



Pinal County-wide  
Radio Communications Consortium  
Pinal County-wide  
Radio Communications Consortium



# Pinal County-wide Radio Communications Consortium

---

## Vision

A fully interoperable standards-based system for voice and data communications meeting the needs of all local public safety agencies throughout Pinal County.

## Purpose

Working together to improve radio communications within Pinal County, supporting the needs of our communities.



# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

## ○ Objectives

- Promote the development and use of standards-based systems.
- Capitalize on opportunities to share resources and funding opportunities
- Apply best practices and lessons learned
- Provide effective and reliable radio communications between local, county, state, tribal, and federal public safety entities
- Develop a County-wide Communications Plan

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Promote the development and use of standards-based systems.
  - Narrowband capable\*
  - Project 25 upgradeable\*
  - Channel capacity (48-channels or >)\*
  - Channel display (7-characters or >)\*
  - Common naming conventions

\*from PSCC/SIEC recommendations  
<http://www.azdps.gov/pfcc/standards.asp>

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Capitalize on opportunities to share resources and funding opportunities.
  - Resources
    - Towers
    - Microwave
    - Building sites (facilities, power, etc.)
    - Mobile Communications Vehicles
    - Portable Comm Equipment (repeaters)
    - Radio Cache
  - Funding
    - Grant applications
  - Mutual-aid agreements
  - IGAs

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Apply best practices and lessons learned.
  - Technology
    - Trunked vs Conventional
    - 700MHz vs VHF
    - Private or Commercial
    - Voice & Data integration
    - Security & Encryption
    - Microwave, fiber, copper
    - WI FI vs WI MAX
    - Licensed vs unlicensed spectrum
  - Operations
    - Dispatch Centers – consolidation
    - Channel Plan –common naming conventions

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Provide effective and reliable radio communications between local, county, state, tribal, and federal public safety entities.
  - Interoperability
    - Operational Procedures
      - Interagency policy
      - AERS State Plan
      - Channel Plan
      - Dispatch (monitoring and call handling)
    - Equipment compatibility (P25)
    - Mutual-Aid Frequencies
      - National
      - State (AERS) – MOU with PSCC/DPS
      - County

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Develop a County-wide Communications Plan\*
  - Current radio networks
    - Identify immediate needs (requirements)
    - Develop channel-plan (Interagency)
    - Naming conventions
    - Understand interagency operational procedures
    - Understand dispatch call-handling
  - Develop short and long-term strategy
    - Complete a needs assessment
    - Understand neighboring initiatives
    - Observe Federal & State guidelines (mandates)
    - Frequency (Spectrum) requirements - availability
    - Infrastructure (towers, microwave, coverage, etc) requirements, and site selection.
    - -

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Where do we start?
  - Organize the consortium
    - Informal group
      - Consortium - to help fund communications improvements – grant applications
      - 'Users' group – sharing ideas, issues, technology
    - Formal group.
      - Association
      - Advisory Committee – to Pinal County CIO
    - Other?
  - Develop needs assessment
    - Complete individual/agency need assessment
    - Combine and complete gap analysis
    - Identify priorities
    - Identify quick fixes

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Near-term objectives (checklist)
  - ❑ Common Channel Plan
  - ❑ Consolidated Frequency Listing
  - ❑ Mutual Aid Channels (AIRSAZ, AIRS3)
  - ❑ Common (MDC) ID Listing
  - ❑ Acknowledge Equipment Standards for procurement
  - ❑ Identify Wide-band to Narrow-band tasking
  - ❑ Develop Operational Procedures (Dispatch)
    - ❑ Common format for county-wide use
    - ❑ ICS & Emergency Management Support
    - ❑ Include Interagency & Mutual-aid response
    - ❑ Define Response Team (Dispatch and Commo)

# ***Pinal County-wide Communications Consortium***

---

- Long-term objectives (checklist)
  - Complete a Plan for a County-wide System
    - Assessment of what we have today
      - Define immediate improvements/needs
      - Look at priorities & funding opportunities
      - Does it compliment the future 'tomorrow' strategy
    - Define what we need for tomorrow
      - 700MHz trunked P25 system
      - Regional Dispatch Centers
      - Voice & Data integration
      - How many channels & trunk groups
      - Key locations for towers & site management
  - Conceptual Design & Implementation Plan
  - Governance
  - Funding Stream