



Nevada

Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)



Approved:

November 13, 2013

VISION AND MISSION

The Nevada SCIP embraces our public safety community to unify, strengthen, and protect its ability to serve the residents and guests of the State.

The Mission of the SCIP is to implement a communications network that is robust in interoperable functionality both locally and across the State.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nevada is a leader in interoperable communications policy and technology. This fifth revision of the Nevada Statewide Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is the unifying vision for the state's communicators, providing a common frame of reference for progress.

Our goal for interoperable emergency communications is that responders can communicate as needed, on demand, and as authorized, at all levels of government, and across all disciplines. The Nevada SCIP reflects that there is no simple solution to our communications challenges, and reminds us we must continually make improvements at all levels of government, in technology, coordination and governance, planning, usage, and training and exercises.

The Nevada SCIP:

- Provides strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the state, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explains the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrates the need for support by officials at all levels.
- Through appendices, incorporates the latest regional Tactical Interoperability Plans, governance documents, and related information.

The Nevada SCIP sets goals and priorities in categories including governance, standard operating procedures, technology, training and exercise, usage, outreach, and information sharing. In summary, these are:

- Provide the State-Wide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) with legislative authority to support the SCIP as Nevada's primary guidance document.
- Support relationship building between the Nevada Communications Steering Committee (NCSC), State of Nevada Network (SoNNet) board, Nevada Broadband Task Force, local, tribal, State, and Federal entities and other critical partners.
- Encourage the development of interoperable emergency communications guidelines, common standards, and procedures.
- Identify interoperable communications resources throughout the state.
- Develop a technology roadmap for development, access, maintenance, and/or upgrades to mission critical voice, video and data services.
- Develop and provide training for first responders in interoperable communications that can be used by all entities Statewide.

- Promote legislation for requiring continuing interoperable communications training for first responders.
- Advance the Communications Unit Leader (COML), Communications Technician (COMT), and Auxiliary Communicator (AuxComm) programs by conducting training and establishing a statewide recognition and certification process.
- Support the daily use and growth of the Nevada Dispatch Interconnect Project (NDIP), Nevada Core Systems Network (NCORE), and Nevada Crossband Repeater Network (NCRN).
- Develop and encourage interoperable communications education and awareness throughout the State.
- Recognize the value and force multiplier represented by well-trained auxiliary communicators and other partners.

The Nevada SCIP is revised every 3 to 5 years, and is maintained by the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), operating within the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM).

1. INTRODUCTION

The Nevada Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is a unified statewide strategic plan for better interoperable and emergency communications. The SCIP is a critical mid-range (three to five years) planning tool to help Nevada prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps.

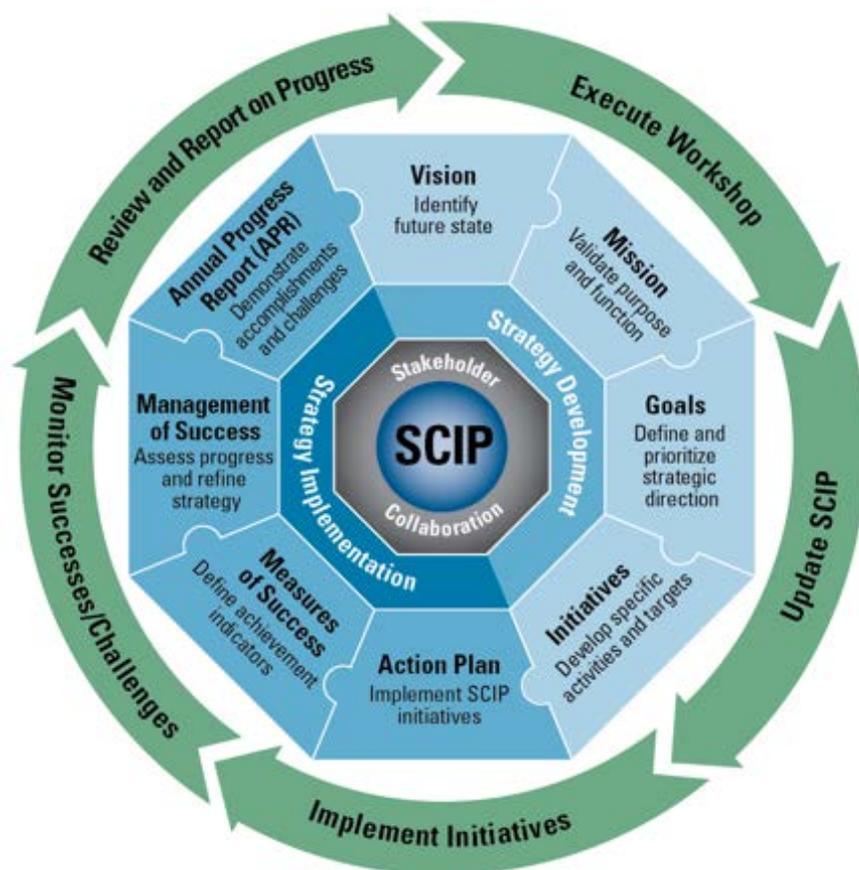
This document contains several sections:

