

# APPENDIX A – STATUS OF MILESTONES REPORT ACTIONS

*This Appendix includes an update on all action items contained in Appendices A and B of the Milestones Report published in February 2019, depicted as “Item No.” If the action item was included in the body of the report, it will be indicated as “Page No.”*

<b>Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream</b> <i>Streamlining Agency permitting processes and driving toward consistent, investment-friendly policies to spur greater deployment</i>				
ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	<b>DOI and DHS</b> (as workstream leads)	<b>Conduct Survey of Federal Permitting Processes:</b> develop, issue, and complete analysis of a cross-Agency survey regarding the processes and statutes affecting telecommunications permitting on Federal property.	Completed: September 2018	The workstream conducted a data call survey. (see Appendix B1)
2	<b>USDA</b>	<b>Streamline USDA Broadband Project Reviews:</b> USDA’s Rural Development (RD) will issue program guidance to further streamline broadband project reviews while maintaining compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.	Completed: November 2018	USDA published <a href="#">environmental guidance</a> and <a href="#">policies and procedures</a>
3	<b>NTIA</b>	<b>Publish Permitting Flow-Charts</b> NTIA will publish flow-charts reflecting current permitting workflows for most common asset types on the BroadbandUSA website. This will include land managed by DOI’s Bureau of Land Management, buildings managed by GSA, and towers owned or managed by DOI.	Target: March 2019  Completed: March 2019	The overview is available on BroadbandUSA’s <a href="#">website</a> .

## Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
4	<b>GSA</b>	<p><b>Develop Common Application Form and Produce Metrics on Use:</b> In accordance with Executive Order 13821, "Streamlining and Expediting Requests to Locate Broadband Facilities in Rural America," GSA is leading efforts to revise the current SF-299 Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands to expand its use to include wired and wireless antenna installation, thereby enhancing the usefulness of the form. All land managing Agencies will provide GSA with quarterly reports on permitting applications, including the number of applications received, the number approved, the number rejected, the basis for any rejection, and the number of working days each application was pending before being approved or rejected.</p>	<p>Target: March 2019</p> <p>Completed: February 2020</p>	<p>Common Form/SF-299: Public comments were solicited through <a href="#">publication</a> in the <i>Federal Register</i>. The SF-299 is now the common application form used by all Federal Agencies for broadband permitting.</p> <p>The form can be accessed on the U.S. Forest Service <a href="#">website</a> and NTIA's BroadbandUSA <a href="#">website</a>.</p>
5	<b>CEQ</b>	<p><b>Streamline Environmental Reviews:</b> In consultation with OMB, the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (Permitting Council) and other Federal Agencies, CEQ will finalize a "One Federal Decision Process" to coordinate the environmental review of major infrastructure projects.</p>	<p>Target: June 2019</p> <p>Initial action completed in March 2018; work is on-going</p>	<p>OMB and CEQ implemented the "<a href="#">One Federal Decision</a>" framework in March 2018.</p> <p>Additional NEPA modernization efforts <a href="#">continue</a>.</p>
6	<b>USDA, DOI, DoD, DHS, DOT, GSA, FCC, DOC</b>	<p><b>Based on Cross-Agency Survey, Complete Internal Process Analysis and Identify Potential Changes to Processes, Fees, Regulations, and Rules:</b> Begin implementation of process changes that do not require statutory fixes.</p>	<p>Target: August 2019</p> <p>Initial analysis completed; work is on-going</p>	<p>The workstream prepared an analysis (see Appendix B2) and supported the development of the SF-299 as a "common form."</p>

## Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
7	<b>NTIA (lead)</b> , in collaboration with DOI, USDA, DoD, DOT, GSA, OMB	<b>Develop workplan and milestones for Agency implementation of broadband permitting reforms</b> (per MOBILE NOW statute)	Target: October 2019  Completed: August 2019	NTIA completed an internal workplan and associated milestones to guide the Agencies' implementation of the broadband permitting reforms called for in the MOBILE NOW Act.
8	<b>DoD</b>	<b>Streamline permitting on DoD lands:</b> DoD will streamline its permitting processes to identify potential real property assets and standardize best DoD business processes across all Military Departments to ensure a targeted 270 day standard for industry-installation engagements. The process will result in revised permitting standards and issuance of guidance.	Target: November 2019  Completed: March 2020	DoD successfully completed its major task by directing streamlined commercial broadband permitting by all DoD Components, including the Military Departments (MILDEPs) of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.
9	<b>NTIA</b>	<b>Create One-Stop for Broadband Permitting Information to minimize Government hurdles in permitting.</b> Agencies will convey process and fee information to NTIA for display on the BroadbandUSA website.	Target: January 2020  Completed: January 2020; further updates in progress	By July 2020, NTIA will update its <a href="#">website</a> to include information about Agency fees associated with permitting infrastructure on Federal lands, add information about the Department of Energy permitting processes, and highlight permitting process improvements made by the Department of Defense.

## Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
10	<b>NTIA (lead)</b> , in collaboration with DOI, USDA, DoD, DOT, GSA, OMB	Develop Recommendations to Streamline Application Processes (per MOBILE NOW statute)	Target: March 2020  Completed: March 2020	
11	<b>NTIA (lead)</b> , in collaboration with DOI, USDA, DoD, DOT, GSA, OMB	Monitor Implementation and Assess Effectiveness of Recommended Actions to Streamline Application Processes. (per MOBILE NOW statute)	Target: March 2021  Status: In progress	
Page 17	<b>DOI</b>	<b>Streamline Application Processing on DOI/BLM lands:</b> The BLM will publish a proposed rule updating and streamlining the application process regulations. The proposed rule would establish new customer service standards, establish a standard authorization period, simplify cost recovery for larger scale projects, and allow for automatic renewals and assignments for existing authorizations.	Target: February 2019  Status: In progress. Action anticipated summer 2020	DOI's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and USDA's Forest Service (FS) have been working out differences between the two Agencies' rules, in light of a USDA <a href="#">rulemaking</a> initiated in September 2019. BLM is adding language to address the Section 512 amendment to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). Proposed rule publication is projected for summer 2020.

## Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
Page 17	<b>DOI and DHS (as co-chairs)</b>	<p><b>Ensure Fee Transparency and Consistency:</b> Where possible, Agencies will harmonize or standardize fees associated with telecommunications facilities permitting. Agencies will identify actions needed to retain collected fees to improve the Federal permitting process and will improve transparency by making fee and process information available on Agency websites.</p>	<p>Target: summer 2019</p> <p>Status: In progress. Internal analysis completed by summer 2019; further action pending</p>	<p>The workstream members analyzed their Agency’s regulations and policies governing the calculation of cost recovery and rental fees to identify the methodologies that affect valuation of the easement/rights-of-way, and the source of those policies (statutory or otherwise). The workstream presented its findings to OMB and the ABI Executive Leadership Team (see Appendix C), and is considering options for bringing more predictability to fee determinations by using rental schedules rather than appraisals.</p>

## Leverage Federal Assets Workstream

*Identifying Federal assets and making them available to the private sector to deploy broadband in an easier and more cost-effective manner*

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	<b>DOI and GSA</b> (as workstream leads)	<b>Conduct Cross-Agency Survey of Potential Assets for Telecommunications:</b> The workstream will issue and Agencies will complete a cross-Agency survey of assets managed by DOI, DoD, GSA, USDA, NASA, VA, and DOE to identify additional asset classes that could be leveraged to further support telecommunications networks.	Completed: September 2018	The cross-Agency survey and results are contained in the Appendix of the Recommendations Report, delivered to the Executive Office of the President in March 2020. (See Appendix D)
2	<b>GSA</b>	<b>Augment JOEL Map With Additional Federal Data:</b> GSA will provide published public data set from the FRPP management system to DOI for integration into JOEL map.	Completed: November 2018	<a href="#">Link</a> to DOI's JOEL Map
3	<b>DOI</b>	<b>Publish Map of DOI Towers Available for Commercial Use:</b> DOI will publish a new mapping tool – the Joint Overview - Established Locations (JOEL) map – with over 7,000 tower site locations included.	Target: February 2019  Completed: February 2019	<a href="#">Link</a> to DOI's JOEL Map
4	<b>DOI</b>	<b>Best Practices for Asset Inventory Mapping:</b> DOI will develop and share best practices on asset inventory mapping and management with workstream members to encourage use of JOEL platform.	Target: March 2019  Status: In progress	<a href="#">Link</a> to DOI's JOEL map

