

# Vermont: FirstNet Timeline

2012

February 22. The Middle Class Tax Relief & Job Creation Act is signed into law. It creates the First Responder Network Authority. (FirstNet) The law gives FirstNet the mission to build, operate & maintain the first high-speed nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. Network uses 20 MHz of D-block 700 MHz spectrum (Band Class 14). Congress authorizes \$7 billion--\$6.5 specifically for network build-out.

2013

March. Vermont is awarded State & Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) funds to prepare for FirstNet. Funds are for outreach, education and data collection.

April. An executive order from Governor Peter Shumlin was signed to create the Vermont Public Safety Broadband Network Commission.

2014

National FirstNet organization continues administrative organizational work & holds their first state consultation meeting in Maryland.

2015

September. Vermont & all states transmit data collection results (users, devices, barriers) due to FirstNet--a critical input to the national RFP. Vermont data represented 591 public safety entities representing 18,700 first responders, a 75% survey response rate.

June. Vermont assembles small outreach team to assist with data collection required by FirstNet & funded by SLIGP. AppGeo contracted for data collection work. PSBC & DPS also host initial Vermont consultation for public safety community.

October. FirstNet hosts national SPOC (Single Point of Contact) conference.

2016

May 31. National FirstNet RFP closes & the evaluation phase begins.

January. FirstNet issues national RFP for design & operation of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN).

October. PSBC issues RFP for technical advising & consultation services to evaluate the upcoming state plan from FirstNet & its private partner.

2017

November 21. Rivada Mercury lodges protest of national procurement process and its elimination from the competitive range of the bid process.

January. PSBC selects winning bidder, Televate, of RFP for technical advising & consultation regarding the FirstNet state plan for Vermont.

March 17. Federal judge rules against Rivada Mercury protest. FirstNet to proceed with contract award.

June 19. PSBC receives **draft** state plan for examination & comment back to FirstNet & its private partner. States have 45 days to review the draft plan. PSBC will prepare opt-in/opt-out recommendation for Governor Phil Scott. Formal state questions to FirstNet due August 4.

March 30. AT&T announced as winning bidder of the contract to build the NPSBN. Work begins immediately to draft individual state plans based on the data previously sent to FirstNet by each state.

August 30. PSBC issues RFP to seek alternative proposals. RFP closes on September 29.

November 20. PSBC recommends to Governor that Vermont opt-in to the federal FirstNet plan.

November 29. Governor Phil Scott announces opt-in decision.

December 28. All 50 states, two U.S. territories & Washington D.C. opt-in to the FirstNet plan.

September 28. **Final** state plan notice is transmitted to Governor Scott from FirstNet. Governors have 90 days to accept the plan or opt-out. Opt-out states will have 240 days to create an alternate plan & submit it to the FCC. The deadline for a governor's decision is December 28.

2018

FirstNet network deployment underway nationwide. Public safety is not required to adopt FirstNet. FirstNet must attract subscribers based on performance and cost.

2022

By law, NPSBN to be substantially operational nationwide.

For more details on the FirstNet project in Vermont, go to [www.RTS.Vermont.gov](http://www.RTS.Vermont.gov).