

15. **Q: *What are the County and its incorporated municipalities' other telecommunications costs?***

**A:** These are budgeted items and so are available publicly. We will endeavor to gather as much cost information as feasible and post it, or links to it, on the Website.

**6/05/2007 FOLLOW-UP** - The annual budget for the Marin Information and Data Access System (MIDAS) is approximately \$900,000.00 (MIDAS is further described on pages 78 - 82 of the "Report on the Wireless Broadband Needs Assessment Study" included on the maringsa.org site). The total telecommunications expenditures for the County, including the MIDAS budget, and its incorporated municipalities are in excess of \$2,000,000 annually.

19. **Q: *Is more information available about MERA?***

**A:** There is information about MERA in the Needs Assessment Report. Also, more information can be found about MERA at [www.meraonline.org](http://www.meraonline.org). Additionally, we will endeavor to place additional pictures of the towers on the Marin GSA Website.

**6/05/2007 FOLLOW-UP** - Additional pictures of MERA towers are not readily available at this time.

27. **Q: *Who are the vendors and service providers for educational entities?***

**A:** The College of Marin has not yet developed, but desires to develop, an on-campus wireless system. Dominican University has implemented such a system (we will check on who the service provider is and endeavor to post this information on the website). Several of the school districts have begun to develop wireless broadband systems. We'll check on who their service providers are as well and post this information on the website.

**6/05/2007 FOLLOW-UP** – The educational entities that have provided feedback have indicated that their internal wireless networks are owned and operated by the entities.

28. **Q:** *Can we get a copy of the MGSA JPA Agreement?*

**A:** We will endeavor to post the JPA on the Maringsa.org web site web site.

**6/05/2007 FOLLOW-UP** – The following link provides the final template of the MGSA JPA Agreement:

<http://www.co.marin.ca.us/EFiles/BS/AgMn/agdocs/050510/050510-10.-AD-Authority-AGR.PDF> . This version was then signed by each entity.

32. **Q:** *Would Marin be willing to consider Satellite uplinks for Western Marin and other more remote areas, as well as for emergencies?*

**A:** Marin would certainly like to look at any technologies that provide effective broadband communications to West Marin and other remote areas of the County. One concern that would need to be addressed related to the use of satellite technology, would be how local authorities would be able to quickly interface with satellite-based service providers for the immediate delivery of localized emergency information.

33. **Q:** *It seems the priorities of Marin's broadband network are heavily weighted towards the needs of Marin County Gov't admin and operations. Indeed, the consultant as well as RFI spends most of the time on these "Organizational" needs.*

**A:** There is a significant amount of information related to institutional and organizational needs in the Wireless Broadband Needs Assessment report, indicating the depth and breadth of the need and the possibility and potential that public agencies would consider anchor tenancy as part of a wireless broadband deployment model. However, it is important to not dismiss the fact that a significant amount of time was also spent on the statistically valid Residential Community portion of the study showing a high desire on the part of a wide cross section of Marin residents for new wireless broadband services that they are willing to pay for. Marin would like to pursue deployment that satisfies the needs of both of these constituencies.

34. **Q:** *The consultant also goes so far as to suggest that this new Marin wireless broadband infrastructure could even be used to encourage competition among Internet and Cellular providers by encouraging them to bid for access to Marin business and residents. Is this really something Marin County is willing to take on?*

**A:** Marin is interested in looking at a variety of business and operational models that you believe would result in the expansion of broadband services within the County and the incorporated jurisdictions. Regarding the model that you are referencing, it is too early to tell until we receive more information, how well this would be received by the various constituencies involved in the project, but we are interested in any information or data that you could provide that talks about such a model's viability from a variety of standpoints (technical, financial, legal, etc.).