City Council Meeting
06-22-26
Item 1.B.9.

Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Sarah Flores, Emergency Services Coordinator

Reviewed by: Susan Duenas, Public Safety Director

Approved by: Joseph D. Irvin, City Manager

Date prepared: June 2, 2026 Meeting date: June 22, 2026

Subject: Mobile High-Power Speaker Stations (MHPSS)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the Mayor to accept and sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Mobile High-Power Speaker Stations (MHPSS) from the City of Los Angeles.

FISCAL IMPACT: No additional appropriation is required. Minor costs will be incurred for storage, maintenance and community outreach. Funding for this project is included in the Proposed Budget for FY 2026-27 in Account No. 100-7021-6160-00 (Public Safety Operating Supplies).

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:
Goal 4: Improve Public Safety.
Objective 4.2: Increase Wildfire Resiliency.
Strategy: Implement alert and warning systems that do not depend on electricity or cellular service.
Emergency Evacuation: Increase alert warning, and evacuation capabilities.

DISCUSSION: The City of Los Angeles procured six Mobile High-Power Speaker Stations (MHPSS) through an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant. Four of the mobile speaker stations were offered to cities in Los Angeles County at no cost. Public Safety staff requested two of them and the City of Los Angeles approved the request.

The Mobile High-Power Speaker Stations, which are mounted on trailers, can be used to enhance Malibu's emergency communication capabilities and support Malibu's existing alert and warning system. The speakers are capable of amplified sirens (several tones

available), pre-recorded scripts, and ad-hoc voice alerting and can be deployed during Red Flag Warnings, evacuations, emergencies, or community events.

With only two mobile speakers, a set of specific criteria has been developed and approved by the Public Safety Commission to prioritize deployment in neighborhoods that could benefit the most from mobile speaker use. The criteria includes:

- Neighborhoods with limited ingress and egress routes.
- Neighborhoods near to or within significant fuel loads and highest wildfire risk.
- Neighborhoods where cellular or internet-based systems may be impacted due to Public Safety Power Shutoffs.
- Neighborhoods that are densely populated.
- Areas must be accessible for station towing and quick and safe deployment.

Based on the above criteria the Commission recommended prioritizing the following neighborhoods:

- Ramirez Canyon
- Malibu West
- Big Rock
- Point Dume
- Malibu Park

Once the speakers are acquired, Public Safety staff will begin community outreach and education on actions to take when a siren or emergency message is heard, when and how the speakers will be deployed, potential areas the speakers will be deployed, and how the speakers strengthen our existing emergency alert systems. Live demonstrations of the speakers will also be held at community events like the Safety and Preparedness Fair, Firewise community meetings and other Public Safety events and training courses.

The Public Safety Department will oversee the maintenance, coordination and annual testing of the speakers. The City will test the speakers during National Preparedness Month in September, whereby a speaker will be deployed and issue a test alert each week in one of Malibu's evacuation zones (MAL-C111-MAL-C114). Additional tests will be coordinated and conducted in the prioritized neighborhoods to include Ramirez Canyon, Malibu West, Big Rock, Point Dume, and Malibu Park. Coordination and protocols with partner agencies will also be established to ensure maximum effectiveness of the speaker capabilities.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with City of Los Angeles
2. Mobile Speaker Station Specification Sheet

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)
Between
THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
And
THE CITY OF MALIBU

REGARDING MASS NOTIFICATION SPEAKER TRAILERS

THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (hereafter referred to as "Agreement") is entered into by and between the City of Los Angeles, by and through its Emergency Management Department, hereafter referred to as "EMD", and the City of Malibu, acting by and through its duly appointed and legally authorized officer, hereafter referred to as "City of Malibu." EMD and City of Malibu in joint hereafter referred to as "Party" or "Parties", hereby establish policy, procedures, and protocols for the transfer, delivery, housing, storage, holding, activation, transporting, use, deactivation, care, maintenance, sustainment, repair, replacement and removal of the Mass Notification Speaker Trailers, hereafter referred to as "MNST".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has received Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant funding to purchase Mass Notification Speaker Trailer for the purposes of providing reliable alert tone notifications and delivery of pre-recorded messages for emergencies, large public gatherings, sporting events, or locations of interest.