- Introduction – Provides the context necessary to understand what the SCIP is and how it was developed.
- Purpose – Explains the purpose/function(s) of the SCIP in Nevada.
- State’s Interoperable and Emergency Communications Overview – Provides an overview of the State’s current and future emergency communications environment [e.g., statewide or regional interoperable and emergency communications systems, National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goal 2 results¹] and defines ownership of the SCIP.
- Vision and Mission – Articulates the State’s three- to five-year vision and mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications at all levels of government.
- Strategic Goals and Initiatives – Outlines the strategic goals and initiatives aligned with the three- to five-year vision and mission of the SCIP and pertains to the following critical components: Governance, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), Technology, Training and Exercises, Usage, Outreach and Information Sharing, and Life Cycle Funding.
- Implementation – Describes the process to evaluate the success of the SCIP and to conduct SCIP reviews to ensure it is up-to-date and aligned with the changing internal and external environment.
- Reference Documents – Includes documents that provide additional background information on the SCIP or interoperable and emergency communications in Nevada or directly support the SCIP. By including these documents within the SCIP, authors are encouraged to harmonize their plans and policies. Further, inclusion provides recognition and validation for each constituent document.

Figure 1 provides additional information about how these components of the SCIP interrelate to develop a comprehensive plan for improving interoperable and emergency communications.

Figure 1: SCIP Strategic Plan and Implementation Components

¹ More information on the NECP is available here: <http://www.dhs.gov/national-emergency-communications-plan-necp-goals>



Nevada is a leader in interoperable communications policy and technology. The primary government agency tasked with interoperability is the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM). Nevada has established governance groups (e.g., Nevada Communications Steering Committee [NCSC], State of Nevada Network [SoNNet]) to coordinate on interoperability and public safety issues.

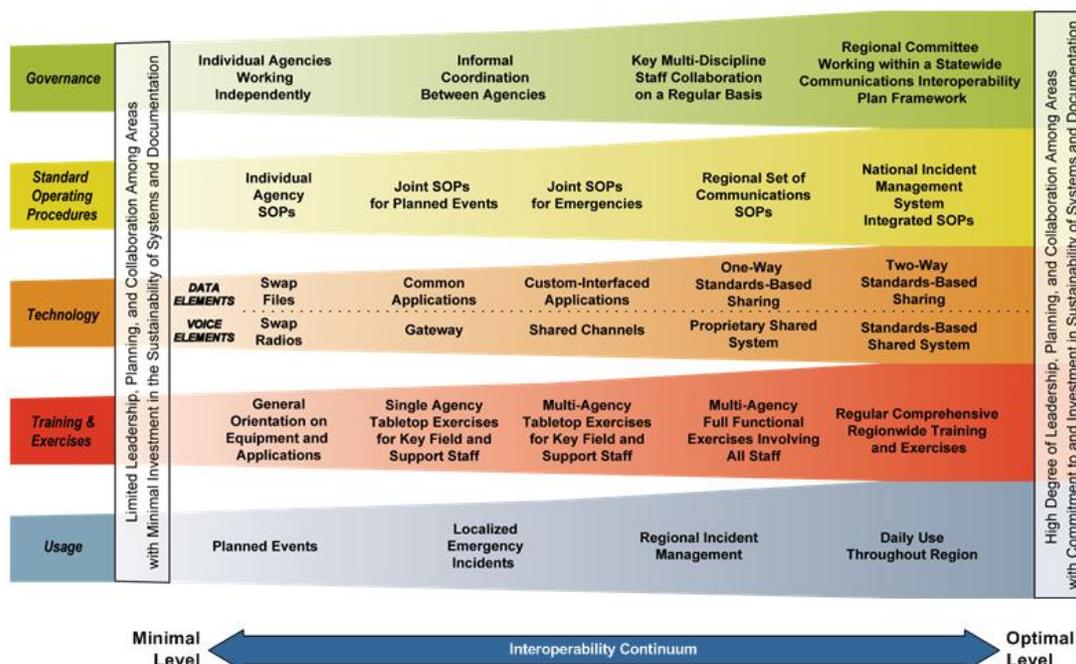
Since the NCSC's creation as a subcommittee of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) in 2002, representatives from State, local, tribal agencies and private sector organizations have participated in the Commission. In 2003 the Nevada Legislature called for a statewide communications interoperability plan, and charged the NCHS with its development. The NCHS then requested the NCSC serve as the plan's oversight entity, and serve as the advisory body to the Commission on all matters related to communications interoperability.

The stakeholders of the NCSC are committed to moving Nevada's public safety communications interoperability forward in efforts of achieving an increased level of prevention, protection, preparedness, response and recovery for the State, and its residents and visitors. The Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) provides guidance to implement the initiatives of the SCIP and administrative support.

The Nevada Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) serves as the point of contact to lead and facilitate development of the SCIP. The SWIC has the authority to and is responsible for making decisions regarding this plan. The SWIC is also responsible for encouraging the plans implementation statewide.

