

Cross Agency Priority Goal: Broadband

FY2013 Q3 Status Update

Cross Agency Priority Goal Statement

As part of expanding all broadband capabilities, ensure 4G wireless broadband coverage for 98 percent of Americans by 2016.

Goal Leader

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About this document

The Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goals were a key innovation introduced in the FY2013 Federal Budget. These goals focus on 14 major issues that run across several Federal agencies. Each of these historic goals has a Goal Leader who is a senior level White House official and is fully accountable for the success and outcomes of the goal.

Historically, areas of shared responsibility for multiple government agencies have been resistant to real progress. Success in these areas requires a new kind of management approach – one that brings people together from across and outside the Federal Government to coordinate their work and combine their skills, insights, and resources. The CAP Goals represent Presidential priorities for which this approach is likeliest to bear fruit.

This report discusses one of these CAP Goals, the Broadband Goal, in detail, describing the plan for achieving the goal and the current status of progress. To see the full list of CAP Goals and to find out more about them, we encourage you to visit performance.gov.

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Overview

President Obama has outlined a bold vision for enhancing America's competitiveness by investing in broadband infrastructure. "By connecting every corner of our country to the digital age, we can help our businesses become more competitive, our students become more informed and our citizens become more engaged," he said. Broadband access provides a strong foundation for economic growth, job creation, and global competitiveness. Among other benefits, maximizing Americans' access to broadband technology can change how we deliver health care, improve public safety, and make government more efficient. This goal reinforces current efforts by federal agencies to deliver on the Administration's broadband commitment. Special attention will be directed to rural areas, which lag behind other parts of the country in broadband access. Achieving the goal of extending advanced 4G wireless coverage to 98 percent of Americans will strengthen the nation's broadband system – networks, devices, content, and applications – to provide the nation a competitive, affordable, and efficient technology infrastructure.

Strategies

Collaboration with Federal Partners to Advance Broadband Access and Adoption

This goal focuses on the implementation of a comprehensive plan to extend advanced 4G wireless coverage to 98 percent of Americans, which will strengthen the nation's broadband system – networks, devices, content, and applications – to provide the nation a competitive, affordable, and efficient technology infrastructure.

Advancing the Broadband CAP Goal is the result of the coordinated implementation of a number of White House-supported initiatives and legislation, along with the ongoing collaboration among a number of Federal agencies, most significantly the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Below are some of the principal White House and agency initiatives that support this goal:

1. *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 allocated approximately \$7 billion for Federal grants and loans supporting broadband infrastructure projects, public computer centers, and programs to promote sustainable broadband adoption. Approval, oversight, and completion of these projects have been the responsibility of NTIA and RUS, which have collaborated on determining the most effective use of the funds. NTIA focused its investments on "middle mile" infrastructure - the segment of a telecommunications network linking a network operator's core network to the local network plant - to increase broadband capacity in communities without adequate broadband service. Middle mile infrastructure provides high-capacity broadband to community anchor institutions such as schools, libraries, health care facilities and community colleges while also enabling other commercial broadband operators to leverage the increased capacity to improve broadband services in their community. RUS focused its dollars on "last mile" investments - the final leg of delivering connectivity from a communications provider to a customer - in hard-to-serve rural and remote areas of the Nation. Progress reports, Congressional testimony, and additional information on these programs, including NTIA's most recent quarterly report to Congress, are available at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/utp_bip.html and <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>.

Together these investments are game-changers in communities, achieving significant economic and social impact and enabling distance education, telemedicine, and other advanced applications. Additionally, a review of the agencies' execution of their responsibilities illustrates the ability of agencies to collaborate successfully on important Administration priorities:

- NTIA, RUS, and the FCC hosted a public kickoff meeting in Washington, D.C. on March 10, 2009 to announce their initial implementation activities and respond to public inquiries. NTIA and RUS continued their public outreach through six additional Town Hall meetings across the U.S. in March.
- On March 12, 2009, NTIA and RUS released a joint Request for Information (RFI) requesting public input on program strategy and execution, including funding focus, eligibility, and evaluation criteria for application review. NTIA and RUS received over 1,400 comments in the one-month RFI window.
- RUS and NTIA worked closely from March until July 2009 on funding priorities and program strategies. In July 2009, NTIA and RUS released a joint Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) outlining each programs' funding priorities, eligibility requirements, evaluation process and criteria, and other requirements. Nearly two

weeks after the NOFA release, NTIA and RUS released joint grant guidance and application for broadband infrastructure projects.

