

Overview of FirstNet Public Safety Broadband Network in Vermont

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Background

- Due to problems that arose during the response to the 9/11 attacks with respect to the use by first responders of incompatible "land mobile radio networks" the 9/11 Commission recommended that a single national interoperable public safety broadband network be created.
- The 2012 federal Middle Class Tax Relief & Jobs Creation Act established the First Responder Network Authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) and allocated \$7 billion and 20 megahertz of broadband spectrum to establish a network for first responders.
- As a result of an RFP process in March 2017 AT&T was selected as the FirstNet provider. AT&T has committed to spending \$40 billion on FirstNet.
- The company agreed to build over a thousand new cell sites nationally and give first responders access to its existing \$180 billion national wireless telecommunications network that consists of many thousands of cell sites.
- States were given the option of opting into AT&T's FirstNet network or creating their own public safety broadband network.
- Over the summer and fall of 2017 AT&T worked closely with the Department of Public Safety's Public Safety Broadband Commission regarding the number and location of new FirstNet cell sites AT&T would build in VT if the state opted into AT&T's FirstNet network.
- As a result of its discussions with the Public Safety Broadband Commission AT&T committed to building 36 new cell sites in Vermont in locations specified by the Commission. Those locations are generally in rural, unserved areas where there is not an otherwise strong business case for developing cell sites. These sites are to become operational by March 31, 2023. 30 AT&T Built Sites, 6 Wireless Partner sites
- Based on AT&T's commitments in Vermont in December 2017 Governor Scott decided that Vermont would opt into the FirstNet network.

Features

- First responders (and others, such as health care workers and utility workers) who sign up for FirstNet receive devices with a special FirstNet SIM card that allows them to be

recognized on AT&T's network as first responders.

- First responders have access to AT&T's Vermont network of more than 200 cell sites.
- AT&T's "regular" customers have access to all FirstNet cell sites. As a result, the FirstNet project generally enhances cell service coverage in Vermont for all of AT&T's customers.
- AT&T has created a dedicated "network core" for first responders that separates public safety traffic on its network from non-public safety traffic.
- First responders have priority and preemption on AT&T's network, which means that if there is congestion on the network public safety traffic is given priority over and preempts non-public safety traffic on the network.
- Specialized applications have been developed for use by first responders. For instance, there is an application that is designed to ascertain the contents of rail cars that is useful in responding to a train derailment.

Status of Build Out of FirstNet Cell Sites in Vermont

- Of the 36 FirstNet sites AT&T committed to build in Vermont 23 have been permitted, built and are in operation.
- In addition, AT&T anticipates having another 7 FirstNet sites operational by 03/31/2023.
- Due to factors beyond its control AT&T anticipates that it may not be able to get up to six FirstNet sites operational by the end of March 2023. However, the company is committed to continuing to pursue developing those six sites.
- In the meantime, the company is also developing many "business as usual" (BAU) cell sites in VT over the next few years. As a result, the company is in discussions with the Department of Public Safety about allowing six of those BAU sites to "count" towards its FirstNet commitment, with the understanding that AT&T will continue to pursue the development of these six FirstNet sites.



Vermont Network Build-Out Q1 2022 Progress Report House Energy & Technology March 22, 2022

AT&T Proprietary



BY THE NUMBERS

The **only** dedicated communications platform in the country that brings first responders:



Always-on, 24x7 priority and preemption across voice and data communications



A physically separate network core fully dedicated to public safety

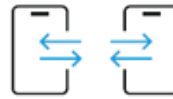


Government oversight and accountability from the FirstNet Authority

Updated: 1/26/2022

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3M+
FirstNet connections



19.5K+
Public safety agencies and organizations subscribed



190+
apps in the FirstNet App Catalog



370+
FirstNet Ready® devices

AMERICA'S PUBLIC SAFETY NETWORK

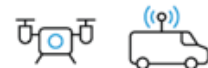
2.71M
Square miles of LTE coverage nationwide



~100K
Square miles of LTE coverage added in 2020



100+ Dedicated deployable network assets, including Flying COWs™ and FirstNet One.



