



**State of Connecticut
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

- 1. CFA Bookstore & Fire Academy News – MLK Day Closing**
- 2. CFA Recruit Firefighter Program Class 59 Application and Preparation**
- 3. New Haven County Fire Emergency Plan January Meeting**
- 4. Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) Fire Science Program**
- 5. Lebanon Fire Department Hosting an EMT and EMR Refresher**
- 6. Burrville Fire School Offering Firefighter I and Exterior Firefighter Course**
- 7. Burrville Fire School Introduction to Company Officer Program**
- 8. CFSI Accepting Applications for the Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award**
- 9. Larus Institute Offers Entry-Level Firefighter Exam and Interview Course**
- 10. Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)**

1. CFA Bookstore & Fire Academy News – MLK Day Closing

The administrative office of the Commission on Fire Prevention & Control and the CFA Bookstore will be closed Monday, January 16, 2017 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Regular business hours will resume on Tuesday, January 17th.

2. CFA Recruit Firefighter Program Class 59 Application and Preparation

Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Class 59 will commence on February 14, 2017 and run through May 24, 2017. Applications are now available on-line at:

<http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?a=832&Q=399722&cfpcPNavCtr=#47778>

As a way to better serve the state fire service, the Connecticut Firefighter Health and Safety Consortium has formalized their recommendations for preparation for the Recruit Firefighter Program. Historically over the past 5 years, using field-level fitness testing, greater than 40% of incoming recruits have been determined to be obese and otherwise deconditioned for their start as Recruits.

Recruit class candidates will require this greater preparation for the rigors of training in order to address the obvious inherent physical risks of not being adequately prepared for both training and the beginning of a tremendously demanding profession.

These current modest but bold steps will address the obvious physical risks of poor conditioning, and ensure that each sponsoring fire department gets the most benefit from their respective investment in our Recruit Firefighter Program.

http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/Connecticut_Firefighters_Physical_Fitness_Assessment_and_Preparation.pdf

General information on the CFA Recruit Program may be found at:

<http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?a=832&q=582466&cfpcNav=>

3. New Haven County Fire Emergency Plan January Meeting

The January meeting of the New Haven County Fire Emergency Plan will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at Beacon Hose Company #1 35 North Main Street in Beacon Falls, CT Program TBD.

4. Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) Fire Science Program

Why not a Fire Science Degree from Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) located at the Springfield Armory in Springfield, Massachusetts?

Spring Semester starts on January 23, 2017 with five classes:

FST-120-E61	Fire Department Organization and Management	3 CR
FST-130-E61	Fire Protection Systems	3 CR
FST-140-E61	Fire Officership	3 CR
FST-210-E61	Fire Hydraulics and Equipment	3 CR
FST-220-E61	Fire Causes and Detection	3 CR

Flexible for Connecticut and Massachusetts Fire Fighter work schedules
Contact: Skip Tenczar Advisor/Coordinator at Tenczar@stcc.edu
(413) 537 1915 or Admissions (413) 755 4321

5. Lebanon Fire Department Hosting an EMT and EMR Refresher

The Lebanon Fire Department is hosting an EMT and EMR refresher. Here are the dates and times:

1 Day EMT Recert: February 26, 2017 Click her for more information [Click for Lebanon Fire 1 Day EMT Recert](#)

3 Day Blended EMT Recert: February 24, 25, 26 2017 - Click here for more information: [Click to for Lebanon Fire 3 Day Blended EMT Recert](#)

EMR Recert: February 24, 25, 26 2017 - Click here for more information: [Click for Lebanon EMR Recert](#)

Introduction to 12 Lead ECG Course:

This 8 week course is designed for any individual that would like to learn the art of reading 12 lead ECG. Learn for the first time, or simply refresh your knowledge! This course meets every Tuesday starting February 14, 2017 and runs through April 4, 2017. See attached flyer: [Click for 12 Lead ECG Class](#)

ACLS Refresher: January 24, 2017 9am \$200 not including textbook-- see attached flyer

[Click for ACLS Renewal](#)

6 Burrville Fire School Offering Firefighter I and Exterior Firefighter Course

The Burrville Fire School is offering two courses. FF 1 will begin in February, hosted by Goshen.

Chiefs, are you looking for a way to bring new, pre-FF1 firefighters up to speed. Our exterior FF class hosted in Woodbury is just the way to do that. It begins in March. For more information, call 860-307-2267.

7. Burrville Fire School Introduction to Company Officer Program

At the request of the Chiefs throughout Litchfield County, the Burrville Fire Training School has developed and will be presenting the introduction to Company Officer Program. The Program is directed toward new company officers or personnel who desire to seek company officer positions. Course content includes; Transition from Firefighter to Company Officer, Duties and Responsibilities of a Company Officer, Strategy and Tactics, Crew Supervision, etc. The program is eight (8) weeks in length, meeting one (1) night each week. The first class is being held at the New Hartford Fire Department starting on February 8th and will run until March 29th. This will be eight (8) consecutive Wednesday nights, each class will start at 1800 hours and conclude at 2200 hours. The address for New Hartford Fire Department is 3 Greenwoods Road, New Hartford CT. The cost for the class is \$165 per student.

Marquam Johnson, Fire Chief (Ret) will serve as the lead instructor for the Program. Assisting Chief Johnson will be a number of instructors with a vast variety of company officer experience.

Please spread the word and share this opportunity with members in your departments. Let's fill the class! An application is attached for your convenience. Please forward completed application to Director Rich Winn (richard.t.winn@snet.net) by February 1, 2017. Please feel free to contact Director Rich Winn (860-309-4375) or Asst. Director John Field (860-806-3560).

8. CFSI Accepting Applications for the Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award

SENATOR PAUL S. SARBANES FIRE SERVICE SAFETY LEADERSHIP AWARD - Recognizing a Commitment to Firefighter Health and Safety -

The [Congressional Fire Services Institute](#) (CFSI) and the [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#) (NFFF) are accepting applications for the Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award. The Sarbanes Award recognizes organizations for outstanding leadership in advancing firefighter health and safety. The award presentation will take place at the 29th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner on April 6, 2017 in Washington, DC. Over 2,000 state and national fire service leaders are expected to attend the program hosted by CFSI. The program will feature remarks from national political leaders and award presentations recognizing both individuals and organizations for leadership at the national level.

The goals of the Senator Sarbanes Award are described by the following five points:

- Helping to advance the [16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives](#) originally developed by the American fire service during the 2004 National Fire Service Summit hosted by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in Tampa, FL, and reaffirmed at the Tampa 2 Summit in 2014.
- Advocating the need to address firefighter health and safety and becoming an advocate for this cause.
- Promoting and supporting firefighter health and safety initiatives at the local, state or national level.
- Reaching out to other organizations and developing partnerships to further the cause of firefighter health and safety.
- Engaging government leaders at all levels to work together for changes and for the establishment of government programs that can enhance the personal safety of firefighters.

CFSI is using an on-line application process. Click [here](#) to be directed to the application or visit our website at www.cfsi.org. Information for the Sarbanes Award is located in the **LEADERSHIP AWARDS** section. Applicants are asked to provide detailed answers to all questions. For additional information about the Sarbanes Award, please contact CFSI at 202-371-1277.

CFSI will provide coach-class travel and hotel accommodations at the Washington Hilton for one representative of the recipient organization. The Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award is made possible by the generous support of State Farm Insurance and VFIS, the corporate cosponsors.

The deadline for submitting applications is February 17, 2017.

9. Larus Institute Offers Entry-Level Firefighter Exam and Interview Course

Entry-level firefighter exam and interview prep course will be held at Norwalk Community College on Thursday evenings, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, starting on Feb. 9. The course lasts six weeks. Instructor: Bill Peltz. To register, contact the college (203-857-7237) or go online at www.norwalk.edu. The course is listed under the Extended Studies tab.

10. Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)

Attached is the updated Connecticut Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP), adopted December 2016.

Fire Training School Torrington (Burrville State Fire School)

P.O. Box 335
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

Chairman Robert Norton Jr.
Director Richard T. Winn
Asst. Director John B. Field Jr.

Course Application

Name: _____ Date of Application: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Fee: _____

Student ID: _____

(First 3 Initials of last name and last 4 numbers of social security number)

(Example: Joe Smith; SS# 123-45-6789: ID would be SMI-6789)

Home Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Cell) _____ E-Mail: _____

Are you at least 18 Years of Age? Yes No

Firefighter I & II applicants must be at least 18 years of age

Applicants Signature

As Chief of the _____ Fire Department, I hereby authorize the above applicant to participate in the Firefighter I or II program and therefore understand that the above named individual will be covered by my department's worker's compensation insurance while participating in such training and that the Burrville State Fire School, its' officers', Instructors', Agents' or Employees' shall not be liable for any injuries sustained during such training. The applicant is considered by my department's standards to be physically and emotionally fit to perform firefighting evolutions without special considerations, and where applicable, to meet the 29 CFR 1910.134 standard for the use of respirators (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus).

