IMPLEMENTING THE NECP WEBINARS

MONEY TALKS: FUNDING YOUR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES

MARCH 9, 2022
Agenda

- Webinar Overview and Objectives
- National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) and SAFECOM Nationwide Survey (SNS): Funding Levels and Sources
- SAFECOM Guidance and Available Federal Grants
- Coordination of Grant Applications
- Sustainable Funding Mechanisms
- Resources and Actions
- Question and Answer Session
Presenters

Charlee Hess
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

Elizabeth Mitchell
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

Joy Sears
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
National Emergency Communications Plan

NECP Vision
To enable the nation’s emergency response community to communicate and share information securely across communications technologies in real time, including all levels of government, jurisdictions, disciplines, organizations, and citizens impacted by any threats or hazards events.

Mandate
The NECP is mandated by Title XVIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

Nation’s Strategic Plan
The NECP is the nation’s strategic plan to strengthen and enhance emergency communications capabilities.

Mission
To ensure the emergency response community drives toward a commonly defined end-state for communications.
NECP Goals

Goal 1
Governance & Leadership

Goal 2
Planning & Procedures

Goal 3
Training, Exercise, & Evaluation

Goal 4
Communications Coordination

Goal 5
Technology & Infrastructure

Goal 6
Cybersecurity
Funding Overview

FUNDING FOR NETWORK SYSTEMS: CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

1. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
SAFECOM Nationwide Survey (SNS)

The SNS consisted of 38 questions that span the 5 elements of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum, plus a security element that accounted for cybersecurity.
SNS: Funding

2. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
SNS: Funding Sources

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FUNDING SOURCES

3. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
SNS: Funding Sources Breakdown

GRANTS VS. APPROPRIATED FUNDING
BY DISCIPLINE

- GRANTS
- APPROPRIATED/DEDICATED FUNDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Appropriated/Dedicated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRE</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSAP</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW ENFORCEMENT</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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GRANTS VS. APPROPRIATED FUNDING
BY GEOGRAPHY

- GRANTS
- APPROPRIATED/DEDICATED FUNDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Appropriated/Dedicated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RURAL</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBAN</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
5. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
NECP Success Indicators: Funding

Goal 1
Governance & Leadership

- State and territorial governance bodies prioritize communications needs and coordinate with the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) and other state-level planners on applications for federal financial assistance

Goal 2
Planning & Procedures

- Federal funding authorities develop grant guidance for emergency communications governance and investments consistent with guidelines provided by SAFECOM and the NECP
- Public safety organizations and governing bodies identify sustainable funding mechanisms to support the lifecycle planning model
NECP Success Indicators: Funding

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATORS

- RESPONSIBLE TO STATE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP (E.G., GOVERNOR, GOVERNOR’S STAFF, CABINET MEMBERS, LEGISLATIVE LEADER) FOR EFFORTS TO ADVANCE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND INTEROPERABILITY
  - 38%

- SERVES AS PARTICIPATING MEMBER OF THE STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SIEC) OR STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BODY (SIGB)
  - 58%

- SERVES AS A DEDICATED POSITION AND MAINTAINS AWARENESS OF ALL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND INTEROPERABILITY ISSUES
  - 40%

- RESPONSIBLE TO SIEC OR SIGB FOR EFFORTS TO ADVANCE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND INTEROPERABILITY
  - 36%

- REPRESENTS A COLLATERAL DUTY INCORPORATED INTO AN EXISTING STATE LEVEL DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY POSITION
  - 42%

- SERVES AS CHAIR OR CO-CHAIR OF THE SIEC OR SIGB
  - 22%

6. SAFECOM Nationwide Survey: cisa.gov/safecom/sns
SAFECOM Guidance Overview

The essential guide for government agencies planning and applying for federal funding to invest in emergency communications projects

- Updated with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial partners on an annual basis and applicable to all federal emergency communications grants
- Recognized as the primary guidance on emergency communications grants by OMB and the Administration
- Published in tandem with the DHS Preparedness Grants

[https://cisagov/safecom/funding](https://cisagov/safecom/funding)
SAFECOM Guidance identifies investment priorities that align with the NECP’s goals, best practices/standards when purchasing communications capabilities, and eligible activities within common costs categories covered under most federal grants funding emergency communications.
Identifying Federal Funding Opportunities

- **SAFECOM Guidance** encourages applicants to consider all available funding sources, including traditional grants to help fund initial capital investments or improvements to communications systems, as well as other sources of funding that may partially fund emergency communications projects.

- Primary resources include:
  - [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov), a common website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them.
  - *List of Federal Financial Assistance Programs Funding Emergency Communications*, a resource that compiles applicable funding opportunities.
List of Federal Programs

- This is an easy-to-use resource for grant applicants to identify applicable emergency communications programs.
- CISA compiles information from federal partners on upcoming funding opportunities, as well as monitors Grants.gov on a weekly basis to populate the list.
- Periodic updates are posted as new programs are announced throughout the year.

