

Community Council Needs, Mission, Responsibilities, and Goals

Community Technology Needs Identified July 16, 2007

- o Make technology available to all consumers/Universal technology and Internet access—16
- o Direct, efficient link between job seekers and employers and other community information/ Connecting the Pieces/Coordinate access efforts among community engagements—11
- o Consolidate community resources to reduce duplication and overlap—9
- o Cell phone coverage—9
- o New generation workforce training for adults—8
- o Competitive business class broadband—6
- o People first—Get the people to drive the infrastructure—3
- o Soft skills development-1
- o Video conference sites

Revised Community Council Mission

The mission of the Council is to foster the collaborative, innovative, and effective use of technology through partnerships between public and private sectors to support community and economic development for Nebraska citizens.

Revised Community Council responsibilities:

- o Assist the Commission in developing, reviewing and updating the statewide technology plan.
- o Identify specific community information technology needs in Nebraska.
- o Develop strategies to address the unique circumstances of rural areas with sparse population.
- o Establish such subcommittees and task forces as necessary and appropriate to advise the Council on specific issues.

- Recommend policies, guidelines and standards that promote economic opportunities, innovation, and entrepreneurship to improve quality of life in communities through the use of information technology.
- Recommend policies and initiatives that promote awareness, access, training, partnerships, and planning for the use of information technology in communities.
- Review and make recommendations to the Commission on requests for funds from the Community Technology Fund.

Community Council Goals to be Reviewed

Nebraska will cultivate a political, regulatory and economic environment that is conducive to I.T. development and innovation by:

1. Ensuring access to public and private services for all citizens of the State of Nebraska (regardless of impediments such as location or socio-economic status) through the appropriate and efficient use of information technologies.
2. Promoting the development of an infrastructure (including sufficient bandwidth) that is secure, affordable, reliable, and responds to the specific needs of various sectors. Efforts should be made to ensure that systems established across the state are compatible.
3. Developing a workforce knowledgeable of and fluent in the use and application of information technology. Efforts should be made to promote the recruitment and retention of I.T. professionals within the state.
4. Facilitating I.T. development and innovation by raising awareness, encouraging collaboration and developing partnerships among and between public and private entities. In the private sector, facilitating interactions among firms and establishing synergistic clusters should be encouraged.

The Council agreed that the goals are equal in importance and should not be prioritized.

From the minutes of the Thursday, June 10, 1999, Community Council meeting