

# **TxWARN**

**Texas Wide-Area Radio Network**

## **Introducing TxWARN**

### ***A Public /Private Partnership for Regional Interoperable Communications***

The Texas Wide-Area Radio Network, or TxWARN, establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to manage domestic incidents through a huge region of Texas. The plan incorporates best practices and procedures from incident management disciplines in both the public and private sector, integrating them into a unified structure. TxWARN forms the basis for interoperability with federal, state, local and tribal governments and the private sector during a wide range of emergency incidents. TxWARN also provides the foundation for daily communication needs of public safety agencies throughout the area.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the mission of TxWARN?**

To construct, upgrade, maintain, and manage a regional interoperable communications network for public safety entities and first responders, allowing intra- and inter-agency communications, while sharing resources and saving money.

### **How will TxWARN benefit our region?**

By providing the following:

- Secure regional interoperable communications for public safety entities during both daily operations and emergency response situations,
- A cost-effective, shared-frequency independent infrastructure for communications interoperability, allowing for agency autonomy,
- Seamless roaming and interoperability between regional first responders and other interoperable communications networks, and
- Communications for immediate command and control of incidents with flexible system management.

### **What are the goals of TxWARN?**

Build a public safety interoperable communications infrastructure to:

- Save lives and protect the health and safety of the public,
- Protect and restore critical infrastructure and key resources, and
- Protect property, mitigate damages and facilitate recovery of individuals, communities, businesses, governments, and the environment.

### **Which agencies are part of TxWARN?**

TxWARN is a mutual agreement between multiple public safety agencies (see other side of this sheet for a current listing) and the ETMC Regional Healthcare System.

### **How is TxWARN governed and managed?**

A governance committee provides leadership, direction and guidance. The steering/management partner (ETMC EMS) provides system design, implementation, maintenance, policies, training and ongoing exercises. A users group identifies individual and agency issues, provides input and assists with prioritization.

### **What is ETMC EMS?**

East Texas Medical Center EMS provides emergency ambulance service throughout 16,000 square miles of



Central and East Texas to Louisiana. The organization has been providing wireless communications services to 2,300 public safety users over 16,000 square miles since 1995. ETMC partners with UT Health Science Center through participation in the Regional Advisory Council for Trauma Bio-terrorism Response. ETMC operates the first and only Level 1 Trauma Center in the East Texas region.

ETMC has a proven history of working with government agencies in public/private partnerships to meet the goal of providing seamless communications and medical care to the region. They offer a host of flexible arrangements that meet unique needs and bring together the best in public and private sectors to serve the residents of East Texas and beyond.

### **What is the cost of TxWARN?**

Total cost is projected to be \$25 million. A plan with phased costs over the next five years is on the other side of this sheet.

### **What are the technical details of TxWARN?**

TxWARN is based on National Project 25 TIA 102 standards. The network is all-digital, completely secure and operates in the 700/800 MHz range. The system is a trunked radio design that is interoperable with VHF and UHF users. TxWARN is compliant with the state and regional Homeland Security and Interoperable Communications Plans, National Priorities, NIMS and 36 of the 37 Target Capabilities.

### **How can I receive more information?**

Contact Jeff Haislet, project director, at 903-535-5838.

PROJECT PHASES AND ESTIMATED COSTS		
Project Phases	Est. \$	Timeframe
<b>Phase 1:</b> Communicatons on Wheels Communications Towers EOC (Emergency Operations Center) equipment * McClennan County coverage area includes cities such as Bellmead, Crawford, Lacy Lakeview, Waco and Woodway. Mutual Aid/Interoperability Stations Wide Area Master Site	\$7M	2008/09
<b>Phase 2:</b> *Smith County coverage area includes cities such as Bullard, Lindale, Tyler and Whitehouse.	\$7M	2009/10
<b>Phase 3:</b> * ETMC wide-area buildout coverage area includes the counties of Camp, Cherokee, Ellis, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Panola, Trinity, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood. Cities in this area include Alto, Athens, Canton, Carthage, Crockett, Ennis, Forney, Gilmer, Gladewater, Jacksonville, Kaufman, Marshall, Mineola, Pittsburg, Quitman, Rusk, Terrell, Trinity and Waxahachie	\$6M	2009/10
<b>Phase 4:</b> * Gregg County coverage area includes cities such as Longview and Kilgore.	\$3M	2010/11
*Subscriber Units *Console Upgrades	\$2M	2008 - 2011
<b>Estimated Totals</b>	<b>\$ 25M</b>	



