

August 23, 2021 AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force Teleconference Report

Attendees

Steve Peters, Henry Goldberg, Mark Goldstein, Karen Beshak, Andrew Bevington, Kate Boettcher, Melissa Boydston, Wes Brownfield, Kirk Busch, Gene Carl, Erin Carr-Jordan, Michael Cohen, Josh Cohn, Jerry Crow, Brian Daly, Lindsay Dietz, Michael Edmonds, Heather Floyd, Ian Hathcock, Cindy Hogan, Shereka Jackson, John Kelly, Debbie Kovesdy, Debra Kurtz, Ilana Lowery, Janet Major, Sophia Mayberry, Paul Melcher, Mala Muralidharan, Mauricio Orozco, Cody Pedersen, Lea Marquez Peterson, Cindi Ptak, Tracy Rexroat, Jenny Rickel, Athena Rodriguez, Fernando Roman, Paul Ross, Michelle Simon, Andy Sinclair, Roni Singh, Troy Smith, Jeff Sobotka, Mike Turner, Paul Trujillo, Albert Velarde, Manny Villa, Joy Whiting, Brad Zerbe, Cynthia Zwick

Task Force Sponsors, Events & Updates Webpage, Participants List, Kibitzing with Colleagues, Chicanos Por La Causa Applying for EDA Grant

Task Force Sponsors

Steve Peters again thanked Care1st Health Plan Arizona, Valley of the Sun United Way, the Satellite Broadcasting & Communications Association, and Kajeet for providing sponsorship funding for this task force. The sponsors are displayed on the task force website.

Steve is continuing to seek further funding support for the task force's upcoming work, and welcomes any organizations interested in becoming sponsors.

Task Force Events and Updates Webpage

Steve continues to add information relevant to the task force on the Events and Updates webpage of the task force website. Steve includes a link to this webpage/newsletter in his e-mails to the task force, and strongly encourages task force participants look at this webpage regularly for important information on programs (e.g. federal grant programs), events, and contacts. Steve regularly updates this webpage with new announcements and activities of interest to the task force.

Task Force Participants List

Steve noted that the task force participants spreadsheet is located on the task force website. Steve again asked attendees to fill out the Google form on the website to be included in this spreadsheet. This is a good place for task force participants who are looking to connect with others on the task force.

Attendees at task force meetings showing their position and contact information are also included in an Appendix of each task force meeting report.

“Kibitzing with Colleagues” Sessions

Steve stated there will now be “Kibitzing with Colleagues” sessions held immediately after the Monday morning task force meetings, where task force participants can informally talk, share, or collaborate on any topics of interest. There will be no agenda, no presentations, and no specified ending time for these sessions.

Steve added that the first of these Kibitzing sessions lasted for an hour after the meeting. Kirk Busch commented that a lot has been shared at these sessions.

Chicanos Por La Causa Applying for EDA Grant

Steve reported that Robert Alvarado, Vice President of Information Management & Technology Management for Chicanos Por La Causa, is a participant in our task force and informed Steve that they are looking to apply for an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant with appropriate partners. Chicanos Por La Causa serves five states and is active in Arizona. Steve will set up a meeting on Wednesday August 25th to discuss this.

Updates: State Broadband Director, AZ State Library, ADE, Telehealth, ACC

State Broadband Director Update

Jeff Sobotka, State Broadband Director at the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), reported on his recent activities.

Jeff is hoping for an announcement from the Governor in August about the state Rural Broadband Development Grants (RBDGs) program funding, and expects the ACA to move ahead with taking applications for this program in October. Jeff noted there are several counties with interesting projects in the works. Mark Goldstein asked if the state digital access funding for the upcoming year will be \$100 million including \$75 million to recapitalize the RBDGs program and \$25 million for digital equity, and Jeff responded the rules for the \$25 million are currently being written. Joy Whiting asked if the RBDGs funding will be related to FCC RDOF funding, and Jeff responded that even though federal grants try to ensure no duplication of funding sources for communities the RBDGs program funding will not be related to RDOF grant awards. Jeff added that the federal infrastructure bill approved by the Senate would provide much more funding for broadband.

A lot of federal funding is expected for broadband. Broadband projects will utilize existing middle-mile fiber infrastructure and leverage E-rate networks. Jeff noted the webinars that have been held recently on the new EDA grants program (discussed at the last task force meeting), and he intends to hold a webinar in September to discuss plans for future presentations from federal agencies. Steve Peters commented that the ACA NTIA Arizona Broadband Workshops and the EDA webinars have been very useful, and he has posted links to these on the task force Events & Updates webpage.

The ACA retained KPMG as the external consulting firm to provide an update to the 2018 state broadband strategic plan focusing on middle-mile fiber strategy/planning. KPMG has worked on state broadband plans in Georgia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and currently in Iowa. Jeff stated this project is moving forward well with KPMG making recommendations, and the results of the KPMG report will be shared in early October.

