

FirstNet Initial Consultation with the State of Washington

Prepared by the Washington OneNet Staff

DRAFT Version 3 – Send comments to onenet@ocio.wa.gov



**State of Washington Initial Consultation with the First Responder Network Authority
Thurston County
October 16, 2014**

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Introduction

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) came to the “other Washington” on October 16, 2014, and officially launched the design process for FirstNet in Washington!

We conducted the consultation meeting from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM at the Thurston County Fairgrounds outside of the State Capital, Olympia. About 180 responders and other stakeholders from around the state attended¹. (Photo of the room at right.)



The purpose of this “initial” consultation was to launch a design process for FirstNet in Washington. (There’s a longer explanation of what “consultation” means in FirstNet-speak at the end of this article.). We think this will take about 18 months, but that’s definitely a guesstimate based on a variety of factors, including how rapidly FirstNet can issue its RFP for vendor partners, get responses, and evaluate them.

During this consultation period FirstNet will provide technical expertise and other input to build a State Plan and Design for the network in Washington. Responders in Washington will provide information about their needs for coverage, usage, devices, applications and other capabilities in order to improve public safety for the people of Washington. Responders will specify what sort of support they need in this world of rapidly mutating technology including smart phones, tablet computers, apps, wearable computers, tiny video recorders, the



“Internet of things” and much more. And by “responder” we’re talking about anyone who has a role in responding to a public safety emergency and disaster: firefighters, cops, paramedics, electric and water utility workers, transportation workers, transit drivers, the Red Cross and Salvation Army and others. Even school teachers, alas, are too often first responders as we found out again at Marysville-[Pilchuck High School in Marysville](#) on October 24th. (Photo upper right: at 10:16 AM on the initial consultation day, October 16, there was a statewide duck-cover-hold earthquake drill and those attending actively participated.)

The end of this consultation process is a State Plan (capital letters) for FirstNet in Washington presented to Governor Jay Inslee, who will, after consulting with our state’s responders, either opt-in or opt-out of the plan. The State Plan, like all State Plans developed for the 56 states and territories, should include elements such as what parts of the state will be covered permanently, who will be authorized to use FirstNet in Washington, how much users will need to pay and many more elements about how the network will operate in our state.

How the Initial Consultation Day Proceeded: Preparation

“Washington OneNet” is the name of group of state employees who are working to engage Washington’s responders in the FirstNet effort. This includes time from Shelley Westall, Katrina Osborn, Michael Marusich, Bob Schwent, Blessing Guillermo and Bill Schrier and others. OneNet administers a \$2.6 million state-and-local implementation planning (SLIGP) grant. The [Washington OneNet web site is here](#).

¹ See “Disciplines” below for a more detailed breakdown. A copy of the attendance list is available from Washington Onenet – onenet@ocio.wa.gov.

OneNet staff sent out over 4,000 invitations to the initial consultation. These included about 2,300 paper-mailed to key individuals such as sheriffs, city and county managers, and chiefs, as well as a number of others extended via email or listserv broadcasts.

Washington OneNet used our SLIGP funds to pay for the room, meals, audio-visual, film crew, photographer and related expenses. SLIGP funds were offered to public officials (i.e. employees of tribal, local and state government agencies) to support their attendance via travel, lodging and per diem.

OneNet used a web app called “event mobi” to register participants and as a repository for documents, speaker bios and other information relevant to the day. This app also has the ability to push-poll attendees during an event, allow them to ask questions via the web, and manage other aspects of the event. Since everyone coming to a conference this day brings their smart phone, tablet or even a laptop, use of a web application can be a good way to manage a lot of participation. However, in the end, the Wi-Fi at the Thurston County fairgrounds event site was oversaturated and the app wasn’t very useful during the day.

We started the day with a photograph of the whole group. FirstNet does this at every initial consultation, although OneNet provided the photographer.