Chief's Signature

Date

Purchase Order #

Authorized Billing Signature

***Please include a copy of the medical clearance for Firefighter I and II courses.

(Please complete both sides)

Fire Training School Torrington (Burrville State Fire School)

P.O. Box 335
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

DOB: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone #: _____

Department Representing: _____

Company/Unit: _____ Town: _____

Circle One: Career Volunteer

Date Entered Fire Service: _____ Rank: _____

Fire Chief's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Training Officer's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Fire Department Mailing Address: _____

I _____ authorize the Burrville State Fire School
to release my training records for the _____ course in which I am enrolled to
_____.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

(Please complete both sides)

Fire Training School Torrington
Burrville State Fire School
P. O. Box 335
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063-0335

Dear Litchfield County and neighboring firefighters;

The rebuilding of the Burrville Fire School is slated to start in the early spring of 2017. The contract for the design/build team has been awarded to PDS Engineering out of Bloomfield. We are meeting with them on a weekly basis to finalize the design. We plan on presenting the final plans and discussing the future of the fire school at the February meeting of the Litchfield County Fire Chiefs Emergency Plan, Inc. The state recently demolished the old facility. Until the new facility is complete we will be running courses at local host departments.

The class schedules are set the spring of 2017. The fire school will be running a Firefighter I course at the Goshen Fire Station and an Exterior Firefighter at the Woodbury Fire Station. This summer we plan on running a Firefighter I and II course that is designed for college students. The spring Firefighter I certification course will be run on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and some weekends. The course will include certification at the Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operational levels. The cost is \$1,050 which includes all exam fees, student textbook, and student workbook. The application deadline for Firefighter I is February 8, 2017. The course fee will increase to \$1,155 after the deadline. The course schedule is attached.

The Exterior Firefighter course will be running on Tuesday nights and some Saturdays. The cost is \$250. The application deadline for Exterior Firefighter is March 3, 2017. The course fee will increase to \$275 after the deadline. The course schedule is attached.

On behalf of the school committee and the staff of the Burrville State Fire School I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year.

Richard Winn

Richard Winn, School Director
richard.t.winn@snet.net
(860) 309-4375 (cell phone)
www.facebook.com/BurrvilleFireSchool

Burrville Fire School Spring 2017 Firefighter I Course - Goshen

Date	Day	Hours	Subject
2/21	Tuesday	3	Orientation, Introductions & History
2/23	Thursday	3	Fire Behavior
2/28	Tuesday	3	Building Construction/Inspections
3/2	Thursday	3	NIMS/IMS
3/7	Tuesday	3	Response/Size-up, Survival, Rehab
3/9	Thursday	3	PPE/SCBA
3/11	Saturday	8	PPE/SCBA
3/12	Sunday	8	PPE/SCBA
3/14	Tuesday	3	Ropes & Knots
3/16	Thursday	3	Ropes & Knots
3/21	Tuesday	3	Communications/LCD, TFD Stocks Radios
3/23	Thursday	3	Ladders
3/25	Saturday	8	Ladders
3/26	Sunday	8	Ladders
3/28	Tuesday	3	Review Mid Term Exam
3/30	Thursday	3	Fire Cause Determination, Sprinklers etc.
4/4	Tuesday	3	Water Supply
4/6	Thursday	3	Fire Attack & Fire Suppression
4/8	Saturday	8	Hose
4/9	Sunday	8	Hose
4/11	Tuesday	3	Wildland Firefighting
4/13	Thursday	3	Loss Control
4/18	Tuesday	3	Vent/Force Entry Lecture

4/20	Thursday	3	Search & Rescue Lecture	
4/22	Saturday	8	Search and Rescue, Loss Control Practicals	
4/23	Sunday	8	Forcible Entry/Vent Practicals	
4/25	Tuesday	3	Extinguishers Lecture	
4/27	Thursday	3	Extinguishers Practical and skills review	
5/2	Tuesday	3	JPR's	
5/4	Thursday	3	Vehicle Fires @ CFA	
5/6	Saturday	8	Haz-Mat Awareness	
5/7	Sunday	8	Structural Live Burn @ CFA	
5/9	Tuesday	3	Haz-Mat Ops	
5/11	Thursday	3	Haz-Mat Ops	
5/16	Tuesday	3	Haz-Mat Ops	
5/18	Thursday	3	Metering/Monitoring	
5/20	Saturday	8	PPE/Product Control	
5/21	Sunday	8	Decon/Rescue	
5/23	Tuesday	3	Smart Triage	
5/25	Thursday	3	Evidence Preservation/Illicit Drug Labs	
5/30	Tuesday	3	Terrorism/WMD	
6/1	Thursday	3	FFI/JPR Practical Review	
6/6	Tuesday	3	Haz-Mat Practical Review	
TBD		8	State Practical Skills Exam	
TBD		3	Written Review/School Written	
		3	School Graduation	
		3	State Written Exam	

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P.O. Box 335
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

Chairman Robert Norton Jr.
Director Richard T. Winn
Asst. Director John B. Field Jr.

Course Application

Name: _____ Date of Application: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Fee: _____

Student ID: _____

(First 3 Initials of last name and last 4 numbers of social security number)

(Example: Joe Smith; SS# 123-45-6789: ID would be SMI-6789)

Home Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Cell) _____ E-Mail: _____

Are you at least 18 Years of Age? Yes No

Firefighter I & II applicants **must** be at least 18 years of age

Applicants Signature

As Chief of the _____ Fire Department, I hereby authorize the above applicant to participate in the Firefighter I or II program and therefore understand that the above named individual will be covered by my department's worker's compensation insurance while participating in such training and that the Burrville State Fire School, its' officers', Instructors', Agents' or Employees' shall not be liable for any injuries sustained during such training. The applicant is considered by my department's standards to be physically and emotionally fit to perform firefighting evolutions without special considerations, and where applicable, to meet the 29 CFR 1910.134 standard for the use of respirators (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus).

Chief's Signature

Date

Purchase Order #

Authorized Billing Signature

***Please include a copy of the medical clearance for Firefighter I and II courses.

(Please complete both sides)

Fire Training School Torrington (Burrville State Fire School)

P.O. Box 335
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

DOB: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone #: _____

Department Representing: _____

Company/Unit: _____ Town: _____

Circle One: Career Volunteer

Date Entered Fire Service: _____ Rank: _____

Fire Chief's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Training Officer's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Fire Department Mailing Address: _____

I _____ authorize the Burrville State Fire School
to release my training records for the _____ course in which I am enrolled to
_____.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

(Please complete both sides)



State of Connecticut

Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)

Adopted: December 2016



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Connecticut Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is a stakeholder-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary statewide strategic plan to enhance interoperable and emergency communications. The SCIP is a critical mid-range (three-to-five year) strategic planning tool to help Connecticut prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps.

The purpose of the Connecticut SCIP is to:

- Provide the strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the state, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explain to leadership and elected officials the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrate the need for funding.
- Serve as a guide to engage the right stakeholders to prioritize activities and ensure the Connecticut Public Safety State Interoperability Executive Committee (CPSSIEC, abbreviated SIEC for the purpose of this document) is on target to meet the SCIP's goals and initiatives

The following are Connecticut's Vision and Mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications statewide.

Vision: Provide and sustain a common interoperable communications pathway for all involved stakeholders.

Mission: By 2020, provide and sustain a standards-based telecommunications infrastructure that will allow for secure, timely, efficient, and cost-effective statewide interoperability (meaning operationally-appropriate compatible systems and data platforms, e.g. voice, video, and data) for all public safety and other partners (e.g., federal, state, regional, local tribal nations, private sector, and non-governmental organizations).

The following strategic goals represent the priorities for delivering Connecticut's vision for interoperable and emergency communications.

- Governance :
 - Update and enhance inter-state and intra-state regional coordination on operable and interoperable communications activities and efforts.
 - Continue presence on national committees (e.g., Public Safety Advisory Committee [PSAC], Northeast States Emergency Consortium [NESEC], Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Groups [RECCWGs], National Emergency Management Association [NEMA], National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators [NCSWIC], SAFECOM).
 - Ensure required expertise remains on the SIEC and as technical experts in the field (i.e., the sustainment of human assets).

- Capture information regarding available assets in a centralized location.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) :
 - Build on established SOPs to include non-traditional public safety response partners (e.g., utilities, non-governmental organizations [NGOs]) in initial notification of an incident or event.
 - Document agreements (e.g., Emergency Management Assistance Compact [EMAC], memoranda of understanding [MOUs], memoranda of agreement [MOAs]) to utilize Communications Unit Leader (COML)/Communications Unit Technician (COMT) resources across regions and/or states.
 - Create interoperable communications mission-ready mutual aid packages for inter-state and intra-state resource sharing.
 - Create interoperable communications and broadband SOPs which are regularly updated and stored in a centralized repository, enabling sharing across regions and municipalities.
- Technology :
 - Leverage existing voice, video, and data communications networks to enhance coverage and capabilities.
 - Document and coordinate use of best practices for redundancy/resiliency of existing public safety answering points (PSAP's).
 - Promote migration to the statewide Project 25 (P25) system, as appropriate.
 - Establish a roadmap for migration to the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network developed by FirstNet.
 - Support State Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) efforts to complete cyber risk and security assessments for existing systems and make appropriate improvements.
 - Identify and enhance the integration and use of data sharing and common operating systems (e.g., WebEOC) used for emergency and disaster response.
- Training and Exercises :
 - Incorporate a specific communications component (e.g., COML/COMT personnel, strategic technology reserve equipment, and communications objectives) into all training, exercises, and planned events.
 - Enhance end user training on national, state, and regional interoperability systems.
 - Provide additional education programs for Auxiliary Communication (AUXCOMM) personnel (e.g., Amateur Radio Emergency Services [ARES], Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services [RACES]).
 - Conduct training on SOPs and availability of mutual aid resources.

