New Jersey
Statewide Highway Operations
Communications Plan

9-1-1
NEW JERSEY'S
EMERGENCY LIFELINE

STATE POLICE NJ

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION · THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

SAFETY · EFFICIENCY · TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT · MONITORING · COLLABORATION — NJTIM

NJ TURNPIKE

ATLANTIC CITY EXPRESSWAY

GARDEN STATE PARKWAY

Contents

Version 2019.2

Document Revision Process

The NJ Highway Operations Communications Plan should be reviewed at a minimum, every two (2) years by the NJ Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), New Jersey Department of Transportation, New Jersey Turnpike Authority, South Jersey Transportation Authority, and New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Communications Bureau Staff for review and updates as necessary. Time critical updates may be initiated at any time. The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator shall have primary responsibility for the maintenance of this plan.

Once approved, all changes to the document will be recorded in the Revision Record.

Revision Record

CHANGE#	DATE	SECTION	DESCRIPTION	APPROVED BY
1	12/02/2019	Appendix A	Updated Talkgroup names and added Talkgroup ID numbers	J. Miller

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Introduction

It has been determined that there is a need to coordinate the communications interoperability for all responding units to incidents and events along our major highways. In the past there were multiple layers of response from local, county, state, and sometimes federal agencies that were unable to communicate in an efficient manner. Responders today can often include the typical public safety agencies, however they are often supplemented by other agencies such as public works, DOT, and even the towing industry.

This document establishes the Communications Plan to be used by the various agencies responsible for and/or impacted by incident occurring on our major roadways.

Purpose

As with all public safety two-way radio systems, the proper use of the resources available are required during times of day-to-day events and large scale events where coordinated efforts are critical. In an effort to maintain this lifeline, it is necessary that the use of these resources be effective and efficient. The purpose of this document is to establish the guidelines, procedures and recommendations for radio communications in support of incidents impacting our highway system.

Roles and Responsibilities

It will be the responsibility of unified commanders, through the established NIMS / ICS structure, to ensure that communications interoperability is provided for the safety and wellness of all responders to an incident during highway operations. It is highly recommended that the use of State Accredited Communications Unit Leaders (COML) and Communications Unit Technicians (COMT) be requested and utilized during larger scale events to ensure seamless communications.

Communications Plan

This plan was developed in consultation between the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator and the New Jersey State Police Communications Bureau. Specific talkgroups were established for each of the major roadway throughout the state including those roadways impacted by the Contraflow plan. The intent of the talkgroups is to make them available to all of the agencies that would have response capabilities along these highways.

Agencies that are eligible to use these talkgroups are; Dispatch Centers, Highway Authorities, Police, Fire, EMS, Hazmat, Public Works, DOT, Towing agencies, and any other agency deemed necessary to handle highway incidents. Agencies included can be from local, county, state, federal and private industry entities (As deemed necessary) to ensure seamless interoperable communications.

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The state was divided into a north and south sector using I-195 as the division. Talkgroups for roadways in the overlap zone were replicated in both sectors as response agencies may respond from either direction. A listing of the established talkgroups are shown in Appendix A. Most of the major highways have been identified. There is also a sector command talkgroup, should it be required, and three Highway OPS talkgroups in each sector. These OPS talkgroups can be used as secondary talkgroups for major incidents or an incident that occurs on a highway without a dedicated talkgroup such as RT 206.

It is the intent of this plan to utilize these talkgroups for; day-to-day incidents (Motor Vehicle Crashes as an example), Snow Operations, Contraflow operations, and any other incident where communications interoperability is needed.

All units should abide by simple, short, and concise communications while using the radio. All transmissions should be in plain English following the protocols below.

Radio Transmission / Broadband Device Protocol
- Check to make sure the channel is clear before transmitting.
- When keying the mic, pause briefly to avoid cutting off the first part of the transmission.
- Wait until after the talk permit tone before speaking.
- Keep radio transmissions brief and direct.
- Always use plain English, the use of codes can be confusing in multi-jurisdictional events.
- Use your agency name followed by your unit identifier to properly identify your unit
  - "State Police 5144" or "DOT 17057" as examples.

Radio / Phone Calling Format
The sequence below will be used when communicating by radio.

- When transmitting, first call the radio identifier of the station you are trying to reach, followed by your identifier. For short messages or quick status updates, proceed with the message.
- If the message is more than a few words or requires the recipient to copy information, first wait for the other station to answer, then proceed with the transmission.
- Radio transmission examples:
  - "Burlington County Communications from State Police 5144"
  - "Incident Command from DOT 17057"

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Acronyms and Terminology

ACE	Atlantic City Expressway
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Communications Unit Technician
CMD /CMND	Command
DOT	Department of Transportation
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FOUO	For Official Use Only
GSP	Garden State Parkway
ICS	Incident Command System
HQ	Headquarters
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NJ	New Jersey
NJOEM	New Jersey Office of Emergency Management
NJDOT	New Jersey Department of Transportation
NJSP	New Jersey State Police
NJTP	New Jersey Turnpike
OPS	Operations
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
TMC	Traffic Management Center
TWP	Township

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Appendix A: Established Talkgroups

Two sets of talkgroups have been established for this plan. The talkgroups have been divided into a North and South sector using I-195 as the dividing line. Those talkgroups in the center are replicated in both sectors and response agencies may overlap.

Map Color	Talkgroup Name	Talkgroup ID (DEC / HEX)	Description
		HIGHWAY INTEROP North	
	HW INT I-80	5021 / 139D	
	HW INT I-280	5023 / 139F	
	HW INT I-78	5025 / 13A1	
	HW INT I-287	5027 / 13A3	
	HW INT I-195	5003 / 138B	(Contraflow)
	HW INT I-295	4995 / 1383	
	HW INT GSP 98 N	5029 / 13A5	Garden State Parkway north of Exit 98
	HW INT NJTP/I-95	5087 / 13DF	New Jersey Turnpike north of Exit 6 (I-95)
	HW INT CMD N	5031 / 13A7	North sector command channel if required
	HW INT OPS 1N	5033 / 13A9	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup
	HW INT OPS 2N	5035 / 13AB	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup
	HW INT OPS 3N	5037 / 13AD	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup

Map Color	Talkgroup Name	Talkgroup ID (DEC / HEX)	Description
		HIGHWAY INTEROP South	
	HW INT I-295	4995 / 1383	
	HW INT RT 72	4997 / 1385	(Contraflow)
	HW INT RT 47/347	4999 / 1387	(Contraflow)
	HW INT ACE	5001 / 1389	Atlantic City Expressway (SJTA) (Contraflow)
	HW INT I-195	5003 / 138B	(Contraflow)
	HW INT GSP 98 S	5005 / 138D	Garden State Parkway south of Exit 98 (Contraflow)
	HW INT NJTP/I-95	5087 / 13DF	New Jersey Turnpike north of Exit 6 (I-95)
	HW INT NJTP/S	5007 / 138F	New Jersey Turnpike south of Exit 6
	HW INT RT 55	5009 / 1391	
	HW INT RT42/I-676	5011 / 1393	
	HW INT CMND S	5013 / 1395	South sector command channel if required
	HW INT OPS 1S	5015 / 1397	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup
	HW INT OPS 2S	5017 / 1399	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup
	HW INT OPS 3S	5019 / 139B	Secondary talkgroup for large incidents/or for use on highways without a dedicated talkgroup

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Appendix B: Graphical Map

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