Then we showed the short version of our “FirstNet in Washington” video ([see it here](#)), which features Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) members



discussing what FirstNet might mean for the State’s responders. This is a fairly dramatic video, with statements from Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste, Pacific County Emergency Management Director Stephanie Fritts (Pacific County is subject to both earthquakes and tsunamis), Quinault Tribe Technology Leader Randell Harris, West Pierce Fire Chief Jim Sharp, Whitcom 911 Director Patti Kelly, and Edmonds Police Chief Al Compaan.

Finally we had welcomes from Sandy Mullins (pictured at left), who is Governor Jay Inslee’s advisor for Public Safety, and Michael Cockrill, the State’s Chief Information Officer (CIO). The FirstNet effort in Washington State is managed inside the Office of the CIO.

Introduction from FirstNet

After the video, FirstNet General Manager T. J. Kennedy (photo at right) took the floor to provide a welcome from FirstNet. He described the significant efforts FirstNet is undertaking to prepare for, design and build this nationwide network, a daunting effort unparalleled in United States history. Kennedy mentioned the Request for Information (RFI) and Public Notice (PN) from which FirstNet hopes to gain input to drive its future plan².



Then FirstNet Director of State Consultation David Buchanan (photo at left) took over. One of the first things he did was ask everyone in the

² Washington State’s response to the RFI is [online here](#) and the response to the Public Notice is [online here](#).

room to introduce themselves. This round-robin of introductions is also a consistent theme with initial consultations.

Rich Reed, FirstNet's Director of State Plans was next to speak. He talked about some of the recent history of FirstNet, such as the regional meetings conducted in mid-2013. He described what went on at those meetings as "shockingly unimplementable" and that's definitely true³. The FirstNet Board members who led those meetings were far too optimistic on schedule and effort.

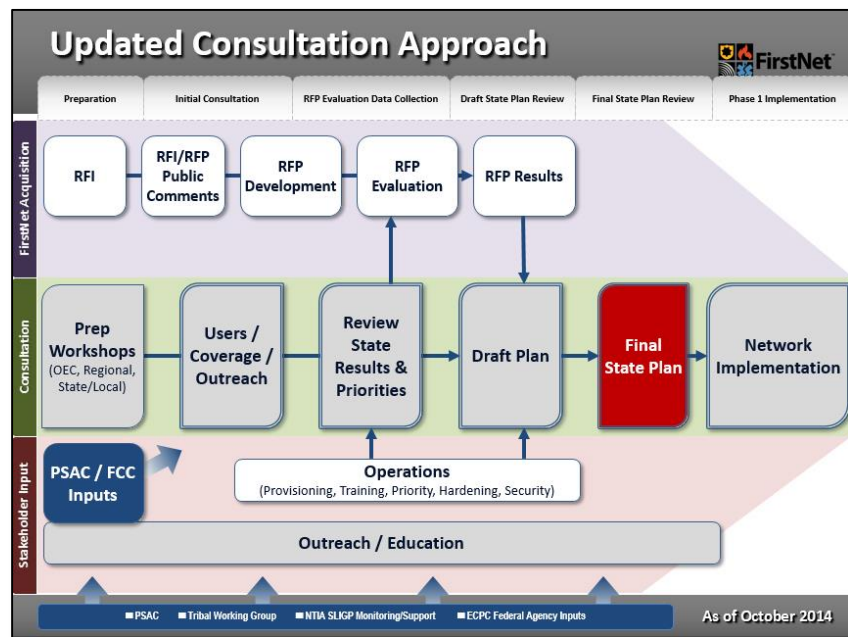
Rich Reed characterizes the information presently available as "what we know", "what we don't know" and "what we think", and answers questions within that framework. For example, we know the law which created FirstNet contains a number of Congressional mandates. As another example, we know FirstNet's shelf life is from 2012 to September 30, 2022, when the authority and funds end unless renewed by Congress.

