



*Washington County
Consolidated Communications
Agency*



*Oregon Chapter
Association of Public-Safety
Communications Officials &
National Emergency Number
Association*

**Testimony in support of the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network
(OWIN)**

To: Joint Ways & Means Committee

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OWIN exemplifies an efficient, effective partnership that works, and makes the absolute most of the public dollar invested in this project. Various federal grants have been awarded to local entities and are being leveraged with local resources. Delaying OWIN will in many cases end projects altogether because of time sensitivity to other sources of funding at the local level.

OWIN is the result of over 8 years of public safety professionals working together to form a statewide, sustainable, interoperable, emergency communications network. In the metro area we have a solid foundation of interoperability; however we lose that ability when we move outside our area or outside agencies come into our area. OWIN's methodical approach to expanding and connecting communications systems will better serve us all.

Washington County 9-1-1 and the membership of Oregon APCO/NENA respectfully ask for your support and allow these partnerships to continue for the benefit of public safety responders and the citizens of Oregon.