



Roadmap to Beneficial Use Critical Plans

Grant Template

Strawman Final

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RESOURCES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. Alaska Land Mobile Radio Project, Brochure, Version 2.4, ALMR Program Office, Sep 2002.
2. Interoperability Continuum, Brochure, SAFECOM Program Office, Jan 2005.
3. Recommended Federal Grants Guidance for Public Safety Communications & Interoperability Grants, SAFECOM Program Office, Sep 2003.
4. The SAFECOM Program, David Boyd, Ph.D., Director, SAFECOM Program Office, Mar 2, 2004.
5. www.safecomprogram.gov, SAFECOM Program Office, Jan 2005.

I. Introduction

1.01 Purpose of this Document. This document provides an overview of the federally funded program **SAFECOM (Section I)**, provides **SAFECOM** guidance (**Section II**) on the recommended criteria agencies should use when applying for Federal Grants or State/Local level Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and, finally, a Grant Funding template is made available (**Section III**) to assist jurisdictions within Alaska in submitting Grant and CIP funding requests that provides approving authorities with a clear, concise and coordinated plan for improving your public safety communications interoperability in partnership with ALMR.

1.02 SAFECOM Program Overview. The mission of **SAFECOM** is to serve as the umbrella program within the federal government to help local, tribal, state and federal public safety agencies improve their response to calls for assistance through more effective and efficient interoperable wireless communications. **SAFECOM** defines interoperability as, ***“the ability of public safety agencies to talk across disciplines and jurisdictions using radio communication systems, exchanging either voice or data with one another on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized.”***

Inadequate and, at times, unreliable wireless communications have been problematic for many public safety organizations over the past 15-25 years. A report completed by the **National Task Force on Interoperability** in February 2003 identifies five main issues that hamper public safety wireless communications in today’s environment:

- Limited equipment standards
- Limited and fragmented radio spectrum authorizations
- Aging and incompatible communications equipment
- Varying budget cycles and available funding within different levels of government
- Lack of inter and intra agency planning and coordination from those agencies that are developing communication systems

Many of today’s wireless communication systems that support emergency response personnel have been funded and implemented to meet the specific needs of each agency. While the system may fulfill the agency’s primary functions, by not having the ability to communicate with other agencies that may respond to the same incident slows down response, creates confusion and limits ones ability to coordinate actions to meet the common goals of protecting the public and saving lives. In summary, many areas of the United States are invested in existing infrastructure that is by and large incompatible

and severely limits interoperability. **SAFECOM** was established to address these public safety communications issues.

SAFECOM near-term initiatives include providing training and technical assistance for public safety communications and interoperability, develop a process to advance “standards” necessary to improve public safety communications and interoperability, **integrate coordinated grant guidance to all agencies that provide interoperable communications grants** and, finally, research, test and evaluate existing and emerging technologies in an effort to improve public safety interoperable communications. **SAFECOM** long-term goals consist of developing a technical foundation, coordinating funding assistance, providing policy recommendations and implementing a national training and technical assistance program all for the overall improvement of public safety communications and interoperability.

With the guidance provided by **SAFECOM** and the implementation of their initiatives and goals, public safety agencies from all levels of government will benefit. Communication system cost savings will be realized through technology standardization and resource sharing, reliable and effective interoperable communications will be realized throughout all levels of government and lives will be saved through quicker response and coordination.

II. SAFECOM Program Recommended Federal Grants Criteria for Public Safety Communications Interoperability

2.01 Introduction. SAFECOM has been working to expand existing federal communications initiatives and with the public safety community address the need to develop better technologies and processes for interoperable communications. As a result, federal appropriations has made available grant funding through a large number of federal agencies to improve the effectiveness of public safety communication systems and assist to resolve agency interoperability issues (***See Item 2.04***). In an effort to coordinate the way in which funding is allocated and to maximize potential for interoperable communications, **SAFECOM, together with public safety representatives, has developed criteria for grant applicants to use in planning communication system replacements, procuring equipment and/or enhancing existing communication systems.** To be considered for grant funding, public safety agency applicants must show a desire to improve or replace existing systems that includes a vision for improved interoperability with other agencies.

2.02 SAFECOM General Criteria

2.02.1 Agency Involvement. Federal funds allocated for improving public safety interoperable communications are provided to public safety agencies or organizations at the local, regional, tribal or state level. These agencies include Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Emergency Medical and organizations that represent one of the above mentioned agencies.

2.02.2 Common Interoperability Goals to Achieve. Applicants must provide written justification of their intent to achieve the following goals that are identified and supported by the public safety community and each grant making agency:

- Demonstrate how the awarded funds would be used to upgrade or enhance “mission critical” networks with interoperable communications equipment for day to day use ensuring the safety and well-being of your agency’s first responders and the public at large they serve.
- Provide a clear and demonstrated plan for accomplishing improved interoperability between first responders of local, tribal, regional and state public safety agencies.

- Be sure to mention “other” partnering organizations such as federal jurisdictions particularly in times of natural disasters or acts of terrorism.

