



Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service Presentation to Area G

Deane Bouvier, Staff 50
Technical Operations
16 June 2016



Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service Is

- Volunteer organization of radio amateurs providing auxiliary communications to the County of Los Angeles in times of emergency
- Established in 1951 by LA County ordinance to provide disaster relief communications for the citizens of LA County
- Managed by the LA County Sheriff's Department on behalf of the County
 - Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB)
 - Also serves the Emergency Operations Bureau (EOB)
- When activated by appropriate authority, LA County DCS has California Disaster Service Worker coverage
- Recent change in Sheriff's Department management has made great improvements



DCS Mission

- Primary mission – Support emergency management at the county level when normal means of communication fail
 - Providing communications assets county wide and staffing to the County/Operational Area EOC, Sheriff's Stations and other county agencies
 - Interoperability with the city radio organizations and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) Auxiliary Communications Service for status and resource requests up and down the disaster response structure
- Secondary mission - Support mutual aid and augment the emergency communications needs of the cities
 - Support City EOCs
 - Field operations
- Conduct events and training to improve emergency communications skills





New Emphasis for DCS

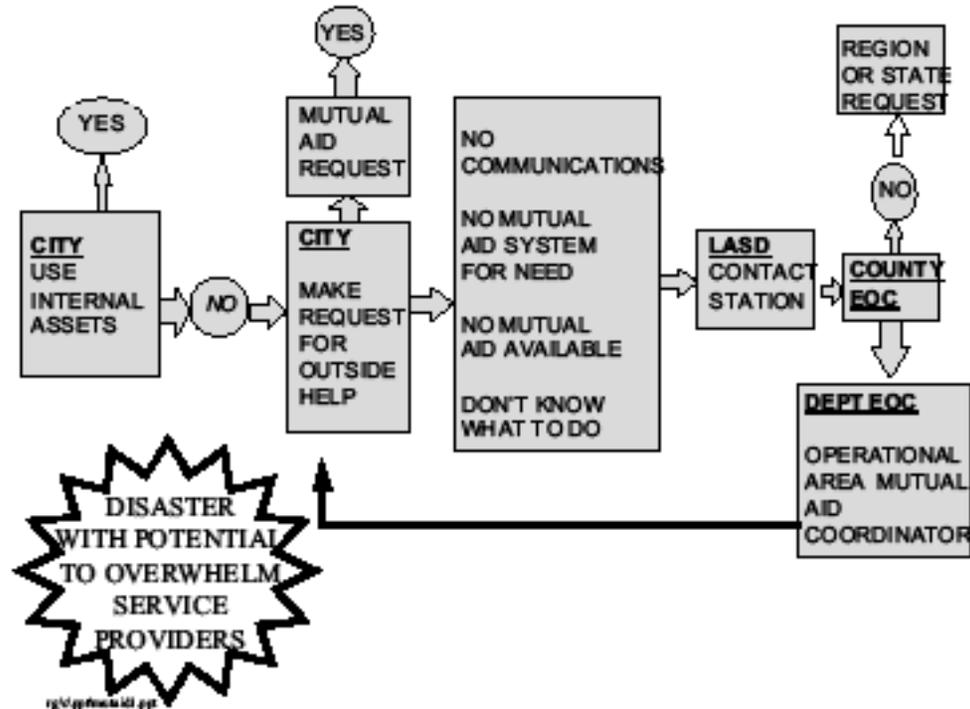
- LASD is serious about Disaster Communications
 - Including HF
- LASD is serious about DCS supporting the whole County
 - Other County agencies
 - Interoperability with the cities
- Management has revised policies
 - Recognition of past issues
 - Making new member process much more efficient
 - Engaging County employee hams in “hard to access” locations
- Established DCS Technical Team to address long standing hardware and frequency issues
- Established DCS Training Committee to improve training content and access to training
- Involving DCS with CFMB assets and drills