- Usage :
 - Ensure efficient use of Communications Unit (COMU) and other subject matter experts (SMEs) in the field during real-world incidents, events, and exercises.
 - Establish and maintain a schedule for the systematic testing and use of interoperable systems, strategic technology reserve (STR)/cache equipment, and channels or talk groups.
- Outreach and Information Sharing :
 - Consider existing resources such as WebEOC to provide regular non-emergency updates across the state
 - Develop an outreach plan for the state to engage and encourage local and tribal participation to ensure their public safety needs are adequately represented during the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) consultation process.
- Life Cycle Funding :
 - Implement a life cycle funding plan which takes into account all interoperable communications systems and equipment, the interoperability program, and the core elements of establishing and maintaining interoperable and emergency communications in the state.

This SCIP is owned and managed by the Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Services and Public Protection, responsible for the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security through the SIEC and the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). The SWIC is responsible for ensuring this plan is implemented and maintained statewide.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
1. Introduction.....	5
2. Purpose.....	11
3. State’s Interoperable and Emergency Communications Overview	11
4. Vision and Mission	13
5. Strategic Goals And Initiatives	13
5.1 Governance.....	13
5.2 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).....	16
5.3 Technology.....	18
5.4 Training and Exercises.....	21
5.5 Usage.....	23
5.6 Outreach and Information Sharing	24
5.7 Life Cycle Funding.....	25
6. Implementation	27
6.1 Action Plan	27
6.2 Measures of Success	27
6.3 Management of Success.....	33
6.4 Strategic Plan Review.....	33
7. Reference Materials.....	33
Appendix A: Major Systems	35
Appendix B: List of Acronyms	41

1. INTRODUCTION

The Connecticut Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is a stakeholder-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary statewide strategic plan to enhance interoperable and emergency communications. The SCIP is a three-to-five year strategic planning tool to help Connecticut prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps. This document contains the following planning components:

- 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 Connecticut.
- State’s Interoperable and Emergency Communications Overview – Provides an overview of the state’s current and future emergency communications environment 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 Procedures (SOPs), 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 Materials – Includes resources that provide additional background information on the SCIP or interoperable and emergency communications in Connecticut or directly support the SCIP.

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

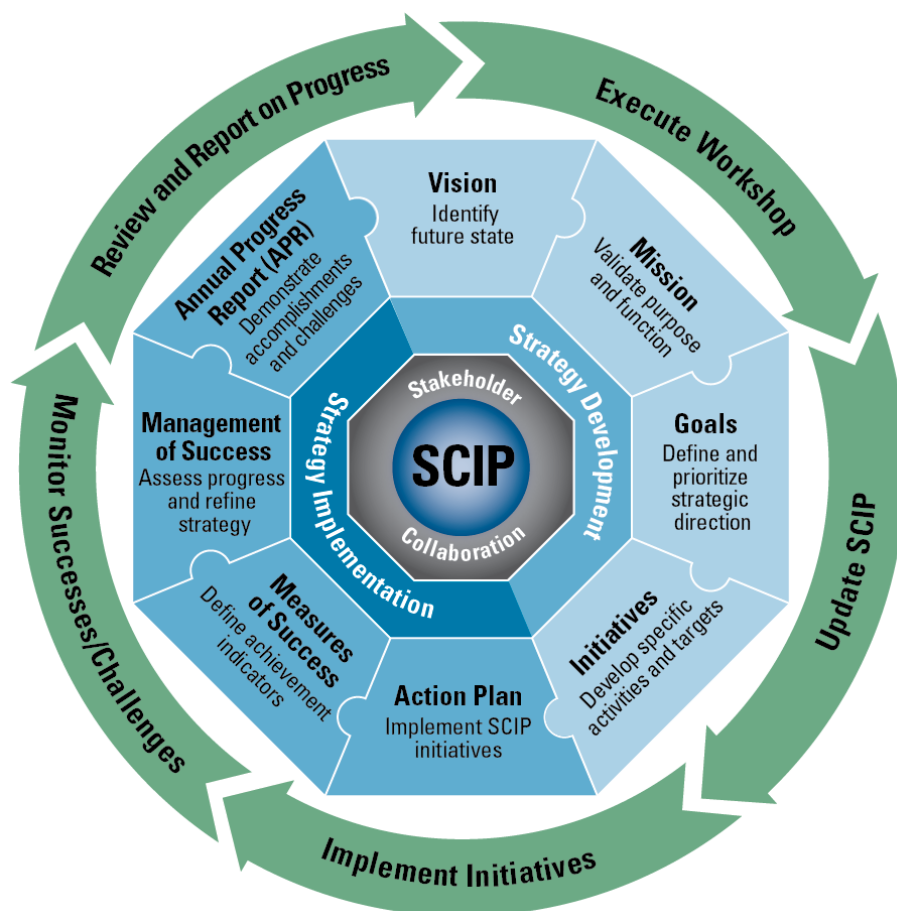


Figure 1: SCIP Strategic Plan and Implementation Components

The Connecticut SCIP is based on an understanding of the current and mid-range interoperable and emergency communications environment. Connecticut has taken significant steps towards enhancing interoperable and emergency communications, including:

- **Enhancing interoperable communications between agencies.** Connecticut installed a Project 25 (P25) switch for statewide use; built the Connecticut Public Safety Data Network (PSDN), an ultra-high-speed fiber optic data network for approximately 400 public safety and government facilities for public safety services statewide; and continued to build out and enhance the Connecticut Statewide Radio Network, an 800 megahertz (MHz) system for interoperable communications for state and local users.

- **Enhancing on-scene communications and building communications resiliency in the State.** Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DESPP/DEMHS) distributed six mobile communications vehicles throughout the state to provide voice, video, and data. The state also created a Strategic Technology Reserve (STR), comprised of two mobile towers and an equipment cache, to provide resiliency and surge capacity.
- **Assisting the five DEMHS Planning & Preparedness Regions in their interoperability efforts.** State and federal funding supported communications interoperability efforts in all five regions, including build-out of a region-wide 700 MHz system and procurement of mobile assets and other associated equipment.
- **Providing regular communications training.** Connecticut provided targeted training (e.g., P25 controller training, narrowbanding training); Communications Unit Leader (COML)/Communications Unit Technician (COMT)/Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM) training and workshops; developed a statewide credentialing system for COML/COMT certification; and implemented a statewide Telecommunication Emergency Response Taskforce (TERT) training program and framework.
- **Demonstrating interoperable communications capabilities through exercises and real-world incident response** (e.g., tested during the Annual Governors Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative [EPPI] Statewide Exercises, Hurricanes Sandy and Irene, train derailments, large events and the Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting).

However, more work remains to achieve Connecticut's vision. It is also important to note this work is part of a continuous cycle as Connecticut will always need to adapt to evolving technologies, operational tactics, and changes in key individuals. In the next three-to-five years, Connecticut will encounter challenges relating to operability, interoperability, geography, aging equipment/systems, emerging technologies, changing project champions, and sustainable funding.

Wireless voice and data technology is evolving rapidly and efforts are underway to determine how to leverage these new technologies to meet the needs of public safety. For example, the enactment of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (the Act), specifically Title VI, related to Public Safety Communications, authorizes the deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) by FirstNet. The NPSBN is intended to be a wireless, interoperable nationwide communications network which will allow members of the public safety community to securely and reliably gain access and share information with their counterparts in other locations and agencies. New policies and initiatives such as the NPSBN present additional challenges and considerations for future planning efforts and require an informed strategic vision to properly account for these changes. Figure 2 illustrates a public safety communications evolution by describing the long-term transition toward a desired converged future.

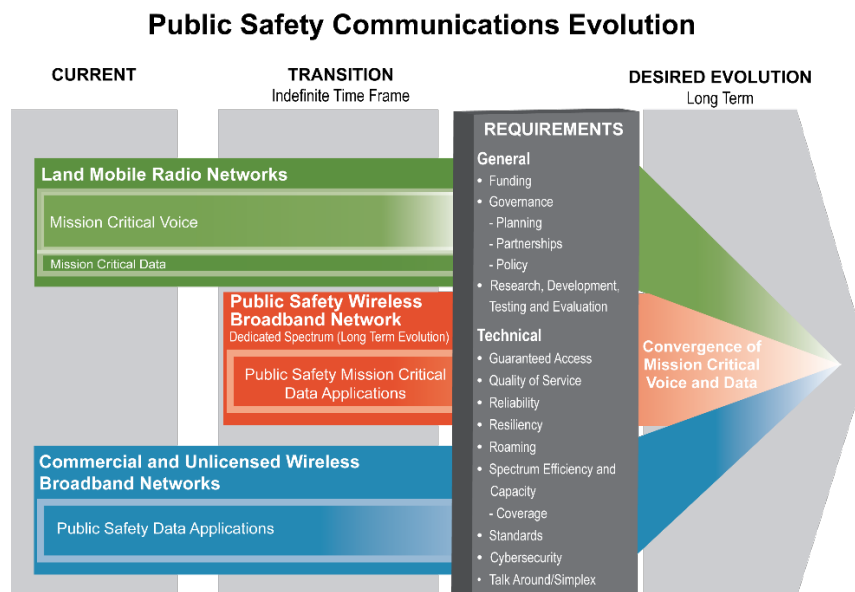


Figure 2: Public Safety Communications Evolution

Integrating capabilities such as broadband provide an unparalleled opportunity for the future of interoperable communications in Connecticut. It may result in a secure path for information-sharing initiatives, PSAPs, and Next Generation 911 (NG911) integration. Broadband will not replace existing Land Mobile Radio (LMR) voice systems in the foreseeable future due to implementation factors associated with planning, deployment, technology, and cost. A cautious approach to this investment is needed. Therefore, robust requirements and innovative business practices must be developed for broadband initiatives prior to any implementation.