2.02.3 **Common Grant Criteria for Applicants.** The applicant must convey an understanding of first responder needs and articulate a clear path towards interoperability. A summary document should be provided to illustrate to any/all funding agencies the broad context of a jurisdiction’s interoperability plans. Applicants should, at a minimum, provide:

- Description of the specific problems or needs that your jurisdiction is addressing.
- Define your vision, goals and objectives. Explain your intentions and how the proposed project or equipment will fit into the overall effort to increase interoperability.
- Submit a project and/or equipment detailed budget and timeline.
- Provide an operational plan that addresses how the project or equipment will be funded at the present time and in the future.
- Identify inter and intra agency partners and their roles as well as listings of existing agreements (i.e. Mutual Aid Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding).

2.02.4 **Communication Interoperability Standards.** When obtaining equipment for communication system development, enhancements or expansions, a “**standards-based**” approach should be used in migrating to multi-jurisdictional interoperability. Applicants must specify that equipment procurements involving new communication systems “*should*” be compatible with the **ANSI/TIA/EIAA-102 Phase I (Project 25)** suite of standards. These standards have been developed to allow backwards compatibility with existing digital and analog systems as well as providing for interoperability with future systems. The Project 25 suite of standards have been selected and/or endorsed by several United States (US) Federal agencies including the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for voice and low to moderate speed data interoperability for the 700 MHz frequency band, the US Department of Defense for new Land Mobile Radio systems and the Integrated Wireless Network (IWN) of the US Justice and Treasury Departments for their new radio equipment.

2.02.5 **Governance.** When planning a public safety communications improvement or interoperability project that involves several agencies and different levels of government, a common governing structure should be established to provide acceptable levels

of leadership, management, decision-making authority and oversight of the interoperability project. This governance structure helps to improve the policy, procedure and process development of the project by increasing “partnership” communication, coordination and cooperation. Establishing guidelines, objectives and principles becomes less burdensome when this common governing structure is in place. The group should consist of representatives from local, tribal, state and federal agencies as well as all pertinent public safety disciplines and charged with making sure appropriate planning, equipment procurement, training and funding are in place when developing a public safety communications interoperability project or system development. Applicants should summarize the governance structure established within their grant application.

2.03 SAFECOM Specific Criteria - Public Safety Communications Equipment

2.03.1 **Current Communication System Assessment and Future Needs.** It is in the best interests of the applicant to assess the current communication system and provide a listing of shortcomings within the grant application. Does the current system provide adequate radio coverage? Is the equipment aging or obsolete? Do you have enough frequency authorizations to perform your mission? What level of interoperability do you currently have? Public safety interoperable communication grants can be used to build, upgrade, enhance or replace communications equipment. The systems and equipment are expensive, and before a procurement decision is made, there should be an assessment of the current communication system and the applicant’s future needs. In looking at future needs, one must consider area population growth, need for additional staff, potential for natural disasters and after action reports or recommendations made as a result of emergency response and security exercises.

2.03.2 **Plan of Action to Meet Future Interoperable Needs.** Illustrate within the grant application your agency’s/jurisdiction’s commitment to enhanced public safety communications interoperability. The plan of action should address the following aspects within the lifecycle of public safety communications:

Planning. In general, there are two types of planning for public safety communications. They are **technical planning** and **governance planning**.

Technical planning for public safety communication projects might include propagation studies, a system's network architecture as well as needs and requirements assessments. The applicant should be able to answer the following:

- What type of technical and field expertise will be needed?
- Will outside expertise be needed to develop the technical plan?
- With whom does the agency/jurisdiction need to communicate with? How often? What information needs to be exchanged?
- Under what circumstances does the agency need to communicate? (i.e., day to day activities, major crimes or incidents, natural or man made disasters).

Governance planning for public safety interoperability projects should address the following by the applicant:

- Who are the stakeholders and decision makers that need to be involved in the planning effort?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of all primary agencies that are involved (include partnering agencies)?
- Are there mutual aid agreements in place to be considered?
- What type of governing structure exists to improve the processes involved in executing the planned interoperability communications project?
- Short/Long Term goals?
- How to keep users and political leaders apprised of progress in order to maintain positive momentum and support?
- How many phases will the plan require? How much time is needed to accomplish the plan?
- What funding is available to address the problem/implement the plan?

Management Plan. There should be consistent leadership to ensure that planning efforts, procurement, training and funding are in place when developing a public safety communications system improvement or interoperability project. When multiple agencies and/or jurisdictions are involved, this management is

usually in the form of a governing body that is comprised of law enforcement, fire and emergency agencies in order to qualify for grant awards. Management should ensure that the communications interoperability project or improvement is consistent with other efforts in the region, county or state and that the project/improvement has the support of the user community and political leaders within the area that the interoperable system will serve.

Training Plan. In order for equipment to be used properly and effectively in emergency situations, personnel must be trained through joint exercises that provide them the ability to practice operating procedures, become familiar with the equipment and enhance their preparedness to respond to all types of emergencies. Applicants should exhibit multi-jurisdictional training into the public safety communications plan, state how often the training will take place and where, who will conduct the training and how lessons-learned from the training exercises will be applied to operational procedures through a documented post-exercise evaluation/critique. Operator level initial training should be considered as well as a training matrix for technicians who would be involved in maintaining user equipment and infrastructure.

