

York County Comprehensive Communications System Mutual Aid and Common Talkgroup/Channel Usage

Purpose:

The effectiveness of the mutual aid and common communications paths is dependent on the implementation of a plan for the talkgroup's and channel's use. Mutual aid, Events, and other common talkgroups/channels have been made available by the York County Comprehensive Communications System User's Group for inter-discipline and mutual aid communications with agencies from within and outside York County.

LE M/A, EMS M/A, Fire M/A talkgroups:

The Mutual Aid talkgroups have been established for inter-discipline and mutual aid communications. These talk groups can be used for unit to unit, unit to dispatch, or announcements with any of the agencies on the York County radio network. The User's Group has prescribed that the (3) mutual aid talkgroups reside in every radio in the same location so as to make access to communications paths easy.

Agencies that are responding into York County to provide mutual aid should use these talkgroups as well. Users from other systems are usually limited to the number of talkgroups that can be programmed in their radio so utilizing the Mutual Aid talkgroups will help here as well. Once responders come into the county, mutual aid talkgroups can be patched to the operational talkgroups they are using for that specific incident.

Standardized talkgroup use for all radio system users:

- These talkgroups would be the primary source of communications for mutual aid units. Inter-discipline and mutual aid communications with agencies responding from other jurisdictions.
- Anyone needing a fire unit/fire department - Switch to FIRE M/A and contact Public Safety Communications. Make the request for service.
- Anyone needing an EMS/Rescue unit - Switch to EMS M/A and contact Public Safety Communications. Make the request for service.
- Anyone needing a law enforcement unit - Switch to LE M/A and contact the appropriate agency (Public Safety Communications – York County Sheriff's Office, Rock Hill Police, Clover Police, Tega Cay Police, Fort Mill Police, York Police, Winthrop Police).

If they are unsure they can contact the Public Safety Communications and they can route the request to the proper agency.

- Weather announcements, BOLOs, and pertinent information to be shared with dispatch centers and field units could be made on these talkgroups so as to reach the greatest target audience without interruption of primary dispatch talkgroups.

****NOTE**** Doing this would require all dispatch centers in the county to monitor at least the LE M/A talkgroup.

System-wide announcements:

The Mutual Aid (M/A) talkgroups should be used for announcements/ BOLOs/ weather watches or warnings etc. This would allow any subscriber on the system to scan and monitor that talkgroup if they chose to. This would also allow direct notification from Public Safety Communications to all dispatch centers of announcements or notifications without affecting dispatch or priority talkgroups.

Conventional 8TAC/8SCTAC – 7TAC/7SCTAC Mutual Aid Channels:

8CALL90, 8TAC91, 8TAC92, 8TAC93, 8TAC94, 8SCTAC 3, and 8SCTAC 5 have been implemented in York County for communications with users of 800MHz radios that do not have access to the York County 800MHz trunked radio network.

7CALL50, 7TAC51, 7TAC52, 7TAC53, 7TAC54, 7TAC55, 7TAC56, 7GTAC57, 7MOB59, 7LAW61, 7LAW62, 7FIRE63, 7FIRE64, 7MED65, 7MED66, 7DATA69, 7SCTAC1, 7SCTAC2, 7SCTAC3, 7SCTAC4, 7SCTAC5, 7SCTAC6, 7SCTAC7, 7SCTAC8, 7SCPRT1, 7SCPRT2, 7SCPRT3, 7SCPRT4, 7SCPRT5, 7SCPRT6, 7SCPRT7, and 7SCPRT8 have been programmed into the York County 7/800MHz radios to provide additional avenues for interoperable communications

Standard:

- 7/800MHz public safety radios in the U.S. should have the 8TAC/7TAC mutual aid channels programmed in them. The 8SCTAC/7SCTAC channels are included in 7/800MHz radios used by responders from the State of SC.
- These channels are located in the “CMN, 7SC, and 7US” (Common) zones within each radio that is programmed on the York County radio network.
- The coordination for the use of the 8TAC/8SCTAC channels is handled through Public Safety Communications with assistance from Radio Services. When a situation arises creating the need for conventional mutual aid channels, dispatch will assign an available

8TAC/8SCTAC channel and enable the repeater in the area. Traffic from the conventional channel can be patched, via the dispatch console, to a talkgroup if necessary.

- The coordination of the use of the 7TAC/7SCTAC channels is handled through Public Safety Communications with assistance from Radio Services. These channels will be used for on scene communications.
- Clear text must be used on each of these channels as not everyone uses the same list of 10 codes.
- Repeater coverage is limited to approximately 8 miles from the repeater site when using a hand-held radio.
- The conventional channels may be used in direct (DIR) mode.

** 8TAC94 is used at the Catawba Nuclear Station only*

The map below shows the locations of the 8TAC/8SCTAC repeaters:

Events Talkgroups:

The User’s Group has defined a plan which prescribes the use of the EVENT 1 – 16 talkgroups on the York County 800MHz trunked radio network. This plan outlines the use of the talkgroups at preplanned events as well as their use during large scale responses or disasters.

Standard:

- All radios on the York County 800MHz radio network have access to the EVENT talk groups.
- The coordination of the use of these channels is handled through Public Safety Communications. When a situation arises creating the need for EVENT talkgroups, dispatch will assign an available talkgroups to the requesting agency. Traffic from the EVENT talkgroups can be patched, via the dispatch console, to a different talkgroup if necessary.
- EVENT talkgroups used in a large scale event or disaster would be implemented by the incident commander. (The plan would be implemented based on criteria set forth by the system users and would apply system-wide)
- The following pre-planned use of talk groups within the York County 800MHz trunked radio network during a large event or disaster.

<u>Talk group name</u>	<u>Talk group use</u>
EVENT 1, 2	Communications between mobile command posts and MACC/PSC
EVENT 3, 4	Field communications / coordination of Law Enforcement units
EVENT 5, 6	Field communications / coordination of EMS/Rescue units
EVENT 7, 8, 9, 10	Field communications / coordination of Fire units
EVENT 11, 12, 13	Field communications / coordination of Public Works and Other government officials
EVENT 14, 15, 16	Used by agencies for regularly scheduled events (i.e. football games, festivals, etc.) – Dynamically assignable by Public Safety Communications

Talkgroup**Preplanned Usage****Usage**

EVENT 1	PSC/EOC/Mobile Command	Primary
EVENT 2	PSC/EOC/Mobile Command	Assign as needed
EVENT 3	Law Enforcement	Primary
EVENT 4	Law Enforcement	Assign as needed
EVENT 5	EMS / Rescue	Primary
EVENT 6	EMS / Rescue	Assign as needed
EVENT 7	Fire	Primary
EVENT 8	Fire	Assign as needed
EVENT 9	Fire	Assign as needed
EVENT 10	Fire	Assign as needed
EVENT 11	General Government	Assign as needed
EVENT 12	General Government	Assign as needed
EVENT 13	General Government	Assign as needed
EVENT 14	Regularly scheduled events	Assign as needed
EVENT 15	Regularly scheduled events	Assign as needed
EVENT 16	Regularly scheduled events	Assign as needed