Connecticut is keeping up-to-date with the planning and build-out of the NPSBN in the near and long term in coordination with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). FirstNet is the independent authority within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and is responsible for developing the NPSBN, which will be a single, nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network. 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 and assets which 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, 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 or commercial broadband will complement LMR.

More information on the role of these two 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 and at <http://Firstnet.gov>.¹

Connecticut has conducted data collection activities as part of the requirements of the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP), and continues to conduct outreach to tribal nations to ensure inclusion in FirstNet's State Plan. Currently the State Emergency Management Director is identified as the SWIC and the SPOC for broadband efforts and is supported by a coordinating team. The State has identified the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) as the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for broadband efforts. The Connecticut Public Safety State Interoperability Executive Committee (CPSSIEC, abbreviated SIEC for the purpose of this document) Broadband Working Group will work to answer data calls and provide information as requested by FirstNet. Additionally The Broadband Working Group Staff will continue with outreach efforts and other necessary tasks in support of the initiative.

Achieving sustainable funding in the current fiscal climate is a priority for Connecticut. As state and federal grant funding diminishes, states need to identify alternative funding sources to continue improving interoperable and emergency communications for voice, video, and data systems. The key funding priorities for Connecticut include sustainment of existing training and systems while planning for enhancement of existing and emerging technologies. More information on a typical emergency communications system life cycle, cost planning, and budgeting is available in OEC's System Life Cycle Planning Guide.²

The Interoperability Continuum, developed by SAFECOM and shown in Figure 3, 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.

¹ OEC's Public Safety Communications Evolution brochure is available here:

http://publicsafetytools.info/oec_guidance/docs/Public_Safety_Communications_Evolution_Brochure.pdf

² OEC's System Life Cycle Planning Guide is available here:

http://publicsafetytools.info/oec_guidance/docs/OEC_System_Life_Cycle_Planning_Guide_Final.pdf

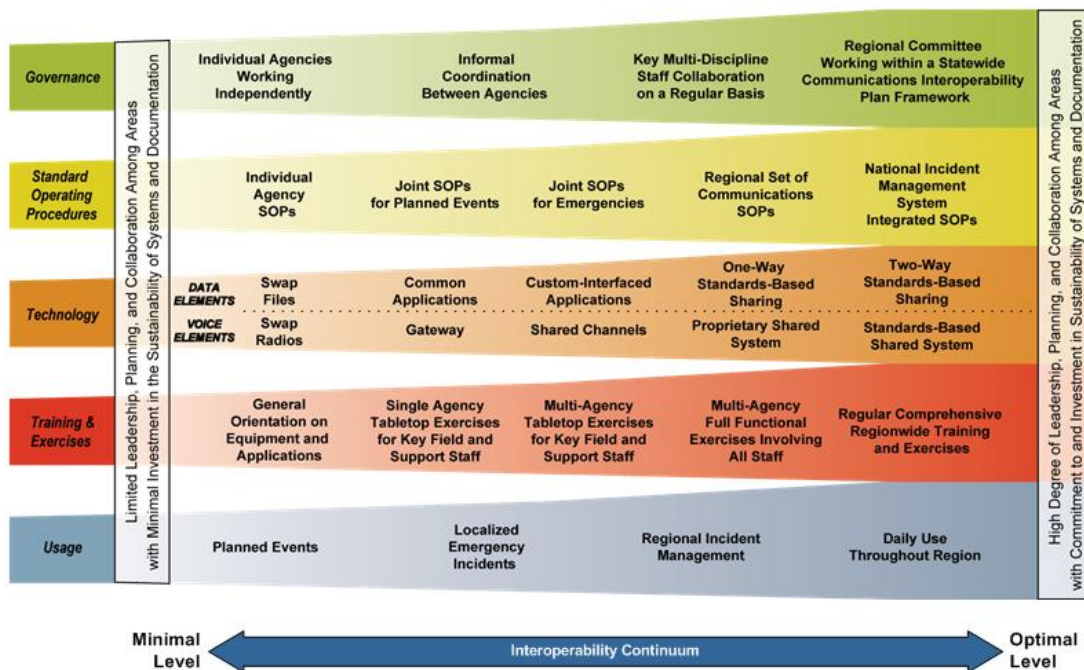


Figure 3: The Interoperability Continuum

The Continuum identifies five critical success elements which must be addressed to achieve a successful interoperable communications solution:

- **Governance** – Collaborative decision-making process supporting interoperability efforts to improve communication, coordination, and cooperation across disciplines and jurisdictions. Governance is the critical foundation of all of Connecticut's efforts to address communications interoperability.
- **Standard Operating Procedures** – Policies, repetitive practices, and procedures which guide emergency responder interactions and the use of interoperable communications solutions.
- **Technology** – Systems and equipment which enables emergency responders to share voice and data information efficiently, reliably, and securely.
- **Training and Exercises** – Scenario-based practices used to enhance communications interoperability and familiarize the public safety community with equipment and procedures.
- **Usage** – Familiarity with interoperable communications technologies, systems, and operating procedures used by first responders to enhance interoperability.

More information on the Interoperability Continuum is available in OEC's Interoperability Continuum brochure.³

³ OEC's Interoperability Continuum is available here:
<http://www.safecomprogram.gov/oecguidancedocuments/continuum/Default.aspx>

The following sections will further describe how the SCIP will be used in Connecticut and Connecticut's plans to enhance interoperable and emergency communications.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Connecticut SCIP is to:

- Provide the strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the state, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explain to leadership and elected officials the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrate the need for funding.
- Serve as a guide to engage the appropriate stakeholders to prioritize activities and ensure the SIEC is on target to meet the SCIP's goals and initiatives.

The development and execution of the SCIP assists Connecticut with addressing the results of the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goals and the Federal government with fulfilling the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8)⁴ National Preparedness Goal for Operational Communications.⁵

In addition to this SCIP, Connecticut will develop an annual SCIP Snapshot 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 Snapshot is available in Section 6.4.

3. STATE'S INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW

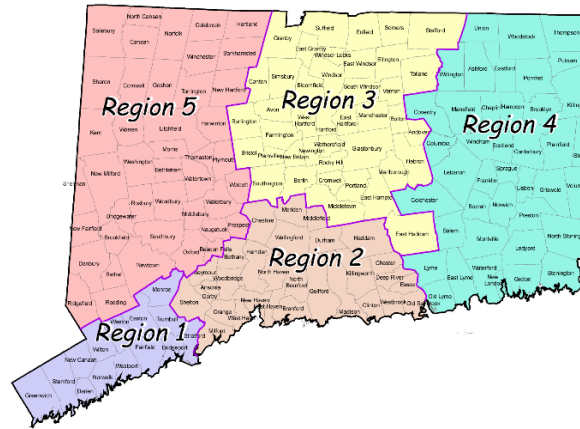
Connecticut serves as the primary geographic gateway between New England and the Metropolitan New York areas, and has developed a high level of communications technology to address the distinct challenges it faces.

Governance of the interoperable and emergency communications environment in the State includes the five DEMHS Emergency Planning Regions. The basis of these are the 169 municipalities, and two tribal nations, each with various government and non-governmental organization (NGO) response partners. Municipalities are autonomous and coordinate through the Planning Regions.

⁴ PPD-8 was signed in 2011 and is comprised of six elements: a National Preparedness Goal, the National Preparedness System, National Planning Frameworks and Federal Interagency Operational Plan, an annual National Preparedness Report, and ongoing national efforts to build and sustain preparedness. PPD-8 defines a series of national preparedness elements and emphasizes the need for the whole community to work together to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. <http://www.dhs.gov/presidential-policy-directive-8-national-preparedness>.

⁵ 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 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.



To oversee statewide efforts among the regions, the SIEC was formally established by DEMHS now a division of the DESPP. Under Titles 28 and 29 of the Connecticut General Statutes, DESPP is responsible for providing a coordinated, integrated program for the protection of life and property and for statewide emergency management and homeland security. Under Connecticut General Statute 29-1r, the Commissioner of DESPP delegates emergency management and homeland security authority to the Deputy Commissioner of DESPP responsible for DEMHS. As outlined in Connecticut General Statutes 28-1a(b), DEMHS is responsible for, among other things “coordinating” and as may be necessary consolidating homeland security communications and communications systems of the state government with state and local personnel, agencies and authorities, the general public and the private sector.

The SIEC meets monthly and recently updated its membership to ensure statewide inclusivity and accurate representation. The SIEC’s Technical Committee meets regularly to carry out various communications interoperability efforts. The State is also involved in collaboration and coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regions I and II, participating in joint training and exercises and working toward inter-State interoperability. However, this can result in discrepancies with interoperability methods used during internal statewide events, as certain parts of the state align more closely with either FEMA Region I or Region II and their respective efforts and systems.

In terms of technology, existing communications systems in Connecticut vary widely from low band (30-50MHz), VHF, UHF to more sophisticated digitally trunked systems. The state has a robust 700- 800 MHz infrastructure with a microwave backbone utilized by many of the regional communications systems and municipalities.