Other Considerations. Certain procedural and action plans should be developed to assist the leadership, managers, supervisors, technicians and users in support of the interoperable communications project development. The applicant should mention these plans to show grant approving authorities current status (i.e. draft document or completed action plans). Procedural and action plans to develop should include:

- Concept of Operations
- Deployment/Cut-Over Plan
- Maintenance Plan
- Financial/Budget Plan
- Risk Management
- Contract Management
- Asset Management

2.03.3 **Operational Needs for Interoperability.** The applicant should identify the public safety personnel's operational needs of the communication equipment and summarize within the grant funding application. Areas of consideration include:

- Type of terrain does the agency operate?
- In-building coverage requirements?
- What is the process for dispatching calls for service?
- Is there mobile/deployable communications equipment that can provide short-term communications interoperability solutions?
- What is the primary/common radio language used during multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency events?
- How is the communications/dispatch center configured? Does it serve several public safety agencies in the jurisdiction? Is it a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional facility?

2.03.4 System Interoperable Requirements. The applicant must consider the overall system requirements that will ensure interoperability with systems used by other disciplines or other levels of government. A summary should be provided within the grant application taking into consideration the following:

- Equipment procurements “*should*” specify compatibility with the Project 25 suite of standards.
- For data-related systems, is the applicant using XML standards?
- Scalability? Can the equipment be used locally between agencies and jurisdictions, statewide and at a national level?
- What type of system and equipment is currently in use? (Trunked or Conventional?) (Portable and/or Mobile radios?) (Analog and/or Digital?)
- Is the system infrastructure shared with any other agencies or organizations?
- Is the system owned or leased?
- What radio frequency band and/or individual frequencies are used to communicate with other public safety agencies?
- How many channels or talk groups does the agency have solely designated for communicating with other agencies?
- Is there a regional, multi-jurisdictional, or statewide system in place or under development designed for seamless interoperable communications? If so, how do you intend on connecting to that system for your interoperability needs?

2.04 SAFECOM Provided Resources. Additional information for applicants to use when drafting grant applications and for seeking additional funding sources can be obtained at the following websites. This listing was put together by SAFECOM and in cooperation with the agency’s that provide grant funding, utilize SAFECOM grants guidance to evaluate applicant submissions for funding.

- **AGILE Program.** The AGILE Program at the National Institute of Justice has a mission to assist state and local law enforcement agencies to effectively communicate with one another across agency and jurisdictional boundaries. It is dedicated to studying interoperability options and making valuable information available to public safety agencies across the country.
<http://www.agileprogram.org/>
- **Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO).** APCO is the world's oldest and largest not-for-profit professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public safety communications.
<http://www.apcointl.org/>
- **Bureau of Justice Assistance Local Law Enforcement Block Grants (LLEBG).** Funds from the LLEBG program may be used for procuring equipment, technology and other material directly related to law enforcement functions.
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/>
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).** This site offers information on federal disaster assistance and funding.
<http://www.fema.gov/>
- **Justice Technology Information Network (JUSTNET).** The official web site for the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center system, JUSTNET lists many grants and funding sources in the Virtual Library as well as various publications on communications interoperability.
<http://www.justnet.org/>
- **Making Officer Redeployment Effective (COPS MORE) Grants.** This grant program, provided through the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office, is designed to expand the time available for community policing by current law enforcement officers through the funding of technology, equipment and support personnel.
<http://www.usdoj.gov/cops/>
- **National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC).** NPSTC is a federation of associations representing public safety telecommunications. NPSTC serves both as a resource and advocate for public safety telecommunications issues.
<http://www.npstc.du.edu/>

- **National Task Force on Interoperability (NTFI).** Recognizing that solutions to the national problem of public safety interoperability could only be achieved through cooperation between all levels of government, a task force was formed by 18 national associations representing state and local government to address this issue. NTFI recommendations have been published in the form of a brochure.
<http://www.agileprogram.org/ntfi/>
- **Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) Equipment Grant Program.** The goal of the ODP equipment grant program is to provide funding to enhance the capacity of state and local jurisdictions to respond to incidents of domestic terrorism. Communications equipment is included on the authorized equipment purchase lists for these ODP grants.
<http://www.it.ojp.gov/>
- **Technology Opportunities Program (TOP).** The Technology Opportunities Program provides grants for model projects demonstrating innovative uses of network technology.
<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/top/>
- **U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ).** DOJ offers funding opportunities to conduct research, to support law enforcement activities in state and local jurisdictions, to provide training and technical assistance and to implement programs that improve the criminal justice system.
<http://www.usdoj.gov/>
- **U. S. Fire Administration Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.** The purpose of this program is to award one-year grants directly to fire departments of a state to enhance their abilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards.
<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fire-service/grants/afgp/grants.shtm/>

III. Grant Funding Template for ALMR Jurisdictions

3.01 Introduction. When submitting an application for Federal Assistance with any of the Federal granting agencies as well as for General funds through the local or state governments, it is important to fully understand and comply with the mandatory administrative instructions and/or requirements of that particular granting agency. It is also critical to submit your application prior to the established deadline set within the grant application instructions and submit accurate administrative data (i.e. addresses, points of contact, phone numbers). In some cases, failure to meet any of the mandatory application instructions will result in your request being returned as non-responsive.