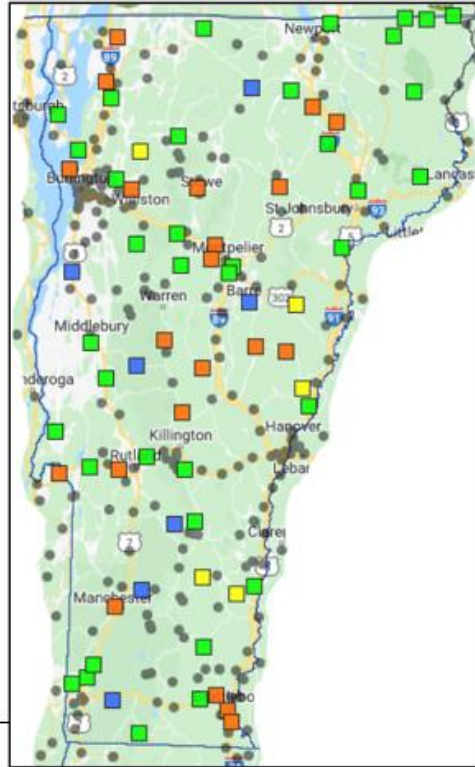
95%+
Band 14 coverage completion; well ahead of schedule



800+
Solutions deployed for public safety in 2021



AT&T New Site Builds Since Opt-In / Vermont



- Online
- InConstruction
- Permitted
- Site Acquisition
- On-line at Opt-In

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FIRSTNET
Built with AT&T

Ripton Rte 125 FirstNet NSB – Update, Progress, associated investment and hurdles



Ripton RT25

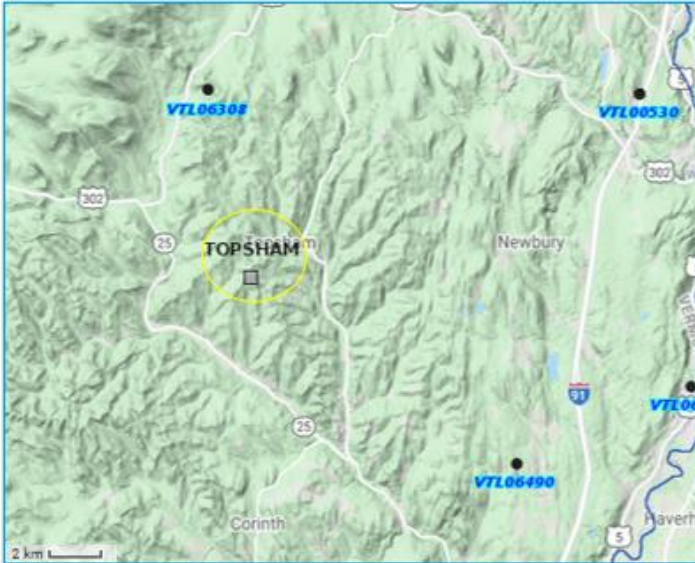
- Coverage for uncovered stretch of Rte 125 Between Middlebury and Hancock
- Proposed tower at the Middlebury Snow Bowl is forecast to be complete by FOC
- Construction costs are estimated at \$ 1.7 million dollars, main contributors:
 - Utilities: 6,500' underground trenching along existing access road/ski trail for power and fiber
 - Tower / Site Prep / Labor: 180' Tower at high elevation.
 - Helicopter required
- Total project costs estimated at \$2 mill+

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FIRSTNET
Built with AT&T

Topsham FirstNet NSB Target – Update, Progress, associated investment and hurdles



Topsham FN NSB

- Cover areas and routes south of Rte 302 including Topsham and Rte 25
- Pending completion of License Agreement with the State of Vermont
- Construction to start immediately following lease signatures

High-Cost Drivers:

	Labor	Materials	Extended Cost
Carrier Swap	\$292,500.00	\$172,500.00	\$465,000.00
Civil Prep Work	\$75,000.00	\$32,500.00	\$107,500.00
Tower Foundation	\$52,000.00	\$78,100.00	\$130,100.00
Anchors	\$58,500.00	\$97,530.00	\$156,030.00
Crane	\$0.00	\$87,900.00	\$87,900.00
Clearing	\$45,600.00	\$13,000.00	\$58,600.00
Electrical/ Fiber relo	\$65,000.00	\$19,500.00	\$84,500.00
Removal	\$146,000.00	\$82,000.00	\$228,000.00
Tower Steel		\$82,140.00	\$82,140.00
Total Proposal -			\$1,399,770.00

Sheffield (I-91) FirstNet Committed



North Bennington – BAU