Wes Brownfield, Executive Director of the Arizona Rural Schools Association, commented that he generally sees counties implementing fiber or CBRS fixed wireless for last mile access. Jeff responded that several carriers are looking to provide Fiber-To-The-Premise (FTTP) solutions in areas like Lake Havasu City and Kingman. He noted that Arizona has a diverse geography and fixed wireless (commonly CBRS) or FTTP are usually proposed for new last mile solutions. Jeff added the key is to get costs down to an acceptable level, and all technologies are being considered. Jeff tends to prefer FTTP if it can be justified economically because of its long-term bandwidth capabilities. Jeff added that some providers (such as Zayo and Sparklight) are taking advantage of extra fiber deployed with E-rate-funded networks at schools/libraries. Wes noted "The Final Mile Project" is a concept for cost-effective final mile access to student homes, and they are agnostic in terms of technology used though they do see CBRS fixed wireless access proposed because it is quick to deploy.

Arizona State Library Update

Mala Muralidharan, E-rate Administrator for Public Libraries at the Arizona State Library, reported on her and Arizona State Library recent activities.

Mala reported that about \$2 billion has been awarded so far nationally for the E-rate program, and Arizona has received \$100 million which is about 5% of the national amount awarded. E-rate funding is being approved rapidly so the reviewers can focus on the Emergency Connectivity Fund applications.

The Arizona State Library continues to work on outreach for the FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program (discussed at previous task force meetings). Arizona ranks among the top 15 states in enrolling low-income households in the EBB program, with 103,461 households currently enrolled. About \$2.9 billion of the \$3.2 billion in the EBB funding has been spent so far, with about \$187 million spent on monthly broadband support and about \$9 million on devices. If spending continues at this rate, the EBB funding would last for about 10 months.

The FCC Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program (discussed at previous task force meetings) provides \$7.17 billion in support to schools and libraries for off-campus primarily home connectivity for students, school staff, and library patrons by covering purchases of broadband connectivity and laptops/tablets, Wi-Fi hotspots, modems, and routers. August 13th was the deadline for applying for the ECF program. The review process has started. Mala noted that schools/libraries can still make changes to their ECF applications if they can convince the reviewer it is appropriate.

SHLB held a webinar on August 20th on telehealth in libraries. Telehealth in libraries is becoming increasingly important (e.g. with hospital overcrowding in the pandemic) as libraries enable patrons who lack Internet access to connect to their healthcare providers. Libraries may provide space, kiosks, and nurse practitioners for telehealth. Craig Settles, an industry consultant, has published a guide on providing telehealth in libraries, and Indiana and Delaware have launched initiatives in this area. The Arizona State Library has put together a project proposal for telehealth in tribal libraries primarily.

The bipartisan federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which was passed by the Senate, proposes \$65 billion for broadband funding which includes \$42.5 billion for state broadband block grants (as discussed at the last task force meeting), about \$60 million for state planning grants under the Digital Equity Act component (\$2.75 billion), \$1 billion for middle-mile networks, \$2 billion for tribal connectivity, and extends the EBB program.

See Appendix 1 for Mala's written report providing more details on the E-rate program, EBB program, ECF program, SHLB telehealth in libraries webinar, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

ADE Update

Sophia Mayberry, Project Manager and Technology Policy Coordinator in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at ADE, reported on recent ADE activities, and Wes Brownfield, Executive Director of the Arizona Rural Schools Association, reported on his activities.

Sophia had reported at the August 9th task force meeting that ADE has purchased "Discovery Education" subscriptions for every student and teacher in Arizona, which provides them with access to high-quality digital content, digital lessons, and professional learning resources. Sophia noted they are working on getting schools to use this new service.

Final Mile Project Update

Wes Brownfield, reported that a main function of his is to manage the Arizona Rural Schools Association annual conference, which will be held September 16 – 18th in Flagstaff (Steve Peters will send out an announcement to the task force about this.). Wes added that he has not been able to attend recent task force meetings because of his work on this and he also came down with COVID-19.

Wes also reported on "The Final Mile Project" (discussed at previous task force meetings), which is funded by ADE. They released five RFPs about a month ago for different school districts. One project for the Paloma Elementary School District (in Maricopa County) covering about 38 homes has been awarded. There was a misunderstanding by some vendors on the other RFPs and they did not bid. They have re-issued these four RFPs, and expect this round of RFPs will be more successful. CBRS fixed wireless access is the primary solution being proposed in these RFPs, but they are technology agnostic. Wes noted that Sean Rickert, Superintendent of the Pima Unified School District, is Chair of The Final Mile Project consortium advisory board, and Glen Lineberry, Principal of Miami High School and Director of the Arizona Student Opportunity Collaborative, is Vice Chair of the consortium board.

