

FAC's ACCESS 67 Presents:

Webinar:

The Florida Strategic Plan for Broadband: An Update from DEO Office of Broadband

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Speaker:

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Strategy 1

- Continue to build and engage Local Technology Planning Teams (LTPT) where possible. In areas where previously organized entities may be able to act as LTPTs, designate them as such if they are willing to take on the LTPT role.

Strategy 2

- Guide, encourage, and where necessary direct, local communities to coordinate infrastructure projects, such as roads and broadband Internet, to reduce overall costs.

Strategy 3

- Develop an ongoing program to enhance the state broadband Internet dataset. Leverage other broadband Internet data resources, including data collected by LTPTs and local and regional organizations. Ensure the Office of Broadband collects and maintains data through its grant activity.

Strategy 4

- Use data to identify areas at a more granular level where federal broadband Internet expansion funds have been used or will be used to ensure compliance with state and federal law and to identify unserved and underserved areas.

Strategy 5

- Develop and implement a method by which to acquire information about Internet service providers' broadband Internet expansion plans to understand where, how, and when various Internet service providers will initiate or improve service in unserved or underserved areas.

Strategy 6

- Develop an approach to identify locations where sustainable broadband Internet expansion or improvement will not be economically feasible for providers in the foreseeable future due to low adoption levels or geographic barriers.

Strategy 7

- Evaluate all aspects of state and federal funding program requirements and determine the need for and best use of consultants to implement a grant-making process.

Strategy 8

- Implement the most effective and efficient means of using broadband Internet grant funds to reach unserved and underserved areas and incorporate that approach into the grant processes for providers.

Strategy 9

- In order to avoid situations where the lowest-bid proposal wins award without regard to likelihood of completion of project, long-term viability of service, or scalability of service for future proofing, design a competitive selection process in compliance with state and federal requirements that will enable DEO to identify the most suitable Internet service provider or providers to meet the broadband Internet needs of the unserved and underserved areas of the state.

Strategy 10

- In the instance where an area failed to receive competitive bids and the state considers a process to target those unrepresented areas for award, design a negotiated provider-selection process in compliance with state and federal requirements for aspects of the broadband Internet expansion effort. Through this process the state may be able to ensure a particular area or type of area receives consideration for award. This process may be utilized in situations for which there was only a single bidder offering to deploy broadband Internet in an unserved and underserved area or for which there was no bidder.

Strategy 11

- Prepare the workforce for the jobs that will emerge from the national deployment of federal and state infrastructure projects to ensure continuity of operations.

Strategy 12

- Continue to provide technical assistance based on community requests to assist with organizing LTPTs.

Strategy 13

- Provide technical assistance to grant applicants that request such assistance.

Strategy 14

- Develop an approach to increase communities' purchasing power by attracting multiple providers to deploy broadband Internet in rural, unserved, and underserved areas in those communities.

Strategy 15

- Encourage local communities to coordinate infrastructure projects, such as roads and broadband Internet, to reduce overall costs.

Strategy 16

- Expand policymakers' and other stakeholders' knowledge of ways to bridge the adoption digital divide between urban and rural communities.

Strategy 17

- Assemble and analyze information gathered by Internet Service Providers, LTPTs, and other regional entities to identify gaps in adoption. Overlay these identified areas with other state data indicating economic and community development indicators to determine potential correlation and use this analysis to better refine knowledge of gaps in adoption and meaningful use of broadband internet service.

Strategy 18

- Prepare people for emerging information technology jobs and business opportunities and identify ways of using existing positions or volunteers to meet increased end-user needs related to adoption and use of broadband Internet services.

Strategy 19

- Focus at least a portion of state-level digital equity grant administration efforts on broadband Internet education and training programs, raising awareness of broadband Internet-based applications, and providing equipment to schools, libraries, colleges and universities, health care points of access, housing providers, and community support organizations to assist with digital literacy efforts.

Strategy 20

- Develop processes for the ongoing collection of data with which to identify emerging barriers to sustainable broadband Internet adoption in rural, unserved, and underserved communities.

Strategy 21

- Ensure the goals of this Strategic Plan – enhancing Business and Job Growth, Workforce Housing, Education, and Job Training, and Healthier Floridians – are being achieved as a result of the Program's activities.

Strategy 22

- Develop robust contracts and funding requirements that ensure grant recipients have clear, measurable service commitments to promote accountability.

Strategy 23

- Make receipt of funding contingent upon fulfilling reporting requirements and commitments.

Strategy 24

- Enhance state-level capacity to implement broadband Internet expansion and adoption through program governance and agency structure.

Strategy 25

- Ensure state programmatic framework considers and adapts from other recent programs to avoid pitfalls and achieve efficiency in state program effectiveness.

Thanks for joining us!!!

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Further questions?

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