

This email is a notification of a change made to all PSERN standard portable radio batteries. Based on feedback from participants in Lead Trainer classes and Pilot Testing, the Project team decided last week to change the order with Motorola to smaller batteries for portables. (See the chart below for model numbers.) Please note that the smaller battery is similar to what you have today. The battery has slightly less capacity and is physically smaller than planned, but many users will find it lasts up to 12 hours without recharging.

Background:

A larger battery for PSERN portables was recommended by a subcommittee of the Project Operations Board, and approved by the Board, a couple of years ago. This battery is much larger than what radio users have now, and it has more capacity than the batteries used today on most APX portables. While this allows for greater times between charging cycles, it is causing issues for many. As people have begun using PSERN portable radios, they are finding some problems such as added weight and a need to retool holsters and modify bunker gear to accommodate the larger-sized battery.

For a frame of reference, please see the picture below. On the left, it shows a battery that is typically used by Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement today, and it typically lasts the length of a shift. On the right is the much larger proposed battery selected to be the standard size for portables, and it will tend to last even longer than a shift. As you can see, the proposed battery is taller than the one used today.

After consulting with Operations Board leadership, the Project team ordered the smaller battery for all portable radio users – two per radio. We apologize for the quick and broad change, but we are out of time to alter the order with Motorola if we are to receive the radios in time for deployment next year.

For questions, don't hesitate to contact Sean Douglas at sean.douglas@kingcounty.gov.

The change order for the following (smaller) batteries was placed with Motorola last week:

Radio Model	Battery Part #	Battery Capacity
APX4000	NNTN8560B	2500mAh / UL
APX6000/6000XE	PMNN4547	3100 mAh / UL
APX8000/8000XE	PMNN4504	3400 mAh / UL

Smaller battery

Larger battery selected by committee



Best,

Kimberly Nuber

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