



January 20th, 2026

Contact: IPSC Public Information Officer

Gov. Braun praises expansion of Integrated Public Safety Commission's SAFE-T network for first responders

TERRE HAUTE, IN – Vigo County officials, in partnership with the Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC), are proud to announce a landmark agreement to expand the county's first responder communication network. Over the next three years, Vigo County will add three new radio towers to the statewide SAFE-T (Safety Acting for Everyone Together) radio system.

"I am grateful that Vigo County is making this significant investment into public safety," said Gov. Braun. "Reliable, statewide coverage of our communications systems for first responders is crucial to ensuring the safety of Hoosiers."

These three additional towers, and two more being added in Jay and Wayne counties, brings the total number of radio towers statewide from 191 to 197. This is the largest expansion of the radio system since 2019. This expansion increases interoperability between public safety agencies across the state and dramatically increases the coverage of the SAFE-T network that IPSC provides, at no cost, to first responders.

This expansion will transition Vigo County into Indiana's 10th simulcast radio system. Unlike traditional standalone sites, a simulcast system broadcasts the same signal across multiple towers simultaneously on the same frequency. This eliminates "dead zones" and provides seamless, high-performance coverage for police, fire, and EMS personnel throughout the county's diverse geography.

Building a Foundation for Safety

The three-year construction project is a proactive response to the growing need for robust digital communication. By densifying the local network, Vigo County ensures that first responders can maintain clear contact with dispatch and each other, whether they are in a basement, a rural field, or a high-density urban environment.

A Statewide Push for Modernization

Vigo County's expansion coincides with several major initiatives being spearheaded by IPSC to modernize Indiana's public safety infrastructure. These statewide efforts include:

- System Redundancy: Enhancing site backhaul to ensure the network remains operational during severe weather or hardware failures.
- Hardware Refresh: System-wide upgrades to aging equipment to maintain peak performance and security.



- TDMA Pilot Program: The launch of a Phase 2 TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) pilot to test increased system capacity, effectively doubling the number of talk paths available on the network.

Interoperability and Disaster Readiness

The primary goal of these enhancements is interoperability. The SAFE-T system allows agencies from different jurisdictions—local, state, and federal—to communicate seamlessly during large-scale disasters or multi-agency responses. These upgrades ensure that Vigo County remains a vital and reliable link in Indiana's safety net.

"The work being done in Vigo County is a perfect example of the progress we are making across the state," said Michael Watkins, IPSC Executive Director. "From hardware refreshes to the exploration of TDMA technology, every update is designed with one goal: ensuring first responders have the tools they need to protect Hoosiers."

About IPSC

The Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) facilitates statewide public safety communications, providing a reliable, interoperable voice and data network for more than 100,000 first responders across Indiana.

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