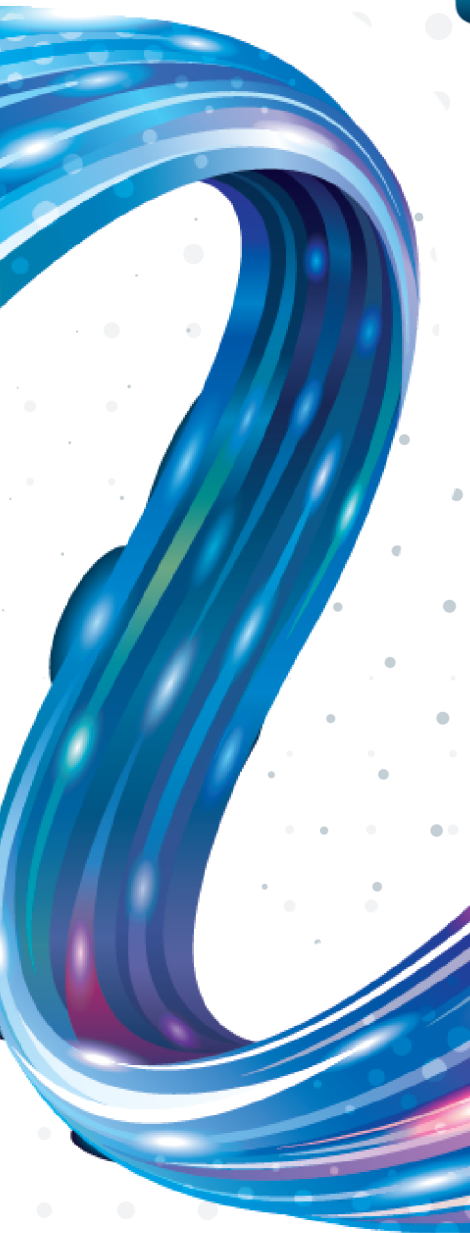


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67**



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**SUMMIT**



*All About Florida*

# WELCOME

Welcome to the Florida Association of Counties' Broadband Summit and congratulations on taking a step towards ensuring all Florida communities, rural and urban, have access to affordable, high-speed internet.

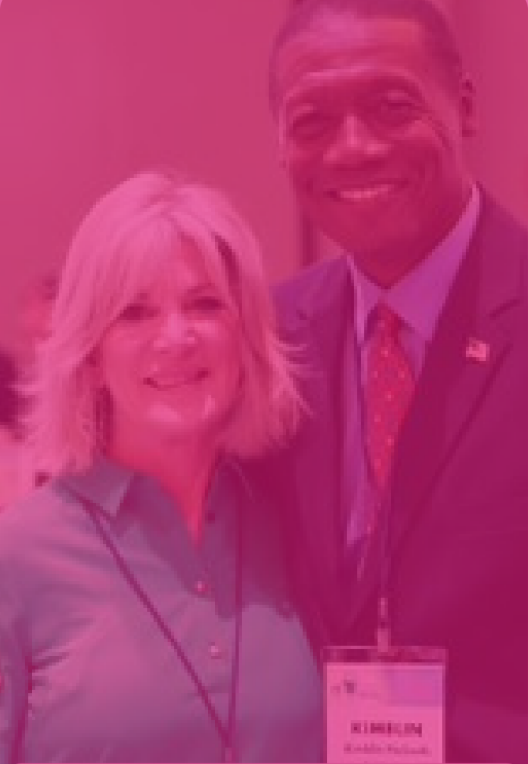
Proactive leaders, like yourself, will be the catalyst to ensure the billions of dollars made available by the federal government for broadband will be distributed to underserved and underdeveloped areas.

Made apparent during the coronavirus pandemic, reliable internet is essential to the growth and success of Florida's children and workforce. Together, we must work to create an actionable plan for the future of broadband in the state of Florida.

This week we have the privilege of sitting down with national and state leaders and the opportunity to network with experts in the industry. I encourage each of you to take full advantage of the resources made available during this summit, as we will learn skills that will guide us in what lies ahead.

