



ENTERPRISE
information services



FirstNet Update

Ben Gherezgiher
State Chief Information Security Officer

Joint Committee on Information
Management and Technology

March 28, 2025



ENTERPRISE
information services



FirstNet Update

- ▶ FirstNet Overview
- ▶ FirstNet National Outlook
- ▶ State of Oregon Outlook
- ▶ Oregon Commitment Accomplishments (State Plan)
- ▶ Looking to the Future





FirstNet Overview: Background

- ▶ The FirstNet Authority was established in light of 9/11 to lead the creation of a dedicated nationwide broadband network using spectrum set aside for the public safety community (Band 14).
- ▶ Through a combination of government, commercial, and public safety partnerships, we are committed to delivering a network and supporting ecosystem of apps, devices, and capabilities that are innovative, reliable, accessible and secure.
- ▶ By modernizing public safety communications with our partners, we can help responders keep America safe—every day and in every emergency.
- ▶ To learn more, visit [FirstNet.gov](https://www.firstnet.gov)





FirstNet Overview: Core Services Domains



CORE

- Generational Updates (e.g., 4G to 5G)
- Priority and Preemption, including Uplift on 5G
- Mission Critical Services Platforms and Enablers on 5G
- Network Security on 5G



COVERAGE

- Outdoor Coverage Expansion
- Indoor Coverage Expansion
- Unique Coverage Solutions Advancement



SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Locate and Present Personnel Location
- Location Services Integration



VOICE COMMUNICATIONS

- Operationalize FirstNet Push-to-Talk
- Active Role in Standards
- Critical Features



SECURE INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- Database Integration
- Application Integration



USER EXPERIENCE

- Mission-Enabling Applications
- Mission-Capable Devices





FirstNet: National Outlook



BY THE NUMBERS

The **only** dedicated communications platform in the country that brings first responders:



Always-on, 24x7 priority and preemption across voice and data communications



A physically separate network core **fully dedicated** to public safety



Government oversight and accountability from the **FirstNet Authority**

Updated 07/24/2024

¹As of Q2 2024

²Since the start of the FirstNet Build

©2024 AT&T Intellectual Property. FirstNet and the FirstNet logo are registered trademarks of the First Responder Network Authority. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

6.1M+

FirstNet connections¹



28.5K+

Public safety agencies and organizations subscribed



205+

Apps in the FirstNet App Catalog



~800

FirstNet Ready[®] devices

AMERICA'S PUBLIC SAFETY NETWORK

2.97M+

Square miles of coverage



250K+

Square miles more than commercial networks



180+

Dedicated assets, including Flying COWs[®] and CRDs[™]



64%

Increase in Tribal Land coverage²



1150

Solutions triaged and deployed this year



FirstNet alone is now the 4th largest carrier, displacing US Cellular

FirstNet's total network now encompasses more area nation-wide than any other commercial network

