

# Improving 9-1-1 Location Accuracy

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APCO International

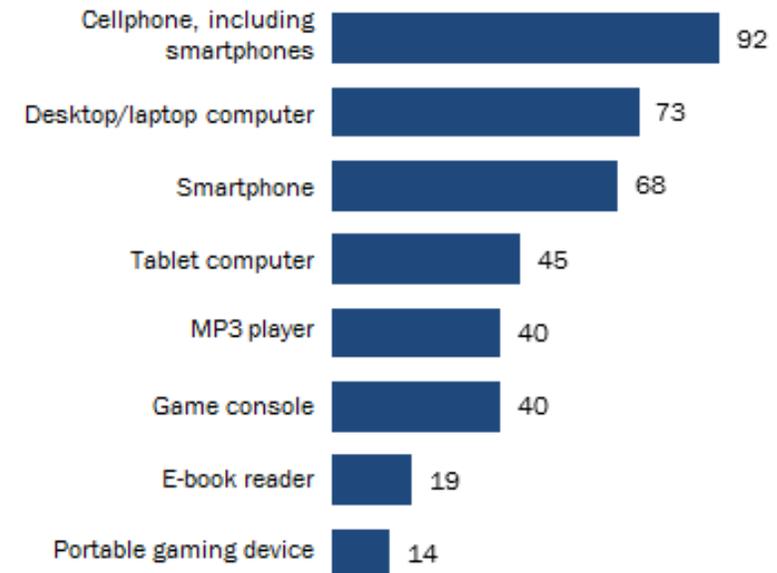
March 15, 2016

- The road to get here
- Highlights of new FCC rules
- What this means for APCO members
- What to expect next
- Q&A

- Consumers are replacing traditional landline phones with wireless devices, and more calls are being made while indoors.
- Even where a wireline telephone is available, the first device reached for to call 9-1-1 is often a cell phone.
- 70-80% of 9-1-1 calls are made from a cell phone.

## Cellphones, Computers Are the Most Commonly Owned Devices

*% of U.S. adults who own each of the following devices*



Source: Pew Research Center survey conducted March 17-April 12, 2015.  
Smartphone data based on Pew Research survey conducted June 10-July 12, 2015.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Evolving 9-1-1 Calling Trends



- The location information currently available for wireless calls from indoor locations **lacks any of the address-specific information** provided with most wireline calls, and is **generally inferior** to location information available for outdoor wireless calls.
- Previously **no location accuracy requirements** for wireless 9-1-1 calls made indoors.

- ***FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*** (Feb. 2014)
  - Addressing both outdoor and indoor calls.
  - Built on existing regulatory/technical models (outdoor tech producing estimates in horizontal plane only).
  - Invited public safety/others to develop alternate proposals.
- **APCO, NENA, & Major Carriers Roadmap for Improving 911 Location Accuracy** (Nov. 2014)
  - Responding to FCC invitation for alternate proposals.
  - Additional assurances in December.
- ***FCC Order*** (Jan. 2015)

# APCO Goals

- Meaningful, dispatchable location information for wireless 9-1-1 calls
- Objective testing in realistic environments (Test Bed)
- Verifiable with real world performance monitoring (Actual 9-1-1 call data)
- Take advantage of technology and innovation available in the consumer marketplace (vs. specialized, proprietary)
- Technology-neutral



# What is a “Dispatchable Location”?

- “[A] location delivered to the PSAP by the CMRS provider with a 911 call that consists of the street address of the calling party, plus additional information such as suite, apartment or similar information necessary to adequately identify the location of the calling party”
  - Example - 100 Main Street, Apt. 504
  - (Preferable to a position estimate of: 38.80489, -77.05631, + 10m above sea level)

**Equivalent to wireline location information.**

# What's In and What's Out

IN

- Dispatchable location solution for indoor 9-1-1 calls
- Setting PSAPs on tech-neutral path using competitive sources
- Fully transparent test bed
- Compliance measure with actual 9-1-1 data

