



Emergency Radio Communications Enhancement System (ERCES) Plan Review Check Sheet

Fire Review

- Reviewed/approved Radio Signal Strength test on file demonstrating need for enhancement [City of Largo]
- ERCES installation shall be applied for under a fire alarm permit [City of Largo]
- Provide building owner/agent and address [61G6 FAC]
- Provide scope of work narrative [FFPC 1:1.7.12.3]
- Provide name of FCC GROL license holder and number noted on cover sheet [City of Largo]
- Provide EF/EC contractor name, address, city, state and license number on each drawing. [City of Largo] (Must be licensed EF or EC to pull permit)
- Provide signature and seal of the Engineer of Record (EOR).
 - o Name, PE number, business name, address, and contact information provided the plans.
 - o AHJ may require that the Engineer of Record shall provide evidence of experience and training in Electrical Engineering. [61G15-30.003(2) FAC]
- Provide note indicating design conforms to the following codes/edition dates:
 - o FFPC, 6th Edition
 - o NFPA 72, (2013)
 - o NFPA 70, (2014)
 - o NFPA 1221, (2016)
 - o FCC Title 47 CFR
 - o Motorola R56
 - o IEEE 1692
 - o TIA 569, and TIA 607.
 - o UL 2524/UL 60950 [61G15-30.003(1b)]
- Provide building description indicating:
 - o building construction
 - o building occupancy
 - o total square footage
 - o number of floors
 - o total height of building [61G15 FAC]
- Provide note indicating that the proposed system will be capable of transmitting all public safety radio frequencies assigned to the AHJ and capable of using any modulation technology. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.4]
- Provide note indicating that system shall be capable of being upgraded. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.4.2]
- Provide note indicating that the proposed system components are compatible with the existing public safety radio system. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.5.1]
- Provide note on cover sheet stating: *“The system shall never be energized for testing or operation until written, or on site, approval is obtained from the FCC License Holder.”* [PCR&T]
- Provide note indicating that an information binder, stored next to the amplifier, shall be provided and shall include:
 - o As-built drawings
 - o Manufacturer’s data sheets and specs



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- Heat map
- Final signal strength measurement (dB)
- Maintenance contract
- Pinellas County Radio & Technology Final Retransmission Agreement
- Maintenance Repair Log [City of Largo]
- Provide note indicating a placard (2 inch high white letters on red background) will be posted on or near the FACP stating: “*This building is equipped with an Emergency Radio Communications Enhancement System*”. [PCR&T]
- Provide equipment specifications with manufacturer’s parts numbers for ALL proposed system components that includes equipment temperature limits. [61G15 FAC]
- For **signal booster(s)**, provide note indicating that:
 - All signal boosters have FCC Certification.
 - All signal boosters are minimum Class B (Class A preferred) [PCR&T]
 - All signal boosters are compatible with both analog and digital communications simultaneously at the time of installation. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.5.4]
- Provide detail indicating proposed radio coverage shall meet a minimum of:
 - 99% in critical areas**, such as the fire command center(s), the fire pump room(s), exit stairs, exit passageways, elevator lobbies, standpipe cabinets, sprinkler sectional valve locations, and other areas deemed critical by the AHJ
 - 90% in non-critical areas**. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.2]
- Provide detail indicating that isolation shall be maintained between the donor antenna and all inside antennas and ***shall be a minimum of 20 dB above the signal booster gain*** under all operating conditions. [NFPA 1221:9.6.9]
- Submit a complete set of drawings including:
 - Circuit pathways, type(s) and class of each circuit (if applicable)
 - Original approved RSS test grid plan with initial signal test results
 - Riser diagram
 - Sequence of operation in either an input/output matrix or narrative form
 - Date of each sheet origination and any subsequent revisions noted
 - Each sheet must show the sheet number and the total number of sheets included
 - Clearly labeled match lines to show where the sheets match each or adjoin each other
 - Drawings must be submitted on paper. [NFPA 72(2013):7.2.1]
- Provide floor plan, drawn to a graphic scale, for each floor or building detailing:
 - Floor or level identification
 - Point of compass on all floor plan/elevation sheets
 - Layout of system device locations, control equipment, and FACP (if applicable)
 - System riser location(s)
 - Locations of monitor/control interfaces to other systems
 - Type and number of system components/devices on each circuit, on each floor or level
 - All fire-rated enclosures (call out fire-rated enclosure for cables and BDA room)
 - Room/area descriptions
 - All doors and windows
 - Circuit pathways, type(s), class of each circuit, conduit runs
 - Type and quantity of conductors and conduit for each circuit
 - Propagation modeling [NFPA 72(2013):7.4.5]