- The FCC provided guidance and collaborated with NTIA and RUS to develop its non-discrimination and interconnection policy for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) and Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP), per the statutory requirement, to ensure alignment with broader Administration goals for non-discrimination and interconnection.
- In November 2009, NTIA and RUS released a second RFI, requesting public comment on funding priorities and the application process in order to inform the development of the second, and final, round of Recovery Act broadband funding. Over 225 comments were received and NTIA's analysis of the comments was shared with RUS.
- RUS hosted a joint website for NTIA and RUS' broadband Recovery Act programs, including links to program information, the application portal, and application summaries. In 2010, NTIA launched its own portal.
- For the first round of funding, NTIA and RUS conducted ten joint public outreach workshops across the U.S. to provide overviews of each program's funding focus, the application process, review process, and to answer potential applicant questions.
- During the second round of funding, the agencies hosted an additional nine joint outreach workshops across the U.S.
- For both the BTOP and Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) funding rounds, the Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service (NTIS), on behalf of NTIA, hosted the application intake software system, EasyGrants, for RUS BIP and BTOP applicants. The USDA provided help-desk support during the application intake period.
- NTIA and RUS worked with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Council of Environmental Quality, and the FCC, specifically the FCC's Section 106 Tribal Notification process and Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS), in order to develop a more streamlined environmental and historic preservation review of proposed BIP and BTOP projects.
- For Round 1 "Joint BIP-BTOP" applications, NTIA and RUS developed a mechanism to jointly review applications. Per the NOFA, RUS reserved the right to select from these joint applications prior to NTIA but worked closely with NTIA to allow for the facilitation of a concurrent review given time constraints associated with the Recovery Act timelines.
- During the Round 1 application review period, RUS hosted a joint RUS-NTIA Public Notice Filing Response (PNFR) system to allow, per the NOFA, broadband service providers to provide input to RUS and NTIA on pre-existing, incumbent broadband service availability, speeds, and/or adoption rates in applicants' proposed funded service areas (PFSAs).
- In order for NTIA to assess broadband availability in Round 1 applicant PFSAs, the FCC granted NTIA access to its Form 477 database, which includes broadband service provider's self-reported broadband availability.

- RUS assessed the broadband availability in Round 1 by taking the information provided by incumbent service providers and providing it to field staff. The field staff then conducted on site verification of broadband availability for each successful award.
- NTIA launched www.broadbandmatch.gov in January 2010 prior to the opening of the second round of funding. BroadbandMatch was an online tool for applicants, community organizations, equipment and service providers, and others to express interest in partnering with other organizations to apply for broadband grant funds.
- NTIA and RUS successfully made all of their grant awards by the statutory deadline of September 2010.

2. *Presidential Memoranda: Spectrum*

In June 2010, President Obama issued a memorandum directing NTIA to work with other agencies to identify 500 megahertz (MHz) of spectrum, currently in either Federal or non-Federal hands, that could be repurposed for wireless broadband use within 10 years.¹ This initiative to nearly double the amount of commercial spectrum will spur investment, economic growth, and job creation while supporting the growing demand by consumers and businesses for wireless broadband services. To further this goal, NTIA has issued reports regarding the potential for wireless broadband use of 405 megahertz of spectrum currently used by Federal agencies, and continues to work with agencies and other stakeholders to implement the President's goal in this and other spectrum. In particular, in March, 2012, NTIA found that 95 MHz of prime spectrum, the 1755-1850 MHz band, can be repurposed for wireless broadband use once certain critical challenges are overcome. To achieve this goal, NTIA launched a collaborative effort between industry and government stakeholders to assess and recommend practical frameworks for the development of relocation, transition, and sharing arrangements in this and other bands. In addition, in June 2013, President Obama issued a Memorandum establishing a set of measures that Federal agencies, in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders, will take to more aggressively enhance spectrum efficiency and enable access to more spectrum for consumer services and applications.² The 2013 Memorandum builds upon and enhances the 2010 Memorandum that, together, will add more spectrum fuel to the Nation's fast-growing wireless broadband economy.