There is more work to be done in order to achieve our vision. This work is a continuous process, as Nevada will continue to adapt to new technologies, operational requirements, and changes in personnel. In the next three to five years, Nevada will encounter challenges to operability, interoperability, geography, aging equipment/systems, emerging technologies, changing project champions, and sustainable funding.

Figure 2: The Interoperability Continuum



The Interoperability Continuum, developed by SAFECOM and shown in Figure 2, serves as a framework to address all of these challenges and continue improving operable/interoperable and emergency communications. It is designed to assist emergency response agencies and policy makers with planning and implementing interoperability solutions for voice and data communications.

More information on the Interoperability Continuum is available in OEC’s *Interoperability Continuum* brochure². The following sections will further describe how the SCIP will be used in Nevada and what Nevada plans to do to enhance interoperable and emergency communications.

² OEC’s Interoperability Continuum is available here: <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/oecguidancedocuments/continuum/Default.aspx>

2. PURPOSE

The Nevada SCIP:

- Provides strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the State, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explains the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrates the need for support by officials at all levels.
- Through annexes, incorporates the latest regional Tactical Interoperability Plans, governance documents, and other related information.

The development and execution of the SCIP assists Nevada with addressing the results of the NECP Goals and the Federal government with fulfilling the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) *National Preparedness Goal for Operational Communications*³.

In addition to this SCIP, Nevada will develop an Annual Progress Report (APR) that will be shared with OEC and other stakeholders to highlight recent accomplishments and demonstrate progress toward achieving the goals and initiatives identified in the SCIP. More information on the SCIP APR is available in section 5(d).

³ National Preparedness Goal – Mitigation and Response Mission Area Capabilities and Preliminary Targets – Operational Communications: Ensure the capacity for timely communications in support of security, situational awareness, and operations by any and all means available, among and between affected communities in the impact area and all response forces.

1. Ensure the capacity to communicate with both the emergency response community and the affected populations and establish interoperable voice and data communications between Federal, State, and local first responders.
2. Re-establish sufficient communications infrastructure within the affected areas to support ongoing life-sustaining activities, provide basic human needs, and transition to recovery.

3. INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW

The State of Nevada is one of the most mountainous states in the US, with over 13,000 feet of elevation changes between lowest and highest points. With 109,781 square miles, it is the 7th largest state, but with a population of 2,700,551 (2010 Census), it is one of the least populous. Approximately 70% of the population resides in Clark County, the State's only Urban Area. Vast areas of the state (>87%) are uninhabited and/or federally controlled. 27 recognized Indian tribes operate within the State, although some extend into adjacent states. Temperatures and conditions range from intense heat and dry conditions in the southern desert during summer, to the bitter cold of the northern winters. Natural hazards include wildfires (particularly in the north), earthquakes, and severe weather. Designing systems covering and connecting these diverse, often isolated, and extreme environments is difficult. No one system provides universal two-way communications coverage statewide.

A. GOVERNANCE

Nevada recognizes the need to utilize existing public safety communications interoperability assets more effectively, with priority on improving voice radio interconnectivity among systems and users. The Nevada Communications Steering Committee (NCSC) is an advisory committee to the NCHS and acts as a representational body to bring together the input to address communications interoperability. The Governance section of the SCIP goals outlines the future direction for Nevada's governance structure for interoperable and emergency communications.

The Nevada "Core Systems" (NCORE) network is the largest interconnected radio system in the state. Recently, NCORE has developed a governance structure and has made progress towards integrating its disparate assets.

Wireless voice and data technologies are evolving rapidly. Title VI of the *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*⁴ authorizes the development of a Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). The NPSBN is intended to be a high-speed, high-capacity, interoperable nationwide communications network that allows the public safety community to securely and reliably gain and share information across disciplines, locations, and agencies. Ultimately, the NPSBN will supplant current two-way radio systems, connect disparate users, and provide coverage to every point within the country. In Nevada, the recognized point of contact for the NPSBN is the SoNNet Board.

B. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Recognizing that capabilities provided through technology are rendered ineffective without strong relationships, effective ongoing training, sound operating practices and language standardization, Nevada will focus on improving these areas.

Article Four of the Nevada Constitution specifies that the State cannot dictate to local governments how to do business. Therefore, the process by which counties and cities develop, manage, maintain, and upgrade their standard operating procedures (SOPs) is

⁴ <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/3630/text>

at the discretion of each entity. The SCIP encourages harmonious planning and cooperative efforts.

Nevada has created a training team that provides user and stakeholder training in communications practice and systems. Agencies throughout the state also provide and/or host advanced ICS training opportunities regularly. Nevada has seen an increase in end-user awareness as a result of the training and exercise program implemented by NDEM; more work remains.

Interoperable talk groups and channel nomenclature has been standardized throughout the state, although not fully implemented. Plain language communication standards are encouraged, but not yet fully embraced by all. Training courses specific to interoperable communications systems and equipment (e.g., common language, common SOPs) and the credentialing of the State's Communications Unit Leader (COML), Communications Technician (COMT) and Auxiliary Communicator (AUXCOMM) positions are identified improvement areas.

