

Comment from National Association of State 911 Administrators - NASNA

Comments of the National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA):

The National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA) is comprised of the state leadership of 911 across the country. NASNA's 48 member-states and the District of Columbia represent our states on the public policy issues impacting the successful implementation of 911 systems. We are responsible to design, implement, and manage Next Generation 911 (NG911) nationwide. While each state is unique in its 911 implementation based on its own needs, economics, and public safety demographics, the members all support the need for a seamless end-to-end emergency communication services network nationwide.

The Highway Safety Grant Program recognizes that NG911 and EMS are central components of post-crash care to drive highway fatalities to zero. Funding 911, including the migration to NG911 nationwide, is a clear component of a safe highway incident response system. NG911 brings with it the potential to:

- Optimize emergency response resources
- Utilize GIS-based 911 call routing with increased location information capabilities (and may also improve state and local crash mapping)
- Facilitate consistent and effective level of training, including emergency medical pre-arrival instructions, for the nation's 911 operators (our first first responders)
- Provide enhanced crash and hazard information through telematics and other data sources
- Create advanced levels of emergency interoperability between 911 centers (PSAPs)

911 creates not only the ease of access to emergency help, but also creates the saving of precious time in the event of emergencies. Emergency Medical Dispatch pre-arrival protocols provide a critical link between the time a call is received by 911 and emergency medical technician arrives on scene and universal adoption would undoubtedly save thousands of lives each year. And the US DOT's National Roadway Safety Strategy itself recognizes that time is instrumental in saving lives in the US Highway system. The inclusion of NG911 and its continued migration is crucial to the success of the DOT's plan to eliminate fatalities on our nation's highways.