

HJ 7 Next Generation 911 Implementation Plan
Draft report from the NG 911 Working Group
February 18, 2016

I. HJ 7

(1) assess the state and federal regulatory and statutory environment affecting next-generation 9-1-1;

- Federal statutory and regulatory environment is permissive. No mandates. Yet.
 - NG 911 implementation policies take the form of recommendations and industry standards (e.g., NENA, NARUC, APCO)
 - See 47 CFR 20.18 regarding provider and PSAP location accuracy obligations
- State Statutory environment (MCA 10-4-101, ff)
 - An arcane, complicated statute that needs updating, especially to accommodate NG 911. (see section below on Legislation)
- State Regulatory environment
 - PSSB
 - 911 Council

(2) study and make recommendations for the implementation, management, and operation and ongoing development of next-generation 9-1-1 emergency communications services.

II. Working Group

- members representing a broad spectrum of interested parties
- monthly meetings since October
- consensus-based discussions

III. Definition

- An IP-based system comprised of managed IP-based networks (ESInets), functional elements (applications) and databases...designed to provide access to emergency services from all connected communications sources... (USDOT/NHSTA)

IV. Entry Points

- *Intrado chart:*
 - ESInets,
 - IP-PSAPs,
 - GIS, Enhanced data

V. Technology

- *Vision Net PSAP map (attached)*
- Today's landscape (Where we are today)
 - IP network backbone for 80% of PSAPs (calls) for more than 10 years.
 - One of first in the nation, putting MT ahead of most states

- TDM system for 20%
- 53 PSAPs
 - 15 “legacy” PSAPs on CenturyLink network; 60% of population
 - 41 on Vision Net, IP capable (80% of PSAPs can receive IP)
- 4 Selective Routers, none of which is IP ready
- **Recommendations**
 - Establish a statewide ESInet (statewide IP network backbone)
 - Upgrade/replace existing selective routers with IP routers
 - Upgrade all non-IP-capable PSAPs to IP capability
 - **Costs. Somewhere in the \$5 million neighborhood**

VI. Applications (GIS)

- **Recommendations**
 - Assess the status of GIS adoption/operation Counties
 - **Cost: \$80,000?**
 - The results of assessment will inform policymakers on how to proceed with standardization

VII. Operations

- Protocols, practices & procedures
- This is a wide-ranging discussion that’s taking place on the national level. Too early for state recommendations.

VIII. Funding

- Fee/assessment in an IP environment
 - How do we assess Skype, FaceBook, SnapChat, etc.?
 - Too soon to determine. National discussion
- No more than \$1.00
 - No interest politically in increasing the 911 fee (although there are many ideas regarding how to allocate the money raised)
 - Not enough data to determine if 911 fee is too little, or too much

IX. Migration Plan

- Coordination with other NG 911 platforms, jurisdictions
- National standards (still waiting)
- Measurement and testing
- Legal issues?
 - Privacy
 - Security
 - Liability
 - Cmr. Briggs particularly sensitive to PSAP/county liability if, for example, consumers expect a video 911 “call” to be received and processed when the PSAP county is not yet equipped.

- Need to define expectations, definition of “NG 911” so that counties can meet “baseline” requirements (e.g., text to 911, which most people do not consider “NG,” or some higher, but baseline standard).
 - Counties/PSAPs may exceed baseline standard
 - No quick resolution to question of how to manage consumer expectations, or how to maintain different capabilities among states, counties, PSAPs
 - Wireless call data?
- **Recommendations**
 - Follow the Intrado “Entry Points,” starting with ESInet, IP PSAP upgrades, selective router replacement
 - Pilot project(s)?
 - Leverage Existing Infrastructure/investment
 - Cost efficiency, shared networks
 - Convergence of commercial, 911, public safety, FirstNet objectives and infrastructure
 - Can’t fund multiple, separate networks
 - Use Stranded Fund for initial infrastructure/capital upgrades, to enable compliance with baseline NG 911 deployment
 - e.g., fund ESInet, PSAP and router upgrades, subject to RFP, other sideboards (e.g. prohibition against using stranded funds to build networks)
 - Cannot us for non-911 purposes

X. Legislation

- Current statute is arcane, complicated
- **Recommendations (See 911 Advisory Council recommendations/concepts)**
 - Update statute to authorize Next Gen implementation
 - Establish baseline NG 911 standards
 - delegate implementation to local govt (Counties, PSAPs) to meet baseline expectations, with authority to exceed baseline on case-by-case option
 - Rulemaking: NG 911 principles (not standards)
 - Authorize sate (DoA, PSSB) to promulgate rules, subject to MAPA proceeding
 - Governance
 - Jurisdiction
 - State fund
 - Local authority
 - Distribution
 - 75/25?
 - Discussion (no consensus) on PSAP expectation that 75% of 911 funds raised should flow to PSAPs, and any additional funding necessary should be swept

from the “wireless account” which comprises the other 25% of funds

- Need for predictability by both PSAPs and providers
 - Should total fund be managed like a grant process, whereby eligible recipients request funding on pre-approval basis, rather than automatic funding?
 - Should certain expenses (structures, personnel) be prohibited as eligible expenses?
- Need for prioritization of funding
 - Allowable costs/Capex
 - “surplus” funds
 - Consider a “minimum distribution” or Reserve fund that is created “off the top.”
 - E.g., 10% of Fund is set aside to fund administration (~3%) and remaining for CAPEX on on-going basis
 - PSAPs, however, reluctant to “fund” the “reserve” if it means reducing the 75% of funds which they receive currently
 - Discussion—no resolution—on administrative fee.
 - Current law allows for 2.74% of fund for DoA administrative expenses, but appropriations process (budget authority) can result in less
- Consolidation is elephant in the room, but should be optional, local decision.
 - General feeling that smaller PSAPs/Counties will recognize the financial necessity of consolidating facilities as compliance with NG 911 becomes more complex, and expensive.
- See recommendations of 911 Council

References

- NENA
- US DOT
- APCO
- NARUC
- Intrado
- GeoComm

Attachments/Appendices

- HJ 7
- Working Group Members
- Intrado Entry Points slide
- Vision Net PSAP map
- St. Library GIS demarcation/jurisdiction flow chart

Glossary (See NENA Master Glossary. 7/29/14)

- ESInet. Emergency Services IP Network. IP transport infrastructure upon which independent application platforms and core functional processes can be deployed.
- IP. Internet Protocol. The method by which data are sent on the Internet.
- PSAP. Public Service Answering Point (911 call center)
- TDM. Time Division Multiplexing. A digital transmission methodology.
- GIS. Geographic Information System. Allows for special reference.