

On Mar 22, 2022, at 9:22 AM, Stephen Whitaker <whitaker.stephen@gmail.com> wrote:

Senator White:

I wish to be heard and to present testimony on the topic of Dispatch this Thursday.

The process leading up to this point has been anything but well planned or transparent.

The emergency Communication Advisory Council created by Executive Order nearly three years ago has still not been appointed nor convened.

AT&T FirstNet has failed to live up to commitments and has deceived state officials as to their built coverage and yet there is little to no oversight or consequence.

Montpelier especially is mired in secretive strategy between Commissioner Schirling and Chief Peete, with absolutely no approval by the Montpelier City Council, while they continue to deliberately undermine years of work by the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority.

The lack of integration among the extremely well funded broadband initiatives, the Governor's/PSD proposed \$51M cellular in-fill initiative and the needs for regional public safety communication plans that bring first responder communications into the 21st century with both LMR (Land Mobile Radio) and LTE Broadband requires that a full situational analysis be heard by the Committee and for your committee to consider conditioning Appropriations Bill funding on proper planning and transparent governance.

Thanks you,
Stephen Whitaker