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- System riser diagrams shall be coordinated with the floor plans and shall include:
 - General arrangement of the system in building cross-section
 - Number of risers
 - Type and number of circuits in each riser
 - Type and number of system components/devices on each circuit, on each floor or level
 - Number of conductors for each circuit [NFPA 72(2013):7.4.6]
- Control unit diagrams shall be provided for all control equipment, power supplies, battery chargers, and annunciators and shall include:
 - Identification of the control equipment depicted
 - Location(s) of control equipment
 - All field wiring terminals and terminal identifications
 - All circuits connected to field wiring terminals and circuit identifications
 - All indicators and manual controls
 - Field connections to supervising station signaling equipment, releasing equipment, or emergency safety control interfaces, where provided [NFPA 72(2013):7.4.7]
- Provide antenna mast structural installation detail. [FFPC 1:1.7.12.3]
 - Mast shall be installed per FBC, 6th Edition
 - Donor antenna orientation shall be coordinated with Pinellas County R&T.
 - Include FAA lighting (if applicable)
 - Exterior antennae shall be:
 - Narrow band
 - High-gain
 - Vertically-polarized
 - Designed for specific frequency band
 - Yagi or corner-reflector type recommended
 - Shall be rated 160MPH or higher wind gusts
 - Shall meet the wind loading requirements of the FBC and ANSI/TIA-222-G [PCR&T]
- Propagation (heat) map drawings shall include the following:
 - Indoor prediction legend
 - Materials legend
 - Pictogram legend
 - Cables legend
 - Calculations legend
 - Number of channels
 - Frequencies
 - Predictive propagation on floor plans
 - Name of certified designer and company [FFPC 1:1.7.12.3]
 - Propagation delay shall not exceed 8 μ S. [PCR&T]
- Provide battery calculations equipment with independent battery source. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.7]
- Provide all firewall penetration details, etc. [61G15 FAC]
- Indicate all riser and donor antenna coaxial cables are routed through a 2-hour-rated enclosure. [NFPA 72(2013):24.3.6.8.3]



