

SNOCOM-SNOPAC Consolidation Project Status Update: August 2016

(Note: the following text is posted on the Consolidation Project weblinks for both agencies)

- No decision has been made whether or not to consolidate SNOCOM and SNOPAC.

August Updates:

- The JTF has agreed that SNOCOM and SERS directors should participate in scoping and oversight of a SNOPAC funded RFP that will explore facility needs for SNOPAC, as well as any configuration of a consolidated agency including some or all of the 3 agencies. The RFP will be issued in September and final consultant reports are expected before year's end.
- The Executive Directors are coordinating in the selection of a software to replace the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) system, with the goal of installing new software by early 2017. Following installation of this software, SNOPAC is committed to proceeding quickly with cross-training of all staff to be able to dispatch police, fire and emergency medical calls.
- Both agencies have weblinks posted on the Consolidation Project, including identical information. All approved meeting summaries from the JTF are posted on the website. An email link to submit questions or comments is posted on both websites---to date, no questions or comments have been submitted. All materials included in Joint Board meeting packets are also posted on the website. (<http://snocom.org> and <http://snopac911.us>).
- Executive Directors have emailed all member agencies to alert them to the weblinks; to ask them to circulate the information to their employees; and to request a point person be identified at each agency for employees to refer questions
- Consistent with the Board approved communications plan, an online "surveymonkey" poll of all SNOCOM, SNOPAC and SERS employees has been posted. Due date for response is 8/31/16. Results will be summarized without attribution and shared with the JTF, Boards, and posted online. Guild leadership was consulted in advance of posting the survey.
- Executive Directors have completed an initial analysis of the extent and impact of call transfers and this is being shared as an information item at a Joint Board meeting of SNOCOM and SNOPAC on September 15.

- The JTF has begun discussing “redundancy/survivability” and continues to explore governance options.

Background:

- The primary purpose of the project is to develop information necessary to allow the SNOCOM and SNOPAC Boards, and their member agencies, to make an informed decision as to whether SNOCOM and SNOPAC should consolidate in some manner.
- The Boards of both SNOCOM and SNOPAC have committed that should consolidation occur, no layoffs will be made in the transition to a consolidated agency.
- The Joint Task Force is charged with delivering options for consideration by the Boards, including:
 1. An assessment of what the situation will be if consolidation does not occur, in terms of service levels, staffing and costs, and
 2. A proposed approach to consolidation and an assessment of what that means in terms of services, staffing and costs.
- The information gathering process is expected to last through 2016. Any decision to consolidate will be made no earlier than 2017.
- Member agencies of SNOCOM and SNOPAC will have access to all work products of the Joint Task Force as they are developed and forwarded to the SNOCOM and SNOPAC boards for consideration.
- Any decision to consolidate will be made consistent with the interlocal agreements governing the two agencies