

## Example: Communications Annex

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## **D.1. Liberty County Emergency Communications Network**

Liberty County and Central City operate a county-wide combined 911/dispatch center located at the Emergency Management Center at AA and 39th Streets, Central City. This center provides citizen emergency telephone access and public safety dispatch for all local government public safety agencies. The Liberty County 911 center manages the county-wide 800 MHz trunked radio system which serves other agencies which choose to use it. Many of these agencies also maintain their own radio frequencies for specialized operations (e.g., the lifeguard patrol in Bayport or along the coastal beaches). Liberty County also provides radio support to the Roaring River Community (RRTC).

### ***D.1.1. Public Safety***

There are multiple 911 call taker consoles at the Emergency Management Center along with dedicated sheriffs, local police, Central City Police, County Fire/EMS, Central City Fire, and Central City EMS radio consoles. Staffing is based on work load analysis; however, the list above is the standard minimum with additional consoles being activated as needed.

All agencies are assigned to varying talk groups (the equivalent of radio channels) for their specific operations that are repeated to all units. There are additional talk groups available for tactical or special operations use. These are usually not repeated across the system. All stations are equipped with remote transmitters on the 800 MHz system as well.

### ***D.1.2. Other Agencies***

Agencies, such as school districts or hospitals, may join the 800 MHz radio system upon application to the Board of Supervisors. These agencies use mobile, portable, and remote transmitters on the system but do not routinely communicate with other users. They do have the capability to communicate with other users when needed. Remote transmitters are in all county public safety buildings, plus all hospitals and school district headquarters.