The intent of this grant template is to provide ALMR jurisdictions the general “program narrative” and “scope of work” by providing the ALMR program governance and planning principles in a similar format as provided by the **SAFECOM** guidance under **Section II** of this document. Specific information that can only be provided by the applicant will be noted within the template (suggestions provided, if applicable) for appropriate inputs.

3.02 Your Agency’s ALMR Program Narrative (SAFECOM General Criteria).

INTRODUCTION

The (City of, Borough, State Agency), Alaska is located in the (general area of the state) and is seeking \$ amount of money required for your interoperability equipment and/or training to purchase **ANSI/TIA/EIAA-102 Phase I (Project 25) standards based interoperable two way radio equipment**. If approved, we intend to cut-over our public safety and emergency response agencies (Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works and Emergency Operations Center) to the statewide interoperable system known as **Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR)**.

(City of, Borough, State Agency), Alaska is responsible for one of the largest law enforcement agencies in the state serving a population of (your estimated population) of (_____) (2000 census) that represents approximately (___%) of the state’s entire population within a service area encompassing (_____) miles. (Present here your area’s strategic importance, economic and transportation strengths, i.e. airport, military presence, tourism, seaport, oil/pipeline, etc.). Our jurisdiction has grown over the years in one of the world’s harshest environments. To many, this area is still considered a remote “frontier” with limited access. As we continue to expand and diversify, the responsibilities of our public safety first responders and emergency management

personnel must keep pace. With growth and change, our ability to effectively communicate with each another becomes extremely important. As a result, we are aggressively seeking ways to meet the varied communications needs of our workforce and provide **reliable, functional and interoperable** wireless communications to our public safety agencies and to those supporting key services to the citizens of (City, Borough, State) in cooperation with **ALMR**. Through **proper planning**, further **development of our intra-agency partnerships** with all levels of government, **adequate funding**, and continued guidance from the **ALMR** Program Office we will be able to better support mutual Homeland Security initiatives and respond to natural or man made disasters. By replacing our aging, incompatible two way radio equipment, we will improve our operational capabilities through faster, coordinated interoperable communications and enhance the safety of (City, Borough, State), our neighbors, as well as our State and Department of Defense partners.

OUR HISTORY

(This paragraph should include a brief history of you jurisdiction's public safety communications and how you evolved to what equipment is currently being used. Also, provide a description of specific problems you are addressing with the grant application such as inadequate portable radio coverage, lack of frequencies for system expansion to meet current/future needs and possibly equipment on hand that is no longer supported by the original manufacturer). The information contained in this paragraph will cover the "current system assessment" requirement.

STATE OF ALASKA'S ANSWER, ALASKA LAND MOBILE RADIO (ALMR)

The Alaska Land Mobile Radio (**ALMR**) Program has evolved as the State of Alaska's answer in providing public safety and emergency response personnel with interoperable wireless communications and offers agencies the ability to replace aging, incompatible equipment. Over the past 15-20 years, life threatening incidents such as wildfires, flooding, avalanches and more recently, potential acts of terrorism, have tested the ability of our public safety organizations to mount a well coordinated response. Our past history has shown that both natural and man-made disasters were not easily addressed, due in part to the lack of interoperable radio communication systems used by responding federal, state and local public safety agencies. Effective public safety response requires reliable coordination and communication among these agencies. Given the aging communications systems in place today, we are reminded each time an event occurs of the glaring

weakness in our ability to communicate between different levels of government in a coordinated and reliable manner.

Key leaders and public safety officials within Alaska have come together to face the challenge of providing an interoperable wireless communications system that will result in increased safety and security for local, state and federal government first responders to meet mutual aid, emergency response and task force missions, ultimately providing better protection to the public with vastly improved communications technology to help save lives and property. **ALMR** has identified the key need as ***“Providing immediate, on demand and in real time, secure, interoperable communications for Federal, State and Local Public Safety First Responders.”***

VISION

Voice communications is an important aspect of Homeland Defense and **land mobile radio systems are an essential component in providing effective, coordinated response to all types of incidents** from structure fires and multi-vehicle accidents to wildfires and earthquakes as well as task force security operations. In Alaska today, most all of our public safety community, at all levels of government, use a wide variety of aged, non-secure, and to some degree, incompatible radio communication systems, which are the primary means of supporting day to day, mutual aid and large scale missions. Many of these systems have been implemented independently, uses different manufacturers proprietary technology and different portions of the radio frequency spectrum. The result is an inability to communicate with one another when needed.

Our **vision** is to work with **ALMR** to build out of a **shared, multi-jurisdictional, multi-discipline voice interoperable communications system with data capabilities** that will:

- Give *(Your Jurisdiction)* Emergency Service Workers as well as Public Safety First Responders the **ability to communicate with one another when the need arises.**
- Provide **“situation specific” interoperability** (local agency routine day to day coordination, mutual aid responses requiring two or more agencies involvement and larger operations involving members from many different agencies working together on a common problem).
- Allow for regional interoperable communications with the **ability to seamlessly transition to a major event** whether planned or unplanned.