Some other highlights of Reed's talk:

- FirstNet is keenly aware it must "earn the business" of each public safety agency by offering equal or superior products, services and support.
- Consultation with States does not end when FirstNet delivers the State Plan to Governor Inslee (or any other Governor). Consultation will continue as FirstNet implements in the state, builds its network, and then expands it based upon the needs of the state's responders.
- Will the usage fee be flat rate or usage based or pooled? This we don't know and, indeed, it was part of the questions FirstNet asked vendors and users in its recent [Request for Information](#) (RFI).
- Will user devices be specialized or will FirstNet be built into commercial smart phones and devices? FirstNet hopes this will be something an agency can decide, but that officers in the field can use their devices the same way they use them today.
- Will there be one vendor partner or many partners to build out the network? This is unknown.
- Will devices be able to talk to other devices via Bluetooth, boomer sites, small cells and so forth? All such technologies are on the table.

³ [Here's the FirstNet press release](#) announcing these consultations and [here's a presentation](#) by Jeff Johnson describing these meetings.

- Reed, Buchanan and Kennedy also talked about the updated, streamlined, approach to State consultation which is shown in the image below:



Needs for FirstNet in Washington

Four senior officials from local government presented practical examples of challenges and disasters they have faced in 2014, some of the communication problems they had, and how a robust wireless data network may be able to improve response and recovery in the future. The slide deck used in these presentations is [on the Washington OneNet site here](#).

Okanogan County Wildfires and Floods

Okanogan County, and other counties in Washington experienced one of the worst wildfire seasons on record. Okanogan County suffered from the largest wildfire in recorded state history, measured in geography, the Carleton Complex fire. This fire raged in July and August 2014 and burned 400 square miles, destroying 237 homes and 55 cabins. The fire was ultimately extinguished partially as a result heavy rains, but those rains caused flooding and torrential stream flows, causing further damage. One death is attributed to the fire.

Okanogan County Senior Deputy Mike Worden (photo at right) discussed the interoperable communications challenges of the event. These included:

- Over fifty to sixty miles fiber optic cable, mounted on wooden poles, was lost, cutting 911 service to many residents and connections to some commercial cell sites. At least one undergrounded fiber was cut when the fiber which ran under a bridge melted.
- While the Sheriff's Department has mobile data computers in deputy vehicles, most city police departments and local fire departments do not have such access to wireless data communications. No public safety land-mobile radio (LMR) sites were lost, although at least one site operated on generator during an extended power outage due to loss of electrical lines and service. One public safety site in Oroville lost coverage due to loss of phone lines which serve as backhaul to that site.
- The Sheriff's department used automatic vehicle location (AVL), mobile digital maps, instant messaging and electronic mail to coordinate evacuation of residences.

- The Sheriff's department tracked routes and locations which had now mobile data coverage and has maps to support improvement of that coverage.

After Worden's presentation, he and the audience discussion extracted several lessons learned from this event:

- All local and state agencies need to invest in mobile data devices (computers, smart phones, tablets) for their field officers to better share situational awareness and a common operating picture. Perhaps this use needs to be subsidized if local agencies cannot afford it.
- Affordability of mobile data devices and ubiquitous use of them is key to responding both to daily incidents and major disasters like this.
- "Public safety grade" for a network may include microwave links instead of fiber for backhaul in wildfire areas. Public safety grade might also include resistance to fire as well as backup generators on remote sites.
- Make sure cell sites and LMR sites are clear of brush to help prevent damage due to wildfire.
- Interoperability with state and federal agencies is also important to wildfire response. Such agencies include Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Washington State Patrol (WSP), Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR – which is primarily responsible for wildland firefighting), federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and federal National Forest Service (NFS) part of the Department of Agriculture.
- Mobile data use by responders is, more and more, becoming a "necessity" rather than a "nice-to-have".

Snohomish County State Route 530 Landslide

Scott Honaker, the Radio Officer at the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM), discussed the challenges and lessons learned from that event. The landslide occurred on Saturday, March 22, 2014. It destroyed 36 homes directly and 9 more by flooding. Forty-three people died in the slide. Everyone who could be rescued was rescued in the first 12 hours, but the recovery operations continued for six weeks with up to 1,000 responders deployed in the 1500 foot long, 4400 foot wide landslide area. (Photo at right: the slide area with a model of it superimposed on the bottom right.)



