



University of Alaska

Board of Regents

February 20, 2014

Alaska Broadband Taskforce Update

Karl Kowalski

Chief Information Technology Officer

Blueprint for Alaska's Broadband Future

... like electricity a century ago, broadband is a foundation for economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness and a better way of life. It is enabling entire new industries and unlocking vast new possibilities for existing ones. It is changing how we educate children, deliver health care, manage energy, ensure public safety, engage government and access, organize and disseminate knowledge.”



Alaska's Challenge: The Need for Better Broadband

- Economic Opportunity
- Alaska's emerging technology community
- Transformation of Education
- Health Care and Telemedicine
- Libraries in the Digital Age
- The Public Safety Network

Alaska's Broadband Infrastructure

- Improved Rural Connectivity to hub communities
- Mobile Broadband
- Terrestrial Broadband
 - Existing networks
 - GCI Terra
 - Quintillion
 - ACS
 - Verizon
 - AT&T
- Satellite Networks existing and emerging
 - low orbit satellites
 - Cook Islands

Taskforce Recommendations

- Establish minimum service objective of 100Mbps to every household by 2020
- Establish an office of broadband policy
- Prioritize rapid deployment of broadband access that improves current service levels (quick wins)
- Establish Technical Standards
- Encourage P3 Partnerships
- Ensure Network Diversity
- Streamline eGovernment services and permitting processes

Taskforce Recommendations (cont'd)

- Establish Policies and Procedures to encourage investment in “Big Data” communication industries such as datacenters
- Create training programs for knowledge workers
- Establish and fund the Center for eLearning and eCommerce
- Establish priority funding for all universities within Alaska not connected to an Academic network with the service goal of 100Mbps
- Ensure public safety and emergency services receive highest priority



Questions & Comments

Taskforce Plan Available at:

www.akbroadbandtaskforce.com