3. *Universal Service Fund*

With the support of the White House, the FCC adopted reforms to the federal Universal Service Fund (USF) to transition support to broadband deployment. The USF is a mechanism that has supported the provision of basic telephone service to rural and other high-cost areas of the country for decades. In its order, the FCC announced revisions that focused USF support on preserving and advancing broadband-capable infrastructure, including via a Mobility Fund targeted specifically to increasing access to wireless broadband. In 2012, the FCC announced the competitive bidding procedures for the first phase of the Mobility Fund, which provides up

¹ See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-memorandum-unleashing-wireless-broadband-revolution>

² See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/14/presidential-memorandum-expanding-americas-leadership-wireless-innovation>

to \$300 million for support of wireless broadband, and commenced its first competitive bidding under the Mobility Fund in September 2012.³ Also in 2012, the FCC announced that another \$115 million was awarded to carriers under the Phase I of the Connect America Fund, which should result in an estimated additional 400,000 residents and small businesses in 37 states gaining access to high-speed Internet within three years. In May 2013, the Commission allocated up to an additional \$485 million for a second round of Phase I Connect America funding to make broadband available to Americans who lack access.⁴ Recently, President Obama unveiled a bold initiative to connect 99 percent of America's students to the Internet through high-speed broadband within 5 years.⁵ The President called on the FCC to modernize and leverage its existing E-Rate program, which provides connectivity to schools and libraries in America, to help meet those targets.⁶

4. *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*

This legislation, signed by the President in February 2012, included a number of provisions to promote wireless broadband coverage throughout the nation. In addition to setting deadlines for the FCC to license certain spectrum bands through competitive auctions, the legislation directed the FCC to implement incentive, or "reverse," auctions under which existing spectrum holders will be compensated for relinquishing spectrum. This spectrum, in turn, will be made available via more traditional "forward auctions" by the FCC for use by wireless broadband providers. The legislation also allocated spectrum and \$7 billion towards the design and deployment of a nationwide wireless broadband network for the nation's first responders. Design and deployment of the network is primarily the responsibility of the First Responders Network Authority ("FirstNet"), an independent authority within NTIA that holds a spectrum license from the FCC, in partnership with broadband providers and other commercial entities. Although the spectrum is intended for public safety use, FirstNet can approve leasing of excess capacity to commercial wireless broadband providers, subject to pre-emption by first responders when necessary. This has the potential to expand wireless broadband coverage in rural America.

5. *Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment*

In June 2012, President Obama issued an Executive Order directing a Working Group of Federal agencies to streamline the process by which broadband providers can seek to install wireless towers and other broadband infrastructure on Federal property and Tribal lands, particularly in underserved communities.⁷ The Working Group consists of the Departments of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, the Federal Communications Commission, U.S. Postal Service, Council on Environmental Quality, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Security Staff, chaired by the General Services

³ See http://wireless.fcc.gov/auctions/default.htm?job=auction_summary&id=901

⁴ See <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/connecting-america>

⁵ See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/06/president-obama-unveils-connected-initiative-bring-america-s-students-di>

⁶ See <http://www.fcc.gov/e-rate-update>

⁷ See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/06/14/executive-order-accelerating-broadband-infrastructure-deployment>

Administration (GSA) and Department of Homeland Security. Each of these agencies plays a unique role in the management of federal lands, buildings, rights of way, and tribal/Indian trust lands, and each represents an opportunity to support the deployment of broadband infrastructure. The working group has been working to assess federal infrastructure permitting and review processes and search for cross-agency coordination opportunities for consistent application of guidelines and processes related to broadband deployment.

