



# Bay Area UASI Management Team

## BayRICS Work Groups (Interoperable Communications)

### 2021 Annual Plan

#### I. UASI Work Group Definition

In most cases, Bay Area UASI Work Groups are created by, and report to, the UASI General Manager for the purpose of making comprehensive assessments and recommendations that address risk reduction, increasing capabilities on a regional basis, vetting regional projects, and/or reviewing grant allocations. However, since 2015, the Bay Area Regional Interoperable Communications Systems (BayRICS) Work Groups have fulfilled this purpose for topics related to public safety communications.

The BayRICS General Manager serves as the Chair of BayRICS Work Groups and is responsible for bringing relevant matters to the membership for input and tracking, in close coordination with Bay Area UASI Regional Project Managers. Members of work groups participate in regional collaboration opportunities as well as provide subject matter expertise, jurisdictional perspectives, and input on project deliverables.

Subcommittees are established to ensure appropriate representatives are participating on behalf of the 12 BayRICS members and 14 UASI jurisdictions, as well as their relevant partners. The subcommittee structure allows for focused communications, subject matter contributions, and regional collaboration specific to project objectives.

Like other UASI Work Groups, BayRICS Work Groups also serve as a forum to provide input to and track progress of National Priority Project (NPP) objectives, impacts and outcomes. National Priority Project goal areas are set annually by the Federal Department of Homeland Security. The Bay Area UASI is required to invest a specified percentage of the overall grant award to each NPP goal area. The Work Group Chair will ensure that work group members are informed of any NPP that falls in their related UASI Homeland Security Goal in order to best achieve the established impacts and outcomes set forth in the project.

#### II. Regional Radio Operators Advisory Group Purpose & Schedule

The Regional Radio Operators Advisory Group, chaired by Corey Reynolds of BayRICS, supports the following Bay Area UASI Homeland Security Goal.

Bay Area UASI Investment #	Bay Area UASI Goal
6	Strengthen Emergency Communications

*Source: FY22 Project Proposal Guidance*

The Regional Radio Operators Advisory Group is scheduled to meet 12 times during 2021 (monthly on the third Thursday). Additional meetings may be scheduled as necessary. Each meeting will last no more than 90 minutes. Between meetings, correspondence to work group members will be conducted via email from the Chairperson.

#### III. National Priority Projects

The BayRICS Work Groups have no National Priority Projects for 2021.



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#### IV. 2021 Activities

Through the BayRICS Work Groups and its active subcommittees, Bay Area jurisdictions and partners have the opportunity to participate in and benefit from the following UASI investments. Note: BayRICS Work Groups are open to all UASI partners, not just BayRICS members.

##### **Regional Radio Operators Advisory Group Activities**

- Discuss, document, and share interoperable communications best practices and coordinate on regional interoperable communications efforts.
- Update and maintain policies and procedures related to communications systems performance, maintenance, and other technical issues.
- Update, maintain, and socialize a Regional Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP), Regional Fleetmap, and Radio Programming Guidelines.
- Host annual system key exchanges to promote cross-system interoperability.
- Coordinate regular regional interoperability training and testing.

##### **Regional Public Safety Broadband Work Group Activities**

- Develop regional policies and procedures for interoperability on nascent public safety broadband networks.
- Monitor FirstNet adoption and use across the region; document and share best practices and lessons learned.
- Identify and oversee regional public safety broadband projects.

#### V. Coordination with the Bay Area Training and Exercise Program

The BayRICS Work Groups will promote and participate in training offerings by the Bay Area Training and Exercise Program (BATEP). Notably, Work Group members will help identify training needs and gaps, host BATEP courses, and share training opportunities with their agencies and partners. Quarterly, or as requested, the BATEP staff will provide an update to the BayRICS Work Groups regarding the ongoing training and exercise activities being coordinated for the Bay Area and provide an opportunity for the work group to request training or exercise services that will address an unmet need.

**Golden Eagle Exercise:** BayRICS Work Groups assist in planning interoperable communications/operational communications components of the Golden Eagle Exercise. Work Group members are encouraged to coordinate with their jurisdiction to synchronize exercise planning efforts.