There is a disparity between each locality relative to the level of documentation pertaining to SOPs that each has or does not have. Nevada seeks to identify an appropriate information sharing system to distribute and update SOPs.

Data and information security in voice and data networks is an increasing concern. Interoperability involves information sharing across networks, and between parties that may not have had pre-existing relationships or common regulatory frameworks. Acknowledgement of the transparency of over-the-air networks and the development of policies to protect personal data is a priority. Guidance is available from the *National Strategy for Information Sharing and Safeguarding*.⁵

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) supports the INFRAGARD critical infrastructure security program for public and private entities, with particular attention to data security. DHS and the NCHS have also established a Critical Infrastructure group within the state. Nevada recognizes these efforts and encourages stakeholders to share information and participate at an appropriate level in critical infrastructure protection. As the NPSBN evolves and interconnections increase, threats to confidential data and critical systems are likely to increase.

The SOP section of the SCIP identifies the framework and processes for developing and managing SOPs statewide.

C. TECHNOLOGY

Technology initiatives require an informed strategic vision in order to properly account for the rapid and profound changes we are experiencing. The Technology goals section of the SCIP outlines Nevada's plan to maintain and upgrade existing technology; design a roadmap to identify, develop, and implement new and emerging solutions; and survey and disseminate information on current and future solutions to ensure user needs are met.

⁵http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012sharingstrategy_1.pdf

The NCSC has supported agencies' transitioning to the P25 digital voice standard. While not universally adopted, P25 permits the effective use of interconnection equipment to bridge different systems. In many cases, grant funding opportunities require P25 capabilities in new systems or equipment. Nevada recommends the adoption of P25 technology for mission critical voice systems until such time as the NPSBN supports mission critical voice capability.

Each self-contained member of the NCORE system serves as the primary system for its respective clients/users. These systems include:

- Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS)
- Washoe County Regional Communications System (WCRCS)
- Southern Nevada Area Communications Council (SNACC)
- Las Vegas Metro Police Open Sky System
- Northern Nevada Area Communications Consortium (NACC)

On each NCORE system, 16 talkgroups have been established for interoperable communications and mutual aid. The Nevada Interoperability Field Operation Guide (NevIFOG) specifies these channels and their prescribed uses.

The Nevada Dispatch Interconnection Project (NDIP) has worked to robustly and effectively link Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP). When complete, each PSAP will have direct access each other and deployed assets via the 16 interoperable NCORE talkgroups.

In addition to these core systems, Nevada maintains several radio caches positioned in strategic locations throughout the State and three "satcom" vehicles capable of voice and data communications via satellite and VHF/UHF. Catastrophic communications system loss is minimally addressed through a High Frequency radio capability at the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Further interoperability is being developed through the Nevada Crossband Repeater Network (NCRN), linking VHF and 800 MHz users with each other and with dispatch centers at strategic points statewide. While this project has been plagued by delays, progress continues to be made. The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) manages the NCRN project.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is well developed in Nevada, with a large percentage of its FCC licensed members certified in introductory ICS terminology and procedure. Many ARES members are also members of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). These auxiliary communicators have developed HF, VHF, and UHF networks throughout the state, many with emergency power capabilities. Radio repeaters, often supported by local emergency managers, at VHF and UHF are listed in the appropriate Regional TICPs, and represent a useful resource for auxiliary communication. Further, in cooperation with many hospitals throughout the State, the

“HamLink” packet radio data network permits the exchange of message traffic outside of commercially available infrastructure.

The Nevada Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), also known as the Air Force Auxiliary, maintains HF and VHF radios, airborne repeaters, and a cadre of ICS-trained operators. CAP also maintains a collection of VHF voice repeaters throughout the state, although they are not linked to each other or outside agencies. The emergency services mission of the CAP focuses on search and rescue activities.

The Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) operates within Nevada as an adjunct to the uniformed services. Operators are trained in message handling and circuit discipline to provide additional capacity to military communications channels.

The Nevada National Guard has based a Civil Support Team (CST) in the state. This team maintains communications assets that may be deployed for interoperability. CST staff is all-hazards trained. Two communications vehicles are available, one is equivalent to the DEM satcom units, the second features advanced capabilities for HF, video, and secure communications.

The National Guard also maintains a fleet of video relay vehicles that may be deployed to anywhere in the state in the event of the inability of existing networks to provide tactical or operational video feeds. This fleet provides a range in excess of 300 miles to provide emergency transmission capabilities.

Requests for CST assets are handled through DEM. Incorporation of CST resources in incident planning and TICPs is encouraged.

D. TRAINING AND EXERCISE

The Training and Exercises goals section of the SCIP explains Nevada’s approach to ensure that emergency responders are and remain familiar with interoperable and emergency communications equipment and procedures to ensure they are better prepared for responding to real-world events.

An area of concern is that currently no jurisdiction has embraced a plan to provide continuing education and training for officers, firefighters, or radio-using field staff in the essential skills of radio communications and interoperability.