## Leverage Federal Assets Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
5	<b>GSA</b>	<p><b>GSA Will Publish MOBILE NOW Asset Inventories:</b> By April 2019, GSA will publish the information that Agencies will report to the FRPP database in January 2019, in accordance with the MOBILE NOW Act. This will provide greater visibility to those assets so that service providers can better ascertain their capability for telecommunications uses.</p>	<p>Target: April 2019</p> <p>Completed: June 2019</p>	<p>FRPP public data set <a href="#">link</a></p> <p>FRPP Map <a href="#">link</a></p>
6	<b>DOI</b>	<p><b>Develop Mechanism to Provide Interagency Content to DOI Map:</b> DOI will develop a mechanism to allow other Agencies to provide updates to the DOI map.</p>	<p>Target: June 2019</p> <p>Status: In progress</p>	<p><a href="#">Link</a> to DOI's JOEL Map</p>
7	<b>DOI and GSA</b> (as workstream co-chairs)	<p><b>Finalize Inventory and Issue Recommendations to Create a Standardized Process and Increase Access to Federal Assets:</b> The inventory will include asset type, geo-location, owner, and links to processes for gaining authorization. This cross-Agency effort will expand the available inventory and information on Federal assets that are potentially available for public and/or commercial use to support broadband deployment. The workstream will also recommend rule, regulation, and/or policy changes that facilitate increased private use of Federal assets for telecommunications.</p>	<p>Target: August 2019</p> <p>Completed: March 2020</p>	<p>The Recommendations Report was delivered to Executive Office of the President in March 2020. (See Appendix D)</p> <p>The GSA GIS Center for Excellence added data layers for public lands and U.S. Postal Service properties to the FRPP map.</p> <p>FRPP Map <a href="#">link</a></p>

## Leverage Federal Assets Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
8	DOE	<p><b>Assess Viability of Leasing DOE Dark Fiber:</b> By April 2019, the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Southwestern Area Power Administration (SWPA) in consultation with the Department of Energy Office of Electricity, will complete a feasibility assessment plan to determine if WAPA and SWPA excess fiber can be leased to their customers and broadband service providers. By December 2019, WAPA and SWPA will complete the feasibility assessment.</p>	<p>Target: December 2019</p> <p>Status: In progress</p>	DOE is working with OMB to finalize the aggregated feasibility assessment report, which was sent to the White House on February 14, 2020..
Page 21	DOI	<p><b>Establish a workstream subgroup to expand data availability on the JOEL portal:</b> DOI will oversee an evolving process that will shape the data provided to the private sector to ensure pertinent Federal data is provided in a timely manner to assist with broadband deployment.</p>	<p>Status: In progress</p>	<a href="#">Link</a> to DOI's JOEL map



**Federal Funding Workstream**  
*Maximizing the impact of Federal broadband funds through  
interagency coordination and policy changes*