GOALS

- Establish **workable, lasting partnerships** with our local public safety agencies, mutual aid partners, regional jurisdictions, state, military and federal agencies to **build and operate a standards-based interoperable land mobile radio system**.
- Assist in building a **Project 25 network** that will allow for **immediate transition** to the new system, allow for **planned migration** over time and with the ability to **integrate existing systems**.
- Standardize methods and abilities to **replace aged, obsolete equipment**.
- Network to provide interoperability with future systems (**single open architecture platform**).

OBJECTIVES

- Enhance personnel **safety, security, training** and **operational capabilities** of first responders (saving lives) at all levels of government.
- Support **Homeland Security** initiatives.
- **Share infrastructure** to reduce overall system costs.
- Provide input towards the development of a fiscally sound business model for the P25 network **governance, implementation, operations** and **maintenance**.

SPECIFIC STATEWIDE PROBLEMS/NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

The public safety and emergency response agencies at all levels of government have been losing ground over the past 20 years in providing reliable communications to respond, coordinate and resolve day to day and mutual aid events. The surge of new residents, businesses and visitors into Alaska has required radio coverage areas to expand, brought about a need for additional radio assets and forced some jurisdictions into “quick fixes” to meet the growing needs. In most instances due to **funding restraints, lack of planning** and **lack of available radio spectrum**, our radio systems have become **aged**, to some degree **incompatible** with other agencies within the same response area and **do not provide the level of radio coverage required to meet the expanding requirements of the region**.

ALMR, in cooperation with its members, has **identified specific problems** with the vast array of radio systems throughout the state. A summary of the assessment includes:

- Only a small number of the subscriber units meet the Project 25 standard.

- Emergency responders have trouble with appropriate channel usage.
- Many sites in the state, most of which are local government, lack back up/redundancy. Losing a repeater means losing emergency communications.
- Lack of available VHF high band spectrum in the state and local level to expand current systems coverage areas.
- Lack of useable, accepted channel and communication plans.
- Significant wasted time spent trying to communicate on several different channels.
- Increasing use of cellular phones to overcome existing system limitations.
- Lack of planning between “neighbors” to ensure coordinated and efficient responses when multi-agencies are involved.
- Minimal seamless interoperability between agencies.
- Clunky “workarounds” for interoperability (console patches and carrying additional radios).
- Lack of interoperability across jurisdictional borders.
- High cost of newer technology breeds “acceptance” of current system problems/limitations.

Most of the existing systems within Alaska **rely upon 30 year-old technologies** and put a strain on First Responders to effectively communicate during a multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency response. Many radio sites are old and require upgrades. Similarly, the majority of portable and mobile radios has **exceeded their usefulness and requires replacement**. This **aging communications infrastructure** creates numerous **maintenance problems, reduces reliability and user confidence** that ultimately jeopardizes the safety and security of First Responders as well as the local citizens. Urban sprawl in Anchorage and the Matanuska Susitna Borough, growing numbers of seasonal residents and increased numbers of visitors throughout Alaska as well as a growing military presence have all combined to increase the demand for public safety services that can only be accomplished with reliable, dependable interoperable communications systems available for use by all levels of government.

THE SOLUTION

To build a cost shared **Project 25, multi-band, multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency, shared use trunk radio system**. The benefits to all users will be:

- Increased system reliability.
- Replacement of aged, obsolete equipment.

- Shared use by all increases system overall capacity and eliminates downtime should one radio repeater on a site fails (trunk system).
- Improved interoperability for inter-agency and intra-agency communications as well as immediate transition to a task force level event.
- Enhanced functionality.

PROJECT FUTURE WITHOUT GRANT ASSISTANCE

Without grant assistance during this coming fiscal year, *(City, Borough, State)* will have to **delay our migration** to the **Alaska Land Mobile Project 25 interoperable radio system** for local, regional and statewide seamless interoperability between federal, state and local governments. While other funding initiatives are under way to construct radio communication sites and purchase subscriber units for other partners of ALMR, the funding provided under this grant is the final **“piece of the puzzle”** required allowing *(City, Borough, State)* to enjoy beneficial use of the **ALMR** system.

Equipment and resource fragmentation will continue making it extremely difficult for project planners to construct “pockets” of the system and have any measurable success in providing seamless interoperable communications for a wide area of Alaska. Public Safety radio communications will remain in a “status quo” environment continuing the existing approach of maintaining obsolete, independent public safety voice radio systems with very little incentive or funding to pursue substantial long-term improvements other than currently planned minimal upgrades (“band-aid fixes”). Any attempts to migrate to **ALMR** will be based on merging the old legacy systems for local area interoperability and does not address the core problems. Without this grant, the *(City, Borough, State)* will continue daily operations, mutual aid responses and task force missions with equipment that has limited capabilities and incompatibility problems.

