



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BROADBAND OUTREACH CENTER
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Utah Broadband Advisory Council

Wednesday, April 22, 2015
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Salt Lake Chamber

Attendees:

Kelleigh Cole, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development
Bert Granberg, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center
Jessie Pechmann, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center
Diane Bradshaw, Direct Communications
Nole Walkingshaw, Salt Lake City
Eric Isom, CenturyLink
Jim Farr, CenturyLink
Jack Walkenhorst, All West Communications
Tara Thue, AT&T
Kevin Francis, XO Communications
Kira Slawson, URTA
Roger Zimmerman, Vivint
Lynn Beecher, Skywire
Brock Johansen, Emery Telecom
Bud Hirst, Frontier Communications
Michael Merrill, Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce
Rep. Steve Handy, Utah State Representative
Donna Jones Morris, Utah State Library
Steve Proctor, Utah Communications Authority

Sharon Bertelsen, Ballard Spahr
Ryan Marriott, Americom Technologies
Dave Ryan, Strata Networks
Tyler Rasmussen, Strata Networks
Bill Duncan, Utah Division of Public Utilities
John Harvey, Utah Public Service Commission
Jason Morgan, Integra
Roger Tew, AT&T
Matt Hilburn, EDCUtah
Chari Chambers, Zayo
David Ream, Ream Consulting
Rick Gaisford, Utah State Office of Education
Dennis Sampson, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Willis Kenner, Comcast
Michael Lane, Samsung
Jeff Egly, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Sarah Nunn, Digis
Angie Ramsay, Americom Technology
Alex Jackson, First Digital

Announcements

Kelleigh Cole from the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) announced that The Utah Broadband Project was formerly operating under a federal grant that ended in January 2015 and that the program was able to secure funding for the next three years through the passage of H.B. 414. The program has now changed names to The Utah Broadband Outreach Center. The Center is working on scheduling the next broadband summit with a tentative date of October 14, 2015.

On a federal level, Kelleigh announced that Akamai released its State of the Internet report which ranked Utah as the number one state in the West for average broadband speeds. She also acknowledged that this would not be possible without the telecommunications companies in Utah. Kelleigh also announced that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has changed the basic definition of broadband speed to be 25 Mbps download and 3Mbps upload. Since the last meeting, the FCC has passed the Net Neutrality Order and she suggested that all in attendance familiarize themselves with it. USDA has also changed the 2014 Farm Bill which will impact broadband loan programs. Kelleigh spoke about her attendance at the Broadband Communities Summit and met with state and national broadband leaders. One of the summit presentations from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) showed a list of potential federal programs and grants for broadband infrastructure development. The final announcement was that the Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition plan to begin working with state broadband initiatives in May of this year.

HB 414 Legislative Overview

Utah State Representative Stephen Handy was present and gave an overview of HB 414. He discussed the 3 year sunset on the bill and that it was an essential piece of legislation during the last session. He also expressed his thanks to Kelleigh and GOED for their efforts to keep Utah progressing. Rep. Handy called for any suggestions and welcomed feedback HB 414.

Salt Lake Chamber Presentation

Michael Merrill from the Salt Lake Chamber began his remarks by expressing how Rep. Handy has been a strong champion for the Chamber and thanked all who had helped in the process of HB 414 and noted how strongly committed the legislature is to infrastructure. Merrill gave an overview of Salt Lake Chamber's role. The Chamber is involved in many issues in the city and throughout the State. It is also a voice of business in the community, advocating pro-Utah, pro-economy, and pro-business issues. Michael then listed ways to engage with the chamber which included legislative channels and community involvement such as Clear the Air.

Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) Update

Dennis Sampson from the Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) gave a brief update on S.B. 222, Digital and Teaching and Learning. The State Office of Education was awarded 1.2 Million so that it could examine education throughout the state. As part of the bill, UETN will be taking a statewide inventory of tech available in schools (wifi, internet speeds, software, applications, etc.). Part of this process will be working with the State Board of Education and UETN to create a master plan. Rick Gaisford of the State Office of Education explained the role of the task force. The task force will survey what types of technologies are available and what is being used/not used and then make a forecast of what it will take to make a full digital teaching and learning program. The impact that this will have is that thousands of students will have improved and augmented education. Rick said they will be working to put the task force together, reviewing the data, and bringing in consultants to analyze the findings. He said that they will go the legislature with a proposal of what the project will look like, cost and potential results. He concluded his remarks by stating how unique Utah is and that colleagues from around the country are shocked at how well Utah is doing.