Sustainment of these systems is a major focus in Connecticut, which achieved significant expansion of capabilities among the systems in the past few years. Sustainment of training and exercises is also of high priority to prevent loss of institutional knowledge and to increase usage and familiarity with new and/or upgraded systems and equipment. The lack of county governance structures and the autonomous nature of the municipalities make coordination of sustainment a priority. The state will continue to employ strong regional and State interoperability governance to ensure efficiency of efforts and maximization of resources.

4. VISION AND MISSION

The Vision and Mission section describes the Connecticut vision and mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications statewide.

Connecticut Interoperable and Emergency Communications Vision:

Provide and sustain a common interoperable communications pathway for all involved stakeholders.

Connecticut Interoperable and Emergency Communications Mission:

By 2020, provide and sustain a standards-based telecommunications infrastructure that will allow for secure, timely, efficient, and cost-effective statewide interoperability (meaning operationally-appropriate compatible systems and data platforms, e.g., federal, state, regional, local, tribal nations, private sector, and non-government organizations).

5. 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.

5.1 Governance

The Governance section of the SCIP outlines the future direction of the Connecticut governance structure for interoperable and emergency communications. The Connecticut SIEC is a subcommittee of the DEMHS Advisory Council. It is formally recognized by Executive Order and meets monthly to coordinate interoperability issues within the state. The SIEC's primary purpose is to provide recommendations to the Deputy Commissioner of DEMHS and to the Advisory Council with regard to sharing real-time voice, video, and data information with authorized first responders and other critical components of the emergency management and public safety community. In 2014, the SIEC updated its membership to ensure statewide inclusivity and accurate representation. It also invites non-voting members of the stakeholder community to participate in meetings. Its Technical Committee meets regularly to carry out various communications interoperability efforts. The SIEC Broadband Working Group will continue to coordinate data gathering, planning, build-out, and implementation efforts for the NPSBN.

Regional emergency management in the State is coordinated through five DEMHS Regional Emergency Planning Teams (REPTs) and five DEMHS Regional offices. The regional offices serve as a structure for multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional, multi-level collaboration within each intra-State region. They are the primary interface with local officials in each of the 169 towns and two Tribal Nations in Connecticut, a strategy which has been successful in coordinating the activities of the municipalities in the state. Connecticut also plans to enhance stakeholder understanding of the Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) 2 committees and to enhance RESF 2 Committees' scope for coordinating intra-State regional efforts.

Table 1 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives related to governance.

Table 1: Governance Goals and Initiatives

Governance Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
1.	Update and enhance inter- and intra-State regional coordination on operable and interoperable communications activities and efforts	1.1 Update SIEC list serve to ensure RESF 2 committees are included in distribution of meeting minutes	SWIC	November 2016
		1.2 Ensure all regions are represented at SIEC meetings	Regional POCs or designee(s)	January 2017, quarterly thereafter
		1.3 Maintain communications with FEMA Regions I and II and their respective States	DEMHS, SWIC, Representatives on FEMA Regional Committees (RECCWG), Representatives on national DHS and FEMA Communications working groups, including IPAWS, FirstNet, FCC Representatives to Regional Frequency Groups in FCC Region 8 and 19.	Ongoing
2.		2.1 Identify target national committees on which to participate for communications issues.	SIEC	January 2017

Governance Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
	Continue presence on national committees (e.g., Public Safety Advisory Committee [PSAC], Northeast States Emergency Consortium [NESEC], Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Groups [RECCWGs], National Emergency Management Association [NEMA], National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators [NCSWIC], SAFECOM)	2.2 Identify personnel to participate on national committees for communications issues.	SIEC	January 2017, annual review of attendance
		2.3 Communicate information from national committees to the regions for communications issues.	SIEC	January 2017, annual review of information sharing
3.	Ensure required expertise remains on the SIEC and as technical experts in the field (i.e., the sustainment of human assets)	3.1 Establish a working group to develop recommendations	SIEC	July 2017
		3.2 Establish a mentoring program to identify and develop the next generation of expertise	SIEC	July 2017
		3.3 Document existing and needed skill sets, defining technical and operational requirements	SIEC	July 2017
		3.4 Identify a centralized repository to store important documents for succession planning	SIEC	July 2017
4.	Capture available assets in a centralized location	4.1 Define location for assets management and responsible parties	SIEC	January 2017
		4.2 Identify the responsible parties for regularly updating information and how often	SIEC	January 2017

5.2 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

The SOPs section of the SCIP identifies the framework and processes for developing and managing SOPs statewide. SOP implementation and documentation varies throughout the state. Under the statutory mission to provide a coordinated, integrated program DESPP/DEMHS works to coordinate local, regional and state SOP's. In an effort to support standardization, development, and usage of SOPs statewide. Connecticut recently developed SOP templates for statewide use and held a workshop for stakeholders to develop SOPs.

However, challenges in establishing consistent documentation and usage of SOPs statewide remain due to municipal autonomy. The State plans to develop mutual aid agreements and mission-ready mutual aid packages to share resources across municipal and regional boundaries. Stakeholders have also identified the need for a common repository of SOPs to serve as a knowledge base and sharing platform. Currently the SOPs are located on the CT-DEMHS website. This repository will serve as the basis for conducting regular reviews of statewide SOPs and performing gap analyses to determine SOP updates and new SOP development, as needed.

Table 2 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives for SOPs.

Table 2: Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
5.	Build on established SOPs to include non-traditional public safety response partners (e.g., utilities, NGOs) in initial notification of an incident or event	5.1 Develop State and regional lists of non-traditional public safety response partners or secondary end users to include in pre-notification (e.g., utilities, NGOs)	SIEC, Regional ESF 2 leads	September 2017
		5.2 Develop relationships with identified non-traditional public safety response partners (e.g., utilities, NGOs)	SIEC, Regional ESF 2 leads	December 2016
		5.3 Identify pre-notification methods (e.g. Notification systems)	SIEC, Regional ESF 2 leads	June 2017
		5.4 Update established SOPs for pre-notification	Regional ESF 2 leads and non-traditional response partners	October 2017

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
6.	Document agreements (e.g., Emergency Management Assistance Compact [EMAC], memoranda of understanding [MOUs], memoranda of agreement [MOAs]) to utilize COML/COMT and Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (TERT) resources across regions and/or states	6.1 Collaborate with mutual aid partners to develop agreements for sharing communications resources	DEMHS, DESPP	Ongoing
		6.2 Leverage existing mutual aid programs through DEMHS and DESPP	DEMHS, DESPP	June 2017
		6.3 Identify existing communications resources within the State via regional Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs)	SIEC, REPTs	December 2016
		6.4 Conduct Incident Command System (ICS) resource typing and costs for deployable communications resources	DEMHS, CTS	October 2017
7.	Create interoperable communications mission-ready mutual aid packages for inter-state and intra-state resource sharing	7.1 Develop a statewide list of communications resources (see Initiatives 5.3 and 5.4)	DEMHS, CTS, REPT's	June 2017
		7.2 Review and update list(s) of available deployable communications resources	SIEC, REPTs	October 2016, annually each year thereafter
8.	Create interoperable communications and broadband SOPs that are regularly updated and stored in a centralized repository that enables sharing across regions and municipalities	8.1 Identify existing interoperable communications and broadband SOPs and conduct gap analysis	SIEC, REPTs	December 2016, ongoing reviews
		8.2 Develop new SOPs based on identified gaps and in accordance with grant guidance	SIEC, REPTs	June 2017, ongoing
		8.3 Review SOPs for State and National Response Frameworks (SRF/NRF) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance and update as needed	SIEC, REPTs	July 2017

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
		8.4 Create a repository/knowledge base for sharing SOPs, lessons learned, and other materials to retain institutional knowledge across regions and municipalities (SIEC meeting minutes and AARs)	SIEC, REPTs	January 2017

5.3 Technology

The Technology section of the SCIP outlines Connecticut's plan to maintain and upgrade existing technology; the roadmap to identify, develop, and implement new and emerging technology solutions; and the approach to survey and disseminate information on current and future technology solutions to ensure user needs are met.

Connecticut has developed robust communications infrastructure by building ample tower sites and fiber and microwave backhaul capabilities to connect systems. Primary public safety communications systems in Connecticut include:

- **State Trunked Radio System**, a statewide 7/800 MHz trunked radio system providing 98% mobile radio coverage throughout the state. The system is transitioning to a P25 Standards Based System.
- **CS-PERN**, an 800 MHz system for interoperable communications for local and State law enforcement users.
- **PSDN**, an ultra-high-speed fiber optic data network for approximately 400 public safety government applications and services statewide.
- **8CALL90/8-TAC Interoperability Mutual Aid Radio System**, a statewide 800 MHz conventional radio system designated for command and control radio communications at multi-agency and/or multi-jurisdictional incidents.
- **State Tactical On-Scene Channel System (STOCS)**, a system of VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz frequencies combined into five interoperability channel groups used for on-scene patching.
- **Statewide Coordinated Medical Emergency Dispatch (CMED)**, a 40-year-old UHF system utilized by all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and hospitals to relay patient critical care information.
- **Connecticut State Fire Chiefs System and Connecticut State County Fire Systems**, a low band system, available for regional fire communications centers and local fire services, and the State Fire Coordinator system. The conventional channel systems were installed in the 1950s.