*Lee Constantine*

Lee Constantine, Seminole County  
President, Florida Association of Counties



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**FAC Corporate Partners**



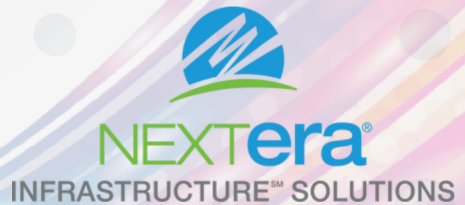
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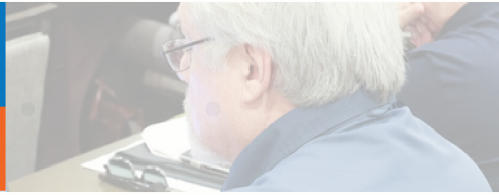
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## THURSDAY

- 2P Welcome
- 2:10P Broadband Foundations:  
Preparing for Success
- 2:45P Keynote  
**Evan Feinman**  
Director  
Broadband Equity, Access,  
and Deployment Program  
US Department of  
Commerce, NTIA
- 3:45P Break
- 4P Planning your  
Broadband Vision:  
From Feasibility to  
Future-Proofed
- 6P Connections &  
Cocktails

## FRIDAY

- 8:30A Broadband Primer:  
Florida's Internet Leaders
- 9:40A Closing the Digital  
Divide:  
Generational Investments  
in Broadband Deployment
- 11A Break
- 11:20A The Importance of  
Digital Equity
- 12P Lunch & Keynote  
**Gary Bolton**  
President & CEO  
Fiber Broadband  
Association
- 1P Energizing the Digital  
Future:  
Infrastructure Alternatives
- 2:30P What's Next:  
Legislative Outlook
- 3:30P Next steps for your  
county
- 4P Adjournment



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# THURSDAY

JANUARY 26, 2023

2:10 PM

## BROADBAND FOUNDATIONS PREPARING FOR SUCCESS



### JOANNE HOVIS

President  
CTC Technology & Energy

Joanne Hovis, is a recognized authority on broadband markets and the evolving role of public-private partnerships in communications services to the public.

Joanne will offer attendees a crash course on the terminology and ideas for project development. For more than 20 years, Joann has directed CTC's consulting services related to strategic planning, market analysis, business modeling, and financial analysis for localities, states, and tribal governments nationwide. This kickoff session will set the stage and get you prepared to participate throughout the summit.

# NOKIA

2:45 PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

# EVAN FEINMAN

Director  
Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program  
US Department of Commerce, NTIA

Over the next decade, Florida will receive roughly \$2 billion to expand high-speed internet from federal programs. Access to the internet isn't a luxury. It's a necessity. That's why the federal government is providing \$65 billion to expand internet access. The goal: everyone in America has access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet. High-speed internet doesn't just help individuals. It helps our country. It saves us time and money. It creates jobs and opportunities here in the United States. And it helps us connect to one another, building a stronger, more free society. All States and territories across the nation have signed on to the "Internet For All" initiative and committed to connecting their communities to reliable high-speed internet for less through the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment and State Digital Equity Planning Grant Programs.

Evan Feinman is the director of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, the primary program deploying broadband created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Evan is responsible for leading NTIA's historic broadband deployment program.

Evan has previously served in multiple roles within government, on political campaigns, and in the private sector; most recently directing both the Virginia broadband effort and a state economic development agency.



---

# Michael Baker

INTERNATIONAL



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# PLANNING YOUR BROADBAND VISION FROM FEASIBILITY TO FUTURE-PROOFED

Recreating the wheel is not always necessary. Broadband planning is not rocket science, and there are many strategies for successful vision creation that will drive your broadband plan. In order to successfully implement your community's digital future, you must assess what you (don't) know and how to get there.



**Billie Ventimiglia**

Senior Planner, FSU Dept of Urban and Regional Planning

After completing a Master's of Education at Fordham University and serving with Teach for America for four years, she joined Florida State University's DURP. She has worked with the FSU Planner-in-Residence on research to understand factors that influence transportation system risk and more recently broadband planning. She has led several student teams in award winning projects.



