

MARCS stands for the Multi-Agency Radio Communication System.

- MARS is dedicated to providing Ohio's first responders and public safety providers with state-of-the-art wireless digital communications, and to promote interoperability, in order to save lives and maximize effectiveness in both normal operations and emergency situations.
- MARCS is an 700/800 MHz radio and data network that utilizes state-of-the-art trunked technology to provide statewide interoperability in digital clarity to its subscribers throughout Ohio and a 10- mile radius outside of Ohio.
- MARCS provides statewide, secure, reliable public service wireless communication for public safety and first responders.

We are here today to celebrate the partnership with MARCS.

- Thank you to the **state of Ohio**, to **all in Fairfield County** (the Sheriff, Administration, Emergency Management, and all of our first responders for supporting the project), and to **Walnut Township**.
- The state of Ohio leads MARCS and supported the project with an investment of just over \$580,000 for a new radio tower.
- Fairfield County added about \$250,000 of general fund money to that investment.
- Walnut Township provided the necessary land, valued at about \$7,000.
- The community has an investment of more than \$837,000 for first responders and public safety providers with this partnership.

The 300-foot MARCS radio tower significantly improves the ability to communicate within buildings with portable radios.

- Previously, first responders often could not communicate from inside a building with their portable radios.
- The new tower fixes a particularly acute communications problem in the Baltimore area and improves in-building contact in the area ranging from eastern Pickerington and Violet Township on the west to Perry County on the east, as well as Hebron/Buckeye Lake on the north and to Pleasantville on the south.

This is a great investment for the state and community.

We know that our law enforcement and firefighters supported the project, and we are pleased to be able to contribute to a project that could save lives.