[cisa.gov/safecom/funding]
List of Federal Programs: Example

- For each applicable federal program, this list summarizes available funding amounts, application deadlines, eligible applicants, and allowable costs that may relate to emergency communications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Financial Assistance Program Description and Website</th>
<th>Program Amount, Application Deadline, and Allocation Method</th>
<th>Eligible Applicants, Objectives, and Emergency Communications-Related Allowable Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Homeland Security (DHS)</td>
<td>Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)</td>
<td>Program Amount: $355,100,000 with $100,000,000 in available supplemental funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); funding opportunities are separated by region. Application Deadline: 5/14/2021 for both EMPG and ARPA supplemental funding.</td>
<td>Eligible Applicants: State Administrative Agency (SAA) of states/territories or Emergency Management Agency. Objectives: Funds activities that address cybersecurity and building and sustaining core capabilities. Planning and Organization: Developing/updating Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan, Tactical Interoperability Communications Plans, Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, Stakeholder Preparedness Review, and Continuity of Operations. Training/Exercises: Develop, deliver, attend, and evaluate training and exercises. Equipment: Cybersecurity enhancements, interoperable communications, maintenance and sustainment (e.g., upgrades, user fees, warranties), construction/renovation of communication towers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</td>
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Bess Mitchell
March 9, 2022
Upcoming Grant Programs

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act established numerous grant programs that may be relevant to the public safety community

- **NTIA**: The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program; Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program; Middle Mile Grants; State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program
- **DOE**: Enhance Grid Security; Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program
- **DHS**: The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
- **DOT**: The Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program; Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grant Program
- **EPA**: The Technical Assistance and Grants for Emergencies Affecting Public Water Systems
- **USDA**: The Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program; Reverse-911 Telecommunications Systems Program
The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 authorized CISA and FEMA to establish a new grant to address cybersecurity risks and threats to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments’ information systems.

The Act appropriates $1 billion to be awarded in four separate tranches over 4 years (FY 2022–2025).

Eligible entities include states, tribes, and territories.

Notices of Funding Opportunity will be issued in the coming months on Grants.gov, outlining the application process and award timeline.
SWIC Coordination of Grant Applications

Collaborate in long-term strategic planning

Assist stakeholders in developing communications initiatives, plans, etc.

Communicate regularly to ensure transparency and information sharing

Coordinate governing body activities

Coordinate interstate, intrastate, and regional public safety communications interoperability

Drive SCIP development, implementation, and updates

Seek guidance, input, and recommendations on the SCIP

Serve as point of contact on statewide interoperable communications issues

Bess Mitchell
March 9, 2022

cisa.gov/safecom/ncswic-membership
### Alternative Funding Sources

- Public safety agencies must increasingly rely on alternative funding mechanisms (beyond grants) to build, improve, expand, and support public safety communications systems.

- SAFECOM and NCSWIC’s *Funding Mechanisms Guide for Public Safety Communications* describes common funding mechanisms, considerations, and examples of each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDING MECHANISMS</th>
<th>CAPITAL COSTS</th>
<th>ONGOING COSTS</th>
<th>COST-SAVINGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>State and Local Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>System User Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>911 Surcharges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonds</td>
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<td>Unique Funding Streams</td>
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<td>Special Taxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leasing and Licensing Owned Towers and Infrastructure to Other Entities</td>
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<td>Public-Private Partnerships</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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[Validating data: cisa.gov/safecom/funding](http://cisagov/safecom/funding)
Alternative Funding Sources

- **State and Local Funds**: Funds made available through state and local budget cycles for specific emergency communications projects.

- **911 Surcharges**: Minor fee applied to each phone line able to use 911 services, including wireline, wireless, and VoIP phone numbers.

- **System User Fees**: Direct charges to end users for the use of emergency communications products or systems, including voice and/or data services.

- **Bonds**: Debt obligations that are repaid through taxes or fees over time, with interest.

- **Unique Funding Streams**: Non-traditional funding sources, including gambling tax revenues and surcharges (e.g., internet connection surcharges).
Alternative Funding Sources

**Special Taxes**
Taxes that require a special vote from the citizenry to establish specific funding streams for public safety improvements.

**Traffic Tickets and Vehicle Surcharges**
Fees for traffic tickets and vehicle surcharges that support emergency communications.

**Leasing and Licensing Owned Towers**
Revenue generated by leasing infrastructure and excess tower capacity to other entities.

**Public Private Partnerships**
Agreements codified in signed contracts with expiration dates, including terms and conditions for use and maintenance of equipment.

**Leasing Equipment**
Method of acquiring equipment with minimal initial expenditures, as well as spread costs over several years.
Funding and Sustaining LMR Documents

cisa.gov/safecom/funding
Contingency Planning Fact Sheet

- Recent national events, such as the health crisis and geopolitical tensions, have caused budget reductions across the public safety community.
- Although agencies cannot control all financial impacts, this fact sheet identifies elements that agencies can directly influence, use to advocate for additional funding, or use to defend critical expenses.

[Image of the fact sheet with text and graphics]
How You Can Take Action

- **Take steps** for your organization or jurisdiction to implement the NECP and achieve its success indicators

- **Use the SAFECOM Guidance** when planning emergency communications projects and identifying applicable grants

- **Prioritize emergency communications needs** and coordinate with the SWIC on applications for federal financial assistance

- **Develop or promote** a diverse portfolio of funding mechanisms to sustain emergency communications systems

- **Leverage** existing resources to support and maintain emergency communications budgets
Resources

- SAFECOM Funding Resources: cisa.gov/safecom/funding
  - SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants – Updated annually
  - List of Federal Financial Assistance Programs Funding Emergency Communications – Updated frequently
  - Funding Mechanisms Guide for Public Safety Communications – 2021
  - Funding and Sustaining Land Mobile Radio Document Suite – 2021
  - Contingency Considerations When Facing Reductions in Emergency Communications Budgets – 2021
  - Contingency Planning Guide for Emergency Communications Funding – 2022

- Statewide Interoperability Coordinators

- Emergency Communications Technical Assistance and Planning Guide: Grant Funding for Emergency Communications Webinar
Questions?
Upcoming Webinars

Join the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for webinars focused on:

Implementing the National Emergency Communications Plan

Bookmark our webpage to check back for future webinars: cisa.gov/necp-webinars

All webinars start at 1PM ET
To join, use:
Webinar link (for visual): https://share.dhs.gov/necpwebinars
Dial-in (for audio): 800-897-5813
For more information on the NECP:
cisa.gov/necp
NECP@cisa.dhs.gov