

SLIGP 2.0 Grant Closeout Report				2. Award or Grant Number:	23-10-S18023
				4. EIN:	01-6000001
1. Recipient Name	State of Maine – DAFS			6. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	06/09/2021
3. Street Address	145 State House Station			7. Reporting Period End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/31/2021
5. City, State, Zip Code	Augusta, ME 04333-0145			8. Final Report	
				Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
				No	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Project/Grant Period				10. Reserved for Reviewer	
9a. Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/01/2018	9b. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/31/2021		
11. Program Activities					
11a. Identify the activities you performed during SLIGP2.0 grant period of performance					
	Activity Type (Planning, Governance Meetings, etc.)	Was this Activity Performed during the grant period? (Yes/No)	Total Project Deliverable Quantity (Number)	Description of Activity Deliverable Quantity	
1	Governance Meetings	Yes	6	Cumulative number of governance, subcommittee, or working group meetings related to the NPSBN held during the grant period	
2	Individuals Sent to Broadband Conferences	Yes	10	Cumulative number of individuals sent to national or regional third-party conferences with a focus or training track related to the NPSBN using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period	
3	Convened Stakeholder Events	Yes	18	Cumulative number of events coordinated or held using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period, as requested by FirstNet.	
4	Staff Hired (Full-Time Equivalent)(FTE)	Yes	1.90	Cumulative number of state/territory personnel FTEs who began supporting SLIGP 2.0 activities during the grant period (may be a decimal).	
5	Contracts Executed	Yes	1	Cumulative number of contracts executed during the grant period.	
6	Subrecipient Agreements Executed	No	0	Cumulative number of agreements executed during the grant period.	
7	Data Sharing Policies/Agreements Developed	No		Yes or No if data sharing policies and/or agreements were developed during the grant period.	
8	Further Identification of Potential Public Safety Users	No		Yes or No if further identification of potential public safety users occurred during the grant period.	
9	Plans for Emergency Communications Technology Transitions	No		Yes or No if plans for future emergency communications technology transitions occurred during the grant period.	
10	Identified and Planned to Transition PS Apps & Databases	No		Yes or No if public safety applications or databases within the State or territory were identified and transition plans were developed during the grant period	
11	Identify Ongoing Coverage Gaps	Yes		Yes or No if participated in identifying ongoing coverage gaps using SLIGP 2.0 funds during the grant period.	
12	Data Collection Activities	No		Yes or No if participated in data collection activities as requested by FirstNet	

11b. Please provide a description of each activity reported in response to Question 11; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you employed; and any additional project milestones or information.

Maine is a rural state and took most of the grant period to have coverage for a vast majority of the geography of the state. That being said, FirstNetME did have some vocal early adopters that had devices and were able to provide true coverage gaps in their state travels. One of the last projects of the grant was to capture actual coverage in areas known to have connectivity gaps. This executive summary and detailed data was useful to FirstNetME to continue to have conversation with all first responders in the state and address their needs. This landscape led to continued interaction with agencies and first responders to ensure coverage was meeting their needs. Governance Meetings conducted throughout the grant, in line with the MICC; until the last year of the program period.

Individuals Sent to Broadband Conferences throughout the grant period; until the last year of the program period.

Convened Stakeholder Events throughout the grant period; until the last year of the program period.

Staff Hired (Full-Time Equivalent)(FTE) The FN SPOC for ME retired in October, he was the only FTE for this grant period.

Contracts Executed The Tilson contract was the only contract for the grant period and beyond for the final close out reporting through 4/30/2021.

11c. Did you perform activities during the last quarter of the grant that haven't been reported previously (i.e., new programmatic activities, staffing changes)? If so, please describe.

NA

11d. Please share any lessons learned or best practices that your organization implemented during your SLIGP 2.0 project.

Engaged with tribal representation in Maine.

Governance reestablishment of the Maine Emergency Management Agency MICC (Maine Interoperable Communications Committee).

Stakeholder group interaction: MICC, MaineIT, ConnectME, E911, NENA, Sherriff's Association, Chiefs of Police and Fire, County officials via Maine Municipal Association and several other entities.

New England collaboration, maintained connection with regional SPOCs.

Solicited Maine first responder stakeholders regarding change in designated tower locations via AT&T and maintained those trusted relationships throughout the grant period and beyond. Participates in quarterly meetings with AT&T as network was being planned, built and updated in Maine.

Build relationships with key AT&T representatives.

Strict adherence to proprietary happenings in Maine.

Leverage relationships to ensure best outcome for Maine.

Consistently share updates and happenings via social media and other approved channels.

<p>15a. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in planning for the integration with the NPSBN.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Allowed the FirstNetME team to stay consistently engaged with first responders throughout the State of Maine. Allowed for trusted partnerships and engagements to ensure the network being built would be acceptable for Maine's first responders. And it funded a SPOC position that was dedicated to this program.</p>
<p>15b. I plan to continue any SLIGP 2.0 program activities beyond the SLIGP 2.0 period of performance.</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What do you plan to accomplish after the period of performance?</p>	<p>Transition to a vision of continued engagement with FirstNet under the Radio operation group within the State of Maine. Support from the State's CIO to ensure the program stays relevant and engaged with Maine's first responders.</p>

<p>15c. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in informing my stakeholders about FirstNet.</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Ability to offer consistent updates at various stakeholder meetings as a standing agenda item. Hosting two virtual outreach webinars with FirstNet reinvigorated the program and kept it in the front of first responders mind for use as another tool in their tool kit. We were able to easily transition to this program from the first grant program, so we didn't see much of any challenges in that regard.</p>
<p>Statement</p>	<p>Agree/Disagree</p>	<p>Additional Questions</p>	<p>Response</p>
<p>15d. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in maintaining a governance structure for broadband in my state/territory.</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>During SLIGP 1 we brought back a known committee and engaged with the first responder community. We found that not to be as useful during SLIGP 2, so we were able to keep the group smaller and less formal. Again, not a challenge but a shift in thinking as the grant progressed. Funding was very instrumental and having dedicated resources to the program.</p>

<p>15e. SLIGP 2.0 funds provided resources that were helpful in preparing for FirstNet planning activities in my state/territory (e.g. staffing, attending broadband conferences, participating in training, procuring contract support etc.).</p>	<p>4-Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Funding guaranteed Maine's participation in national and state aspects of the program. Without it would have been difficult to dedicate resources to do so. It also allowed for a single point of contact for any and all integration with the program. This made it easier for the stakeholders to reach out and seek the information that they required.</p>
<p>15f. Overall, SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in preparing for FirstNet.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Time to create a strategic vision for the program. Keeping engaged on social media and directly at stakeholder preestablished events for providing information and updates was critical. Interoperability with Canada was able to be supported. Early on some stakeholder groups struggled to see the separation from the federal grant program and sales of the selected vendor. The Maine program continued to overcome that struggle and has landed in a place of value and trust for Maine's first responder community.</p>

16. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose(s) set forth in the award documents.

<p>16a. Typed or printed name and title of Authorized Certifying Official:</p>	<p>16c. Telephone:</p>	<p>207-615-9602</p>
<p>Nicholas Marquis, Executive Director of Client and Infrastructure Services & FirstNetME SPOC</p>	<p>16d. Email Address:</p>	<p>nicholas.marquis@maine.gov</p>
<p>16b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official: <i>Nicholas Marquis</i></p>	<p>16e. Date:</p>	<p>6/17/2021</p>

Public Burden Statement: According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 hours per response. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Natalie Romanoff, Program Director, State and Local Implementation Grant Program, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4078, Washington, DC 20230.