

National Public Safety Telecommunications Council Roadmap

| Historical Data / Influences and Trends | Current Mission: Improve Public Safety Communications and Interoperability through Collaborative Leadership | Current Strategies / Key Strategic Initiatives (How will we get there?) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High satisfaction with NPSTC (96% Very Satisfied or Satisfied) • Most would recommend participation in NPSTC (92%) • Most rate NPSTC support services Excellent or Good • Most feel NPSTC is heading in the right direction | <p style="text-align: center;">Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create vision for the future of public safety communications 2. Develop common policy perspectives through collaborative forums of leadership in public safety 3. Educate appropriate governmental bodies regarding public safety communications issues, policies and priorities 4. Educate public safety practitioners and leaders on communications issues 5. Influence future technologies, providers and standard making bodies to ensure public safety interests are appropriately represented 6. Advocate the interests of public safety communications 7. Facilitate coordination, dispute resolution and the exchange of effective practices, tools and information | <p>ADD Develop requirements for technology use as needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create forums for the exchange of information and ideas • Facilitate communications through the organizations to inform NPSTC's members of the above goals • Bring together the collective wisdom of public safety and communications experts (the best and the brightest) • Respond to regulatory issues that impact public safety communications • Create teams to develop public safety broadband requirements • Work with international organizations to ensure collaboration on global public safety broadband requirements. |
| Strengths / Accomplishments (What is working well?) | Challenges / Issues (What will make this difficult or get in our way?) | Future Desired State (What is the ideal for the future?) |
| Governance / Organization | Governance / Organization | Governance / Organization |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement / unity of most public safety associations • Consensus building process from diverse viewpoints • Knowledgeable leadership throughout • Breadth and diversity of participation, including both public sector and industry / vendors • Strong teamwork with Federal partners • Committee structure and strong subject matter experts / capabilities • Strong and recognized voice for public safety communications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of constructive interactions, partnerships, and consensus by member associations • The inability for NPSTC to address all issues – must focus on those issues deemed most critical • Reliance on overworked mostly volunteer resources, with increasing pressure to limit travel and focus on local rather than national priorities, resulting in a drop-off in participation and potential for further drop-off • Potential reduction in support for NPSTC meetings, travel, development, and interaction • Perception by some NPSTC should expand its focus to include more policy and operational issues in addition to technical issues – while others feel NPSTC should limit its role to technical issues • Concern too much focus on broadband issues may reduce efforts on other key issues (P25, spectrum, indoor location tracking, video, channel naming, etc.) • Some view industry / vendor participation as positive, while other view it with concern | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and accepted role for NPSTC • Cohesive and effective voice for public safety communications • Expanded view and understanding of NPSTC as representing the consensus views of public safety associations • Potentially expanded association representation (Major City Chiefs, Major County Sheriffs, Metro Fire Chiefs, etc.) • Enhanced ability to attract volunteer participation, develop future leadership, and provide appropriate support • Additional resources devoted to volunteer support • Effective process for developing and adopting standards |
| Technology | Technology | Technology |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a leadership position in broadband with paper on broadband as a nationwide network rather than a network of networks • Developed and published mission critical voice statement of requirements, initial Launch Requirements, and Public Safety grade definitions • Working to develop Quantitative and Qualitative Broadband requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FirstNet success in implementing a Nationwide Broadband Network with NPSTC developed public safety requirements • The future impact of broadband and video technologies • The interface between Next Generation 911 and Broadband • Emerging Issues require resources to address • Implementation of 4.9 spectrum for public safety and Critical Infrastructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working nationwide broadband network with appropriate standards, interoperability, equipment, and interfaces • Resolution of VHF / UHF issues • Leader in development of broadband technical requirements, policy, and operational standards • Topics threatening resolution of broadband identified and addressed • Ongoing access to paging and alerting with new technologies |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed initial 700MHz broadband network statement of requirements Development of a national plan to coordinate and use 4.9 spectrum which is currently unlicensed. Developed a position paper on standards for intrinsically safe radios | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing coordination of 4.9 spectrum for public safety use |
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| Strengths / Accomplishments (What is working well?) | Challenges / Issues (What will make this difficult or get in our way?) | Future Desired State (What is the ideal for the future?) |