- **Statewide Police Hotline**, a low band, point to point radio system providing rapid exchange of information between local and state police agencies
- **MEDNET/HEAR**, a VHF, point to point radio system providing radio exchange of information between regional CMEDs and the State's general hospitals.
- **Regional Law Enforcement Radio Systems**, (SCAN, WARN, FAPERN, RAFS) VHF and UHF regional radios systems used for tactical coordination of law enforcement activities.
- **Amateur Digital Radio System** (DRS), an amateur radio network supported by the State tower system to provide redundant emergency management communications and supplement day to day public safety radio systems.

Since Connecticut's public safety communications landscape is robust, its challenges lie in sustaining systems and coordinating upgrades among neighboring cities in the state's autonomous environment to ensure continuity of interoperability.

In the next three-to-five years, the state will focus on leveraging existing networks to enhance operable and interoperable communications; leveraging best practices to enhance PSAP resiliency; migrating systems, as appropriate, to P25 technology; and expanding the use of data sharing tools to achieve a common operating picture among first responders before, during, and after an incident. These efforts will continue to be coordinated by the SIEC and the five Intra-state DEMHS regions to ensure municipalities plan and implement communications technology improvements collaboratively.

Table 3 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives for technology.

Table 3: Technology Goals and Initiatives

Technology Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
9.	Leverage existing voice, video, and data communications networks to enhance coverage and capabilities	9.1 Promote the use of the Conventional Channel Gateway (CCGW)	SIEC/ESF 2 Chairs	July 2017
		9.2 Identify existing communications networks and limitations via regional TICPs	SIEC, Regional ESFs	December 2016
		9.3 Update regional TICPs with communications networks information as needed and submit to the SIEC	SIEC, Regional ESFs	July 2016, bi-annually thereafter
		9.4 Conduct review of updated regional TICPs	SIEC	September 2016, bi-annually thereafter

Technology Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
10.	Document and coordinate use of best practices for redundancy/resiliency of existing PSAPs	10.1 Develop an emergency communications architecture best practices document for PSAPs, leveraging national standards	SIEC Technical Committee, 911 Commission, Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (DSET)	October 2017
11.	Promote migration to the statewide P25 system, as appropriate	11.1 Enhance understanding of statewide P25 capabilities	SIEC Technical Committee	June 2017
		11.2 Conduct a user needs assessment for statewide P25 technology	DESPP/ Connecticut Telecommunications System (CTS)	Based on request
		11.3 Develop draft guidance for integrating existing resources into the statewide P25 system	DESPP/CTS	September 2016
12.	Establish a roadmap for migration to the NPSBN	12.1 Develop a plan to conduct a user needs assessment for broadband technology	SIEC Broadband Working Group	TBD
		12.2 Enhance understanding of mobile broadband capabilities	SIEC Broadband Working Group	TBD
		12.3 Review the technology roadmap with key decision makers to identify next steps	SIEC Broadband Working Group	TBD
		12.4 Develop a plan to conduct an inventory of existing infrastructure that may support broadband technology	SIEC Broadband Working Group	TBD
		12.5 Develop a roadmap for integrating data and video communications	SIEC Broadband Working Group	TBD

Technology Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
13.	Support State Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) efforts to complete cyber risk and security assessments for existing systems and make appropriate improvements	13.1 Ensure integration of ESF 2 functions in ongoing THIRA efforts	DEMHS	December 2017
14.	Identify and enhance the integration and use of data sharing and common operating systems (e.g., WebEOC) used for emergency and disaster response	14.1 Identify existing data systems and data format compatibility among those systems	SIEC (Broadband Working Group), PSDN Governance Committee, DAS/BEST, Office of Policy and Management (OPM)	March 2017
		14.2 Standardize data reporting format	SIEC (Broadband Working Group), PSDN Governance Committee, DAS/BEST, OPM	March 2017
		14.3 Develop plan to integrate data connection and sharing among existing systems	SIEC (Broadband Working Group), PSDN Governance Committee, DAS/BEST, OPM	March 2017

5.4 Training and Exercises

The Training and Exercises section of the SCIP explains Connecticut's approach to ensure that emergency responders are familiar with interoperable and emergency communications equipment and procedures and are better prepared for responding to real-world events. The DESPP/ DEMHS maintains a statewide calendar of training and exercises on its website. The state has provided COML/COMT/AUXCOMM training classes. Development of a formal COML/COMT credentialing system is ongoing. The regions conduct training sessions and hold "Tech Days" - workshops designed for COML/COMTs along with a communications exercise to provide the opportunity to have task books signed for formal credentialing. The state also provides targeted training on relevant communications topics, such as narrowbanding and P25 controller training. In addition, DEMHS Region 5 created a series of DVDs to train local agency personnel.

Despite the various training courses already occurring in the state, maintenance of institutional knowledge and utilization of available resources is a concern for Connecticut. The state plans to incorporate communications components into existing training and exercises and continue to provide regular training opportunities for first responders and other partners across the state. These opportunities will ensure familiarity with operable and interoperable communications systems and equipment as well as plans, policies, and procedures. Specific end user training on national, state, and regional interoperability systems and SOPs and incorporation of AUXCOMM resources will further strengthen interoperable and emergency communications statewide.

Table 4 outlines Connecticut’s goals and initiatives for training and exercises.

Table 4: Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives

Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
15.	Incorporate a specific communications component (e.g., COML/COMT personnel, STR equipment, communications objectives) into all training, exercises, and planned events	15.1 Conduct outreach to various organizations in the State to facilitate coordination with Communications Unit (COMU) personnel and align with ESF 2 job description	DEMHS, SIEC, Regional ESF 2 Personnel	January 2018
		15.2 Align communications training with Federal initiatives	DEMHS, SIEC	January 2018
		15.3 Identify training, exercise and planned event opportunities, including those on the statewide multi-year training and exercise calendar, to leverage existing opportunities to integrate communications components	DEMHS, SIEC	July 2018
16.	Enhance end user training on national, State, and regional interoperability systems	16.1 Update the NIMS implementation plan to ensure ICS training (e.g. IS-802) for multi-disciplinary personnel to ensure understanding of available communications resources (COML/COMT/COMU/AUXCOMM)	DEMHS	October 2017
		16.2 Update existing training programs to include training on communications fundamentals and provide to agencies involved in multi-disciplinary response—	SIEC, Professional Associations	June 2017

Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
		managers and field personnel—to ensure a clear understanding of communications assets (e.g. fiber network availability)		
		16.3 Identify professional associations and/or other training associations and promote incorporation of updated training on communications fundamentals	SIEC	June 2017
17.	Provide additional education programs for AUXCOMM personnel (e.g., Amateur Radio Emergency Services [ARES], Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services [RACES])	17.1 Identify AUXCOMM personnel, resources, capabilities, and gaps	Statewide ARES Representative to the SIEC	September 2016
		17.2 Develop a training program to address identified gaps	Statewide ARES Representative to the SIEC	September 2016
18.	Conduct training on SOPs and availability of mutual aid resources	18.1 Upon completion of SOPs (see Goals 5-7), develop and schedule a training program for mutual aid (leverage TICPs, Connecticut Interoperability Field Operations Guide [CTIFOG])	SIEC	October 2017

5.5 Usage

The Usage section of the SCIP outlines efforts to ensure responders adopt and familiarize themselves with interoperable and emergency communications technologies, systems, and operating procedures in the state. Regular usage ensures the maintenance and establishment of interoperability in case of an incident. Connecticut responded to several real-world events in the past few years, including Superstorm Sandy, the Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting, and several severe winter storms. Though devastating, these incidents provided opportunities for Connecticut responders and resources to be used regularly. To ensure continued efficient and effective usage during future real-world events, Connecticut plans to enhance the use of COMUs and other Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) during training and incident response.

The state also plans to maintain a schedule for periodic testing of cache equipment and other interoperability tools (e.g., talkgroups) to ensure familiarity during future response to incidents.

Table 5 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives for usage.

Table 5: Usage Goals and Initiatives

Usage Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
19.	Ensure efficient use of COMU and other SMEs in the field during real-world incidents, events, and exercises	19.1 Based on RESF 2 job description, identify SMEs and establish regional lists of COMU resources	REPTs, DEMHS Regional Coordinators	June 2017
		19.2 Market state and regional assets	REPTs, SIEC	Ongoing
		19.3 Promote awareness of SMEs via COMU training program (see Initiative 16.1)	REPTs, COMUs, Professional Associations, SIEC	October 2017, annually each July thereafter
		19.4 Review deployment procedures for COMU and other SME personnel to ensure maximization of resources	SIEC – Regional ESF 2s	September 2017
20.	Establish and maintain a schedule for the systematic testing and use of interoperable systems, STR/cache equipment, and channels or talk groups	20.1 Identify resources that require testing and frequency of testing (Ref. TICPs)	DEMHS, CTS, DSET, Regional RESF 2's	December 2016
		20.2 Develop and publish a testing schedule and align with existing testing, as applicable	DEMHS, CTS, DSET, Regional RESF 2's	January 2017

5.6 Outreach and Information Sharing

The Outreach and Information Sharing section of the SCIP outlines Connecticut'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. Each of the DEMHS Planning and Preparedness Regions has a RESF 2 Chairperson and a Regional Representative to the SEIC, through which members of the public safety community and others provide feedback concerning communications interoperability efforts.