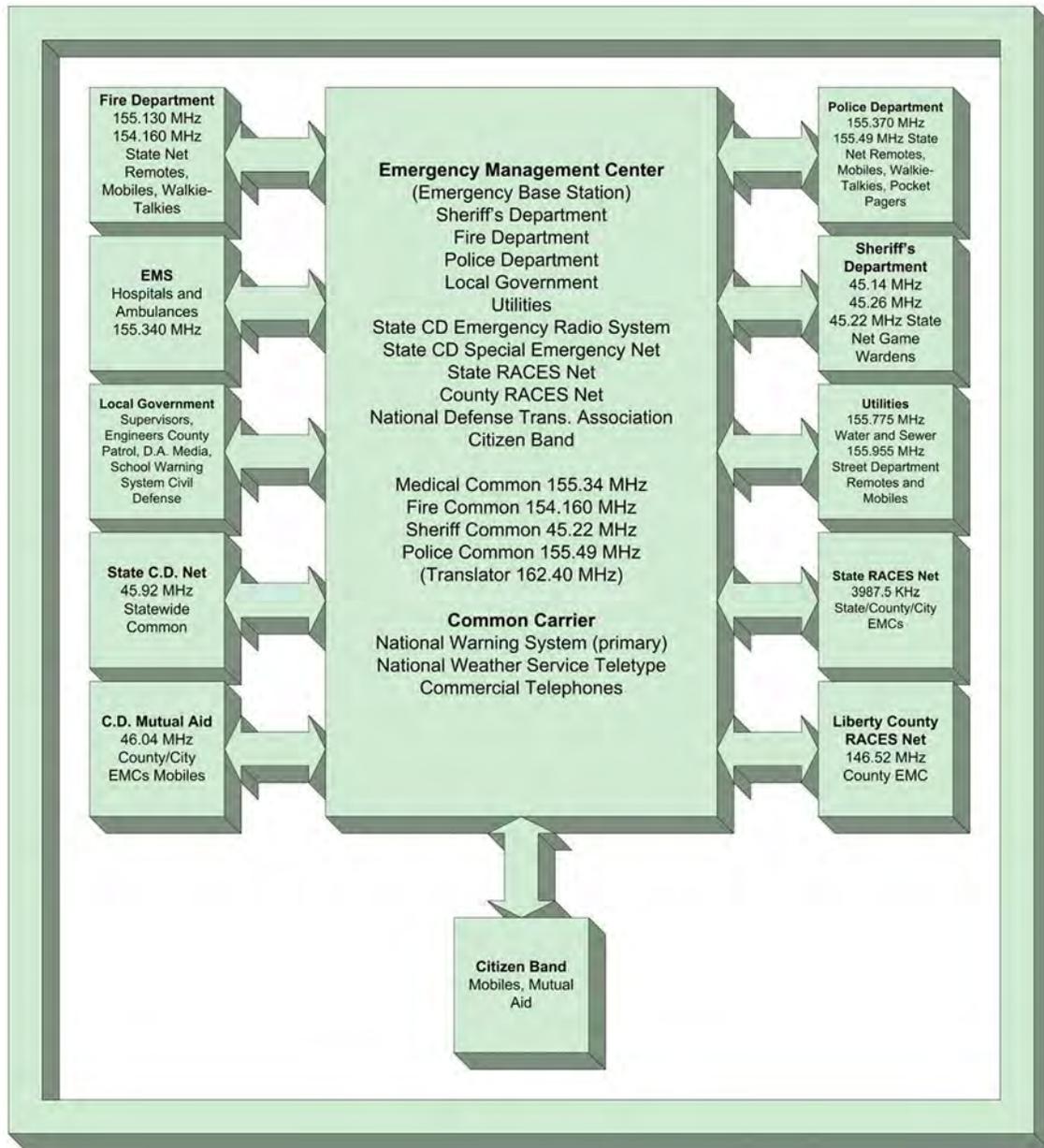


Figure 48. Liberty County Emergency Management Center Communications Network

## D.2. System Details

**Licensee:** Liberty County/Central City Emergency Management Agency

**Type Service:** Emergency and Public Safety Communications

**Federal Communications Commission (FCC)-Licensed Service:** Special Emergency

**Address:** Emergency Management Center, AA and 39th Streets, Central City

**Call Letters:** KRZ-382 (800 MHz Trunked)

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)

Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)

2 hour Primary Systems Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)

350 kW Generator – Diesel – Primary for Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Computerized Mapping System in EOC

Notes: (1) Additional communications in the EOC include State, county, and city networks; National Warning System; National Weather Service (NWS); and others. (2) All county/city vehicles dispatched out of Emergency Management Center using county-wide 800 MHz system.

**Table 62. Emergency Frequencies**

Name	Frequency
Liberty International Airport	
Great Atlantic and Pacific (GA&P) Railroad	
United States Coast Guard (USCG) Search and Rescue (SAR)	
USCG Aids to Navigation (ATON)	
Waterway Net	
Liberty County School District Emergency Coordinator	
Private and Parochial Point of Contact (POC)	
WEMI (FM)	
WEMI (AM)	
National Park Service (Gish Island)	
Van Deusen Park and Campground	
Robert S. Hayward State Park	
Red Cross Chapter – Liberty County	

### **D.3. Central City Communications Network**

The Central City Communications Network consists of remote transmitters in all fire stations, the police station, public works yards, city hall, and public works plants with mobile and portable transmitters distributed as needed.

Note: County/city public safety vehicles dispatched out of county Emergency Management Center using 800 MHz radio system.

### **D.4. Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)**

#### ***D.4.1. Liberty County***

A portion of the band allocated to amateur radio operators is reserved for use by RACES, a subset of amateur radio operators authorized to operate in a time of civil or wartime emergency.

The Central City EOC (located within the Emergency Management Center) is supplied with two different transmitter/receivers, a two-meter unit, and a 20-40-80 meter radio system. All shelters within the city are supplied with a two-meter antenna system. Some locations, such as hospitals and municipal buildings other than shelters, have access to two-meter units. The two-meter system is used primarily to communicate between agencies and shelters. The 20-40-80 meter radio system is used by the EOC to communicate with distant points, such as the county or State area EOC.

In addition to these RACES units, there are individuals in the community who are authorized to use the amateur bands and who possess mobile, base, or portable equipment. Many of these persons are enrolled in the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the Liberty County/Central City Emergency Management Agency. The ARES emergency coordinator for Liberty County uses local net controllers to hold weekly amateur radio exercises as well as to provide communications support for special events in the county.

#### ***D.4.2. State of Columbia***

The Columbia Emergency Management Agency utilizes amateur radio operators to provide both an alternate voice and data network for county-to-county and county-to-State communications.

### **D.5. Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi)**

Wi-Fi is the common name for a popular wireless technology used in home networks, mobile phones, and more. Wi-Fi is supported by nearly every modern personal computer operating system as well as many cell phone providers.

A Wi-Fi enabled device such as a laptop computer or a cell phone can connect to the Internet when within range of a wireless network connected to the Internet. The coverage of one or more interconnected access points—called a hotspot—can comprise an area as small as a single room with wireless-opaque walls or as large as many square miles covered by overlapping access points.

