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**Cal OES Shares the Future of Public Safety Communications
in the Capital of Silicon Valley**

San Jose – Wireless broadband data applications enable exciting new possibilities for improving the operations and effectiveness of California public safety activities in life changing – and lifesaving – ways.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Public Safety Communications continues to lead informational meetings to prepare California's public safety community for the first Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) and First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) deployment in the Golden State.

Today's meeting in San Jose provided the foundation regarding this network that will provide first responders access to the nationwide, high-speed, wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety that will empower them to save lives, solve crimes and keep our communities safe like never before.

"We're excited that all of the town hall meetings have had a high level of participation from the local governments which is critical as we develop the FirstNet plans," said Karen Wong, Assistant Director of Public Safety Communications at OES.

Public safety and government stakeholders from state, local, tribal and federal levels were shown California's development strategies, current initiatives, and how FirstNet would empower first responders with state of the art communication tools. Through broadband technology, public safety users can have the ability to access video images of a crime in progress, download floor plans of a burning building, or connect rapidly and securely with personnel from other communities. NPSBN will provide a spectrum solely dedicated for the use of emergency responders and ensure they have adequate network capacity, which often becomes congested during emergency situations.

"Since FirstNet was established by Congress, a key component to our efforts has been, and will continue to be, engagement and collaboration with public safety and government at the Federal, State, local, and tribal levels. As this new network is developed and deployed, this engagement will be more important than ever," said T.J. Kennedy, FirstNet Executive Director.

Currently, there are more than 200,000 first responders, 2,000 public safety agencies and 109 tribes in California, so outreach is critical for NPSBN.

[Video: The History of FirstNet](#)

For more information on FirstNet and its implementation in California, please visit CalOES.ca.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).