Connecticut is formalizing its outreach and information sharing strategy based on its State Response Framework (SRF). The SRF provides the framework for emergency operations both before and during any incident which requires the activation of local or state EOC's as well as day to day request for services between local municipalities the state and federal government.

These efforts will include the development of daily communications status updates, will include non-traditional response partners (e.g. utilities and NGOs), better engage tribal and local representatives, and enhance the DESPP/DEMHS website as a resource for statewide interoperable and emergency communications information. The state also plans to enhance understanding about its interoperable and emergency communications governance structure, particularly the RESF 2 committees.

Table 6 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives for outreach and information sharing.

Table 6: Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives

Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
21.	Consider existing resources such as WebEOC to provide regular non-emergency updates across the state	21.1 Leverage and expand upon existing list serves to develop a comprehensive contact list and applicable information for daily updates	DEMHS, CTS, CFA, POST, DSET	June 2017
		21.2 Establish a DESPP/DEMHS "watch desk" to provide "real time" updates to stakeholders	DESPP/DEMHS	October 2018
22.	Develop an outreach plan for the State to engage and encourage local and tribal participation to ensure their public safety needs are adequately represented during the FirstNet consultation process	22.1 Identify non-traditional public safety stakeholders to include in the consultation process with FirstNet by leveraging existing stakeholder lists	SIEC Broadband Working Group	December 2016
		22.2 Conduct stakeholder forums to gather feedback regarding user needs for broadband	SIEC Broadband Working Group	December 2017

5.7 Life Cycle Funding

The Life Cycle Funding section of the SCIP outlines Connecticut's plan to fund existing and future interoperable and emergency communications priorities. The state's efforts to build sufficient interoperability into its systems have been largely successful, particularly in serving Connecticut's geographic location connecting metropolitan New York City and New England.

Funding for the next three-to-five years will focus on sustainment of these systems and efforts, including necessary training, maintenance, and upgrades. Funding will also focus on training to ensure institutional knowledge is passed on to new generations of first responders and to members of the community who support public safety communications-related efforts.

Table 7 outlines Connecticut's goals and initiatives for life cycle funding.

Table 7: Life Cycle Funding Goals and Initiatives

Life Cycle Funding Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
23.	Implement a life cycle funding plan that takes into account all interoperable communications systems and equipment, the interoperability program, and the core elements of establishing and maintaining interoperable and emergency communications in the State	23.1 Identify the life cycle and funding requirements of major systems and equipment to demonstrate long-term budget requirements to fiscal decision makers	SWIC	December 2017
		23.2 Establish a Life Cycle Funding Committee of the SIEC to explore long-term funding options (e.g. donations to public safety organizations, repurposing of decommissioned private sector equipment)	SIEC	January 2017
		23.3 Present the business case for sustaining interoperable and emergency communications systems to municipal, State, and Federal legislators via the SCIP and its high level of stakeholder support, as well as other applicable mechanisms	SIEC, REPTs	Annually in conjunction with budget cycles
		23.4 Leverage stakeholder groups (e.g. professional associations) to present the business case for sustaining interoperable and emergency communications systems to legislators	SIEC	Annually in conjunction with budget cycles

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Action Plan

The Action Plan section of the SCIP describes the process Connecticut will use to determine a plan to execute the initiatives in the SCIP.

The SIEC and the SWIC oversee the action planning process, which occurs each year during the SCIP strategic plan review.

During this time, the SIEC discusses necessary updates to the SCIP based on ongoing monitoring and modifying of steps necessary to implement the state's strategic plan for interoperable and emergency communications. The SIEC informs its action planning process with information from status updates during the governing body's monthly meetings to determine the path forward for completing SCIP goals and initiatives.

6.2 Measures of Success

The Measures of Success section of the SCIP defines the measures Connecticut will use to monitor progress and indicate accomplishments toward achieving the vision for interoperable and emergency communications. Measures of success are used to meaningfully assess the outcomes and impacts of program functions and processes in meeting strategic goals. Table 8 outlines these measures for Connecticut. More information on how these measures are managed is included in Section 6.3.

Table 8: SCIP Measures of Success

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
1.	Update and enhance inter- and intra-State regional coordination on operable and interoperable communications activities and efforts	Inconsistent participation at intra-State regional meetings and monthly SIEC meetings	100% participation by all five DEMHS Planning & Preparedness Regions and ESF 2 committees at monthly SIEC meetings. Updated membership/distribution lists for intra-State regions and inter-State regions	December 2016	Regional POCs to the SIEC

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
2.	Continue presence on national committees (e.g., PSAC, NESEC, RECCWG, NEMA, NCSWIC, SAFECOM, FPIC, NPSTC, P-25 Steering Committee)	Connecticut has presence on several national committees including, but not limited to, PSAC, NESEC, RECCWG, NEMA, NCSWIC, SAFECOM	Connecticut State presence on 100% of targeted national committees identified and twice annual updates, at a minimum, to the SIEC on national committee information	January 2017	SIEC
3.	Ensure required expertise remains on the SIEC and as technical experts in the field (i.e., the sustainment of human assets)	No succession planning is in place	Recruit new members to assist with various SIEC functions and work groups, consider alternate members	December 2016	SIEC
4.	Assets inventory in a centralized location	The information is available locally and to some extent within each region.	Incorporate information from the Regional TIC plans and the inventory of available assets in a centralized location available to appropriate communications staff.	February 2017	SIEC
5.	Build on established SOPs to include non-traditional public safety response partners (e.g., utilities, NGOs) in initial notification of an event	Traditional first responders have established pre-notification and notification SOPs for an unfolding incident, but do not typically include non-traditional public safety response partners	Comprehensive contact list of traditional and non-traditional response partners for pre-notification of an incident is used in 100% of all real-world incidents	June 2017	SIEC, Regional RESF 2 leads

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
6.	Document agreements (e.g., EMAC, MOUs, MOAs) to utilize COML/COMT and TERT resources across regions and/or states	Development of mutual aid agreements is currently in progress for EMAC, but further mutual aid agreements could be made between municipalities, regions, and other States	Formalized mutual aid agreements (and/or agreement templates to expedite ad-hoc mutual aid agreements) are used in 60% of real-world incidents in which additional resources are necessary	March 2017	DEMHS
7.	Create interoperable communications mission-ready mutual aid packages for inter-state and intra-state resource sharing	Documentation of communications resources varies across Connecticut, and mission-ready mutual aid packages do not exist for all municipalities, regions, and with other States	Annual update of a list of a secure, statewide, ICS-typed communications resources	October 2017	DEMHS
8.	Create interoperable communications and broadband SOPs that are regularly updated and stored in a centralized repository that enables sharing across regions and municipalities	Various SOPs exist for interoperable communications, but need to be updated generally and to include SOPs for broadband. There is currently one single statewide repository for sharing SOPs	Interoperable communications SOPs are updated every two years, at minimum, and uploaded to a common repository	June 2018	SIEC, REPTs
9.	Leverage existing voice, video, and data communications networks to enhance coverage and capabilities	Major metropolitan areas and others are linked into the State's "system of systems" for interoperability, but further coverage, capabilities, and training is needed	90% of the State has access to statewide "system of systems" for interoperable communication	Ongoing	SIEC

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
10.	Document and coordinate use of best practices for redundancy/resilience of existing PSAPs	No single set of best practices has been made available to PSAPs statewide	Emergency communications architecture best practices document for PSAPs is posted to DEMHS website	January 2017	SIEC Technical Committee/ DSET
11.	Promote migration to the statewide P25 system, as appropriate	Limited understanding of the statewide P25 system has resulted in limited migration	Migrate 50% of identified systems that want to join the statewide P25 system	October 2017	SIEC Technical Committee
12.	Establish a roadmap for migration to the NPSBN	Received initial SLIGP funding for planning for the NPSBN	By 2022, implementation and testing of the NPSBN in Connecticut	October 2022	SIEC Broadband Working Group
13.	Support State THIRA efforts to complete cyber risk and security assessments for existing systems and make appropriate improvements	Ensure integration of ESF 2 functions in ongoing THIRA efforts	100% completion of THIRA, to include ESF 2 functions	Coincides with THIRA deadline	DEMHS
14.	Identify and enhance the integration and use of data sharing and common operating systems (e.g., WebEOC) used for emergency and disaster response	Data sharing and common operating systems are used to varying degrees by various agencies and response partners in the State	Implementation of updated version WebEOC and its components in real world incidents	August 2016	SIEC
15.	Incorporate a specific communications component (e.g., COML/COMT personnel, strategic technology reserve equipment, communications)	Communications is specifically included in approximately 50% of all training and exercises	100% of all training and exercises in Connecticut include a specific communications component	November 2016	DEMHS

