



**City of Dallas**

# **P25 Radio Upgrade Update**

**Public Safety Committee  
January 9, 2023**

William Zielinski/CIO  
Christopher Strickler/Assistant Director  
Information and Technology Service (ITS)  
City of Dallas



# Project 25 Radio System Background



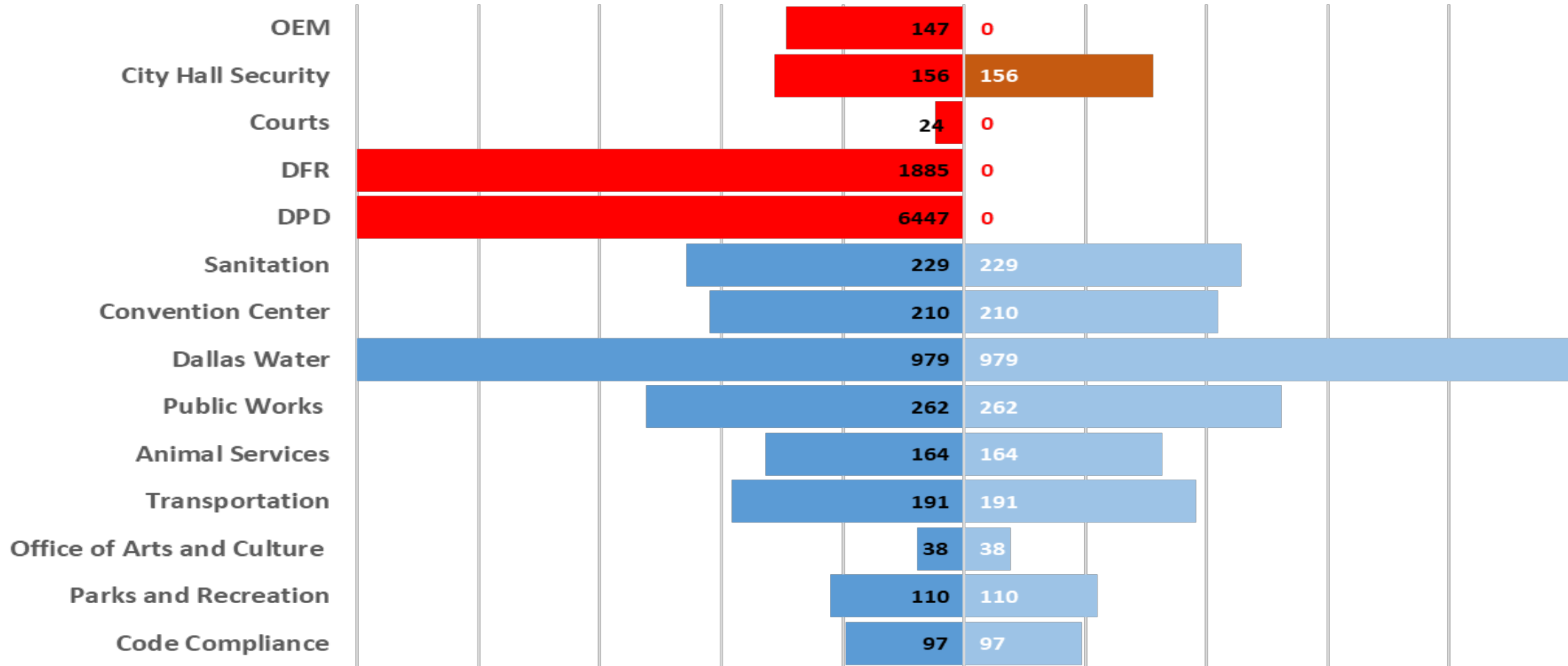
- Project initiated in 2014 to address the following:
  - Aging technology – last updated 1996
  - Inability of current radio system to support department(s) needs
  - Lack of expandable capacity of legacy system
  - Lack of interoperability with surrounding agencies
- City of Dallas and Dallas County are partnered on project
- Approved by council December of 2017
- Many delays encountered, mostly COVID and supply chain issues
- Initial contract was \$66 million, with another \$6.4 million added in a change order in 2020 to address issues with building new towers and increase interoperability of new system to make new contract amount of \$72,612,041.98



# P25 Status Update | January 2023



## Public Safety/Public Service Total Units and Units Deployed by Department





# P25 Status Update | January 2023



## Public Service Layer

- Nine(9) departments with units on the system
- 2280 units actively programmed and talking on this layer
- Additional departments showing interest in joining system
- Departments
  - Code Compliance
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Office of Arts and Culture
  - Transportation
  - Animal Services
  - Public Works
  - Dallas Water Utilities
  - Convention Center
  - Sanitation