City Assistance Requests

- Disasters are managed at the lowest level possible
- When resources are overwhelmed cities seek mutual aid
- If mutual aid is not available due to
 - Lack of normal communications
 - Lack of an existing system
 - City has been so devastated that managers are not sure of what steps to take
- Request for Operational Area support will be made via the city's "contact" Sheriff Station
- If normal means of communication are down or overwhelmed, DCS is the backup mechanism using amateur radio

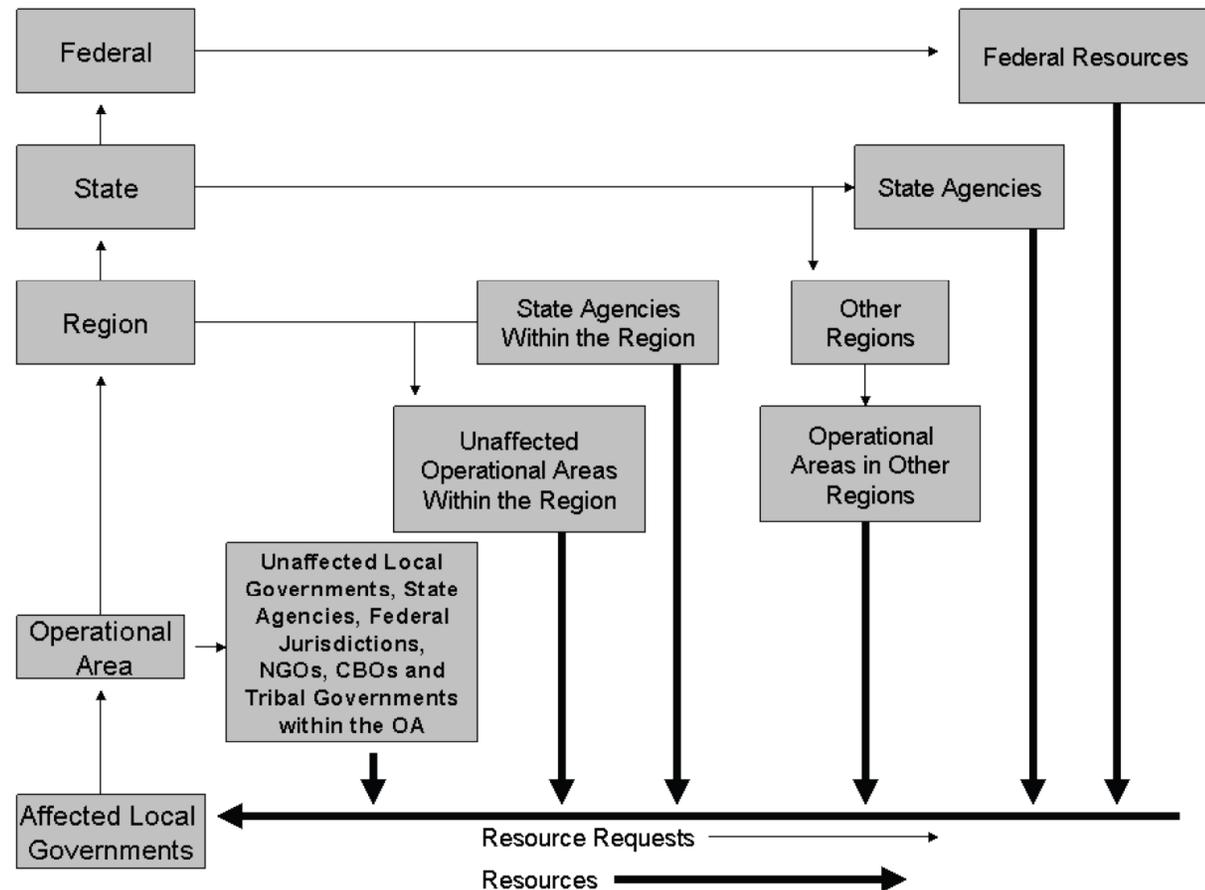


Source LA County Operational Area Emergency Response Plan



Mutual Aid Flow of Requests and Resources

- At each level when resources are overwhelmed, the mutual aid process continues
- Counties are the state's Operational Areas
- Once an Operational Area emergency is declared, the Sheriff is the Director of Emergency Operations
- When normal means of communication are unavailable, DCS is pressed into service both up and down the chain

