

SLIGP 2.0 Grant Closeout Report				2. Award or Grant Number:	78-10-S18078
				4. EIN:	660431678
1. Recipient Name	United States Virgin Islands- Office of the Governor - Bureau of Information Technology			6. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	06/08/2021
3. Street Address	8000 Nisky Shopping Center, Suite 600 A			7. Reporting Period End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/31/2021
5. City, State, Zip Code	Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802			8. Final Report	
				Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
				No	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Project/Grant Period				10. Reserved for Reviewer	
9a. Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/01/2018	9b. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/31/2021		
11. Program Activities					
11a. Identify the activities you performed during SLIGP2.0 grant period of performance					
	Activity Type (Planning, Governance Meetings, etc.)	Was this Activity Performed during the grant period? (Yes/No)	Total Project Deliverable Quantity (Number)	Description of Activity Deliverable Quantity	
1	Governance Meetings	Yes	2	Cumulative number of governance, subcommittee, or working group meetings related to the NPSBN held during the grant period	
2	Individuals Sent to Broadband Conferences	Yes	9	Cumulative number of individuals sent to national or regional third-party conferences with a focus or training track related to the NPSBN using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period	
3	Convened Stakeholder Events	Yes	3	Cumulative number of events coordinated or held using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period, as requested by FirstNet.	
4	Staff Hired (Full-Time Equivalent)(FTE)	Yes	1.00	Cumulative number of state/territory personnel FTEs who began supporting SLIGP 2.0 activities during the grant period (may be a decimal).	
5	Contracts Executed	Yes	1	Cumulative number of contracts executed during the grant period.	
6	Subrecipient Agreements Executed	No	0	Cumulative number of agreements executed during the grant period.	
7	Data Sharing Policies/Agreements Developed	No		Yes or No if data sharing policies and/or agreements were developed during the grant period.	
8	Further Identification of Potential Public Safety Users	Yes		Yes or No if further identification of potential public safety users occurred during the grant period.	
9	Plans for Emergency Communications Technology Transitions	Yes		Yes or No if plans for future emergency communications technology transitions occurred during the grant period.	
10	Identified and Planned to Transition PS Apps & Databases	Yes		Yes or No if public safety applications or databases within the State or territory were identified and transition plans were developed during the grant period	
11	Identify Ongoing Coverage Gaps	Yes		Yes or No if participated in identifying ongoing coverage gaps using SLIGP 2.0 funds during the grant period.	
12	Data Collection Activities	No		Yes or No if participated in data collection activities as requested by FirstNet	

11b. Please provide a description of each activity reported in response to Question 11; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you employed; and any additional project milestones or information.

GVI executed & closed out the contract with Televate, LLC in March 2021, to provide NPSBN Technical Experts/Consultant services as it relates to FirstNet Planning Services. Project wrap up for FirstNet Planning Services Project was held on March 30, 2021. Project activities included Televate presenting findings to Stakeholders it had acquired via surveys to support PTT analysis, data collection to support PinPoint Mobile Coverage analysis, and Stakeholder interviews. During the reporting period, the Territory-wide Communication Interoperability Governing Board (TWCIGB) met and discussed Governance, Smart City Initiatives, Interoperable Communications, and Emergency Communications. The Bureau of Information Technology, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management (VITEMA) and the Office of the Lt. Governor presented initiative updates during the meeting. The FirstNetVI team continues to support the territory's CAD project, and other public safety communications discussions. A formal bid process has been initiated for securing a FirstNet ready in-vehicle mobile data solution for public safety. AT&T/FirstNet has provided a preliminary service proposal to the territory. The team also participates in Hurricane preparedness coordination efforts twice a week lead by the Virgin Islands Emergency Management Agency.

11c. Did you perform activities during the last quarter of the grant that haven't been reported previously (i.e., new programmatic activities, staffing changes)? If so, please describe.

11d. Please share any lessons learned or best practices that your organization implemented during your SLIGP 2.0 project.

We learned that there is a need to continue to educate and discuss the NPSBN with our stakeholders, as their perspectives are imperative to the success of the NPSBN in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI).


The USVI conducted three successful stakeholder events across the territory at the request of FirstNet in the major disciplines of police, fire, and Emergency Management Services (EMS). Each of the events included a section on use cases, which we learned is one of the best ways to educate potential users on the benefits of the NPSBN. We estimate that these events were successful at educating key stakeholders throughout the territory on the NPSBN.

We learned the importance of self-advocacy, pushing the limits and demanding the Virgin Islands be treated equally despite our small population, geographical footprint, geographical location, or low potential FirstNet subscriber count. We successfully got FirstNet/AT&T to increase the number of new site builds, increase the number of sites with band-14, and pledge dedicated resources (deployables) to the territory for fast deployment when it matters most.

