



Secure Commonwealth Sub-Panel

Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
July 13, 2015
12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Hon. Brian Moran, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Patrick DeConcini, President, DeConcini & Associates, LLC
John Braun, President and Chairman of the Board - Dynamis, Inc.
R. Michael Mohler, President, Virginia Professional Fire Fighters
Dan Jenkins, Director, Corporate Security, Safety & Health, Dominion Resources Services, Inc.
Del. William DeSteph, Member, House of Delegates of Virginia
Donald Upson, Chief Operating Officer, UNICOM Global
Dario Marquez, President, Chairman, CEO, and Co-Founder, MVM, Inc.
Donna Pletch, State Planning Program Manager, VDEM
Robert Coates Jr., Continuity Planning Specialist, VDEM
Adam Thiel, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Shawn Talmadge, Homeland Security and Resilience Director, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Kathleen Franklin, Homeland Security Policy Analyst, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Isaac Janak, Homeland Security Projects Administrator, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Sean Spasoff, Intern, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sec. Brian Moran, Chair, opened the meeting and thanked all for their attendance.

Member Introductions

Introductions were made by the Panel.

Discussion of Secure Commonwealth Plan

Mr. Talmadge emphasized the importance of revising the Secure Commonwealth Plan so that it accounts for new emerging threats like cyberterrorism. The Sub-Panel agreed that the changing threat landscape requires a more fluid plan and a total rewrite of the current Secure Commonwealth Plan.

Mr. Braun brought up the idea of changing the Secure Commonwealth Plan from a strategic plan to a strategic framework. The framework he suggests is much more flexible than a rigid plan and gives agencies more freedom to create their own strategic and implementation plans. This plan would make the Secure Commonwealth Plan more of a living document that can mold to the needs of each individual agency.

The Sub-Panel supported Mr. Braun's strategic framework idea, but Mr. Dario Marquez emphasized the need for the Secure Commonwealth Panel to be involved with assisting agencies in implementing their own individual plans. He explained that without proper direction, many agencies won't properly develop their own implementation plans.

Delegate William DeSteph emphasized the importance of separating the strategic framework and implementation plans. While the Panel can devise the overarching framework for the state, individual agencies should create their own implementation plans to fit their needs with the help of the Secure Commonwealth Panel.

Mr. Patrick DeConcini also supported a high level strategic framework. However, he also suggested that the framework should include threat based analysis so that possible threats can be prioritized and assessed more easily.

Mr. R. Michael Mohler supported Mr. DeConcini's threat based system, and also stressed the importance of a strong interoperable communications system. In the case of an emergency, interoperability will be essential for interagency communications and also for first responders.

Mr. Donald Upson presented the Sub-Panel with his own framework for what the plan should include. Mr. Upson's plan, which was fully supported by the rest of the Sub-Panel, consisted of three main objectives: (1) to identify 21st century threats both manmade and natural; (2) to identify appropriate stakeholders and to encourage and enable communications among them, in both the public and private sector; (3) and to maximize all available resources to the priorities established by the panel.

The Sub-Panel agreed that Mr. Upson's framework should be the general outline of the framework approach to the new Secure Commonwealth Plan.