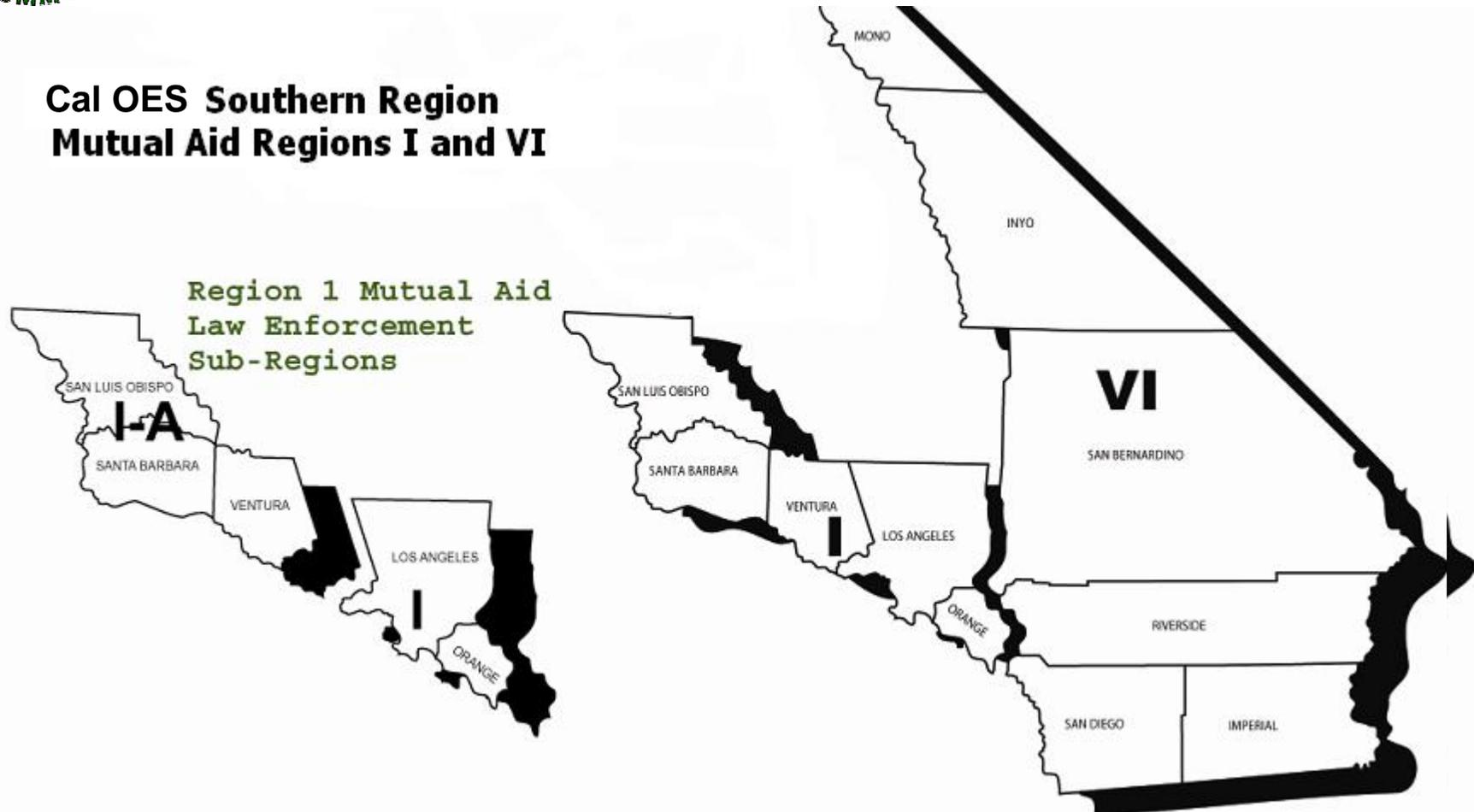


Source State of California Emergency Plan



Cal OES Southern Region Covers 11 Counties

Cal OES Southern Region Mutual Aid Regions I and VI



