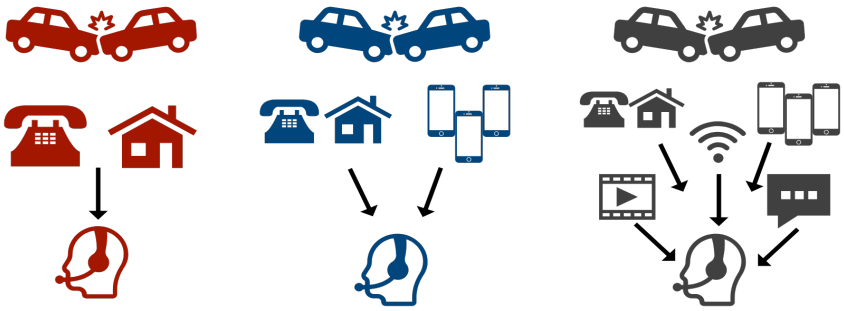
McKean County Next Generation 911

What is NEXTGEN 911?

NEXTGEN 911 (NG911) is a standards-based, Internet Protocol (IP) emergency communications infrastructure enabling voice and multimedia 911 communications. NG911 utilizes geographic information systems (GIS) to accurately route calls to public safety answering points (PSAP's).

NEXTGEN 911 creates a robust and redundant infrastructure that will deliver 9-1-1 service today and into the future. It will process all call types - including voice, text and crash notification - as well as images and video. In addition, it will enable improved location accuracy that will allow emergency personnel to send help more quickly. The examples to the right shows the progression on 9-1-1 technology.



YESTERDAY
Landline Society
1 Incident
1 Call

TODAY
Mobile Wireless Society
1 Incident
Multiple Calls

TOMORROW
NextGen Society
1 Incident
Multiple Calls, Texts, Photos, Video, Data

Benefits of NEXTGEN 911

NG911 systems are broadband enabled to allow PSAPs to receive bandwidth data from callers: images, video and sensor data in order to provide emergency service professionals with unprecedented situational awareness, better informed decision making and help First Responders do their jobs more effectively while keeping them safer. A NG911 infrastructure is required to make this work.

NG911 systems are also IP-based, which means that PSAPs will be interconnected, allowing PSAPs to work collaboratively, share data, and seamlessly and quickly transfer operations, to a neighboring PSAP when a disaster or an emergency renders a PSAP inoperable, inaccessible or uninhabitable.

NG911 systems rely on geospatial (GIS) data to locate callers in an emergency, a far more accurate approach than what's available with today's 9-1-1 system. As a result of more accurate 9-1-1 caller location, fewer calls will be misrouted, allowing First Responders to arrive quickly and to the correct location. Improved response time is often vital in emergency situations where every second matters.

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What are we doing to prepare?

McKean County has been actively working to prepare for NG 911, a statewide initiative. We have been having joint, weekly meetings between McKean County Emergency Services and McKean County GIS Staff to keep up with the status of the ongoing project. Representatives from McKean County sit on regional GIS / NG911 subcommittee calls. Emergency Services & GIS staff participate in monthly NG911 conference calls between regional counties, state offices, and state affiliated consultants. McKean County staff is preparing our existing databases to ensure they are compatible with NG911 and coordinating with adjacent jurisdictions to ensure seamless integration. We are also fixing any gaps in data such as ensuring all apartment units are accounted for, in their correct location and/or making sure common points of interest have accurate location information. Lastly, McKean County staff have been finding and enacting appropriate solutions to complex address errors that currently exist within our datasets.

Examples of Address Errors

* Address that references incorrect street number/name combination
* Address numbers out of sequence or calculated range
* Odd/even numbers on the wrong side of the street
* Multiple addressable structures using a shared driveway
* Duplicative address numbers, requiring unique delimiters
* Existing road name & addresses not meeting NENA & PEMA standards
* Existing addresses are not valid and requirement enrollment into datasets
* Other entities unaware of existing, valid address and require synchronization