- Indoor problem not yet solved
- Specialized, static, single-source proprietary solutions
- Limited test bed
- Compliance measure by carrier drive-testing

OUT

- Benchmarks
- Indoor Performance:
  - Test bed
  - Test regions
  - Actual 9-1-1 call data
- Solutions: DL (NEAD) & Z-Axis
- Reports and certifications
- Confidence and uncertainty information

- **Horizontal**

- 50m (x, y), or a Dispatchable Location for:
  - 40% of calls within 2 years (April 2017)
  - 50% of calls within 3 years (April 2018)
  - 70% of calls within 5 years (April 2020)
  - 80% of calls within 6 years (April 2021)
- Non-nationwide carriers have more time at years 5 and 6 tied to VoLTE deployment

- **Z-Axis**

- Uncompensated barometric within 3 years (Aug. 2018)
- Develop z-axis metric within 3 years (Aug. 2018)

- **Deployment**

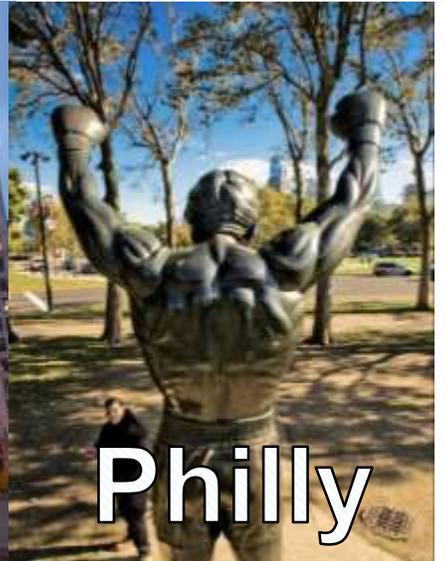
- In top 25 CMAs within 6 years (April 2021) and top 50 CMAs in 8 years (April 2023):
  - Populate NEAD with ref points = 25% of population of CMA,  
**OR**
  - Deploy z-axis technology to cover 80% of population of CMA

# Test Bed Features

- Open, transparent, competitive, and technology-neutral
- Real world environments/all morphologies
- Managed by non-governmental entity
- Will demonstrate and characterize performance for existing and new tech
- Launch by August 2016 and subject to various FCC requirements

- Beginning in February 2017, aggregate data reported quarterly
- Will show percent of time each location method was used (satellite, DL, z-axis, other technologies or hybrids) to meet accuracy requirements

# Test Region Data



# Compliance Data

| Technology | Test Bed Performance   | Delivery with Actual 9-1-1 Calls   | Carrier Performance        | FCC Requirements   |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| A          | <50m for 90% of tests  | Technology A was delivered for 50% | $90\% \times 50\% = 45\%$  |  |
| B          | <50m for 100% of tests | Technology B was delivered for 20% | $100\% \times 20\% = 20\%$ |  |
|            |                        |                                    | $45\% + 20\% = 65\%$       | 2 Year Benchmark: <b>40%</b><br>3 Year Benchmark: <b>50%</b><br>5 Year Benchmark: <b>70%</b><br>6 Year Benchmark: <b>80%</b> |

## At 18 months (February 2017):

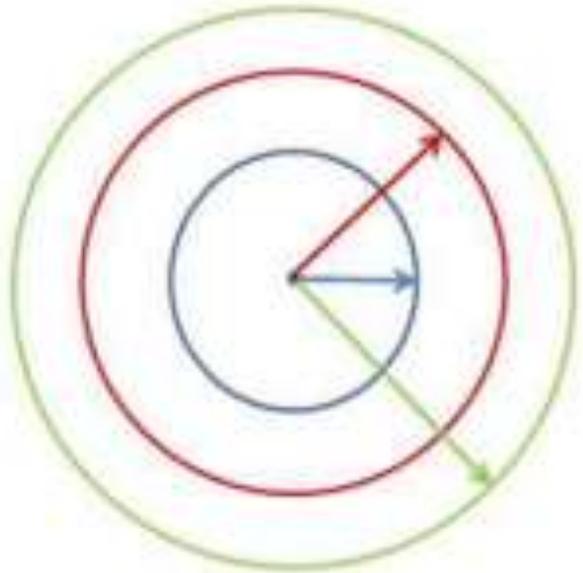
- Start reporting actual 9-1-1 data
- Initial implementation plan for meeting indoor requirements generally
- Progress report on deployment plans and implementation of indoor requirements
- NEAD privacy and security plan

