



# City Council Report

**Date:** April 20, 2026  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Marc Heirshberg, Assistant City Manager  
**From:** Lance Webb, City Engineer  
Marc Ahlstrom, Assistant City Engineer  
**Subject:** Mesa Public Safety Communications  
City Project No. CP1239  
Council District 1

## Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council concerning the selection of a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the proposed Mesa Public Safety Communications project at 3220 E. McDowell Road (Refer to Exhibit "A" for the project location).

Staff recommend that Council approve the selection of Willmeng Construction as the CMAR for this project and award a Pre-Construction Services contract in the amount of \$386,571.00.

## Background

On November 5, 2024, Mesa voters approved a Public Safety Bond Program that included funding for the construction and improvement of an emergency 911 communications center. These improvements were identified to address current and projected call volumes and to enhance service quality in response to the City's continued growth.

The City of Mesa's existing Communications Center at 161 Athletics Way housing Police Dispatch and call taking, together with the Mesa Fire and Medical Regional Dispatch Center at 708 W. Baseline Road, collectively handle approximately 1.4 million phone calls and dispatch over 400,000 calls for service annually. Efficiently processing emergency calls and dispatching police and fire personnel is critical to maintaining the level of service expected by the community. The current project will provide a larger, consolidated facility that allows for the co-location of Fire & Medical, Police, and Public Safety Support services personnel. This integrated approach is expected to improve operational efficiency, coordination, and overall service delivery.

## **Discussion**

In November 2025 Staff received seven (7) “Statements of Qualifications” (SOQ) from contractors proposing to act as the CMAR for this project. Based on an evaluation of these SOQ’s, Willmeng Construction was recommended as the most qualified CMAR. Staff have prepared a contract and negotiated the fee for the Pre-Construction Services effort. During the Pre-Construction Phase, the CMAR will work closely with the project team to develop the project design, review the design for constructability, prepare cost estimates, and prepare the project schedule and project phasing plan.

The last item developed during the Pre-Construction Phase will be the “Guaranteed Maximum Price” (GMP) for the project. The GMP will be brought to Council for review and approval at a future date.

Community Impact – The Mesa Public Safety Communications building will support life safety services through 911 call taking and dispatch services to the growing City of Mesa community. Impacts also include temporary traffic and/or pedestrian restrictions along McDowell Road adjacent to the project site.

Once underway, construction of this project is anticipated to last no more than 19 months.

## **Alternatives**

An alternative to the approval of this Pre-Construction Services contract for the selected CMAR would be to construct this project using the traditional Design/Bid/Build method. This is not recommended due to the need for the additional services provided by a CMAR contractor during the design phase. The proposed Public Safety Communications project will require extensive phasing, budgeting, construction sequencing, constructability analysis, and coordination with the city by the contractor throughout the design phase.

Another alternative is to not perform the work. This is not recommended because these updates are needed to improve the level of service, resiliency, and reliability of 911 services.

## **Fiscal Impact**

This pre-construction services contract is in the amount of \$386,571.00.

This project is funded by 2024 Public Safety Bonds.

## **Coordinated With**

The Public Safety Support Services, Police, and Fire & Medical Departments concur with this recommendation.