13. Contractual (Contract and/or Subrecipients)								
13a. Contractual Table – Include all contractors. The totals from this table should equal the “Contractual” in Question 14f.								
Name	Subcontract Purpose	Type (Contract/Subrec.)	RFP/RFQ Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Total Federal Funds Allocated	Total Matching Funds Allocated
Televate, LLC	NPSBN Technical Experts/ Consultant	Contract	Y	Y	11/4/2020	3/31/2021	\$ 129,496.00	
Total Funds Allocated to Contracts							\$129,496.00	\$0.00
14. Budget Worksheet								
Columns 2, 3 and 4 must match your project budget for the entire award and your final SF 424A. Columns 5, 6, and 7 should list your final budget figures, cumulative through the last quarter								
Project Budget Element (1)	Federal Funds Awarded (2)	Approved Matching Funds (3)	Total Budget (4)	Final Federal Funds Expended (5)	Final Approved Matching Funds Expended (6)	Final Total Funds Expended (7)		
a. Personnel Salaries	\$213,077.00		\$213,077.00	\$194,691.29		\$194,691.29		
b. Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$95,885.00		\$95,885.00	\$86,862.92		\$86,862.92		
c. Travel	\$40,440.00		\$40,440.00	\$39,494.72		\$39,494.72		
d. Equipment	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00		
e. Materials/Supplies	\$10,314.00		\$10,314.00	\$6,013.33		\$6,013.33		
f. Contractual	\$127,176.00		\$127,176.00	\$129,496.00		\$129,496.00		
g. Other	\$5,200.00		\$5,200.00	\$11,033.00		\$11,033.00		
h. Indirect	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00		
i. Total Costs	\$492,092.00	\$0.00	\$492,092.00	\$467,591.26	\$0.00	\$467,591.26		
j. Proportionality Percent	100%	0%	100%	100%	0%	100%		

15. Additional Questions: Read each statement below. Rate your level of agreement or disagreement with each statement and answer follow-up questions to provide additional information.			
Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Questions	Response
15a. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in planning for the integration with the NPSBN.	4-Agree	What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?	<p>The SLIGP 2.0 grant helped us plan for integration with the NPSBN by providing opportunities to engage and educate stakeholders; providing opportunities to mitigate coverage gaps identified throughout the territory; providing opportunities to address the emergency communications response plan with FirstNet/AT&T; and producing a data sharing policy and transition plan to modernize the USVI public safety capabilities.</p> <p>The territory continues to fight for more resources and commitment from FirstNet/AT&T, spending two years in back and forth debates with FirstNet/AT&T on the need for additional new site-builds and onground technical resources. In QTR 1 2020, the USVI finally got a commitment from FirstNet/AT&T to increase the number of new site-builds from 5 towers to 8. In QTR 4 2020, we received a commitment from FirstNet/AT&T to station 1 deployable per district, as the standing nationwide deployment plan did not take into account the true effort (time, logistics, port access, etc) in deploying assets to the USVI, especially post disaster. We remain in talks with FirstNet/AT&T to increase the number of technicians on ground to respond to network issues as they arise, the status quo of one (1) technician to service the territory remains a significant concern.</p> <p>The sale of AT&T assets to Liberty remains an unknown variable. FirstNet/AT&T has pledged their commitment to the public safety community and the territory.</p>
15b. I plan to continue any SLIGP 2.0 program activities beyond the SLIGP 2.0 period of performance.	4-Agree	What do you plan to accomplish after the period of performance?	<p>We plan to continue prioritizing planning for NPSBN integration in the USVI through our governance body meetings and with regular touch base meetings with FirstNet/At&T representatives.</p>
15c. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in informing my stakeholders about FirstNet.	4-Agree	What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?	<p>The SLIGP 2.0 grant helped provide an opportunity for the USVI to work with our regional FirstNet representative and AT&T principal consultant to develop an agenda for planned stakeholder events. Topics covered at these events included aspects of the FirstNet Roadmap and how the USVI's public safety agencies can subscribe and utilize the NPSBN.</p>

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Questions	Response
<p>15d. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in maintaining a governance structure for broadband in my state/territory.</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>The SLIGP 2.0 grant helped us to re-establish and maintain a governing body of members from various public safety disciplines dedicated to broadband in the USVI and provided opportunities for purposeful communication with FirstNet/AT&T.</p> <p>The impact of hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, posed many challenges to include the disruption of board meetings. The board was re-engaged in QTR-1 2020, cadence was then disrupted by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
<p>15e. SLIGP 2.0 funds provided resources that were helpful in preparing for FirstNet planning activities in my state/territory (e.g. staffing, attending broadband conferences, participating in training, procuring contract support etc.).</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>SLIGP 2.0 funds allowed us to attend broadband conferences and training workshops that provided important learning and outreach opportunities for our staff. Funds also allowed us to procure a contract that helped us to develop data sharing policies and transition plans, conduct mission critical push to talk capacity analysis, and conduct drive testing and analyze data for future recommendations to FirstNet/AT&T and government of the Virgin Islands (GVI) leadership on our territory's broadband priorities.</p> <p>Challenges we encountered included resources toward purchasing FirstNet devices were unallowable, the scope of allowable activities was narrow,</p>

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Questions	Response
<p>15f. Overall, SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in preparing for FirstNet.</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Overall, SLIGP 2.0 funds helped us prepare for the NPSBN by providing funding for staff dedicated to broadband, providing opportunities and platforms for territorywide collaboration on NPSBN integration, building relationships with FirstNet/AT&T to the benefit of our state's broadband coverage and applications priorities, elevating the resource/commitment issue as a territorywide priority, increasing our ability to successfully integrate the NPSBN. The ability to attend conferences and workshops increased our exposure to FirstNet solutions, pilots, applications, and engage with industry experts.</p> <p>Overall, challenges we encountered during the overall SLIGP 2.0 grant period of performance included the scope of allowable activities was narrow, stakeholders were more interested in items deemed as operational which were not allowable. Working within allowable activities was difficult to navigate, funding limits posed staffing challenges that limited the scope of program planning.</p>
<p>16. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose(s) set forth in the award documents.</p>			
<p>16a. Typed or printed name and title of Authorized Certifying Official:</p>		<p>16c. Telephone:</p>	<p>340-713-0354 Ext. 5510</p>
<p>Rupert O. Ross, Director</p>		<p>16d. Email Address:</p>	<p>rupert.ross@bit.vi.gov</p>
<p>16b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official:</p>		<p>16e. Date:</p>	<p>6/8/2021</p>
			

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