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- The connection between the riser and feeder coaxial cables shall be made within the 2-hour-rated enclosure, and passage of the feeder cable in and out of the 2-hour-rated enclosure shall be fire stopped to 2-hour ratings. [NFPA 72:24.3.6.8.4]
- Feeder and riser coaxial cables shall be rated as plenum cable. [NFPA 72(2013):24.3.6.8.1.1]
- The feeder coaxial cables shall be connected to the riser coaxial cable using hybrid coupler devices of a value determined by the overall design. [NFPA 72:24.3.13.8.1.2]
- Pathway survivability level shall be 1, 2, or 3.
 - For Level 1, all coaxial cables shall be in metal raceways. [NFPA 72(2013):12.4]
- The following components shall be protected in a NEMA 4 or 4X enclosure:
 - Repeaters
 - Transmitter receptacles
 - Signal booster components
 - Battery system components [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.5.2]
- Provide note indicating that signal booster enclosure(s) shall be fire engine red color, with locking mechanism, and 2 inch high contrasting letters with the following data:
 - Fire Department Radio Signal Booster
 - Permit Number _____
 - Serviced by _____ [PCR&T]
- No permanent external filters and attachments are permitted. [NFPA 72:24.5.2.5.3]
- Detail that power supplies have at least two independent sources. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.5]
 - **Primary** power shall be from a dedicated circuit in compliance with NFPA 72:10.6.5. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.5.1]
 - **Secondary** power source shall consist of one of the following:
 - Battery with at least 12 hours of operation at 100%.
 - Life Safety generator with at least 12 hours of operation at 100% and a battery with at least 2 hours of operation at 100%. [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.5.5.2]
- Detail that the fire alarm system shall monitor the following supervisory items as a minimum:
 - Antenna malfunction
 - Signal booster failure
 - For RF/Fiber Optics converters: malfunction of main/expansion hubs
 - Low-battery capacity indication when 70 percent of the 12-hour operating capacity has been depleted.
 - Link between ERCES and FACP shall be monitored for integrity. [PCR&T]
- Separate alarm required for oscillating amplifiers
 - Signal booster shall be capable of *AGC Overdrive* and *Oscillation Control*
 - Includes (but not limited to) alarm for auto-shutdown of oscillating amplifiers
 - Power supply signals shall include the following for each signal booster:
 - Loss of normal AC power
 - Failure of battery charger [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.2.6.1]
- Provide dedicated panel (annunciator panel) that shall indicate:
 - Normal AC power
 - Signal booster trouble
 - Loss of normal AC power
 - Failure of battery charger



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- Low battery capacity
- Donor Antenna Malfunction
- Link between annunciator and ERCES monitored for integrity. [NFPA 1221(2016):9.6.13.2]
- Integrity of the circuit monitoring signal booster(s) and power supply(ies) shall comply with NFPA 72:24.10.6.9 and NFPA 72:12.6.
- When an elevator(s) is(are) present in the building, an antenna is typically required to be mounted in the elevator shaft(s) to get coverage inside the elevator car(s).
 - A note on the plan shall be provided: “Contractor shall obtain written approval from the elevator inspector prior to any work inside an elevator shaft or machine room.” [NFPA 72(2013):24.5.4] [ASME A17.1]
 - The elevator code does not allow the elevator shaft to be used for coaxial cable risers. [ASME A17.1.2.8.1]



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Electrical Review

- Detail grounding and mounting details for antenna, mast, surge protection, BDA, power supply, battery enclosure, etc. [61G15 FAC]
 - connected to building electrical ground system and coaxial lightning protector
 - Motorola R56 and Harris Site Grounding and Lightning Protection Guidelines
- Provide antenna lightning protection per NFPA 780. [61G15 FAC]
 - Impedance 50 Ω
 - Frequency range as needed
 - VSWR/SWR = 1.1:1 or better
 - Insertion Loss = 0.1dB or better
 - Impulse Discharge Current = 10KA or better
 - Turn-on voltage = 600V
 - Turn-on time = 2.5nS for 2kV/nS
 - Energy Throughput Rating = 5nJoules for 3kA (8/20 μ S waveform)
 - Continuous handling RF power = 100W or better [PCR&T]
- Indicate the panel and circuit breaker ID; detail panel location on plan [NFPA 72(2013)]
- Indicate provision of circuit breaker lock. [NFPA 72(2013)]
- Detail how the system components are wired to power (120V). [NFPA 70(2014):110.2(B)]
- Indicate that circuit will have an isolated ground, if required by the manufacturer. [NFPA 70(2014)]
- Detail all listing and labeling requirements [NFPA 70(2014):110.2]
- Detail minimum conduit sizes and minimum conduit 90-degree bend radii. [NFPA 70(2014):110.3]
- Indicate system equipment will be installed in an air-conditioned and mechanically ventilated room where the manufacturer's installation document requires a temperature limitation and/or ventilation. [NFPA 70(2014):110.3]