

The Impact of Narrowbanding on Transportation Agencies



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Chair

*The Joint Council on Transit
Wireless Communications*

www.transitwireless.org

Joint Council Vision and Mission



- VISION

To be the collective voice committed to addressing transit industry wireless communications needs.

- MISSION

To assure that the transit industry wireless communications needs are continuously met through information sharing.

- Established October 2009

Joint Council

Why Create a new Joint Council?



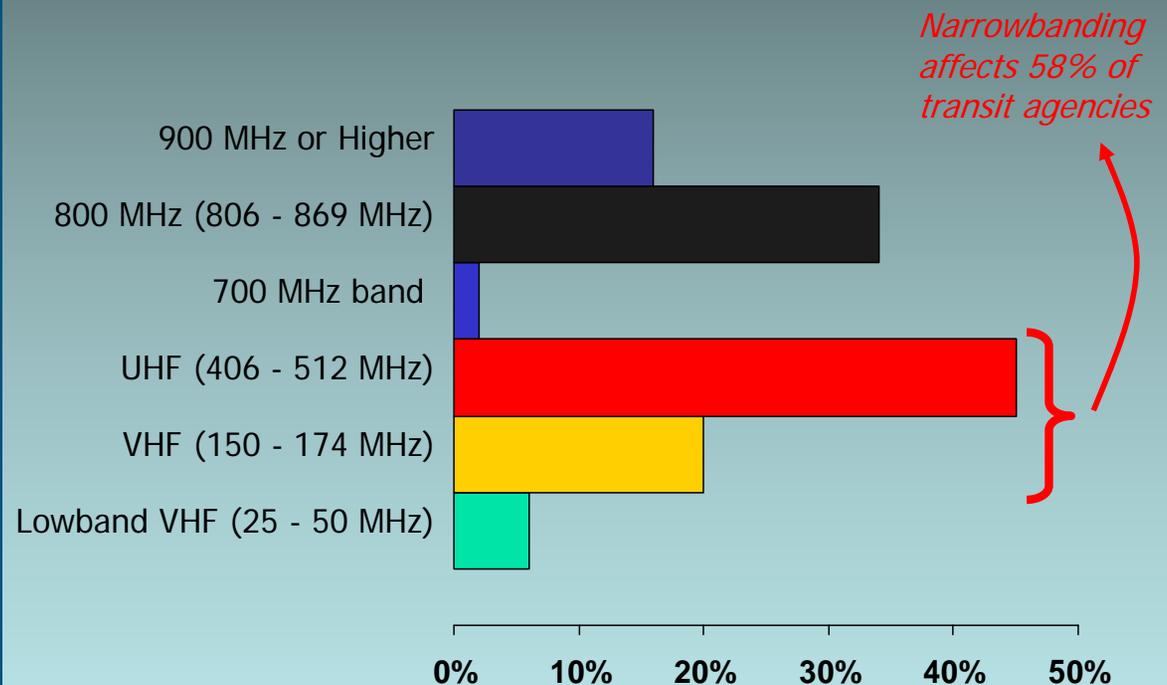
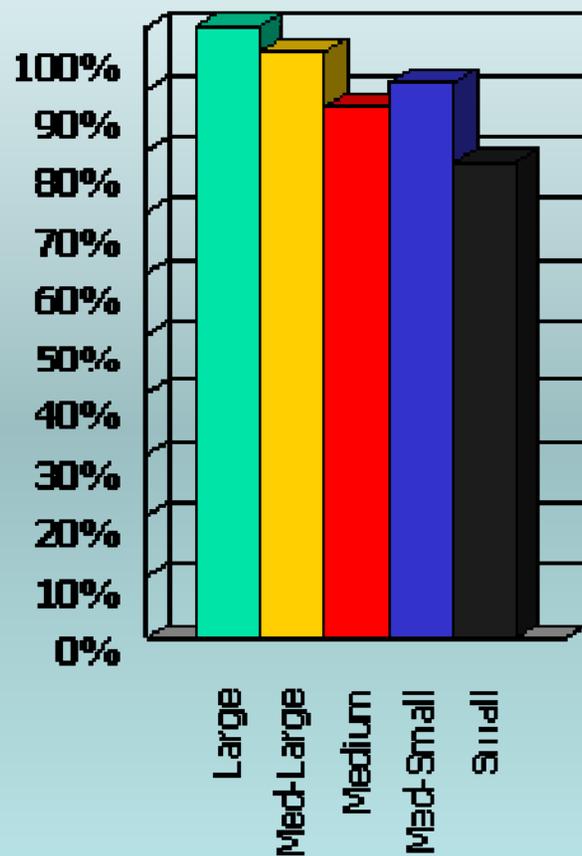
2007 TCRP Transit Industry Survey Project J-06

- Survey Objective
 - “To develop a profile of current radio-frequency and wireless-data usage for the transit industry and to assess future needs.”
- 36% of agencies queried responded (272 of 765)
- Key conclusion: Need a strategic plan to address transit industry wireless communications.

2009 TCRP Project C-18, Strategic Plan for Transit Industry Wireless Communications

- Completed in summer of 2009 with four strategic goals identified.
- Goal # 4: Establish Joint Council to implement strategic plan.

TCRP Transit Industry Survey 2-Way Radio & Spectrum Use



Transportation Challenges to meeting the deadline



- I. Depth on Knowledge by key decision makers within the agencies
 - a. Additional Costs Associated with meeting the deadline
 - b. Access to other spectrum such as 700 MHz
 - c. Interoperability with Freight Rail Roads and Amtrak
- II. Planning Horizons for Large Capital Programs
- III. Complexity of Design and Deployment in Operating Transportation Systems
- IV. Intelligent Transportation Systems operating over the channels
 - a. Data over narrowband channels
 - b. Migrate to Broadband or Narrowband
- V. Other complex issues diverting the attention of key decision makers within the Transportation agencies
 - a. Reauthorization
 - b. Positive Train Control
 - c. State and Local Fiscal Crises
 - d. Staff Reductions

Joint Council Narrowbanding Initiatives



- Worked with TRB to develop a Quick Study Research Program to identify all of the Transit Agencies in the FCC database that still have wideband emissions. It will be dispersed to APTA , the FTA and the Joint Council with enumeration of the total number of transit agency licenses, the bands used, and how many UHF/VHF licenses are still wideband. The list will be used for mailings to notify license holders of the FCC mandate.
- Supporting NTI webinar (1 hour) and helped developed material for a seminar (all-day). Webinar held Oct 19, and Nov 4. Seminar dates Nov 8 (Tampa), Dec 6 (San Francisco), and Dec 8 (Los Angeles). Plus numerous dates through 2011
- Narrowbanding seminars held at:
 - APTA BUS (April 2010)
 - APTA Rail (June 2010)
 - APCO Regional meetings (Many commuter rail operators use public safety spectrum)
- Developing a contact list of commuter rail operators in the US responsible for radio communications to ensure awareness of impending deadlines and interoperability to freight rail roads and Amtrak for 160MHz .

Thank You!

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