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| Spectrum Management | Spectrum Management | Spectrum Management |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protected communications capabilities from potential interference to GPS systems and usage through the LightSquared Technical Working Group (TWG) Advocated advance TV clearing to facilitate availability of 700 MHz spectrum for public safety Regular filings with the FCC to protect public safety communications interests International filings on spectrum issues Coordinated the development of a 10 year spectrum plan to follow-up on the PSWAC process (AFTS) Coordinated the development of a nationwide 4.9 coordination plan Development of public safety grade definitions as they apply to broadband use | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for follow-through on some identified issues that have yet to be filed with the FCC Need to address broader set of issues – have become reactionary rather than proactive Implementation of the AFTS report / PSWAC follow-up with spectrum requirements through the Year 2020 Implementation of the nationwide 4.9 coordination plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next generation 911 policy issues and their impact on broadband addressed Spectrum requirements and needs for public safety are met 4.9 spectrum can be coordinated between critical infrastructure and public safety in the most efficient manner FirstNet uses the requirements and definitions developed by NPSTC. |
| Interoperability | Interoperability | Interoperability |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed standard channel nomenclature for public safety interoperability channels Participating in Software Defined Radio (SDR) forum / Wireless Innovation Forum Cognitive Radio meetings Developing a white paper illustrating new technologies impact on interoperability Developing channel naming for the additional 700 MHz frequencies Exploring the Yarnel Fire after action issues to develop best practices for naming of channels in diverse radios used by responders Working with CITIG, FCC and the State Department on northern cross border interoperability and operability issues through publication of White Paper. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being worked on many fronts by all committees – everyone working on interoperability – need to coordinate Requires meetings and volunteer participation Requires input from users that could reflect negatively on their response which has been difficult to obtain Waiting on the FCC to publish their responses to our requests on many 700MHz issues Current cross border federal framework is based on linking US and Canadian federal/provincial responders and not at community level first responders. Differences in international laws and policies affect U.S. public safety agencies along the border | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> P25 standard fully implemented and accepted Strong liaison and strategy for standards development and adoption through monthly meetings NPSTC fills voids without duplicating efforts of member associations Updating of the NPSTC channel naming plan to include all of the available 700MHz channels Responders having a standard place on their radios for interoperability frequencies Work with OEC to remain engaged in the CANUS cross border discussions. |
| Outreach | Outreach | Outreach |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seen as effective in identifying key issues early and communicating them to the public safety communications community • New member orientation program very effective in reducing learning curve and getting new members engaged • Sharing of broadband information with states and agencies planning to buildout systems • Open membership to other public safety organizations like ECPC for a relationship with NPSTC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to adequately follow-up on those volunteering to participate, and provide the appropriate support to maintain volunteer resources • Ensuring an open process where volunteers can participate at any level • Having one organization speak for the federal users during the development of public safety requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More local stories with distribution by participants • Expanded recognition and award programs for those working with NPSTC and others contributing in other ways • Continue to be inclusive with the PSAC, ECPC, and other potential partners that can make NPSTC’s publications and work products stronger representing all levels of public safety communications |
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| Potential Opportunities | Potential New Initiatives | Measures of Success |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created new volunteer process to improve support – requires buy-in from participants • Created Linked IN, Twitter, and blog to open other avenues of outreach • Begin development if a U-Tube channel for outreach • Continue to streamline and improve how NPSTC gathers and supports volunteers working on NPSTC supported topics • Regularly update the Broadband directory for easy access to broadband information for users • Work with the Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (SWIC)s to share information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer coordinator to provide ongoing assistance for committees • Updating the touch and feel of the website to more modern methods for users • NPSTC and SWICs are working on a communications sharing process and development of web tools to share broadband plans being developed with FirstNet and the states. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Web statistics 2. Listserv statistics 3. Number of participants in meetings 4. Number of volunteers 5. FCC filings 6. NPSTC Position papers 7. Blog, twitter and linked in activity 8. Outreach opportunities |

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