## At 3 years (August 2018):

- Progress report on implementation plan and assessment of DL deployment efforts
- Submit z-axis metric

- Compliance
  - Within 60 days of each horizontal & vertical location benchmark
- Deployment
  - Technology deployed across carriers' networks is consistent with test bed deployments AND deployments in test cities for actual 9-1-1 data
- NEAD
  - Prior to use of the database, CMRS providers must certify they will only use NEAD for purpose of responding to 9-1-1 calls

# Confidence and Uncertainty



|      | Radial Uncertainty | Confidence |
|------|--------------------|------------|
| Blue | 35 m               | 67%        |

- Set confidence level at 90%, allow uncertainty to vary
- Standardize the way this information is delivered and presented to PSAPs
- Delivered for all wireless calls if requested by PSAP

- Assist with development of the test bed and NEAD
- Participate in standards development
- Stakeholder outreach
- Assessment of z-axis and dispatchable location solutions
- Assess location accuracy based on actual 9-1-1 call data and test bed performance
- Participate in the Advisory Group and Working Groups

- **Mission:**
  - Provide advice and input from a diverse body of interested stakeholders to assist the activities of the Working Groups
- **Participants include:**
  - APCO, NASNA, IACP, IAFC, NSA, NASEMSO, PCIA, TDI, NCSL, NGA, Natl League of Cities, CEA, CCA, American Foundation for the Blind, and others.

