis residential

Source: Answering the Call to Action: A Vision for All Californians' Behavioral Health

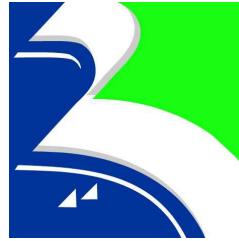
## What makes the allcove approach unique?

- Youth-centered care co-designed with young people
- Focus on prevention, screening and early intervention services
- Community work to build youth resilience, increase early help-seeking, reduce stigma and increase mental health literacy
- Rapid, easy and affordable access for youth ages 12-25
- Integrated and multidisciplinary care coordinated with the local youth-serving system

allcove Beach Cities opening at **Beach Cities Health District**, 514 N. Prospect Ave. 4th Floor, Redondo Beach. and serving the greater South Bay



For more information, visit [bchd.org/allcoveBeachCities](https://bchd.org/allcoveBeachCities).



## MEMORANDUM

Public Safety Committee  
Agenda Item No. 7-F  
Meeting Date: 3-9-23

**TO: PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**FROM: CITY MANAGERS**

**DATE: MARCH 09, 2023**

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
STRATEGIC PLAN STATUS REPORT**

**PREPARED BY: Elaine Jeng, City Manager**

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

Receive and file a status report on the Emergency Preparedness Strategic Plan and approve the 2023-24 focus area strategies.

### BACKGROUND

Emergency preparedness has many facets and to assist the work for the Peninsula Public Safety Committee (Committee), staff presented a strategic plan in 2021 that leveraged the cities' work to date and listed goals for the next twelve months.

At the May 31, 2021 meeting, the Committee approved the Emergency Preparedness Strategic Plan, directing staff to focus on the following three areas for the next six to twelve months:

1. Study Peninsula evacuation routes
2. Understand utility vulnerabilities and implement readiness measures
3. Communication protocols among Peninsula cities

At the same meeting, staff also recommended that the Committee establish goals for the following areas of emergency preparedness:

- Home hardening campaign
- Vegetation/fire fuel management (roadside, private property, canyons and public spaces)
- Hazardous plants education campaign
- Utility undergrounding
- Joint emergency plans (e.g., Hazard Mitigation Plan)
- Joint grant applications to implement emergency preparedness measures

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Focus 1 for 2021-2022:** **Study Peninsula evacuation routes**

In collaboration with the First Responders (Los Angeles County Fire Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Palos Verdes Estates Police Department), a map was developed among the Peninsula cities identifying points of ingress and egress to each of the four cities.

The Peninsula cities also conducted an emergency tabletop exercise simulating the need for residents to evacuate. Through the exercise, city staff from all four cities identified coordination measures among the public works departments including sharing a list of key personnel that would handle traffic control, and establishing a list of contacts to communicate traffic safety needs across jurisdictional lines.

The Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and the deployment of Zonehaven, supplement staff's work in this focus area. Zonehaven is a web-based program that allows First Responders to identify zones within the Peninsula to evacuate in response to an emergency event. As of the writing of this report, the Peninsula cities presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to their respective City Councils to cost share the website to host Zonehaven.

### **Focus 2 for 2021-2022:** **Understand utility vulnerabilities and implement readiness measures**

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes took the lead in developing a white paper identifying the operations of the utility companies serving the Peninsula. The white paper was reviewed by the Peninsula cities, the utility companies and the final document was presented to the Committee on May 12, 2022. In partnership with the utility companies, the document identified area of voids for continuous service and or appropriate shut off mechanisms. The document also educated both the cities and the utility companies on emergency considerations through different lens. City staff continues to collaborate with utility companies on gap analysis and provide mutual support.



**Focus 3 for 2021-2022:**  
**Communication protocols among Peninsula cities**

Building off the First Responder and Peninsula cities communication protocols established in response to the 2018 homicide at the Peninsula Shopping Center, text message groups were created by the Los Angeles County Fire Department to communicate incidents to executive staff from each city.

In 2021, and 2022, the Los Angeles County Fire Department used the text message groups to communicate fire incidents in Rolling Hills, Rancho Palos Verdes, and offshore incidents adjacent to Palos Verdes Estates. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has also utilized the text message groups to alert cities on potential protests and other events raising public safety concerns.

Cities would take communications from First Responders and disseminate information to residents using means employed by respective cities. The cities of Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates rely heavily on Alert Southbay while the cities of Rancho Palos Verdes (MyRPV) and Palos Verdes Estates utilizes a platform unique to the city.

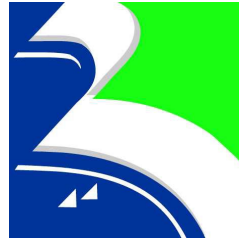
Since the Committee's approval of this focus, the First Responders and the cities have utilized small incidents to practice on communication, and information dissemination in preparation for larger events.

**Focus for 2023-2024**

Staff will remain engaged in preparedness work in the above-discussed three focus areas. To continue on the progress, staff recommends the following focus areas for the next twelve months:

- Home hardening campaign
  - Disseminate home hardening recommendations from the Los Angeles County Fire Department
  - Cities joint workshops throughout the Peninsula with the Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry Division on home hardening measures
  - Identify vendor opportunities for residents to purchase home hardening related materials at discounted prices
  - Release a joint Peninsula Cities Home Hardening Tutorial Video
- Vegetation/fire fuel management (roadside, private property, canyons and public spaces)
  - Cities to develop a Roadside Vegetation Management Plan to comply with the requirements of the Los Angeles County Fire Code
  - Create and disseminate a Peninsula Vegetation Management fact-sheets, and or educational videos to assist residents with where-to and how-to,

including eliminating hazardous plants as identified by the Los Angeles County Fire Department ([Fire.lacounty.gov](http://Fire.lacounty.gov))



Public Safety Committee  
Agenda Item No. 8-A  
Meeting Date: 3-9-23

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**FROM: CITY OF ROLLING HILLS**

**DATE: MARCH 9, 2023**

**SUBJECT: ROLLING HILLS POTENTIAL SIREN PROJECT**

**PREPARED BY: Elaine Jeng, City Manager**

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

Receive a status report on the potential Rolling Hills outdoor siren project and provide feedback on interest in joining the project.

### BACKGROUND

Over the past four years, residents of the City of Rolling Hills requested the City Council to investigate communication platforms in the event of a complete power failure within the community. After an initial program using 2-way handheld radios proved to be ineffective, a Request for Proposals was issued in February 2021 to solicit other potential communication system solutions. The City received one proposal for a siren system from HQE Systems Inc. The attached administrative report from the February 13, 2023 Rolling Hills City Council meeting provides a detailed background of the progress and actions taken since that time.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Admin Report 2/13/2023
2. HQE Feasibility Study Report – August 2022
3. HQE Requirements Document (*Confidential*)

## ATTACHMENT 1



*City of Rolling Hills*

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

**Agenda Item No.: 8.I**  
**Mtg. Date: 02/13/2023**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST**

**THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: RECEIVE AND FILE A PRESENTATION OF THREE SELECTED LOCATIONS FOR THE OUTDOOR SIREN PROJECT TO PERFORM SOUND PROPAGATION ANALYSIS AND APPROVE AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH HQE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,195**

**DATE: February 13, 2023**

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### **BACKGROUND:**

In Fiscal Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, the City Council provided funding for the Block Captain Program to investigate communication platforms in the event of complete power failure in the community. The Block Captains and City staff used funds to purchase two-way radios and when the handheld radio option proved to be ineffective, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in February 2021 to solicit proposals on other communication systems. The City received one proposal from HQE Systems, Inc. (HQE).

On April 26, 2021, Staff recommended that City Council engage the services of HQE. The City Council directed Councilmember Pieper to work with Staff to better understand the evolution of the communication project and the scope of the feasibility study. As directed, Staff met with Councilmember Pieper on four occasions: May 20, 2021, July 15, 2021, July 23, 2021 and August 12, 2021. Some of the meetings with Councilmember Pieper included the Lead Block Captains Arlene and Gene Honbo. Staff also worked with Project Manager Alan Palermo and HQE to provide technical information requested by Councilmember Pieper. The Lead Block Captains, along with members of the Block Captains were in support of a feasibility study. The City Council approved a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with HQE to prepare a feasibility study that would identify the hardware, location of the hardware, software, system integration, and a detailed cost estimate to install a siren system for the community.

At the January 10, 2022, City Council meeting Staff presented the final Feasibility Study and recommended to City Council to conduct a community survey to gauge interest for an outdoor siren system. In review of the Feasibility Study, the City Council requested information relating to the annual maintenance cost of the proposed outdoor siren system. The City Council also requested a street level map of Solution A and Solution B presented in the Feasibility Study.

On March 14, 2022, the City Council unanimously voted to amend the PSA with HQE allocating an additional not to exceed \$3,500 to investigate potential co-location sites of the poles. On June 16, 2022, HQE Staff and Block Captain Leads Arlene and Gene Honbo conducted a site visit at the Main Gate, Crest Gate, Eastfield Gate and the Radar Station. In early July, HQE submitted the revised Feasibility Study that included two additional options: Solution C included the three gates and FAA Radar Station and Solution D included only the three gates.

At the August 8, 2022, City Council meeting, Staff presented potential site locations and to consider Solution D. HQE representatives were present to answer questions from Council and members of the public. HQE informed City Council that they had completed the remaining tasks of the Feasibility Study at no cost to the City, a savings of \$22,814 and invited the Council to observe a demonstration of the proposed system, if desired. City Council directed Staff to seek approval from the Rolling Hills Community Association to place the siren poles at the three gate locations.

On September 1, 2022, Staff and Councilmember Mirsch attended a demonstration of the proposed outdoor siren system equipment at HQE headquarters. The demonstration included a tour of their facility where manufacturing of the equipment was conducted in-house and a demonstration simulated a test warning that would be sent out in case of an emergency. The equipment used consisted of a single 4' speaker mounted on a pole 25 feet above ground (for Rolling Hills, there would be 4-4' speakers mounted 50 feet above ground at each gate). The quality of the intelligible voice was clear and could be easily heard. The speakers could be adjusted to rotate a few degrees at a time through the use of a software application to ensure the best sound coverage.

In our discussion with HQE, it was conveyed that they were recently awarded a contract with the City of Paradise to install 21 poles and are in the process of installing them.

