

DaneCom Outreach Update 8/12/2016

The entire DaneCom radio system continues to be on-track for a November 1st 2016 “go live” date. What do I mean by “go live”? Putting things simply:

- On November 1st 2016, **81 days from today**, all analog legacy wide-area radio channels in use today in Dane County will be turned off. These channels include:
 - A – Adam (fire & EMS channel)
 - B – Baker (fire & EMS channel)
 - C - Charlie (fire & EMS channel)
 - D – David (fire & EMS channel)
 - E – Edward (fire & EMS channel)
 - F – Frank (fire & EMS channel)
 - H – Henry (ambulance to hospital radio patch channel)
 - This includes Madison-area hospital emergency department radios
 - Dane County Sheriff Channel 1
 - Dane County Sheriff Channel 3
 - Dane County Sheriff Channel 5
 - Dane County Highway Department (moving to DaneCom September 6th)

If your entity utilizes any of the above channels – even occasionally - you will be affected by this “go live” date and need to be prepared. In the upcoming weeks, I’ll begin reaching out to agencies known to utilize the above legacy radio channels to check-in on their DaneCom readiness (your agency may have answered some of these questions previously):

- Are you planning on using DaneCom for your local / countywide radio communication needs?
- Have you purchased DaneCom-capable radios?
- Have those radios been programmed to accommodate the new DaneCom system?
- Have your users been trained on the use of those radios?

You must be ready for this big change in the countywide radio system (**81 days from today**)!

Progress continues on getting DaneCom ready for “go live”. This week, the Harris Corporation has a team on the ground in the county provisioning the system to use the additional radio tower sites that were built to improve coverage overall. By week’s end, the trunked radio system may be operating on all 11 towers throughout the county. Although that subsystem has been up and running for a few weeks, it’s only been using one of the 11 towers.

Planned activities for the upcoming weeks include:

- General Communications to ensure the entire system is operating optimally (there's a lot involved in this task and I'm greatly over-simplifying their task at hand)
- (Week of August 22nd) DaneCom Trunked Radio Subsystem scheduled to be unavailable while some system testing takes place. The subsystem will remain in service, but radios are not to be "turned on" to any DaneCom Trunked Radio "channel" – more on this as the date gets closer
- Dane County Highway will move from their current radio system to DaneCom
- Various testing events will take place to verify coverage and system performance meets contractually agreed-upon levels
- Cutover to DaneCom on November 1st (**81 days from today**)

If you have any questions, please let me know!

Chad Fleck, DaneCom Radio System Administrator

(608)283-2912 desk

(608)509-3258 cell

fleck@countyofdane.com