Dennis continued the update with news that the E-Rate filing window has just closed. UEN has applied for \$23 Million. These funds will improve wireless networks in buildings. Dennis also mentioned that the FCC has made available \$2 Billion to help wifi access to support 1 to 1 learning. He then discussed Emery Telecom as an example of this project and highlighted that they have built a 10 Gig backbone from Utah Valley University to Utah State in Blanding and that the project will be completed by July 2015. He concluded his remarks by stating that there are 25 new connections in the State and asked for questions or comments.

FirstNet and Public Safety Update

Steve Proctor from the Utah Communications Authority gave an overview of FirstNet. He explained that the program is federally sponsored by NTIA to build a broadband public safety network everywhere in the USA. FirstNet started 36 months ago to get the funding set aside for D-block spectrum. The goal is to incorporate the new network onto existing sites. One example of this that he shared is Verizon towers. Steve discussed how there is an RFP to determine the information each state needs to make FirstNet a reality. After the plans are created, FirstNet will provide the final findings to the FCC.

Mapping Presentation

Jesse Pechmann from the Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) presented the March 2015 Map of the Month which focused on LTE Wireless Buildouts and the February 2015 Map of the Month that focused on the New FCC Broadband Benchmarks. Jesse explained that the map displays how much mobile wireless has grown over the last five

years and she pointed out how much the March map has helped to understand wireless networks in the state through LTE capability. Pechmann also discussed the February map and announcement of the 25/3 broadband definition. Jesse asked for feedback on the new definition. Then Kelleigh discussed how federal funding in rural areas has been difficult to secure because of the low thresholds in the eligibility criteria.

At this point, Bert Granberg from AGRC posed two questions: What is going to be most useful regarding policy in support of moving broadband forward and are there certain thresholds that need to be adopted? Are there maps of where broadband is not located? He then discussed how State Legislative funding will help support mapping. The Broadband Advisory Council will continue to work with stakeholders to map infrastructure and that the more mapping that can be catered to what stakeholders need the better because there is more flexibility now than ever. One question posed at this point was if anything below the threshold definition will be mapped on the national broadband map. There was no certain answer to this yet. Jesse also suggested that feedback from the Broadband Advisory Council would be very helpful. Bert then said that mapping is essential in every aspect of government and private sector broadband infrastructure. He then went on to discuss the AGRC Atlas which combines the map of the month series with other maps as single publication in both digital and print versions. Bert explained that community anchor institutions have been essential to infrastructure and that the mobile drive test data has helped to map out critical information. He explained that the page 38 map, which identifies broadband challenged areas, shows the highest known speed in a community with the level of market challenge. The map reveals how less affluent communities that are also small are most challenged. The map was originally based on Community Connect Grant criteria.

Kelleigh Cole led a discussion on new locate.utah.gov map. Over the last year, the Broadband Outreach Center has worked with AGRC to create the site which maps infrastructure and where business level services are available. The team gridded out the state into a honeycomb pattern with cells that are one kilometer across. The map offers to providers the ability to connect with businesses and to show them the services that are available. The map is essential for working with the incentives team at GOED. It combines broadband service with site selection elements such as natural gas, transportation, workforce, and lifestyle information. It also has the ability to do a summary report for potential locations. Kelleigh then asked if there are any specific suggestions from the council on how to use the website or link it to other websites. Michael Merrill from Salt Lake Chamber commented that the map was a major feature for legislature to focus on and helped secure funding. Another comment from the group was that out of state coverage would be a great way to promote the map. Matt Hilburn from EDCUtah commented that the site has been a very useful tool for them. Donna Jones Morris from the Utah State Library Association said that UEN is on the program for their next conference and that they will give time to present the website during their presentation. She also commented that library websites would be a good location for a link to the map.

Bert Granberg explained the Outreach Center's strategy for mapping fiber without revealing proprietary information. He said that the hexagon, honeycomb, system works really well for this because they mask the direct location by indicating that there is fiber somewhere in the area. He said that the AGRC has been using companion editing applications and that all broadband technologies depend on fiber.

The locate.utah.gov site is live and a press release will be issued on May 14, 2015. Kelleigh will present it to the GOED board for the official release. Eric Isom from CenturyLink asked if the mapping information that providers issued was used to make the map and both Kelleigh and Bert confirmed was. They followed up by saying that it was the starting point and that they reviewed the process with each provider.

Announcements

Kirton McConkie will be hosting the Utah Breakfast Club this Friday at the Capitol as part of GIG Utah. Kelleigh reminded the council that October 14 is the Broadband Tech Summit and that if there are any conflicts with this date to please let her know. She also requested that any topic suggestions be sent via email.