## Working Groups:

1. Test Bed
2. NEAD
3. Z-Axis
4. Standards
5. PSAP Implementation
6. Demonstration
7. Outreach

## General Parameters

Regions

- San Francisco, CA & Atlanta, GA

Buildings

- At least 20 per test region

Morphologies

- Dense-urban, urban, suburban, rural

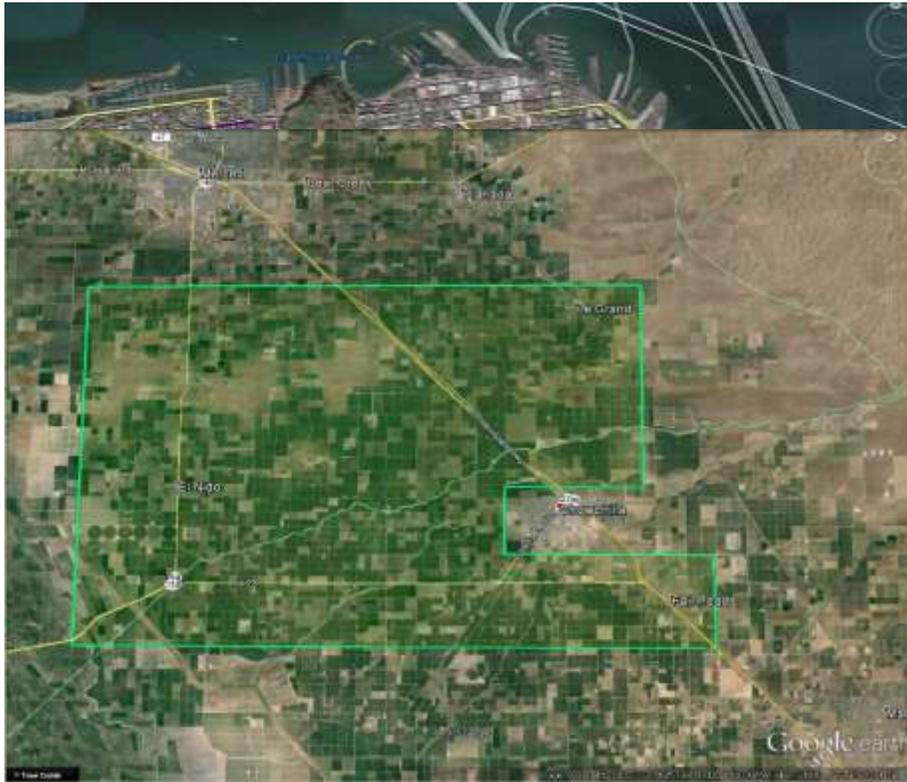
Indoor Test  
Cases

- 100 per test region

9-1-1 Test  
Calls

- 100 per test case, using one or more test device per technology under test as needed

## Dense Urban and Urban:



San Francisco Test Region



Atlanta Test Region

*\*Images reproduced with permission from the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) as it currently exists in a draft ATIS ESIF deliverable, which is subject to change.*

# Test Bed Timeline

| Schedule  | Date            |
|---|-----------------|
| Stage 1 and 2 Application Instructions Available  | May 2, 2016     |
| Stage 1 and 2 Application Questions Due   | May 13, 2016    |
| Stage 1 and 2 Response to Application Questions   | May 27, 2016    |
| Stage 1 and 2 Applications Due (for 2016)   | June 10, 2016   |
| Stage 1 Non-Nationwide Wireless Carriers and Stage 2 New and Emergency Location Information Technology Vendors Testing Begins | October 3, 2016 |

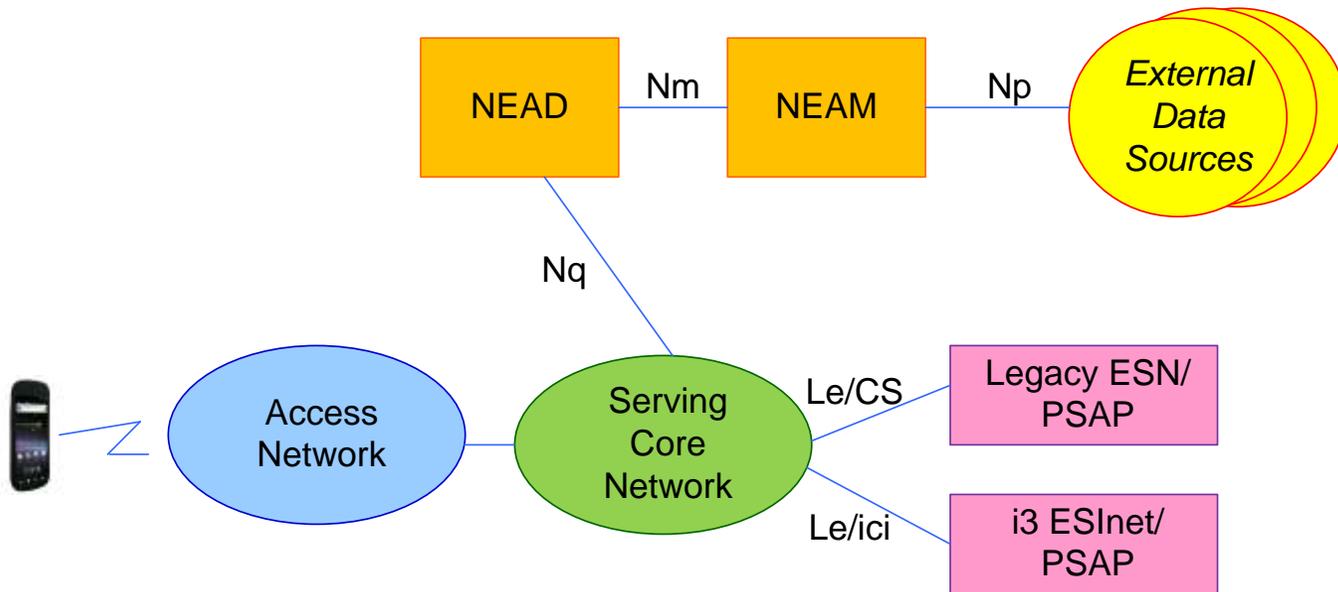
- **Stage 1:**

- Testing of **horizontal** location technologies **currently deployed**

- **Stage 2:**

- Testing of near-term **emerging horizontal and vertical** location technologies (e.g., z-axis) that are **not currently deployed**.