On September 1, 2022, Staff also attended the Rolling Hills Community Association (RHCA) Board meeting. Per Council direction, the City Manager asked that the RHCA Manager present to the Board of Directors the City's request to place the siren poles at the three gatehouse locations. During that meeting, the City's question was not presented as requested. As a result, the Board of Directors began asking questions with respect to public safety, an area outside the purview of the RHCA. The Board of Directors ultimately did not discuss the City's request to place siren poles at the three gates. Instead, the Board of Directors requested that the RHCA Manager meet with City Staff and that the RHCA Liaisons meet with the City Council Subcommittee to discuss why the Board of Directors were not informed of the project, if the project was warranted, and concerns relating to only having one proposer submit a proposal for the project.

In addition, per Council direction, Staff reached out to the five homes adjacent to the three gates to inform them of the project. Two residences were in support, one was opposed, and the other two did not respond.

At the September 12, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed the Subcommittee members to follow up with their counterparts at RHCA. On September 15, 2022, Staff made a presentation at the Rolling Hills Community Association Board meeting requesting an approval to place the siren system at the three gates. The RHCA Board expressed concerns about the health of the guard attendants who would be exposed to high levels of sound emitting from the

sirens, interference with the operations of the guardhouses, and aesthetics and noise impacts on residents. The RHCA Board ultimately voted to not support the the City's request of placing the siren system at the gates.

Following the RHCA Board meeting, Staff contacted HQE to seek additional information on noise levels that could be heard at the base of the poles. Based on HQE's response, the speakers will emit up to 124 decibels 50' above ground; however, at the base of the pole, the decibel is 90 or equivalent to a hairdryer. Included in the packet is additional information on sound prepared by HQE.

At the September 26, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed Staff to do the following:

- seek input from the First Responders on usage scenarios when the siren system is deployed for evacuation and non-evacuation purposes and system with voice capability vs siren only
- obtain information on easement requirements from the Rolling Hills Community Association

Staff contacted Los Angeles County Fire Department Chief Bennett and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Captain Powers to seek their input on the proposed usage scenarios and whether siren only system or a system with siren tone and intelligible voice would be the preferred option. Based on feedback received from the First Responders, their preferred option is the combined siren tone and intelligible voice because it could provide information to residents that are comprehensible regardless of the scenario (e.g., shelter in Place or mandatory evacuation). Staff has also created a flow chart to activate the siren.

In addition, on September 28, 2022, Staff submitted a letter to the RHCA requesting easement requirements for siting of poles at locations identified in Solution A and Solution B in easements held by RHCA with a response date of October 6, 2022. It is important to note that RHCA staff was present when pole locations were identified in Solution A and Solution B.

At the October 6, 2022 RHCA Board meeting, the Board discussed the item and requested that the City follow these procedures:

1. Obtain permission from the owner of the property where the siren will be placed,
2. Submit a written request to the Board for a license(s) to use the Association easement for Board review and approval. The request should include:
  - Site plan with the location of the pole and any ground mounted equipment indicated,
  - Specifications of the height and size of the pole and any pole mounted equipment

Site plans should include property and easement lines, edge of pavement and property address. If the license is approved by the Board, the City would be responsible for legal and recording fees incurred for the license agreement(s). RHCA would waive fees for excavation permits.

Per Council direction, the pole locations are identified based on the "Outdoor Siren Location-Street Level" prepared by HQE:

### **Solution A - Proposed Pole Locations**

- Siren A-1: On Blackwater Canyon Trail (behind 13 Portuguese Bend Rd) between Lower Blackwater Canyon Rd and Portuguese Bend Road
- Siren A-2: In front of 9 Upper Black Canyon Rd
- Siren A-3: In front of 57 Saddleback Rd
- Siren A-4: On Storm's Ridge Trail/Buggy Whip Trail (near 4 Storm Hill Ln)
- Siren A-5: In the canyon behind 4 Possum Ridge Road
- Siren A-6: Near 4 Poppy Trail
- Siren A-7: In the canyon behind 1 Hackamore Rd
- Siren A-8: Near 74 Portuguese Bend Rd
- Siren A-9: On Crest Rd East (near 63 Crest Road East)

### **Solution B- Proposed Pole Locations**

- Siren B-1: On Pine Tree Lane (adjacent to 10 Pine Tree Ln)
- Siren B-2: Corner of Portuguese Bend Road and Fuld's Furlong Trail
- Siren B-3: In the canyon on Crest Road East (east of 38 Crest Road East)

Based on the discussion from the October 10, 2022 City Council meeting, Staff was directed to the do following:

- seek permission from CalWater to place 50' poles at their water facilities
- identify City properties where the poles could be placed

On October 19, 2022, Staff held a virtual meeting with CalWater representatives to discuss whether there is a possibility of installing poles in their three water facilities. CalWater representatives were open to the discussion and asked that the City provide additional information such as the specification of poles to be installed, length of access needed at their facilities, and any electronic equipment placed on poles. The requested information will assist CalWater to determine if the proposed poles would interfere with their current operations and/or any future planned activities at their sites. It may take up to the end of this year or early next year for CalWater to decide if their sites are viable options to install the poles.

HQE has been a generous partner with the City in providing additional information requested by Staff without receiving additional compensation. Given the new locations to investigate, it was necessary to obtain another proposal from HQE in order to conduct a site survey, perform a sound propagation analysis, provide systems option and cost to provide technical support to third-party entities. HQE submitted a proposal in the amount of \$6,095 to evaluate up to four sites and correspond directly with CalWater on behalf of the City on technical matters.

At the October 24, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed staff to engage the services of HQE to provide technical support in conversations with CalWater for \$1,900.

To keep the community informed of the outdoor siren project, the City published a Special Blue Newsletter on October 27, 2022 identifying the proposed ten sites with the disclaimer that the final locations were not confirmed.

On October 28, 2022, Staff, HQE, and CalWater representatives held a follow-up meeting to discuss the proposed locations, specification of poles to be installed, length of access needed at their facilities, and any electronic equipment placed on poles. During the meeting, CalWater eliminated the following facilities for consideration due to space constraints: CalWater Reservoir #12, 23 Portuguese Bend (Water Tank Trail/Black Water Cayon/Tallyhand Rd),

CalWater on Sunnyridge Rd in unincorporated LA County and tentatively allowed the possibility of installations of poles at the CalWater Reservoir #22 on Spur Lane and at 3960 Crest Road upon further review by various CalWater departments. On November 1, 2022, with assistance from HQE, Staff submitted the requested document to CalWater for their review. Staff anticipates to receive a response from CalWater in the next two weeks to determine if any follow-up steps are warranted.

Subsequent to that meeting, the City published another Special Blue Newsletter on November 3, 2022, updating the residents of promising news in which CalWater had tentatively allowed two facilities as possible sites for the installation of siren poles. Following that publication, Mr. Frederick Lorig submitted an email on November 7, 2022 to Staff and the City Council to express his concerns.

At the November 14, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed Staff to eliminate the CalWater facility on Spur Lane and look into two other locations: Fire Station 56 and Rancho del Mar High School, located at 12 and 38 Crest Road West.

On December 5, 2022, Staff, HQE and representatives from CalWater, Los Angeles County Fire Department, and Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District conducted separate consultation visits at the three proposed sites to assess the properties and answer questions from the respective agencies. All three agencies were in support of having the poles placed at their properties and were open to assisting the City with its outdoor siren project.

At the December 13, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed Staff to send out a Blue Newsletter with one side using a simplified map with the eight proposed locations and the other side with photos depicting the siren system. In addition, the Blue Newsletter should also indicate that the City Council is soliciting feedback and that this item will continue in January.

On December 22, 2022, Staff mailed the Special edition of the Blue Newsletter based on the City Council's direction. At the time of writing, the City received seven comments (attached). Due to the holiday season and to provide ample opportunity to comment on the outdoor siren project, an identical Special Blue Newsletter will be mailed on January 9, 2023 to solicit additional feedback from the community. Staff will present comments received at the January 23, 2023 City Council meeting for consideration of next steps.

At the January 23, 2023 City Council meeting, Staff provided an update that the City received a total of 21 written comments from 49 residents (i.e., one letter had 32 signatures). The majority of the written comments received (or 76% of the residents) were in support of the siren system, while five residents expressed the need for better cell phone reception.

In addition, two Council members provided a summary of their conversations with the Town of Paradise and the Cities of Mill Valley and Laguna Beach on each of the Cities' experience on their existing siren system.

## **DISCUSSION:**

At the January 23, 2023 City Council, the City Council directed Staff to narrow the potential siren pole locations from eight to up to four locations. HQE identified three recommended locations:



- City Hall;
- Fire Station 106 (12 Crest Road West) and;
- CalWater Facility (3960 Crest Road)

Staff is recommending the approval of the additional work outlined in the attached HQE proposal in the amount of \$4,195 to perform a sound propagation analysis and provide system option for the three locations.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is sufficient funding in FY 2022-2023 Capital Improvement Project (CIP).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve as presented.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[CL\\_AGN\\_230213\\_HQE\\_Amendment03.pdf](#)

[CL\\_AGN\\_230213\\_CC\\_HQE\\_ScopeOfWork2\\_221020.pdf](#)

[CL\\_AGN\\_230213\\_CC\\_3 Potential Sirens Locations.pdf](#)

**THIRD AMENDMENT TO**  
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

THIS THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT ("Third Amendment") is made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of February, 2023, by and between the CITY OF ROLLING HILLS, a California municipal corporation (hereinafter the "CITY"), and HQE Systems, Inc., a California corporation with its principal office at 42075 Remington Avenue, Suite #109, Temecula, California 92590 (hereinafter the "CONSULTANT"). CITY and CONSULTANT are sometimes referred to in this First Amendment individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

**RECITALS**

A. CITY and CONSULTANT have entered into that certain Professional Services Agreement for Emergency Communications System services last executed on August 26, 2021 (the "Agreement").

B. CITY and CONSULTANT are parties to the Agreement that was amended by the First Amendment to the Agreement dated April 11, 2022 ("the First Amendment") and the Second Amendment to the Agreement dated October 10, 2022 ("the Second Amendment"). The CONSULTANT rendered services under the Agreement, the First Amendment, and the Second Amendment and the CITY paid CONSULTANT for its services.

C. The Parties now desire to amend the Agreement in order to provide for additional compensation to CONSULTANT for further sound propagation modeling which is already included in CONSULTANT'S scope of work.

Now, therefore, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions herein contained, CITY and CONSULTANT agree the following terms, as set forth in this First Amendment.