Steve Peters commented that there are five school districts targeted in The Final Mile Project, but there are many other rural schools that require effective final mile access to student homes. Steve noted that Manny Villa, Director of Information Technology for Sahuarita Unified School District, is interested in this concept. Steve will be speaking with Wes and Milan Eaton about expanding the learning from this project to other rural schools.

Telehealth Update

Janet Major, Associate Director for Education & Facilities of the Arizona Telemedicine Program and Southwest Telehealth Resource Center, reported on recent telehealth activities.

As discussed by Mala Muralidharan, telehealth in libraries is becoming an important topic and recent webinars discussed privacy and legislative issues as well as sharing best practices. Janet will be meeting with Mala to develop plans for moving ahead with telehealth in Arizona libraries, and there will be a discussion on this topic on September 2nd which Steve will inform the task force about. Janet added that telehealth in libraries provides opportunities for training

students in areas such as taking vitals in libraries and teaching cultural diversity in clinical practice.

Telehealth Awareness Week is September 19 – 25th. Janet put a link in the Appendix 2 Chat on upcoming telehealth webinars.

ACC Update

Lea Marquez Peterson, Commissioner and Chair of the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), reported on her and recent ACC activities.

Lea explained that the ACC regulates the utility industry, and has some limited jurisdiction over telecommunications service providers.

At the last ACC open meeting, there was discussion of the reporting requirements of a telecommunications service provider. If federal funding is awarded to a telecommunications service provider, the ACC has a role to play in seeing that the funding is used as required and in a timely manner.

Lea met with a representative from Alluvion Communications, a tribal telecommunications service provider. Steve Peters commented that Alluvion is looking at deploying FTTP networks in rural Arizona, and he may invite them to present to our task force.

Arizona Technology Council 2022 Public Policy Guide Presentation

Mark Goldstein, President of the International Research Center, Chair of the Arizona Telecommunications & Information Council, and Board & Executive Committee Member of the Arizona Technology Council (AZTC), delivered a presentation on his and Jeff Sobotka's work on writing the state and federal broadband policy/recommendations sections for the AZTC 2022 Public Policy Guide. The state and federal broadband sections from the AZTC 2021 Public Policy Guide were distributed to the task force on August 18th, and Mark reviewed some topics from these at this meeting including inputs he has received. Following is a summary of some key points from the presentation, and the meeting recording will be posted on the task force website. The sections from the 2021 AZTC Public Policy Guide and the sections Mark reviewed at this meeting with inputs received will be distributed to the task force as two attachments along with the summary report of the meeting.

The AZTC 2022 Public Policy Guide content will be refined and locked down by late August, and will be going to press in September. Mark is soliciting inputs for the broadband sections from our task force and others active in Arizona's broadband community. Mark has written the Arizona broadband sections for the past ten years, and last year he also wrote the federal broadband section covering federal legislative and executive regulatory issues. Mark typically changes these sections about 10% each year from the previous year.

Mark reviewed at this meeting ten of the topic areas to be included in the 2022 Public Policy Guide, including inputs received so far. As noted, these are being distributed to the task force as a separate attachment. Following are some key points for each of these areas discussed at the task force meeting.

Federal Broadband Speeds

The FCC defines broadband as 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (25/3 Mbps). Last year AZTC recommended the goal for federally-funded broadband deployments be 100 Mbps download, and the federal requirement became 100/10 Mbps as a goal and 25/3 Mbps as a minimum requirement.

This year, Mark is considering proposing 100/20 Mbps as the goal. The Senate infrastructure bill sets a 100/100 Mbps symmetrical goal and states 100/20 Mbps projects may be approved if this is not achievable due to geography or costs. Mark noted that fixed wireless technologies may have difficulty providing 100/100 Mbps, and if the goal is even 100/20 Mbps about 40% of communities would be considered underserved. John Kelly's input was that broadband needs to be fast enough so as not to bore a 10-year old. Mark is also concerned with scaling the backhaul appropriately since guidelines usually state their requirements as being able to deliver such service to all households simultaneously, which typically requires assumptions of 1: 6 or 8 loading factors but this process should be clarified to specify reliably delivered bandwidth in an appropriate manner.

Fernando Roman, Executive Vice President of the Communications Workers of America, commented that they have installed high-speed Internet for 24 years, and 100/10 Mbps will be difficult to deploy in many rural communities and that satellite services do not currently provide this. Fernando added that 100/10 Mbps will require fiber deployment in many communities. Mark responded that federal grants have reporting requirements on bandwidth metrics, but state grants may not necessarily have the same bandwidth metrics. Mark may include in the Public Policy Guide a goal for bandwidth provided but circumstances may not allow achieving this in some communities, and will highlight issues with setting goals of 100/100 or 100/20 Mbps. John Kelly commented that the main point of the AZTC Public Policy Guide is to declare policy priorities but not necessarily get too detailed on bandwidth requirements.

Mark also noted that E-rate networks are typically hub-and-spoke architectures as opposed to having redundant ring architectures, and he will also mention the issue of getting more reliable network designs for E-rate broadband networks.

Federal and Arizona Land Management and Rights of Way (ROW)

Brad Burgess of ADOT, who managed the ADOT RFI on state middle-mile fiber directions and is involved with state middle-mile fiber deployment along I-17/I-19/I-40, inputted suggestions on improving permitting coordination across different federal jurisdictions (e.g. US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Indian Affairs).

Arizona enacted HB 2596 that allows: 1) private service providers to install, operate, and maintain telecommunications equipment within ADOT ROW; 2) allows ADOT to grant access to its own broadband conduit to private telecommunications companies; and 3) creates the Smart Highway Trust Fund to deposit leasing revenues from the use of ADOT ROW.

Steve Peters commented that many rural communities have permitting processes that make it difficult for service providers to deploy fiber, and this issue should be mentioned.

Arizona Commerce Authority Broadband Office & Initiatives

Mark proposes updates on the Arizona Commerce Authority role in broadband: 1) empower the ACA to continue awarding/managing broadband grants to local partnerships with clear plans to provide or improve broadband services in rural areas, while also providing community assessments or technical designs and matching funds for federal grants; 2) allow the state broadband director to leverage the use of E-rate funding alongside ADE and the Arizona State Library. It is suggested that a statewide strategy be developed as new waves of federal

funding come in for broadband. The new federal funding will allow the ACA to add staff in addition to the State Broadband Director to form a new Broadband Office. A Broadband Development Authority could also be created to optimize Arizona communities, education institutions, nonprofit organizations, and broadband providers use of the funding resources. The Public Policy Guide will also discuss the recapitalizing of the state Rural Broadband Development Grants program and the upcoming KPMG report to update the state broadband strategic plan.

Henry Goldberg provided input that the Public Policy Guide consider including fundamental principles that should guide the future goals for middle-mile fiber deployment in the state.

Steve Peters noted that the task force digital access strategy report recommended that the ACA establish a Broadband Office and that there also be a state Broadband Development Authority.

Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (AZBSN)

Henry Goldberg provided input that the Public Policy Guide directly reference the AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force and its November 2020 Digital Access Strategy Report. Mark will update the language from last year on the AZBSN in this regard.

Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) Universal Service Fund

The past Public Policy Guide recommended the ACC consider modernizing the Arizona Universal Service Fund (AUSF) to support broadband deployment in high-cost rural areas.

John Kelly input that the ACC consider using the AUSF to fund the state's E-rate matching fund as had been done previously, but Mark noted that carriers tend to oppose new ACC fees like this.

Henry Goldberg input that the ACC consider reforming the AUSF to support broadband infrastructure development by rural electric co-ops.

In the Appendix 2 Chat, Lea Marquez Peterson noted that the ACC legal division is considering how the AUSF "can" be used rather than how it "should" be used, and will check into when the legal division will be providing their legal perspectives on this.

Steve Peters stated he would like to convene a task force discussion on the use of AUSF to support broadband in rural areas, and there also National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) recommendations on this that Lea has discussed.

Sun Corridor Network and State Universities Role in Digital Equity

Derek Masseth, Executive Director of the Sun Corridor Network (SCN), approved last year's language in the Public Policy Guide about the SCN.

The new ASU-led "Lighting Up the Future Project" and tri-universities initiatives (e.g NTIA Broadband Grant application) will be mentioned for their role in advancing digital equity in the state. Mark has asked Lev Gonick, CIO of ASU, and Dominic Papa, VP of Smart State Initiatives at the ACA, for input on recommendations.

Steve Peters noted that the task force digital access strategy report recommended that a strategic plan for the SCN be developed, considering its expanded role for supporting education, healthcare, and economic development in the state. Mark added that the KPMG report will likely set a framework for the SCN.

John Kelly stated that the SCN needs to consider whether it will continue to be an E-rate vendor (competing with for-profit service providers) or will be a strategic partner of the state. Steve noted that the SCN is hosted at ASU and is a non-profit entity. Mark commented that such issues will not be resolved before the Public Policy Guide is published.

Arizona Final Mile Project

Mark stated the AZTC Public Policy Guide will endorse The Final Mile Project and seek expansion of the program.

Federal Broadband Infrastructure Funding & State Block Grants

Last year's Public Policy Guide strongly endorsed state broadband block grants giving the states flexibility in designing/implementing their grant programs in a competitively-managed way. The "Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program in the Senate-passed infrastructure bill relegates Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) to a third-priority tier, and Mark invites inputs on this issue.

Henry Goldberg input that federal/FCC policy be modified to leverage E-rate-funded fiber infrastructure at schools and libraries in rural communities' use in "to and through" Internet access architectures for effective last-mile as well as middle-mile backhaul. SHLB has been a great proponent of this and encourages Congress to re-introduce the "Accessible, Affordable Internet for All Act".

Additional Federal Broadband Policy Issues

There should be consideration of the role of new satellite services: LEO constellations and higher-capacity GEO satellites.

Also CAIs should be included in federal broadband mapping in the future.

State Educational Technology Policy

John Kelly input that the ADE Technology Task Force long-term plan has some nice recommendations that can be included in this section. John added that the SCN role should also be included.

Steve Peters commented that the discussion should be framed in the broader context of digital access that our task force digital access strategy report recommends, including digital literacy skills, technical support, and professional development.

As an overall comment about the AZTC 2022 Public Policy Guide, Mauricio Orozco suggested there be an introductory overview "Recommendations at a Glance" as in the task force digital access strategy report. Mark responded that the Public Policy Guide does include highlights for the whole public policy guide, but he could consider doing this for the broadband sections.

Mark concluded saying he will have Jeff Sobotka and Ben Blink of the Governor's Office review the broadband sections, and that he is about 1 – 2 weeks away from completing the broadband sections for the 2022 Public Policy Guide.

Next Steps

The next AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force overall meeting will be held on Monday, August 30th at 7:30 am.

Henry Goldberg and Steve Peters will write up a summary report of today's task force meeting. Steve is substituting for Oris Friesen, who is on vacation.

Appendix 1: Mala Muralidharan Report on: E-rate Program, FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB Program), Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF), SHLB Webinar on Telehealth in Libraries, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

E-rate : AZ Waves of Funding has been awarded approx. totaling 2 B of that AZ has been approved for close to \$100M approx 5%

Emergency Broadband Benefit

103,461 AZ households have applied so far. Arizona is still among the top 15 States. But we need to keep the momentum going. Please continue promoting...

For Emergency Broadband Benefit general program information: Email: BroadbandBenefit@fcc.gov ; Online: fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit

Claimed Support – To Date

	Total	Monthly Broadband Support	One-Time Connected Device
Appropriation (Total Program Funding)	\$3,136,000,000	-	-
Total Support Claimed To Date	\$196,018,473	\$187,137,578	\$8,880,895
Remaining Appropriations Available for Disbursement	\$2,939,981,527	-	-

Claimed Support – Monthly

	Total	Monthly Broadband Support	One-Time Connected Device
May Claims	\$70,364,011	\$69,961,638	\$402,373
June Claims	\$125,654,462	\$117,175,940	\$8,478,522

Resources : For questions about the status of an online or paper application, or questions about the application process including documents needed, contact the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) at: Email: EBBHelp@usac.org ; Phone: **1-833-511-0311** ; Online: GetEmergencyBroadband.org

Emergency Connectivity Fund: Friday 13th was the last day.

What now? Applicants occasionally make data entry and other similar form errors on their application forms. Applicants can request ECF FCC Form 471 modifications in the ECF Portal during ECF Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review. The PIA reviewer with as much detail as possible about the requested form correction(s). USAC will inform you in your Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) if your ECF FCC Form 471 correction was allowable and if it was processed.

USAC will issue a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) to both the applicant and the service provider in the ECF Portal after we have reviewed the funding request(s) included in the ECF FCC Form 471 application. If applicants have questions, they can contact the ECF Customer Service Center or create a customer service case in the ECF Portal.

SHLB – webinar on Telehealth and Libraries 8-20-21:

. Telehealth in libraries is becoming increasingly important. Libraries play a critical role in maintaining the welfare and safety of our communities and enabling patrons who may lack internet access to connect to their healthcare providers. Join Craig Settles, author of the “[Telehealth Guide to Connecting Library Patrons to Better Health](#),” the Indiana Library Federation’s Michael Williams, and ENA’s Brian Hubbard spoke of best practices and tips for getting started in telehealth. They shared what Telehealth looks like in a library setting, use cases of libraries that have established their own telehealth programs, and the broadband infrastructure needed to facilitate these programs.

Meet the Speakers

-) **Moderator: John Windhausen**, executive director, SHLB Coalition
-) **Craig Settles**, industry consultant
-) **Michael Williams**, president, Indiana Library Federation
-) **Brian Hubbard**, senior manager of customer services, ENA

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: After months of talks, the U.S. Senate passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act today in a 69-30 vote. The bipartisan bill totaling 1\$trillion includes a \$65 billion broadband proposal, designed to “connect every American to reliable high-speed internet,” according to the White House.

The “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act” sets aside for broadband and historic levels of support for digital inclusion_ (See minutes 8-16-21 for breakdown of allocations)

Appendix 2: Chat from Zoom

07:27:12 From Roni Singh to Everyone:: Good morning

07:32:14 From Manny Villa to Everyone: Good morning Roni!

07:32:39 From Roni Singh to Everyone: Good Morning Manny.

07:35:10 From Lindsay DietZ to Everyone: Good morning, Lindsay Dietz. Director of Program Services for College Ventures Network & AACHC

07:37:09 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:Blair Levin holds forth on “Seven Steps the FCC Should Take on Broadband in Response to the Infrastructure Bill” in his Brookings Institution 8/16/21 post at <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2021/08/16/seven-steps-the-fcc-should-take-on-broadband-in-response-to-the-infrastructure-bill/> including rethinking what kind of networks to fund, adding anchor institutions to the mapping process and undertaking a process to review and reform the universal service mandate. We'll talk about some of this in our policy workshop this morning.

07:37:28 From Mala Muralidharan to Everyone:Wes, you always make us smile... and you have such a serious face. We missed you. Sorry to hear about your COVID experience.

07:38:10 From Ilana Lowery to Everyone: So glad you are better, Wes.

07:38:18 From Roni Singh to Everyone:Glad you are feeling better Wes.

07:38:48 From Lea Marquez Peterson to Everyone:So glad you are feeling better, Wes!

07:43:24 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:Welcome back Wes and best for your speedy full recovery!

07:47:31 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:Bloomberg Law analyzes how the “White House, States Get Say Over Broadband Funds in Senate Bill,” rather than the FCC in their 8/16/21 post at <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/tech-and-telecom-law/white-house-states-get-say-over-broadband-funds-in-senate-bill>

07:48:24 From John Kelly to Everyone:<https://potsandpansbyccg.com/2021/08/19/did-the-senate-just-change-the-definition-of-broadband/comment-page-1/>

07:52:19 From Ilana Lowery to Everyone: FYI: <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2021/08/16/seven-steps-the-fcc-should-take-on-broadband-in-response-to-the-infrastructure-bill/>

07:53:36 From Mauricio Orozco to Everyone:Wandering if there is an opportunity to engage those rural communities recently impacted by flooding, to discuss broadband funding opportunities as they rebuild their infrastructure? Thanks

07:53:39 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:Drew Clark of Broadband Breakfast opines on how the universally popular \$1.2 trillion Senate infrastructure bill with some \$65B for broadband is about to get holed up by intra-party squabbling in the House. See his column at <https://mailchi.mp/broadbandcensus/broadband-maps-from-providers-need-to-be-checked-with-data-from-users-4744412> for more.

07:59:55 From LindsayDietZ to Everyone:I apologize for the noise.

08:00:55 From Heather Floyd to Everyone:I saw an ad for the EBBP on the NFL Network yesterday during the preseason games. It was good to see some promotion of the program on the national level.

08:07:55 From Mala Muralidharan to Everyone:Craig Settles, authored "Telehealth Guide to Connecting Library Patrons to Better Health" <https://cjspeaks.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/LibraryTelehealthGuide.pdf>

08:09:16 From Lea Marquez Peterson to Everyone:Great to see Heather Floyd of Valley Telecom on the call! Glad you are able to plug in to this important taskforce.

08:10:52 From LindsayDietZ to Everyone:Thank you Janet

08:11:00 From Janet Major to Everyone:Whats your conference date Wes?

08:11:03 From LindsayDietZ to Everyone:here is the link: <https://www.aachc.org/events-training/calendar-of-events/events/2021-hit-symposium/>

08:11:20 From Heather Floyd to Everyone:Thank you for the invite Lea! Valley is glad to be more connected to hear about the efforts across our state for Internet connectivity and access.

08:11:26 From Janet Major to Everyone:Here's the blog: <https://southwesttrc.org/blog/2021/6-students-2-professors-and-covid-unforgettable-service-learning-immersion>

08:12:03 From Janet Major to Everyone:Upcoming telehealth Webinars/ Events: <https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/>

08:13:04 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:The NTIA just published a “5G Listening Sessions Summary of Conclusions” report discussing potential incentives and policy options from industry listening sessions earlier this year available at <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/report/2021/5g-listening-sessions-summary-conclusions> FYI.

08:16:06 From Cindy Hogan to Steve Peters(Direct Message):Steve I can talk after the meeting until 9:45 today. Do you want to call after you kibitz? 520-891-1285

08:16:34 From Steve Peters to Cindy Hogan(Direct Message):Yep sounds like a plan

08:28:44 From Sophia Mayberry to Everyone:I have to jump off. Email me if you need me.

08:29:53 From Paul Ross to Everyone:Increasing above 25/3 eliminates multiple providers and technologies. Many traditional providers would struggle to provide any increase that approaches 100. Look at currently provided speeds across providers. Be wary of increases or policy changes that may result in unintended impacts that inhibit innovation. In terms of ertate we need some rule changes to provide for flexibility and innovations.

08:40:50 From Joy Whiting to Everyone:I have to drop off for another meeting, but did not hear if we are going to get a copy of the information Mark is presenting.

08:43:54 From Fernando Roman to Everyone:This website has information about states who have passed legislation about broadband oversight.

08:44:08 From Fernando Roman to everyone:
<https://www.ncsl.org/research/telecommunications-and-information-technology/state-broadband-task-forces-commissions.aspx>

08:45:47 From Lea Marquez Peterson to Everyone:I'm still online... I heard the discussion. The AUSF is currently with our Legal division regarding how it "can" be used rather than how it "should" be used at this time. I'll follow up with them again today to get an idea of timeline for their legal perspective

08:50:32 From Paul Ross to Everyone:Needs to be broad, not only focus on the tri-universities at the exclusion of others in the space.

08:54:45 From John Kelly to Everyone:Given the legislature directing the Governor to use federal funds for the broadband projects, it MAY be necessary for local matching fund availability depending on the funding source and the rules (which are being written). It may not be wise to source it from ACC but rather a general fund approp in the coming session.

08:55:17 From Michael Edmonds to Everyone:(I'm leaving for a meeting...'bye all)

08:57:36 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:The U.S. Dept. of Interior will hold a National Tribal Broadband Summit spread across 9/17, 9/24 & 10/1 with details & free registration at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-national-tribal-broadband-summit-closing-the-digital-divide-tickets-166305077965> FYI.

08:58:26 From Roni Singh to Everyone:Thank you everyone.

08:58:43 From John Kelly to Everyone:Microsoft: Rachna Vas

08:58:51 From JennyRickel to Everyone: Rachna Vas is from Microsoft

08:59:09 From John Kelly to Everyone:My firm represents Microsoft and can help facilitate communication as needed.

08:59:21 From Brad Zerbe to Everyone:rachnavas@microsoft.com

09:00:27 From Brad Zerbe to Everyone:Rachna Vas, Business Program Manager, Microsoft Airband US – Rural, (315) 703-3043, M: +1 (202) 677-0991, rachnavas@microsoft.com, <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/corporate-responsibility/airband>

09:01:18 From Shereka Jackson to Everyone:Thank you everyone

09:04:56 From Manny Villa to Everyone: Thank you everyone.... I have another meeting. Great information shared today! Have a great day everyone!

09:05:29 From kirkbusch to Everyone:thx many!

09:09:08 From John Kelly to Everyone: Paul!!!

09:13:18 From Mala Muralidharan to Everyone:Gotta go to my next meeting. Bye all... thanks for all you do.

09:16:51 From John Kelly to Everyone:Thank you all. Very good conversation. Good stuff to come if we keep this up.

09:31:17 From Mark Goldstein to Everyone:got to jet. thanks all!

09:44:23 From Paul Ross to

Everyone:[https://dallascityhall.com/departments/pnv/resilient_dallas/DCH%20Documents/Broadband%20Strategic%20Plan%20-%20Executive%20Summary%20\(English\).pdf](https://dallascityhall.com/departments/pnv/resilient_dallas/DCH%20Documents/Broadband%20Strategic%20Plan%20-%20Executive%20Summary%20(English).pdf)

09:45:45 From Paul Ross to

Everyone:https://dallascityhall.com/government/citymanager/Documents/FY%2020-21%20Memos/6_Broadband-and-Digital-Equity-Strategic-Plan_Memo_07232021.pdf

09:45:50 From Paul Ross to

Everyone:[https://dallascityhall.com/departments/pnv/resilient_dallas/DCH%20Documents/Broadband%20and%20Digital%20Equity%20Strategic%20Plan%20\(FULL\).pdf](https://dallascityhall.com/departments/pnv/resilient_dallas/DCH%20Documents/Broadband%20and%20Digital%20Equity%20Strategic%20Plan%20(FULL).pdf)

09:46:06 From Paul Ross to Everyone:The last link is the 220 page document.

09:47:29 From kirkbusch to Everyone:thx paul!

Appendix 3: Registration Information for Attendees at Today's Task Force Meeting (see Next Page)

First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Email	Phone	Mobile
Karen	Beshak	Kajeet Inc.	BDE	kbeshak@kajeet.com		
Andrew	Bevington	PCSO	Director, Business & Education Partnerships	andrew.bevington@pima.gov	15207248213	
Kate	Boettcher	Rural Arizona Action	Research Assistant	kate@ruralazaction.org		
Melissa	Boydston	VSUW	VP	mboydston@vsuw.org		
Wes	Brownfield	Arizona Rural Schools Association	Executive Director	arsaschools@gmail.com	9288307182	
kirk	busch	BigData Southwest, Inc.	ceo	kirk.busch@bigdatasw.org	4803344997	
gene	carl	Cox Business	Sales Manager Public Sector	gene.carl@cox.com	16026904175	
Erin	Carr-Jordan	ASU	Head of Social Impact	erobins@asu.edu	6023213304	
Michael	Cohen	ATIC	Member	mikey1145@yahoo.com	520-390-6647	
Josh	Cohn	Pima County	Program Coordinator	Josh.Cohn@pima.gov	5207245458	
Jerry	Crow	Digital Forensics and Cloud Security	Cybersecurity Professional	jerry.crow@computer.org	4804515954	
Brian	Daly	AT&T	AVP	brian.k.daly@att.com	4252417544	
Lindsay	DietZ	AACHC-CVN	Director of Program Services	LindsayD@healtharizona.org		
Michael	Edmonds	Tucson House / Thrive in the 05	Secretary / Steering Committee Member	mikemedmonds1@gmail.com	929-244-9477	
Heather	Floyd	Valley TeleCom Group	Public Relations Specialist	heather.floyd@teammvg.net	5203848912	5203496658
Henry	Goldberg	ATIC	Vice Chair	hgold52@aol.com	480-609-9279	480-433-3536
Mark	Goldstein	International Research Center	President	markg@researchedge.com	602-470-0389	
Ian	Hathcock	SBI. dba Cellular One	Director of Sales and Operations	ihathcock@cellularoneaz.com	19282057713	
Cindy	Hogan	None	None	cindyhogan333@gmail.com		
Shereka	Jackson	Future Stars	CEO	futurestarsaz@hotmail.com	6232210902	
John	Kelly	TRIADVOCATES LLC	bottle washer	John@triadvocates.com	16026390852	6026390852
Debbie	Kovesdy	GenTech	CEO	debbie@gentechsupport.com	6025711014	6025711014
debra	kurtz	arizona state university	Associate university librarian	dhanenk@asu.edu	9196042100	
Ilana	Lowery	Common Sense Arizona	Director	ilowery@commonsense.org	16233410177	
Janet	Major	ATP/SWTRC	Associate Director	jmajor@telemedicine.arizona.edu	15204030736	
Lea	Marquez Peterson	Arizona Corporation Commission	Chair	lmarquezpeterson@azcc.gov	5203313763	
Sophia	Mayberry	svdsv	sfavv	sophia.mayberry@azed.gov	4805779876	
Paul	Melcher	Town of Oro Valley	A	pmelcher@orovalleyaz.gov	5207800219	
Mala	Muralidhara	Arizona State Library	Erate Administrator	mala@azlibrary.gov	14802215120	
Mauricio	Orozco	Care1st Health Plan Arizona	Community Engagement Manager	morozco@care1staz.com	14802823631	
Cody	Pedersen	Smith Bagley Inc. dba Cellular One	pm	cpedersen@cellularoneaz.com	19282053395	
Cindi	Ptak	EDA	Economic development representative	Cptak@eda.gov	206-888-3386	
Tracy	Rexroat	Az Dept of Education	Program Soecialist	tracy.rexroat@azed.gov		
Jenny	Rickel	Native Network, Inc.	COO	JRICKEL@NATIVENETWORK.COM	5093000102	5096615100
Athena	Rodriguez	Stand for children	Organizer	Astuart@stand.org	6234769752	
Fernando	Roman	Cwa 7026	Executive Vice President	froman@cwa7026.com	5207097199	
Paul	Ross	Phoenix College	AVP CIO	paul.ross@phoenixcollege.edu	6022857855	
Andy	Sinclair	Arizona Department of Economic Sec	CAPS Capacity Development	asinclair@azdes.gov	14802632271	14802632271
Roni	Singh	SFB-CRC	ERN- CRC director	rsingh@sfb-crc.org	520-393-9872	
Troy	Smith	EY	Associate Director	troy.smith@ey.com	18472264550	
Jeff	Sobotka	ACA	State Broadband Director	jeffs@azcommerce.com		
Paul	Trujillo	Northern Arizona University	Network Architect Engineer	paul.trujillo@nau.edu		
Mike	Turner	Sierra Wirelsss	Director Western Public Sector Sales	mturner@sierrawireless.com		
Albert	Velarde	SBI	Senior Account Manager	avelarde@cellularoneaz.com	15057012222	15057012222
Manny	Villa	Sahuarita Unified School District	Director of Information Technology	mvilla@sahuarita.net		
Joy	Whiting	Apache County	Apache County School Superintendent	joy.joywhiting@gmail.com	9283377539	
Brad	Zerbe	AZ Government Consulting	Principal	zerbebrad@gmail.com	6233320506	6233320506
Cynthia	Zwick	Wildfire	ED	czwick@wildfireaz.org		