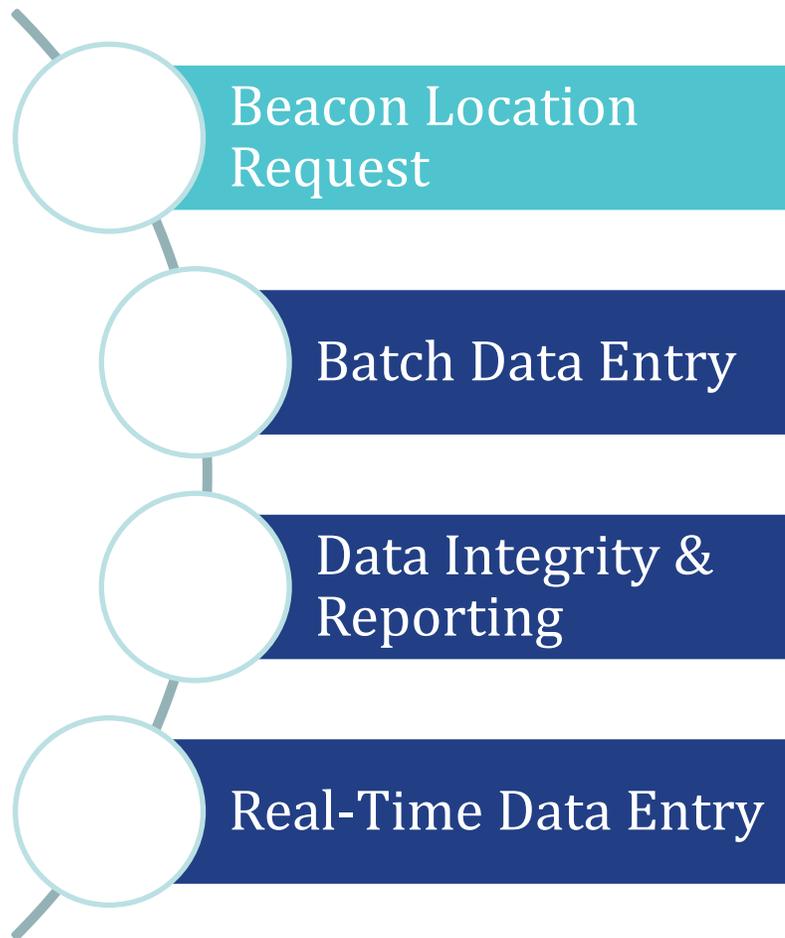
# National Emergency Address Database (NEAD)



- Delivers a Beacon Location to participating service providers to enable delivery of available location information of 9-1-1 communication to an appropriate PSAP
- Core Functions:
  1. Receives, accepts, and stores verified information
  2. Responds in real-time to 9-1-1 call-related requests

- RFP issued October 30, 2015
  - Solicits potential vendor to design, develop, build, deliver, and operate the NEAD
  - List of technical requirements/standards
    - Real-time access for 9-1-1
    - Networks must flag suspicious locations and respond for verification
    - Focus on resiliency and redundancy
    - Entry/access requirements
    - New additions posted within 24 hours and audit process to validate
    - ATIS standards
  - ATIS selected as Project Manager

| Schedule   | Date                            |
|--|---------------------------------|
| RFP available for release                                  | October 30, 2015                |
| Email confirmation of “Intention To Submit” a Proposal     | November 16, 2015               |
| “Last Day For Questions” and comments related to RFP       | November 30, 2015               |
| Response to questions/comments due                         | December 11, 2015               |
| Proposal Due Date  | December 18, 2015               |
| Selection of one or more Vendors to present their solution | January 18, 2016                |
| Selected Vendor Notification                               | No later than February 19, 2016 |



