

Greater Arizona Educational Leadership
AZBSN Arizona Broadband
Stakeholder Network
Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council
COVID-19 DIGITAL ACCESS TASK FORCE

Meeting Zoom Transcript

March 7, 2022

Disclaimer Notice: The following is the meeting transcript recorded through ZOOM. This document is not edited and contains numerous errors.

07:33:55 So again. Welcome, everybody. Glad to see you once again, on our Monday morning meetings.

07:34:03 It's always a great experience to have you all here. As always I like to start with thank you our sponsors Care First Health Plan, Satellite Broadcasting Association, Valley of the Sun United Way. Kajeet, and our most recent sponsor is Triad Wireless.

07:34:24 So yeah, and thank you to all of our sponsors.

07:34:27 And again we are looking for new sponsors actually I hope to get out this week an announcement to everybody that they're looking for sponsors, so I wanted to encourage you to sign up and help support our work

07:34:41 here. Second, is that just a reminder that we need to have your contact information! There's a Google form you click it'll take you 5 min to put in your contact information, and that way we know who's participating, and how people can find you we actually do have a link at the top of our pages. For our contacts, and you will find a listing of all the folks that have filled out the form. There's probably about a 100 people on that list now, but encourage you to be a part of that.

07:35:22 Then again, just a reminder that we have our Kibitzing with Colleagues Monday morning task force experience and it's an optional experience after this meeting is over, we have an informal gathering for anybody who wants to stay online wants to talk, share information, ask questions. Or whatever. So we encourage you to join us for that and moving on.

07:35:51 Let's see here, so are there new anybody new online haven't looked at the participants. Anybody who's joining us for the first time today going once, going twice.

07:36:09 Okay. So our meeting schedule is March 7, 1421, and 28. And as Joy asked, I will send out a calendar invite, so make sure that we get this on your calendar.

07:36:31 And with that, so actually I'm going to jump down to quickly some announcements Shereka, do you want to tell us about what's happening? Since I didn't do this last week like I should have you want to tell us about your event coming up.

07:36:46 Sure. So yay we're back in person our seventh annual hand-on stem fair to celebrate our students. That would have been in our hands on stem program in South Phoenix. We'll be on April the 20 third from 10 o'clock P. M. t Big Gray. recreation to now we're , sure we can excuse me.

07:37:08 You want to just tell people who you are real quickly. Oh, Sherika Jackson, I am an IT professional for the city of Phoenix Parks and recreation department as well as the founder CEO of future stars that we provide stem workshops in college readiness and the hands on stem program. So we are, as I was saying, with covid we had to go virtual for a couple of years, so now that we're able to go back in person, and some of the rules, because it's a partnership with the city of phoenix, we're now able to host the activity of course, with covert protocols in place. But if you are organization, or you personally would like to sponsor the event, or you know for supplies. it's a barbecue. We have the black

firefighters come out We have a bunch of organizations that can also come out and be a vendor of a hands-on stem activity to expose the kids to more activities and different things it's

07:38:05 in South phoenix, It's the only and biggest event that's held in South Phoenix to celebrate Stem.

07:38:11 So just put some info in the chat as well as my email address, and I would love to have some of you come up.

07:38:16 Thanks, and I will cureika. When I say the update of the meeting.

07:38:20 I will attach your flyer. for everybody. Okay, thank you.

07:38:27 You bet any questions for sureika if not let's just jump into our updates to Jeff.

07:38:35 I say you're online and you got a lot of stuff to talk about to talk about.

07:38:41 Yeah, thanks, Steve. i've been traveling quite a bit lately, and 2 or 3 really, really big, important things going on that we need to stress number.

07:38:51 One weeks ago we had a little event up in flagstaff where the Governor announced that we're going to be putting additional conduit and fiber on I 40, and we've talked before about I 17

07:39:02 between Phoenix and Flagstaff, and I night in between Tucson and the Mexican border.

07:39:08 I. 40 is from Flagstaff West potentially.

07:39:14 Do the California State line depending on where we make that final access point.

07:39:19 This is a huge win for that part of the state cities like Flagstaff.

07:39:25 But also along the route you've got cities like Ash fork that are chronically under connected Kingman, which is booming right now, and has some really great projects in terms of last smile.

07:39:35 With Allo are going to need this and others. So this is the first step for those of you who have read through our our statewide broadband middle mile strategic plan in building out this network actually the first step really was

07:39:49 17 and 19. but this is this is validation of that.

07:39:53 Again I got this cool little souvenir of what we had. This is what it looks like.

07:39:58 Ade had a ton of these at the event they had the big rolled fibers while it was it was impressive.

07:40:03 Ada, that had come a great job working on this.

07:40:06 If you ever get a chance to Go to their office up there it's It's incredible.

07:40:11 It used to be a movie theater, and they convert it into a government office.

07:40:13 Maybe the nicest state office i've seen so this is a big, a big win for the State.

07:40:18 Obviously we'd like to do I 40 east and some other routes, as you can imagine.

07:40:23 But we have to work in partnership with the Navajo nation and others to do that.

07:40:26 We have those discussions underway. I spent 4 h on the phone on last Saturday with leaders from the Navajo Nation who are incredibly motivated to do stuff, and they're part of the State so much that have allocated 2

07:40:39 \$108,000,000 specifically for broadband so I definitely Take my hat off to our partners at the Navajo Nation. next up the Arizona broadband development Grant, as many of you know

07:40:52 we've got a great response. This is a good thing it's a \$100,000,000 grant.

07:40:58 We're expecting between 35 and 40 applicants. we got 87 applicants, over \$400,000,000 in project.

07:41:04 So, as you can imagine, the competition will be stiff.

07:41:08 The that being said, we have some amazing, amazing projects game changers for different parts of the State.

07:41:15 The timing on this is going to take a little bit longer than we had hoped, just because of the the quantity of projects and the complexity that we have to do analysis on.

07:41:27 So please stay tuned. There were some people that thought would be done by February 20 eighth, and that was an original goal.

07:41:32 When the before we push the application deadline from early December to the end of January.

07:41:38 So plan accordingly. this is gonna take a little bit longer than we thought It's we definitely be worth it next up.

07:41:46 I spent last week in Washington, Dc. at an Ntia conference really focused on the upcoming.

07:41:54 Iija, finding the infrastructure bill.

07:41:58 We had folks come in from different departments like Treasury and Fcc.

07:41:59 To talk about what's going on the Coronavirus capital Relief Fund.

07:42:05 Another program, really optimistic on what we can do with this money treasury in particular was incredibly flexible.

07:42:12 And what we're gonna do. so I think you're getting some really interesting stuff coming out of this I also had the opportunity to meet with several members of our Congressional delegation, and really enjoyed the time to talk to

07:42:24 them Representative Howard, and in particular somebody who has been a huge advocate for broadband, and we're able to sit down and talk about You know where we've been where we're going, and where we hope to be so that was

07:42:34 great overall. our Congressional delegation is incredibly supportive of broadband center. Kelly setter cinema as well.