## Public Safety Layer

- City Security activated as test team for burn-in
- Final days of 30-day operational test period
- Team will review any faults and make recommendations by January 6
- Office of Emergency Management will migrate week of January 9
- Dallas Fire will migrate post internal radio training (estimated mid-January)
- Dallas Police will follow Dallas Fire

# In Progress



- Office of Emergency Management
  - Migrating week of January 2nd
- Dallas Fire
  - Training in progress
  - Activation will require reprogramming of existing radios
  - Planned start for mid January
  - Dispatch center activation - Phase 2
- Dallas Police
  - Training scheduled
  - 4200 APXNext radios received; being entered into asset management
  - Planned start February 16, 2023
  - Dispatch center activation will be during radio deployments

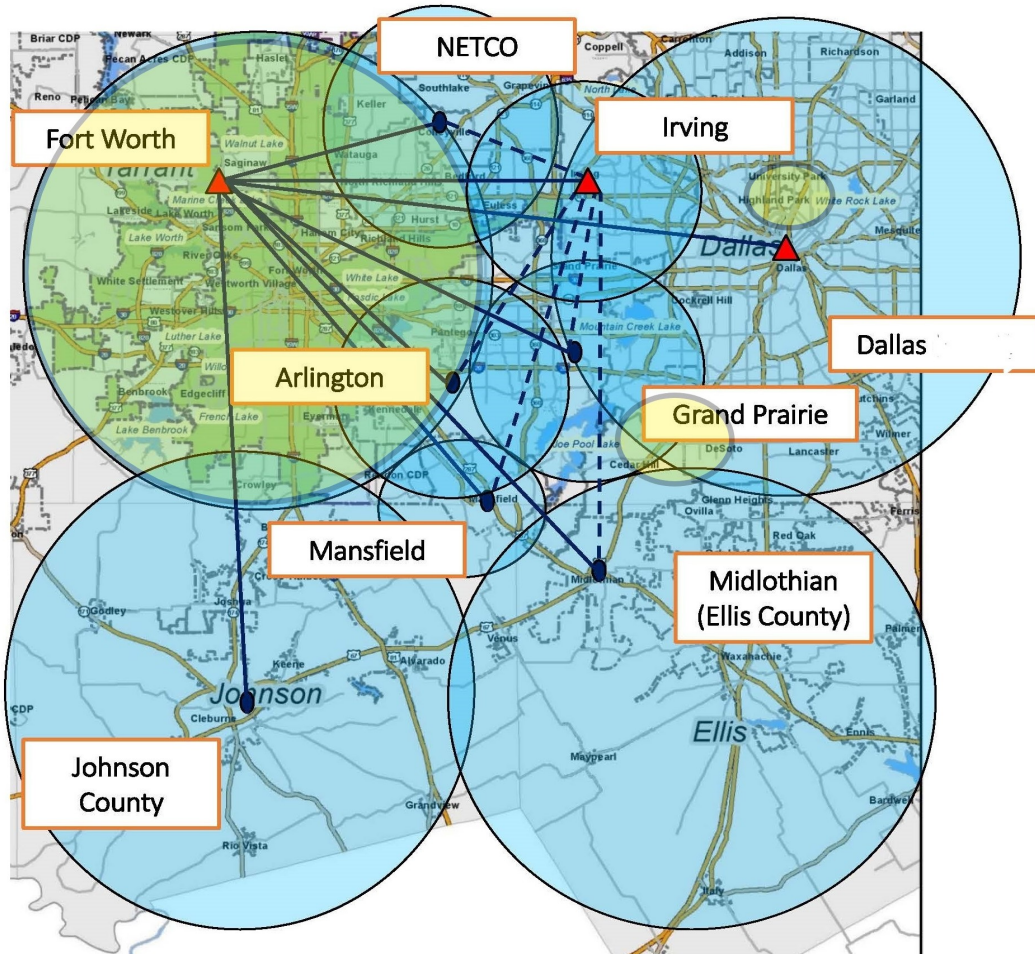




# Interoperability—Biggest Advance



## North Texas Interoperable Radio Network

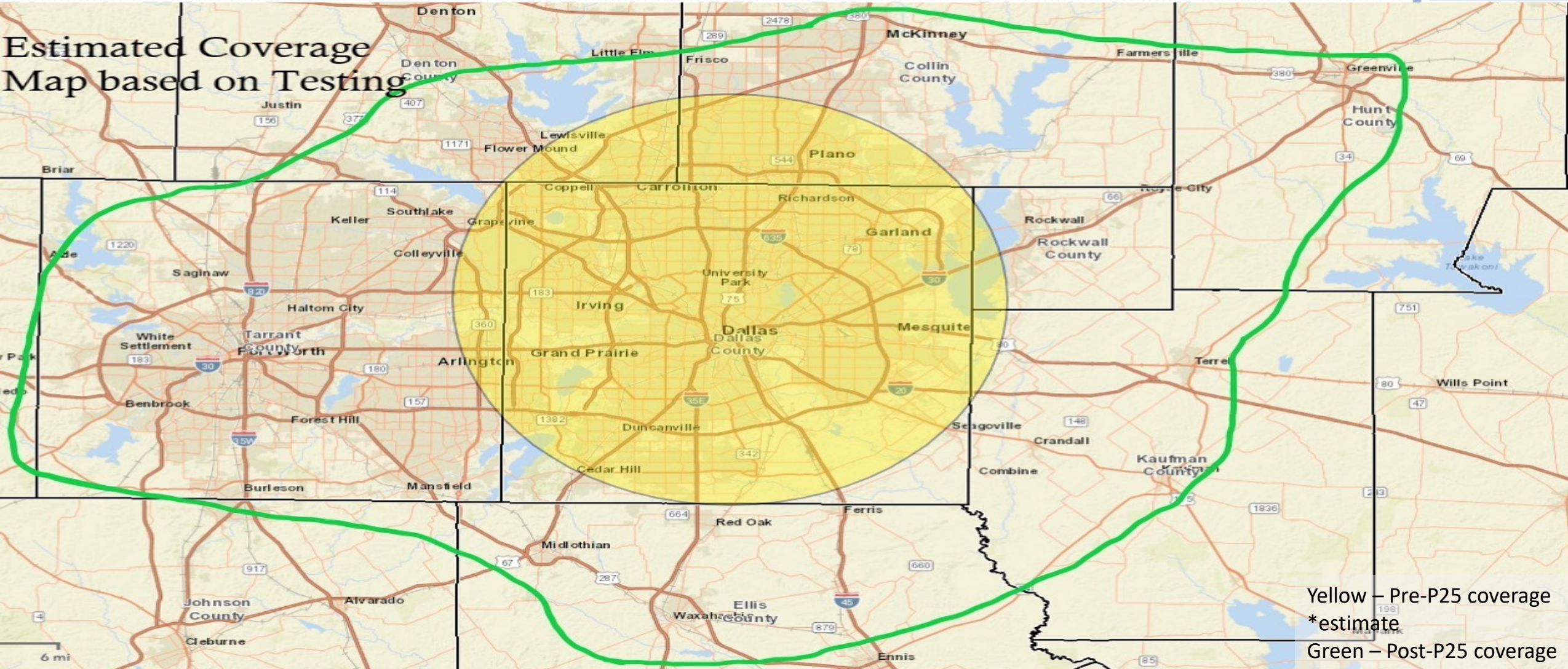


## Interoperability

- Map Legend: Yellow indicates pre-P25 and blue indicates post-P25
- 90 agencies are primary users on the North Texas Interoperable Radio Network or NTIRN
- An additional 98 agencies are programmed with the interoperability channels for NTIRN allowing Dallas departments to communicate with NTIRN agencies and others with interoperability channels
- Other agencies that join the system will have increased interoperability with the City of Dallas
- Responders will have interoperability with other cities who have their own radio system as well (such as Garland, Richardson, Carrollton, etc.)