WHEREAS, MNSTs are made available for use by The City of Malibu.

WHEREAS, implementation of the responsibilities associated with this initiative requires a coordinated effort between EMD and the designated recipients of the MNSTs.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the following terms and conditions for the transfer, delivery, housing, storage, holding, activation, transporting, use, deactivation, care, maintenance, sustainment, repair, replacement and removal of the MNSTs.

I. WITNESSETH

A. It is hereby mutually agreed between the parties hereto as follows:

1. Purpose
   This Agreement exists to assist management, supervisory, and line personnel in making

decisions related to each Party's responsibilities as set forth herein, and to delineate specific duties and responsibilities of each department and other involved participants to ensure that the provision of goods and services associated with the MNST is fully realized.

Each Party to this MOA is a separate and independent entity. As such, each retains its own identity in providing services, and each is responsible for establishing its own policies and financing its own activities.

2. Representatives of the Parties

The representatives of the respective Parties who are authorized to administer this Agreement, and to whom formal notices, demands, requests, and communications shall be given are as follows:

a) For the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department:

Carol Parks, General Manager, Emergency Management Department
Carol.parks@lacity.org
Emergency Management Department
500 E. Temple St., Room 130
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Liana Chitchyan, Grants Manager, (or her designee)
liana.chitchyan@lacity.org
Emergency Management Department
500 E. Temple St., Room 130
Los Angeles, CA 90012

b) For The City of Malibu:

Sarah Flores (or her designee)
saflores@malibucity.org
310-456-2489 ext. 237
23825 Stuart Ranch Rd.
Malibu, CA 90265

c) This agreement is for the MNST as described below and the equipment inventory as described in Exhibit A.

3. Description

   This agreement is for the MNSTs. The MNSTs, or Mass Notification Speaker Trailers, is a deployable mobile communications trailer that provides reliable alert tone notification and delivery of pre-recorded messages to the general public and nearby persons for emergencies, large public gatherings, sporting events, or locations of interest.

II. INTENT

The Parties shall agree to the following in terms of transfer, delivery, housing, storage, holding, activation, transporting, use, deactivation, care, maintenance, sustainment, repair, replacement and removal of MNSTs

A. Quantity

   This agreement is for the transfer of one MNSTs. This MOA includes the physical trailer and the appropriate title.

B. Transfer/Delivery/Storage

   EMD is permanently transferring the MNST to The City of Malibu. City of Malibu will agree to store the MNSTs, when they take delivery at EMD or its delivery representative. Storage conditions should adequately maintain the condition of the MNSTs and avoid unnecessary degradation.

C. Housing, Holding

   All items delivered and any and all subsequent items related to the MNSTs shall be housed and held by The City of Malibu pursuant to the aforementioned storage and delivery conditions.

   When not in use, the MNSTs should be stored in an enclosed, secure structure to provide reasonable protection against inclement weather, sabotage, theft, malicious damage, unsolicited or improper use.

   The MNST shall be housed by The City of Malibu until such time as notice is given following provisions contained in and set by this MOA.

D. Use

   The MNST's primary use function shall be for the provisioning of reliable alert tone notifications and delivery of pre-recorded messages for the objective of informing the general public and persons in proximity to the trailers in the event of emergencies, large public gatherings, sporting events, or locations of interest.

E. Activation, Transporting, Deactivation

All movement of the MNST shall be handled through the official dispatching channels of The City of Malibu. The City of Malibu is responsible for the demobilization, salvage, and disposal of the MNST in accordance with UASI guidelines.

F. Care, Maintenance, Sustainment, Repair, Replacement

The City of Malibu agrees to operate, maintain and repair the MNST at its sole cost and expense, except as otherwise expressly provided in this agreement. The MNST shall be maintained in such condition that it is available for immediate emergency use in accordance with UASI regional equipment guidelines.