... all that just a few years into a 25-year contract



FirstNet: State of Oregon Outlook

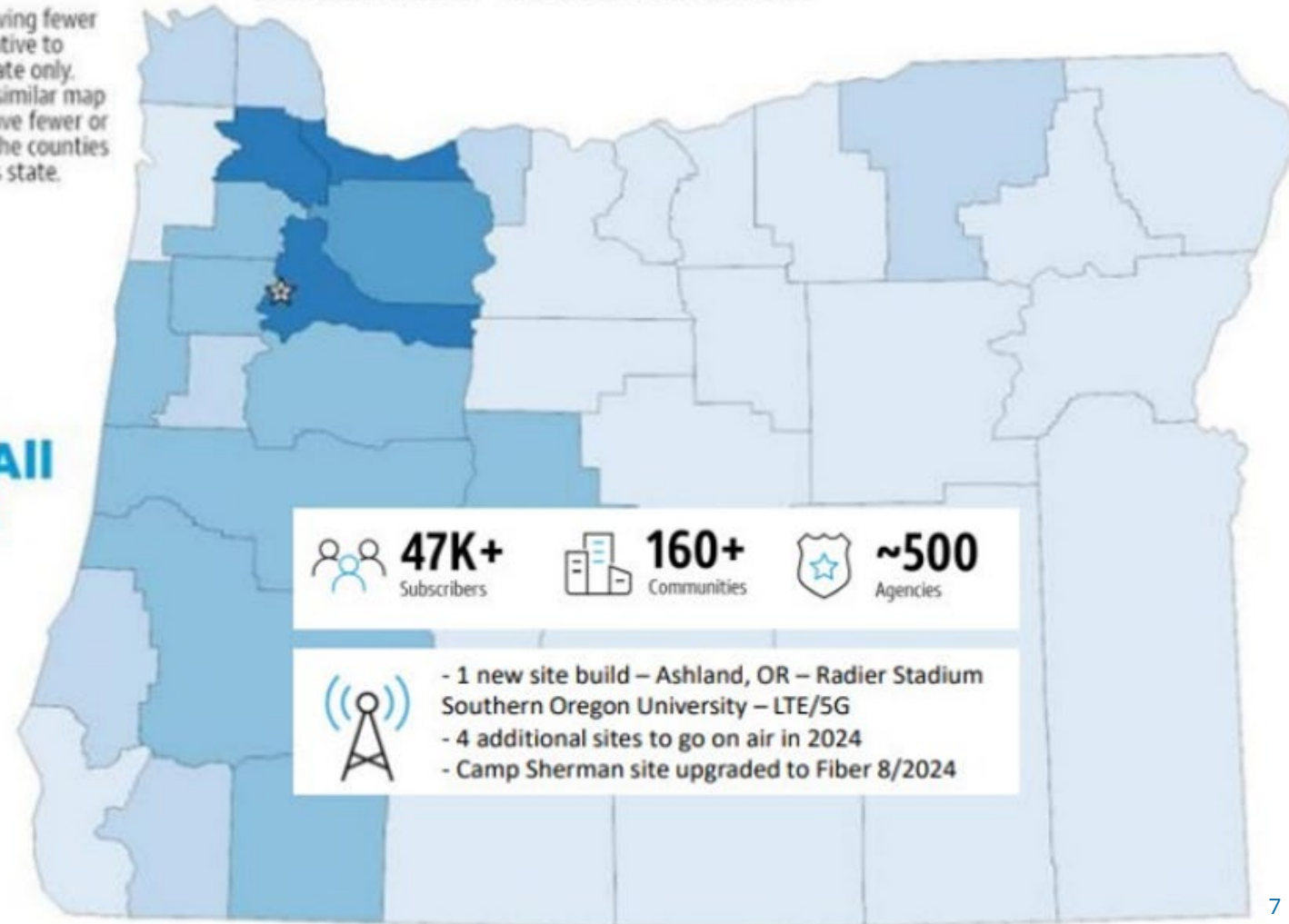
- Subscribers includes Primary, Extended Primary, Agency-Paid and Sub-Paid FirstNet Users as of 6/30/24. Subscriber concentration depicted is as of 6/20/23.
- Communities are cities/towns in the state that have at least one agency/organization on FirstNet as of 6/30/24.
- Agencies are agencies/organizations in the state that have at least one user of FirstNet as of 6/30/24.

Counties depicted as having fewer or more subscribers relative to other counties in the state only. Counties depicted on a similar map of another state may have fewer or more subscribers than the counties of the same color in this state.