Progress Update

Access to broadband capabilities continues to grow at a rapid rate despite tough economic conditions, confirming the progress being made on the path to achieving the President's goal of ensuring advanced wireless broadband coverage for 98% of Americans by 2016. The most recently available data indicates that 90% of Americans now have access to advanced wireless broadband, up from 36% in mid-2010, assuming that users of advanced wireless service should be able to enjoy minimum "real-world" download speeds (as opposed to advertised or "up to" speeds) of at least 6 megabits per second. When wired connections are included, the availability figure jumps to almost 96%. Of course, opinions differ on what constitutes minimum speeds for "broadband" or "4G" and, under any definition, those threshold speeds must and will increase to better serve the nation's needs. By any measure, however, the availability of high-speed access has grown steadily since the President's 2011 State of the Union Address when he announced the 98% goal. Beyond household availability, NTIA broadband grant recipients report that they have already connected over 14,000 anchor institutions such as schools, libraries, health care facilities, and community colleges to high-speed broadband so they can better serve their communities. Thousands of additional community anchor institutions are benefitting from increased availability and speeds through other commercial and public investments. Furthermore, data continue to show that the U.S. is making significant progress in the Obama Administration's efforts to get more Americans connected to the Internet. As of October 2012, 72.4 percent of American households (88 million households) subscribe to high-speed Internet at home – a 3.8 percentage point (5.5 percent) increase over the July 2011 figure.⁸

Substantive progress has been made on each of the strategies identified in the action plan, summarized below:

1. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

BTOP recipients have drawn over \$3 billion and are in various stages of completion, including a significant majority of projects approaching their end date, complete, or formally closed out. The program continues to deliver significant benefits to communities across America, deploying more than 93,000 miles of broadband infrastructure and connecting to broadband more than 14,000 community anchor institutions such as schools, libraries, and hospitals. RUS recipients currently have over \$2.6 billion of construction completed or underway. In addition, 129 RUS projects are providing broadband service in their communities. Overall, more than 44,000

⁸ See <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/blog/2013/household-broadband-adoption-climbs-724-percent>

miles of fiber facilities and 550 wireless access points have been installed providing new or improved broadband service to 106,000 customers through RUS.⁹ In June 2013, NTIA released an updated online tool to visualize the broadband networks, public computer centers and Internet training programs funded across the country through BTOP.¹⁰ In addition, NTIA released a Broadband Adoption Toolkit in May 2013 building upon and sharing the lessons learned from BTOP-funded adoption and digital literacy projects that will give local officials and civic leaders a foundation to develop broadband adoption strategies for their communities.¹¹

2. *Presidential Memoranda: Spectrum*

NTIA continues to collaborate with the FCC and other agencies to identify spectrum that can be repurposed from existing use to be made available for commercial wireless broadband use:

- 1695-1710 MHz: In 2010, NTIA led an interagency “fast track” evaluation of certain bands that could be reallocated without requiring relocation of federal systems and recommended reallocating 115 megahertz in the 1695-1710 MHz and 3550-3650 MHz bands for wireless broadband use on a shared basis. As directed by Congress, NTIA submitted a report to the President in February 2013 identifying the 1695-1710 MHz band for reallocation. The FCC has notified NTIA that it plans to auction licenses in the 1695-1710 MHz band as early as September 2014.
- 3550-3650 MHz: In its “fast track” report, NTIA also identified the 3550-3650 MHz band for reallocation, and in December 2012, the FCC commenced a rulemaking on the band, proposing the use of new and innovative spectrum sharing technologies including low-power, small-cell deployments controlled by geo-location databases to protect critical federal radar and satellite operations in the band. The FCC proposal is based on a recommendation made by the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology in its July 2012 report, *Realizing the Full Potential of Government-Held Spectrum to Spur Economic Growth*. NTIA is working with FCC and DOD to ensure that implementation of small cell technology ensures the protection of DOD radar operations.
- 1755-1850 MHz: In a report to the President in March 2012, NTIA determined that 95 megahertz in the 1755-1850 MHz band could be repurposed for wireless broadband use once certain critical challenges are overcome. Five working groups comprised of industry and government stakeholders, under the auspices of NTIA’s Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory committee, continue to work to identify opportunities to share spectrum in the 1695-1710 MHz and 1755-1850 MHz bands to reduce repurposing costs, while maximizing the value of the spectrum to the economy. The FCC has notified NTIA that it plans to auction licenses in the 1755-1780 MHz band as early as September 2014. Also, the Department of Defense (DoD) continues to work

⁹ Progress reports, Congressional testimony, and additional information on these programs, including NTIA’s most recent quarterly report to Congress, are available at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/utp_bip.html and <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>.