Emergency communicators are acknowledged to no longer be exclusively traditional public safety agency members (e.g. law enforcement, fire service), but rather extend to the categories of allied agencies and auxiliary communicators. Nevada encourages relationships with such force multipliers and the inclusion of them in all levels of training and exercise programs.

E. USAGE

The Usage goals of the SCIP outline the steps, plans, and policies to ensure responders adopt, utilize, and become familiar with the interoperable and emergency communications technologies, systems, and operating procedures that ensure the maintenance and establishment of interoperability in case of an incident.

Regular use of equipment is paramount in sustaining operational skills, policies and procedures. Our goal is to achieve or improve interoperability capabilities used on a daily basis.

The need for data interoperability across agencies is viewed as an increasing priority. Many agencies and jurisdictions use commercially provided wireless data plans for mobile and portable information transfer requirements. While effective, they are not as reliable as might be required in a large-scale incident.

F. OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SHARING

The Outreach and Information Sharing goals section of the SCIP outlines Nevada's approach for building a coalition of individuals and emergency response organizations statewide to support the SCIP vision and for promoting common emergency communications initiatives. Effective partnerships with agencies and organizations, both public and private, are encouraged.

Nevada will incorporate civilian Auxiliary Communicators (e.g. ARES, RACES, MARS, CAP) in planning and operational structures. COML and COMT training has been provided to some auxiliary communicators. A curriculum leading to credentialing and recognition for auxiliaries is being developed.

Public alerting technology has become increasingly multifaceted, with Internet, wireless telecommunication providers, and broadcast media all playing an important role in providing emergency information to affected populations. Nevada will encourage participation by all partners in developing procedures and standards for alert and warning messages.

The Nevada Broadcasters Association, a statewide advocacy organization for radio and television stations, has supported the Emergency Alert System by encouraging participation and organizing a statewide EAS Committee. The Committee is responsible for ensuring legal and effective emergency alert procedures for member stations. The State EAS Plan is attached to the SCIP by reference.

Social media outlets, such as Twitter and Facebook, are increasingly commonly used alerting technologies for government and individuals. Nevada has created a Social Media Policy that promotes a standardized approach to disseminating information via social media channels.

G. BROADBAND EVOLUTION

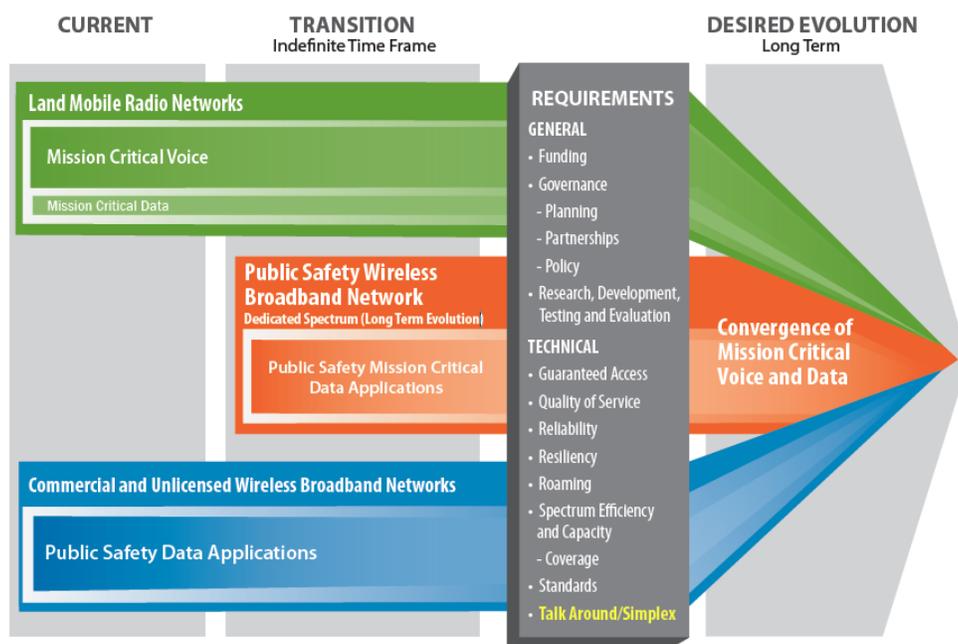
Integrating broadband technology will transform interoperable communications in Nevada. It may result in a secure path for information-sharing initiatives, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP), and Next Generation (NG) 9-1-1 integration. While broadband will not replace existing Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems in the near term, our strategic planning must recognize the inevitable progress of digital technology and interconnected systems. An optimistic yet pragmatic approach is needed. Robust requirements and innovative business practices must be developed for broadband initiatives prior to their implementation.

There is no announced timeline for the deployment of the NPSBN; Nevada will keep up-to-date with the planning and build-out of the NPSBN. The network build-out will require continuing education and commitment at all levels of government and across public safety disciplines to document network requirements, and identify existing resources that could potentially be used in the build-out of the network. It will also be necessary to develop and maintain strategic partnerships with a variety of stakeholder agencies and organizations at the national, Federal, State, regional, local, and tribal levels and design effective policy and governance structures that address new and emerging interoperable and emergency communications technologies.