07:42:42 So we're in a really good position there lastly I have to go to the legislature today.

07:42:49 For those of you don't know they're gonna take my position and put it into statute.

07:42:53 Why is this important? A lot of the the Federal grants and programs we apply for?

07:42:58 They're looking for this check. the box sort of thing you know we have ways to go around it, but ultimately it's important that we do this also.

07:43:07 It provides a degree of continuity as many of you know the Governor's term limit at the end of this year.

07:43:13 And making sure that the next governor has an understanding of what we're doing.

07:43:17 And these programs are in place. So i'll be heading down there today, and hopefully, that will go.

07:43:21 Well, so that's all I have state today. steve i'd be happy to answer any questions.

07:43:25 But i'm sure you have a lot more on the agenda So, Jeff, what's happening with you? getting some more help?

07:43:32 So expect announcement on that is month this month in terms of the assistant broadband director.

07:43:38 We also have additional positions that we're gonna be opening up.

07:43:41 We. If everything goes well, we'll have those posted this month, either. this month, also hiring through the government process is not exactly.

07:43:51 It's not a startup so we have to go through a lot of different hurdles to make that happen to get the head count approval.

07:43:58 But I will tell you after my time in Dc. and understanding just the complexity of the bead and the other programs.

07:44:03 We absolutely need to staff up, so expect to hear some more on that this month.

07:44:08 Are you in a position to tell us just what positions you're gonna be hiring for, or you know don't want to talk about that yet.

07:44:14 Well, I mean i'm likely to give you titles but as you can imagine digital web, but it's going to be a big part of what we're doing as well as compliance with these Federal funds the compliance side of

07:44:26 this is ridiculous. So we need we need experts people who know what they're doing. who know how to navigate those waters.

07:44:34 So we're gonna continue our engagement with consulting firms to to handle a lot of this.

07:44:40 But we need folks to help manage these different processes who have done this kind of thing before.

07:44:48 That's great any questions for jeff, hey? steve and last time when Jeff's build or the broadband bill was going through, you put out a call to people to submit on the request to speak system their support if

07:45:02 they were so inclined. 200 once they're the positions are in their end.

07:45:09 But for a new hearing. some of the members tend to not look down at the older list, so I would encourage people if they do support this bill.

07:45:17 2,687 to go back to request, to speak.

07:45:21 Submit your slips. I did it last night for a couple of clients, and it just keeps it fresh for the the new.

07:45:27 Since the bill is in the Senate now instead of the house.

07:45:29 Just keep things for us John do you want to just explain to people again, because it's a little bit, but actually a pain in gas that if you don't have like if you're have a an account with the legislature,

07:45:43 you ready to go if you don't can you just talk a little bit about the the hassle with that. Well, it's a It's a kind of a way to assure a little bit but is embarrassed minimum.

07:45:56 Security to make sure that people are not just creating online goes to interact with the legislature.

07:46:04 But they have a request to speak system. If you go to Az Ledge, Gov.

07:46:06 Gov. and look for the request to speak. You can. If you have an account, you have to. you can sign it, and you can weigh in on bills.

07:46:14 You can search bills. you can keep a personal progress list of bills.

07:46:18 But the first time you create that account it has to be done on site.

07:46:22 There are kiosks down to the Legislature in a House and Senate.

07:46:26 The practice is that if you need to create an account and if you can't get there, if you're from far away hopefully within the state, but not necessarily.

07:46:37 Then, if you have friends that go into the Legislature a lot like I do, then you can have somebody set up an account for you.

07:46:44 Send you a temporary password and then you can create your own. But,

07:46:47 It's it's a pretty decent system it gives you a chance to search agendas and look at bills and and it's a good interactive system.

07:46:56 And it actually functions now. So i'm sorry jeff what time is that hearing 2 o'clock, I believe 2 o'clock?

07:47:03 Okay, Jeff Mark Goldstein. So want to make sure we Kirk and I have you involved.

07:47:16 We are now committed to a kind of a provider roundtable, a breakout at the april sixth the big data southwest smart city and data center event that'll be an atic formation of a new committee

07:47:32 that we've tried years ago, and and didn't ever get to critical mass.

07:47:39 So I'm working on a contact list for providers that could eventually be a web presence.

07:47:48 People have asked about how to find, you know providers by name and category thinking about that.

07:47:52 But want to see if I can enlist your help this week for some review, and input probably on that list and start looking at our program for a panel for the entire track and a breakout session for providers who won't have to

07:48:12 have registered for the conference that'll be a true hybrid.

07:48:18 They can come physically to the event at the willow conference center or or join remotely, so wanted to make sure that was on our everyone's radar.

07:48:28 We'll have an atic board meeting this wednesday at noon.

07:48:32 Discuss it further there. But I am building a provider list I assume you don't have like a spreadsheet, or anything like that of providers.

07:48:43 Or do you know, it depends on how you define providers?

07:48:46 Because, again, you know, we have email contacts and phone numbers of different folks.

07:48:51 In some cases folks like John Kelly, who who represent providers.

07:48:55 So right. we can talk about this offline and try to probably figure out exactly what we're looking for.

07:49:00 But absolutely mark. I love to help if I can steve also is gonna mention.

07:49:02 I'm gonna be in Dallas next week I will not be on the call, was asked to speak at. I believe it's called P Threec.

07:49:10 It's a huge public private partnership conference specifically about what we're doing on our highways with broadband.

07:49:17 And this is a big national conference. so we're getting some great publicity from this program.

07:49:22 You know I I can leave bed blinks on the on the call today, and and you know, believe me, Ben Blink's name will come up more than once on there because he was the architect.

07:49:30 Of this this initiative. right? So ben while you bobby's mentioned in your. Do you want to add anything thanks so much, Jeff.

07:49:40 Yeah, nothing, nothing too much to add. there it's a really exciting project.

07:49:43 And I think, especially when paired with the middle mile on the interstates, combined with the last mile grants.

07:49:51 It's a really comprehensive program, So looking forward to a lot of the Federal dollars complementing that strategy and expanding it even more.

07:49:58 But thanks for all your great work, Jeff. this is really incredible stuff so bad.

07:50:01 Why don't you just tell me book so you're at the governor's office until fairly recently. I just want to tell people who you are, and you know what you're doing Now, Yeah, you bet I was up until

07:50:12 September I was Governor qc's policy advisor for transportation and technology innovation.

07:50:18 So anything telecommunications related was was within my portfolio.

07:50:22 So worked really closely with Jaff. right now I'm. an independent consultant Blink public policy.

07:50:28 Lc. have been working on some rural broadband initiatives, and also helping State and local governments with some of the implementation of the infrastructure investments and jobs.

07:50:37 Act great. Thank you. Okay, Anything for either of those guys, if not.

07:50:44 But let's let's move on now Mama, you're up. Thank you, Steve.

07:50:51 Can you hear me? Yes, okay. we are working hard on the Era deadline, which is March the 20 s.

07:51:02 This is for the application. year 2223 So schools and libraries have to put in their application by them by March, the 20 s.

07:51:14 So working hard to get them all 3 to apply, as well as make sure that they are compliant with all the rules and regulations.

07:51:24 Working also with the navigation Chapter House fiber build out.

07:51:29 We have. We can meetings now on the progress and they they're going great guns over the progress. It they're under thing. The fact that some of the buildings are older, and even to put in a rack there is a little

07:51:47 hard working on the right away, and environment, clearances and cold replacements and those kind of things.

07:51:54 But at least it's making progress so i'm really delighted about it.

07:52:01 On the irid front. We are still, we working on the Fcc.

07:52:07 Bidding quarter for e rate. The deadline for support of of comments was Mar is March the 20 eighth, but we are asking Fcc.

07:52:20 Through several organizations, through Shelby, through seekers. Shelby is the schools, health libraries, broadband, coalition, and and through the State errate coordinators.

07:52:33 Alliance to make sure that we get a little more time, because March, the 20 s being the era deadline.

07:52:40 All of us are heavily involved with the application process. enough.

07:52:45 It gives us only a week to that to submit comments, which is really not enough for something. That is so.

07:52:53 Major funds for analysis actually is doing a lot of analysis on the errate application.

07:53:03 So far in the last 5 years as a supporting document to Fcc.

07:53:08 And one of the things that came out a few little things that came out actually was that in the last 5 years there's been a price drop.

07:53:18 Meg from 4.8 a man to a dollar 39 per main.

07:53:28 Arizona is also quite at the top.

07:53:32 On getting the price down to this level we i'm really happy to report that the prices have come down almost 25% to 30%, , you know, since last year.

07:53:47 Even the average price for access point is also dropped about 49% in the last 5 years.

07:53:56 From a 1,400 to 708 16 or wireless access point.

07:54:04 There's been a 50% drop in noncontracted service that is, month to month.

07:54:10 Services. it's a record loan now at 3.2% of the request as compared to about 7%.

07:54:19 5 years ago. So those are real good successes in the making the program more affordable.

07:54:29 Not just available with emergency connectivity fund. the tenth round of application.

07:54:39 A tenth round of commitments had been announced, and so far a nationwide, they have a approved more than 4 points.

07:54:50 6, 2,000,000,000 269,000,000,000 of the of a 1,000,000 of this has gone, has been committed to Arizona.

07:55:01 Of the 4.6,000,000,000 that has been proved nationwide.

07:55:03 So far. so other than that I really don't have much to say.

07:55:14 I think some cindy will report on the acp program so i'm not going to report on that i'd like to call on Holly to talk a little bit about the telehealth webinar delaware's

07:55:29 webinar that was presented by Koza Holly.

07:55:35 Would you like to share a few comments on the webinar?

07:55:42 Sure, Mala. So as you know we're we're very interested in this pilot project that Mala is overseeing with Pima County Public library to start an initiative with telehealth and in libraries and

07:55:57 So we listened. Last week the head of Library Development, and I listened to this webinar.

07:56:03 Delaware has taken a lead with trying to help libraries make these services available, and the way that they have approached it is that they have.

07:56:16 They've been putting these kiosks in libraries and was very interesting to see the kiosks.

07:56:24 They had photos. the they're they're really nice they are, you know, self-contained private units that are in the library.

07:56:34 That, of course, have the Internet access, and an ipad.

07:56:37 They they have not to date. to this date provided any of the medical equipment, which is something that we're looking at with our pilot that we're.

07:56:50 We are granting the funding, and then pema County will have some equipment here that will be available.

07:56:56 We're also we were we've been thinking a lot about these kiosks.

07:56:59 One thing that they're doing is it's it's used for telemedicine, but it's also available for other services.

07:57:05 At other times, so it might be used for some workforce development for someone to go in and and fill out.

07:57:12 You know, job applications that type of thing but it's it's a rather large unit that sits inside the library building.

07:57:25 And one thing that we're thinking about is that if we would try to provide those kiosks in libraries, but not all of the small rural libraries that really need to be providing these services.

07:57:36 Have the space for that so we're we're doing some research on different units that are available.

07:57:43 That could be put out, and the library. and of course, in Arizona we have to think about climate control because certain areas of the State we need to think more about.

07:57:53 You know, keeping it warm in the in the wintertime and Then other areas of the State. it's keeping it cool in the summertime.

07:58:02 So there are. There are a lot of challenges and we're doing some research in that area, but it was helpful to hear what what Delaware has done, and there were other librarians and State library staff from other States and

07:58:14 we're all interested in looking at the services. because we feel it's It's a natural for libraries to make this service available, and that's all I have thanks So So janet I know you're online know you're partnering with

07:58:29 this project. You want to say anything more. Yes, thank you let me switch my camera so you can see the top of my head.

07:58:41 You know it's been really wonderful to network with the other States, and see what other folks are doing.

07:58:46 I've been following the whole Kiosk action. for like 15 years, and and we did also meet States when Mala and I were in doing our investigative reporting.

07:58:55 Who said, you know you can buy a heck of a lot of tablets for the cost of a kiosk, and there are, It's not.

07:59:00 It's not a one-size-fits-all solution.

07:59:02 So the pilots that we're working with in Pema County, one of the libraries actually is dedicating a room, and when we did a pilot project up in Tuba City several years ago, in one of the chapter houses Red Lake

07:59:14 Chapter House. It was a matter of putting a young occupied sign on the kitchen door and closing the kitchen during a certain amount of time when they were using it as a kitchen.

07:59:23 So one of the libraries in the pilot projects has a room which they're dedicating, which is great.

07:59:29 And then we've also speced out some medical grade tents to use in the pipelines temporarily.

07:59:37 Yeah, we're looking at all the possibilities for all of the requirements and community space, and it really would be great.

07:59:44 I think it's wonderful that our libraries are also investing in vitals.

07:59:47 Transmission, and also empower people to take their own vital signs, you know, to be able to use the space and the technology for for as many people as we can, and get people connected to healthcare So it's a really

08:00:01 exciting project, and the director for the Pema county libraries is a really great guy in It's all on board.

08:00:06 Ken, Sam Boston, and it's moving forward so that this week Kim and I will be working on stuffoscopes so that we can do live heart sounds and a big concern of libraries.

08:00:17 And rightfully. So, of course, is the data piece when you don't want to be recording people's names. people's data.

08:00:23 But we can create a patient to count from point a to point B. using stethoscopes to do live heart sounds without creating a patient's medical record, And that's where we are right.

08:00:32 Now, how do we do this While keeping all of the data away from being recorded other than by someone's medical provider?

08:00:41 If they have one or the own patients taking care of recording their own data and sharing it with whom they would like to.

08:00:49 So there's a lot of moving parts but it's all coming together. and it's a really great project the janitor.

08:00:54 Why don't you just remind people about who you are we always have new people on this call?

08:00:58 Thank you. my name's Janet Major the associate Director for inclusion and Digital Health fancy name for outreach.

08:01:06 I do outreach for theirs on television program, And I also provide technical support.

08:01:09 I write, write the technical protocols that been attached to making the clinical integration of technology successful.

08:01:19 I work for the Arizona telemedicine program, and we are also a Southwest telehealth regional resource center, which is great because we do a lot of work in the 4 corners area and for the 5 Western

08:01:28 States. So, Jenna, while you're on do you have anything else that you want to report.

08:01:33 Oh, yes, I want to share just briefly and I know i've announced it.

08:01:36 But tomorrow's the big day Our us distance learning telehealth Grants are a really great grant program, and there are some very unique things about it, and it's a it's a great opportunity.

08:01:48 If if you know anybody who's even remotely interested in writing a grant, we'll be covering a lot of Brands grant skills in the workshops that we're doing to But tomorrow the topic for the entire hour and

08:01:58 a half is our Usd. Lt. grants how to write a good one.

08:02:02 It's an interesting grant, because it can go to federally recognized tribes.

08:02:07 It's for folks in rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

08:02:11 There's a 15% match that can't be from another Federal source.

08:02:15 But there are a lot of great partnerships right now, and people who are looking for opportunities.

08:02:20 I know many of the people on this call helped with Chicano's porla Casa, and this great grant that they wrote.

08:02:24 Unfortunately they weren't awarded but it's it also helps magnify the concept of space and telehealth in libraries and other public places through the use of mobile health. programs.

08:02:35 So you could write a Usda Dlt. Grant for a mobile health program which would be awesome.

08:02:40 And then any of the libraries that have invested in in digital resources you would have access to and you park there.

08:02:47 So I would love to invite everyone to that program tomorrow from 10 to 1130, and then Thursday.

08:02:54 Our format has been Tuesdays. The Grant workshop Thursday is One-on-one help, and we had a great time when we did this in February we helped individually 4 different locations with their

08:03:04 grants with their grant partners with finding appropriate letters of support.

08:03:10 So if you can join us tomorrow and you're interested join us again Thursday to ask specific questions about how it applies to you.

08:03:17 Then in April the hot topic for this Grant writing series is a broadband Grant update, and the folks that learn design apply ink are professional grant writers, and they have folks who are experts specifically broadband grants.

08:03:31 So they are going to be covering Ntia Grants.

08:03:36 Let me see, i've got just a quick list usda community connect grants will be on the the slate for April as well as Nta.

08:03:47 A broadband infrastructure. The tribal grants from Ntia minority communities, Digital equity capacity grants from Ntia and broadband funding Best practices.

08:03:59 I've also spoken to Jeff and kimber Laning and Mark Goldstein also said that he would be interested in helping if we were to do another set of these grant workshops either in April or

08:04:11 in May that would focus specifically on Arizona.

08:04:13 There are opportunities specifically to and for Arizona, not just through the Arizona commerce authority, but through foundations through other sources.

08:04:23 So we would like to do one more workshop in partnership with folks from this group that would be specifically with a focus on Arizona Grant.

08:04:32 Opportunities. So just a reminder that those of you who should have received the announcement of our meeting today that a lot of these workshops and things are listed with the contact information and the dates to be

08:04:50 able to register for these. So if you happen but to that you might want to go back and take a look on how to be able to find that information.

08:05:01 Big steep. Okay, is that agenda? So mama, did you have anything? call me?

08:05:09 You have anything else that you wanted to add, See if I just go in a sorry yeah, like Go ahead.

08:05:16 Oh, I was just saying that was it for me. Okay. Steve.

08:05:22 I just wanted to draw the drawer attention to Ndia receiving 10,000,000 from Google for another navigator for a navigator core program.

08:05:33 The details of it. I have put in the link I don't want to take up too much time.

08:05:38 Now, if anyone wants me to talk about it, I can do that.

08:05:41 Next session. Okay, thanks back to you, Steve. Okay.

08:05:48 Anything else so moving on, so cindy and I don't think Nicole is on the line.

08:05:56 But Cindy you want to talk a little bit about what's happened, and what did inclusion sure i'm I'm Cindy Hogan i'm with an americorps member serving with literacy

08:06:07 connects in Tucson as the their digital inclusion ambassador and I'm.

08:06:14 A member of this this network. also. basic bsn we're starting a digital inclusion network under a cbsn to talk about digital inclusion.

08:06:29 Broadly. We also were holding meetings for practitioners on twice a month around specific topics.

08:06:35 Currently and hoping to start another meetup space soon for discussion centered on digital inclusion generally, and that would be probably a once monthly meeting.

08:06:49 We're currently the the practitioner meetings we're currently talking about the acp and doing some outreach for that new program that came out of the Ebb.

08:07:01 I have to say over the weekend I Got a map off of the nda lists serve. It's a map by Arc Gis, and it shows enrollment ebb enrollment by

08:07:18 eligibility. So across the country they they've mapped out how many?

08:07:25 What percent of of those eligible and each area of the country had actually signed up.

08:07:29 And the most amazing percentage was just happens to be Northern Arizona.

08:07:36 The the 4 Corners area, the colorado Plateau based. And so it's a lot. looks like the Hopian Navajo reservation, but they they are sitting at 75 to 100% of people that were

08:07:50 eligible actually signed up it's kind of amazing and i'll.

08:07:55 I'll make i'll put a link to it in in the chat, so I don't know how they got that done. but it it's arizona's done a really good job getting people signed up

08:08:07 for this subsidy, and then i'm also working with Pima County on the strategic plan for digital access, inclusion and adoption.

08:08:18 And in my committee, i'm on the digital inclusion committee, and we are currently mapping the current digital literacy assets throughout Pima County, so that we can figure out who is giving classes and you promoting

08:08:32 digital literacy throughout Kingdom County, so we can find out where the gaps exist.

08:08:38 So we can start filling those in as part of this strategic plan.

08:08:43 Then i'm also working with a group co-founded by united way in Tucson, the Elder Alliance and Pema Council. on aging, we're looking at addressing digital inclusion Barriers being

08:08:55 experienced by older adults, and we have a meeting for that coming on this Friday to chart a path toward action in this population. and I can put a meeting link in the chat to anyone who would like to attend that and I think that's

08:09:11 all. Thank any questions for Cindy if not We're moving on Sophia.

08:09:21 You online. I don't think my one's online and Kelly, I believe you are.

08:09:26 You guys have anything that you want to talk about regarding Department of Ed.

08:09:32 Good morning. Let me open up my camera here. turn your laid down Hi, I don't think I mean Sophia is not here, so there's there's no updates There always can you just tell people who you are please.

08:09:48 Yes, sorry. My name is Kelly. I work for the office of Digital teaching and learning with the Arizona Department of Education, and Sophia and Myelin also worked for the Department of Education.

08:09:59 I'm sure you all know them i'm the new one and no updates from them, and and none from my department as well.

08:10:06 We've just been working on this publication and working on creating some working groups, and I will have updates in the weeks to come.

08:10:15 So, Kelly I don't know if you want to talk about the survey.

08:10:19 You did, and the results, or yeah, would love to so let's see in November for 30 days we put out an assessment which was the survey we put this out to all of the districts and charter systems in

08:10:33 the State of Arizona, and we were trying to do it at a higher level, a district level, collecting information about where the Lea stand with their digital teaching and learning practices.

08:10:44 So what resources do they have? What do they use as far as devices Lms's.

08:10:52 Connectivity, hotspots, digital content, and in the classroom.

08:11:00 And then also what they're using, for tools and resources and then trying to also collect from them their goals, so establishing where they are, and where they want to get, and we had that open for 30 days.

08:11:14 And we had a 21% response rate which we know will increase.

08:11:18 This is not a one-time deal it wasn't a one, and done, we will continue to assess probably twice a year, and from this assessment we are learning and establishing the Kpi, so that we as a state can

08:11:31 identify again where we are with our practices and the and the goal of this office will be to help establish the resources, identify resources, allocate resources, and really use purchasing power and create communities.

08:11:45 Where leas and school communities can come together to work together and better their practices and help reach the goals that they have established.

08:11:52 So it isn't meant to be prescriptive in telling schools.

08:11:57 Here are the things you must do. rather. We want to collect the information and offer a menu of resources for them, so that they can be successful in their own way.

08:12:06 Thanks any questions for Kelly. This is joy whiting apache County school superintendent.

08:12:13 I don't have a question but I just wanted to tell everyone on this meeting. I know I mentioned it last week on the Kibbutzin, but I the aggregate expenditure limit that Steve was so willing to bring

08:12:23 forward to everybody's attention. It passed a couple weeks ago, and I just wanted to tell collectively everybody on this meeting.

08:12:31 Thank you for the attention there's some things in process to fix it long term, but for short term it's been it's been accomplished.

08:12:36 So. thank you so much, so they didn't pass the long-term solution.

08:12:40 Yet. Is that correct? You know the the long-term solution has a lot of moving pieces to it.

08:12:47 In my opinion there's language in the law that needs to be corrected.

08:12:50 And then there's just an Overall giving rid of the old law.

08:12:53 How that happens. i'm not really sure but we're working on it. the best we can.

08:12:58 We'll see what happens in the future. John do you want to add anything to that. Joy described it perfectly.

08:13:08 There's a lot of interest on the part of several legislators, including Senate, President Karen, Fan, who this is her last term in office last year and office, and she is trying to motivate some discussion about that but that will

08:13:21 not happen during this legislative session if it happens, the discussion will take place over the summer, and we'll probably come back next winter with a brand new legislature.

08:13:31 No new governor and new all kinds of stuff. Okay, how far?

08:13:35 No, Okay, Derek, you online I don't think so but West, I don't think you're online either.

08:13:48 Anybody have an update to what's happening with the final mile project?

08:13:57 This is Mark. I don't know how many responses were received but the proposals against the 5 open rfps. The second tranche of 5 were due late last week, so I believe that you know submission cycle is now closed

08:14:16 and final mile will evaluate and select vendors for the next 5 projects.

08:14:25 Okay. So before we move on to our presentation this morning,

08:14:31 So curt, I know, you're online and mark you talked about the data center and smart city iot infrastructure summit.

08:14:39 So if you want to talk some more about that and what's happening, what that generally.

08:14:44 And then, mark you, mentioned a breakout session for providers.

08:14:48 So, Kirk, you want to say anything. Good morning, everybody.

08:14:55 Camera on Take that one out of my ear. Yeah.

08:15:02 Some of where you are. First, Hi, Kirk Bush. please get a southwest and producing the data center and smart city infrastructure so iot infrastructure summit.

08:15:16 Yeah. There the events moving forward at light speed we got great panels and everything combined.

08:15:22 We've combined the 2 tracks to kind of consolidate things.

08:15:27 We've got a broadband and digital equity panel we've got to workforce panel.

08:15:29 We've got folks showing up from Google that are going to also be on the workforce Development Panel.

08:15:33 The actual theme is stem. Kids are our future.

08:15:41 Would shriek out, I would like to meet with you later.

08:15:43 Offline, too, and see how we can kind of roll in what you're doing with what we're doing. The chief science officers at the Side Tech Institute are going to be helping run the event.

08:15:54 They are also getting 10% of the net proceeds donated to the Site Tech Institute.

08:16:01 We're gonna have a fun kind of ev av pavilion, too.

08:16:04 That'll be kind of fun for everybody that people don't have to register and pay for the event to attend also where we're gonna have the waymo cars and too simple and a lot of that kind of stuff on display out

08:16:14 in the parking lot. as it relates to the provider roundtable marks.

08:16:22 Really the organizer of that and it's going to be a separate breakout where we're just basically using the event venue to facilitate that meeting.

08:16:31 And the timing is good. also. I think Jeff is gonna also be heading up that with Mark.

08:16:37 But just kind of busy, so that kind of all lies on mark now, and a lot of updates will be worked out.

08:16:44 I'm sure at wednesday's board meeting Mark you want to chime in.

08:16:53 Yeah, I don't think I have much to add but we will like believe the way the schedule is roll right from the broadband panel on the general conference track into a breakout which will compete with one element of the

08:17:07 of the main track, but will be a broader meeting for which we do hope to get a lot of providers who may or may not attend the conference to participate.

08:17:21 It'll be fully hybrid people can come on site just for that, or as part of the conference, or participate remotely.

08:17:32 And then it'll be followed by a reception and I believe those that come, even if just for the broadband provider panel sorry, where a breakout can stay on for the early evening reception.

08:17:48 Yes, and I did put a link again, and the meeting announcement, and I will for this week on to be able to find that event and be able to register, and so forth.

08:18:00 So Anything else curved Mark. Oh, that's it for nasty, right? Okay.

08:18:08 So I just want to say, and I think it's pretty obvious to all of you.

08:18:13 Arizona is awesome, got amazing people doing incredible stuff, and thanks to people like Ben and Jeff and and many others who are on this call and Mala and so forth, It's just amazing the kinds of things that and the

08:18:30 recognition. We're getting for the great work that's happening here in Arizona.

08:18:33 So I just want to just say thank you to all of you who are doing such great stuff here in Arizona.

08:18:41 And of course, that's not to mention all of the others who were on this call, and others out there in the State who were doing awesome stuff.

08:18:47 So just It's just pretty phenomenal in my opinion about the work that people are doing.

08:18:53 So I just want to thank you all and steve we want to thank you, too, because you're doing awesome work and pulling this whole crowd together, you know, going on almost 2 years now.

08:19:01 So, thank you, and and we appreciate that too so i'm sorry I mean so.

08:19:07 Anything else before we move on to our presentation this morning i'd like to send these amen by the way.

08:19:17 So. if that if there's nothing more any other announcements before we move on going once going twice.

08:19:29 Okay? If not, we're gonna move on to our recent our digital access resource, highlight presentation and want to introduce a Helen Smith who is manager of community leadership at consumer reports.

08:19:44 And that they have a number of things happening broadband, including some things here in Arizona.

08:19:48 So I'm gonna stop sharing allman and i'm gonna turn this over to you and you're on cool.

08:19:58 Thank you all. Good morning. I can say from my perspective from a national organization.

08:20:05 Steve's right? arizona rocks and y'all are in many ways leading the league on a lot of these broadband area things.

08:20:16 So yeah, thank you all. Thank you all for having me today.

08:20:20 Consumer reports has been working on a couple of different things that I want to share with you all.

08:20:24 So I hope hopefully. now you have a Some slides up. But I would also just like to make this as conversational as possible, and having heard from all these updates and and all the cool work you all are doing there there continues to

08:20:39 be so much that I can learn from from being on these calls, and hopefully you to plug in and assist y'all at what you are working on.

08:20:48 So like I mentioned like Steve mentioned i'm an organizer.

08:20:53 I will work with consumer reports. Not so much on the side of the magazine, and the reviews which many of you all might be familiar with, but more in our our political wing.

08:21:03 The rabble browsers, the troublemakers within consumer reports.

08:21:09 So I want to just take you all through a couple of things that we're working on. and then we can maybe spend a few minutes thinking about how to plug in to what you guys are doing.

08:21:18 And specifically I was just taking some notes and I'll be filming up with some of you directly afterwards. Cindy, it sounds like your your access work is really fascinating to me, and maybe something that I could help with in some way.

08:21:28 Shape or form. So brief update in what we're doing at cr around broadband.

08:21:34 I'm going to talk about a new thing that we're trying kind of see our chapters see our community hubs, and one of them which we're trying to sort of Arizona and why we are doing that and what that

08:21:45 means Hopefully, where those hubs are leading to interesting local change.

08:21:53 And interesting ways. We can engage with you guys and you know, trying to do our part from the perspective of a national organization to address accessibility, affordability, and equity of broadband access in Arizona.

08:22:09 So couple of big top items that consumer reports has been working on at the national level over the last year year and a half, doing a lot of advocacy work around the Infrastructure Bill trying to do what we can

08:22:23 to protect certain things in that bill. specifically around broadband and one of the things that is in that bill that we're particularly excited about, and how how that rolls out, because coming soon is the broadband nutrition

08:22:35 label we've also been working on a couple of other things at the national level, trying to watch router fees and other hidden fees on people's.

08:22:47 Internet bills and checking in on the well. We just had a victory recently around the Sec.

08:22:53 Ruling about competition within apartment buildings and and other large complexes, so that multiple people people have more choice in what what broadband they can get if they live in those large buildings lot of other things at the national level.

08:23:07 But I want to talk to you all today. more about this research project that I've been leading It's called fight for the fairy.

08:23:20 How can I interrupt for just a second, coming up to a bathroom back on to come back on slide?

08:23:27 So you talked about the Fcc. rules, protected people who live in apartments, etc.

08:23:31 And that was an issue that came up at our last meeting.

08:23:34 Can you talk a little bit more about that place? What sense I can, I can tell you.

08:23:42 I can tell you that the that the new will rule is essentially that there has to be more competition for people in those situations.

08:23:52 So a lot of landlords have had kind of back handshake deals with an individual.

08:23:56 Ips to lock in buildings, co-ops, apartment buildings, etc.

08:24:03 And the Fcc. is going to be cracking down on that and changing the rulings such that that is less of a problem.

08:24:09 Or that there's more competition in available for people So they're kind of getting the the benefits of competition to their pricing into their access.

08:24:22 Okay, Thank you go ahead. Cool that the research things specifically that we've been working on is something called the the Well, now it's called fight for a fair Internet. Previously as I have been talking about it it was called

08:24:40 broadband. let's broadband together, but due to a copyright issue.

08:24:43 Now It's called fight for a fair Internet what we've been doing essentially is trying to get a sense of cost broadband cost across the country.

08:24:54 So we ran a test over the course of the summer in the fall, where we asked everybody in the consumer report membership world to to run a speed test, a single speed, test and then at the same time upload a bill copy of their

08:25:08 home Internet bill. So we had about 55,000 people start with us, and we ended up with about 35,000 of those bills which we're in the process now of getting a Pdf.

08:25:20 Reader to kind of tell us what we've won But hopefully, that big data set that we've been collecting for the last couple of months is going to yield some new information about both kind of what broadband is

08:25:34 costing Americans, and then hopefully, also some overlays about

08:25:39 How competition changes that cost, and what what we can and can't say about how effectively consumers are being educated about what they need.

08:25:51 So you know we're kind of looking at these bills on a couple of different angles.

08:25:57 But my job, particularly despite, or besides trying to get a bunch of people to give us their broadband bills.

08:26:06 And all of this work has been to kind of dig into building a community of people who care about broadband.

08:26:19 And we're trying to specifically in in the kind of the mobilization world, which i'm looking at at. Cr.

08:26:24 We're trying to kind of bring out How we can create a community of folks who this is their issue.

08:26:30 Just look at, not a bed in the morning. This is what they care about.

08:26:33 How do we plug them into work that's happening around the country?

08:26:37 So my comparison here is that all the folks on this call Y'all are up here.

08:26:43 You all are professionals and doing amazing things to change the way that broadband happens in Arizona.

08:26:49 The people who I think i'm mostly engaging with are interested in this as an issue.

08:26:54 But they haven't. This is not their profession You know this is not the thing that they are doing.

08:26:59 All the time is not the thing that moves them necessarily like financially, but it is the thing that that they might care about and want to be part of.

08:27:08 So we have all these cool researchers they they gave us these bills, and they have been sort of banging on the door of consumer reports, asking, what's next like.

08:27:23 What else can we do? Where else, can we go so you know we consumer reports is pretty good at like getting those citizens to call their congressperson or to you know, sign this online petition.

08:27:37 But we've got this cohort of people who are who are even more dug in than that They want to do more.

08:27:42 They want to be more engaged. I want to just pause and do a quick interesting case study.

08:27:51 That was on a different topic then, the let's broadband together thing. but it might be kind of loose getting to you all to see kind of what i'm imagining, and what i'm thinking about here so 2 years ago.

08:28:00 Or so we did. Another big research project. it wasn't about broadband is about pfas.

08:28:07 Pfos are plastics in water this is sort of the forever.

08:28:11 Plastics that have been there's 3 or 4,000 different chemical versions of this.

08:28:16 But essentially we're discovering more and more that defaults are in everything.

08:28:20 They're in all the water that we drink they're they're all over the place, and consumer reports wanted to figure out like how much and where and what's happening at the tap, and different places so we've

08:28:29 started this water testing project in the summer of 2,020, and the way we started it off was we did these 2 big webinars for anybody who wanted to raise their hand and come and learn more about pfos and we wanted to

08:28:38 use the webinars to drill down to figure out like, Can we get people to do water tests in kind of every different region of the country?

08:28:50 So that we have a statistically significant sample. But another thing that we discovered kind of a positive benefit is that we discovered a bunch of people who happen to be in the same space.

08:29:01 They were all in Seattle. they were all in this call they're, all introducing themselves in Chat, saying, Hey, i'm from Seattle, and those Seattle folks asked to be connected with each other.

08:29:11 So this was, you know, volunteer generated. They asked their with their permissions like, connected all these people over email, which resulted in them, forming their own little group, and they wanted to learn more about this issue.

08:29:23 And explore what they could do about the problem, and through their learning they identified a specific note that the Department of Health in Washington State was considering around Pfos

08:29:36 They then came back to us. They asked our experts to kind of weigh in on the note.

08:29:39 We said, Hey, this is a good note let's strengthen it which thinks it should be strengthened in this and this in this way we went back and forth with this group for a while, and Finally they decided that they wanted to come back

08:29:53 and ask all of their fellow Cr members in Washington State for help.

08:29:58 So we sent an email to our list, which was several 100,000 people in the State of Washington, trying to drive comments. and we ended up driving, you know, 2,300 comments individualized, weighing in on P-fos comments to the

08:30:14 Department of Health in Washington State. the they get, on average 5 to 10 comments per note they are considering.

08:30:22 So this was like a This is a pretty big deal for them and it, I think, absolutely strengthened that piece of that that note.

08:30:29 That piece of it's not legislation but that law making process.

08:30:34 So that's the case. Study right what happens when we have all these people who we accidentally activate, who are engaged on this issue.

08:30:40 They want to weigh in. they want to be part of what's going on.

08:30:43 But like I've been hearing all morning we're talking about a very complicated tableau of different things happening in Arizona already. right.

08:30:51 There's a lot of moving parts there are things at the at the infrastructure level.

08:30:56 We're talking about like new wires and new lines and things going in.

08:31:01 It's very hard to imagine an individual citizen figuring out how to engage with or talking about grant writing processes that are in, as as you guys have already been mentioning arduous, complicated they can be following up with those

08:31:16 things can can take years so like, how do we get people to plug in consumer reports?

08:31:20 Has been thinking about that. we've created these things these cr hubs which kind of we asked the question of like, What do we accomplish?

08:31:30 If a regular part of our work was finding these groups of engaged citizens based on locality and issue.

08:31:35 Maybe starting at the State level, maybe even drilling down to the county level when we get our when we get our kind of ducks in a row.

08:31:43 Seattle showed us that we kind of had those people broadband work that I've been working on for the past 2 years has confirmed that in a lot of ways.

08:31:51 These hubs would be like local collaboration spaces, members getting together, and first of all teaching each other and themselves about the issue.

08:32:02 And then, second of all, figuring out what they can do, what we can work on.

08:32:07 We launched our first broadband hub earlier this year.

08:32:11 Last year. What year is it? We watched it in the fall of last year, and it was in Georgia.

08:32:21 Around broadband. Mark was actually good enough. mark on this call right now is actually good enough to come.

08:32:26 Talk to this group of people in in georgia but it's a group that is interested in equity and accessibility around broadband, and they've been working together. The The thing on your screen right now is just a Washington post story

08:32:39 we managed to connect one of the few. You know, one of these nascent Hub members who had a really interesting story about rural broadband access in Georgia with the Washington post reporter, which starts to be kind of an example of what I think these

08:32:52 Hubs can provide to folks like you stories as well as activists.

08:33:00 People who are kind of feeling the burn on round broadband enough to want to get involved to support things that are happening in their community, and they might start to be things that bubble up to the level of i'm not sure if

08:33:12 they're gonna fill out all those forms and become an official lobbyist like I was hearing about earlier.

08:33:17 But that kind of feels like a space that these folks might be interested and willing to jump into.

08:33:25 So why am I talking to you all today our next big thing We're about halfway through trying to start a hub in Arizona.

08:33:33 What we learned from the Georgia Hub, and well we already knew this.

08:33:37 But what we relearn from the Georgia Hub was that broadband is a fairly complicated issue.

08:33:42 There's the technological aspect of understanding the bits and the bytes.

08:33:47 There's the social aspect of understanding the there it's more than just accessibility.

08:33:54 There's also equity and all sorts of other issues in terms of education. When it comes to broadband rolling out, we discovered pretty early that we need to get everybody on the same page.

08:34:07 If they're going to actively work together. on things the way we're doing that in arizona is we sent an email to everybody on our lists on our consumer reports list who participated in that let's

08:34:20 broadband together study that I was mentioning at the top and said, Hey, come, learn with us.

08:34:26 We're going to do a four-week class The class that we're using is actually by a group called Shaping Edu, which is a group of I think there's probably a good bit of overlap from this

08:34:38 call and jpvd you folks but i'm not exactly sure how much i'll just say that they are kind of thinking about broadband, and how to push for equal access for everyone.

08:34:51 And They're a group of I think academics and philosophers and thinkers and doers based out of Arizona State University.

08:35:02 This class. that shaping you do you put together is a Mooc.

08:35:04 That asu supports and runs and we're driving people through that over 4 weeks, talking to them along the way, providing them kind of inputs and ways to, engage.

08:35:16 And then hopefully coaching them up such that they are excited to stay with us.

08:35:20 Once they have that they've learned enough about broadband to feel like they can figure out how to get their head around this complicated issue.

08:35:27 Next up for us is trying to then plug them into the complicated world of what you all are doing, and I think that I know that most people on this call are have have been working on this particular issue for much longer.

08:35:45 Than I, so I can speak from personal experience when I say it's kind of like drinking from a fire.

08:35:50 Hose when you first jump into broadband policy there's a lot of stuff, there's a lot of issues a lot of different things. so we're just trying to scaffold this learning such that people don't feel like they

08:36:00 are immediately flooded and overwhelmed, but can find their place, learn what they want to learn.

08:36:07 Reject the other stuff, and just kind of keep coming back so They're having an interesting conversation.

08:36:13 Now, hopefully, in about 2 weeks We'll have our first crop our first class of the Arizona Hub ready to go, and those people hopefully will be trying to figure out how to plug into what you guys are

08:36:24 doing that's the I want to just kind of open up any questions about that kind of rat good fire thing.

08:36:33 I just ran through and then I want to just ask you guys, what do you think?

08:36:38 We should. What do we think we should be working on?

08:36:43 Where in your particular world do you need an engaged army of citizens?

08:36:49 My mind goes to education and outreach my mind goes to it.

08:36:53 Sounds like a lot of work for doing Cindy Cindy.

08:36:56 But I would love other thoughts, other ideas. as I get these folks kind of marshalled and moving in the same direction, I want to start inviting them to this call.

08:37:06 I want them to start tapping into all the cool stuff you're doing.

08:37:09 But I just was realizing that as I was listening through I was like hanging on by my fingernails and doing a bit of googling just to keep up with where you guys were.

08:37:16 So it's about kind of staging that access such that people feel like they are able to weigh in and and and be useful, and be a contributor not just kind of surfing.

08:37:29 The wave. so well, i'm one of the things that you and I talked about when we chatted about this is for people to understand what you're obviously got a sense today.

08:37:41 That there's a lot of stuff that this space that's happening, and there is done not to say that the whole world is covered.

08:37:48 But for me, one of the starting places is for people to really understand. As I think I mentioned to you when we started the the task force when we put together our report that the up growing by leaps and balance in the part of that was used to hear all the time

08:38:04 that Arizona is not doing it. and it's really important for people to understand much is happening, And then to be able to go from there About Okay, what do we need to?

08:38:14 How do we Plug In So we're certainly interested in cooperating with you, helping your folks to understand what is happening here in Arizona?

08:38:29 Yeah, I mean and I think that's exactly right I think that the the thing that you know the the balance right is is giving people enough information that they can handle it.

08:38:47 And then also keeping them, you know, getting them enough to keep to give them a sense of like, where their own agency lies.

08:38:54 And and where they can reasonably affect things. And I think that, just speaking personally again, as someone who is kind of a multi-issue organizer at consumer reports, Broadband has been a really fascinating challenge for me

08:39:09 because so much of what you need to really change broadband infrastructure is big capital investment, and that is often hard for systems to figure out how to plug into.

08:39:20 But one of the things that's really exciting about what's happening in Arizona as you just mentioned Steve, is that we're kind of like the the access is coming, and and that those those wheels are

08:39:30 grinding forward. So then we get to the questions of Okay.

08:39:34 So now we have access. Is it a affordable, and do people know what they have when they have it?

08:39:38 How are we educating them? And how are we kind of like giving a local activists the tools to go out and and be those kind of digital connectors?

08:39:51 Well, certainly digital inclusion is a big priority and you know that, as you said, there's a lot of stuff that's happening.

08:40:00 The infrastructure side. Now, you know lots of stuff that also happening digital inclusion side.

08:40:05 And certainly if anybody knows about that it's sending excuse me. but I certainly feel that, one of the big areas where citizens can really get engaged is that digital inclusion.

08:40:21 I would love questions, so please please fire them at me.

08:40:24 I wanted to say a little bit more about that Jordan hub which is still kicking along, and that like I said Mark Bogstein was nice enough to come and talk to them a little bit about what's happening at the

08:40:34 Federal level. they've all gotten their their teeth into trying to figure out how they can be like a citizen watchdog group.

08:40:43 Trying to, because in Georgia one of the things that they felt wasn't particularly obvious was how these Federal dollars are being spent, and who was getting access to them, and that sort of thing.

08:40:55 And so they've been trying to kind of plug into understanding how the block grant comes to the State.

08:41:01 How it's divvied up who gets to make those decisions, And then what points there are in that decision making process for citizens to weigh in just another wrinkle on what what you know consumer reports generally people are fairly just as

08:41:24 a general rule, fairly educated, fairly wealthy, and are kind of looking at like, where they they have a lot of opinions, and and and they have a lot of ideas coming in. So the Georgia Hub process has been about like helping

08:41:40 them shape those ideas and and guide them towards something that they find useful.

08:41:49 Just, the the cohort that's at a issue?

08:41:54 Are they that say category, or are they college students or a mixture, or what's the makeup of that cohort?

08:42:00 We did invitations to everybody on the consumer reports list, so it's mostly the cohort that I was just mentioning.

08:42:09 And then we've got a couple people from asu students who were connected to.

08:42:15 We were connected to through the shaping medu program.

08:42:18 But mostly this version, 1 point has been with

08:42:24 Cr they're they're already activists with cr in some way, so they'd already taken some you know.

08:42:29 Step with us, signed the petition, done something else, and we knew they were in Arizona.

08:42:33 Soureka to answer your question. shaping edu and Derek. I know you're online, and I don't know if you want to add to it that there are a number of people that's actually as a national

08:42:46 group led out of asu and it's open to people who they meet.

08:42:51 I think it's every week now online I know mark participates I participated. I'm.

08:42:58 Not sure who else from this group Baron car, Jordan and others, Derek, when he can participate. and

08:43:07 And then Lisha Gooseinelli, who coordinates fact, comes to our group.

08:43:11 So we do have a lot of cross collaboration. between the 2 groups, but that meet those meetings are open, and if you're interested you're welcome to to participate. Now, Derek, do you want to add anything more about that Oh,

08:43:25 Steve. Thanks. no, I didn't mean I think you covered it really.

08:43:29 Well, yeah, national group of collaborators helping to you know extend broadband to all thinkers dreamers.

08:43:38 Doers that's what they call themselves Okay, everything else Any other questions we're about out of time.

08:43:48 Any other questions for Allen or ellen you have anything else you want to add, I don't I mean I will probably be doing some direct.

08:43:57 Follow up with a few of you it was a real blessing to get to kind of hear what everyone's working on.

08:44:06 And thank you, cindy her dropping. she send me to send me her email address. so I will be trying to figure out you know how we plug in, and the you're probably some of you will probably be getting some outreach

08:44:19 for me, inviting you to talk to this cohort as they kind of emerge knowledge about broadband and looking to to jump in.

08:44:28 Well, and thank you, Actually, I met allen through shaping Edu So that's how we how we connected.

08:44:37 So we have a lot of mutual interests and participants.

08:44:39 With that group. So if there's nothing else I think we're about to em for today.

08:44:47 But I did want to mention just a couple of things real quickly if you don't know, and we've been trying to send out the chat from this group.

08:44:57 You're interested, you can download the chat if you go to chat.

08:45:02 If you go to to chat and you look at the in the right hand corner on the bottom, you'll see the year whips, and you can click on that and download the chat directly, and I want to say that if you're

08:45:15 interested. There are a couple of files that that have been put into the chat.

08:45:21 You cannot. Once you download that that chat, you cannot download those files directly from the chat.

08:45:28 So if any of you want to stay through quickly, the chat and the see if there's any files that you want to download, you might want to do that.

08:45:38 Do that now. So anything else for the good of the order before we end.