*"Standardized communications during an incident are essential ... Responders and managers across all agencies and jurisdictions must have a common operating picture for a more efficient and effective incident response."*

**TxWARN is proudly supported by the following partners:**

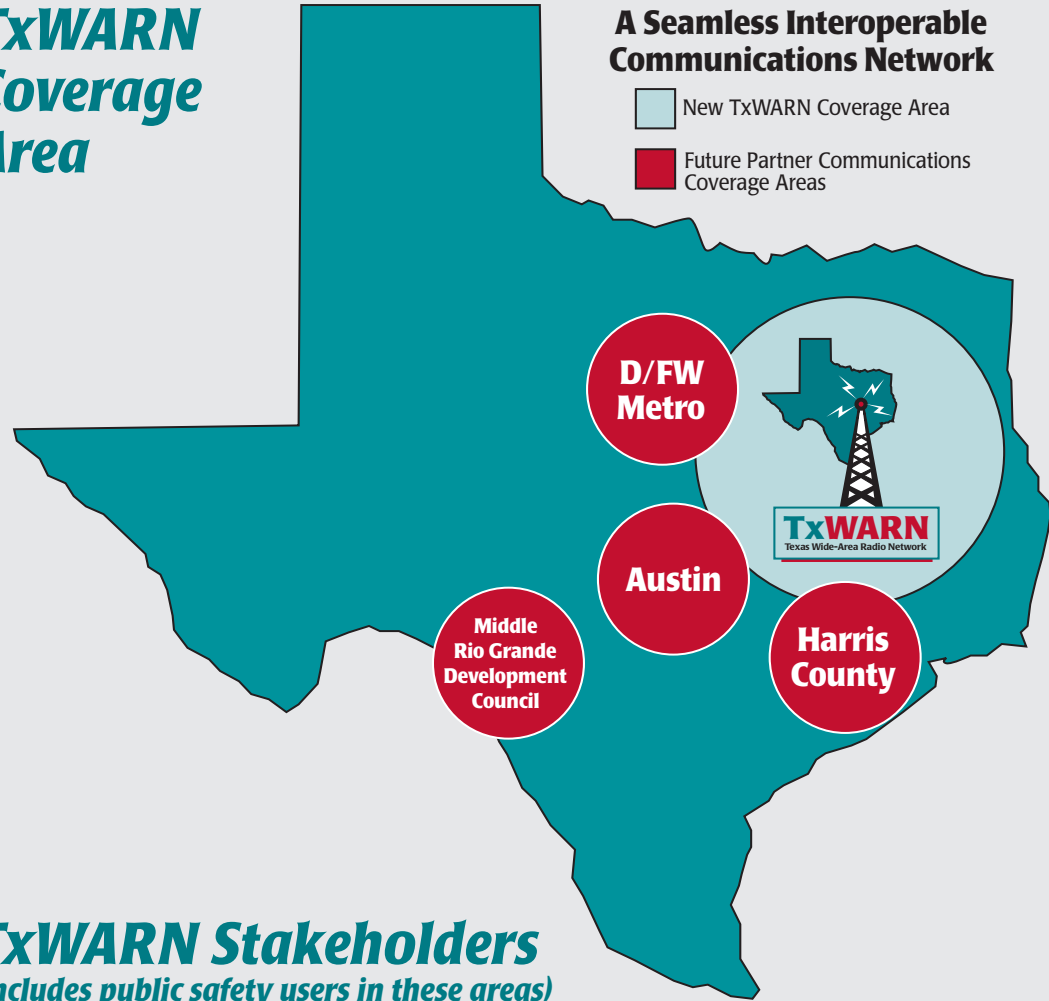


**Contact Jeff Haislet, 903-535-5838 for more information.**

# TxWARN Coverage Area

## A Seamless Interoperable Communications Network

- New TxWARN Coverage Area
- Future Partner Communications Coverage Areas



## TxWARN Stakeholders (includes public safety users in these areas)

### Local Agencies

- City of Longview
- City of Pasadena
- City of Tyler
- City of Waco
- Collin County
- Cherokee County
- Ellis County
- Gregg County
- Henderson County
- Kaufman County

- McLennan County
- Smith County
- Trinity County
- Upshur County
- Van Zandt County
- Wood County

### State Agencies

- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Department of Public Safety

- Texas Parks and Wildlife
- Texas Forest Service
- Texas Department of State Health Services

### Federal Agencies

- BATF (Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation

- HIDTA (High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area)

### Other

- East Texas Medical Center Regional Healthcare System
- University of Texas Health Science Center
- University of Texas at Tyler Police

*(listing subject to change)*