1. Section 3 "Cost" of the Agreement is amended to read as follows:

The CITY agrees to pay CONSULTANT for the Scope of Services attached to the Agreement as Exhibit A and incorporated therein by reference, a fixed fee of Three Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$3,280). The CITY agrees to pay CONSULTANT for the Supplemental Services, a fixed fee of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500). The CITY agrees to pay CONSULTANT for the Supplemental Services, a fixed fee of One Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$1,900). The CITY agrees to pay the CONSULTANT for the Supplemental Services, a fixed fee of Four Thousand One Hundred and Ninety-Five Dollars (\$4,195). These amounts include the cost for the services and all expenses, travel and mileage, attendance at meetings, and reimbursable expenses.

4. Except as amended by this First Amendment, Second Amendment or Third Amendment all provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Amendment on the date and year first written above.

**CITY OF ROLLING HILLS**

**HQE SYSTEMS, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
ELAINE JENG, City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
HENRY HERNANDEZ, Chief Operating Officer

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICK DONEGAN  
CITY ATTORNEY



## Estimate

From **HQE Systems, Inc.**  
27419 Via Industria  
Temecula, CA 92590  
1 (800) 967-3036

Estimate For **City of Rolling Hills, CA**

Estimate Id **RHCA - 4231**

Issue Date 10/12/2022

Subject City of Rolling Hills - Feasibility Study

Item Type	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
Services	<b>Feasibility Study</b>			
	Outdoor Mass Notification systems to include a site survey (up to 4 sites), Sound Propagation Analysis of the sites (up to 4 sites), and Proposed Systems Option (up to 4 sites)	1.00	\$4,195.00	<b>\$4,195.00</b>
	Coordination and technical support with any 3rd party organizations. Up to 20 hours.	1.00	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00

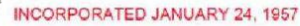
**Estimate Total \$6,095.00**

### Notes

Prices are firm until expiration date above unless shown otherwise. Upon acceptance, prices are firm for 30 days. This quotation is expressly subject to acceptance by Buyer of all Terms stated in the attached Terms document, and any exception to or modification of such Terms shall not be binding on Seller unless expressly accepted in writing by an authorized agent or Officer of Seller. Any order submitted to Seller on the basis set forth above, in whole or in part, shall constitute an acceptance by Buyer of the Terms. Any such order shall be subject to acceptance by Seller in its discretion. If the total price for the items set forth above exceeds \$50,000 then this quotation IS ONLY VALID if countersigned below by a representative of HQE Systems, Inc.. Installation is not included unless specifically quoted as a line item above. See attached Terms sheet.

Payment Terms: Prior to Shipment

Quote Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



ATTACHMENT 2



# Mass Notification Report

Prepared August 2022  
For The City of Rolling Hills, CA

[www.HQESystems.com](http://www.HQESystems.com)

Global Headquarters | 27419 Via Industria | Temecula, CA 92105 | 800.967.3036

## Disclaimers

All product names, logos, and brands are the property of their respective owners. All company, product, and service names used in this proposal are for identification purposes only. Using these names, logos, and brands do not imply endorsement.

Neither HQE Systems, Inc. nor its contributors shall be held liable for any improper or incorrect use of the information described and/or contained in this report herein and assumes no responsibility for anyone's use of the information. In no event shall HQE Systems, Inc. or its contributors be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, or consequential damages (including, but not limited to: procurement of substitute goods or services; loss of use, data, or profits; or business interruption) however caused and on any theory of liability, whether in contract, strict liability, tort (including negligence or otherwise), or any other theory arising in any way out of the use of this report, even if advised of the possibility of such damage. This disclaimer of liability applies to any damages or injury, whether based on alleged incorrect data, negligence, or any other cause of action, including but not limited to damages or injuries caused by any failure of performance, error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, computer virus, communication line failure, and/or theft, destruction or unauthorized access to, alteration of, or use of any record.



HQE Systems, Inc. is a privately owned and operated Minority-Owned FEMA Certified Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB).

*"It is our goal at HQE to continue to serve our veterans through our 'Hire Veterans Policy HQE-2015-2025'. We appreciate all of our current and past customers who have helped us meet our goals of hiring veterans throughout the years. Your support in HQE is directly impacting the support of our amazing veterans. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your community!"*

***Thank You from the team of HQE Systems Inc.***

*Qais Alkurdi*

CEO, Disabled Veteran / Retired





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## 1. Executive Summary

To the distinguished City of Rolling Hills's City Council Members,

HQE Systems, Inc. (HQE) is a Minority-Owned, FEMA Certified California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) with its global headquarters in Temecula, CA. Since 2014, HQE has been designing, engineering, installing, and maintaining Mass Notification Systems (Central Control Units, Outdoor Sirens, Control Cabinets, Radios, Solar Chargers, and Subcomponents of Mass Notification Systems) solutions for a host of clients worldwide. HQE is a brand agnostic systems integrator that has installed over 1,000+ Mass Notification Systems for all levels of the Government and Federal Agencies.

HQE was retained by The City of Rolling Hills, California, to investigate the feasibility of installing an effective Mass Notification System. The system intends to provide Mass Alerting and Warning during natural and manmade disasters, including wildfires, terrorist events, and severe weather. HQE's Mass Notification Systems installation Report would provide the decision-makers with the information needed to identify the ideal solution for The City of Rolling Hills.

To develop the report, HQE conducted an installation study. The study includes open-source data research, site survey, and sound propagation analysis.

- ❖ **Open Source Data:** Researching the latest solution from the key manufacturers. This includes technical/operational features and rough order of magnitude pricing.
- ❖ **Site Survey:** Study of the local environment/infrastructure to include the availability of power, potential installation points, residential buildings, and topography (manmade and natural). In addition, it analyzes the presence and signal capabilities of cellular, radio, and other communications channels.
- ❖ **Sound Propagation Analysis:** Utilizing the information gathered during the site survey and planning maps, HQE utilizes a proprietary machine-learning algorithm, Sound Propagation Analysis, to determine the ideal locations for the Mass Notification points.

With all of the information reviewed and analyzed during the report development, HQE's Mass Notification Subject Matter Experts have determined the ideal installation solution for The City of Rolling Hills. The proposed solution was developed with the following priorities (not in order): Alerting Effectiveness, Initial Budget, Sustainment Budget, Project Timeline, and System Installed Visibility.

**Proposed Solution:** This solution was developed to provide The City of Rolling Hills with a solution that provides the best intelligible voice & tone sirens with a modern look. This solution will utilize the SiRcom sirens with Vector line arrays. These modern intelligible speakers will provide the "best look" for the City while providing the intelligible voice and tone coverage for emergency alerting. The main concept of the solution is to install the outdoor warning sirens directly behind or in the vicinity of the gates proposed by the City. The sirens will be configured in a directional siren setup and installed at the City's desired installation points (entrance gates). The rough order of magnitude pricing for the solution is \$334,748.24. It is estimated 30 days to install the complete system.

## 2. Background

The City of Rolling Hills (City) sought an installation report for Mass Notifications System (MNS). The requirement specifically desired an effective outdoor solution that could operate in any threat event environment.

The City of Rolling Hills relies primarily on communication tools that require electricity, cellular signal, or access to the internet during an emergency. These methods include The City of Rolling Hills Website, Alert Southbay, and local television/radio networks. Areas of California regularly experience power outages during adverse, especially windy, weather conditions. The local utility provider utilizes a Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) program during inclement weather conditions. Because of the PSPS program, residents of The City of Rolling Hills could possibly be without power during periods of heightened fire danger, resulting in an increased risk of not receiving important communications, including evacuation orders, via phone, internet, or radio. Unfortunately, disruption to the electrical power also has a negative impact on local cellular towers, which have limited generator power to sustain their operational needs from the planned PSPS or electrical systems failures from the hazard (fire, wind, etc). Environmental events must be fully understood when planning and designing an MNS, so the system can clearly and effectively communicate alerts to residents and visitors. The MNS must be designed to rely on solar power and have enough battery-backup capacity to send critical alerts, when required, at night, or on days when the sun may be blocked by smoke or clouds.

The infamous 2020 wildfires that overtook Los Angeles and Ventura County's northern regions exposed the dangers of relying only on web-based or cellular-based emergency alert systems. With over 33 deaths, many Cities and Counties have since implemented a radio-based mass notifications system to mitigate this unnecessary risk in the future.

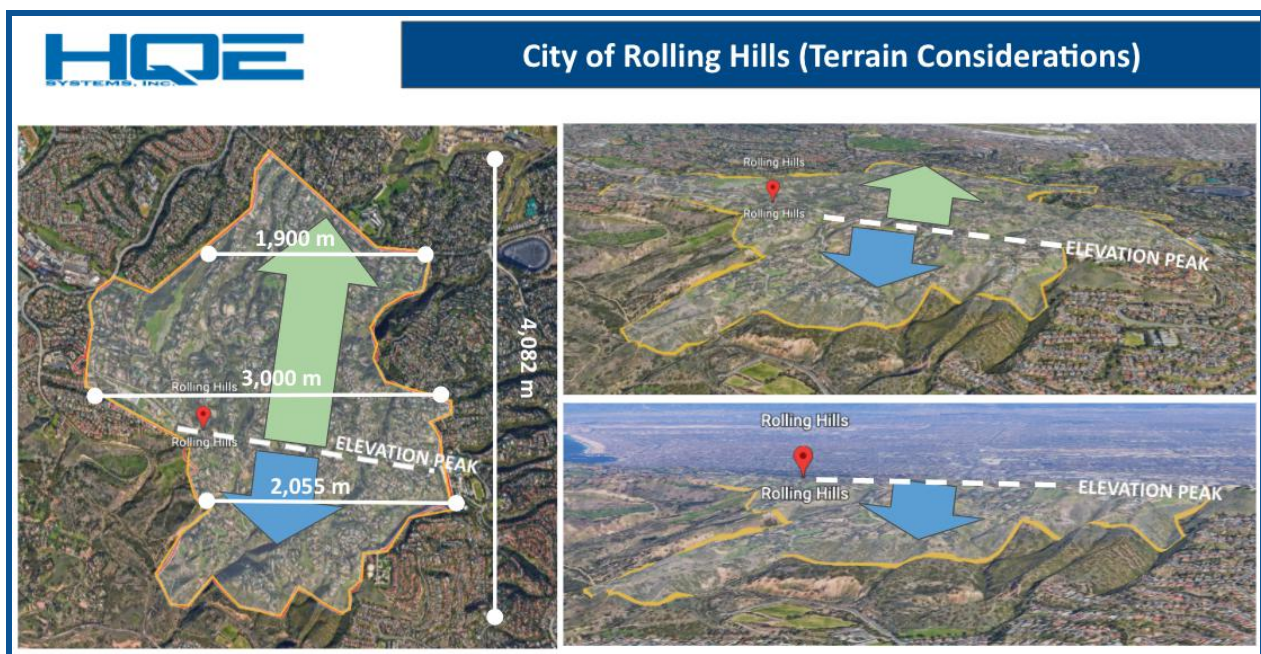
The City of Rolling Hills contracted with HQE Systems, Inc. (HQE) to develop a comprehensive and actionable MNS report to enhance its ability to disseminate emergency alerts, especially in wildfire situations. Since then, HQE has utilized its expertise in Mass Notifications Systems (MNS) to develop this report to assist The City of Rolling Hills in the pursuit of saving lives and protecting property.