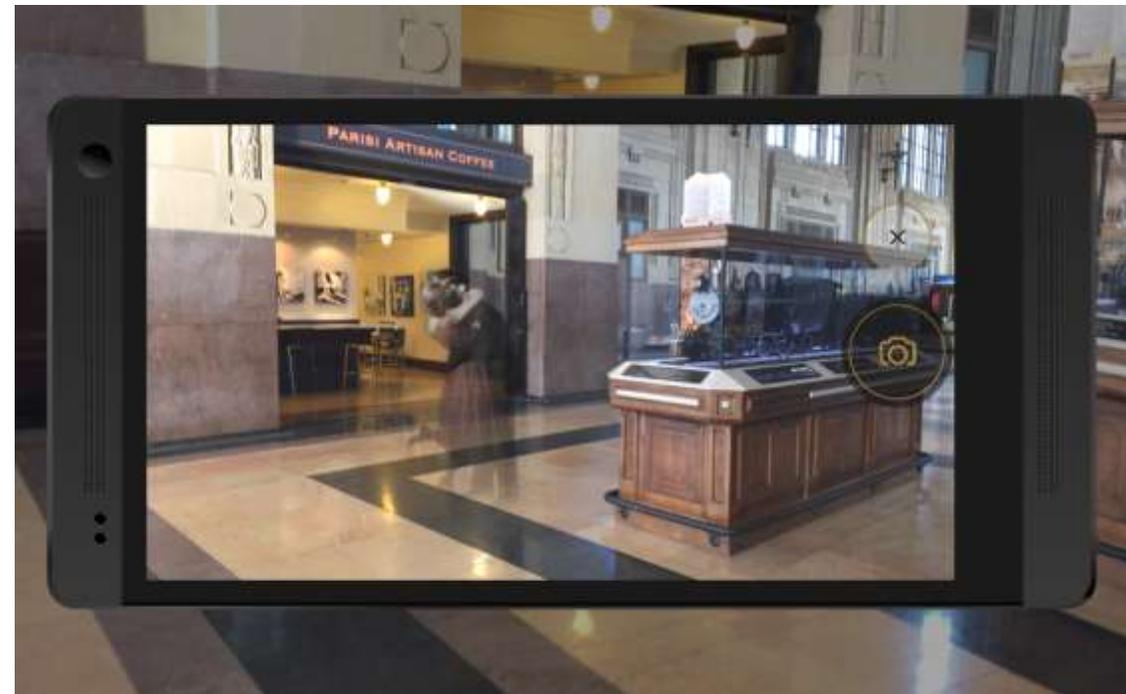
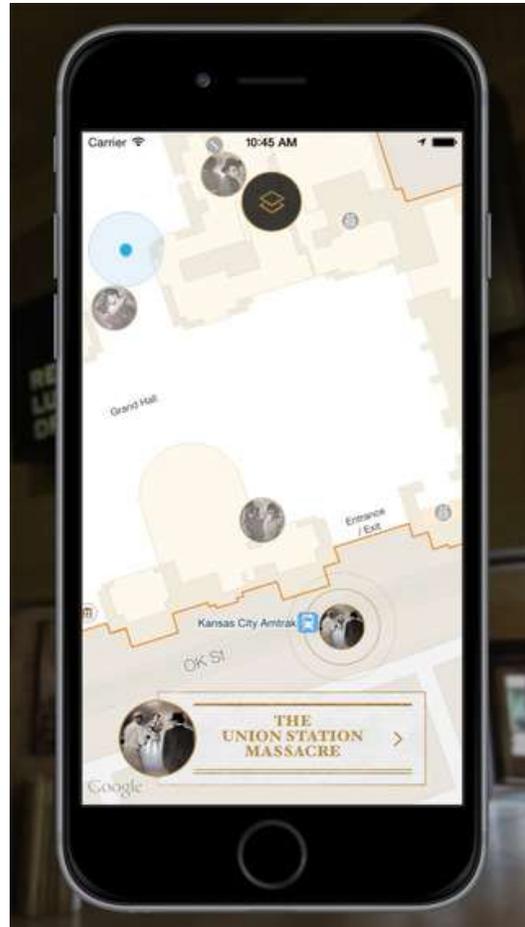
## Beacon Location Request Use Case

