

Nebraska Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NPSC DELIVERS 911 SERVICE SYSTEM ACT PROGRESS REPORT

LINCOLN, FEBRUARY 1, 2017— The Nebraska Public Service Commission (NPSC) has submitted its Progress Report on the 911 Service System Act (LB938) to the Appropriations and Transportation and Telecommunications Committees of the Nebraska Legislature.

Passed in 2016, The 911 Service System Act (LB938), authorized the NPSC under the direction of the State 9-1-1 Director to develop a plan to transition the state from an existing Enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1) system to a Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) system.

“Evolving technology has changed the way in which citizens contact 911,” said David Sankey, State 9-1-1 Director. “While our current 911 system has served us well, time has come to develop and implement a comprehensive, coordinated, sustainable 911 system that will benefit our citizens for the next generation and beyond.”

NG9-1-1 is the transition of the current statewide Legacy 911 system to a secure Internet Protocol (IP) based system, utilizing high speed data connectivity capable of receiving information to include voice, text messages, pictures and videos. An NG9-1-1 system once implemented will also allow for seamless information sharing between 9-1-1 centers, first responders, trauma centers and other emergency response entities.

As highlighted in the Progress Report, the NPSC has retained Mission Critical Partners Inc. (MCP), to support development of the NG9-1-1 Master Plan, and established a stakeholders group comprised of representatives from state Public Safety Agencies, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), State, Municipal and County officials and organizations, wireline, wireless and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service providers.

“Engaging individuals for whom public safety is not only a vital interest but a way of life is an extremely important part of our process,” said NPSC Commission Chairman Tim Schram. “We feel confident our stakeholders are dedicated to not only working together to improve our 9-1-1 system, but to move it forward to the next generation.”

The 911 Service System Act (LB938) sets out a well-defined timeline for implementation of an NG9-1-1 plan for the state of Nebraska. The first step in the plan, is the delivery of the Progress Report to the Legislature. A copy of the NPSC's Progress Report on the 911 Service System Act (LB938) can be found on the NPSC website @< <http://bit.ly/2kqmJrq> >. ###

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