



NORTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE RADIO NETWORK

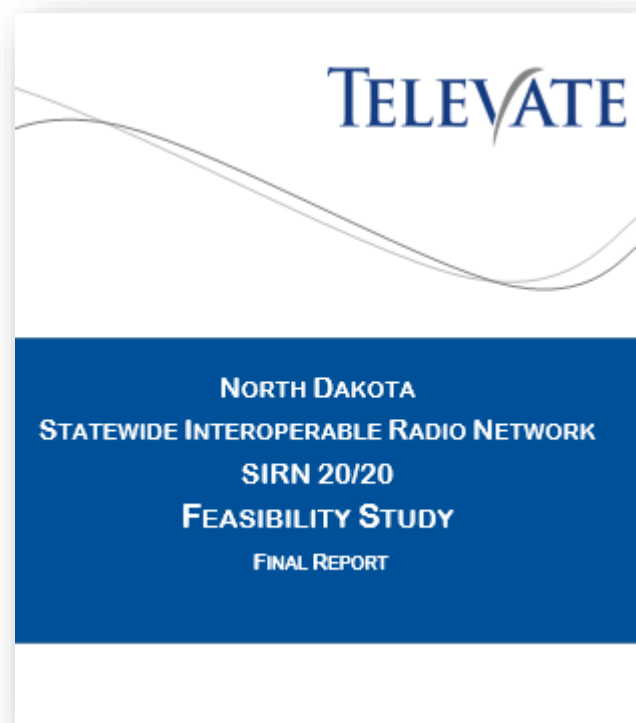
SIRN 20/20 Newsletter
August 2016

SIRN 20/20 Feasibility Study Complete

Based upon an extensive technical, operational, and financial assessment, the SIRN 20/20 Feasibility Study laid the foundation for a viable statewide, integrated and shared network that fulfills the needs and expectations of the public safety community. The Study found that a statewide solution could deliver several benefits integral to mission-critical communications—seamless interoperability, coverage enhancements, operational redundancies, improved situational awareness, and dispatcher efficiencies.

Achieving these benefits would require coordination and collaboration among state, local, municipal, and tribal entities. To ensure wide adoption by State and local agencies, the network has to be an affordable and adequate replacement for local networks, and supported by sustainable funding streams and proper governance.

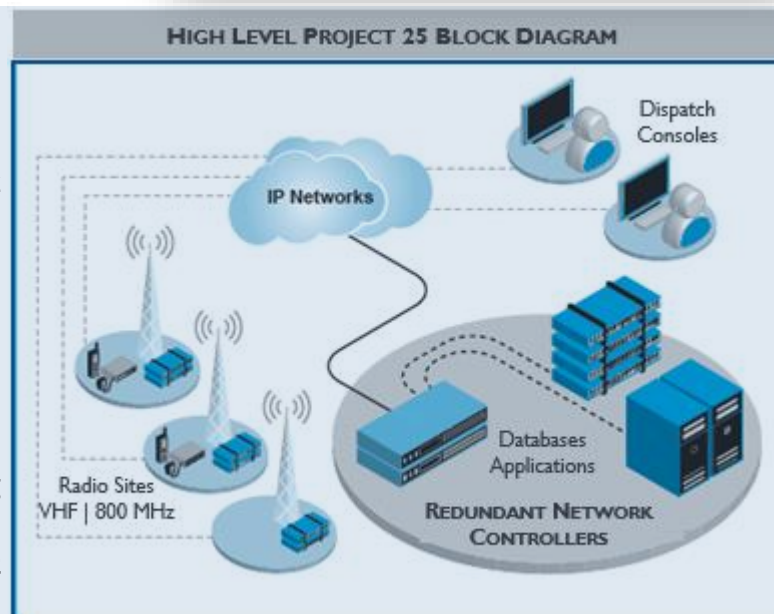
The Study presents a comprehensive framework, including prospective network architectures, lifecycle cost estimates, potential revenue sources, and recommendations on shared governance structures and cost-sharing models. Visit our website ([Televate-SIRN 20/20 Feasibility](http://Televate-SIRN20/20Feasibility)) to read the Final Report.



SIRN 20/20 High Level System Overview

After careful study of current technologies and a statewide discussion on functional needs, Televate recommended implementation of a statewide hybrid VHF-800 MHz solution using standardized technology. This system would deliver better network-based *mobile and portable* coverage by employing the suitable spectrum based on population need: VHF for rural areas and 800 MHz for urban settings.

All network components—towers, dispatch centers, and devices—would be interconnected with robust and intelligent controllers. SIRN 20/20 would leverage existing State and local infrastructure to the extent possible to maximize reuse of past investments and shorten deployment time.





