



# TOWN OF GROTON

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



LOUIS J. FUSARO, JR.  
CHIEF OF POLICE  
LFUSARO@GROTON-CT.GOV

68 GROTON LONG POINT ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT 06340  
TELEPHONE (860) 441-6712 FAX (860) 441-6726  
WWW.GROTON-CT.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 22, 2019

### **Groton Town Police Department Goes Live On State Radio Network**

Members of the Groton Police Department have been working diligently with representatives of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications System (DSET), *Motorola, Inc.* and the police department's radio vendor, *Tactical Communications, Inc.*, to bring the much anticipated new radio system live in Groton. The Groton Town Police Department will utilize the new Project 25 (P25) digital trunked system this weekend as members of the department staff the Mystic Irish Parade.

The town first contracted with *Motorola, Inc.* and the State of Connecticut in August 2018. This agreement allows the town to add its radio tower to the state network while taking full advantage of the existing State of Connecticut radio network. Prior to going live the department had to undergo some infrastructure upgrades in order to incorporate the state radio equipment to include the testing of the existing tower, adding antennae and related equipment as well as some electrical upgrades. By working with DSET, the Town realized significant savings of taxpayer dollars while enhancing public and officer safety. This project was funded through a Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Improvement Project.

Some of the advantages for the town include greatly enhancing police radio coverage and communications interoperability with neighboring departments to include Stonington, Groton Long Point, Environmental Conservation Police and the State Police. Communications interoperability is an important aspect of modern day policing and can greatly assist on a daily basis, during large scale events, joint operations and ultimately with officer safety. There are additional benefits to joining the state system to include the fact that the town will now maintain less infrastructure, utilize resources from the State of Connecticut and realize savings due to economies of scale by working with other communities and agencies who utilize this system. Of the five towers previously used and maintained by the Groton Police Department, the sole remaining radio tower located at the police department, will be added to the state network thus offering additional coverage to the existing system. Cost savings is an additional benefit. Comparable systems can cost in excess of 3.5 million dollars and the Town of Groton was able to join the state system at a fraction of the cost. The department intends to roll out the new system this weekend; however, it will remain connected to the legacy system until all radios have been thoroughly tested and any issues with the migration are mitigated.

###END###