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	USDA	<p><b>Establish Goals and Performance Measures for Rural Utilities Service Broadband Programs:</b> USDA has established concrete goals across RUS infrastructure programs that reflect the role of the Federal Government in facilitating private investment in broadband infrastructure. By December 2018, the Agency will assess its current evaluation methods to determine additional performance metrics to align to its program goals. These new goals and metrics will ensure that Federal funds provide the greatest possible benefit to taxpayers and rural communities.</p>	<p>Completed: December 2018</p>	
2	VA	<p><b>Launch Pilot Program to Deliver Rural Telehealth to Veterans:</b> The Department of Veterans Affairs’ Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is working with Microsoft to pilot new technology that delivers broadband Internet access to more rural places. There are now 12 pilot sites in rural areas across the United States. VHA is preparing rural veteran distribution maps to allow targeting of rural veteran populations.</p>	<p>Target: December 2018</p> <p>Status: Initial agreement completed and signed April 2019; work is on- going</p>	<p>The pilot will target counties with large concentrations of Veterans with limited broadband access. Digital skills training to be offered in <a href="#">Airband partner locations</a> when improved connectivity established.</p>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
3	VA	<p><b>New Partnerships to Promote Broadband Access for Veterans:</b> The VA will lead efforts to create partnerships with Federal Agencies, philanthropic organizations, the FCC, and the private sector to expand broadband access and adoption for veterans. VA will host a telehealth summit to broaden veteran Internet access and announce partnership commitments.</p>	<p>Target: December 2018</p> <p>Status: Initial partnerships announced December 2018; work is ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">Announced</a></p>
4	NTIA	<p><b>Begin Data Acquisition and Platform Development:</b> NTIA will begin to acquire the mapping platform, technologies, and geospatial services for the broadband availability map.</p>	<p>Target: February 2019</p> <p>Completed: February 2019</p>	
5	USDA and NTIA (as workstream co-chairs)	<p><b>Complete Cross-Agency Review of Funding Programs, Rules, and Processes:</b> The Federal Funding Workstream will develop, issue, and complete an analysis of broadband funding sources including: funding parameters, program coordination options, and other statutory and regulatory requirements. The workstream will use the information to develop policy recommendations to better target Federal awards and communicate program details to the public and private sectors.</p>	<p>Target: March 2019</p> <p>Completed: March 2019</p>	<p>The analysis was delivered to the Executive Office of the President. (See Appendix E)</p>
6	NTIA	<p><b>NTIA Will Update Website with Latest Federal Funding Information:</b> NTIA will update the BroadbandUSA website to represent the latest information on broadband funding, as provided by Agencies through the Federal Funding Workstream survey.</p>	<p>Target: March 2019</p> <p>Completed: March 2019</p>	<p>Completed March 2019; <a href="#">announced</a>. Further updates <a href="#">completed</a> in April 2020.</p>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
7	<b>Delta Regional Authority (DRA)</b>	<p><b>Issue Broadband-Specific Funding for Delta Region:</b> This program will be designed to provide both technical assistance to local communities and actual broadband infrastructure deployment. When designing this program, DRA will look to partner with larger Federal partners to identify ways to collaborate and leverage additional dollars for broadband in the region.</p>	<p>Target: March 2019</p> <p>Completed: March 2019</p>	<p>DRA made broadband-specific funding a federal priority within its existing funding programs centered on basic public infrastructure and workforce development. This will allow broadband deployment to become a component of on-going efforts. Existing programs available on DRA <a href="#">site</a>.</p>
8	<b>USDA and NTIA</b> (as workstream co-chairs)	<p><b>Recommendations for Improved Program Consistency and Coordination:</b> By spring of 2019, the Federal Funding Workstream will complete its analysis and develop policy recommendations for improving cross-Agency coordination on broadband funding. Program changes and implementation will occur throughout 2019 and beyond.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: June 2019</p>	<p>The document was delivered to the Executive Office of the President. (See Appendix F)</p>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
9	USDA	<p><b>Launch USDA Grant and Loan Pilot:</b>                      Establish a responsive, customer-friendly rural broadband pilot program of loans and grants to expand rural broadband in underserved rural and Tribal areas with a population of 20,000 or less. Rural areas without current Internet service speeds of 10 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 1 Mbps upload at the household will be eligible to apply for the pilot program funds. This program will help build modern broadband infrastructure for as many rural American homes, businesses, farms, schools and health care facilities as possible – resulting in improved effectiveness of Federal funds. USDA expects to start accepting applications in the spring of 2019.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: April 2019</p>	<a href="#">Press Release</a>
10	USDA	<p><b>Launch New Application Platform and Systems:</b> By the Spring of FY 2019, USDA RD will complete a full assessment of customer-facing systems and launch new application and processing systems designed to improve responsiveness and customer support.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: May 2019</p>	<a href="#">Program Website</a>
11	DOI, IMLS and ED	<p>The DOI's BIA, IMLS and ED will work with Native American communities and other Federal Agencies to develop and convene a Tribal Broadband Summit.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: September 2019</p>	<a href="#">Summit website</a>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
12	FCC	<p><b>FCC Plan to Improve Broadband in Tribal Lands:</b> In conjunction with the Tribes, the FCC will submit a report evaluating broadband coverage in Indian country and on land held by a Native Corporation pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The FCC must complete rulemaking to address unserved areas identified in the report by September 2020.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: May 2019</p>	<p><a href="#">Report</a></p>
13	FCC	<p><b>FCC Report to Congress on Broadband Access for Veterans: FCC Report to Congress on Broadband Access for Veterans:</b> The FCC will prepare and submit a report to Congress to promote broadband Internet access for veterans, especially low-income veterans and veterans residing in rural areas.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2019</p> <p>Completed: May 2019</p>	<p><a href="#">Report</a></p>
14	NTIA	<p><b>Launch Pilot of Broadband Mapping Tool to Better Target Funding:</b> By September 2019, NTIA will introduce a broadband mapping tool that uses additional data sets, beyond the FCC 477 data.</p>	<p>Target: September 2019</p> <p>Initial action completed September 2019; work is on-going</p>	<p>Completed September 2019; initial <a href="#">announcement</a>. Additional updates available on NTIA <a href="#">site</a>.</p>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
15	NTIA	<p><b>Improve Coordination Between Federal and State Programs:</b> Through its work with the State Broadband Leaders Network (SBLN), NTIA facilitates coordination between State-level officials who support programs that promote broadband planning and deployment in unserved and underserved areas of their States. These State broadband leaders witness the need for increased coordination and information sharing with Federal funders. NTIA will convene discussions with State and Federal funding entities to identify opportunities for program alignment and coordination and will issue recommendations.</p>	<p>Target: September 2019</p> <p>Completed: September 2019</p>	<p>The memo was delivered to the Federal Funding workstream Co-Chairs and the Executive Office of the President. (See Appendix G)</p>
Page 29	USDA	<p><b>Distribute grants and loans through ReConnect program:</b> USDA expects to begin distribution of grants and loans beginning in the second half of 2019</p>	<p>Target: second half of 2019</p> <p>Completed: first awards announced October 2019</p>	<p><a href="#">ReConnect Awardees</a></p>
Page 30	USDA	<p><b>Establish Goals and Performance Measures for Rural Utilities Service Broadband Programs:</b> By December 2018, the Agency will assess its current evaluation methods to determine additional performance metrics to align to its program goals.</p>	<p>Target: December 2018</p> <p>Completed: December 2018</p>	<p><a href="#">Register Notice Link</a></p>