Some of the interoperable communications challenges detailed by Honaker included:

- Lack of situational awareness was a challenge during the first 48 hours. Few responders realized the size or extent of the slide, and accurate data on the number of people missing took a week to assemble. Ironically some situational awareness was available from Navy, Snohomish, King County and private air ambulance helicopter pilots during the recovery phase, but there were few paths to accurately convey this data to incident commanders on the ground.
- The slide severed a fiber optic cable connecting the town of Darrington to the outside world for communications. This cut Darrington off in terms of 911 calls, Internet and land-line telephone service. One commercial cellular provider, Verizon, retained connections. 911 Center staff quickly worked with Frontier communications to reroute 911 calls to a police substation in Darrington. Other commercial cellular providers lost connectivity due to the loss of the fiber line.

- Volunteers were extensively used in the recovery operation. Many of them had friends and relatives whose bodies were buried under the debris; furthermore, these volunteers had the proper equipment (logging equipment, bulldozers) to move the debris.
- The area was well-covered for LMR by the Snohomish Emergency Radio Network (SERS), but many other LMR networks were used by responder agencies including interoperable frequencies (ICALL), standard air operations frequencies, conventional VHF, search-and-rescue VHF, encrypted communications used by the Navy, Coast Guard and FEMA, Urban Search-and-Rescue and auxiliary communications (e.g. HAM).
- Commercial cellular and land-line carriers – especially Verizon and Frontier, but also AT&T, provided extraordinary support during the event. For example Verizon assigned technicians to the event 24x7 and Frontier restored the fiber line to connect Darrington within three days.
- There was a lack of LMR devices on the scene – while SERS covered the area well with 800 MHz trunked public safety radio, very few cached radios were available to deploy to responders (cached radios from multiple jurisdictions across the region were used, but the numbers were still inadequate). VHF radios were obtained by the Type II Incident Management Team (IMT) from DNR from the national cache, but they did not work with the SERS trunked system.
- Video downlinks from Snohomish and King County helicopters and Washington State Patrol aircraft were available, but only one or two receivers were available on the ground for receiving the video, and there was no way to distribute it via data communications to incident commanders and responder devices.
- A detailed report on the land-mobile radio challenges and lessons learned [is here](#).

Some of the lessons learned for FirstNet discussed by the audience include:

- FirstNet must have operational capability to immediately respond on site with technical staff to support communications after a disaster.
- It is extraordinarily important for all responders and responder agencies to have certain common applications on their mobile data devices to share situational awareness and communications during the response, but also the recovery phase after disasters.
- Aircraft – helicopters, airplanes and drones - are very important to situational awareness, but communicating information obtained from such sources is difficult. This information includes video, LIDAR and other scanning technologies as well as voice and GPS data.
- Technology is required on the ground to adequately distribute situational awareness (e.g. helicopter video feeds) to devices connected by FirstNet and other wireless data networks.
- Public safety grade – it is important to have two or more redundant backhaul paths to cell sites and other radio sites.
- Communications leaders (COML), communications technicians (COMT), auxiliary communications specialists (AUXCOM) and network operating centers (NOCs) are vitally important to communications management for incident commanders and incident management teams.
- In a complex event, situational awareness must be distributed across a wide variety of teams involved in the response – local and state police, local firefighters, DNR, WSDOT, FEMA, city, county and state Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), Urban Search-and-Rescue, search-and-rescue (SAR) volunteers, other volunteers (like loggers), National Guard, Coast Guard, and the Navy in this case. Common applications and/or common use of a network like FirstNet could vastly improve situational awareness during the critical first hours of response.

Seattle Seahawks Victory Parade

Captain Dick Reed attended the morning session of the initial consultation, but was called away before he could talk about communications challenges during the Seahawk victory parade. Some of those challenges have been detailed in the public media, such as [this Seattle Times article](#). (Photo at right: Seattle Police help clear a route through the crowd for the victorious Seahawks.)



