



FirstNet DC



WHAT IS FIRSTNET?

FirstNet is a national wireless network that will facilitate communication for public safety users within and across jurisdictions.

HOW WILL FIRSTNET BENEFIT PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE DISTRICT?

FirstNet will:

- Provide wireless coverage for public safety users to transmit and receive mission-critical and routine data, video, images, and information.
- Provide priority access among DC public safety users (unlike commercial wireless networks).
- Give DC incident commanders and local officials control over user assignments and application access.
- Fundamentally change the way public safety operates, just as smartphones have changed our personal lives.
- Save time during emergencies when seconds count.

HOW WILL FIRSTNET BE PLANNED AND IMPLEMENTED IN THE DISTRICT?

- The U.S. Department of Commerce State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) awarded the District \$795,903 to plan its FirstNet participation.
- In 2014, the Office of the Chief Technology Officer and the Office of Unified Communications led outreach to public safety agencies and other stakeholders, including utilities, to determine how they would use FirstNet and how FirstNet may impact day-to-day operations and emergency response.
- The District began its formal consultation process with FirstNet in March 2015.
- FirstNet will likely present a Radio Access Network plan to the District by 2017.
- If the Mayor accepts the FirstNet plan, the FirstNet program will construct the network in the District. If the District government chooses to build its own network, it must secure FCC approval, lease spectrum from FirstNet, and meet FirstNet security, hardening, and interoperability requirements.
- Once implemented, the District will have authority to prioritize users on the network.
- The District's Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC), comprised of cabinet-level directors for public safety agencies and reporting to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, will oversee the District's FirstNet governance.

WHAT WILL USERS PAY FOR FIRSTNET SERVICES?

- FirstNet services and applications will be used at the District's discretion.
- The costs for FirstNet services and devices have not yet been set. FirstNet has begun its determination on financing by issuing a request for public comment in September 2014 and a second request in March 2015.
- The expectation is that user agencies will pay fees for service comparable to current commercial network fees.

For more information on the District of Columbia's FirstNet effort, see: <http://firstnet.dc.gov>

For information about the FirstNet federal authority, see <http://firstnet.gov>



FIRSTNET FACTS:



Federal funding:	\$7B authorized to build the network
Spectrum:	20 MHz of bandwidth in the 700 MHz range
Users:	More than 5 million potential users nationwide
Cost:	Business plan under development May involve a public-private partnership to build the network Will require user fees, likely comparable to current user fees
When will it be operational?	2014 – 2016 Outreach, awareness, and planning 2017 FirstNet presents plan-District opts in or out with its own plan 2017 – 2022 Network operations substantially in place

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Potential Users:	Estimated 9,000 for day-to-day operations, 20,000 during large events (including mutual aid and volunteers)
Agencies:	Metropolitan Police Department Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency DC National Guard Department of Transportation Department of Public Works Department of Forensic Sciences Department of Corrections Department of Health Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services DC Water and Sewer Authority DC Protective Services Division DC Housing Authority Police Department DC Department of Behavioral Health Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Office of Unified Communications Office of the Chief Technology Officer University of the District of Columbia

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