



Texas (TX)

PSIC Federal Award: \$65,069,247

(Awarded September 30, 2007)

Summary

PSIC Investment Justification	Federal Funds
State of Texas Strategic Technology Reserve (STR) Project	\$5,039,518
State of Texas Multi-Agency Interoperability Project	\$10,591,050
Multi-COG Communications Network (MCCN)	\$8,501,075
Regional—Texas/Mexico Border Interoperable Communications (T/MBIC)	\$9,117,464
Houston Urban Area Interoperability Expansion	\$14,586,128
San Antonio Urban Area Project 25 (P25) 700 Megahertz (MHz) Multi-region Evacuation/Border Security Initiative	\$3,043,692
Regional Interoperability Communication Upgrades	\$7,444,443
Coastal Four-County Trunked Radio Interoperability Expansion	\$1,798,271
Houston-Galveston Area Council Regional Infrastructure and Subscriber Units	\$1,238,481
North Central Texas Regional 700 MHz Interoperability Overlay	\$1,657,048
Management and Administration (M&A)	\$1,952,077
Statewide Planning	\$100,000
Total PSIC Award	\$65,069,247

Pass Through: The State of Texas fulfilled the PSIC Grant Program requirement by passing through a minimum of 80 percent of the total award amount to local or tribal government bodies or authorized nongovernmental public safety agencies.

Strategic Technology Reserve (STR): Texas allocated \$5,039,518 to its STR Investment.

Investments

State-level Match Amount: \$2,354,808

State of Texas Strategic Technology Reserve (STR) Project

Federal Amount:	\$ 5,039,518
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,007,904
Total Project Cost:	\$ 6,047,422



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Texas faces many interoperability challenges. Parts of rural Texas lack wireless or landline capabilities, which limit emergency communications. In areas with established landline and public safety communications systems, a major disaster or incident could destroy existing infrastructure and negatively impact emergency communications. Additionally, many of the existing regional radio systems are composed of aging equipment for which parts and vendor support are no longer available. This Investment works to mitigate these issues and provide backup interoperable capabilities during an incident or natural disaster. The Texas Department of Public Safety (TxDPS) will procure a cache of equipment to include communications response trailers, portable radios with Project 25 (P25) conventional and trunking capabilities, a deployable IP-based radio gateway, portable generators, portable deployable gateway devices, and satellite telephones and radios to establish an strategic technology reserve (STR) for the State that is pre-positioned, deployable, and able to re-establish communications when critical communications equipment is damaged or destroyed.

State of Texas Multi-Agency Interoperability Project

Federal Amount:	\$ 10,591,050
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 2,040,000
Total Project Cost:	\$ 12,631,050



97%* Acquisition & Deployment	3% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

There are gaps in communications coverage across the State of Texas and along the Texas/Mexico border. These areas often have no landline communications or wireless communications capabilities. Additionally, State agencies and local first responders use many disparate radio systems, which impede interoperability. This Investment will create a unified statewide solution to improve interoperability using a combination of technologies. The Investment will include the purchase of wide-area Internet Protocol (IP) switches; a 700 MHz “overlay” system with a P25 master-site switch and 10 new 700 MHz sites; the expansion of a regional P25 system with four additional communications sites along the Mexican border; P25 mobile and/or portable radios; and mobile gateway switches to provide interagency connectivity and interoperability with mutual aid channels. Overall, this Investment will adopt advanced technological solutions, improve spectrum efficiency, use cost effective measures, and improve interoperability efforts in areas at-risk, including urban and metropolitan areas and along the Texas/Mexico border.

Multi-COG Communications Network (MCCN)



Federal Amount:	\$ 8,501,075
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,700,215
Total Project Cost:	\$10,201,290

100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The State of Texas operates mostly on wideband VHF conventional systems. This allows for some interoperability in and between coverage areas; however, it is not spectrum efficient and there is a need for additional public safety radio channels in regions adjacent to suburban and urban areas. In addition, many of these systems operate on an unreliable, aging infrastructure that provides partial coverage and unreliable operability at times. This Investment will expand coverage by creating a P25 standards-based shared system throughout East Texas using a combination of new towers, repeaters, and existing infrastructure in multiple jurisdictions called the Multi-COG Communications Network (MCCN). This Investment will serve the Houston SUASI and the Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington UASI, and advance the State's goal of achieving statewide interoperability by 2015.

Regional—Texas/Mexico Border Interoperable Communications (T/MBIC)



Federal Amount:	\$ 9,117,464
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,813,493
Total Project Cost:	\$10,930,957

99%* Acquisition & Deployment	<1% Training & Exercise	<1% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The Texas/Mexico Border Interoperable Communications (T/MBIC) Investment addresses communications gaps along the International Border with Mexico, such as aging infrastructure, disparate radio systems spanning numerous frequency bands, limited roaming capability, and radio interference from both sides of the border. The goal for this Investment is to build out the regional systems with dual-mode VHF and/or 800 MHz sites (concentrating on areas with limited or no radio coverage first), linking those systems using a P25 overlay, and transitioning public safety communications to this digital network of regional systems. This Investment will provide continuous roaming capability, interoperability and improved coverage in the 14 border counties.