- Area managed by Southern Regional EOC

Source State of California Emergency Plan



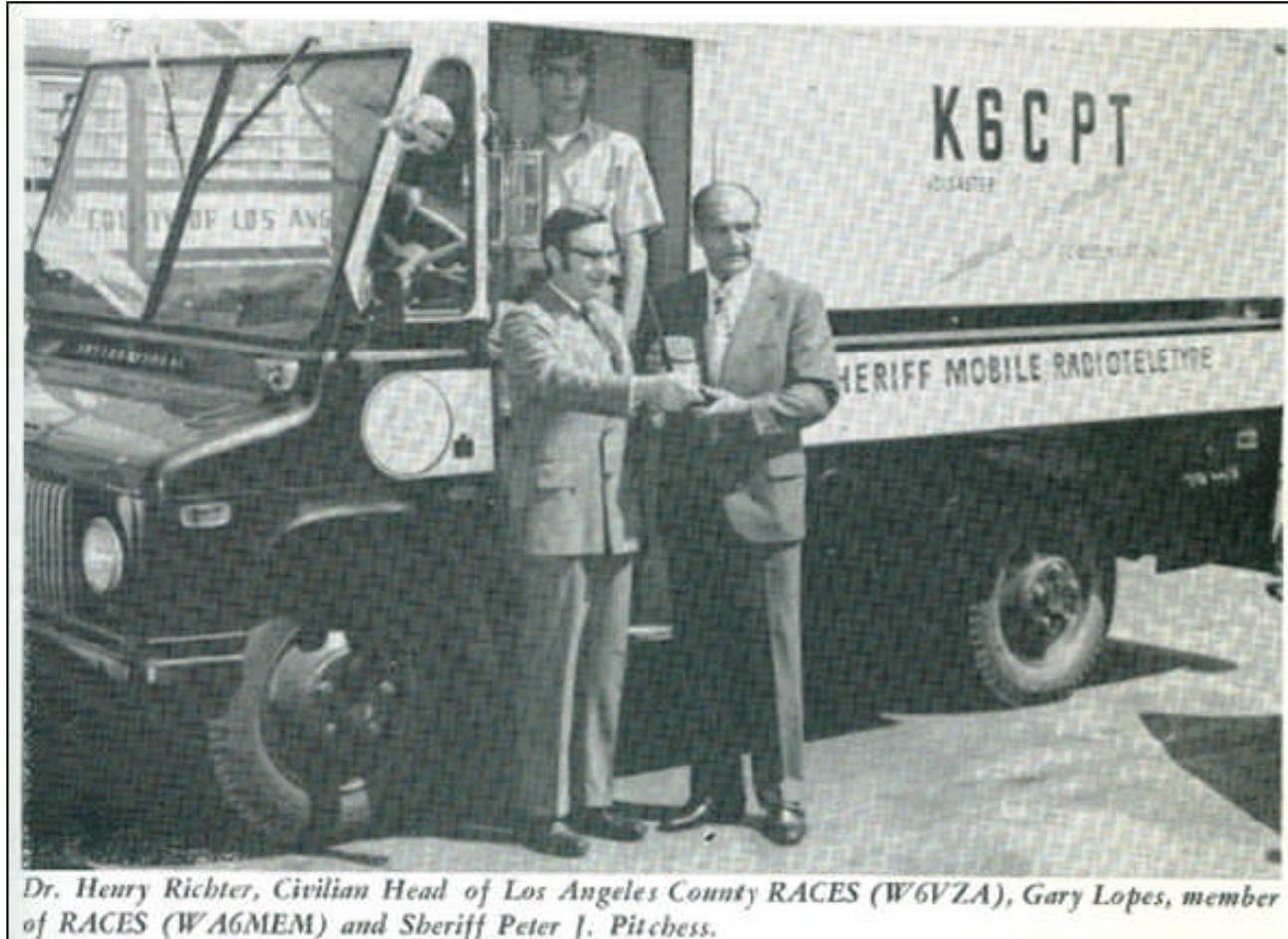
Digital Communications Narrowband Emergency Messaging System