## 3. The City of Rolling Hills Consideration Factors

### 3.1 General Information

#	Description	The City of Rolling Hills Data
1	Access To The City of Rolling Hills	Gated Community (Limited Access Roads)
2	Population (2020)	1,739
3	Housing Units	702
4	Land Area	2.99 Square Miles
5	Water Area	0.00 Square Miles
6	Geographic Coordinates	33.760016 -118.347164
7	AVG. Annual RainFall	15 Inches
8	AVG. High Wind Speed	7-8.6 MPH (November to May is the high winds season)
9	Fire Season	May to October
10	Fire Threat Region	Tier 2 (Elevated Fire Threat Identified By: California Public Utilities Company Fire Threat Mat V.3 (08.19.21))
11	Last Large Fire That Impacted The City of Rolling Hills On The Palos Verdes Peninsula	Aug. 27, 2009, burned 235 acres and was of unknown origin according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention website. The fire, which burned for two days, caused minor damage to six Rolling Hills homes and forced 1,200 people to evacuate. Additionally, 3,000 customers in the area lost electrical power.

### 3.2 Topographic Information



HQE has studied The City of Rolling Hills's general and topographic information. These factors will be taken into careful consideration when developing the final solution options.

### 3. Report Development Methodology

#### 2.1 Kick-Off Meeting (Clear Project Guidelines)

HQE conducted a project kickoff meeting in October 2020 with The City of Rolling Hills that established mutual acquaintance, clarified roles, and confirmed the desired outcomes and deliverables. Utilizing its experience and expertise in MNS, HQE was able to help better understand the constraints of the project and how HQE could best serve The City of Rolling Hills in achieving its ultimate goal of Saving Lives and Protecting Property.

#### 2.2 Site Survey (Gathering Information)

HQE conducted multiple detailed site surveys and spent time gathering information to fully understand the constraints that could impact the system's operational and technical performances. During the final site survey in June 2022, HQE reviewed each element of an MNS and documented expectations and requirements of the system. The City of Rolling Hills provided site information based on the current desires of The City of Rolling Hills and potential pitfalls to consider when planning for the new MNS. HQE's analysis began with the initial City provided project considerations to ensure that HQE's efforts would be aligned with The City of Rolling Hills's desires. While on-site, HQE assessed the power options and locations. In addition, HQE's sound engineer assessed the residential and commercial building layouts to determine the best locations of the new MNS points to maximize sound coverage.

#### 2.3 Sound Propagation Analysis (Data-Driven Planning)

HQE conducted a sound propagation analysis based on the final site survey to ensure the outdoor emergency alert signal is distributed optimally throughout The City of Rolling Hills. HQE produced sound propagation maps using site-collected data and HQE's proprietary outdoor siren planning software to determine the levels of coverage achieved from potential sites. The coverage models consider varying geographical topology and environmental factors such as foliage and building density.

The study considered various environmental factors including:

- ❖ Temperature
- ❖ Humidity & Rainfall
- ❖ Vegetation (types and disbursement)
- ❖ Wind speed and direction
- ❖ Man-Made structures (buildings, towers, etc)
- ❖ Topography (elevation changes)

Environmental factors that will be present during inclement weather were significant when modeling coverage, including understanding the effects of the Santa Ana winds. In addition, much of The City of Rolling Hills has steep hills and canyons, which pose a challenge for proper coverage.

The analysis resulted in recommendations for the most efficient outdoor warning alert sound distribution across The City of Rolling Hills, including:

- ❖ A sound coverage area for each proposed siren site, considering environmental data
- ❖ Identification of any areas of The City of Rolling Hills in which sirens will be ineffective due to geography or other characteristics

## 2.4 Mass Notification Systems Installation Study

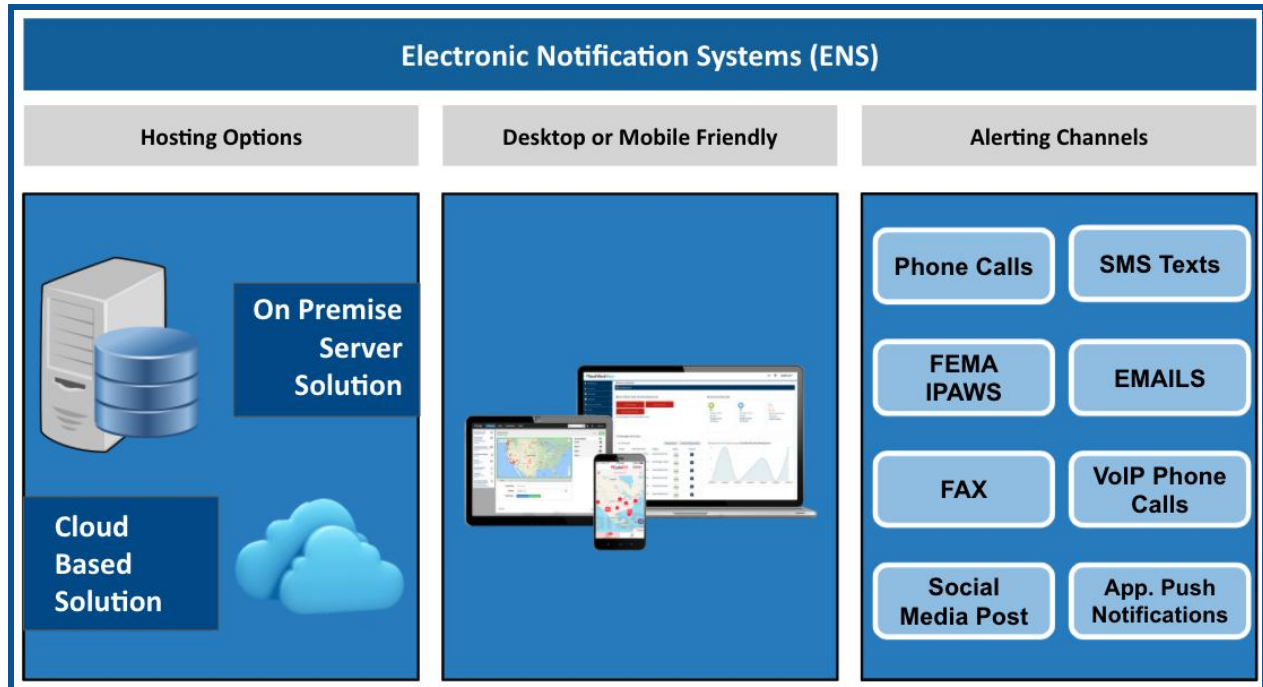
HQE compiled the data collected into this report, which provides a baseline assessment and includes the following:

- ❖ Solution options available on the market
- ❖ Costs to include initial and long term sustainment
- ❖ Recommended ideal installation options



## 4. Mass Notifications System Types Overview

### 4.1 Electronic Notification Solutions (ENS) Web & Cellular Alerting



- ❖ **Solution Types:** Electronic Notification Systems (ENS) have gained popularity due to technological advancement. ENS utilizes the local cellular networks to disseminate emergency alert notifications. These notifications can be accessed from the recipient's mobile devices and computers.
  - Hosted Cloud-Based Solution (SaaS): Requires no hardware to deploy the solution.
  - On-Premise Server Solution: Requires a local server to be installed.
- ❖ **Alerting Methods:** The City of Rolling Hills Utilizes the local cellular towers to transmit the following alerts.
  - Voice Calls: A custom live, or pre-recorded voice message can be transmitted to all telephone numbers in the database for the City.
  - SMS Text: A custom drafted or pre-drafted template message can be transmitted as a text to the number in the database for the City. The recipient can also send back an acknowledgment or a specific prompt response to the City.
- ❖ **Strengths & Vulnerabilities:**
  - Strengths: Fast deployment. Easy to utilize. Requires limited or no hardware installation.
  - Weakness: Completely reliant on the local cellular network. During PSPS or disaster failures, ENS solutions will not work. If the recipients have their phones on silent or off, they will not be alerted by the notification.

