



implementation of broadband programs for the Commonwealth. They also provide assets, funding, resources and/or expertise critical to successful planning and implementation.

Table 6: List of Core Partners

Core Partners	Description
Governor /Lt. Governor Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides policy direction and leadership on programmatic priorities and deployment of resources.
Executive Office of Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prioritizes economic opportunity for residents, collaborative leadership in communities, and an environment that supports job creation and business growth.Recipient of BEAD funding. Contracts with MassTech/MBI for BEAD implementation.Monitors MBI activities for compliance with BEAD requirements.
Executive Office of Administration and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approves bond funds and shapes MBI's activitiesDevelops and executes cost-effective public policy initiatives and services that ensure the financial stability, efficiency, and effectiveness of state and local government.
Massachusetts Technology Collaborative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approves funding awards and shapes MBI's activitiesStrengthens the competitiveness of the tech and innovation economy by driving strategic investments, partnerships, and insights that harness the talent of Massachusetts.
Massachusetts Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides any necessary legislation towards BEAD and Digital Equity implementation.Provides guidance and leadership.

3.2.2 Government Partners

Government partners are those entities that are or will be the key to assisting with resources and/or expertise in relation to the program to achieve the program goals within the timeframe specified by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”). They also provide assistance in addressing potential obstacles and barriers identified in this document.

Government partners include organizations and associations that represent the following: local, county, city, and regional government; state agencies, and other similar organizations.

Table 7: List of Government Partners

Government Partners	Description
Cities and Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Offers useful perspectives on the diverse connectivity requirements of the various cities and communities within the state.
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide valuable insights into the connectivity needs of Massachusetts's many and varied communities



Government Partners	Description
<u>Executive Office of Elder Affairs</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EOEA is dedicated to ensuring older adults and their caregivers within the Commonwealth have the resources they need to live and thrive in the community of their choice.
<u>Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EOHLC is committed to increasing housing availability and affordability in all regions, including funding distribution to municipalities, overseeing state-aided public housing, and operating the state's EA family shelter.
<u>Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides support and coordination with regarding to environmental permitting
<u>Department of Elementary and Secondary</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Represents technology and broadband interests on behalf of elementary and secondary schools across the Commonwealth, including the use of E-rate funding.
<u>Executive Office of Education</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Plays an important role in accessing covered and vulnerable populations through local schools.Possesses experience with the federal programs such as the E-rate, which provides a reduction on internet connection services for schools and libraries.
<u>Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regulates telecommunications and cable industries following all regulatory and statutory requirements imposed by the federal government and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
<u>Executive Office of Health and Human Services</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Seeks to promote health, resilience, and independence of the residents served, including how technology and broadband can increase services and access to healthcare
<u>Executive Office of Technology Services and Security</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides secure and quality digital information, services, and tools to customers and constituents when and where they need them.
MassDevelopment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MassDevelopment specializes in financing tools (development funds, tax-exempt bonds, loans and guarantees), real estate services (planning permitting, and development), and key initiatives (i.e., defense sector, gateway cities, and manufacturing industry).
<u>Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manages the Commonwealth's workforce development and labor departments to ensure that workers, employers, and the unemployed have the tools and training needed to succeed.



Government Partners	Description
MassHire Department of Career Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Works with MBI and others to ensure job seekers are provided information and opportunities to the necessary technology devices and internet access for "getting people back to work".
City of Boston Department of Innovation and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MBI Digital Equity Partner.
Tribal Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Represents the needs of the state's tribes given that they may have unique challenges that can be addressed through the BEAD and Digital Equity programs.
Massachusetts Department of Correction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Facilitates collaboration with the targeted populations to identify their digital needs and develop potential future workforce accordingly.
Massachusetts Department of Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides supports in terms of right of way access and the necessary permitting.
Department of Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Can provide insights into data related to covered populations.

3.2.3 Enabling Partners

Enabling partners include a variety of community organizations that represent the end-customer and have a stake in the successful implementation of BEAD. Enabling partners will provide implementation support and participate in state and regional planning sessions and working group meetings to provide feedback. Enabling partners may also represent potential Program subrecipients such as broadband service providers.

Table 8: List of Enabling Partners

Enabling Partners	Description
Internet Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Deploy new broadband networks to unserved and underserved populations; more detailed listing of the internet service providers is in Appendix A: Broadband Providers.
Covered Population Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides MBI with information and context for addressing the covered populations they serve
Community Anchor Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides critical services to their communities
Workforce Development Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensures that Massachusetts has a well-trained workforce (unions, educational entities, trade associations, etc.) that can use information



Enabling Partners	Description
	and communications technology to guarantee the timely deployment of broadband infrastructure in the short term and to grow Massachusetts's economy into the future.
New England Connectivity and Telecommunications Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A nonprofit industry association representing internet service providers, television providers, and content creators across New England, including Massachusetts.
Massachusetts Municipal Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MMA serves as the voice of the 351 cities and towns across Massachusetts in the areas of energy and the environment, fiscal affairs, municipal and regional administration, personnel and labor relations, and public works, transportation and public utilities.
Healthcare Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including Baystate Health/Alliance for Digital Equity, Vinfen (on behalf of Human Services Alliance for Digital Equity), and Mass Health Aging Coalition as MBI Digital Equity Partners.
Workforce Investment Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workforce Investment Boards support worker training programs and job placement services.• Including MetroNorth Workforce Investment Board as a MBI Digital Equity Partner.
Regional Planning Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RPAs promote smart growth and regional collaboration as stewards of strategic development and planning.• Including Metropolitan Area Planning Council as a MBI Digital Equity Partner.
Non-Profit Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including Tech Goes Home, Incorporated as a MBI Digital Equity Partner.
Higher Education Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including University of Massachusetts Lowell as a MBI Digital Equity Partners.

3.3 Asset Inventory

As the BEAD program launches in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, MBI seeks to achieve universal broadband access in the state, however MBI does not have to start from a blank slate. For many years, extensive efforts have been underway to close the digital divide in the Commonwealth. MBI is prepared and ready to utilize BEAD funding to continue closing the digital divide. Over the last several years, MBI has developed many assets, that the state can leverage, including both "hard" assets, such as physical infrastructure, and "soft" assets, such as institutions, organizations, and the habits of the population.

Several pieces of legislation, both at the federal level and within the Commonwealth, have enabled MBI to develop a comprehensive program to bolster investments in broadband infrastructure and digital equity. Please refer to Section 3 for more details on these funding authorizations and programmatic activities.