**Katie Smith**

Director, Florida Office of Broadband

Katie Smith has worked in state government for 14 years in the fields of community, economic, and business development. Most recently, she stood up the Florida Office of Broadband at DEO, where she works closely with state and federal partners, and private industry to expand the availability, adoption, and use of broadband Internet through state & federal funding opportunities.



**Joe Carella**

Director of Grants, Magellan

Joe Carella has more than 25 years' experience in technology management, applications development, enterprise application integration, operations management and consulting in the technology space. His experience includes positions that cover fiber construction, broadband management, digital inclusion, and smart cities planning for two metropolitan municipal governments.



**Kwentin Eastberg**

Deputy Director, Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Mr. Eastberg, AICP, works with the Transportation Disadvantaged program, and as well as the Commuter Assistance Program, RideOn, in FDOT District 3. He has also begun work assisting the region with access to affordable and reliable broadband internet services.

**MODERATOR:**

Eric Poole, Executive Director, Florida Institute for County Government (ICG)

6:00 PM

## RECEPTION

### AT&T

Troy McNichols  
TM913X@ATT.COM  
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**MODERATOR:**  
Bob McKee  
Deputy Director Public Policy, FAC



Regional Director



**Kevin Craig**

A Jacksonville native, Kevin is responsible for AT&T's primary corporate engagement and advocacy efforts with state and local elected officials, non-profit organizations, and other business groups across 15 North Florida counties.

**Marva Johnson**

Johnson oversees state government affairs, regulatory, local franchising, state legislative matters, strategic partnerships, & strategies for government and community initiatives. Her region includes AL, FL, GA, KY, MD, NC, SC, TN, & VA.



Group Vice President



Vice President



**Derek Cooper**

Derek is a lawyer by trade and has worked with Comcast for more than 10 years. Prior to joining Comcast he served as Senior Counsel at Office Depot. A Floridian divided? Derek earned his bachelor's degree from FSU and his law degree from UF.

8:30 AM

**BROADBAND  
PRIMER  
FLORIDA'S  
INTERNET  
LEADERS**

**Scott Jackson**

Scott has been in the broadband industry for 25 years. He leads the broadband business planning and strategy at Graybar. His wealth of experience gives Scott a unique perspective to serve network operators and the industry as a whole.



National Market  
Director



# CLOSING THE

## GENERATIONAL INVESTMENTS IN BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT

### PART 1: PROGRAMS & FUNDING

9:40 AM

#### **Evan Feinman**

Director, BEAD Program, NTIA

Evan is responsible for leading NTIA's historic broadband deployment program. Evan has previously served in multiple roles within government, on political campaigns, and in the private sector.



#### **Katie Smith**

Director, FL Office of Broadband

Using her more than 14 years in the fields of community, economic, and business development, Katie stood up the Florida Office of Broadband at DEO, where she works closely with public & private partners.

#### **Seamus Dowdall**

Assoc Legislative Director, NACO

Seamus advocates directly to federal partners in the Administration and on Capitol Hill to advance policy priorities on issues including broadband deployment and accessibility, wireless technology siting, and emergency communications policy.



#### **MODERATOR:**

Jeff Scala

Senior Associate Director Public Policy, FAC



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# DIGITAL DIVIDE



**Carlos Nathan**  
FL Federal Program Officer, NTIA

In his role, Carlos coordinates partnerships and outreach with state and local governments. Carlos works directly with Florida's broadband office and the state-level county and municipal associations to ensure comprehensive engagement from all stakeholders on the State's high-speed internet planning and funding process.

**Sean Lewis**  
State Broadband Initiatives, DEO

Sean Lewis is in his 32nd year working with the State of Florida. He has worked in the fields of social services, elder healthcare policy, community and economic development, disaster recovery and broadband development and expansion.



**Andrew Collins**  
COO/CFO, CareerSource Florida

CareerSource Florida, Inc., is charged with guiding workforce development for the State of Florida. In this role, Mr. Collins oversees the \$300 million annual budget for Florida's workforce system and provides policy guidance for investments that support the board's emphasis on data-driven decision-making, performance and outcomes.