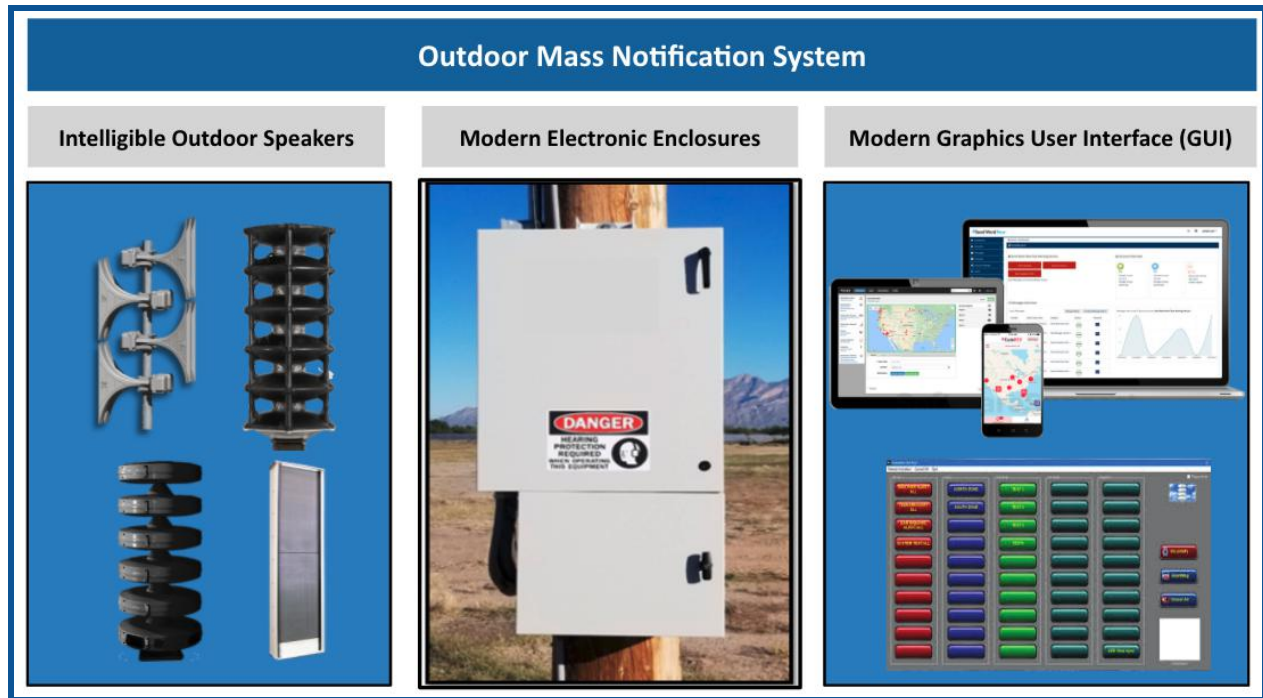
## 4.2 Indoor Notification Solutions



- ❖ **Solution Types:** Indoor Notification Systems are utilized to provide coverage visually and audibly to ensure that the alerts are received inside buildings. These notifications consist of workstation desktop alerts, overhead paging/intercom alerts, mounted digital displays, and any networked signs and TVs.
  - **Indoor audio alerting:** Integrates with in-building paging or intercom systems, telephones, and other networked audio devices. This ensures full compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.
  - **Indoor visual alerting:** Integrates with workstations, digital signs, and other networked displays (TVs, wall-mounted tablets). This ensures full compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.
  - **Life Safety Systems Integration:** Integrates with local fire alarms, earthquake sensors, and electronic security systems to ensure that the legacy alarms are reinforced with intelligible audio and visual alerts (ADA compliance).
- ❖ **Strengths & Vulnerabilities:**
  - **Strengths:** Unifies indoor spaces with outdoor warning alerts. This ensures that all alerts are instantly received by all residents and the City's staff.
  - **Weakness:** Requires indoor wiring and cabling (unless self-powered and wireless solutions are implemented)



## 4.3 Outdoor Notification Solutions



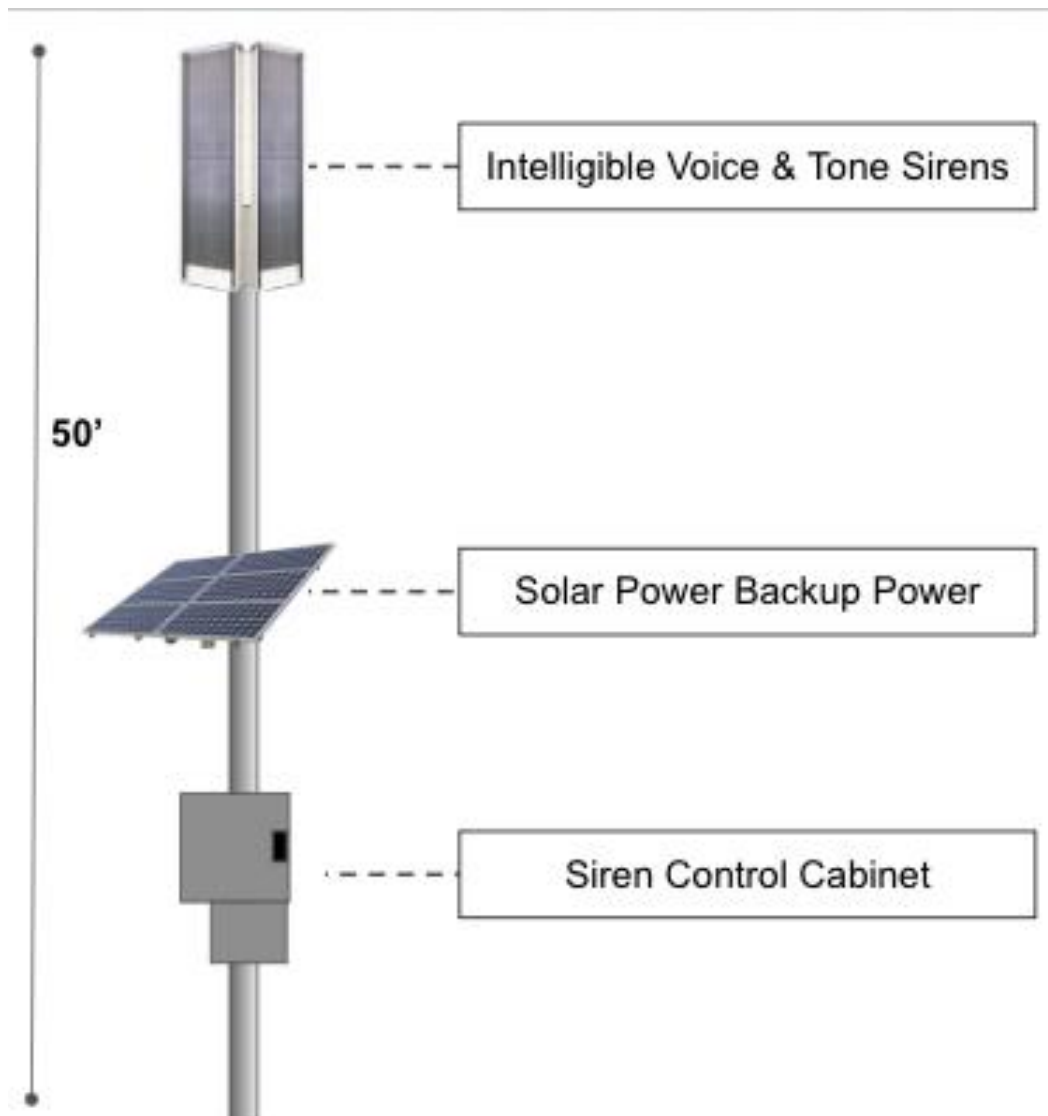
- ❖ **Solution Types:** Outdoor Warning Sirens (OWS) are the industry standard and the accepted capability by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). OWS allows immediate alerting across a large area by utilizing all-weather outdoor warning sirens.
  - Intelligible Audio Alerts: Intelligible sirens can be heard from miles away.
  - Wireless & Self-Powered: Siren control cabinet systems configured to operate on wired/wireless communication infrastructure and self-powered/self-charging systems.
  - Central Control System: Mass Notifications System management software to quickly and easily create, transmit, and manage all alerts.
- ❖ **Alerting Methods:** The City of Rolling Hills Utilizes various communications media to transmit the following alerts.
  - Live Custom or Pre-Recorded Voice Alerts: A custom live, or pre-recorded voice message can be transmitted to all or selected siren points.
  - Tone Alerts: Transmit pre-established tone alerts.
- ❖ **Strengths & Vulnerabilities:**
  - Strengths: Self-powered and can communicate on networks not affected by PSPS or other power outages.
  - Weakness: Has the highest cost to cover the desired area.

## 5. Proposed Solution Options

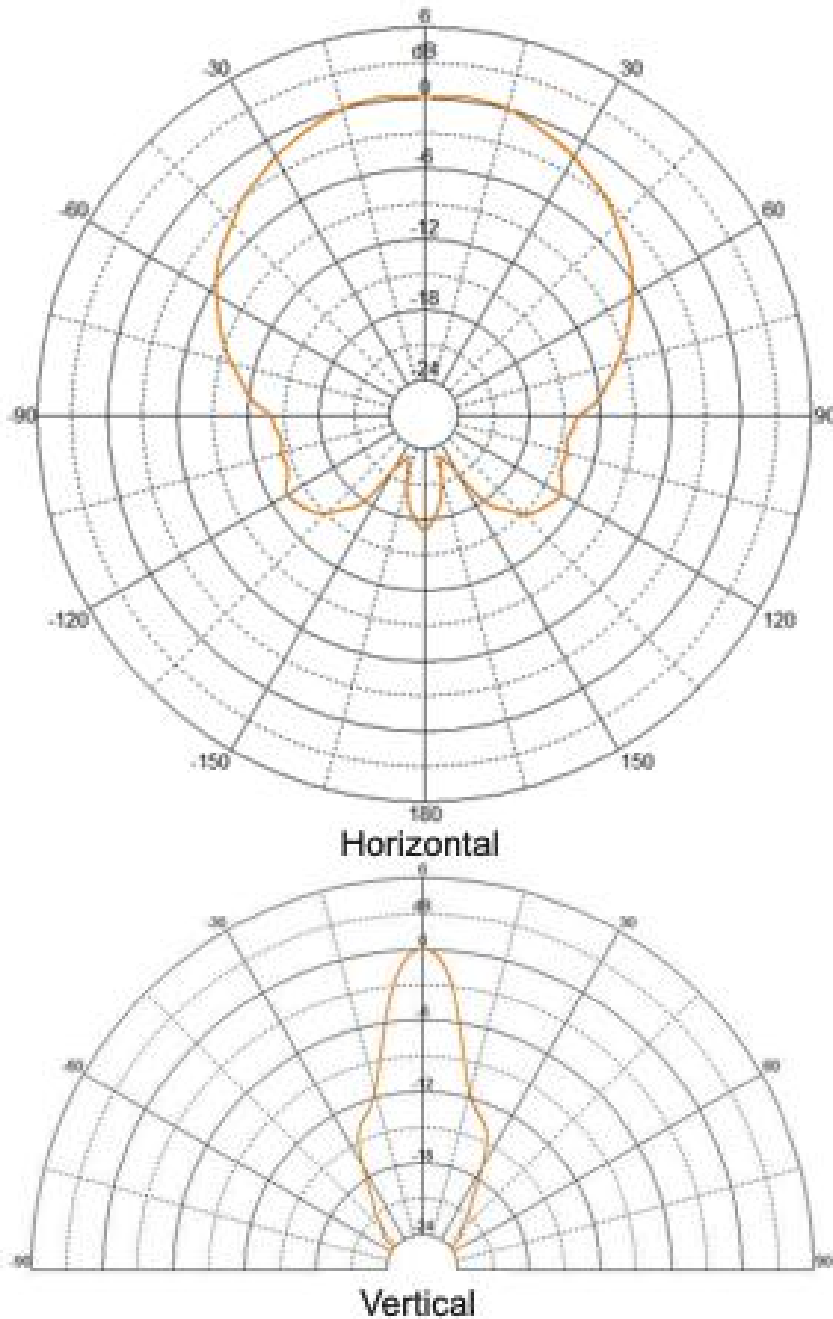
### 5.1 Installation Solution Options

HQE has developed the below solution for The City of Rolling Hills's considerations.