Houston Urban Area Interoperability Expansion

Federal Amount:	\$ 14,586,128
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 3,646,532
Total Project Cost:	\$ 18,232,660



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The Houston area is hampered by incompatible and aging equipment, disparate radio systems, and limited funding. Harris County has an 800 MHz digital trunked system, the City of Houston currently operates on four different radio systems that are over 15 years old, and neighboring Montgomery County operates on an outdated analog system that cannot interoperate with outside jurisdictions without gateway patches. This Investment will provide for the replacement of these outdated and disparate systems. Houston will migrate to a new 700/800 MHz, P25 radio system by equipping 10 sites with repeaters, simulcast equipment, and other needed equipment, which will then support full interoperability with the Harris County Regional Radio System. Montgomery County will migrate to a P25 platform, which will address the challenges of communicating across disparate systems, and will support communications regardless of frequency. These upgrades will result in more reliable communications and enhanced interoperable communications capability throughout the region.

San Antonio Urban Area P25 700 MHz Multi-region Evacuation/Border Security Initiative

Federal Amount:	\$ 3,043,692
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 442,904
Total Project Cost:	\$ 3,486,596



97%* Acquisition & Deployment	3% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The San Antonio UASI includes Bexar County City of San Antonio, and 26 other agencies that use a non-P25, shared 800 MHz system. Areas outside of Bexar County use a 900 MHz system or a variety of VHF/UHF systems. This Investment will leverage the existing 800 MHz system by adding P25-compliant and 700 MHz infrastructure to expand the regional footprint and achieve greater interoperability in Bexar County and among other systems in Region 53, such as the Alamo Area Council of Government, Capital Area Planning Council, and Lower Colorado River Authority. This Investment is composed of four phases that will result in regional interoperability and eventual connection to the statewide system.

Regional Interoperability Communication Upgrades

Federal Amount:	\$ 7,444,443
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 1,487,689
Total Project Cost:	\$ 8,932,132



99%* Acquisition & Deployment	<1% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

This Investment addresses interoperability problems in regions adjacent to the metropolitan areas of Houston, Dallas, and Austin. To effectively manage regional and statewide emergencies and to coordinate disaster response, first responders in rural regions adjacent to these large metro areas require communications interoperability with each other and with their urban counterparts. The Investment will address the need for deployment of designated interoperable calling and tactical channels in the VHF, UHF, 700 MHz, and 800 MHz public safety frequency bands. The Investment will allow the State to implement these channels in 71 of Texas's 254 counties, providing interoperable coverage where none currently exists. The Investment will leverage existing infrastructure and adopt advanced technological solutions to achieve greater interoperability. Additionally, this Investment will provide for five regional projects, each connecting or combining local systems to create larger, multi-jurisdictional systems. Purchases will include replacing or updating subscriber equipment to be P25 compliant, expansion of radio systems, building new towers, and IP connectivity. Overall, the Investment will improve communications and interoperability in the hurricane coastal areas and the Jefferson County regional system.

Coastal Four-County Trunked Radio Interoperability Expansion

Federal Amount:	\$ 1,798,271
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 454,567
Total Project Cost:	\$ 2,252,838



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

To address the need for multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency interoperable communications in the coastal four-county region, this Investment will expand existing locally-owned radio systems to address communications and coverage gaps. In addition, the Investment will provide for enhanced interoperable communications capabilities in Corpus Christi and its surrounding communities by extending the trunked system and incorporating capabilities for future P25 implementation. Radios, consoles, a backup repeater, a radio system site, a backup generator, and radio system upgrades will be procured through this Investment. Overall, this Investment is expected to improve multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency interoperable communications and response among law enforcement and other agencies in the coastal four-county region.

Houston-Galveston Area Council Regional Infrastructure and Subscriber Units



Federal Amount:	\$ 1,238,481
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 306,145
Total Project Cost:	\$ 1,544,626

99%* Acquisition & Deployment	<1% Training & Exercise	<1% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The Houston-Galveston area is hampered by incompatible and aging equipment and by disparate radio systems operating in and around the region. These systems serve many agencies and users, while providing few supporting sites and channels. Houston's three radio systems and Harris County's Regional Radio System support more than 50,000 radios for public safety and public service functions. This Investment will provide for the acquisition and installation of P25-compliant consoles, mobile, and portable units, which will allow public safety agencies to transition to 700 MHz and 800 MHz systems to support interoperability and multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency events.

North Central Texas Regional 700 MHz Interoperability Overlay



Federal Amount:	\$ 1,657,048
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 216,955
Total Project Cost:	\$ 1,874,003

69%* Acquisition & Deployment	3% Training & Exercise	28% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The North Central Texas region currently operates on a number of disparate radio systems, including VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz bands. The region does not have a common interoperable communications system that allows all users to communicate. This Investment involves two subprojects. The first project is the development, acquisition, and deployment of a standards-based interoperability overlay across the North Central Texas Council of Governments' 16-county region to provide a single system for public agencies to access and interoperate. The overlay will advance the State's interoperability plan and provide the framework for statewide interoperability. The second project is the development of a long range regional radio communications plan that will serve to guide jurisdictions within the region towards a common goal of regional interoperable communications. The plan will provide a path for advancement of regional radio systems throughout the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

PSIC Administration and Statewide Planning Costs

Management and Administration (M&A)

Federal Amount:	\$ 1,952,077
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 488,019
Total Project Cost:	\$ 2,440,096

The State was allowed to retain up to three percent of the total PSIC award for costs associated with the administration of the State's PSIC Investments. The M&A costs could include hiring full-time or part-time staff or contractors for grant management services related to reporting, monitoring and audit compliance, and associated travel and meeting expenses.

Statewide Planning

Federal Amount	\$100,000
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The State was allowed to retain up to five percent of the total PSIC award for Statewide Planning costs associated with the incorporation of the PSIC criteria into the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The Statewide Planning period of performance was April 1, 2007– December 3, 2007, with the submission of the SCIP.