¹⁰ See <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/blog/2013/mapping-ntias-broadband-investments>

¹¹ See <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/ntia-broadband-adoption-toolkit-shares-best-practices-across-us>

with industry to measure spectrum use of frequencies currently assigned to DOD to identify sharing opportunities.

- AWS-4: In December 2012, the FCC completed, a rulemaking which adopted flexible use rules for 40 MHz of spectrum in the 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz band, also referred to as the AWS-4 band, to allow for flexible wireless uses, including mobile broadband use. The FCC coordinated this rulemaking with NTIA.
- 5 GHz: In January 2013, NTIA published the results of studies on the potential use of up to 195 megahertz by unlicensed broadband devices in the 5350-5470 MHz band and the 5850-5925 MHz band. In February 2013, the FCC commenced a rulemaking that proposes to modify its rules to provide unlicensed devices access to the 5 GHz band.
- 2013 Presidential Memorandum: In June 2013, President Obama issued a Presidential Memorandum that builds on the Administration's previous commitment to make additional spectrum available for wireless broadband by directing Federal agencies to enhance the efficiency of their use of spectrum and make more capacity available. The Memo directs agencies to increase their collaboration and data-sharing with the private sector to enable greater sharing of spectrum. It calls upon Federal agencies to increase public-private research and development activities, emphasize spectrum efficiency in government system procurements and spectrum assignments, and improve the accuracy and scope of their reporting on spectrum usage.¹² It also outlines various additional requirements and recommendations for agencies. Building on this Memo, in June 2013, NTIA and NIST announced plans to establish a new Center for Advanced Communications to promote interdisciplinary research, development and testing in radio frequency technology and spectrum sharing for public safety and commercial broadband applications.¹³

Additional detailed information on these activities, including June 2013 NTIA Congressional testimony on federal spectrum use, is available at

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/spectrum-management>.

3. *Universal Service Fund*

Following the May 2012 release of the competitive bidding procedures for the first phase of the Mobility Fund that will make funding available for wireless broadband through USF, the Commission held an auction in September 2012 to award \$300 million to companies for the deployment of broadband networks in underserved and rural areas covering more than 83,000 road miles located in 31 states and one territory. In March 2013, the FCC announced the Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I auction would take place to make available up to \$50 million in one-time support to deploy mobile voice and broadband services to unserved Tribal lands. Also in 2012, the FCC announced that another \$115 million was awarded under Phase I of the Connect America Fund, which should result in an estimated additional 400,000 residents and small businesses in 37 states gaining access to high-speed Internet within three years. In May 2013,

¹² See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/06/14/administration-advances-wireless-spectrum-economic-growth>

¹³ See <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/nist-and-ntia-announce-plans-establish-new-center-advanced-communications>

the Commission allocated up to an additional \$485 million for a second round of the Phase I Connect America funding to make broadband available to Americans who lack access.¹⁴

4. Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012

Following the enactment of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, NTIA, FirstNet, and the FCC took a number of important steps towards the design, deployment and funding of a nationwide wireless broadband network for the nation's first responders. For FirstNet, this included the appointment of 12 non-permanent Board members, convening multiple Board meetings, seeking public comments on a conceptual network architecture, announcing the Public Safety Advisory Committee, and charting a path forward for the seven BTOP public safety projects that plan to deploy wireless broadband public safety systems in their jurisdictions. In May 2013, FirstNet initiated a series of consultations with states, tribes, territories and localities, including six regional workshops throughout the Nation, to solicit input in the design and deployment of the public safety network. FirstNet also continued working closely with recipients of BTOP public safety grants to identify a path forward; recruited interested individuals to serve on the FirstNet Board; and conducted market research.¹⁵ In addition, NTIA continued evaluating applications for State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) funding that will assist state and tribal governments to plan for the network. In its effort to raise funding for FirstNet and for the U.S. Treasury, as well as increase the availability of mobile wireless broadband, the FCC continued its efforts to develop rules for the incentive auctions of broadcast television spectrum, the first such auction ever attempted anywhere in the world. In September 2012, the FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on its proposed rules for the incentive auctions and is working to finalize rules as quickly as possible. In March 2013, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on proposed initial technical service rules for the Public Safety Broadband Network, and on other proposals to facilitate the transition of existing public safety broadband spectrum to FirstNet. The FCC has also taken significant steps toward meeting Congress's directive to license 65 MHz of spectrum by February 2015. In June 2013, the FCC adopted final rules for the H Block, a ten megahertz block of spectrum, which will allow an auction to be scheduled in time to meet the February 2015 licensing deadline.

5. Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment

The June 2012 Executive Order established a Working Group to streamline the process by which broadband providers can seek to install broadband infrastructure on Federal property and Tribal lands, particularly in underserved communities. In 2012, the Working Group finalized a charter to outline its mission, organization, meeting frequency, and focus areas, and at its October 2012 meeting, further refined its approach and segmented its work into five distinct issue areas: Federal Buildings, Federal Lands, Environmental Compliance, Tribal Lands, and "Dig Once" policies. From November 2012 to April 2013, the Working Group hosted workshops on each of these topics to gather information and develop recommended actions, including a December 2012 Industry Day event to solicit input from wireline and wireless

¹⁴ See <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/connecting-america>

¹⁵ See <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/firstnet>

companies, equipment vendors, a communications tower company, and rural service providers and to identify challenges with Federal agency review and application processes. In March 2013, the Working Group submitted an Interim Report to the Working Group Chairs and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on the Working Group's progress to date. Specifically, the Interim Report describes the Working Group's approach, identifies challenges, and explores initial findings and recommendations resulting from its activities over the past year. The Working Group is finalizing the Progress Report, which outlines seven key accomplishments made to date in implementing the Executive Order.

Key Measures

Measure 1: Percent of population with broadband access (defined as download speeds >6 Mbps) via wireless technology (Target: 98% by 2016)

Measure 2: Percent of population with broadband access (defined as download speeds >6 Mbps) access via any technology

Timeframe	CY2010	CY2011	CY2012		CY2013	
	As of 12/31/10	As of 12/31/11	As of 6/30/12	As of 12/31/12	As of 6/30/13	As of 12/31/123
Access via Wireless Technology	62%	79%	81%	90%	--	--
Access Via Any Technology	93%	95%	96%	98%	--	--

Note: Due to reporting processes, these data lag by six to eight months

Supporting Measure:

Department of Commerce Agency Priority Goal: Number of miles of broadband infrastructure deployed or upgraded under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Target (end of FY13): 100,000 miles

To learn more see the DOC Priority Goal:

http://goals.performance.gov/goal_detail/DOC/337

In addition, other contextual indicators may include the number of community anchor institutions adopting broadband (*e.g.* libraries, K-12 schools, etc.), as measured by the National Broadband Map.

Milestones Accomplished to Date

Recent agency progress and accomplishments for the quarter ending June 30, 2013 include the following:

1. *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*

- Deployed more than 93,000 miles of new or upgraded broadband networks across the United States through BTOP grants
- Connected more than 14,000 community anchor institutions to broadband through BTOP grants
- Provided new or improved broadband service to more than 104,000 premises through USDA BIP grants/loans
- Deployed approximately 47,000 miles of fiber and installed more than 600 wireless access points through USDA BIP grants/loans
- Released Broadband Adoption Toolkit (NTIA, May 2013)
- Delivered latest quarterly BTOP program status report to Congress (NTIA, June 2013)
- Released updated Connecting America's Communities Map of BTOP investments (NTIA, June 2013)
- Launched Broadband Briefs report series to analyze and highlight progress in broadband deployment (NTIA)
- Published status report on Broadband Initiatives Program (RUS, April 2013)