- ❖ **Installation Pole Solution:** The directional outdoor warning siren Installation utilizes the standard 50' poles mounted with the intelligible horns positioned in a directional configuration transmission position. The 50' pole allows the sound to be projected from a higher elevation. This allows for a greater coverage area which reduces overall equipment requirements.

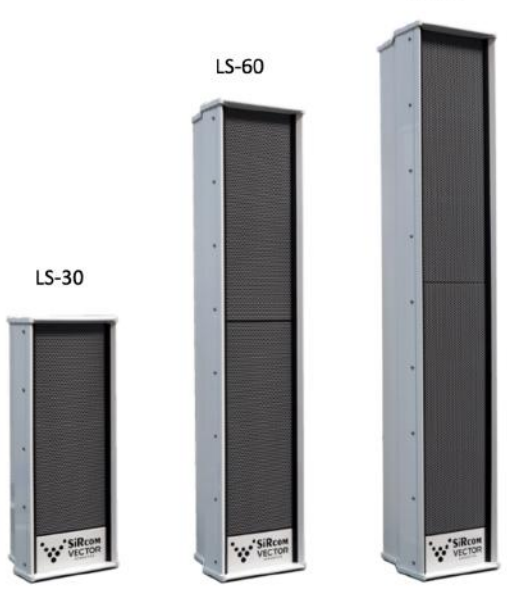


## Polar Plots at 1 kHz



The above figures depict the intelligible voice and tone sound activation. The proposed solution has the highest intelligible voice and tone alerting on the market today. This ensures that the alerts activated will be understood from great distances.

The highly intelligible voice and tone of sirens are key to providing the residents of the City with the proper coverage needed during an emergency. The following siren system has the most ideal intelligible voice and tone capabilities. In addition, the proposed control software and hardware have many advantages that provide the City with many features not found on other systems in the market today.



**LS-30**

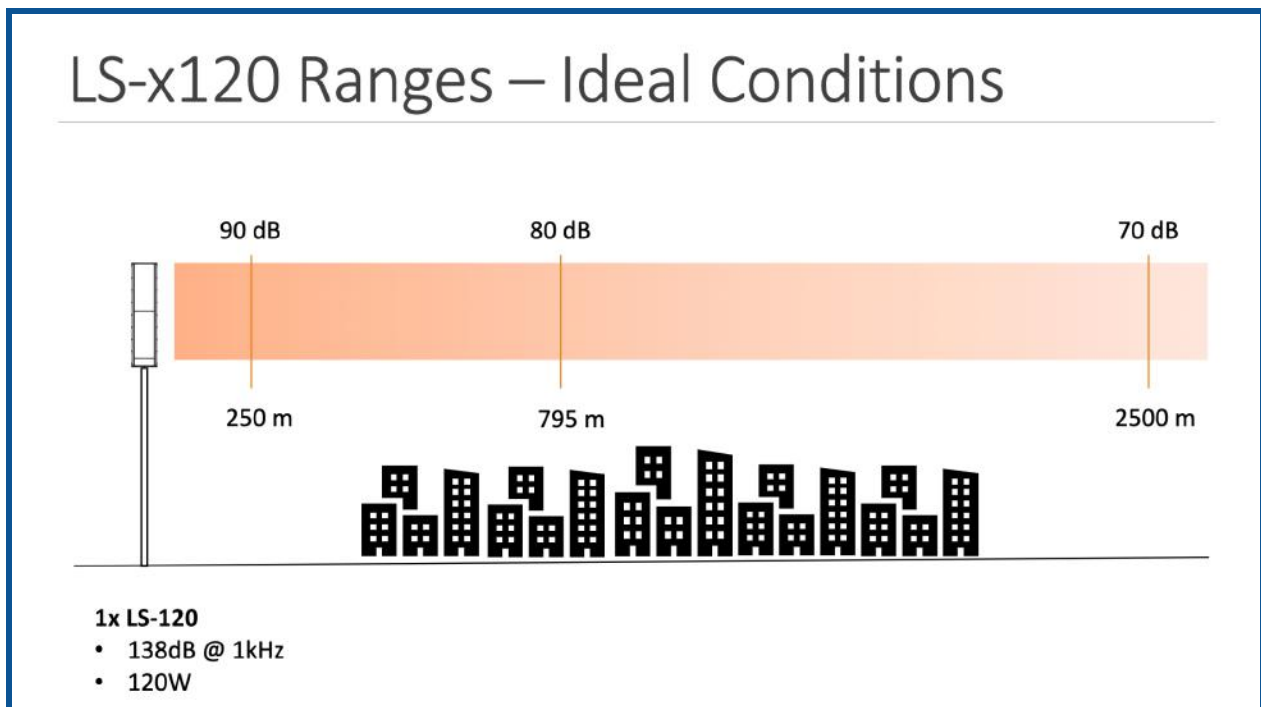
**LS-60**

**LS-120**

**LS-30** 128.5 dB at 1kHz/30W  
30 Watt compact value loudspeaker for confined outdoor urban areas or indoor installations.

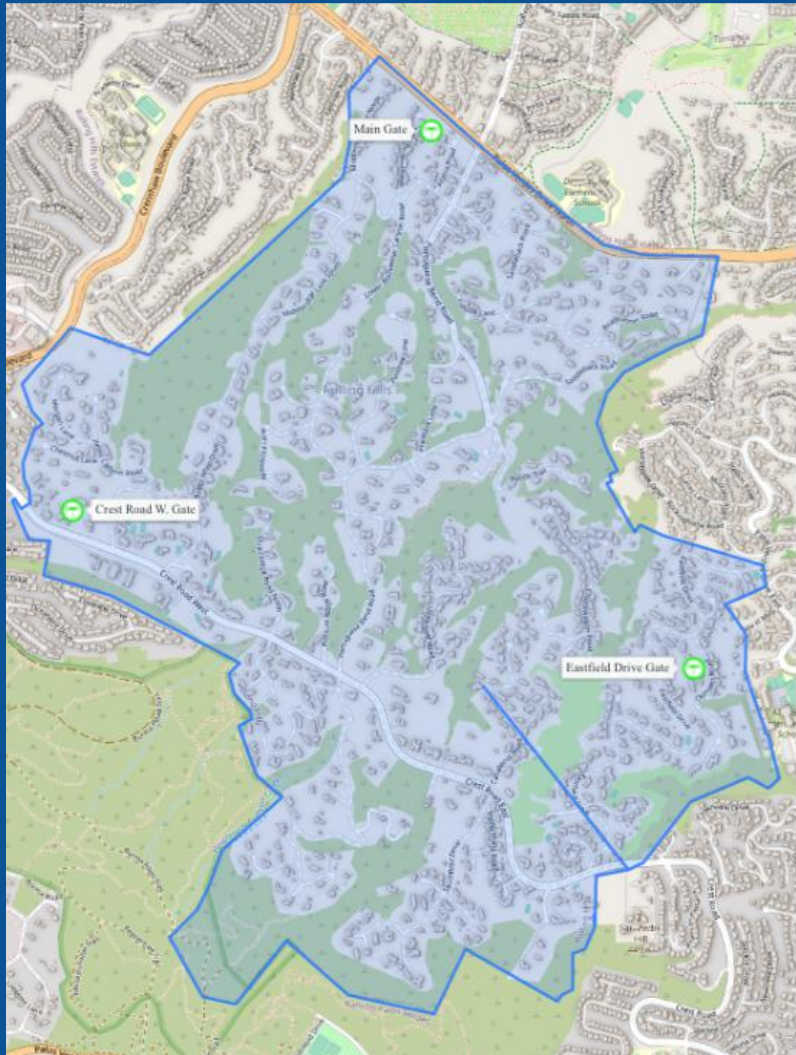
**LS-60** 134.5 dB at 1kHz/60W  
60 Watt value line source loudspeaker.  
Produces 116.5dB at 1W/1m/1kHz and features enhanced output down to 300Hz for improved range.


**LS-120** 138 dB at 1kHz/120W  
120 Watt high efficiency line source loudspeaker.  
Produces 117dB at 1W/1m/1kHz and features enhanced output down to 300Hz for improved range and clarity.




## 5.2 Intelligible Voice & Tone Sound Coverage


The solution takes into consideration that the community desires to have a reliable intelligible voice and tone outdoor warning system. This option utilizes three (3) SiRcom Vector speaker directional mounted on standard 50' poles to provide the required emergency alert notification coverage.





