



Pennsylvania Stimulus Oversight Commission

Broadband Stimulus Update

October 30, 2009

Discussion Items

- Role of States
- Pennsylvania's Review Process
- Project Recommendations
- Coverage Maps – Recommended Projects

Role of States

- States had 20 days to review and prioritize projects:
 - Input was due to NTIA on October 14, 2009
 - 130 projects from PA
- What were the rules?
 - States were left to determine process and format – no NTIA guidance
 - States had to gather information they needed to make recommendations
 - NTIA did not provide any information beyond what was publicly viewable
- What happens with the recommendations?
 - State input not binding on NTIA
 - Only one element in the NTIA review process
 - ~ technical review
 - ~ peer panel reviews

PA's Process

- Self-Assessment by applicants
 - Explain how project meets needs and priorities of NOFA and State Broadband Plan
 - Select of predominant project purpose for "subject matter expert" review
 - 76 / 130 applicants supplied the requested materials
- Regional Partner (RP) reviews
 - 10 entities (7 Local Development Districts and 3 regional entities) assessed projects against regional needs and objectives
- Subject Matter Expert (SME) reviews
 - Input and perspectives from a variety of subject-matter area experts
 - Technical/Industry * Education * Public Safety * Health Care * Community & Social Services * Economic Development * Rural Perspectives * Local Government * Libraries * Regulatory
- Final review and prioritization by Commonwealth

** No other state seems to have engaged in a review that was as comprehensive and inclusive

▶ PA's Process

- Applicants were required to submit a **Self-Assessment Form**
- **Project Information**
 - Type of Application (Infrastructure, SA, PCC)
 - Proposed Geographic Area of Benefit (counties/communities/zips)
 - Project Partners
 - Predominant Focus / Subject Matter Area (education, health care, public safety, economic development, etc)
 - Budget Breakdown
- **Conformity With State Broadband Plan**
 - Discussion of how proposal aligns with priorities and recommendations discussed in State Broadband Plan
- **Investment Justification**
 - Discussion of how project serves needs and interests of PA; why does proposal deserve priority ranking?
- **Additional Questions**
 - Target audience, sustainability, etc

PA's Process

- SME review form – Infrastructure**

Infrastructure Project Review Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Project conforms with overall major goals in the state broadband plan					
Project improves local, county or regional broadband services in targeted underserved or unserved areas					
Project demonstrates evidence of community support, existence of partnerships and collaborations, linkages to anchor institutions					
Project demonstrates inclusion of multiple disciplines in the approach (e.g. economic development, education, health care, public safety, local government, etc)					
Project is expected to achieve high impact and benefit; proposal adequately discusses geographic reach, demographic considerations, and job creation					
Project can be sustained after grant funds are expended; sustainability addressed through identification of end users and demonstrated aggregate demand					
Project demonstrates sound technical approach and appropriateness of system design leading to quality service offering (adequacy and sufficiency in terms of technology, cost, bandwidth, scalability, interconnection and interoperability opportunities)					
Applicant demonstrates leadership and is capable of completing project on time and within budget (experience with projects of similar size and complexity)					
Project demonstrates creativity and other “value-adding” components					
Total (50)					

PA's Recommendations

- 25 projects were recommended to NTIA totaling \$343 million:

Highly Recommend	Project Type
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh	Public computing center
Delaware County Library System	Infrastructure
DQE Communications, LLC	Infrastructure
Commonwealth of PA - Office of Administration (OA)	Infrastructure
Commonwealth of PA - Dept. of Education (PDE)	Infrastructure
Geisinger Clinic	Sustainable adoption
PA Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED)	Sustainable adoption
Philadelphia Housing Authority	Public computing center
Technology Council of Northwest Pennsylvania	Infrastructure
UPMC	Sustainable adoption
Wilco Electronic Systems, Inc.	Sustainable adoption
Wireless Neighborhoods	Public computing center
Zito Media Communications II, LLC (Northern)	Infrastructure

PA's Recommendations

- Grant awards to be announced by NTIA between November 7 and December 31, 2009

Support	Project Type
Advanced Regional Communication Cooperative, Inc.	Infrastructure
ComPros, Inc.	Infrastructure
DigitalBridge Communications Corp.	Infrastructure
Commonwealth of PA – Dept. of Education (PDE)	Public computing center
Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation	Sustainable adoption
Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research	Infrastructure
Last Mile, Inc.	Infrastructure
Mission Economic Development Agency	Public computing center
Wilco Electronic Systems, Inc.	Infrastructure
Wilco Electronic Systems, Inc.	Public computing center
Zito Media Communications II, LLC (Central)	Infrastructure
Zito Media Communications II, LLC (Northwestern)	Infrastructure

Conclusion

- **For more information**

www.recovery.pa.gov

Click on "Opportunities"