



MTA Press Releases

Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Awards 20-Year, \$70 Million Contract to Rochester-Based Firm

Harris Corp. will Design, Build and Maintain Enhanced MTA Police Radio System

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Board today announced it had approved a 20-year, \$70.7 million contract to the Harris Corporation of Rochester for the design, construction and maintenance of an enhanced radio system for the MTA Police Department.

Funding for this security-sensitive initiative is coming from the MTA's 2010-2014 Capital Program.

"We are delighted to be able to move forward with this much-needed enhancement to our police radio system," said MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast. "We're equally pleased that the award of this contract, like so many other contracts awarded through the MTA Capital Program, will mean jobs for upstate New York. Over the course of more than 30 years, state-supported MTA capital plans have kept the MTA system, which is essential to the downstate region's economy and daily life, running safely and reliably. Those same capital expenditures, like our upcoming 2015-19 capital plan, also fueled economic activity all across the state, employing thousands of workers providing goods and services to the MTA. In fact, our proposed plan will support some 400,000 jobs statewide."

"Harris is proud to be selected as the communications partner for the MTA Police Department Radio System as it serves more than 14 million New York and Connecticut commuters on the move every day," said Dana Mehnert, Harris Group President. "Our several thousand Rochester, New York-based employees, inclusive of our world-class engineering and manufacturing capabilities, are dedicated to secure, critical communications solutions that clearly demonstrate Harris' continuing commitment to the region and to supporting the MTA Police in their mission."

"As we continue to meet the transportation needs of our state, I am happy to see that the MTA is utilizing a New York vendor from Upstate to improve their police communication devices," said Senator Joe Robach, 56th District, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. "This \$70 million contract will not only meet the needs of the MTA and provide them with state-of-the-art equipment, it will also help to create and retain jobs for Harris Communications, a longstanding company in the Rochester community."

"As one Rochester's largest employers, Harris Corporation is an integral part of our local economy and this announcement is yet another exciting step forward in their growth and development," said Assembly Majority Leader Joseph D. Morelle. "Harris' strong record of developing and operating critical communications systems for first responders around the globe uniquely positions them to meet the current and long-term needs of the MTA Police Department. I thank the MTA for the confidence they have placed in Harris and it's over 2,000 employees who call Rochester home."

"Harris is a world-wide leader in public safety communications and nobody is better prepared to deliver a state-of-the-art system to the MTA than the company's highly-skilled workers right here in Rochester," said Senator Rich Funke (R-C-I, Fairport). "This is great news for our local economy, which will grow as a result of the \$70 million investment, and for the people of New York City, who will benefit from a safer and more secure transit system. I thank Harris and the MTA Police Department for working together to launch this exciting new partnership."

"I am pleased Harris Corporation has been awarded the opportunity to provide enhanced communications equipment to the MTA and the customers that they serve," said Assemblymember Harry Bronson. "Harris has a reputation for providing high quality communication technologies for the world, and the awarding of this contract is proof of their commitment to innovation. Additionally, this contract will also mean the continuation of outstanding growth for the company, its employees and the Rochester region."

"The Harris Corporation has a proven record of providing technology-based solutions for both government entities and the private sector," said Assemblyman David Gantt, Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee. "I am pleased that the MTA has chosen a proven corporation from upstate New York to complete these critical upgrades to its communication infrastructure"

The MTA Police Department is the law enforcement agency for the Long Island Rail Road, Metro-North Railroad and the Staten Island Railway, which together serve nearly 170 million passengers annually. The MTAPD's jurisdiction extends across 14 counties in two states, covering approximately 5,000 square miles.

As part of its daily operations, MTA PD police officers require the use of a two-way radio system as the primary method of receiving dispatch orders, reporting information back to headquarters, and to call for emergency aid and assistance. Through this contract, the existing MTA police radio system will be upgraded and enhanced to modern specifications, improving communications throughout the MTA PD's entire service territory.

The project involves strategic partnerships with local and state agencies, and includes the installation of modernized equipment at 69 sites throughout 14 counties.

[About Harris Corporation](#)

Harris provides advanced, technology-based solutions that solve government and commercial customers' mission critical challenges. The company has approximately \$8 billion in annual revenue and about 23,000 employees – including 9,000 engineers and scientists – supporting customers in more than 125 countries. Learn more at [harris.com](https://www.harris.com).