### SiRcom-Vector Outdoor Warning Sirens



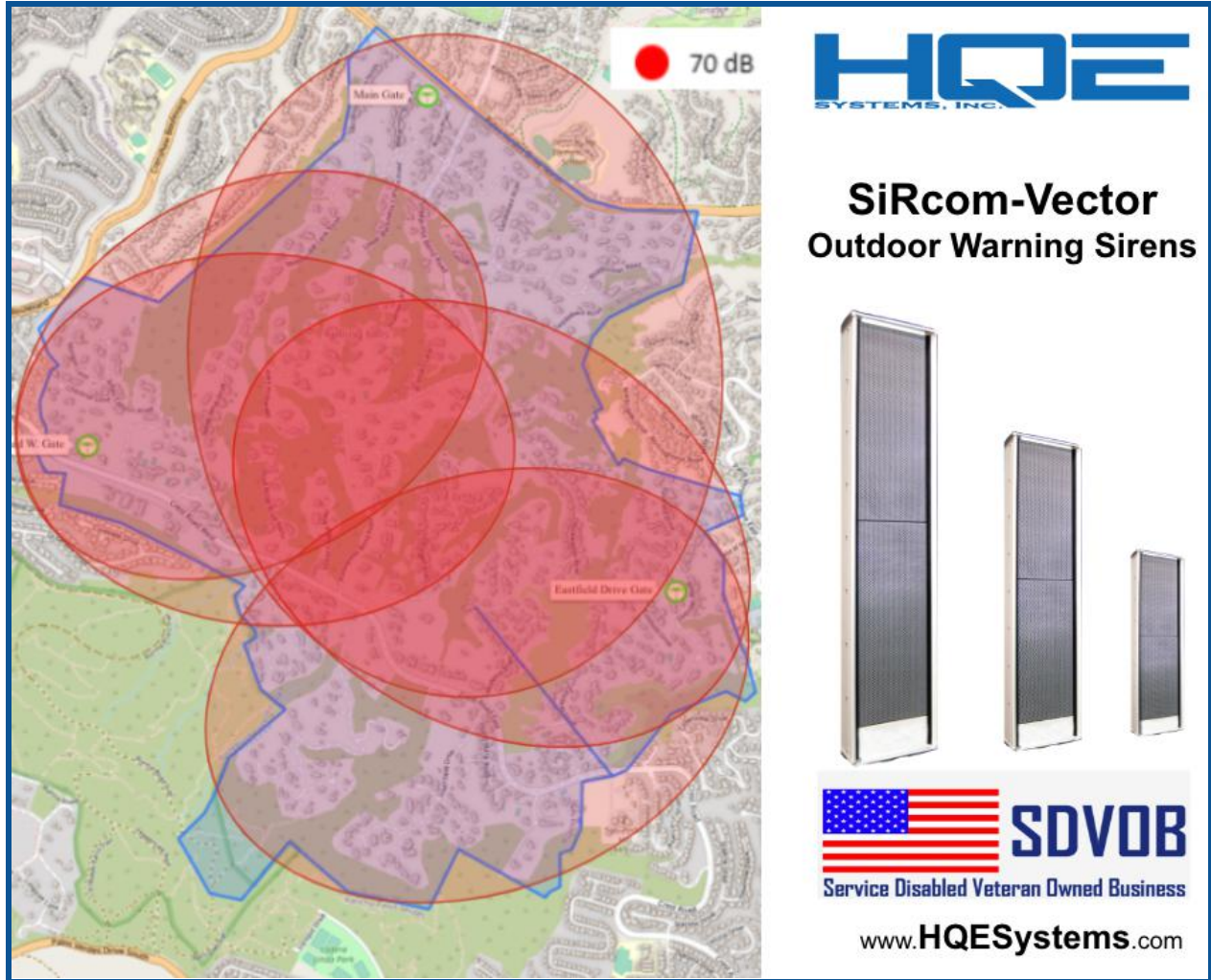


## SDVOB

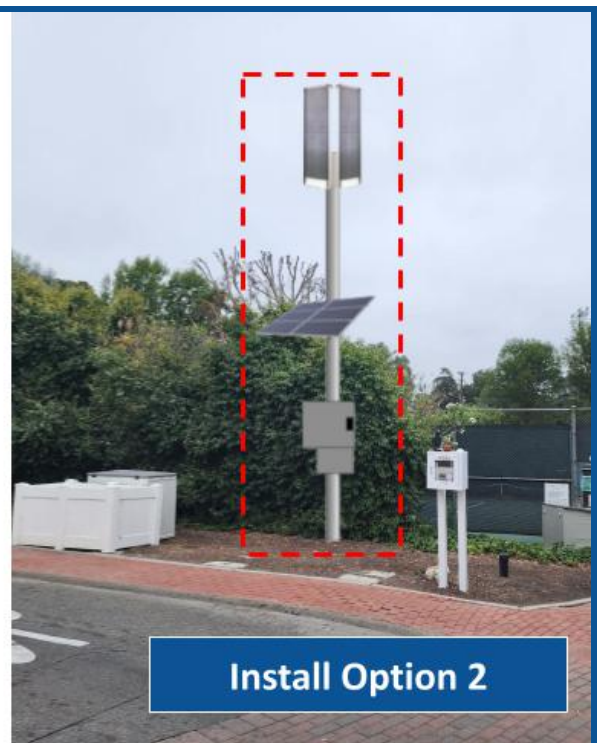
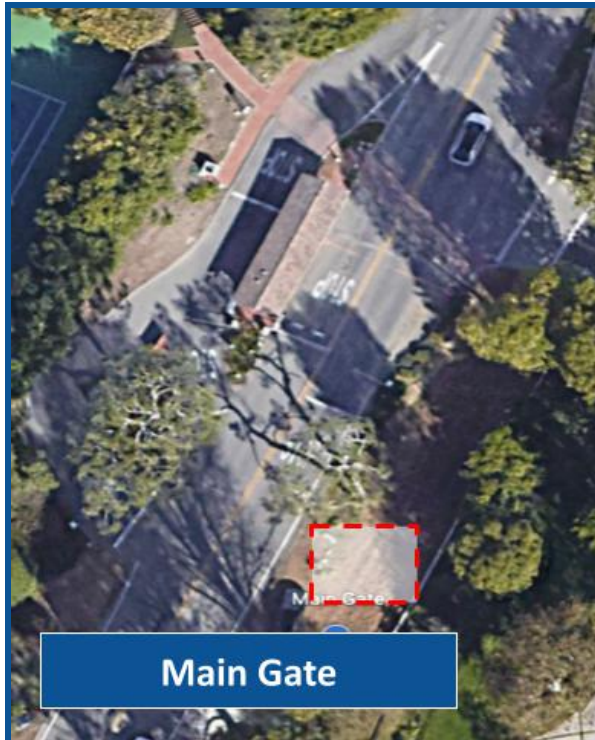
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### 5.3 Proposed Siren Installation Locations