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
	objectives) into all training, exercises, and planned events				
16.	Enhance end user training on national, State, and regional interoperability systems	Few incident commanders fully understand all interoperable and emergency resources	Engage 50% of command level responders in interoperable communications state/region specific training	January 2018	SIEC Training Work group DEMHS
17.	Provide additional education programs for AUXCOMM personnel (e.g., ARES, RACES)	Stakeholders do not understand the full scope or how to best utilize AUXCOMM resources	AUXCOMM personnel are incorporated into 50% of training and exercises and real-world events, as needed	October 2017	Statewide ARES Representative to the SIEC
18.	Conduct training on SOPs and availability of mutual aid resources	Various SOPs exist for interoperable communications, but require updates. New SOPs for broadband are also needed. There is no single statewide repository for sharing SOPs	Interoperable communications SOPs are updated every two years, at minimum, and uploaded to a common repository	October 2017	SIEC
19.	Ensure efficient use of COMU and other SMEs in the field during real-world incidents, events, and exercises	Communications experts are underutilized in real-world incident response	90% of real-world incidents will include a staffed, formally certified COML/COMT or other SME position	July 2017	SIEC
20.	Establish and maintain a schedule for the systematic testing and use of interoperable systems, STR/cache equipment, and	STR and other cache equipment is tested to varying degrees and frequencies	STR and other cache equipment is successfully deployed without major issues in 70% real-world deployments, as reviewed in incident	January 2018	DESPP, RESF 2s

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
	channels or talk groups		After Action Reports (AARs)		
21.	Consider existing resources such as WebEOC to provide regular non-emergency updates across the state	Communications resources status updates are sent infrequently to traditional first responders	Consistent regular dissemination of a statewide status update for communications to traditional and non-traditional response partners, as appropriate	July 2017	DEMHS
22.	Develop an outreach plan for the State to engage and encourage local and tribal participation to ensure their public safety needs are adequately represented during the FirstNet consultation process	Received initial SLIGP funding for planning for the NPSBN	Initial consultation completed in 2015. State plan consultation to continue.	July 2017	SIEC Broadband Working Group
23.	Implement a life cycle funding plan that takes into account all interoperable systems and equipment, the interoperability program, and the core elements of establishing and maintaining interoperable and emergency communications in the State	Decreased funding for emergency communications has altered previous budgets	Identify a long-term funding plan for all major systems in the State	July 2017	SWIC/DESPP

6.3 Management of Success

The Management of Success section describes the iterative, repeatable method Connecticut will follow to add, update and refine the measures of success. At each monthly meeting, the SIEC reserves time to provide status updates on SCIP goals and initiatives. The SIEC will continue this process and include measures of success to determine if the intended impacts of the strategic goals are achieved. Measures of success owners will present the measures at SIEC meetings, as appropriate; if unavailable to attend, owners will communicate updates to the SWIC to share with the SIEC. Status update information will be reviewed by the SIEC to determine if any further action is necessary, either to enhance the impacts or to sustain their successes.

6.4 Strategic Plan Review

The Strategic Plan Review section outlines the process Connecticut will use to conduct reviews of the SCIP to ensure it is up to date and aligned with the changing internal and external interoperable and emergency communications environment as well as to track and report progress against the defined initiatives and measures of success.

The SIEC reviews the status SCIP goals and initiatives monthly and may make ad-hoc, minor updates to the SCIP. At least every five years, the SCIP will be reviewed and approved by the SIEC. Annually, the SWIC will compile statewide interoperable and emergency communications updates to develop the SCIP Snapshot, which will be used as a tool to demonstrate challenges and accomplishments to state and federal decision makers as well as other relevant stakeholders.

7. REFERENCE MATERIALS

The Reference Materials section outlines resources that contribute additional background information on the SCIP and interoperable and emergency communications in Connecticut. Table 9 includes the links to these reference materials.

Table 9: SCIP Reference Materials

Title	Description	Source/Location
Connecticut Interoperability Field Operations Guide (CTIFOG)	<i>A public safety sensitive collection of technical reference material to aid Communications Unit personnel in establishing solutions to support communications during emergency incidents and planned events.</i>	Printed and distributed to communications personnel and dispatch centers
Connecticut Public Safety State Interoperability Executive Committee	<i>Record of the actions of the States Communications Interoperability governing body.</i>	http://www.ct.gov/demhs/cwp/view.asp?a=1923&q=287890

Title	Description	Source/Location
(CPSSIEC) Monthly Meeting Minutes		
Connecticut State Response Framework (SRF)	<i>The purpose of the State Response Framework is to describe the interaction of state government with local, federal and tribal governments, nongovernmental response organizations and other private sector partners, the media, and the public in implementing emergency response and recovery functions in times of crisis.</i>	http://www.ct.gov/demhs/lib/demhs/srf_v_4_1.pdf
Regional Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs)	<i>These documents are specific to each of the five DEMHS regions and outline communications practices and both fixed and deployable assets.</i>	Filed with the SIEC
Emergency Communications and Warning Appendix.	<i>The purpose of this Appendix is to detail how emergency information will be relayed to the public and emergency response partners in the State prior to, during and after an emergency.</i>	Connecticut Response Framework http://www.ct.gov/demhs/lib/demhs/srf_v_4_1.pdf

APPENDIX A: MAJOR SYSTEMS

Table A-1 lists major interoperable and emergency communication systems in the State of Connecticut.

Table A-1: Major Systems, Updates, and New Systems

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
Shared Statewide System	CS-PERN	State of Connecticut	800MHz Non-P25 Multi brand Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: _____	5,000 subscribers 100 plus Agencies	State Local	Existing System
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 40			
Shared Statewide System	Public Safety Data Network (PSDN)	State of Connecticut	Fiber Supports P25 Cisco Digital Choose trunked/conventional – N/A Encryption N/A Other: High-speed fiber optic	400+ agencies and/or applications and services	State Local	Existing System

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
			Primary Usage: Data			
			Number of Sites: 400 plus			
Shared Statewide System	8CALL90/8-TAC Interoperability Mutual Aid Radio System	State of Connecticut	800MHz Non-P25 Multi brand Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other:	5,000 subscribers 100 plus Agencies	State Local Federal	Existing System
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 40			
Shared Statewide System	State Tactical On-Scene Channel System (STOCS). Five frequencies each, VHF, UHF and 800 MHz		VHF (High Band): 150MHz to 170MHz UHF (Upper High Band): 450MHz to 470MHz 800MHz Non-P25 Other Analog Conventional Not Encrypted	8,000 subscribers 800 Agencies	State Local	Existing System

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
			Other: _____			
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of Sites: Portable Cross Band Repeaters 100 units			
Shared Statewide System	Statewide Coordinated Medical Emergency Dispatch (CMED)		UHF (Upper High Band): 450MHz to 470MHz Non-P25 Multi brand Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: _____		State Local	Existing System
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 72 (licensed)			
Shared Statewide System	Statewide Police Hotline	Individually owned	Non P25 Low Band Analog Conventional	99 Subscribers	State Local	Existing System

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
Multi-Jurisdictional System			Not Encrypted Other: _____	84 Agencies	Law Enforcement	
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 99			
Shared Statewide System Multi-Jurisdictional System	Connecticut State Fire Chief and Connecticut State County Fire Radio Systems		VHF (Low Band): 30MHz to 50MHz Non-P25 Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: _____	300 Agencies/Users	State Local	Existing System
			Primary Usage: Voice			
			Number of sites: 50			
State Shared System	MEDNET/ HEAR		VHF (High Band): 150MHz to 170MHz Non-P25 Multi brand	50 Agencies	State Local	Existing System

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
			Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: _____			
			Primary Use: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 50			
Shared Statewide System	Amateur Digital Radio System (DRS)	Public/Private Partnership	Non P25 Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: _____	200 Users	State Local Private	Existing System
			Primary Use: Voice			
			Number of Sites: 30			
State Shared System	State Trunked Radio System		700/800MHz P25 Compliant Multi brand Digital	12,500 subscribers 220 Agencies	State Local	Existing System

Major Systems Information						
System Type	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
			Trunked Encrypted Other: <hr/> Primary Use: Voice <hr/> Number of Sites: 64			
Regional Shared System	Regional Law Enforcement Radio System (SCAN, WARN, FAPERL, RAFS)	Regional Law Enforcement Entities	VHF (High Band): 150MHz to 170MHz & UHF 450-512 MHz Non-P25 Multi brand Analog Conventional Not Encrypted Other: <hr/> Primary use: Voice <hr/> Number of Sites: 60	1,000 subscribers 60 agencies	Local	Existing System

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ACRONYMS

AAR	After Action Report
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service
AUXCOMM	Auxiliary Communications
CMED	Statewide Coordinated Medical Emergency Dispatch
COMC	Communications Unit Coordinator
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Communications Unit Technician
COMU	Communications Unit
CPSSIEC	Connecticut Public Safety State Interoperability Executive Committee
CS-PERN	Connecticut Statewide Police Emergency Radio Network
CTIC	Connecticut Intelligence Center
CTIFOG	Connecticut Interoperability Field Operations Guide
CTS	Connecticut Telecommunications System
DEMHS	Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
DESPP	Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DSET	Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
ESF 2	Emergency Support Function 2 (Communications)
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FirstNet	First Responder Network Authority
MHz	Megahertz
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCSWIC	National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NEMA	National Emergency Management Association
NESEC	Northeast States Emergency Consortium

NG911	Next Generation 911
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPSBN	Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network
NRF	National Response Framework
NTIA	National Telecommunications and Information Administration
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications
P25	Project 25
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PSAC	Public Safety Advisory Committee
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PSDN	Public Safety Data Network
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
RECCWG	Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group
REPT	Regional Emergency Planning Team
RESF	Regional Emergency Support Function
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SIEC	State Interoperability Executive Committee
SLIGP	State and Local Implementation Grant Program
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
STOCS	State Tactical On-Scene Channel System
SRF	State Response Framework
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
TERT	Telecommunication Emergency Response Taskforce
THIRA	Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
VHF	Very High Frequency
UHF	Ultra High Frequency