

2002

Mineta starts Enhanced 911 (E911) initiative at DOT

Norman Mineta, US Secretary of Transportation, inquires about the structure and effectiveness of 911 as a component of transportation safety. He forms a steering committee that develops the Wireless E911 Initiative Priority Action Plan—a blueprint for the US Department of Transportation (US DOT) for subsequent activities to enhance the nation's 911's capabilities.



1966

Background on the development of 911

In 1966, the National Academy of Sciences published *Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society*. It included a recommendation for "Active exploration of the feasibility of designating a single nationwide telephone number to summon an ambulance." Two years later, the first 911 call was placed, and in 1970 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration was created.



Quote



“Everyone always talks about it took decades to build the 911 system... If we take decades to build [the 988 system], we’re going to lose a lot of lives.”



Hannah Wesolowski,
NAMI's Reimagine Crisis Response

Video player interface with a play button and a red-bordered button that says "Listen to the clip" with a microphone icon.