



## October 2015 Newsletter 10.01

### FirstNet Consultation Visit October 28, 2015

FirstNet is coming to Oklahoma for the first Consultation Visit. These visits are designed to bring the Network Provider (FirstNet) together with the potential subscriber base so that FirstNet can hear firsthand how Oklahoma's first responders use broadband data today and in the future. The venue is the Embassy Suites, Downtown OKC. The event will start on the evening of the 27th with an introductory session, meet and greet with the panelists, FirstNet representatives, and the OKPSBN Project Team. Wednesday the 28th will be packed with information from first responders from around the state and tribal nations, FirstNet, and a distinctive lunch time presentation from Sheriff Charlie Hanger coupled with a specially produced video from the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum.

Make sure you are there!

### Project Update

The project has been very successful collecting data for a large portion of the State's agencies. FirstNet has been provided with all data collected thus far and will require more information as the network's development begins. The OKPSBN will continue to collect information from all agencies and counties that have not yet pro-

vided survey data or completed coverage reviews.

Check out the OKPSBN Web page for the latest information and data:

<http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/>

The first round of outreach and education meetings has been completed and has greatly increased participation. Outreach and education sessions will continue to be scheduled along with regular participation in public safety agency association meetings and events.

**If you or your organization doesn't know what FirstNet is, be sure and reach out to the Project team, we will schedule a session for you.**

The Project Dashboard shows our progress to date on the all important User Population Survey. If you haven't taken the survey, please take a few minutes to answer the questions about how you as a first responder use broadband communications. This information is vital to the project, it will be used to size the network and work with FirstNet to get Oklahoma the best possible coverage for the network. The goal is to have all first responders in the state submit a survey response. Here is the link to the survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OKPSBN\\_USERPOP](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OKPSBN_USERPOP)

The project team attended the Inter-Tribal Emergency Managers Coalition annual meeting in June spending three days meeting, greeting, and educating the attendees on FirstNet and the OKPSBN. Ben Gherezgiher presented an introduction to FirstNet with specific information for the tribes and showed how they are included in the network planning and can participate in the information gathering that is going on now. The Tribes are being included in the state plans for FirstNet by physical location. The states are responsible for submitting the coverage plan to FirstNet, and must include all the first responder entities within their geographic borders. Oklahoma has put a priority on including the 39 federally recognized tribes in the state in the network coverage plan. If you are a tribal first responder please make sure to complete the User Population Survey!

The project team is also in the process of collecting governance documents for review and modification for the new network. We are gathering existing Memorandums of Understanding and Memorandums of Agreement between agencies to develop standard templates for use by the OKPSBN. Please forward any documentation to Ian Ross, [iross@televate.com](mailto:iross@televate.com).



## FirstNet Data User Population Survey

The User Population Survey is a key component for quantifying the user base as well as identifying potential barriers to wireless adoption. The Project Team has sent the survey to every county and public safety entity (PSE) we have on file within the State. Moving forward, we continue to work with the Chiefs, Sheriffs, and Emergency Managers to solicit responses from each PSE.

Completing this survey is important for a number of reasons:

- It is a requirement of the Grant and a key marker in the Consultation process
- Your responses help in the budgeting of the State’s strategic plan
- It identifies preferred device types to ensure they are made available on the FirstNet network
- It helps identify barriers to adoption for potential future grant opportunities

## Coverage Review Status

As of October 1st, 2015, we have scheduled Coverage Reviews with 21 counties and 3 tribes. The purpose of these meetings is to identify your needs, how you use your network, and areas in each county where first responders need wireless coverage. This includes:

- Critical service areas (highest priority)
- Required service areas (minimum service area required to adopt the service)

