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## Grant Awarded: Ventura County, California Ham Radio Network Expansion/Upgrade

Contact: Paul Strauss, PVTAC President  
[pgstrauss@verizon.net](mailto:pgstrauss@verizon.net)  
805-484-2985

**Camarillo, CA, April 2022** – Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) has awarded the Pleasant Valley Telecommunications Advisory Council (PVTAC), a grant of \$154,000 for amateur radio network expansion and upgrades. Grant funds must be used in accordance with terms set forth in the approved grant budget for predetermined projects and purposes.

The Pleasant Valley ARC, funded by the Pleasant Valley Telecommunications Advisory Council (PVTAC), installs and maintains both an analog FM repeater system and an amateur radio digital network that currently encompasses about 600 square miles in Ventura County, western Los Angeles County, and the Santa Clarita Valley in northern L.A. County. In order to support normal and emergency communications for amateurs and the agencies they support, the PVTAC amateur radio network (which utilizes AREDN software) needs to be extended to all of Ventura County and existing sites significantly improved and hardened.

The task-specific project funds that were approved by the grant include:

- The build out of four additional mountain top locations, and significant upgrades to the eight current sites
- Backbone sites
- Up to three high-level user access points at each site, running AREDN software
- Approximately 30 new ground-level user access points located at hospitals, law enforcement EOCs, Red Cross chapters, etc.
- Videos for public dissemination that provide unique views of incidents, such as Southern California brush fires
- Off-network management
- Spare equipment to cover outages

The Pleasant Valley Telecommunications Advisory Council and Pleasant Valley Amateur Radio Club extends its heartfelt thanks to Amateur Radio Digital Communications for the opportunity to serve the community with this grant.

### About ARDC

Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is a California-based foundation with roots in amateur radio and the technology of internet communication. The organization got its start by managing allocations of the AMPRnet address space, which is designated to licensed amateur radio operators worldwide. Additionally, ARDC makes grants to projects

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and organizations that follow amateur radio's practice and tradition of technical experimentation in both amateur radio and digital communication science. Such experimentation has led to broad advances for the benefit of the general public – such as the mobile phone and wireless internet technology. ARDC envisions a world where all such technology is available through open-source hardware and software, and where anyone has the ability to innovate upon it.

## **ARDC'S Mission**

The mission of Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is to support, promote, and enhance digital communication and broader communication science and technology, to promote Amateur Radio, scientific research, experimentation, education, development, open access, and innovation in information and communication technology.

Learn more about ARDC at [ampr.org](http://ampr.org).

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