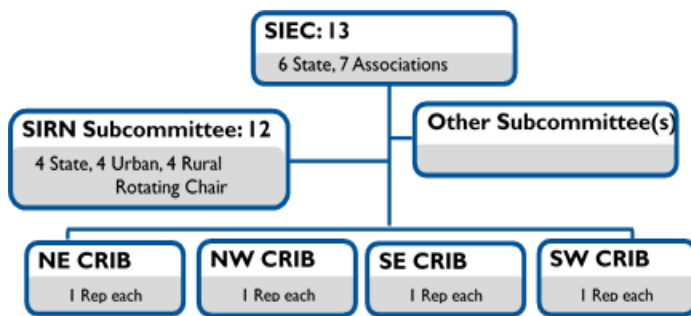
STUDY HIGHLIGHTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

“Baseline Operational Needs”

SIRN 20/20 was designed according to a set of key technical and operational needs established through the various interactions with stakeholders. These “Baseline Operational Needs” drove the solutions development, and can be used as on-going principles to guide implementation of a statewide model. Some key *Baseline Needs* include:

- Equal or better coverage than current radio systems
- 95% mobile radio coverage in each county
- In-building coverage in dense areas of the State
- On-street portable service along roads/in populated areas
- Improved capacity through separate talkpaths as needed
- Integration of existing PSAPs and applications
- Paging services or integration of current systems
- GPS, encryption and similar features as required
- Incorporation of vehicular repeater systems
- Interoperability with neighboring states
- Timely resolution of issues

Governance Structure

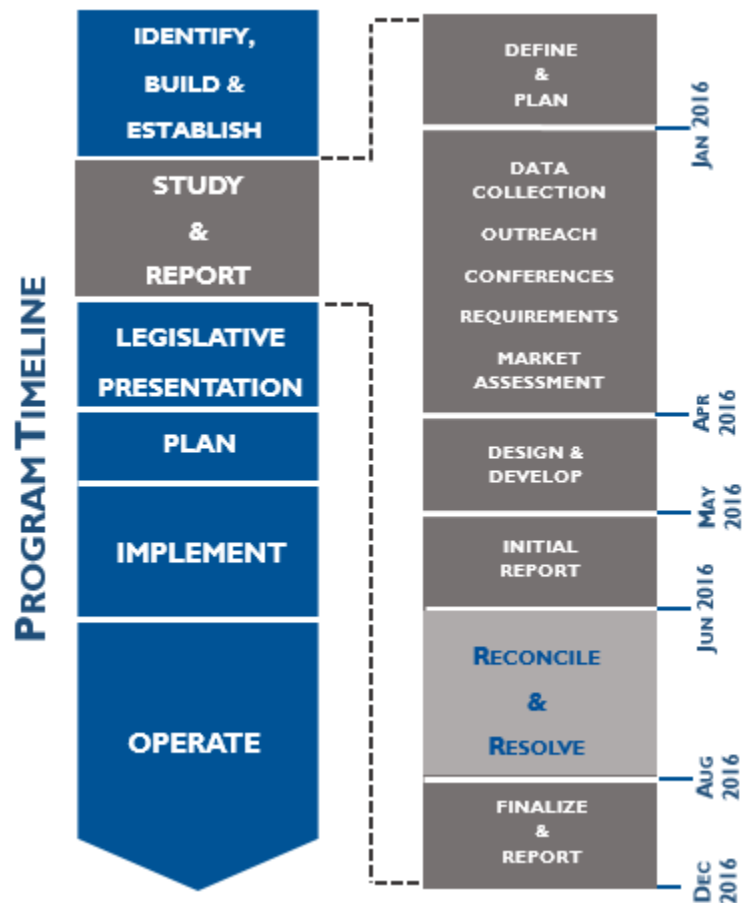


Any successful network requires efficient, effective, and balanced governance. Televate conducted interviews and surveys over a four month period to identify a structure supported by the public safety community. Based on feedback, Televate recommended the creation of a SIRN 20/20 Subcommittee fostering equal representation across government levels and public safety disciplines. Additionally, the recommendation also stressed the potential for regional teaming to support formalizing local partnerships and to create a voice for local participation.

August 2016 Activities

Continued Outreach and Study Refinement

The Televate Study is a foundational part of the SIRN 20/20 initiative, but only the beginning of the overall program. The SIEC, in collaboration with the ND ITD Project Team, will continue outreach efforts to gather feedback on the Study findings, to inform all stakeholders about the program, and refine the overall plan in the lead up to the 65th State Legislature.



Local SIRN 20/20 Endorsements

As part of outreach, the ITD Project Team will be discussing *endorsement* of Study recommendations with public safety officials and other executive stakeholders at the state, municipal, and county levels. These endorsements are intended to demonstrate preliminary commitment to the desirability and feasibility of an interoperable solution for Legislative consideration.