PLANNING/IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

I. *(Your City, Borough, State)* **agency specific** primary system users **(internal interoperability)**:

(Identify the agencies that apply to your jurisdiction)

Police	Fire	Emergency Medical
Volunteer Fire	Health Services	Emergency Ops Center
Schools	Facilities Mgt.	Fleet Maintenance
Building Safety	Libraries	Public Works
Port	Info Systems	Electric Utility

Water Utility	Risk Manager	Solid Waste Services
Traffic/Signals	Animal Control	Streets Maintenance
Mayor	Sports Facilities	City/Borough Manager
Safety Officer	Cultural Services	Communications Shop
Public Transportation		

II. (Your City, Borough, State) external **local inter-agency** interoperability/emergency response (Mutual Aid):

(Identify the agencies that apply to your jurisdiction)

Airports	Hospitals	Red Cross
Salvation Army	Search Teams	Natural Gas Company
Oil Companies	Commercial Utilities	Commercial Ambulance
University Police	Commercial Telecom Providers	

III. **ALMR intra-agency local/state/federal** interoperability:

State of Alaska

Department of Administration
 Department of Corrections
 Department of Education and Development
 Department of Environmental Conservation
 Department of Fish and Game
 Department of Health and Social Services
 Department of Natural Resources
 Department of Public Safety
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 Department of Military/Veterans Affairs
 Alaska Railroad
 University of Alaska
 Office of the Governor

U. S. Federal Agencies

Department of the Air Force	Department of the Army
Department of Agriculture	Department of the Interior
Department of Justice	Department of Commerce
Department of Treasury	Dept. of Transportation

Alaska Municipal League

Municipality of Anchorage	City of Soldotna
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	City of Whittier
Kenai Peninsula Borough	City of Wasilla
Bear Creek Fire	City of Palmer
North Star Borough	City of Fairbanks
City of North Pole	North Star Fire
City of Homer	City of Kenai
City of Seldovia	City of Hope
City of Seward	Salcha Rescue

Steese Fire
City of Tok
Moose Pass Fire/EMS
Tri-Valley Cantwell
Nikiski
City of Ketchikan

City of Delta Junction
City of Nenana
Ninilchik Ambulance
Anchor Point
City of Juneau

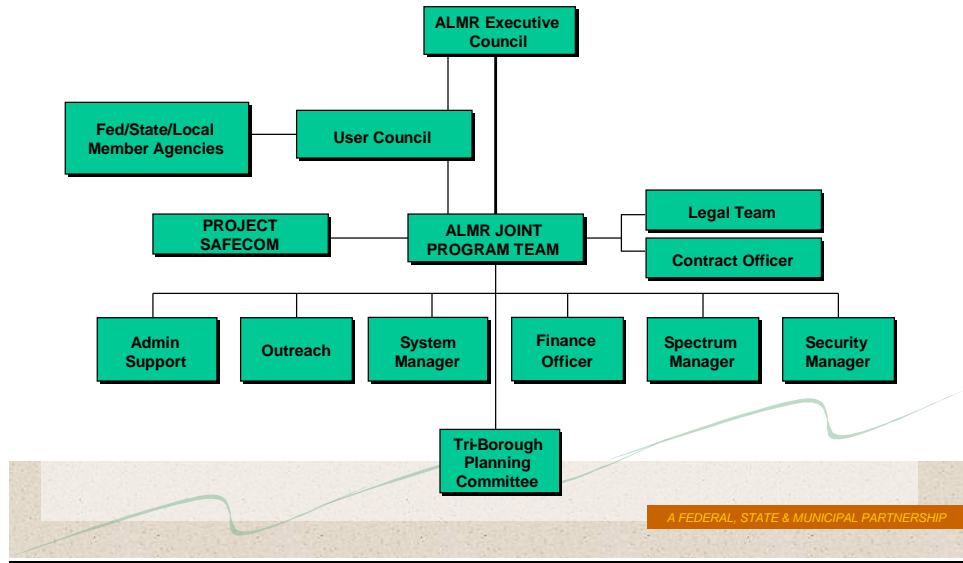
GOVERNANCE

The Alaska LMR Executive Council (**ALMR-ESC**) was formed by charter to assess, assemble and consolidate communications requirements that support daily operations, disaster relief and crisis management. The **ALMR-ESC** provides management and oversight to the **ALMR** program and has decision making authority to keep all phases of the implementation process on task. Further, its responsibility is to develop and manage to beneficial use a combined **ALMR** migration plan that is responsive to the needs of all levels of government. The **ALMR-ESC** consists of one member from the Department of Defense (Alaskan Command), State of Alaska (Department of Public Safety), Alaska Municipal League (Local Governments) and the Federal Executive Association of Alaska and their commitment is, ***“To provide a wireless, cost effective public safety interoperable communications system for all of Alaska.”***

