Alaska Broadband Task Force
As of 6/30/2011

Goal:
To extend the full benefits of broadband technology to every Alaskan

Purpose:
To make it possible for every Alaskan to participate and be competitive in the global community

Vision:
By 2020, every Alaskan has 100 mbps broadband connectivity

Performance Measures
- Download speed: Target 100 mbps
- Upload speed: Target 100 mbps
- Latency: Transmission delay from source of data to destination of data. Target: 20 milliseconds
- User cost: To be Determined
- Reach: Total market served. Homes/organizations passed. Target: 100%
- Technologically sustainable:
- Adoption: % of potential homes/organizations connected. Target: 95%
- Reliability: % of time connection to internet is available. Target: 99.99%
- Usage: % of school age and adult population using the service. Target: 100%
- Impact assessment (difference it has made in people’s lives, e.g. healthcare, education, commerce, entertainment). Principally to be determined by qualitative survey of users to be supplemented by the following:
  - e-government: PFD applications, MyAlaska.gov for licenses etc.
  - e-emergency: public safety, emergency response, disaster management, public health
  - Business licenses issued to rural Alaska
  - Telemedicine: - (to be refined. Input from Stevi Morton)
  - Use of on-line education – enrollment in on-line courses
Policy:

Core Values:
• Empower every Alaskan to take advantage of broadband
• Consider the impact on all Alaskans
• Proactively and innovatively address future challenges
• Demonstrate competency and expertise in everything that we do
• Collaborate to achieve win-win solutions

Other:
• Consider prioritization of use and technology to facilitate intelligent expanded bandwidth (2)
  • Should this be linked to FCC national broadband plan?
  • Economically sustainable/economically viable: Operating margins after subsidy creates sustainable business case. Target: Usage and margins result in sustainable business case over 20 years.

Challenges to Achieving Overall Goal
• Political support for broadband relative to other priorities for Alaskans
• Cost of deployment
• Uncertainty of regulatory environment
• Cost of sustainability
• Education of users
• Uncertain future of a number of villages
• Implementation, agreeing on entity to lead and manage plan
• Understanding the consequences of deployment
Strategies

Task Force Groups
Each is expected to continue to network for opportunities, collaborators, information on new technologies, etc.

Benefits
Group 1:
- Regional, national and global competitiveness
- Commerce needs and opportunities, incl. private education
- Healthcare needs and opportunities - economics
Members: Stevi Morton, Mike Baker, Bill Popp, Robbie Graham, Maureen Moore, Karl Kowalski
Chair:

Group 2:
- Government services needs and opportunities, e-government and facilitation of government functioning
- Public safety needs and opportunities
- Educational needs and opportunities, K thru post-secondary
- Healthcare needs and opportunities – services
- Broadband adoption, education and outreach
Members: Stevi Morton, Myron Naneng, Joe Davis, Jeff Tucker, Bob Wicker, Mike Robinson
Chair:

Technical
- Costs, feasibility, affordability, timetable and funding sources for build and operations, examination of solutions, e.g. ArcticLink, Terra NW
- Current systems and infrastructure status, esp. middle-mile
- Preparation of draft middle and last mile technical solutions and recommendations
Members: Renee Johnson, Mike Todd, Dave Goggins, Chris Brown, Rep. Herron, Larry Bell
Chair:

Regulatory
- Federal and potentially State regulatory issues; policy research and analysis
Members: Robbie Graham, Dave Goggins, Rich Gazaway, Sen. Paskvan, John Boucher
Chair: Jim Kohler,

Charge to Groups:

A. Define research needs – due Aug. 1. Work with State and Connect Alaska to define so as to facilitate approval of RFP at August meeting.

B. Define work plan/schedule – due

Data Needed:
- Consider research on the relative priority of broadband to Alaskans
- Global peer comparison user cost
- Qualitative baseline data from surveys re. usage and impact- being gathered
- Updated ConnectAlaska data, map- being developed
- Baseline data on on-line course use at Alaska educational institutions -
- Baseline data on e-government – to be gathered
- Baseline data on annual business license applications in rural Alaska
- Estimated costs to build and operate network
- Presentation on regulatory environment (Jim Kohler) - done
- Overview of ConnectAlaska planning budget and scope of work - done
- Task Force planning budget and governance - done
- Provider presentations on current network, future plans, technology trends – scheduled for next meeting
- Presentation from global perspective on broadband trends – competitiveness, infrastructure spend, benefits to Alaska of competitive broadband availability, job creation
- Analysis of governmental funding environment (Renee Johnson, ConnectAlaska on
USF reform, Alaska State office in D.C. - needed
• Data on relative importance of broadband access – see above on benefits

Task Force Budget - $480k
For period thru 9/30/12
Summit - $40k
Meeting Expenses - $30
Research and Professional Services - $250
Misc. - $50
Not programmed - $110k