**FirstNet
Users in All
Counties**



Subscriber Concentration





Oregon – State Plan Completion 2023



Adoption:



35,000+ Connections

363+ Public safety organizations subscribing



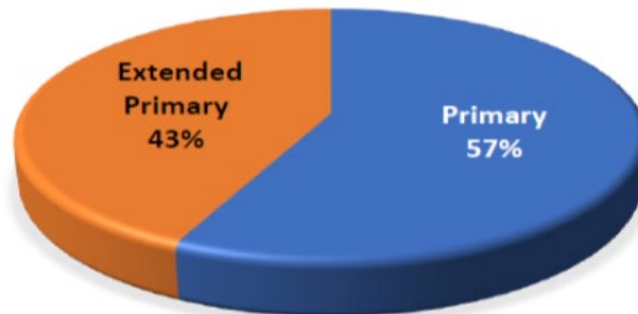
Radio Access Network Buildout
Activities – State Plan

46 sites on air out of 46 target sites



100% Complete

OREGON ADOPTION



Primary

- LE, Fire, EMS, Public Safety Answering Points community, State Level Emergency Management, Trauma center staff

Secondary

- Support users, utilities, education, transportation, etc.

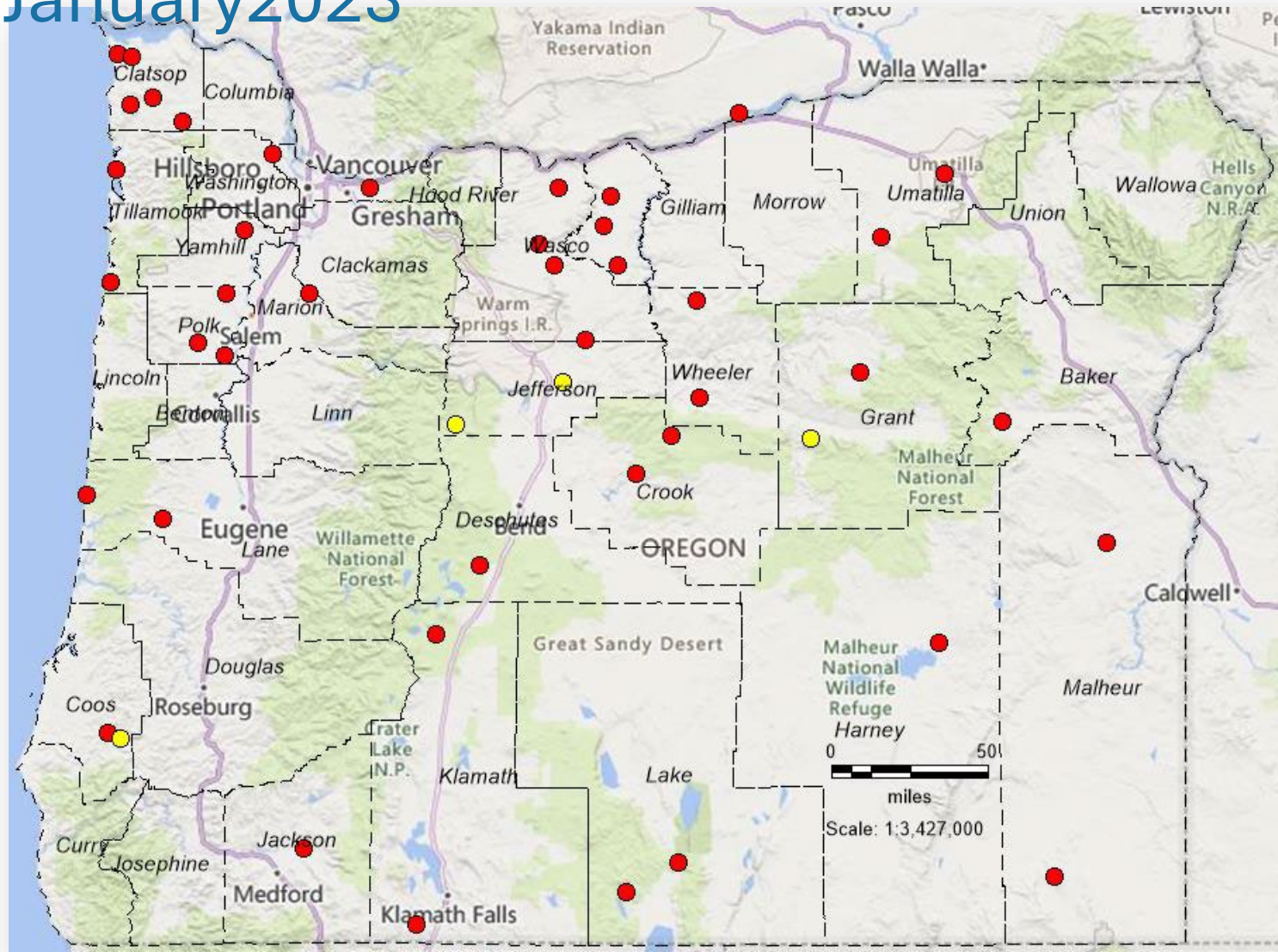


ENTERPRISE
information services



Oregon – as of January 2023

● Complete On Air (46)





FirstNet – Oregon Fire Response

Response Operations Group (ROG) in Oregon

Requests for Support

	49	in 2024*	
	39	in 2023	
	26	in 2022	
*January 2 – August 8/13/24			



- ▶ 19 wildfire requests through 8/12/24
- ▶ Deployments included:
 - SatColt – Ukiah, Oregon – Battle Mtn Complex Fire
 - SatColt – Seneca – Falls
 - CRD – Richland, Oregon – Town Gulch Fire
 - SatColt – Dorena – Cottage Gove Complex Fire
 - CRD – Days Creek – Dixon Fire
- ▶ Network augmentation:
 - Tygh Valley, Oregon – Wasco County Fair & Rodeo
 - Salem, Oregon – Oregon State Fair





FirstNet Overview: Use Case Example

Law Enforcement





FirstNet Overview: Use Case Example

FirstNet Rapid Response: Cellular Push-to-Talk for Public Safety

► What It Is:

- A mission-critical Push-to-Talk (PTT) solution designed for public safety
- Uses existing cellular networks, making it easy to deploy without the need for traditional radio infrastructure

► Key Benefits:

- **Ease of use:** Leverages pre-existing cellular networks, so no need to build out a separate radio system