During this process, investments in LMR will continue to be necessary and in the near term, wireless data systems and commercial broadband will complement LMR. Nevada recognizes that SoNNet, stakeholder groups, and NCSC all have a stake in the development of interoperability and the implementation of technologies for providing public safety voice and data, 9-1-1 services, and for the management of policies and procedures across disciplines. It is therefore critical that SoNNet, NCSC, and all stakeholder organizations and jurisdictions work closely with each other and the SWIC to harmonize their efforts. Through the SCIP framework, the results of each effort may be combined and incorporated in the overall strategy.

More information on the role of emerging technologies in interoperable and emergency communications is available in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) Public Safety Communications Evolution brochure.⁶ Figure 3 below illustrates a public safety communications evolution by describing the long-term transition toward a desired converged future.

Figure 3: Public Safety Communications Evolution



⁶ OEC's Public Safety Communications Evolution brochure is available here: http://publicsafetytools.info/oec_guidance/docs/Public_Safety_Communications_Evolution_Brochure.pdf

4. STRATEGIC GOALS AND INITIATIVES

The Strategic Goals and Initiatives section describes the statewide goals and initiatives for delivering the vision for interoperable and emergency communications. The goals and initiatives are grouped into seven sections, including Governance, SOPs, Technology, Training and Exercises, Usage, Outreach and Information Sharing, and Life Cycle Funding.

A. GOVERNANCE GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Governance Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
1. Establish SWIC as a permanent employee of the State	1.1 Create recommendation that Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM) endorses full-time SWIC to Homeland Security Committee and NCSC	NDEM	Short term January, 2014
	1.2 Gain Governor's approval	NDEM	Short term January, 2014
	1.3 Submit agency budget to Legislature	NDEM	January, 2014
2. Establish legislative authority for the SCIP as the primary guidance document for statewide interoperable communications	2.1 Submit Bill Draft Request for 2015 legislative session	SWIC, NDEM	June 2015
	3.1 Establish and conduct a pre-planning meeting with appropriate entities to discuss and build consensus	SWIC NDEM	February 2014
	3.2 Authority – Develop and implement executive order stating requirement to coordinate and integrate planning efforts of respective groups	Governor of Nevada	December 2014

Governance Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
3. Ensure coordination between the NCSC, SoNNet, Nevada Broadband Task Force, and others on interoperability issues	3.3 Coordinate and establish twice annual meetings between the three entities	NCSC Chairperson, SoNNet Chairperson, Broadband Task Force Chairperson	June 2014 - 2015
	3.4 Staff, organize and publish results of meetings	NDEM	July 2014 - 2015
	3.5 Incorporate joint annual report on planning into the SCIP	NCSC, SoNNet, Broadband Task Force	December 2014 - 2015
4. Foster statewide communication partnerships between local, tribal, State, and Federal entities and other critical partners	4.1 Organize and fund travel for SWIC, CPM and key representatives of the interoperable communication team to relevant meetings and events statewide (e.g. Communications exercise, LEPC, tribal meetings, working groups, ARES, broadcaster groups)	NDEM, SWIC, NCSC	December 2017
5. Provide the necessary components to create cross integration of disparate communications systems into a common operational framework	5.1 Sponsor an annual statewide interoperability workshop, meet with stakeholders from systems.	NDEM, NCSC	December 2017

B. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
	6.1 Identify agency points of contacts, establish and maintain list	SWIC, Communications Project Manager (CPM)	March 2013

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives			
6. Continue refinement and development of interoperable emergency communications guidelines	6.2 Conduct meetings with the agency Points of Contact (POC). Compile and obtain consensus on which Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's), SOP, or Local Agreements to use	State, Agencies	June and August 2014
	6.3 Request decision makers to commit to the collective agreements. Have the decision makers obtain approvals from the political bodies	Agencies	July 2014

C. TECHNOLOGY GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Technology Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
7. Identify interoperable communications resources throughout the State	7.1 Identify standards for public safety grade requirements and grade sites accordingly (define later). Including but not limited to EOCs, MACCs, DOCs, and PSAPs	Site owners NCSC	July 2014
	7.2 Inventory all sites and identify path to comply with public safety grade for non-compliant sites	Site owners NCSC (Working Group)	July 2014
	7.3 Identify and create a list of public safety entities, NGOs, etc. for possible MOUs, etc.	SWIC NDEM	December 2014
	7.4 Draw information from previous studies (and update as necessary) for user-level requirements	NDEM	July 2014
	8.1 Establish a technology working group made up of the major system administrators	NCSC	March 2014
	8.2 The working group will assign task groups for: Next Generation (NG) 9-1-1 technologies, voice technologies, video technologies, and data technologies	NCSC Working Group	December 2014

Technology Goals and Initiatives			
8. Develop a technology roadmap for development, access, maintenance, and/or upgrades to operable and interoperable mission critical voice, video, and data services consistent with NRS requirement for plan and standard	8.3 Report findings back to the working group for discussion and evaluation	Task Group	May 2014
	8.4 Incorporate the data and compile a comprehensive roadmap	Working Group	July 2014

