

Table 5: Partners

Partners	Description of Current or Planned Role in Broadband Deployment and Adoption
Dakota Carrier Network (DCN)	NDIT has partnered with DCN since 2000 to execute on the goals outlined in the STAGEnet initiative. In the past decade, DCN and its owner companies have invested more than \$1.4 billion in fiber infrastructure. ⁶⁰
Broadband Association of North Dakota (BAND)	BAND is a trade organization representing both cooperative and commercial telephone companies, including the 15 owner companies in DCN, serving rural North Dakota. ⁶¹
North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT)	NDDOT supports the expansion of broadband infrastructure in North Dakota by effectively facilitating multiple broadband utility entities within state right-of-way while reducing repeated excavations. ⁶²
North Dakota Public Utilities Division	The Public Utilities Division implements the Commission's statutory responsibilities concerning the regulation of telecommunications service in North Dakota. This authority is evolving while the industry transitions to a competitive market structure. ⁶³
Technology Council of North Dakota (TechND)	TechND represents tech-related software developers, telecommunications companies, internet providers and content developers, systems integrators, educational institutions, State agencies and manufacturers across North Dakota. ⁶⁴
Valley Prosperity Partnership	The Valley Prosperity Partnership identifies and advocates for the continued investment in critical infrastructure development including broadband communication improvements for both North Dakota and Minnesota stakeholders. ⁶⁵

3.3 Asset Inventory

Hard and soft assets facilitate the provision of broadband coverage to individuals and businesses. This section provides an inventory of the assets related to:

- **[3.3.1 Broadband Deployment](#)** – Assets that are or can be utilized to deliver high-speed internet
- **[3.3.2 Broadband Adoption](#)** – Assets and/or programs that increase use of high-speed internet
- **[3.3.3 Broadband Affordability](#)** – Assets and/or programs that increase the affordability of high-speed internet

⁶⁰ Dakota Carrier Network (accessed on May 16, 2023), Government Technology Solution. Accessed at: <https://dakotacarrier.com/services/government/>.

⁶¹ Broadband Association of North Dakota (accessed June 5, 2023), Supporting Membership. Accessed at: <https://www.broadbandnd.com/our-members/supporting-membership/>.

⁶² North Dakota Department of Transportation (accessed on May 16, 2023), Broadband Utility Coordination. Accessed at: <https://www.dot.nd.gov/broadband.htm>.

⁶³ Public Service Commission (accessed on May 16, 2023), Jurisdiction: Telecommunications. Accessed at: <https://psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/telephone/index.php>.

⁶⁴ Technology Council of North Dakota (accessed on May 16, 2023), About us. Accessed at: <https://technd.org/>.

⁶⁵ Valley Prosperity Partnership (accessed on May 16, 2023), Our Priorities. Accessed at: <https://www.valleyprosperitypartnership.com/priorities>.