



# FIRSTNET DATA COLLECTION PROJECT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2016

## FirstNet Data Collection Project Kicks Off

On November 29, 2016, the Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) kicked off the FirstNet Data Collection Project with ISF, Inc. and its partner Televate, LLC to conduct outreach to Florida public safety stakeholders and collect wireless broadband information from the public safety community. The goal of this project is to work with FirstNet—an independent authority within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration tasked with building a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network, and collect network design requirements that can meet the expectations of the public safety mission in Florida.

Through June of 2017, the FirstNet Data Collection Project Team will engage with stakeholders throughout Florida to provide information about FirstNet, identify public safety points of contact, and document broadband coverage and network requirements. The data collected during this project will ultimately form the basis for a network buildout plan in Florida, and provide a framework for the state to opt-in or opt-out of FirstNet's plan. Stay up to date with our monthly newsletters to see our progress and learn of critical FirstNet related news and events.

## Meet Our Team

ISF, Inc. is a Florida-based management consulting and information technology firm, committed to helping businesses and government operate better, smarter, and more efficiently.

Televate, LLC has served the public safety community as a trusted communications and information technology consultant over the last 15 years, and is currently working on FirstNet planning projects in seven states, including Florida.

## Lessons Learned from Other FirstNet Data Collection Projects

Similar projects in other states have taught our team a great deal about how to achieve positive results for the Florida FirstNet Data Collection Project. Our experience has demonstrated that:

- It is critical to engage the local stakeholders who make up the majority of public safety. In order to succeed, FirstNet must deliver a solution that will be different and better. Without local input, we cannot be successful.
- It is important to get local stakeholders involved, so we will work hard to engage them to participate in the program and will use their time wisely.

We look forward to working with stakeholders throughout Florida on this important endeavor!

## Get Involved!

Your input is vital to ensuring that FirstNet's plan for Florida's public safety broadband network meets *your* needs. Here's how you can get engaged:

**Regional Workshops:** Between winter 2016 and spring 2017, the FirstNet Data Collection Project Team will host three sets of quarterly workshops in all seven regions across Florida. The first regional workshops introducing the program are being scheduled for early January 2017.

These meetings will provide information and updates pertaining to FirstNet and the data collection project, and will give participants the opportunity to provide opinions, data, and feedback to benefit the FirstNet planning process. Keep an eye out for your invitation, and we hope to see you there!

Interested in hosting a workshop in your region? Contact us; we would love to hear from you!



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**Online Surveys:** All Public Safety Entities (PSEs) in the State of Florida will begin receiving an invitation to participate in an online survey designed to collect key broadband information reflecting your agency's requirements for FirstNet.

**Coverage Reviews:** Beginning in December, the Project Team will hold county-by-county coverage reviews with public safety entities. Stakeholders from all counties, tribes, and major cities will be invited to participate in an interactive coverage review meeting where participants can provide first-hand information about wireless broadband coverage requirements.

The map (Figure A) shows sample coverage review outputs, demonstrating high priority coverage needs (red) and areas with insufficient commercial coverage (blue).



Figure A: Sample Coverage Review Output for Jacksonville

## Securing Your Data

Over the course of this project, the FirstNet Data Collection Project Team will be gathering a great deal of data from the Florida public safety stakeholder community.

Protecting your data is very important to us. To ensure the safety of your data, we have implemented the following safeguards:

- Modern technology at a secure data center is used to store your GIS data
- A user name and strong password is required to access the GIS server. Access to the GIS data is currently limited to only a few individuals and access is only provided on a case by case basis

## In The News

- [AT&T is apparent selection to build FirstNet, as Rivada Mercury files protest over elimination from bid](#)
- [FirstNet Outlines Details Expected in State Plans, Information Portals](#)

## Contact Us

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