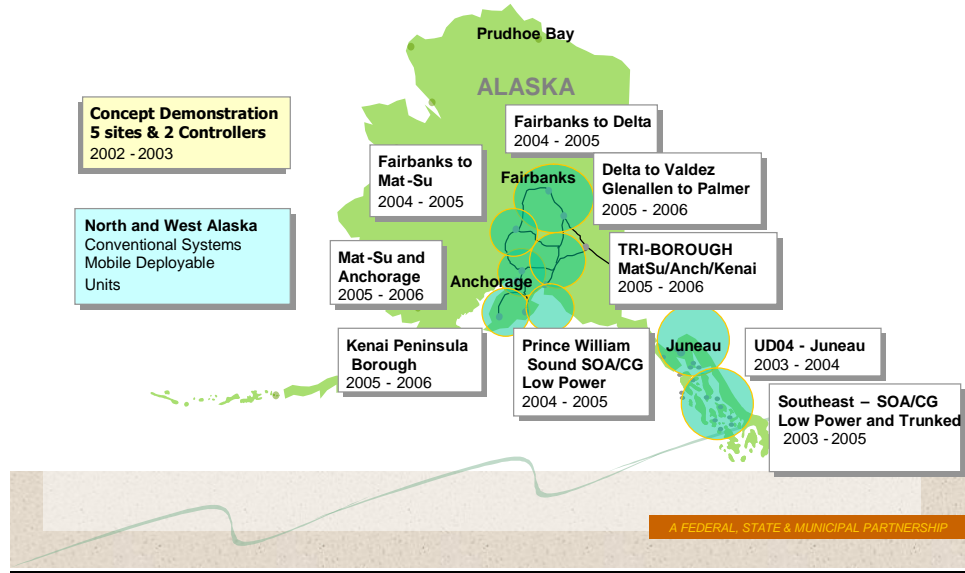
3.03 ALMR Project Plan/Implementation (SAFECOM Specific Criteria).

PLANNING

**PLANNING
ALMR OPERATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

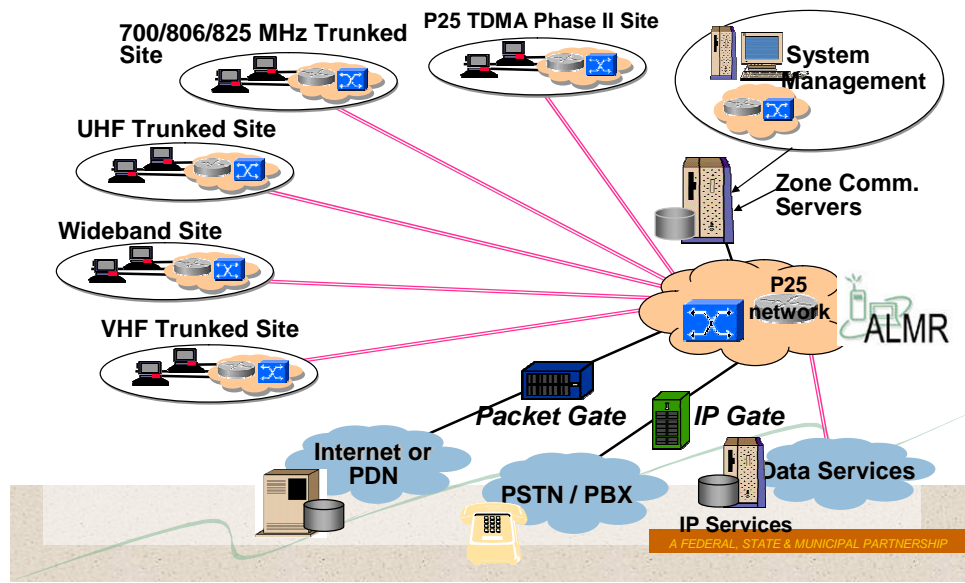


PLANNING ALMR PROJECT PHASES



NETWORK DESIGN/TECHNOLOGY

In cooperation between Federal, State and Local public safety agencies, the **ALMR** Executive Council approved the establishment of P25 standards for the interoperability solution across the state.



DOCUMENTATION

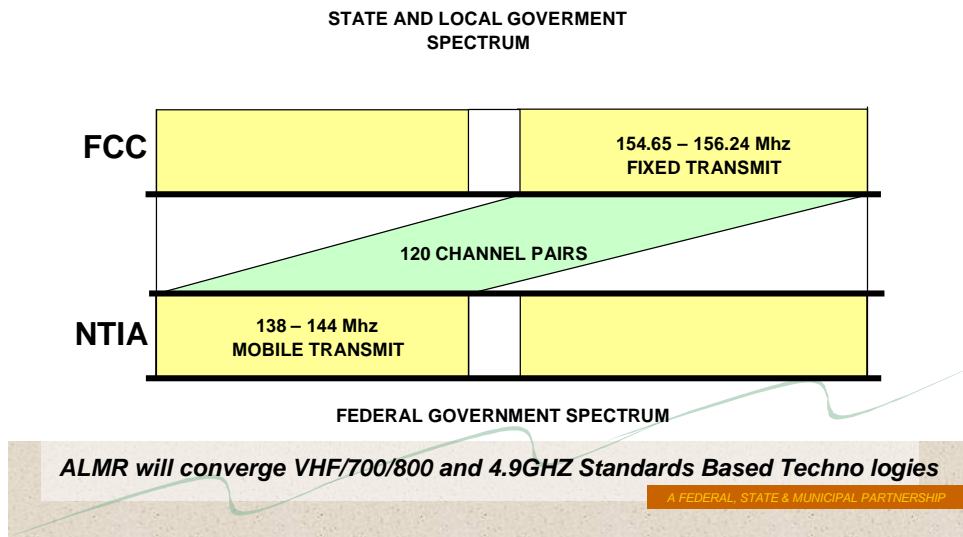
The following system management tools have either been drafted, in final review or completed to bring the ALMR system into beneficial use:

- Asset Accountability and Management (in final review).
- Training Plan (in final review).
- Deployment Plan (completed, plan implemented).
- Cut-Over Plan (in draft).
- Concept of Operations/Management Plan (in final review).
- Total Cost of Ownership (in final review).
- Maintenance Plan (in draft).
- Financial/Budget Plan (completed).
- Risk Management Plan (in final review).
- Contract Management (completed, plan implemented).
- Standard Operating Procedures (in final review).