| NEAD Platform Users  | NEAM   | NEAD   | Comments  |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>① A wireless carrier sends a Beacon Location request over the Nq connection. The request includes a single MAC address.</p> | <p>The NEAM is not involved with this transaction.</p> | <p>②The NEAD looks up a record (in real-time) that matches the MAC address field, and returns the information in the street address field of that same record.</p> | <p>Only authorized entities can request a Beacon Location from the NEAD Platform.</p> |

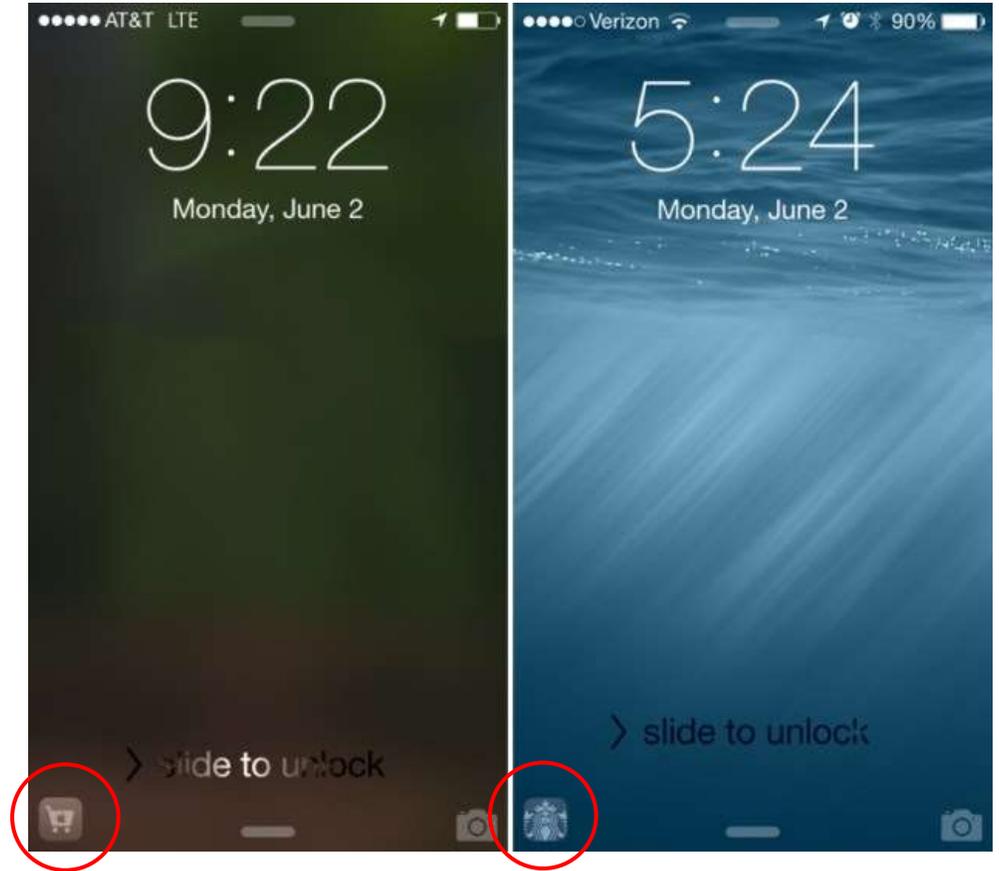
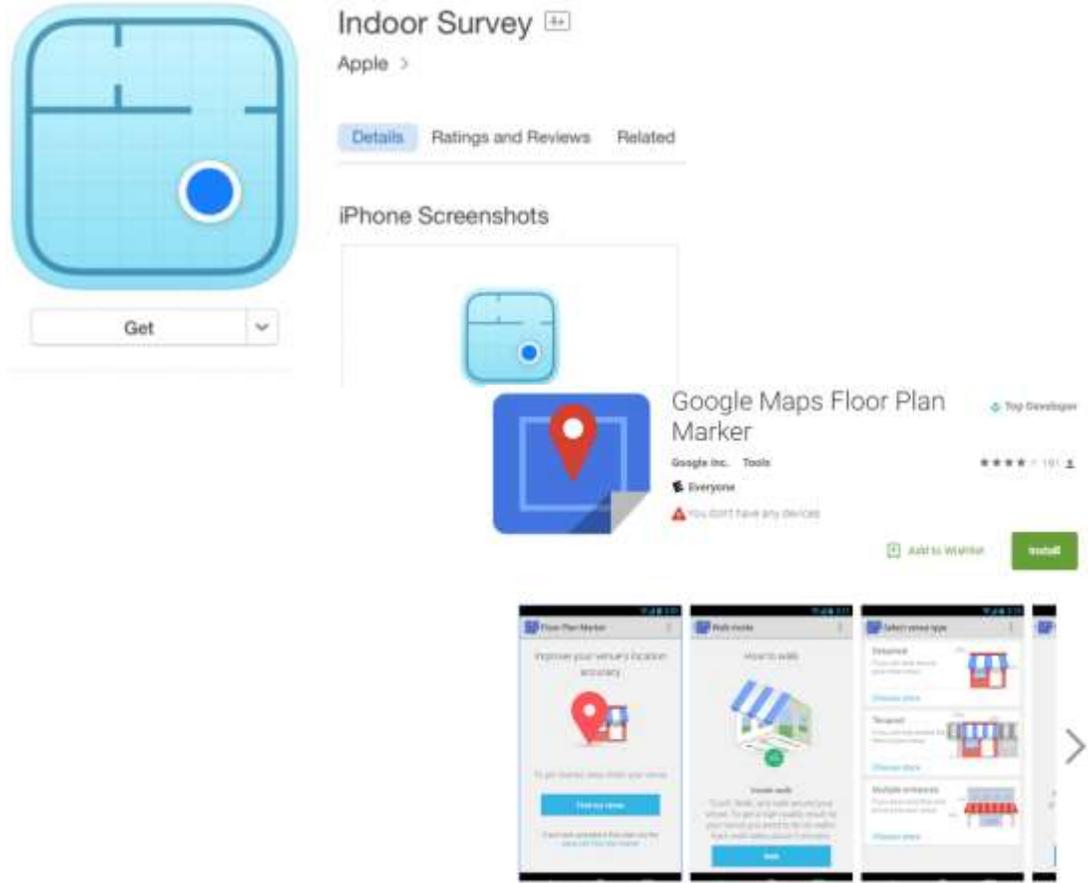
- Z-Axis
  - Requirements analysis for uncompensated barometric pressure to PSAPs
- PSAP Implementation
  - Requirements analysis for additional location data to PSAPs
  - Using confidence and uncertainty data
- Standards
  - Coordinate with ATIS Emergency Location Task Force (ELOC)
- Demonstration
  - APCO 2015
  - Illinois Institute of Technology
- Outreach
  - Develop educational materials for stakeholders

# Standards Development

## Location-Based Augmented Reality at Union Station



# Food for Thought



# Questions?

- APCO website: [www.apcointl.org](http://www.apcointl.org)
- GRO Location Accuracy:  
<https://www.apcointl.org/advocacy/topics/911-location-accuracy.html>
- AppComm: [www.appcomm.org](http://www.appcomm.org)
- Twitter: [@GRO\\_APCO](https://twitter.com/GRO_APCO)
- APCO events: [www.apcointl.org/events.html](http://www.apcointl.org/events.html)
  - May 16-17: Broadband Summit in DC
  - August 14-17: APCO's Annual Conference in Orlando
  - November 1-2: Seattle Emerging Tech Forum