## Federal Funding Workstream

ITEM NO.	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
Page 30	FCC	<b>FCC Collaborative Plan to Improve Broadband in Tribal Lands:</b> The FCC will complete a rulemaking to address unserved areas identified in the report above by September 2020.	Target: September 2020  Completed: January 2020	<a href="#">Report and Order</a>

## Promoting Research and Innovation

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	NTIA	<p><b>New Data on Computer and Internet Use in America:</b> NTIA continues its longstanding Digital Nation research program with a new 2017 Computer and Internet Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey that gathered data on over 123,000 people living in 52,000 households across the country. Analysis and reports will be issued over the next 18 months.</p>	Completed: June 2018	<a href="#">NTIA Data Central</a>
2	NSF	<p><b>The NSF WINS Challenge Winners Announced:</b> NSF created and funded the NSF Wireless Innovation for a Networked Society (NSF WINS) Challenge to identify and prototype solutions that enhance wireless connectivity: (1) in communities affected by disasters where Internet access is compromised or (2) in communities that need greater access. Winners will be able to develop/license their design into full-fledged commercial offerings that will provide increased network resilience and reach. The <a href="#">WINS Challenges</a> are administered by the Mozilla Foundation.</p>	Completed: September 2018	<a href="#">WINS Challenges</a> are administered by the Mozilla Foundation.
3	NSF/NITRD	<p><b>NSF/NITRD Published New Research Resource Guide:</b> NSF/NITRD published a resource guide detailing broadband-related research and development programs across the Federal Government. NITRD is supporting this effort, which is an outgrowth of the multi-Agency National Broadband Research Agenda that was <a href="#">published</a> in January 2017.</p>	Completed: September 2018	NITRD <a href="#">resource page</a> for broadband



## Promoting Research and Innovation

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
4	NSF/NTIA	<p><b>Global Cities Team Challenge on Rural and Smart Ag:</b> The Smart Ag and Rural SuperCluster will host a workshop at Purdue University as part of the Global City Team Challenge (GCTC) to engage stakeholders from industry, governments, and nonprofits to create blueprints and best practices for smart cities and communities.</p>	Completed: September 2018	Workshop <a href="#">page</a>
5	Census	<p><b>Detailed ACS Data on Broadband Adoption:</b> The U.S. Census Bureau will release new American Community Survey (ACS) data on computer and Internet usage that will be statistically valid at the census block group and tract level.</p>	Target: December 2018  Completed: December 2018	<a href="#">Announced</a>
6	NSF	<p><b>NSF Ignites Internet Innovation:</b> Building on the success of the US Ignite program, in April 2019, NSF will support the US Ignite Application Summit and Smart and Connected Communities Principal Investigators’ Meeting co-located with Smart Cities Connect Conference and Expo in Denver, Colorado.</p>	Target: April 2019  Completed: April 2019	NSF has invested more than \$42 million in 52 projects over the last two years, resulting in dozens of new applications that are being put to use in local communities. Several of the NSF S&CC projects were showcased at the <a href="#">2019 US Ignite Application Summit</a> co-located with the Smart Cities Connect Conference and Expo in Denver, CO.

## Promoting Research and Innovation

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
7	NTIA	<b>Digital Nation 2019 Survey Released:</b> NTIA expected to release the 2019 computer and Internet Use Supplement, building on over 20 years of longitudinal data on consumer trends in technology and information use.	Target: November 2019  Survey administered November 2019; results expected spring 2020	The Census Bureau administered the NTIA Internet Use Survey as a supplement to its <a href="#">Current Population Survey</a> (CPS) in November 2019. NTIA expects survey results in spring 2020, and will <a href="#">publish and analyze</a> the data throughout the year.

## Improving Educational Outcomes

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	ED	<p><b>Promoting Broadband Access for Students:</b> ED will create an interagency working group and develop and test strategies to increase broadband access for students in and outside of school and complete collaborative technical assistance efforts by October 2019.</p>	<p>Target: October 2019</p> <p>Completed: October 2019</p>	<p>ED coordinates with Federal colleagues through the Digital Inclusion subgroup to share information and resources on relevant federal programs and engage in collaborative technical assistance efforts.</p>
2	ED	<p><b>Equity in Technology Access Questions Are Part of Civil Rights Data Collection for First Time:</b> In the Spring of 2020, the upcoming Civil Rights Data Collection survey will measure equity in technology access with new questions on access to computers and broadband.</p>	<p>Target: spring 2020</p> <p>Completed: spring 2020</p>	<p>The 2019-2020 Civil Rights Data Collection survey will measure equity in technology access with new questions on Internet and device access. The 2017-2018 CRDC Data Collection included optional questions regarding technology access. The 2019-2020 CRDC Data Collection will require these questions for the first time. The 2019-2020 CRDC data will be publicly released in spring 2022.</p>

## Stimulating Economic Development

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	DOL	<p><b>Clarifying Broadband Funding Eligibility Within DOL Programs:</b> DOL issued clarification stating that broadband is an eligible administrative expense within One Stops and Job Centers.</p>	<p>Completed: January 2017</p>	<p>DOL issued <a href="#">guidance</a> stating that infrastructure costs, including technology to facilitate access to American Job Centers (AJCs) (formerly called One-Stop Career Centers) are non-personnel costs, which are eligible expenses if they are necessary for the general operation of the AJC.</p>
2	DOL	<p><b>DOL Promotes Technology Use in Workforce System:</b> DOL will complete research to help better leverage Technology-based Learning to help clients improve job skills.</p>	<p>Target: October 2018</p> <p>Status: Anticipated Completion June 2020</p>	
3	USDA	<p><b>Evaluate the Economic Benefits of Broadband for Precision Agriculture:</b> USDA will publish a report on the role of high-speed Internet in precision agriculture applications. This report will use evidence-based methods and industry perspectives to provide USDA with guidance on infrastructure investment decisions and may point to what deeper research is needed.</p>	<p>Target: March 2019</p> <p>Completed: April 2019</p>	<p><a href="#">Announced</a></p>

## Improving Health Access and Outcomes

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	<b>USDA</b> (NIFA, RD)	<b>USDA Releases Opioid Resource Matrix and Prioritizes Support:</b> The Rural Opioid Subcommittee will develop a comprehensive opioid resource matrix of all Federal funds that directly and indirectly help rural communities to tackle the epidemic. In addition, USDA has prioritized this issue within the funding mechanisms for telehealth and telemedicine community investments.	Completed: October 2018	<a href="#">Resource guide</a>
2	<b>VA and HHS</b>	<b>Placing Shared Telehealth Equipment in FQHC to Serve Veterans:</b> The VA expects to announce new partnerships between VHA and HHS's Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) that will result in increased access to telehealth equipment in Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), bringing more services to veterans closer to where they live.	Target: December 2018  Status: In progress; work is on-going	The VA has had initial discussions with HRSA to identify FQHC locations to serve as ATLAS sites. It is anticipated that this will result in increased access to telehealth equipment in FQHCs bringing more services to veterans closer to where they live.
3	<b>FCC</b>	<b>Leveraging Broadband to Help Address the Opioid Crisis:</b> FCC has taken steps to expand the Connect2Health Mapping Broadband Health in America platform to include drug abuse/opioid statistics (in coordination with HHS) to help stakeholders better leverage broadband as a tool in fighting opioid misuse, addiction, and overdose. The initial effort included the development of a conceptual model for intersecting broadband and opioid data, and catalyzing broadband-enabled interventions in the opioid arena.	Target: May 2019  Conceptual model completed March 2019; mapping platform and data analytics expected spring 2020	

## Improving Health Access and Outcomes

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
4	FCC and HHS	<p><b>Bridging the Rural Healthcare Gap in Appalachia:</b> The National Cancer Institute (NCI), FCC, and Health Resources and Services Administration have joined forces with University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center, University of California San Diego and other stakeholders in a public-private partnership to help bridge the broadband health connectivity gap in Appalachia. This multi-phase demonstration project will study how increasing broadband access and adoption in rural areas can help address the burden of symptom management for rural cancer patients. Results from the collaboration will be made available and are expected to be published and widely disseminated, and used as the basis for an actionable model for leveraging broadband-enabled technologies in rural cancer control nationwide.</p>	<p>Target: June 2020</p> <p>Status: In progress</p>	<p><a href="#">FCC-NCI Senior Leadership Think Tank Report</a>, summer 2019</p> <p><a href="#">Barn-Raising on the Digital Frontier: The L.A.U.N.C.H. Collaborative</a>, January 2020</p>
5	HHS, FCC, USDA	<p><b>Agencies Collaborate to Improve Broadband at Rural Healthcare Facilities:</b> In 2019, HHS, FCC, and USDA will conduct meetings and workshops to encourage the adoption of telehealth services in rural communities and to promote the use of Federal programs that help to improve broadband connectivity. In October 2020, the Agencies will evaluate the number of the health care entities that have leveraged these programs.</p>	<p>Target: October 2020</p> <p>Status: In progress; work is on-going</p>	<p>C2HFCC keynoted five <a href="#">rural telehealth conferences</a> (covering 19 States)</p>

## Advancing Digital Inclusion and Equity

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
1	IMLS	<p><b>Digital Literacy Corps Promotes Access and Skills in Tribal and Rural Areas:</b> IMLS will lead efforts to develop a “Digital Literacy Corps” in five States, working with rural libraries and libraries of Native American and Alaska Natives to promote broadband access, test and explore connectivity options, and develop digital literacy skills. Best practices will be documented in reports, and toolkits will be issued by December 2018.</p>	<p>Target: December 2018</p> <p>Completed: December 2018</p>	<p>As part of the cooperative agreement with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Digital Inclusion Alliance created a <a href="#">Digital Inclusion Resource Library</a>, a community-driven materials hub, where practitioners, policy-makers, librarians and educators can submit their best documents and slides, distribute community broadband plans, localize curricula, and share best practices.</p>
2	FCC	<p><b>National Verifier for Lifeline Eligibility:</b> The FCC and USAC will complete the national rollout of a centralized system to determine Lifeline eligibility. The system will streamline and improve the Lifeline application and management process.</p>	<p>Target: December 2019</p> <p>Soft launch completed in all States and territories by December 2019; hard launch completed in all but eight States and one territory by December 2019; work is on-going</p>	<p>In November 2019, the FCC adopted a <a href="#">Report and Order</a> that took significant additional steps in the Commission’s continuing effort to improve the integrity, effectiveness, and efficiency of the Lifeline program.</p>

## Advancing Digital Inclusion and Equity

ITEM #	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ AGENCIES	AGENCY ACTION	STATUS	LINKS
3	HUD	<p><b>Connecting Thousands to Broadband Through Partnerships in HUD Housing:</b>                      Building on the successful launch of the ConnectHome program, HUD will add 35 more partner communities in 2018 with the goal of reaching 170 communities by 2020. ConnectHome uses a public-private partnership model that includes local city and town partners to bring computers and broadband to low-income households.</p>	<p>Target: December 2020</p> <p>Status: In progress</p>	<p><a href="#">ConnectHomeUSA</a> is a partnership between HUD and the nonprofit EveryoneOn, which works in collaboration with public-private stakeholders to offer free and low-cost internet, devices, and digital training to low-income households served by participating Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) and local government partners.</p> <p>To date, 87 communities have participated in the program. Thirteen new communities will be on-boarded in 2020, reaching a total of 100 by the end of the year.</p>