TOP 10 ROADMAP FAQs

1. What is the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) Roadmap?

The Roadmap is a first-of-its-kind document developed by the FirstNet Authority with input from the public safety community, industry and government representatives, and its network contractor, AT&T. The Roadmap provides a view of public safety's operational needs and technology trends for mobile broadband communications over the next five years. It will help guide the **growth, evolution, and advancement of FirstNet** — the only broadband network dedicated to public safety.

2. What is the value of this Roadmap to public safety and FirstNet?

The Roadmap is central to the delivery of a dedicated and **differentiated broadband communications experience** for public safety. The FirstNet Authority will use the Roadmap to prioritize programs, activities, and investments to ensure first responders have the communications tools they need to save lives and protect communities.

3. Why did the FirstNet Authority create a Roadmap?

The FirstNet Authority developed the Roadmap to **advance and evolve FirstNet** beyond the current contractual commitments and to create opportunities for public safety to shape the future of their network. Further, the Roadmap is designed to help the FirstNet Authority, other agencies, and industry learn more about what public safety needs the most for mobile broadband communications, so they can prioritize resources and investments accordingly.

4. How did the FirstNet Authority develop the Roadmap?

The Roadmap includes input from the broader stakeholder community, including first responders, public safety associations and agencies, Federal government agencies, and industry representatives. To obtain public safety feedback, the FirstNet Authority held **more than 300 engagements** across the nation in the first half of 2019 and worked closely with its Public Safety Advisory Committee. The FirstNet Authority also conducted targeted industry engagements and market research to capture technology trends.

5. How will the FirstNet Authority use the Roadmap?

The Roadmap provides a common framework for the FirstNet Authority to engage with the broader stakeholder community — including public safety, industry, and government agencies — to **identify technologies and programs to advance FirstNet**. The FirstNet Authority will focus its activities and investments around the Roadmap priorities and will continue to work with AT&T on important priorities for the future of the network as outlined in the Roadmap.

6. **What are the Roadmap "domains"?**

The Roadmap is structured around six "domains" that reflect public safety's input regarding the most important communications capabilities for their mission. The domains represent critical network capabilities that are vital to public safety operations now and in the future, including:

- **Coverage and capacity** – The FirstNet presence within a given geography, with sufficient capacity for public safety to perform its duties

- **Situational awareness** – The ability to aggregate and synthesize data in real time from multiple sources (human, machine, sensors, etc.) and present actionable insights to public safety using FirstNet

- **Voice communications** – The ability of public safety professionals to speak with one another within and across agencies, jurisdictions, and platforms (e.g., voice over IP, push-to-talk)

- **Secure information exchange** – The ability to access, exchange, and manage data securely and conveniently within and across public safety agencies and jurisdictions

- **User experience** – The tailoring of network capabilities, features, devices, and applications to the needs and requirements of public safety professionals

- **The Core** – The FirstNet Core and associated services and enabling network technologies

7. **Will the FirstNet Authority fund all Roadmap activities?**

The FirstNet Authority must be a good steward of its funds and will ensure that it invests in those priorities and activities **that best support public safety's needs** over time. The Roadmap will help the FirstNet Authority focus and prioritize its programs, activities, and investments, but it will not serve as a commitment to fund all activities.

8. **How is this different from the roadmap that the FirstNet Authority developed in 2014?**

The FirstNet Authority developed a strategic roadmap in its startup days to help evolve the organization through key milestones leading to network deployment, including the development of a business model, the release of a Request for Proposals for the network, and the award of the network contract. Now that FirstNet is operational and serving thousands of public safety agencies around the country, this Roadmap defines an entirely new process for the FirstNet Authority — one that is **focused on the evolution of the network** and is based on public safety feedback about their mobile broadband communications needs.

9. **Will the Roadmap be made public?**

Yes, the FirstNet Authority plans to publish the Roadmap later this year and will **update it on a regular basis** to incorporate feedback from public safety, industry, and governmental entities.

10. **How will the FirstNet Authority ensure the Roadmap stays current and evolves with technologies and public safety needs?**

The FirstNet Authority will update the Roadmap on a regular basis. Between updates, the FirstNet Authority **will continue to engage with the public safety community** to hear what they need from FirstNet. In addition to public safety, the FirstNet Authority will continue to engage with industry, government agencies, and AT&T to understand and leverage emerging technologies and trends to enhance public safety communications.