The parade on February 5, 2014, drew an estimated 700,000 people to downtown Seattle. Cellular network providers tried to provide additional network capability via cell-on-wheels (COW) and similar apparatus. Nevertheless many cell phone calls and much wireless data communication was unusable for over three hours. Fortunately there were few major incidents. Many responders from multiple agencies came to mutual aid of the City of Seattle to support the event. LMR networks (King County 800 MHz radio) performed flawlessly, and in several cases citizens came to police officers or firefighters along the route to request aid, and those responders were able to use their 800 MHz trunked radio to summon aid. Nevertheless the mobile data computers, smart phones and tablet computers of all responders were affected just like citizens and parade observers.

The Seahawks Victory Parade experience supports the need for a dedicated network for use by responders.

Engaging Washington Responders in the FirstNet State Plan

Bill Schrier, FirstNet State Point of Contact (SPOC), discussed how Washington OneNet and Washington's responders will engage with FirstNet during the consultation process to develop the state plan ([slides of the presentation are here](#)). (Photo at right: Sheriff John Snaza, Governor Inslee's Public Safety Advisor Sandy Mullins, Bill Schrier and State Emergency Management Director Robert Ezelle).



OneNet has engaged the Washington State University (WSU) [Division of Governmental Studies & Services](#) and the [Pacific Northwest Economic Region](#) (PNWER) as subcontractors to continue outreach, education and data collections in support of Washington OneNet. WSU will be contacting first responder agencies and elected officials throughout the state to make them aware of the FirstNet design effort and engage them in developing the State Plan. Similarly PNWER will engage public works, utilities and similar responders in the effort. This work will kick off in earnest in January, 2015. (Photo at left: The audience listens to the 2 minute, 42 second video at the start of the day. John Batiste, Chief of the Washington State Patrol, is speaking on the screen and also attending right in front of the screen).



Washington will form three committees – a stakeholder committee, technical committee and operational committee. The Operational Committee will be led by Jim Pryor, retired assistant police chief in Seattle, and will consist of invited individuals who have performed as a public safety incident commander.

The Operational Committee will explore and make recommendations to the SIEC regarding operational aspects of FirstNet’s dedicated Public Safety Wireless Broadband Network in Washington State. The Committee will consider such issues as network management/prioritization during critical incidents and normal use; availability and use of multi-disciplinary applications on the network; establishing operational guidelines when interfacing with local, state, federal, and military entities; and, other topics that might be referred to the Committee to take advantage of the experience, background, and training of its members.

The Stakeholder Committee will be composed of elected officials and senior officials of responder agencies to consider questions such as coverage, where incidents occur, who is a “responder” and should be authorized to use the network, costs and affordability.

The Technical Committee will support FirstNet’s work in technical design - including deployable sites (e.g. sites on fire apparatus, drones, and similar platforms), in-building coverage, distributed antennas, throughput speeds, and micro-cell-sites, implementing priority and similar issues.

Those attending the initial consultation were asked to complete cards to volunteer for these committees.

The goal of these Washington State efforts is not to “sell” FirstNet, but rather to get a design for Washington State which meets the needs of our responders and citizens.

What FirstNet Needs from Washington

In the afternoon of the initial consultation, Brian Hobson (photo at right, with a coverage map) and Rich Reed of FirstNet described the sorts of information FirstNet needs to design a network and prepare a State Plan for Washington. They discussed:



- The need to find incident management data such as computer-aided-dispatch (CAD), records management system (RMS) and 9-1-1 call data to map the location of incidents in the state, which in turn drives coverage mapping.
- FirstNet has purchased [Mentum Planet software](#) to support network design.
- Coverage maps of the existing state and local LMR networks are a good starting point for coverage mapping.
- FirstNet will do a phased build-out in Washington. What are the appropriate phases? Washington’s elected officials and responders must work to define them. For example, Washington might want to do a reverse build-out with the areas with high need but poor coverage being the first to be built out.
- Washington might consider how to manage feedback loops and processes for managing further expansion of the network.
- Throughput speeds are also important in terms of locations which require video streaming versus locations where simple text messages and AVL data might be sufficient for responder use.

