Public Safety Regional Needs Assessment

Draft Report
Goals of the Needs Assessment

- Identify regional priorities, objectives, and strategies
- Develop a common set of initiatives well-suited for the attention of the PSC
Content of the Needs Assessment

- Results of 24 stakeholder interviews conducted over two months
- Ranking of priority study areas
- Specific actions and activities identified
Overview of Perceived Public Safety Environment

Increasing:
- Cost of public safety services
- Population
- Project cost and complexity

Decreasing:
- Funding
- Staffing levels
Think outside the box.

Cooperation is more important now than ever.
What is the Role for the PSC?

No shortage of cooperative efforts and working groups in the region.

What is the PSC unique?

What is the PSC primary funding sources?

How will the PSC collaborate with other groups?

What can the PSC accomplish that other groups can not by themselves?

How should the PSC create awareness of its role, capabilities, and vision?
Identified Priorities for the PSC

- Educating & advocating public safety policies
- Lobbying for funding
- Sponsoring & supporting legislation
- Setting standards
- Promoting the region’s accomplishments & cooperation
- Coordinating & aligning regional initiatives
- Fostering public/private partnerships
Four Key Objectives Identified

- Communications and Interoperability
- Technology Acquisition and Support
- Regional Information Center
- Training
Communications and Interoperability

Key Issues

- Border-related frequency/spectrum issues
- Facilitate a shared cost-environment
- Bring additional partnerships & resources to the region
Communications and Interoperability
Proposed Future Initiatives

- Interoperability workshops
- Homeland Security forums
- Develop a legislative program
Technology Acquisition and Support

Key Issues

- Vision for information-sharing & regional application development & procurement
- Development of information technology standards
- Regional Technology Clearinghouse
Technology Acquisition
and Support

Proposed Future Initiatives

- Regional procurement strategy for the PDAs
- Comprehensive study of cost of public safety services
- Provide additional information to the community
  - Regional eWatch – crime statistics and maps
  - Sex Offender Registration System and notification
Regional Information Center

Key Issues

- Addresses both investigative collection & analysis and crime analysis & prevention activities
- Implemented successfully in other regions
- Significant momentum from Federal level
Regional Information Center
Proposed Future Initiatives

- Explore sources for on-going operational funding
- Assist local agencies in obtaining additional resources/staff
Training
Key Issues

- Universal support for basic training
- Different desires & requirements for advanced training
- Mixed opinions on site suitability
- Predominant support for improved facilities for recertification requirements and simulators (e.g., firearms, driving, tactics)
Other Areas for Consideration

- Consolidation opportunities (e.g., K-9, SWAT, regional crime lab)
- Homeland Security grant/coordination issues
- Integration with traffic planning/ITS initiatives
- Crime forecasting/trends
- Measuring the effectiveness of crime prevention, diversion, & enforcement programs
Recommended Next Steps

- Identify priority initiatives
- Identify resources and budgets
- Develop implementation plan and timeline
- Create & communicate the PSC policy/vision statement
Proposed Future Initiatives

Currently Funded
- PDA procurement strategy
- Providing additional information to the community (statistics, maps, and Sex Offender)

Currently Not Funded
- Interoperability workshops
- Homeland Security forums
- Legislative program
- Public safety service cost study
- Funding, resource, and staffing for RIC
- Regional eWatch
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