

# Statewide Public Safety Communications System Planning Project Stakeholder Update



August 2024

## ***Happening Now: Data Collection and Analysis***

The project remains in the Data Collection phase as the project team continues to develop a complete inventory and assessment of all aspects of dispatch service currently provided in Vermont. Most of the data collection questionnaires have been received and the data collected is currently being compiled and analyzed. The project team is currently conducting on-site visits to all dispatch centers throughout the state to review the data received, gather any additional data that may inform the project, and to obtain a first-hand look at the dispatch facilities and environment.

The project team has also met with various wireless experts and service facilities throughout the state and is gathering information related to the public safety radio channels and frequencies in use and various transmit and receive site locations, which will be used to map existing wireless coverage and to determine where gaps exist. Inquiries into the operational need, use, and performance of commercial cellular systems are also being investigated.

The Task Force is also planning regional town hall sessions, which will give dispatch stakeholders, first responders, and state and local officials an opportunity to provide direct input into the project process and potential solutions. These sessions will be held in four regions: Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest, and are scheduled during the second and third week of September. Both daytime and evening sessions are planned to provide maximum opportunity for participation. Please review the Task Force website for additional details to be posted when available.

## ***Keeping Your Data Safe***



Protecting your data is important to us!

The data collected will be tightly controlled and protected and used solely for this project, as required by the contracts in place between the State and its vendors. Detailed information about site locations and usage will be kept confidential, and the public project report will only provide a generic summary of current public safety site and system information to be used as the basis for developing potential models for a public safety communications system.

## ***Project Status***

- MCP and Televate met with RTS, Burlington Communications and Radio North and began compiling existing LMR infrastructure information.
- MCP continued dispatch center on-site visits. As of August 16, the team has visited 30 of 38 sites.
- Five cyber security surveys have been completed and more are in process.
- MCP and Televate met to discuss the collection of RF site information – a baseline site database was developed that included State sites, VELCO sites, and over 220 municipal sites.
- The dates, times and locations for the upcoming Town Halls were established (September 11, 12, 17, and 19).

## ***Did You Know?***



### **Regional Town Hall sessions are scheduled for September!**

With a goal of directly engaging with the Vermont stakeholder community on this project, the Public Safety Communications Task Force has planned four Regional Town Hall sessions. These sessions offer a unique opportunity for first responders — EMS, Fire, and Law Enforcement — as well as emergency management, transportation, communications personnel, municipal leaders, and members of the legislature, to directly influence the future of public safety communications in Vermont. This is your chance to set priorities, share insights, and help shape a system that meets the needs of those on the front lines. Task Force members will attend to engage in the discussions. We invite you to register for one of the four in-person or virtual sessions by selecting your preferred location and time below. Each session will allow stakeholders to discuss challenges, explore growth opportunities, and collaborate on strategies for success. Your participation and input are crucial to the success of this initiative!

For additional information, visit the Task Force website at [Public Safety Communications Task Force | Department of Public Safety \(vermont.gov\)](https://www.vermont.gov/public-safety-communications-task-force).

The Town Hall meeting schedule and locations, along with a link to register for each of the sessions, are listed below. There will be an opportunity to participate virtually for each of the Town Hall sessions if you are unable to join the event in person. You are welcome to attend multiple sessions.



#### **NW Session**

**Wednesday 9/11 from 1700 – 1900:**

Swanton Town Hall  
1 Academy St, Swanton, VT

[Register Here](#)



#### **SW Session**

**Thursday 9/12 from 1200 – 1400:**

Fire Academy  
93 Davidson Dr, Pittsford, VT

[Register Here](#)



#### **NE Session**

**Tuesday 9/17 from 0800 – 1000:**

Northeastern VT Regional Hospital  
1315 Hospital Dr, St. Johnsbury, VT

[Register Here](#)



#### **SE Session**

**Thursday 9/19 from 1700 – 1900:**

Springfield Parent Child Center:  
80 Jack and Jill Lane, Springfield, VT

[Register Here](#)

***We want to know what topics you'd like to learn more about!***

For direct inquiries to the Task Force regarding the project, please contact [DPS.PSCTaskForce@vermont.gov](mailto:DPS.PSCTaskForce@vermont.gov)

Visit our website at <https://dps.vermont.gov/committees-boards/communications>