**Crest Road Gate**



**Install Option 1**



**Crest Road Gate**

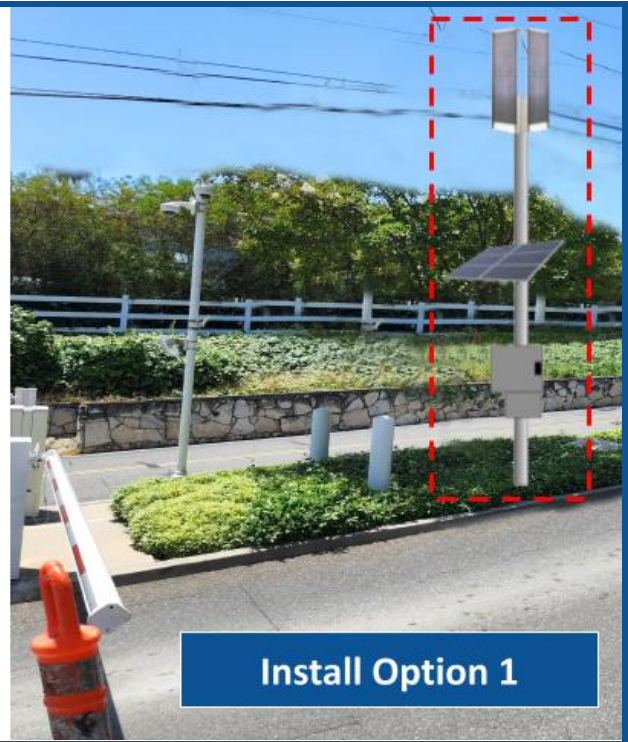


Relocate CCTV Cameras To The New Pole

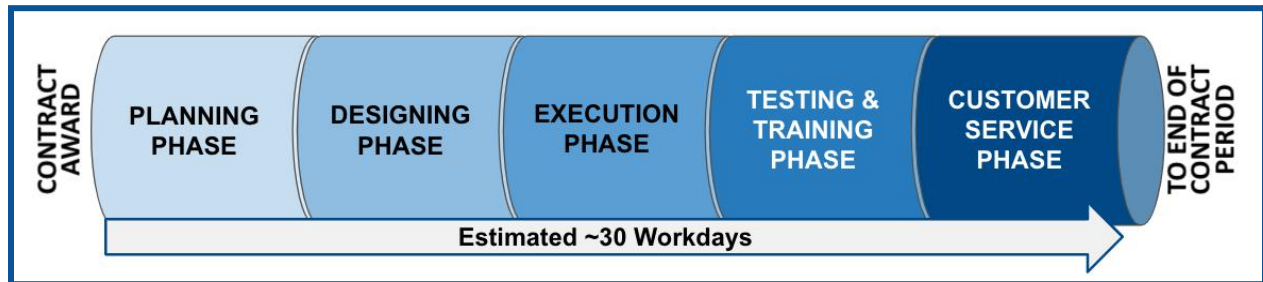


**Install Option 2**





## 5.4 Proposed Project Milestones & Package

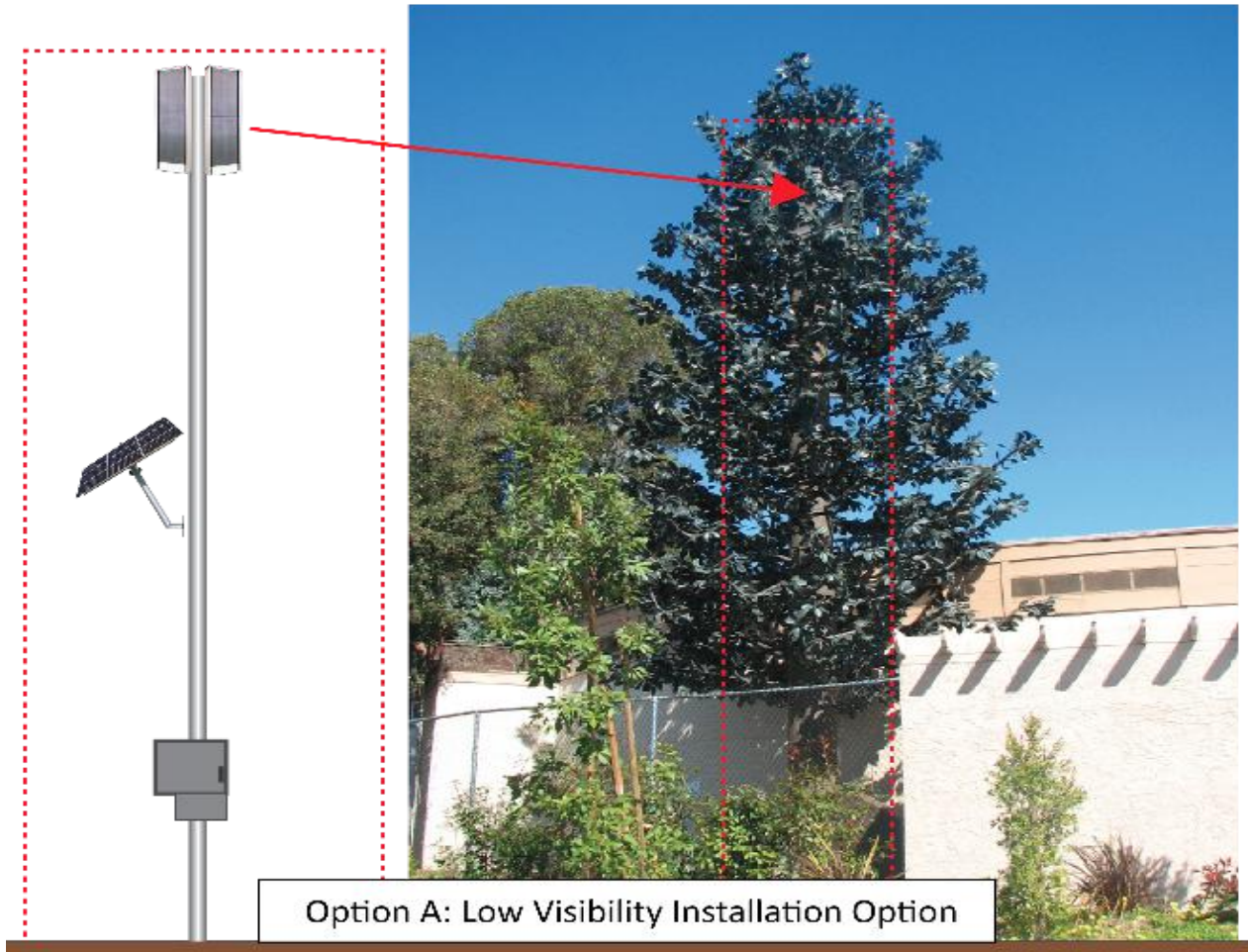


### Equipment Required

- ❖ (1) SiRcom Central Control Unit (siren activation system)
  - Includes
    - (1) SiRcom SMART Alert Software (SiSA) - Annual Subscription
      - Perpetual License
      - Text-To-Speech Module
      - Auto-Foreign Language Translation Module
      - Electronic Alerting Module
        - ◆ Voice Calls
        - ◆ SMS Text
        - ◆ Emails
        - ◆ Social Media Posts
        - ◆ FEMA IPAWS
    - FEMA approved and certified software
    - SiRcom Central Controller Server (dell workstation)
    - LCD Monitor
    - Keyboard, Mouse, Mouse Pad
- ❖ (3) SiRcom Outdoor Warning Sirens With Vector Line Arrays
  - QTY 3: 139dB Intelligible Outdoor Warning Sirens
  - Mounted on 50' poles
  - Tree Facade (Option)
- ❖ (3) SiRcom Control Cabinets
  - Each Control Cabinet Includes
    - Secure Communications:
      - VHF Radio
      - Cellular Communications, SIM Service Perpetual
    - Power:
      - Primary: AC Power
      - 30 Days Power Backup: 220W Solar Power Module, 10 Year 12VDC Sealed Battery
    - Local Activation Module at each siren location

## 5.5 Outdoor Warning Siren Pole Tree Facade (Option)

The following are HQE's proposed life-like tree facades can be offered as an option. The facades require little maintenance and will be installed by HQE.



### Additional Low Visibility Tree Facade Covering Options





## 5.6 Mobile Alert Expeditionary Unit (Si-MAX) Option

The SiRcom Mobile Alert Expeditionary Unit (Si-MAX) and the Mobile Alert Expeditionary Unit Lite (Si-MAX Lite) are two-way emergency mass notification devices.



Si-MAX Unit operates on the SiRcom SMART Alert Software (SiSA). All of the features found on the standard SiSA Emergency Alert Menu will be available on the Si-MAX display. This ensures that any authorized user can access, draft, and transmit emergency notifications while on the move. Si-MAX will communicate the alert message via any WiFi, Cellular, or VHF communications network (annual service cost not included in the proposal pricing).

### Key Features of the SiRcom Mobile Alert Expeditionary Unit (Si-MAX)

#### ❖ Control Features

Alert All Outdoor Sirens  
Easy To See In Daylight  
Encrypted Software  
Continuous SOS Signal

10" Digital Color Display  
Digital Keyboard  
Integrated Speaker  
Camera & Mic

Touch Screen  
Secure Log-In  
GPS Tracking

#### ❖ Power

110VAC (House Power)  
Solar Battery Panel (Option)

12VDC (Car Outlet)

Internal 20 Hour Battery

#### ❖ Communications

WiFi (Local Internet)  
NFC

Cellular (4G/5G)  
Bluetooth

Radio (VHF/UHF)  
RFID

#### ❖ Commercial Info

MSRP \$2995 / EA

1 YR Warranty

Free Updates



Si-MAX Lite is a two-way emergency communications device that each residential home can possess. The Si-MAX Lite can be plugged into the resident's home power while not in use. Once an emergency alert notification is transmitted by the local emergency managers and received by the Si-MAX Lite Unit, the resident can take the Si-MAX Lite Unit with them to maintain real-time situational awareness as the emergency event progresses. This device also allows each resident to transmit a GPS signal that can be tracked by The City of Rolling Hills's emergency managers during the emergency. This feature can assist The City of Rolling Hills's emergency response team in getting to the resident quickly to provide assistance or to ensure they are on the safest path out of the danger area. (Not included in the proposal pricing)

### Key Features of the SiMAX Mobile Alert Expeditionary Unit (Si-MAX)

#### ❖ Control Features

3.5" Digital Color Display  
Easy Navigation Button  
Integrated Speaker

Rugged Screen  
All Environments  
GPS Tracking

Easy To See In Daylight  
Encrypted Software  
Continuous SOS Signal

#### ❖ Power

110VAC (House Power)  
Solar Battery Panel (Option)

12VDC (Car Outlet)

Internal 7 Hour Battery

#### ❖ Communications

WiFi (Local Internet)  
NFC

Cellular (4G/5G)  
Bluetooth

Radio (VHF/UHF)  
RFID

#### ❖ Commercial Info

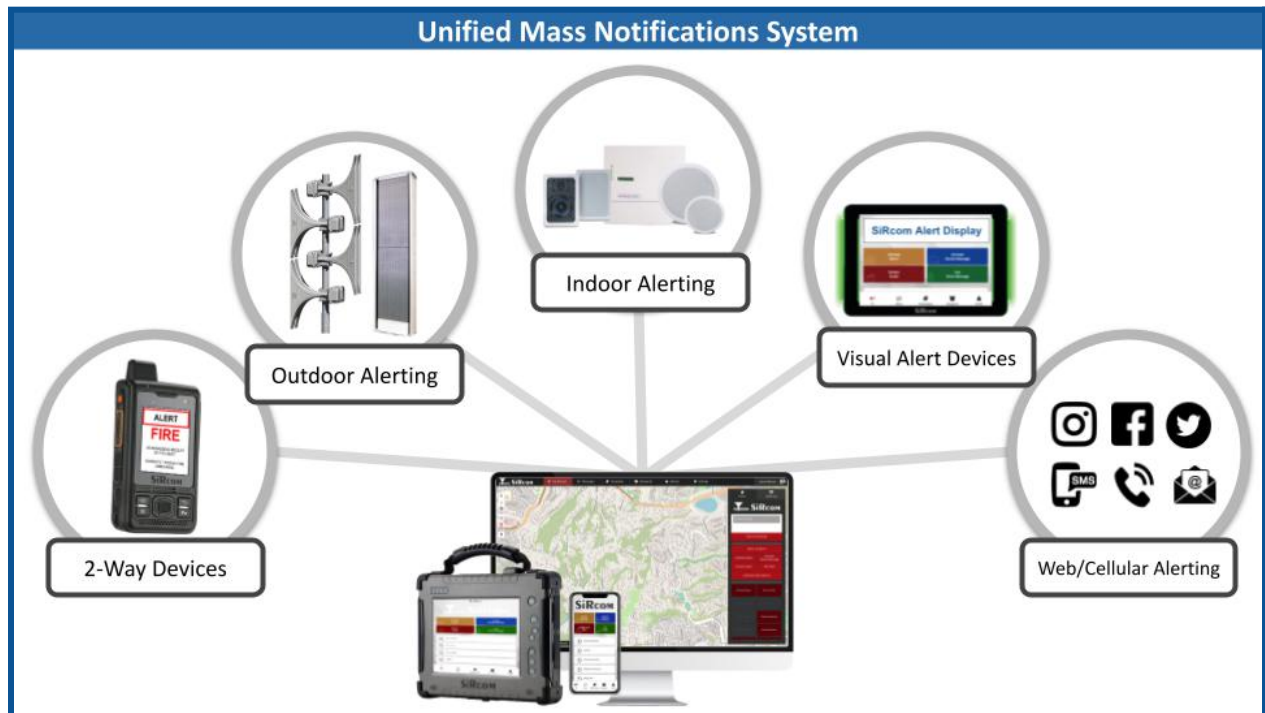
MSRP \$495 / EA

1 YR Warranty

Free Updates

## 6.0 Conclusion of Report

HQE is pleased to conclude this report for The City of Rolling Hills. However, The City of Rolling Hills faces several challenges that were identified by HQE; the solutions being proposed are to mitigate all of the challenges. The report proposes the ideal unique outdoor warning systems installation solution for the City. The solution was designed and proposed after careful analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the current options in the market today. The SiRcom Mass Notifications System allows The City of Rolling Hills to meet the initial mass alerting requirements and to scale later with any indoor alerting and security systems integrations that the City may require. This proposed solution is genuinely a capability that will allow The City of Rolling Hills to install a solution that will not be outdated due to the modern unified mass notifications system design.



The proposed Mass Notifications System is the world's most comprehensive solution, with multiple redundant alerting channels pre-built into the system. The SiRcom SMART Alert System enables The City of Rolling Hills to provide the desired emergency response alerting if the power or cellular communications have failed. It is a Fully Certified Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) System. The Unified Mass Notifications System solution ensures that The City of Rolling Hills can maximize the resources available in the mission to Save Lives and Protect Property. The unified solution doesn't rely on a single network but on a family of networks to ensure that when the Emergency System is required to perform its purpose, even in the event of power outages, the system WILL WORK!

The proposed solution will provide The City of Rolling Hills with the solution to mitigate the risks faced by the City and Counties of California in the infamous 2020 wildfires. In addition to the actual installation options for the outdoor warning system, HQE would suggest a community outreach program that would allow the residents of the community to talk directly with Mass Notification Systems experts. This will allow The City of Rolling Hills to help the residents better understand why the solution is so important for the life safety program of The City of Rolling Hills.

## Thank You For Your Continued Support of HQE Systems, Inc.

A Minority Owned, FEMA Certified Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

FULLY CERTIFIED & APPROVED BY:



DEPARTMENT  
OF DEFENSE



FEMA

End of Mass Notifications System Installation Report