D. TRAINING AND EXERCISES GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
9. Promote legislation for requiring first responders to take a minimum of four hours annually of interoperable communications training (including statewide and local components) for professional responder requirements	9.1 Plan legislative awareness effort. Include focused and targeted information to include professional organizations	NCSC / Supported by NDEM	December 2014 (To prepare for 2015 legislative session)
	9.2 Assure development of the course requirements (could be accomplished in house by DEM or externally from contractor or adopted from Federal material)	NCSC NDEM	September 2014
	10.1 Conduct a needs assessment to determine NGO, volunteer, local Emergency Management Agency (EMA), first responder assets	NDEM Training Team	September 2014

Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives			
10. Develop and provide training for first responders in interoperable communications that can be used by all entities statewide	10.2 Develop criteria and curriculum for training program	NDEM	December 2014
	10.3 Assemble and maintain Discipline (Media, Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS) Comprehensive Team	NDEM	July 2014 (and ongoing)
	10.4 Deliver training on: plans (SCIP, TICP), procedures (NIFOG), devices (radios and repeaters – individual), mobile data transmitter (broadband), and mobile platforms	NDEM	December 2017
11. Advance the COML and COMT programs by conducting training and establishing a statewide recognition and certification process, including continuing education	11.1 Establish criteria and procedure for state-level credentialing authority for communicators	NDEM, SWIC	December 2014
	11.2 Identify and empower an administrative authority; issue credentials	NDEM	June 2015
	11.3 Create and maintain an effective listing of credentialed individuals, with access controls appropriate to the nature of the data contained therein	NDEM	June 2015

E. USAGE GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Usage Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion
2. Encourage NDIP, NCORE, and NCRN utilization on a daily basis	12.1 Provide ongoing guidance and support, education in concert with the activities of goals 4.1 and 5.1	SWIC, agencies	December 2017

F. OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SHARING GOALS AND INITIATIVES

Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives			
Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Planned Completion

Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives			
13. Develop and encourage interoperable communications educational awareness throughout the State	13.1 Define target audiences for educational awareness effort	NDEM, SWIC	December 2014
	13.2 Develop appropriate outreach materials and delivery mechanisms on interoperable communications	SWIC	January 2014
	13.3 Disseminate educational presentations to Sheriff, Fire Chiefs, Lifeline utilities, EMS, EMAs	NDEM, SWIC	December 2017
14. Recognize the value and force multiplier of civilian communicators	14.1 Conduct outreach and encourage participation with civilian communicator organizations (e.g. MARS, ARES/RACES) to identify opportunities	SWIC	
	14.2 Identify resources of civilian communicators	NDEM	
	14.3 Assist in maintaining a roster of qualified statewide operators	NDEM	

5. IMPLEMENTATION

A. ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan section of the SCIP describes the process Nevada will use to determine a plan to execute the initiatives in the SCIP. The process will begin with the SWIC and CPM developing a project plan document. This plan will also be shared with NDEM and other initiative owners. The SCIP, and its associated action-planning document, will also be sent to Nevada's Homeland Security Advisor for review and comment.

B. MEASURES OF SUCCESS

The Measures of Success section of the SCIP defines the measures that Nevada will use to monitor progress and indicate accomplishments toward achieving the vision for interoperable and emergency communications

Table 8: SCIP Measures of Success

Measures of Success					
ID	Strategic Goal Supported	Baseline	Data Collected	Target	Owner or Source
6	Continue refinement and development of interoperable emergency communications guidelines	Limited amount of interoperable communications guidelines	Establishment of formalized guidelines for use of interoperable communications	Written documentation of interoperable communications guidelines by August 2014	SWIC CPM
7	Identify interoperable communications resources throughout the State	Limited knowledge of existing interoperable communications throughout the State	Documentation of all interoperable communications resources throughout the State	100% of interoperable communications resources documented by July 2015	SWIC CPM
8	Develop a technology roadmap for development, access, maintenance, and/or upgrades to operable and interoperable mission critical voice, video, and data services consistent with NRS requirement for plan and standard	Limited knowledge about current state of system life cycles of various capabilities across the State	Information provided by users and vendors to develop a roadmap/timeline	Completion of roadmap/timeline by July 2015	SWIC CPM

Measures of Success					
ID	Strategic Goal Supported	Baseline	Data Collected	Target	Owner or Source
9	Promote legislation for requiring first responders to take a minimum of four hours annually of interoperable communications training (including Statewide and local components) for professional responder requirements	No legislative requirement for interoperable emergency communications training for first responders	Policy recommendation	Establishment of legislation requiring four hours of annual interoperable communications training for each first responder in the State by September 2015	SWIC CPM
10	Develop and provide training for first responders in interoperable communications that can be used by all entities Statewide	Communications is not integrated into training for first responders across the State	Percentage of first responders receiving training in interoperable communications	100% by December 2017	SWIC CPM
11	Advance the COML/COMT program throughout the State by conducting training and establishing a statewide recognition and certification process, including continuing education	Lack of a statewide recognition/certification process for the COML/COMT program	Criteria and approach to implement a recognition/certification process for COML/COMT certification	Establishment of a formalized recognition/certification process for COML/COMT	SWIC CPM
13	Develop and encourage interoperable communications educational awareness throughout the State	No current approach/structure for outreach	Identification of stakeholders and delivery of corresponding communications	Written outreach and education plan by January 2014	SWIC CPM

C. MANAGEMENT OF SUCCESS

The Management of Success section describes the iterative, repeatable method Nevada will follow to add, update, and refine the measures of success.