# Enhanced Coverage Area





# Enhanced Functionality



- **Emergency Button**

- Officers/Firefighters can alert the need of immediate assistance

- **GPS capabilities**

- Option to transmit location (public safety)

- **New System features improvements in interoperability**

- Agencies who provide automatic responses and mutual aid will not have to carry multiple radios



- **Encryption**

- New system supports advance encryption
  - At current, dispatch channels are not encrypted
  - Public Safety Departments will review, test, and consider encryption following implementation





# External Agencies



## Identified

- Cedar Hill
- Desoto
- Duncanville
- Lancaster
- Dallas ISD Police
- City of Hutchins
- Cedar Hill ISD Police
- UNT Dallas Police
- Dallas College PD
- Wilmer
- Hutchins
- Lancaster ISD PD
- Cockrell Hill

## Timeline/Status

- Agencies are working with radio vendor for setup and programming
- Units have been ordered
- Anticipate migration starting mid-Spring '23



# Next Steps



- Complete rollout to Public Safety Departments by March 15, 2023
- Onboard external agencies to the new system as full subscribers starting April 2023
- Test and deploy new operational capabilities available through the P25 system – ongoing





# Questions





**City of Dallas**

# **P25 Radio Upgrade Update**

**Public Safety Committee  
January 9, 2023**

William Zielinski/CIO  
Christopher Strickler/Assistant Director  
Information and Technology Service (ITS)  
City of Dallas

