

The requirement to limit 700 MHz transmissions to 6.25 KHz bandwidth will severely limit the lifespan of existing radios in our fleet. As recently as this year we have purchased radios that will not meet the 6.25 KHz bandwidth requirement, even with upgrades. As a region we have over 7500 radios and of those, less than 33% of them are capable of meeting the narrowband requirement. The financial burden of replacing the 5000 radios not capable of meeting the requirement would place unbearable hardship on our Public Safety providers. Given the existing 12.5 KHz pre-coordination on 700 MHz and the monumental task of finding funding to replace the majority of our Regions radios, we urge you to consider eliminating the narrowband requirement for 700 MHz.

Sincerely,

Randolph Ashley
Communications Technology Manager
Regional Interoperability Coordinator
City of McAllen & Rio Grande Valley Communications Group