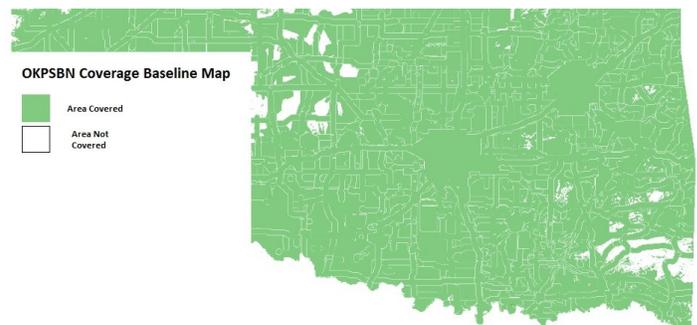
- Extended service areas (where service is wanted, but currently insufficient or nonexistent)

These Coverage Reviews have resulted in some key observations. Many counties have informed us they have significant areas that are currently unserved and/or underserved, especially in rural areas. In reality, their coverage is less extensive than what is portrayed in carrier-published coverage maps.

Though we have submitted data to FirstNet for almost 30% of the counties and 3 of the tribes we will continue to collect data to provide FirstNet with more data to assist with the proper development of Oklahoma’s public safety broadband network. We look forward to scheduling meetings with all the remaining counties and tribes in order to identify your areas of need. We will continue to reach out and schedule your meetings, but please feel free to contact the OKPSBN Project Team if your county or tribal PSE has not yet participated in a Coverage Review.

## Build-out Strategy

As part of the Data Submission packet, we were able to deliver a series of maps showing the build-out strategy for the state. The final phase showing our request for coverage is shown below.





## FirstNet Data Submission Package

September 30th, 2015 the Project Team delivered a comprehensive data package to FirstNet which included the user population survey data collected to date, build-out strategy maps for the state and tribal nations, as well as a summary report detailing the components of the submission. The data pack can be found at [http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/Broadband\\_Regional\\_Activity/FirstNet\\_Consultation/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/Broadband_Regional_Activity/FirstNet_Consultation/index.html).

The project team will continue to collect data and refine the plan in concert with FirstNet as they go through the process of issuing their RFP and selecting a partner. The information collected and provided to FirstNet will be used to determine coverage for the state by the new network.

The table below illustrates the build-out strategy through the five phases that FirstNet requested. A careful balance was struck between covering the transportation corri-

dors, major metro, rural, and tribal areas, to obtain the best coverage possible during the build-out. Maps for each phase are available at the data pack link.

A separate set of maps and statistics are also available from the tribal perspective, and were included in the data submission.

The CAD data that we were able to collect is also included in the data pack, shown in a “heat map”. The heat map is an illustration of the intensity of calls for service to half mile square grid spaces across the state. These calls for service are then summed in their half mile square “bins”, and assigned a color, from yellow for low intensity to red for high intensity. When shown on a map, it is easy to locate hot spots by color intensity. These maps are also available at the data pack link.

Various other charts and graphs of interest are also there, showing the distribution of data from the respondents to the questions in the survey. We will continue to update the data pack as new information comes in.

Coverage Prioritization Variable	Phased Implementation				
	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
Interstate/US Highway	✓	✓	✓		
State Highway	✓	✓	✓		
Required Service Area	✓		✓	✓	✓
Critical Service Area	✓	▪			
Critical Infrastructure	✓	✓	▪	▪	
Extended Service Area	✓	▪	▪	▪	▪
Population Covered (%)	78.1	85.8	93.3	97.4	99.8
Area Covered (Square Miles)	11,713	12,854	11,780	13,713	13,321
Area Covered per Phase(%)	16.8	18.3	15.3	24.0	21.4
Area Covered Cumulative(%)	16.9	35.1	50.4	74.4	95.8
Current Net Commercial Coverage	Area = 66,614Sq. mi	95.5%			



# Technical Brief:

## What is Wireless Broadband?

Broadband commonly refers to high-speed communications to deliver content and information over the internet or the office intranet. It is typically described by the amount of data transferred as bits per second or “bps.” Wireless broadband provides **mobile** access to the internet. There are many short-range standards for wireless broadband such as the 802.11, or WiFi, family of standards (a, b, g & n) that many of us use at home or in the office to provide mobile access.

There are many additional wireless standards that support wide area nationwide broadband services, including those delivered over the cellular telephone network. There is one pre-dominate worldwide standard, LTE or Long Term Evolution. LTE is referred to as the 4th generation of cellular standards; in fact “4G” has become synonymous with the term “LTE” and is often referred to as “4G LTE.”

## Why wireless broadband for Public Safety?

In the last 10 years, more and more public safety agencies have integrated commercial wireless broadband, and the applications supported by these networks, into their daily operations. First Responders are often equipped with smartphones, mobile data terminals, laptops, and tab-

lets which communicate wirelessly with their home networks (intranets) and that provide access to the internet. Robust broadband communications improves the safety and efficiency of the responder community in the field, and it also provides them many new capabilities and access to data applications that compliment radio communications.

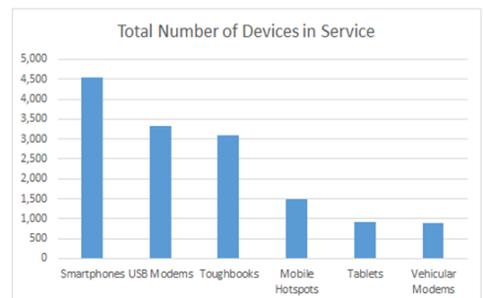
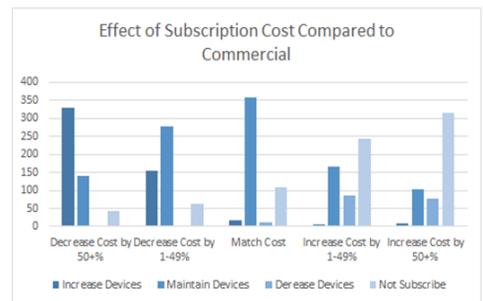
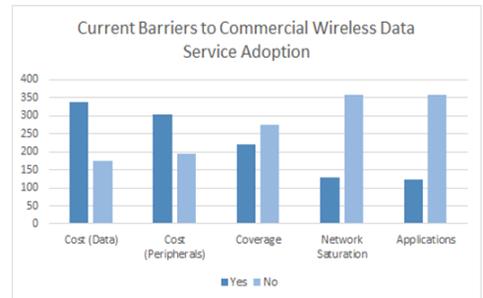
These new capabilities aid efficiency (email, remote reporting, e-ticketing), provide greater situational awareness (real-time location tracking of assets and personnel, streaming video), provide access to important databases (NCIC lookups, incident reporting), and facilitate access to the many varied resources required to support the response and mitigation of emergency events that threaten life or property.

The Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN), to be implemented by FirstNet, will inspire new ways of performing public safety functions that are more effective and efficient. In the future, public safety will have purpose-built applications and a new ecosystem that will provide agencies with incredible opportunities to improve service to their communities.

## FirstNet Data Collection Elements

The OKPSBN has submitted the re-

quested data by FirstNet which included data obtained through the UserPOP survey, coverage requirements obtained during the coverage reviews and a statewide build out strategy developed by the gathered information and OKPSBN project team. Other items are new and will require further stakeholder outreach. Please be on the lookout for a second survey request designed to gather additional, valuable OKPSBN stakeholder information.

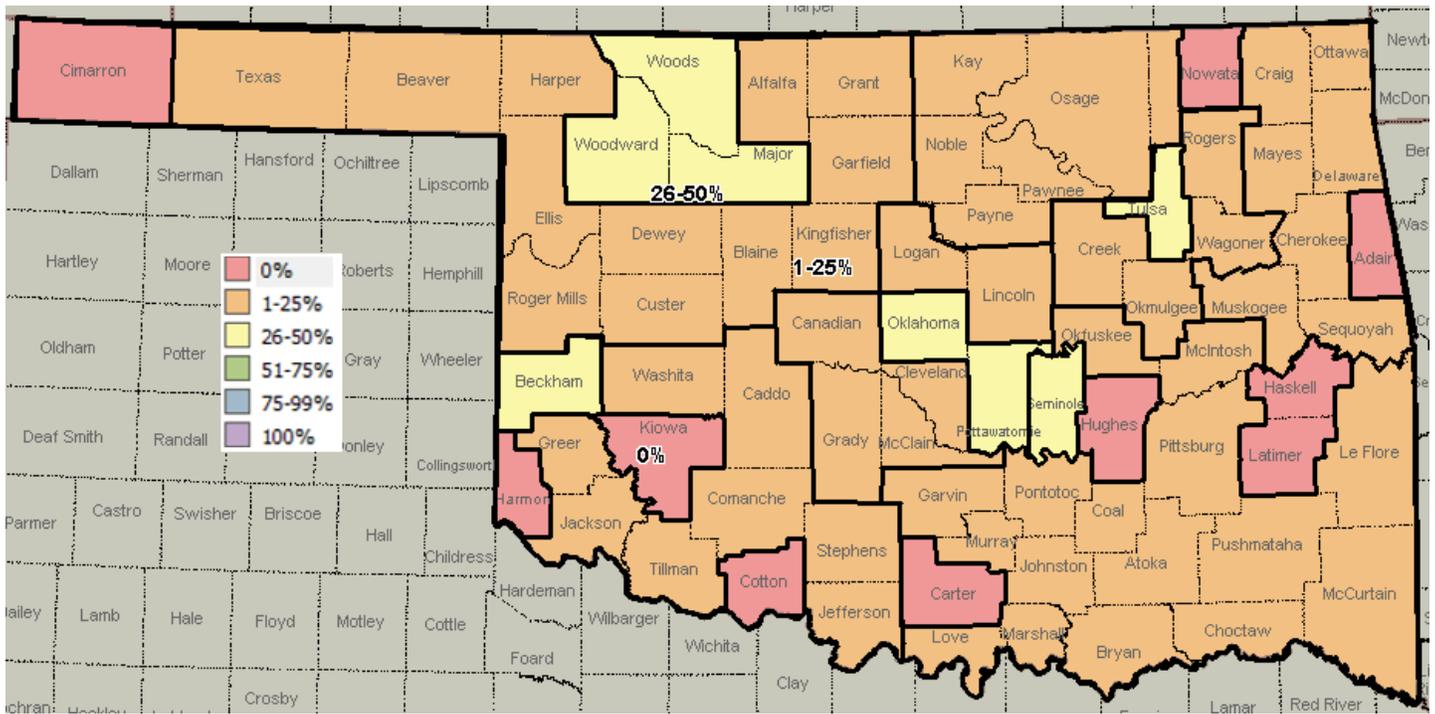




The image below illustrates the current status of User POP completion rate. The progress of the project will be updated on the OKPSBN web site. Participation ensures that your feedback is included, so please make every effort to complete the survey. The survey link is provided below:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OKPSBN\\_USERPOP](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OKPSBN_USERPOP)

## User Population Survey Completion Tracking 400+ Responses!!!





## Upcoming Meetings

Please join the OKPSBN and other public safety agencies for Oklahoma's consultation with FirstNet.

Register online at

<http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/>

Consultation will take place on October 28th at the downtown medical center Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City.

Details available on website or by contacting a member of the OKPSBN Project Team.

## Your OKPSBN Project Team

You are encouraged to contact the project team at any time! We would be happy to answer your questions or hear your concerns.

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For more information on the OKPSBN, the NPSBN and FirstNet, please visit the OKPSBN website for all project news and access to in-depth training modules on this subject and others:

[http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/Public\\_Safety\\_Broadband/OKPSBN\\_Charter/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/publicsafetybroadband/Public_Safety_Broadband/OKPSBN_Charter/index.html)