- Some disaster response traffic is better suited for digital mode than voice.
 - Voice is too slow and error prone for long or involved messages
- NBEMS – a simple and easy way to send error-free digital messages
 - You don't have to buy an expensive modem or software
 - You don't even need a dedicated connection to your radio
- NBEMS produces messages on standard forms used in disaster management
 - Incident Command System (ICS)
 - Red Cross
 - ARRL Radiogram
 - Military Auxiliary Radio System
 - CSV spreadsheets
- NBEMS works with Windows, Linux and Mac computers and can be used on HF too; there is also an Android version





Digital is Not New





CFMB Mobile Communications Units

- Several deployable communications assets
- Most capable of desolate, off road operations
- Support
 - Interagency communications
 - Remote dispatch
 - Mobile repeaters
 - Satellite communications
 - HF communications
- Amateur radio equipment being installed
- DCS participates with the CFMB Technical Reserve Company in weekly maintenance and quarterly exercises
- MCU A made it to HAMCON 2015 at the Torrance Marriott





Frequency Plan Development

- Developing consistent frequency plan for districts to include contract/contact cities
 - Compliant with recognized band plans
 - Some districts isolated from their cities
 - Engage the city organizations where they exist via the DMACs
- Enable interoperability with other disaster radio groups
 - Red Cross
 - ARES
 - Orange County RACES
 - Cal OES Southern Region Auxiliary Communications Service
- Frequency plan will be shared with cities on a DMA basis
- Deploy common code plugs to the sheriff station radios
- Then we practice
- That way we can talk to each other when we need to!

South LA & Lomita District Frequency Plan

South Los Angeles & Lomita Disaster Communications Service							For Official Use Only	
WGLMT Frequency Plan							05/30/2016	
Do not refer to frequencies on the air. Use only the frequency designators.							Changes noted in red	
Freq. Designator	Freq.	Call / Info.	Tx Offset	PL-Tx	PL-Rx	Agency	Notes	
DCS Primary	147.270		- 0.600		179.5		**Closed** WAS2TR E-site Simulcast System	
DCS Mt D	145.300		- 0.600		100.0		KeCPT Mt. Disappointment	
DCS EOB Repeater	145.300	KeCPT	- 0.600		156.7	100.0	Out of Service	
DCS 220	224.300		- 1.600		100.0	L.A. County EOC	KeCPT Mt. Disappointment	
DCS 6m	51.500							
DCS 10m	29.500							
District 3 & 17 2m Primary	145.320		- 0.600		114.8	114.8	W6TWH Amateur Radio Club	
District 3 & 17 EOC Link	223.440						District to City EOCs	
District 3 & 17 UHF Primary	445.300		- 5.000		127.3	127.3	KeRH Holling Hills AHC crosslinked to W6TWH 2m	
District 3 & 17 PV West	449.980	W6LMT	- 5.000		173.8	173.8	KeILUM MTA Radio Club	
District 3 & 17 Tac 1	145.580						South Los Angeles Station 3 & Lomita Station 17	
District 3 & 17 Tac 2	146.030							
District 3 & 17 Tac 3	145.800							
District 3 & 17 UHF Tac 4	446.520							
Station 17A Primary	Reservad						Lomita City EOC	
Station 17B North	146.500		- input 146.740		131.8	131.8		
Station 17B South	145.740	WePVE	+ input 146.500		131.8	131.8	Palos Verdes Estates EOC (NART)	
Station 17B Primary	447.800		- 5.000		131.8	131.8	WePVE Bay View Repeater	
Station 17C Primary 440	447.120		- 5.000		100.0	100.0	KePVP Palos Verdes Radio Club	
Station 17C San Pedro Hill	445.720	NeRPV	- 3.000		192.8	192.8	NeRPV SP Hill Cal Water Sta (East Side)	
Station 17C Primary 2m	146.580						Shared with Station 17F and PVAN	
Station 17C Tactical 2m	146.590							
Station 17D Primary	446.860	KeRPD KeRFD	- 5.000		192.8	192.8	Rancho Palos Verdes EOC (PVAN)	
Station 17E Primary	Reservad						Radondo Beach EOC	
Station 17F Primary	146.580						Radondo Beach CERT Command Vehicle	
Station 17G Primary	223.880	WeTPD	- 5.000		100.0	100.0	Holling Hills EOC	
Station 17G 440 Alternate	446.020		- 5.000		131.8	131.8	Holling Hills Estates EOC	
Station 17G 90501/2	223.400						Shared with Station 17C and PVAN	
Station 17G 90503	223.020						Torrence EOC	
Station 17G 90504	223.460						Torrence Amateur Radio Association)	
Station 17G 90505	223.420						Torrence 90501 & 90502 Area Disaster Centers	
PVP USD Primary	224.350						Torrence 90503 Area Disaster Center	
PVP USD Alternate	222.120						Torrence 90504 Area Disaster Center	
LCMFA1	144.460	NeLCM					Torrence 90505 Area Disaster Center	
LCMFA2	144.430	W6SPH					Palos Verdes Peninsula School EOC	
LCMFA3	222.140						Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers	
LCMFA6	446.520						LCM Radio Amateurs)	
Station 3A El Segundo	445.240	WBBVMV	- 5.000		88.5	88.5	El Segundo EOC	
Station 3C Hermosa Primary	448.800	KeHBC	- 5.000		118.8	118.8	Hermosa Beach EOC	
Station 3G Gardena DCS	461.700	WQJK631	+ 5.000		136.5	136.5	Hermosa Beach Amateur Radio Association)	
Area G Mutual Aid	457.825	WQJK631			D032	D032	Gardena Disaster Communications Service	
							Mutual Aid Frequency for All Area G Cities	



