



**T-BAND (UHF 470-512 MHz)
IMPACTS ON THE LOS ANGELES REGION
THE INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY SYSTEM JPA NETWORK
A CALL FOR THE REPEAL OF SECTION 6103 OF PUBLIC LAW 112-96**

Interagency Communications Interoperability System, JPA

The Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) System is a public agency formed as a Joint Powers Authority in 2003 for purposes of establishing direct radio interoperability among independent cities comprising the patchwork quilt known as the Los Angeles Operational Area. The network has been functioning regionally since 2004 and has been proven instrumental in sustaining mission critical communications during many significant regional events, including wildland fires, train derailments, mutual aid operations, tactical emergencies, and major storm, mudslide, and flooding activity.

ICI is one of two major regional networks in the greater Los Angeles area, along with the LARICS LMR System. Both of these region-wide networks, as well as those of the Los Angeles City Police Department and City of Long Beach, are engineered on identical platforms, making the networks fully interoperable through direct system-to-system connectivity.

ICI Serves More than 60 Agencies and Thousands of First Responders

The ICI System Network serves more than 60 municipal Fire and Police agencies and their more than 25 Regional 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatch Centers as a primary Land Mobile Radio System. The network provides seamless mission critical voice communications to more than 6,000 police and fire first responders within their respective municipalities located throughout Los Angeles County. Additionally, the system supports the general government, transportation, public utilities, and public works resources of its member cities, providing every potential emergency resource with direct radio communications capability on a single system. There are presently more than 22,000 public safety radios affiliated to the network.

A listing of the public safety agencies which use the ICI network is included as Appendix A of this paper. The dozens of general government, transportation, public works, and public utility departments served by the ICI System Network are in addition to these many organizations.

Millions of Residents Affected

The presence of the ICI System Network enables protection of the 3,000,000 residents of our collective member cities, as well as enhanced services for the 13,000,000 million citizens - and millions more in visitors annually - across the entire Los Angeles Operational Area. Because the system supports region-wide agencies, such as the LA-IMPACT Narcotics Task Force, the US Marshal's Fugitive Task Force, the American Red Cross, and seamless regional Fire Mutual Aid task forces, our network touches and supports every community in the county. The LA-IMPACT narcotics task force is the largest in the nation.

ICI System is a T-Band Network

The ICI system operates in the T-Band (470-512 MHz) and adjacent UHF band (450-470 MHz), and its existence would not be possible without the availability of adequate radio spectrum. The ICI System employs 105 T-Band channels in its regional network. Accordingly, Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96, which requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to auction public safety T-Band spectrum and clear public safety agencies from the band, places the ICI system at great risk. In turn, Section 6103 places the first responders who rely on the ICI system, and the public they protect and serve, at risk as well. The agencies using the ICI network support repeal of Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96.

The Los Angeles Region is T-Band Dependent

In addition to the ICI System Network, the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, and the LARICS Regional LMR Systems are all T-Band Networks. There are 546 channels of T-Band licensed to public safety agencies in the Los Angeles basin. Even as agencies seek to develop hybrid systems employing 700 or 800 MHz spectrum, there are not sufficient quantities of this alternative spectrum to fully replace the T-Band. The major licensees of T-Band in the region, the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, and ICI System JPA, have each submitted letters of opposition to the FCC concerning the T-Band displacement.

A Clear Need to Repeal

"Displacement of the T-Band spectrum would result in significant service interruptions to mission critical communications and the costs of rebuilding our radio systems would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Additionally, there is no alternative spectrum available within our region to which the systems could relocate. There is simply no compelling reason to proceed with the reallocation of T-Band Spectrum." - Pomona Police Captain Michael Ellis, Chairman of the ICI System JPA

If implemented, Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 will undo more than a decade of intense work, strand many millions of dollars of infrastructure, and place public safety and the public it serves at risk. There exists no viable alternative spectrum to the T-Band and, even if alternative spectrum was identified, attempting to migrate these systems is clearly cost prohibitive and would be wholly counterproductive. The T-Band displacement is in direct conflict with the federal priority to establish and sustain interoperable communications amongst first responders and adversely affects the most at-risk urban areas in the nation.

Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 should be repealed.

Interagency Communications Interoperability System

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Appendix A: ICI System Public Safety Network Agencies

Police & Fire Agencies (**in engineering):

Alhambra Fire	Monterey Park Fire
Alhambra Police**	Monterey Park Police
Arcadia Fire	Pasadena Fire
Arcadia Police**	Pasadena Police
Azusa Police	Pomona Police
Baldwin Park Police	Redondo Beach Fire
Bell Gardens**	Redondo Beach Police
Beverly Hills Fire	San Fernando Police
Beverly Hills Police	San Gabriel Fire
Burbank Fire	San Marino Fire
Burbank Police	San Marino Police
Compton Fire**	Santa Fe Springs Fire**
Covina Police	Santa Monica Fire
Culver City Fire	Santa Monica Police
Culver City Police	Sierra Madre Fire
Downey Police**	Sierra Madre Police
Downey Fire**	South Pasadena Fire
El Monte Police Narcotics	South Pasadena Police
El Segundo Fire	Torrance Fire
El Segundo Police	Torrance Police
Gardena Police	Vernon Fire
Glendale Fire	Vernon Police
Glendale Police	West Covina Police
Glendora Police	Whittier Police**
Hawthorne Police	LA-IMPACT Regional Task Force
Hermosa Beach Fire	US Marshal Fugitive Task Force
Hermosa Beach Police	American Red Cross – Los Angeles
Irwindale Police	Bob Hope Airport Fire
La Verne Police	Bob Hope Airport Police
Manhattan Beach Fire	Burbank School District
Manhattan Beach Police	Cal Poly Pomona University Police
Monrovia Fire	Glendale College Police
Montebello Fire	Montebello School District Police
Montebello Police	

Appendix B:

ICI Regional Coverage Map