There are many hotspots within Central City. Twenty secure Wi-Fi sites are in the city. The largest concentrations of secure Wi-Fi sites are located in the downtown area. Numerous non-secure sites are also present throughout the downtown area and business areas of the city. Emergency responders are able to use any of the non-secure Wi-Fi sites and some of the secure Wi-Fi sites.

Similar Wi-Fi coverage is available in various communities in Liberty County. Liberty International Airport has free Wi-Fi network for the use of travelers, employees, and emergency responders.

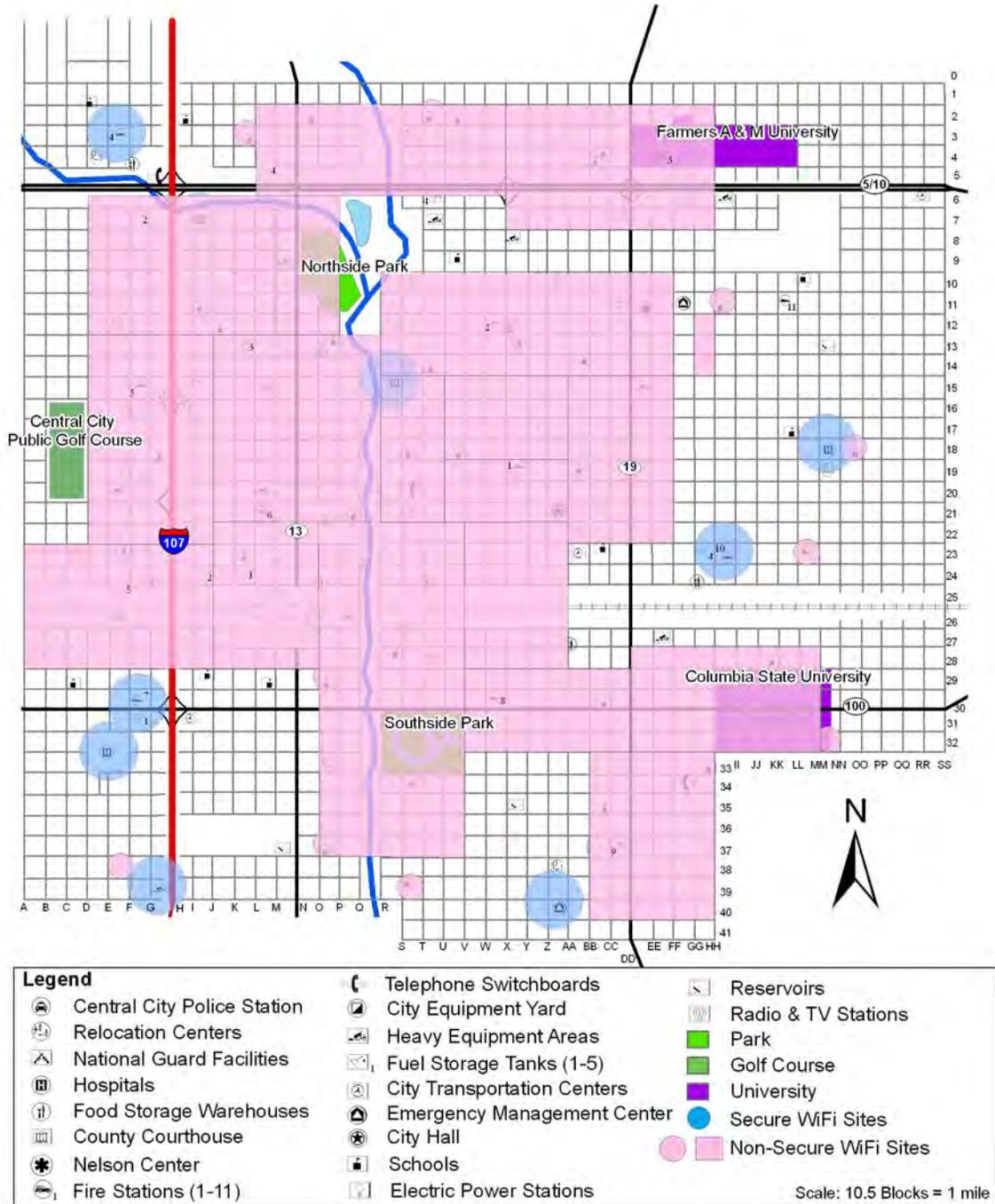


Figure 49. Central City Wi-Fi Coverage Map