- **Priority Communication:** High-quality audio with low latency, even during network congestion
- **Group and private calls:** Enables large group calls and one-on-one communication

► Advanced Features:

- Real-time presence: know who's online
- Location tracking and mapping: See and share user locations with multimedia
- Mutual Aid Talk Groups: Communicate across different agencies

► Why FirstNet?

- **Exclusive to public safety:** Provides priority access during emergencies, using Band 14 for reliable communication when it matters most
- **Industry-wide availability:** All major cellular providers offer similar services, but FirstNet is specifically for public safety with unique advantages





FirstNet Overview: Use Case Example

FirstNet Rapid Response: Mission Critical Push to Talk (MCPTT)

- ▶ Adopted 16 standard talk-groups for statewide use for MCPTT
- ▶ Maintain dedicated cellular deployable gear
- ▶ FirstNet MCPTT public safety subscribers in Oregon are automatically given access to these 16 talk-groups for statewide mutual aid use





- ▶ \$6.3 billion investment from the FirstNet Authority is the next phase of FirstNet, reaffirming the country's commitment to the public safety community
- ▶ An additional 1,000 new sites within the next 2 years
- ▶ Expand Priority and Preemption on all AT&T 5G commercial spectrum bands in March 2024
- ▶ Then, create a standalone FirstNet 5G core to enhance current 5G functionality
- ▶ Expand mission-critical services – voice, video, data and location systems
- ▶ Upgrade the fleet of public safety's dedicated deployable with 5G connectivity





ENTERPRISE
information services

Thank you

Shirlene A Gonzalez
Legislative Director

shirlene.a.gonzalez@das.oregon.gov