2. *Presidential Memoranda: Spectrum*

- Notified agencies of plan to auction licenses in the 1695-1710 MHz and 1755-1780 MHz band (FCC, March 2013)
- Issued Sixth Annual Progress Report on the Relocation of Federal Radio Systems from the 1710-1755 MHz Spectrum Band (April 2013)
- Revised NTIA Manual regarding federal agency transition plans (NTIA, May 2013)
- Released Presidential Memorandum: Expanding America's Leadership in Wireless Innovation (White House, June 2013)
- Conducted latest CSMAC Meeting and released Working Group status reports (NTIA, June 2013)
- Testified before House Energy & Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology on federal spectrum use (NTIA, June 2013)
- Announced plans to establish new Center for Advanced Communications (NIST, NTIA, June 2013)

3. *Universal Service Fund*

- Awarded \$115 million through the first round of Phase I of the Connect America Fund (FCC, July 2012)
- Awarded nearly \$300 million in one-time support through Mobility Fund Phase I (FCC, September 2012)

- Announced Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I auction to award \$50 million in one-time support to Tribal lands that lack mobile voice and broadband services. (FCC, March 2013)
- Announced up to \$485 million available through a second round of Phase I of the Connect America Fund (FCC, May 2013)
- Unveiled ConnectED initiative to modernize E-Rate program (White House, June 2013)

4. *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act*

- Conducted FirstNet Board meetings (June 27, June 4, May 8, April 23)
- Initiated consultations with states, tribes, territories and localities, including 6 regional workshops throughout U.S. (FirstNet, May 2013)
- Continued negotiations with seven BTOP public safety grant recipients on spectrum lease (FirstNet)
- Approved spectrum lease agreement with BTOP grant recipient Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (FirstNet, June 2013)
- Announced recruitment of FirstNet Board Members (FirstNet, June 2013)
- Adopted final service rules to make available ten megahertz of spectrum in the H Block (1915-1920/1995-2000 MHz) for wireless broadband (FCC, June 2013).
- Released Requests for Information for radio access network and core network (FirstNet, June 2013, ongoing)
- Continued review of State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) applications (NTIA)

5. *Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment*

- Conducted eight workshops, including Industry Day, to solicit input on and develop coordinated strategy for accelerating broadband on Federal and tribal lands (2012 and 2013)
- Delivered Interim Report on coordinated strategy (March 2013)
- Continued collaborating among agencies within issue areas to identify solutions
- Drafted Progress Report detailing seven key accomplishments over the past year
- Coordinated among Working Group members to implement inter-agency comments to Progress Report

Upcoming Milestones for Next Quarter

Agencies plan to accomplish the following by September 30, 2013:

1. *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*

- Exceed 100,000 miles of broadband networks deployed through BTOP grants
- Reach 18,000 community anchor institutions connected with new or upgraded broadband service through BTOP grants
- Update National Broadband Map with latest data as of December 31, 2012
- Deliver next quarterly BTOP program status report to Congress

- Update Broadband Initiatives Program status report

2. *Presidential Memoranda: Spectrum*

- Issue memorandum to federal agencies preparing transition plans for 1695-1710 MHz and 1755-1780 MHz bands (NTIA, July 2013)
- CSMAC Working Groups submit final recommendations regarding relocation and sharing in the 1755-1850 MHz and 1695-1710 MHz bands (July 2013)
- Issue NPRM proposing allocation, licensing, service, and, as necessary, sharing rules for several spectrum bands including 1695-1710 MHz, 1755-1780 MHz, 2020-2025 MHz, and 2155-2180 MHz (FCC, July 2013)
- Request public input on federal agency transition plans common format (NTIA, July 2013)
- Publish inventory and description of federal test facilities for spectrum sharing (NTIA, September 2013)

3. *Universal Service Fund*

- Initiate a thorough review and update of the E-Rate program, to focus on broadband needs of schools and libraries (FCC, July 2013)
- Receive funding requests for second round of Connect America Fund Phase I (FCC, August 2013)
- Adopt procedures for the Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I auction

4. *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act*

- Issue additional Requests for Information for radio access network and core network (FirstNet)
- Complete spectrum lease negotiations with seven BTOP public safety grantees (FirstNet)
- Award State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) grants (NTIA)
- Set schedule for auction of H Block (FCC, July 2013)

5. *Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment*

- Finalize, submit and publish Progress Report to Steering Committee on Federal Infrastructure Permitting and Review Process Improvement detailing progress accomplishments in seven priority areas
- Provide centralized broadband document inventory, priority broadband projects list, and aggregated Federal assets map on the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Permitting Dashboard
- Conduct additional Working Group meetings and workshops to ensure continued action in seven key areas as detailed in the Progress Report, including opportunities to streamline environmental and historic preservation requirements.

Longer-term Milestones

Beyond September 30, 2013, agencies plan to accomplish the following milestones:

1. *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*

- Continue completion and close-out of BTOP and BIP grants
- Deploy 110,000 miles of broadband networks through BTOP grants
- Connect 24,000 community anchor institutions with new or upgraded broadband service through BTOP grants
- Update National Broadband Map with June 30, 2013 data (NTIA, January 2014)

2. *Presidential Memoranda: Spectrum*

- Deliver fourth Interim Report on 500 MHz initiative including a plan directing agencies to provide quantitative assessments of spectrum usage (NTIA, December 2013)
- Establish plan for development of spectrum sharing policies, practices, and templates (NTIA, December 2013)
- Spectrum Policy Team to implement policies for sharing information with nonfederal parties (December 2013)
- Publish report on incentives for agencies to share or relinquish spectrum (Spectrum Policy Team, December 2013)
- Federal agencies submit transition plans for 1695-1710 MHz and 1755-1780 MHz bands (January 2014)
- Spectrum Policy Team to publish report on spectrum sharing (June 2014)
- Adopt service rules for auction of 1695-1710 MHz, 1755-1780 MHz, 2020-2025 MHz, 2155-2180 MHz, and possibly other bands (FCC, 2014)
- Design and conduct pilot program to monitor spectrum usage in real time (NTIA)

3. *Universal Service Fund*

- Conduct Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I auction to distribute \$50 million in one-time support for deployment of mobile broadband to unserved Tribal lands (FCC)
- Issue rules for Mobility Fund Phase II providing up to \$500 million per year in support, including \$100 million for Tribal areas (FCC)
- Award funding for second round of Phase I of the Connect America Fund (FCC, 2013)
- Issue rules for Remote Areas Fund providing at least \$100 million annually to ensure access to broadband service in the most remote areas of the United States (FCC, 2013)

4. *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act*

- Complete request for proposal (RFP) process for construction, operation, maintenance, and improvements of nationwide public safety network (FirstNet, 2014)
- Notify States of completion of RFP process, details of plan for buildout, and funding levels (FirstNet, 2014)
- Auction H Block Licenses (FCC, January 2014)

5. *Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment*

- Continue to update DOT's Federal Permitting Dashboard (e.g., inventory, projects, aggregated Federal Asset map) to facilitate broadband deployment
- Implement common Federal forms and templates to facilitate broadband deployment
- Explore options for online platforms to process common applications and forms and improve the accessibility of Federal broadband documentation
- Work with stakeholders to incorporate Dig-Once-related best practices and policies into broadband projects using highway rights-of-way
- Work with agencies to streamline environmental and historic preservation requirements
- Improve coordination with Tribal Nations for permitting and environmental reviews

Contributing Programs and Other Factors

Department of Commerce

- National Telecommunications and Information Administration
 - Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
 - State Broadband Initiative

Federal Communications Commission

- National Broadband Plan
- Universal Service Fund Reforms

Department of Agriculture

- Rural Utilities Service
 - Broadband Initiative Program
 - Rural Broadband Loan Program
 - Community Connect Grants
 - Rural Telecom Loan Program
 - Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

White House Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment

- Department of Defense
- Department of Interior
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Federal Communications Commission
- Council on Environmental Quality
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- National Security Staff

- Co-Chairs: Government Services Administration and Department of Homeland Security

Additional References

Federal Communications Commission

<http://www.fcc.gov/>

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

<http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>

State Broadband Initiative

<http://ntia.doc.gov/sbdd>

RUS Broadband Initiatives Program

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/utp_bip.html

Presidential Memorandum, Unleashing the Wireless Broadband Revolution

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-memorandum-unleashing-wireless-broadband-revolution>

Executive Order: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/06/14/executive-order-accelerating-broadband-infrastructure-deployment>

National Broadband Plan

www.broadband.gov/plan

National Broadband Map

www.broadbandmap.gov