



**FICEMS Response
to NTSB Recommendation H-09-04**

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Develop a plan that can be used by the States and public safety answering points to pursue funding for enhancements of wireless communications coverage that can facilitate prompt accident notification and emergency response along high-risk rural roads, as identified under SAFETEA-LU criteria, and along rural roads having substantial large bus traffic (as defined by the criteria established in Safety Recommendation 4) 23 USC Sec. 148 Sec. 148. Highway Safety Improvement Program defines "high risk rural road". Specific details are available at:

(<http://uscode.house.gov/pdf/2005/2005usc23.pdf>)

Methodology

- Ad hoc 911/Medical Communications Committee
- Interviews with subject matter experts
- Technical support from Booz, Allen, Hamilton

Outline adopted by FICEMS – June 2010

Components of Plan:

1. Needs Assessment/Gap Analysis
2. Options for Bridging Gap(s)
3. Funding Options
4. Collaboration
5. Additional Resources

Part One: Needs Assessment/Gap Analysis

- Gap analysis: definition and references
- Emergency Communications Continuum
- Assessing High-risk Rural Roads
- Assessing Rural Roads with Substantial Large Bus Traffic
- Assessing Readiness of Motor Coach Personnel to Respond in the Event of a Crash

Part Two: Options for Bridging Gaps

1. Enhanced 911 (E-911) Wireless Phase II
2. Satellite-Based Communications
3. Personal Locator Beacons
4. Communication / Weather Balloons
5. Roadside Call Box

Part Three: Funding Options

- Federal Highway Administration: Field Offices
- U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Program (USDA RUS)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- National 911 Program
- Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP)
- State 911 Funds

Part Four: Collaboration

- State 911 Coordinator
- State Utilities Commission
- Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)
- State Chief Information Officer
- State Emergency Management Agency
- Statewide Law Enforcement Agencies
- State EMS Office
- State Field Offices of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
- Local Governments
- State Highway Safety Offices
- State Departments of Transportation

Part Five: Additional Resources

- National 911 Resource Center
- SAFECOM
- Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP)
- Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIP)
- DHS Office of Emergency Communications (OEC)
- Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)
- Motorcoach Safety Action Plan
- National Emergency Number Association (NENA)
- American Bus Association (ABA)
- United Motorcoach Association (UMA)
- American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
- Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO)