

Tennessee Broadband Summit – Creating Partnerships to Ensure Access for All

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower

312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue

Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Summit Objectives

1. Explore opportunities created through the Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act.
2. Accelerate projects through peer learning, new partnerships, wider vision, and avoiding pitfalls.
3. Build community and bring new resources to bear.
4. Cultivate opportunities for partnerships and collaborations.

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

- 8:00 Registration and Continental breakfast
- 8:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Amy New, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
Laura Spining, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce
Congressman Marsha Blackburn via video
- 8:45 **Advancing Broadband Partnerships to Ensure Access for All**
Doug Kinkoph, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce
- 9:10 **The Broadband Accessibility Act – One Year Later**
One year accomplishments; looking forward to new steps.
Amanda Martin, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
- 9:20 **Working Together to Strengthen Infrastructure: The Power of Partnerships**
How can strong partnerships lead to bolder and more sustainable projects? Industry and civic leaders will share insights and describe how they overcame challenges to accelerate broadband deployments.
Speakers:
- *Jonathan West, Twin Lakes Telephone*
 - *David Murphy, Volunteer Energy Cooperative*
 - *Trevor Bonnstetter, West Kentucky and Tennessee Telecommunications Cooperative*
 - *Mayor Randy Brundige, Martin, Tennessee*
 - *Moderators: Tennessee Senator Mike Bell and Tennessee Representative David Hawk (invited)*
- 10:20 Break

- 10:45 **Providers Leading the Way**
What criteria makes it easier to invest and deploy next generation networks? Learn how providers are leading the way to advance broadband in Tennessee.
Speakers:
- *Levoy Knowles, Tennessee Telecommunications Association*
 - *Mike Knotts, Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association*
 - *Amy Martin, Tennessee Cable Telecommunications Association*
 - *Moderator: Laura Spining, BroadbandUSA, NTIA*
- 11:45 Lunch
- 12:45 **Inclusion and Equity: Successful Digital Inclusion Efforts**
Learn about the variety of programs across the country and state and why these programs are critical.
Speakers:
- *Larry Combs, The Center for Rural Development*
 - *Stephen Jenkins, Knoxville Entrepreneur Center*
 - *Ben Ferguson, TheCO*
 - *Moderator: Karen Archer Perry, BroadbandUSA, NTIA*
- 1:40 **Funding and Sustaining Inclusion and Skills Programs**
There is no single solution for building a sustainable digital inclusion and skills program. Speakers highlight how they cultivate a range of resources to support skills training.
Speakers:
- *Kent Oliver, Nashville Public Library*
 - *Charter Communications*
 - *Sammy Lowdermilk, The Enterprise Center*
 - *Moderator: Crystal Ivey, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development*
- 2:40 Break
- 3:00 **Federal Partners and Funding Opportunities**
Federal partners share the latest on federal funding opportunities.
Speakers:
- *Jim Tracy, State Director, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service (RUS)*
 - *Mark DeFalco, Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)*
 - *Alex Holland, Delta Regional Authority (DRA)*
 - *Moderator: Katherine Bates, BroadbandUSA, NTIA*
- 4:00 **Steps to Create Partnerships**
What are the next steps to create successful partnerships for increasing broadband access? Join the discussion and gain tips on how to begin the process.
- *Facilitator: Laura Spining, BroadbandUSA, NTIA*
- 4:30 End