Photo: David Buchanan, pictured at right, watches as the members of the audience each introduce themselves.



Next Steps for Washington State

- Send its draft response to the FirstNet Public Notice and RFI to everyone attending⁴.
- Continue outreach & discussion with responder agencies and Tribes.
- Begin collection of data elements. These include information such as names of potential user agencies, a point of contact in each agency, the potential number of FirstNet users in each agency, applications which are presently in use, and so forth.
- Convene Stakeholder/Technical Committees.
- Commission Operational Committee.
- Consider coverage, capacity, users and other input Washington has for the FirstNet State Plan.
- Work with FirstNet staff on State Plan.

Next Steps for FirstNet

- Hire staff members in Federal Region X (Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Idaho) to support work on the state plan.
- Develop template of specific user data and information, which states should collect to support the development of the State Plan.
- Assimilate input from the RFI and publish a draft RFP, probably in first quarter of calendar year 2015, to solicit vendors and partners to build the network.

Challenges for doing a FirstNet State Plan in Washington

East and West. While we had a good attendance from around the state, it was hard to get representatives from Eastern Washington. Washington, like most states, has a “divide”, and in our case it is “east of the Cascade Mountains” and “west of the mountains”. When a meeting is held on one side, attendance from the other falls off. We had conducted a statewide communications interoperability plan (SCIP) workshop in Spokane in August, which received good attendance from east of the mountains. In that workshop we worked to include data communications capabilities in the SCIP. The lesson learned here is to alternate workshops around the state, and for important events – like the final review of our FirstNet State Plan – we’ll probably hold events on both sides of the mountains. We also are using our state-and-local implementation

⁴ Washington State’s response to the RFI is [online here](#) and the response to the Public Notice is [online here](#).

planning grant (SLIGP) funds to pay for travel, lodging and per diem of public officials who attend the meeting, but they still need to be away from their day jobs, a real challenge for smaller cities and rural counties who do not have a lot of staff.

Indian Country. We had 7 representatives from Indian tribes, including Mike Lyall, Vice-Chair of the Cowlitz tribe and Robin Souvenir, Police Chief for the Shoalwater Bay Tribe (photo at right). The Cowlitz have a huge reservation in the central part of the state and the Shoalwater Bay Tribe is in Pacific County, vulnerable to tsunami and also in the shadow of a cliff, with poor commercial cell coverage. Nevertheless we have 29 federal recognized tribes in the state – and some additional tribes beyond those – so we have more work to do to engage our tribes who are federal governments. Besides the Cowlitz, other tribes in the state cover a large geography and are economically and culturally important to our state. We have much more work to do to engage them all.



Urban, suburban and rural first responders. We had good participation from rural and suburban agencies, including police, fire and emergency medical, plus 911 centers (PSAPs) and emergency managers. We didn’t get a lot of responders from larger cities such as Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma, although we had good participations from their counties – Spokane, King and Pierce.

Disciplines. Here is the breakdown of those registered by discipline. It is always a challenge to get a mix of potential using agencies by discipline, size and affiliation. Clearly we need to engage more public works, transportation, transit, non-governmental organizations and similar agencies:

Discipline or Affiliation	Number
911 Center	17
Commercial	25
Citizen	1
Elected Official	12
Emergency Management	9
Firefighting and EMS	16
Federal (other than Fire, 911, police)	2
FirstNet	15
Health	2
Information Technology	12
Law Enforcement (other than Sheriff)	8
LMR Radio Systems Managers	14
Sheriffs and deputies	8
State Points of Contact and Staff	12
Staff	10
State	8

Discipline or Affiliation	Number
Tribal	11
Transportation	2
Utilities	5
Total Registered	190

Lessons Learned

Washington OneNet offers a number of lessons and suggestions for other states who are going to conduct an initial consultation.

