Waukesha County Wisconsin

Daniel P. Vrakas, County Executive

Presentation by Richard H. Tuma, ENP
Director of Emergency Preparedness

Waukesha County

- Located west of Milwaukee in the southeastern section of the state – 576 square miles
  - Part of the Milwaukee area UASI
- Population of approximately 385,000
  - Mixture of urban and rural communities
- Comprised of 37 units of local government
  - Cities, villages and townships
    - Many with own police and fire departments
    - Fire departments provide EMS services, some to the paramedic level
  - County sheriff's department
  - 25 police departments
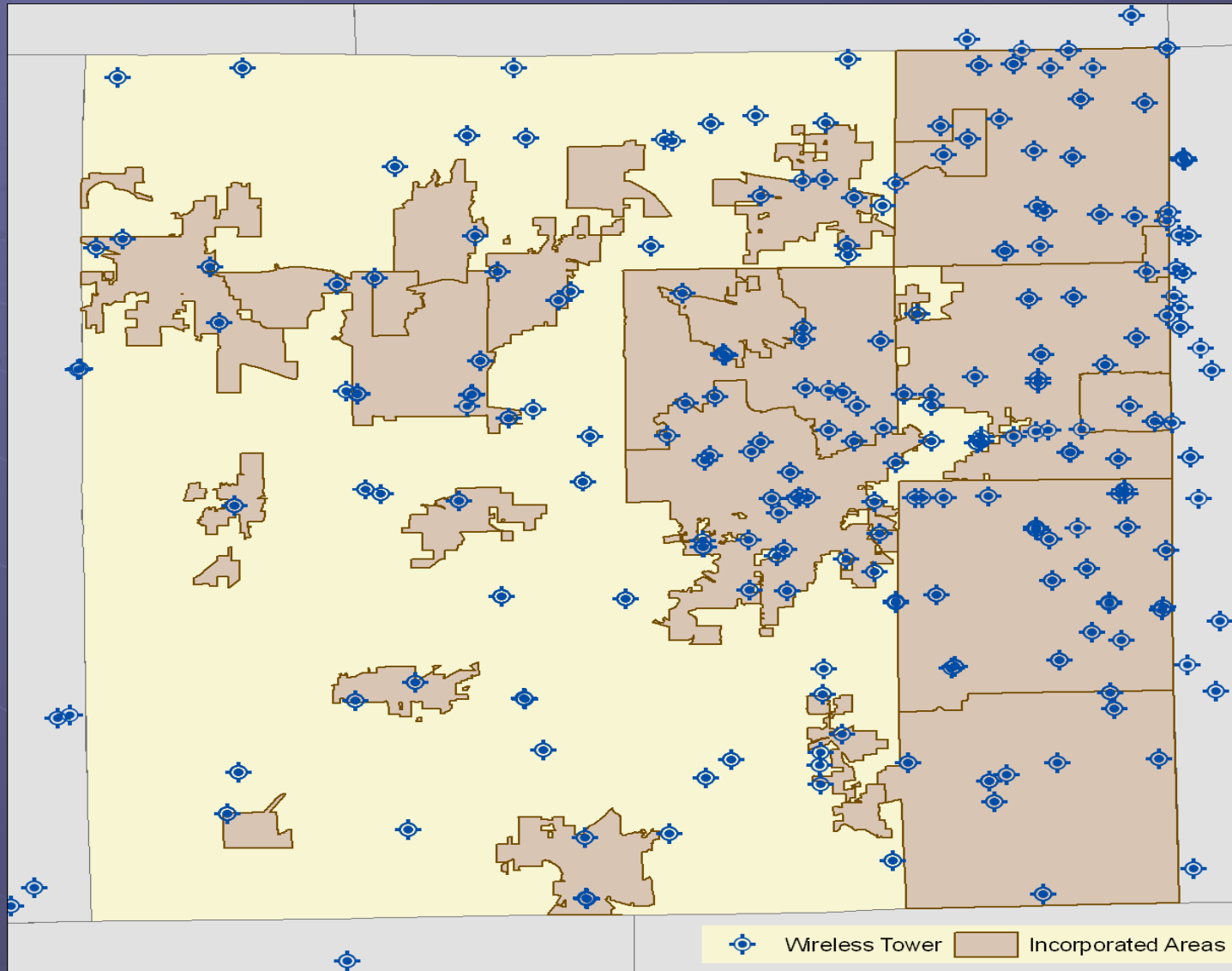 - 28 fire/EMS departments
- 8 PSAPs - 1 wireless

Why is Waukesha County here today?

- A vision of sharing resources and interoperability with both voice and data applications
  - Not just within the county, but for the region
- County-wide voice radio system provides :
  - Interoperability
    - Includes public safety, public works, emergency management, health department, parks, etc.
- County-wide MDC data system:
  - Not used by fire or EMS!
  - Provided a level of interoperability for the police departments
    - most of the police departments used the 800 (narrow band) MDC system until the need for broadband applications became a reality
  - Police now using 8 different systems that do NOT talk to one another and use a mixture of technologies

What Problems are we trying to solve?

- Police are using a mixture of 800 MHz data and cellular data
- Police on 800 have interoperability between each other, but not with cellular users
  - Limited as to type and quantity of data available to them
- Seven departments using cellular are on separate systems and cannot talk to each other or to the agencies on 800
  - Have much more data available but cannot share that data with the other police departments
- Those using cellular have more applications available, but are relying on a "public" network
- Fire has no mobile data service, but request it

What wireless technology is needed for a more rural environment?

Wireless Tower   Incorporated Areas

What wireless broadband applications are needed for police, fire, and EMS?

- Police and fire have different needs but both want "information", not just data

- Local, state, and federal data bases

- Mapping, floor plans both local and regional
  - MABAS……..SMART

- Video both to and from vehicles

- Hazmat via internet

What is needed to help public safety?

- The release of 700 Broadband by the FCC for public safety use

- A public/private partnership with priority given to public safety

- A regional approach instead of building silos

- An economic incentive to move from current limited systems to systems that meet today's police, fire, and EMS first responder needs

On behalf of the dedicated public safety community of Waukesha County

- Thank you for the opportunity to be here today

- We hope you realize the importance of 700 MHz Broadband frequencies to public safety