**MODERATOR:**  
Shiloh McPherson  
Analyst, Public Policy, FAC

11:20 AM

**GENERATIONAL INVESTMENTS IN BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT**  
**PART 2: DIGITAL EQUITY**

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The GraybaR logo features a blue circle with a white 'G' shape inside, positioned above the word 'GraybaR' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the end of the word. The background behind the logo consists of a large, stylized blue and white swirl.

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12:00 PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

# GARY BOLTON

President & CEO  
Fiber Broadband Association



Gary Bolton serves as president and CEO of the Fiber Broadband Association — the largest trade association in the Americas dedicated to all-fiber-optic broadband. With more than three decades in the telecom industry, Bolton joined the Fiber Broadband Association as president and CEO in 2020 after serving on the association's board as vice chairman, treasurer and vice chairs of public policy and marketing committees.

Prior to taking the leadership role at the Fiber Broadband Association, Gary spent 11 years at ADTRAN serving as vice president of global marketing and government affairs. ADTRAN is a top three global provider of broadband infrastructure solutions. At ADTRAN, Gary was responsible for all aspects of marketing for the company worldwide as well as regulatory and government affairs. Gary has been highly involved in Washington, particularly on FCC and Congressional proceedings and international trade issues.



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*Cable providers continuing to partner with Counties*



# ENERGIZING THE DIGITAL FUTURE

## INFRASTRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES

Every state, including Florida, has unique challenges to delivering high-speed Internet to each of its citizens. During this workshop, panelists will offer alternative strategies for broadband deployment by way of the “non-traditional” internet service provider—electric utilities.



**William Davidson**

Dir. Strategic Initiatives  
NextEra Infrastructure Solutions

William Davidson is the Director of Strategic Initiatives for NextEra Infrastructure Solutions (NIS), NextCity Networks, NextEra Energy's unregulated, commercial fiber, lighting and smart meter team. He is responsible for guiding the team through internal and external legal, regulatory, and executive oversight.



**Carl Meyerhoefer**

Senior Vice President, Conexon

Carl has been working in the telecommunications industry for more than 25 years helping service providers deploy fiber-to-the-home networks. Leveraging a strong understanding of telecommunications technology and architectures coupled with keen understanding of customer and market needs, Carl has built more than \$300 million in new business revenue while working for industry-leading organizations such as CommScope and Calix.



**Jason Mittler**

FPUAnet Manager, Ft. Pierce

Jason Mittler has worked for Fort Pierce Utilities Authority for 20 years. He has more than 15 years in engineering, planning and project management of utility infrastructure and 10 years specifically in Fiber Optics. In October 2019 Jason began to transform FPUAnet into the 5th utility business unit he oversees.



**Julius Hackett**

CEO, Tri-County Electric  
Cooperative

For more than 15 years, Julius has lead the Tri-County Electric Cooperative which serves a membership that includes 20,000 electric meters and over 3,000 miles of power lines in Madison, Jefferson, Taylor and a portion of Dixie County. He previously worked at Southside Electric Cooperative in Virginia for 19 years and held the position of engineering department manager during his last ten years at the cooperative.

**MODERATOR:**

Ryan Matthews, Shareholder, Gray Robinson



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5 min on what makes leaders, leaders
- **Happy Hour w/ the Analysts**  
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2:30 PM

## WHAT'S NEXT?

### LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK



There are more than 80 federal programs across federal agencies have been allocated funding that can be used for broadband-related purposes, including E-Rate (FCC/ USAC), Reconnect (USDA), Community Connect Grant Program, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF), and more.

These federal investments, will be coming to the state of Florida for planning, rulemaking and distribution. The Florida Legislature will have a large hand in focusing these funding priorities as well as setting the parameters on spending.

Join a conversation and report from Tallahassee. Florida Broadband leaders will provide an inside perspective on what's to come to this upcoming Legislative session to enhance deployment to unserved and underserved areas of the state.



# sprinklr



3:30 PM

## SUMMIT WRAP UP

### Jeff Scala

Senior Associate Director, FAC

Round out the day recapping the Summit workshops with action steps to bring home to your county. You may have attended the Florida Broadband Summit but now the work continues in your community through its Local Technology Planning Team, grant coordination, and Public/Private Partnerships to make your county a Broadband Success story.

*Thank you for joining us!*



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