Cast the net far and wide for attendees. This is the State’s opportunity to find and engage all possible user agencies. We did the right thing by sending a postal-mailed invitation, which included a link to our website to most Sheriffs, Mayors, City/County Administrators and City/County Managers in the state. We should have included a “FirstNet for elected officials” flyer and now we need to follow-up with these individuals - both via email and at their conferences, to make sure they are aware of the FirstNet consultation process. (Photo at right: Thurston County Sheriff John Snaza speaks to the group.)



The state is the host. This event is not a “FirstNet comes out and talks to us” day. This is the State Point of Contact’s day to emcee or host the event and also engage attendees and stakeholders.

Leave plenty of time for questions. We had asked attendees to be sure they knew the basics of FirstNet before attending, and provided materials in advance and a video on the day of the event to help them learn. We were pleased that most of the questions were succinct, relevant and not basic “FirstNet 101” questions. We were also pleased that those people who sometimes attend and use a lot of “air time” to vent their own opinions were either respectful of others or not attending on October 16.

Test your tech. We had multiple technology challenges during the event: Wi-Fi was overloaded, the video interfered with the WebEx, WebEx audio and video connections occasionally dropped, and a few other minor challenges. Perhaps we should not even do a WebEx for an event where most people will be attending in person.

Prepare user stories/case studies. The user stories and case studies are a phenomenal chance to engage Firstnet about the unique challenges of the state and its responders. But it is also helpful for the state’s own responders to hear about the issues faced by other responding agencies in the state. Washington, unfortunately, has had too many disasters, just in 2014, and therefore faces many mobilizations and challenges. Other potential disasters loom, including a magnitude 9.0 earthquake, lahars, volcanic eruption and terrorism due to a long international border and a long coastline.

Hallway conversations are half the event. “Virtual meetings” like WebEx and Go-to-Meeting will never replace meeting people at a live event. T. J. Kennedy and other FirstNet staff really “worked the room” meeting with Washington State responders, as did Washington OneNet staff. Kennedy’s background as a first responder makes him a powerful ambassador for FirstNet and a great person to engage police and fire chiefs, as well as elected officials. These individual and personal touches are the foundation for future engagement to build the State Plan.



(Photo at right: T. J. Kennedy talks with retired Seattle Police Assistant Chief Jim Pryor).

Start with a bang, end with “next steps” Our “bang” was our powerful video with statements about FirstNet from some of our SIEC members⁵. The “bang” was subverted a bit because it took about 12 minutes to troubleshoot issues which turned out to be a conflict between running the video and the WebEx. Nevertheless it is a good kickoff to start such a day. The last part of the day should always be, “So what are we going to do next?”

Summary

State Points of Contact must view the FirstNet initial consultation as one more opportunity – perhaps the most significant opportunity – to engage their stakeholder communities in outreach and education. It is the start of the multi-year process to build a State Plan for FirstNet which reflects the needs and requirements of all the responders in the State.

If the design, planning, construction and implementation of the First Responder Network in the State of Washington is a 26 mile, 385 yard, marathon, the initial consultation we conducted on October 16th is the first 100 yards. We're off to a running start, but there's a long, sometimes difficult, sometimes enjoyable, 26 mile, 285 yards to go.

The general road map to the final network is in place, but the hills, valleys and curves are yet to be plotted and overcome. Over the next several years responders from throughout Washington will work with FirstNet to create a State Plan and then will see it to implementation. At that point each city, county, police and fire department, electric utility, public works and other responder agency will need to decide if the new FirstNet will meet their specific needs. Getting to a great design will be a major portion of the effort.

⁵ These videos are on the [Washington OneNet Website](#). The short video is [2 minutes 42 seconds and is here](#). The longer one is [6 minutes 25 seconds and is here](#).

