



# 213 and 323 Area Codes



September 8–10, 2015  
California Public Utilities Commission

## California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)'s Role

- a) FCC holds full jurisdiction over telephone numbering system.
- b) FCC has delegated area code relief responsibilities to each state.
- c) CPUC conducts area code relief and determines method to introduce a new or another area code.
  - For the 323 area code, the telecommunications industry proposed the method of **area code boundary-elimination overlay**.
- d) Area code administration is in accordance with FCC policy. Area codes are managed and assigned by the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA).

## History

- a) 213 area code was created in 1947 as one of the original three area codes in California.
- b) 323 area code was created in 1998 as a result of geographic split of 213.
- c) Currently, the 323 area code has limited number of prefixes remaining.
- d) NANPA forecasted the 323 area code to use up all prefixes by March 2018.
- e) 213 area code is forecasted to have prefixes available beyond 30 years.

3

## NANPA

- FCC contracted with Neustar, a public company, to serve as the NANPA
- NANPA's responsibilities:
  - Assigns area codes and prefixes,
  - Tracks number usage, receives numbering reports from the service providers,
  - Forecasts when area codes will run out of prefixes, or "exhaust", and
  - Coordinates planning to introduce new/another area code, or *Area Code Relief Planning*, which starts 36 months before the forecasted exhaust

4

## Factors to Consider in Area Code Exhaust Forecast

- a) History of prefix code assignments
- b) Current growth in the telecommunications industry
- c) Annual increase in the demand for prefixes in the area code

5

## Number Limitations

- a) Area codes are geographically specific.
- b) Each area code is divided into local serving areas called rate centers.
- c) There are 12 rate centers in the 323 area code. They are:
  - Los Angeles: DA 02, Los Angeles: DA 03,  
Los Angeles: DA 04, Los Angeles: DA 05,  
Los Angeles: DA 06, Los Angeles: DA 08,  
Los Angeles: DA 09, Los Angeles: DA 11,  
Los Angeles: DA 12, Los Angeles: DA 13,  
Los Angeles: DA 14, Montebello.
- d) Every prefix is assigned to a specific rate center and may only be used for telephone services in that rate center.

6

## 213 and 323 Area Code Background

- a) The 213 area code is divided into 3 rate areas serving Downtown Los Angeles.
- b) The 323 area code is divided into 12 rate areas over 40 service providers, including local, wireless and paging companies, and serves all or parts of the following cities:
  - Alhambra, Bell, Bell Gardens, Beverly Hills, Commerce, Cudahy, Glendale, Hawthorne, Huntington Park, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Maywood, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, South Gate, South Pasadena, Vernon and West Hollywood

7

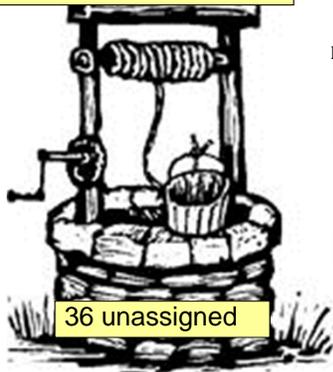
## Number of Prefixes Remaining

- a) The 323 area code has 36 useable prefixes or 5% remaining at this time. They are expected to run out by March 2018.
- b) The 213 area code has 331 useable prefixes or 42% remaining at this time. They are expected to last beyond 30 years.
  - The 42% remaining prefixes in the 213 area code will be used in both the 323 and 213 area code areas. The two area codes will be blended by eliminating the boundary between them.

8

Each prefix is assigned to a rate center from the available inventory. Once assigned, numbers from that prefix are not available for assignment to end users in another rate center.

Available 323 prefixes  
as of 9/1/2015



323 rate centers and assigned prefixes

LA DA 02 53	LA DA 03 52	LA DA 04 34	LA DA 05 43
LA DA 06 76	LA DA 08 29	LA DA 09 67	LA DA 11 35
LA DA 12 33	LA DA 13 68	LA DA 14 152	Montebello 107

## 323 Area Code Relief

- Telecommunications industry proposed an overlay over the 213 and 323 areas using the remaining 213 and 323 prefixes
- Projected life of overlay is about 15 years

## Impacts of the Overlay

- a) All current customers will keep their existing area code and telephone number
- b) Must dial 1 + ten digits to complete all calls, including local calls
- c) Ten digit dialing is a FCC requirement so that all customers in the two area codes are treated alike
- d) Calling areas and rates will not change
- e) What is a local call now will remain a local call
- f) Calls to 911, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 and 811 will not be affected, and will continue to be dialed with 3 digits

11

## Implementation Timeline of the Overlay

### Implementation Intervals:

- NANPA files application with CPUC
  - *Fall 2015*
- Permissive 1 + ten digit dialing period
  - *Spring 2017*
- Mandatory 1 + ten digit dialing period
  - *Fall 2017*
- Introduction of the overlay area code
  - *One month after mandatory dialing period*

12

## Questions & Comments?

- a) Sign up with the CPUC Public Advisors to speak
- b) Fill out the comment form in the handout packet, and
  - Give the completed form to a CPUC representative,
  - Mail the form to the CPUC Public Advisors' Office at 320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90013, or
  - Email the form to the Public Advisors' Office at [public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov)
- c) Call the CPUC Area Code Hotline (866) 340-6147

13