The CPM will ensure ongoing review and tracking of Nevada's measures of success. This process will also include the SWIC, NCSC, and NDEM and will result in a quarterly report

to NCSC. Upon NCSC review, Nevada's Homeland Security Advisor, the SAA, and the Director of NDEM will be provided a copy of this report.

D. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

The Strategic Plan Review section outlines the process Nevada will use to conduct reviews of the SCIP.

Commensurate with Section 5(c), Management of Success, the CPM, NCHS, SWIC, NCSC, and NDEM will review of the SCIP annually to ensure it is up to date and aligned with the changing internal and external interoperable and emergency communications environment. As part of this process, these entities will also track and report progress against the defined initiatives and measures of success.

Once the annual review is complete, the updated SCIP will be provided to Nevada's Homeland Security Advisor, the SAA, and the Director of NDEM who provide final approval authority of the SCIP. If elements of the SCIP are not being addressed according to planned timelines, the SWIC and CPM shall make a recommendation to the approval authorities on the priority Goals and Initiatives that resources should be focused on moving forward.

6. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Table 9 outlines resources that contribute additional background information on the SCIP and interoperable and emergency communications in Nevada. While these documents are not explicitly part of the SCIP, authors of these documents are encouraged to ensure their content and intention aligns with the SCIP and with other documents.

Table 9: SCIP Reference Documents

Title	Description	Document
Charter & Bylaws of the Nevada Communications Steering Committee	Operating & Governance for the NCSC	http://dem.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/demnv.gov/content/NCSC/ncsc_By-Laws.pdf
Charter & Bylaws of the Nevada Core Systems	Operating & Governance for the NCORE system	Pending
Charter & Bylaws of the State of Nevada Network (SoNNet)	Operating & Governance for the SoNNet public safety broadband initiative	Need link
Las Vegas Urban Area 5-year Communications Plan	Strategic Plan for Las Vegas Urban Area	Pending
Nevada Emergency Alert System Plan	Broadcast alerting plan and procedures	Pending
Northeast Nevada Regional Tactical Interoperability Plan	TICP for Elko and surrounding counties in Northeast Nevada	http://dem.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/demnv.gov/content/NCSC/NE_Nevada_RTICP_Ver2-4-2010_1_26.pdf
Northwest Nevada Regional Tactical Interoperability Plan	TICP for Carson City, Reno, and surrounding counties in Northwest Nevada	http://dem.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/demnv.gov/content/NCSC/NW_Nevada_RTICP_Ver_2-4_2010_01_26.pdf
Southern Nevada Regional Tactical Interoperability Plan	TICP for Las Vegas, Henderson, and the counties of Southern Nevada	http://dem.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/demnv.gov/content/NCSC/LV_UrbanAreaSouthernNVTICPV3-0b-BCCAPPROVED.pdf
Nevada Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operations Guide	Tactical communications data for statewide resources	http://dem.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/demnv.gov/content/NCSC/NEViFOGv22March2012_811_SPO.pdf

SIGNATURES

These signatories recognize the SCIP as the guiding document for interoperable and emergency communications for the State of Nevada, and encourage all agencies, jurisdictions, and organizations to plan harmoniously with the recommendations of the SCIP in mind.

Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (date)

Chair, NCSC (date)

Chair, SoNNet Board (date)

Chair, (date)

Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group

Nevada Homeland Security Advisor (date)

Director of NDEM (date)

For State Administering Agency (date)

APPENDIX A: ACRONYMS USED

APR	Annual Progress Report
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service
CAP	Civil Air Patrol (Air Force Auxiliary)
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Communications Unit Technician
CPM	Communications Project Manager
CST	Civil Support Team (National Guard)
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
HF	High Frequency (3 - 30 MHz)
ICS	Incident Command System
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
MARS	Military Auxiliary Radio Service
MHz	Megahertz
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCHS	Nevada Commission on Homeland Security
NCRN	Nevada Crossband Repeater Network
NCSC	Nevada Communications Steering Committee
NDEM	Nevada Division of Emergency Management
NDOT	Nevada Department of Transportation
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NG 9-1-1	Next Generation 9-1-1
NevIFOG	Nevada Interoperability Field Operations Guide
NIFOG	National Interoperability Field Operations Guide
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPSBN	Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

SAA	State Administering Agency
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SoNNet	State of Nevada Network
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
VHF	Very High Frequency (30 – 300 MHz)
UHF	Ultra-High Frequency (300 – 3000 MHz)