



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

NERAC Radio Communications Initiative

Information for Interested COMLs/COMTs and their Employers

The **Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council (NERAC)*** is seeking interested **COMLs (Communication Unit Leaders) and/or COMTs (Communications Unit Technicians)** to participate in the **NERAC Radio Communications Initiative**.

Participating COMLs/COMTs, based on their skillsets, will be deployed to provide:

- programming and channel organization services to municipal first responder departments in need of technical support to align their radios with the MA Tactical Channel Plan.
- communications planning and event support for NERAC-funded trainings and exercises.

To participate, the COML/COMT must be approved by the NERAC Interoperability Committee and:

- be able to provide proof that they are a trained COML/COMT.
- have the program MOU signed by their employer and MAPC*/NERAC.
- receive approval from their employer for each assignment.

Departments of participating COMLs/COMTs will be eligible for backfill/overtime reimbursement of up to \$60/hour for their employee's time spent providing assistance through the program.

If you are a COML/COMT (or their employer) interested in providing services through this program or would like additional information, please reach out to NERAC@mapc.org.

The **NERAC Radio Communications Initiative** was developed to improve interoperability and communications planning in the region by:

- providing programming services to eligible first responder departments (Law Enforcement, Fire Services, Municipal EMS, etc. within NERAC's 85 communities) that are in need of support to align their radios with the MA Tactical Channel Plan, at no cost to them.
- ensuring radio communications are thoroughly addressed at NERAC-funded trainings and exercise, by providing planning (ICS-205, channel use approval, etc.) and event support.

MAPC and NERAC's Interoperability Committee will manage the program and contact COMLs/COMTs with requests for authorized work based on the needs of the project and the COMLs'/COMTs' skillsets.

Participating COMLs/COMTs will be required to seek approval from their department prior to accepting an assignment. Departments will be responsible for compensating their employee for all approved time spent providing services for the NERAC Radio Communications Initiative. Upon completion of the work, the department will be eligible for reimbursement by NERAC for backfill/overtime costs incurred for the COMLs'/COMTs' authorized work, at a rate of up to \$60/hour.

***NERAC** receives funding from the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), Office of Grants and Research. **MAPC** (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) serves as fiduciary and program manager for this funding.