

BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
Technology Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda

February 3, 2022

7:00 PM in Person and via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86736708023>

Committee Members: Craig Dean, Nate Dufresne, Annie Graziani, Cathy Poole (Vice Chair), Matthew Garland (Chair)

Roll Call

Old Business:

1. Review minutes from December 2 meeting

New Business:

- I. Continue work on options re: mobile communications around Reis Run/Clover Hill, and borough-wide public safety communications concerns
 - o Update on Public Radio / County decisions: Andy Nock
 - o Guest: Thomas Musgrove, Government Affairs, Crown Castle

Good and Welfare

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Garland
Chairperson

New Detail from Andy Nock below:

TAC,

I will be on vacation for the December TAC meeting, however I have a bit more info on the Allegheny County Emergency Management (A.C.E.S.) changes. The

emergency Management Chiefs were recently invited to a video conference concerning county wide radio improvements to correct issues they are experiencing across the county.

The one thing that was made clear is for the time being the county will remain on the current radio frequency upper-UHF spectrum of 450 to 512 MHZ. At first brush this is "good" and fits into our current local plan, however, they also indicated possibly eliminating the "T-band" 490 MHZ frequencies they are using here in the north/northwest of the county due to propagation issues. What change will occur and when is TBD.

The County did indicate that all new radios on their radio system going forward need to be P-25 compatible as the intent is to eventually switch the county over to P25 IP addressed digital radio as was discussed at our last meeting.

The County is in process of working with the FCC engineers to acquire the required frequency pairs needed to make some of our needed improvements in the North, however, they are finding it difficult to find additional frequency pairs within our radio spectrum that do not wind up with propagation or interference issues.

The County is working on some new and/or additional repeater locations in the North of the county. They apparently have experienced some current tower owners not returning their calls.

Last but not least it appears the County plans to manage all new radios on their service system, including authorized vendors and regular maintenance of all mobile and portable radios. This is new, but does pool a great deal of buying power to get better pricing for all. The county will also require all radios purchased to be included on their county wide radio database for identifying information such as make, model, serial number, purchase date, etc. The County approved vendors will apparently be able to do this automatically at time of purchase.

On another related note, I received a "cold call" of sorts from Crown Castle about possible new tower location(s) in our area. It is my understanding Crown Castle is one of the A.C.E.S. authorized vendors, so I'm not sure if they heard about our current local radio/cell project or if this call was a byproduct of the aforementioned County adding repeater locations effort. I told them that we have the TAC looking at radio solutions and we meet the First Thursday of each month if they wanted to stop in. I provided no other details.

Thanks,

Andrew Nock