Minnesota-FirstNet Consultation Project

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About ECN

Emergency Communication Networks is a division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety that provides public safety communication solutions for Minnesota

• Statewide 9-1-1 program
• Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER)
• Communications Interoperability and Governance
• Public Safety Broadband

About FirstNet and Televate

FirstNet

Independent entity within the US NTIA (Federal Government)
Mission: Deploy a nationwide, public safety cellular data LTE network
Function and organization: similar to a non-profit cellular carrier
Will charge fees and answers to Congress, like the USPS

Televate

Telecommunications consulting firm
Industry-leading broadband experts
Retained by Minnesota to plan for FirstNet
High-profile public safety broadband pilot projects
What are we doing?

FirstNet is our best opportunity to bring broadband data to public safety throughout the State

Why is ECN supportive of FirstNet?

FirstNet is our best opportunity to bring broadband data to public safety throughout the State

MNFCP PROJECT TASKS
MnFCP

The Minnesota-FirstNet Consultation Project is designed to prepare the state to negotiate with FirstNet.

**MnFCP Objectives:**
1. Prepare the State and its public safety communications governance structure for FirstNet consultation
2. Perform the consultation process required under The Act
3. Develop the Minnesota Strategic Plan

- Phase One: Schedule and activities on track with expectations
- Phase Two: Awaiting FirstNet requirements

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**Education and Outreach**

- Newsletters and Brochures (Handouts, email, Website)
- Training Modules
- Conferences and Regional Meetings

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**RFIs**

**Objectives:**
1. Prepare the state to describe partnership opportunities to FirstNet
2. Educate state and stakeholders about partnership opportunities
3. Develop potential value of partner assets throughout the State

**RFI Process:**
- Informal RFI
- Formal RFI
- FirstNet Consultation/ Business Development
- Report Findings
- Report Findings
Surveys

**Point of Contact (POC) Survey**
- Collect contact information from personnel at each public safety agency within the state
- Determine authorized person to provide user and device counts

**User Population (POP) Survey**
- Minimum barriers to wireless adoption specific to each agency in the State
- Potential number of NPSBN subscribers
- Quantity/types of devices currently in service
- Current spending on wireless devices

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**Surveys**

Utilize agency surveys and data retrieved from the agencies to provide a reasonable projection of NPSBN users throughout the State.

**Survey Topics**
- Preferred Device Types
- Coverage Requirements
- Potential # of Subscribers
- Current Spending
- Barriers to Adoption
- Agency Requirements

**Sustainability Plan**
- Consult and Negotiate with FirstNet

**Agency Data**

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**Progress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surveys Complete</th>
<th>Coverage Reviews Complete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**Coverage Assessments**

Purpose: To express Minnesota stakeholder user requirements for devices on the NPSBN that would facilitate adoption of FirstNet services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Service Area</th>
<th>Outdoor Coverage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Where we want FirstNet service first and where it is needed the most, high-activity areas (CAD data)</td>
<td></td>
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<th>Extended Service Area</th>
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<td>- Areas where commercial carrier coverage is insufficient and;</td>
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<td>- Where a deployable or satellite is not acceptable</td>
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<th>Required Service Area</th>
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<td>- The minimal service area required to adopt the service (Verizon depicted*)</td>
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* Coverage obtained from broadband.gov

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**Coverage Assessments**

Example: Clay County

- Critical Service Area
  - Where we want FirstNet service first and where it is needed the most, high-activity areas (CAD data)

- Extended Service Area
  - Areas where commercial carrier coverage is insufficient and;
  - Where a deployable or satellite is not acceptable

- Required Service Area
  - The minimal service area required to adopt the service (Verizon depicted*)

* Coverage obtained from broadband.gov

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**Workgroups**

**Purpose:**

Express Minnesota stakeholder requirements with deep-dive feedback from the state's technical and operational experts and thought leaders.

**Four Workgroups:**

1. Devices
2. Applications
3. Coverage
4. System and Security

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**Requirements Development and Approval Process:**

1. Focus on launch
2. Establish minimum requirements for adoption
3. "Mission Critical", "Public Safety Grade" = long term

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**Guiding Principles:**

- Solicite for Volunteers
- Hold Workgroup Sessions
- Report to Sponsor
- ECB Committee Approval
- Regional Boards Endorse
- SECB Adopts
### Major Consultation Challenges

#### FirstNet Requirements
- What does FirstNet expect out of the consultation process?
- How will our State requirements be integrated into the FirstNet network implementation?
- Standard MOUs/MOA’s?
- Can FirstNet provide data collection (“Phase 2”) timetables and formats?

#### Tribal Governance
- How will FirstNet coordinate with tribes in Minnesota?
- FirstNet has had no formal contact with State tribes.
- State has taken initiative and included in MnFCP; does FirstNet consider this appropriate?

#### Potential Barriers to Leveraging State and Local Assets
- FirstNet has not formally expressed interest, terms or conditions for use of assets
- Unknown potential political and legal barriers

### Lessons Learned
- Branding and messaging are essential.
- Never underestimate the stakeholder community.
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- Communication with stakeholders is extremely labor-intensive.
- Tribal outreach is extremely challenging.
- Good coverage assessments require many inputs.
- Give your stakeholders homework.
- Share with your peers.

**Leverage the community’s expertise.**

*Stakeholders from all areas of the state should be given a voice. They have very good ideas if you take the time to ask.*
Questions?

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