SPECTRUM

The **ALMR** interoperable wireless communications system will utilize shared VHF Federal and Non-Federal spectrum resources for use by federal, state and local public safety entities as approved by agreement between the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA), re; DA 03-2612, August 7, 2003.

SHARED RESOURCES



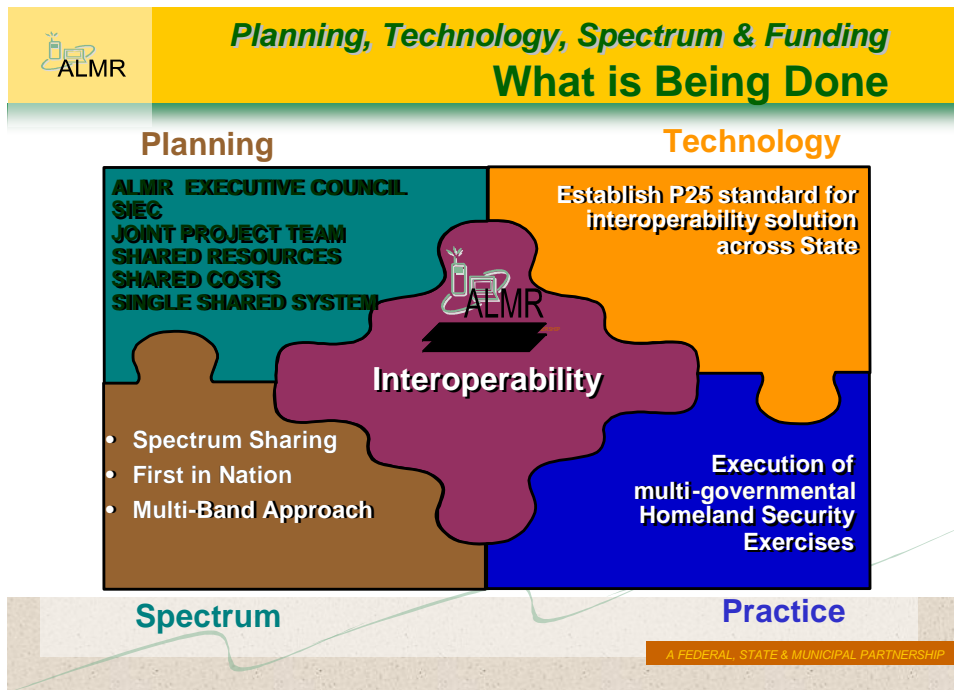
IMPLEMENTATION

- Development of **Request for Information** (RFI) to industry completed and technology selected.
- **SYSTEM ENGINEERING-** A system design and analysis (SDA) was completed in 1999 (Department of Defense, State and Local government requirements). In 2005 an SDA re-refresh was conducted to further validate all system requirements.
- **SITE SELECTION, PREPARATION** and **CONSTRUCTION** is on going as sites are installed in accordance with phased implementation.
 - ✓ **Phase 0** – Concept Demonstration Project.
 - ✓ **Phase I** – North Zone build out (Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright, Eielson AFB, Cope Thunder Training Ranges, North Pole, Delta Junction, Fort Greeley and Valdez).
 - ✓ **Phase II** – South Zone build out (Anchorage, Mat-Su Borough and the eastern Kenai Peninsula Borough).
 - ✓ **Phase III** – Southeast Zone build out (Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Island of Kodiak and the western Kenai Peninsula Borough).
 - ✓ **Phase IV** – Statewide Remote Area Implementation.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

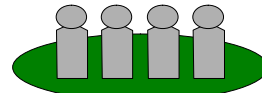
(This portion should address your funding needs and any investment you have towards the interoperability project/equipment. Approximate equipment costs should be provided that equals your grant funding request. If a "local or state government" match is required as one of the conditions in receiving the grant, make the match amount is included.

ALASKA LAND MOBILE RADIO (ALMR) EXCERPTS



**Planning
ALMR Executive Council Members**

- ▶ **State of Alaska**
Commissioner Bill Tandeske
- ▶ **Alaska Municipal League**
Ms. Heather Handyside
- ▶ **Federal Agencies Non - DOD**
Mr. John Madden, TSA
- ▶ **Department of Defense (DOD)**
Col. Joel Hooks, ALCOM J6



LAND MOBILE RADIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
(A Federal, State and Municipal Partnership)



A FEDERAL, STATE & MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP