



Chapter 6

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation for the purpose of this document employs a multi-dimensional strategy. First, Illinois' implementation strategy addresses the near term, i.e., how its SCIP will be introduced to the user community and the methodology being used. Secondly, the implementation plan outlines what Illinois must do on a long-term basis to sustain today's achievements in interoperability for future intrastate stakeholders, its multi-state partners, and the national users.

Implementation Responsibility

Leading the implementation plan is Illinois' full-time Interoperability Coordinator (see Section 2.3) who is responsible for administering Illinois' SCIP, monitoring its applicability, and reporting to the governance body (the SIEC) on issues related to the plan.

Educating Practitioners and Policy Makers

The SIEC is responsible for providing updates and educational training, as necessary, to senior policy makers in Illinois state government for the purpose of familiarizing those officials with interoperability issues and their impact on public safety practitioners. Issues regarding funding, sustainability of services, and the expansion of interoperability in both government and non-government sectors require support at the highest level of state government. The SIEC, as the exclusive governance body, is the appropriate group to liaison with these officials on behalf of Illinois' public safety community.

Performance Measures

As outlined in Chapter 5, the ITTF Communications Committee established the following goals for the State of Illinois to support the interoperability vision and mission.

GOAL 1 (Short-term)

Illinois will conduct a statewide study of its interoperable communications systems, inventory resource assets, and identify technology gaps to ensure every public safety agency in Illinois has interoperable communications capabilities.

GOAL 2 (Short-term)

Illinois will judiciously administer all monies allocated for interoperable communications by ensuring their application for the dedicated expansion of the user community; to research, procure, and distribute upgraded technologies on behalf of public safety practitioners; to develop, sustain, and enhance strategic

technology reserves; and to provide field liaison/administrative support related to interoperability issues to both governmental and non-governmental agencies.

GOAL 3 (Short-term)

Illinois will integrate the Chicago/Cook County UASI's Tactical Communications Interoperability Plan into the SCIP to increase public safety agency collaboration, expand communications interoperability, and standardize response protocols in the Chicagoland area.

GOAL 4 (Short-term)

Illinois will validate its interoperable communications plan and systems and expand its training curriculum to include the development of an Interoperable Communications Manager certification program.

GOAL 5 (Short-term)

Illinois will support the development, expansion, and use of systems that operate in or interoperate with 700/800 MHz bands via voice, data, and/or video signals.

GOAL 6 (Short-term)

Illinois' Metropolitan Statistical Areas will develop and administer formal Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans.

GOAL 7 (Long-term)

Illinois will collaborate with other Midwestern states in the development of an interstate mutual fire aid pact (the Mid-America Mutual Aid Consortium, or MAMA-C) that will emphasize interoperable communications among participants and serve as a pilot for application to other public safety disciplines.

GOAL 8 (Long-term)

Illinois will collaborate with federal, regional, and local public safety officials, as well as representatives from the U. S. Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee, to provide a secure, interoperable communications environment for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Chicago.

Progress towards the achievement of the goals, objectives, and strategic initiatives associated with the SCIP is monitored by the Interoperability Coordinator who is required to provide periodic updates to the SIEC on the measurements used to gauge that progress. Specific performance measures and/or critical success factors are purposely not articulated in Illinois' SCIP to allow those persons, agencies, or organizations responsible for the execution of the goals, objectives, and initiatives to develop these unique criteria, promoting ownership of each particular facet and an inclusionary stake in the success of the overall plan.

The Illinois Terrorism Task Force, for example, provides information about interoperability grant activities and the progress of the state's movement towards achieving its interoperability vision in its annual report which is available to any

interested party via its website. The SIEC provides its own summary of activities related to the SCIP in its annual report to the Governor's Office, and the various mutual aid associations provide periodic updates to their public safety members via website postings and mailings.