United States Department of Commerce
National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Regarding the:	)	Docket: 120509050-1050-01
	)	
Development of the State and Local	)	
Implementation Grant Program for the	)	
Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network	)	
	)	
Request for Information	)	

Comments from Kristin Russell, Chief Information Officer for the State of Colorado

I. Introduction

As the Chief Information Officer ("CIO") for the State of Colorado, I am pleased to offer the following comments to specific questions contained in the Request for Information ("RFI") outlined in the Federal Register Vol. 77, No. 95/Wednesday May 16, 2012. I would like to note that these comments are from my perspective as a CIO and that my office, the Governor's Office of Information Technology ("OIT"), will be submitting additional comments on a wider range of questions. My comments focus specifically on questions 2 and 16 and how I view the roles and responsibilities of the CIO in this process. I appreciate the opportunity to offer my thoughts and look forward to working with the NTIA as this important project continues.

II. Comments

Question 2: Designated representative and/or governing body and ensuring local and tribal involvement in the State and Local Implementation Grant Program

The designation of a single officer or governing body will and should vary from state to state as the governing and management structure within each state varies.

Specifically for Colorado, I believe the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) should take the lead for the State and Local Implementation grant program intended to assist state and local governments in planning for a single, nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network (PSBN). OIT should act as the coordinating body and engage the necessary stakeholders and resources from state and local governments. As the State Chief Information Officer and head of OIT, I should be responsible for assigning a specific individual to lead the grant program on behalf of the State.
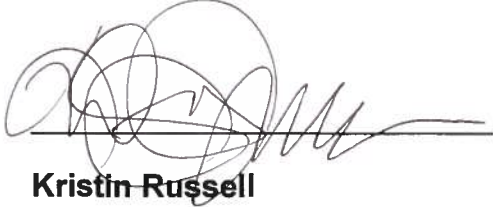
The State should engage existing public safety governance structures (e.g., UASI, SIEC, CCNC, All Hazard Regions, etc.), first responder organizations (Colorado Sheriff's Association, Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Advisory Councils, and Colorado State Fire Chief's Association), and municipal and county organizations (IT, Transportation, etc.) to ensure that a comprehensive effort is put forth. This will ensure that the governance structures developed are inclusive and that all potential assets are identified. The key will be to synchronize public safety entities with the municipal and county organizations that often manage and maintain the infrastructure. The State will also need to engage the appropriate technical and legal experts as well as finance officials when evaluating how the identified infrastructure can be integrated and used for the nationwide PSBN. The specific stakeholders would be identified once the details of the program have been defined.

Question 16: Role of the CIO

As the head of technology within a state, the CIO should play a key role in ensuring that both the planning grant program and the work performed by the program fit within the overall goals of the state technology architecture and fulfill the needs of public safety. The nationwide PSBN will integrate a number of technologies (Internet Protocol, Radio Frequency, Microwave, etc) and disciplines (Public Safety, Transportation, Private Entities) and, therefore, will need an individual to ensure these relationships are developed. The CIO should ensure their organizations have the resources to work with agencies and create the linkages where none exist or break down barriers where they

do exist. A comprehensive and inclusive statewide strategy that includes local entities will be critical if the network is to be successfully implemented.

Submitted by:

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