

# Technical Committee

Role and Responsibilities



The purpose of FirstNet (First Responder Network Authority; <http://www.firstnet.gov/>) is “to ensure the building, deployment, and operation of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network pursuant to Title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Act), Pub. L. No. 112-96, 126 Stat. 156 (2012).”<sup>1</sup>

**R**ole. The Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC; <http://www.siec.wa.gov/>) has established a FirstNet technical committee comprised of subject matter experts **to advise on and assist with applied, industrial, and specialized aspects of deployment of a statewide public safety communications network**. Its aim is to achieve the best possible design for Washington State. Disciplines and considerations will include data management, geographical information systems (GIS), tower site construction and maintenance, wireline and wireless broadband telecommunications. Involvement on the committee is voluntary; however, travel and lodging expenses will be reimbursed, as necessary.

**R**esponsibilities. The technical committee will assist FirstNet program staff within the state Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO; <http://ofm.wa.gov/ocio/>) to prepare for state consultations with federal program officers in the design and deployment of FirstNet in Washington State. Committee members—drawn from public agencies, private sector, and nonprofit associations—will **interpret data, identify technical priorities and problems, and propose specifications**. The structure and financial support for this work is provided by the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP; [http://www.ntia.doc.gov/slignp/program\\_information](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/slignp/program_information)). SLIGP spans three years (2013-2015) and will be conducted in two phases: education, outreach, and governance followed by data collection. It is underwritten by \$3.3 million in funding, \$2.6 million of which is federal grant. Specific member activities will include, but are not limited to:

- participating in person or remotely in monthly two-hour technical committee meetings to be convened around the state,
- responding in a timely manner to occasional queries from OCIO program staff,
- collaborating with the Washington State FirstNet stakeholder committee,
- supporting the Phase I and II activities of regional and expert subcontractors,
- assessing the FirstNet state-specific plan proposal, and
- reviewing summary reports to be issued by the SIEC.

---

<sup>1</sup> Bylaws Modifications, First Responder Network Authority, Board Resolution 26, 8 May 2013.