Appendix 1: Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee

Website: www.siec.wa.gov

- John Batiste, State Patrol Chief
- Bill Benedict, Clallam County Sheriff
- Al Compaan, Edmonds Police Chief
- Bret Daugherty, Adjutant General
- Mike Doherty, Clallam County Commissioner
- Chuck Duffy, Fire Marshal
- Robert Ezell, State Emergency Management Director
- Stephanie Fritts, Pacific County Emergency Management Director
- Jennifer Gregerson, Mayor, City of Mukilteo
- Randell Harris, Quinault Tribe
- Albert Kassel, Resource Director, Department of Natural Resources
- Patti Kelly, Whitcom 911 Director
- John Nisbet, State Traffic Engineer
- Jim Sharp, West Pierce Fire Chief



Appendix 2: Washington OneNet Staff

Website: <http://onenet.wa.gov>

- Blessing Guillermo*, Military Department
- Michael Marusich**, Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), michael.marusich@ocio.wa.gov
- Katrina Osborn, OCIO, katrina.osborn@ocio.wa.gov
- Bill Schrier**, OCIO, bill.schrier@ocio.wa.gov
- Bob Schwent*, Washington State Patrol, Robert.schwent@wsp.wa.gov
- Shelley Westall, OCIO, shelley.westall@ocio.wa.gov

*Part time, 25% or less

**Part time, 50%

Appendix 3: State Points of Contact and FirstNet Staff Attending

State Points of Contact

Each of the 56 states and territories has a State Point of Contact (SPOC) for managing the outreach and education relating to FirstNet in the state, and also to interface with FirstNet and its staff. SPOCs and staff from a number of states attended this initial consultation in Washington. This is especially important for border states to Washington, as we need to coordinate our efforts to support a FirstNet design in places like Vancouver, Washington and Portland, Oregon or Spokane-Couer d'Alene Idaho or Lewiston, Idaho – Clarkston, Washington.

Matthew Leveque, Alaska

Michael Britt, Arizona (via teleconference)

Victoria Garcia, Hawaii

Tom Lampe, Iowa

Craig Allen, Iowa

Robert Feeley, Idaho

Steve Noel, Oregon

FirstNet Staff Registered to Attend

Brian Hobson

Carl Rebstock

Chris Savoy

Claudia Wayne

Corey Ray

David Buchanan

Jeff Unger

Jeremy Zollo

Jessica Lance

Joshua (Josh) Ederheimer

Justin Shore

Kevin Green

Lisa Suits

Liz Moore

Rich Reed

Robert (Bob) Ehrlich

T. J. Kennedy

Appendix 4: What is consultation?

“Consultation” has a special meaning in FirstNet-speak. Here’s the [FirstNet website on consultation](#), and Bill Schrier’s explanation follows:

FirstNet is required to “consult” with each one of 56 states and territories as it does planning and design for its nationwide network. The consultations will result in both a nationwide architecture for the First Responder Network, as well as individualized state plans which are presented to the Governor of each state for a decision for the state to opt-in or opt-out of the plan for that state.

The consultation process starts with an “initial consultation” between FirstNet and public officials in the state and proceeds through a series of interactive discussions over a period of 18 months or so (that’s my best guess, not an official timeline).

At the same time several other events are occurring.

FirstNet will issue an RFP looking for vendors and partners to build the network. Such partners might be [regional](#) or national telecommunications carriers (U.S. Cellular, Sprint, Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile etc.) or systems integrators (Northrup Grumman, General Dynamics, Motorola, etc.) or other companies. There will probably be a number of contracts. Issuing the RFP, getting responses, and evaluating them will take at least a year, probably more (again, my best guess, not an official timeline). But getting the results are important for two reasons: first, the dollar proposals and costs from vendors are vital to establishing the costs and user fees in the state plans. Second, the law requires it – the state plan will be delivered “upon completion of the RFP process” (Section 6302 of the law [which can be found here](#)).

FirstNet will also be building a nationwide architecture for the network, so that a responder smart phone which works on FirstNet in Seattle will also work in [Washtucna, Washington](#), or Washington D.C. or on Waikiki beach where, one of these days, I hope to be retired, but protected by FirstNet.

Also, NTIA will be determining how much money will be spent in each State. My best guess is that \$100 million or more will be spent on the Washington state portion of the network, creating jobs and some economic activity here as well as providing our responders a network.

FirstNet will need to put all these elements together into the “State Plan” for Washington and every other state.