Area G

14 Cities with 2 Contact Sheriff Stations

City	Contact Sheriff Station	City	Contact Sheriff Station
El Segundo	South Los Angeles	Manhattan Beach	South Los Angeles
Gardena	South Los Angeles	Palos Verdes Estates	Lomita
Hawthorne	South Los Angeles	Rancho Palos Verdes	Lomita
Hermosa Beach	South Los Angeles	Redondo Beach	Lomita
Inglewood	South Los Angeles	Rolling Hills	Lomita
Lawndale	South Los Angeles	Rolling Hills Estates	Lomita
Lomita	Lomita	Torrance	Lomita

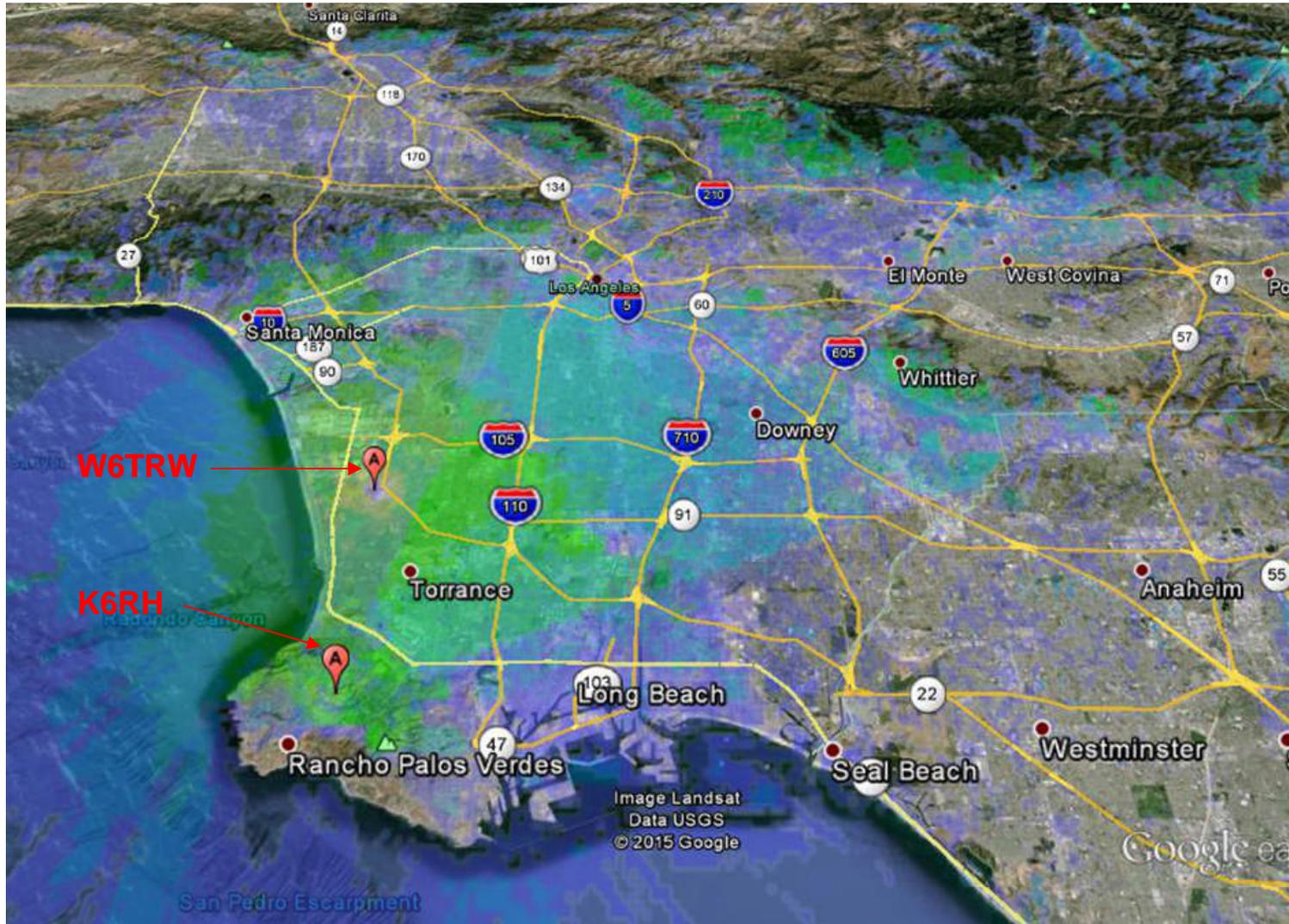
- Lomita and South Los Angeles DCS Districts have been combined under the one leadership
- Provides consistency to share operator and frequency resources
- Our weekly nets include the city radio organizations and CERT groups serving the Area G cities



Repeaters We Use Linked District Coverage

Linking 2
repeaters
provides
good
coverage
over most
of Area G

We are
exploring
options for
improving
coverage
to help the
back of
PV





Our Request

- For cities that have support amateur radio organizations DCS needs the contact information for the lead person.
- We can then coordinate frequencies and publish a consistent plan that will enable cities to talk to their contract/contact sheriff station and vice versa.
- Please provide the following to N5DQ@ARRL.net

City Name	
City Amateur Radio Organization	
Lead Amateur Radio Person	
Lead Person's e-mail	
Lead Person's phone	

- If your city does not have an amateur radio organization supporting it, please confirm that too



This is What We Think We Know

- Please confirm this information, provide corrections and/or help fill in the blanks
- We encourage participation by all city amateur radio groups in our weekly nets and drills
- You can also contact us via the South Los Angeles and Lomita District web site W6LMT.net

AREA G	City Amateur Radio Contact
EL SEGUNDO	
GARDENA	Stuart Gorsky [T-61]
HAWTHORNE	
HERMOSA BEACH	Ken Hartley
INGLEWOOD	
LAWNDALE	
LOMITA	Bob Gorman [T-95]
MANHATTAN BEACH	Paul Curry
PALOS VERDES ESTATES	Bob Sylvest [NART01]
RANCHO PALOS VERDES	Dale Hanks [T-57]
REDONDO BEACH	Ken Carr
ROLLING HILLS	
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES	Jim Johnson [T-14]
TORRANCE	Chuck Galbasin [T-139]