As the receiving department/jurisdiction, the City of Malibu will assume all future costs inclusive of DMV registration and maintenance.

G. Inspection

The City of Malibu agrees to allow UASI area representatives and other authorized Federal, State personnel to inspect the MNST at any time.

H. Staffing

Day to day staffing and operation will be the responsibility of the City of Malibu. The City of Malibu will assume no responsibility for staffing on activations by EMD.

I. Reports and Records

City of Malibu shall complete and maintain a maintenance log of the MNST in accordance with Los Angeles region UASI and city guidelines and policies.

Any changes in the condition of the MNST, such as through incidents, damage, or any other conditions or events shall be documented by The City of Malibu and/or UASI policies.

III. TERM

A. The terms of this MOA will become effective upon signature of the last Party hereto, and shall remain in effect until the disposition of the equipment.

B. Termination of Agreement

Either party may terminate this agreement upon thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the other party. The City of Malibu may relinquish guardianship of the MNSTs or terminate this agreement upon fourteen (14) calendar days' written notice to the EMD GM.

Upon termination of this MOA the MNST shall be removed from the designated storage facility.

Upon the termination of this agreement, the City of Malibu agrees to return said MNSTs in the same condition as received, barring reasonable wear and tear, force majeure, and conditions over which it has no control.

As inventory changes occur, or items of equipment are replaced, deleted or added by EMD or replaced by the City of Malibu, it is mutually agreed that no amendment to this agreement needs to be made at the time of the change. A complete reconciliation of all equipment will be made at the termination of this agreement.

IV. Administration Fees

Each Party shall be solely responsible for any and all costs associated with their responsibilities under this MOA. There are no administrative fees in recognition of the benefits to the citizens of Los Angeles as a result of the work specified in this MOA.

V. Notices

All notices herein provided to be given, or which either party may give to the other shall be deemed to have been fully given when made in writing and emailed to the General Manager of EMD or the designated point of contact for The City of Malibu.

[**SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW**]

VI. Signatures

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Agreement, which is effective upon the signature of both parties.

We, the undersigned, do hereby consent to this MOA and agree to abide by its terms and conditions

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT		CITY OF MALIBU	
By	Carol P. Parks	By	
	Signature		Signature
Name	Carol P. Parks	Name	
	Print Name		Print Name
Title	General Manager	Title	
	Print Title		Print Title
Date	2026-04-21	Date	

MAD

DP

Attachment 2

City of Los Angeles
Emergency Management Department



Mobile High Power Speaker Station

Currently the Emergency Management Department has four mobile high power speaker station trailers (MHPSS) available to local Cities at no cost. The Trailers were purchased using UASI funds for redundancy in emergency communications in planned and unplanned events. The MHPSS trailers can be used to send alerts as well as loud-speaker announcements to a large outdoor area. They are towable, and take up about one parking space each. Trailers will need electrical outlet to charge.

MHPSS Link

MHPSS Uses, Alerts, Activation

Potential Uses for the MPPSS:

- Deploying to an area where an outdoor event is planned and emergency notifications may be needed such as parks, special events, or large crowd areas.
- Deploying to areas of high danger or areas where the public needs directions or communications, such as beaches, parades, or protests.
- Deploying to sporting events or concert areas.
- It supports up to 255 pre-recorded voice messages with a total recording capacity of up to 100 hours.

The speaker trailers are capable of doing the following types of alerts:

- Amplified sirens (several tones available)
- Pre-recorded scripts in several languages
- Ad hoc voice alerting- either spoken into a microphone or computer generated via
- software

The speaker trailers can be activated in three ways:

- At the site of the trailer, via a system installed into the trailer, remotely from a control point that can initiate a single unit or multiple units when activated, Everbridge alerting system.

Darryl Pedigo
Emergency Management Coordinator

213-257-1201

darryl.pedigo@lacity.org

Feel free to email or call for additional details or questions, only four available, UASI grant purchased for regional use.