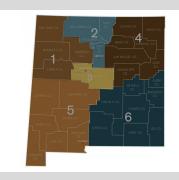


New Mexico Tribal Broadband News & Updates

Photo by **Theophilos Papadopoulos**

April 17, 2023



New Mexico Regional Broadband Meetings

Join a Broadband Meeting in your region this spring. Meet state local and officials, learn about broadband initiatives and funding opportunities, share local stories, and participate in development of the statewide New Mexico Broadband and Digital Equity Plans.

Monday, April 17, 2023, 9am-1pm Alamogordo, Southeast Region 6

8 counties: Otero, Lea, Lincoln, DeBaca, Chaves, Eddy, Roosevelt, Curry. Hosted in Otero County at Otero County Fairgrounds
401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo NM
Learn More and Register to Attend

Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 9am-1pm Los Lunas, Central Region 3

3 counties: Valencia, Bernalillo, Torrance. Hosted in Valencia County at UNMVC 280 La Entrada Rd, Los Lunas, NM 87031 Learn More and Register to Attend

Thursday, May 11, 2023, 9am-1pm Springer, Northeast Region 4

7 counties: Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding, San Miguel, Quay, Guadalupe. Hosted in Colfax County at Luna Community College, Springer Campus 516 Maxwell Avenue, Springer, NM 87747 Learn More and Register to Attend

Friday, May 12, 2023, 9am-1pm Las Cruces, Southwest Region 5

7 counties: Doña Ana, Catron, Socorro, Sierra, Grant, Luna, Hidalgo. Hosted in Doña Ana County at Doña Ana County Government Center

845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, NM Learn More and Register to Attend

Monday, May 15, 2023, 9am-1pm Farmington, Northwest Region 1

4 counties: Sandoval, San Juan, McKinley, Cibola.

Hosted in Region 1

Learn More and Register to Attend

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 9am-1pm Hernandez, North Central Region 2

4 counties: Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Taos.

Hosted in Rio Arriba County at Hernandez Community Center

19418 A US-84, Hernandez, NM 87537 Learn More and Register to Attend



NTIA National Spectrum Strategy Virtual Tribal Consultation Sessions Please participate! April 18 or April 20, 2023 1:00pm-3:00pm EDT

America is increasingly dependent on secure and reliable access to radio frequency spectrum. Sufficient access to spectrum is vital and must be managed responsibly and efficiently. The Department of Commerce is therefore committed to developing the National Spectrum Strategy (NSS), based upon collaboration with both federal and non-federal stakeholders—including Tribes—and on data-driven decision-making, to fully address the needs of spectrum reliant services and missions.

In order to set clear timelines and guidance regarding the development of the NSS, NTIA invites you and/or a Tribal representative to participate in a virtual National Tribal Consultation to provide your advice and insights as NTIA staff are working through critical issues related to the NSS.

We respectfully request your participation at one of the following Tribal Consultation sessions:

Tuesday April 18, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Zoom Registration Link:

https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIscuCspjgoHmqURyBTYnVsiHyVjZYQbrM

Dial-In Numbers: +1 (669) 254-5252; +1 (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 161 594 8324

Thursday April 20, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EDT Zoom Registration Link:

https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdOqhrzksHdlPEVBRk6dsGUZfcjYtRWU

Dial-In Numbers: +1 (669) 254-5252; +1 (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 160 339 1267

Read the Tribal Leader Invitation Letter here. Read the Request for Comments here.

For more information on the NSS, please visit https://ntia.gov/issues/national-spectrum-strategy. If you have any questions regarding the NSS or this consultation, then please contact Sean Spivey, Office of Spectrum Management, at: sspivey@ntia.gov.



NTIA National Spectrum Strategy Listening Sessions April 17, 24, and 29, 2023 3:00pm-4:00pm EDT

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will convene virtual listening sessions on the Digital Equity Act

Request for Comment. The listening sessions are designed to collect stakeholder input to help inform the development and administration of the State Digital Equity Capacity and State Digital Equity Competitive grant programs.

The session will be held virtually, with online slide share and dial-in information to be posted at https://www.internetforall.gov/calendar. **For more information, click here.**



NTIA's Internet for All Initiative Request for Comment Due May 1, 2023

NTIA's <u>Internet for All</u> initiative is to promote adoption and meaningful use of the Internet among underrepresented communities and populations, including low-income households, veterans, aging individuals, racial and ethnic minorities, rural residents and others.

The State Digital Equity Capacity Grant and the Competitive Digital Equity Program aim to ensure that everyone in America has the skills, technology, and capacity needed to reap the full benefits of our digital economy.

Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced a **Request for Comment**, "We need to hear directly from those who are most impacted by the systemic barriers that prevent some from fully utilizing the Internet." This request for comment is part of NTIA's larger strategy to hear from a diverse set of voices while implementing high-speed Internet grant programs.

NTIA requests feedback on the design, rules, and evaluation criteria for both digital equity programs.

The docket established for this opportunity to comment can be found at www.Regulations.gov, NTIA-2023-0002. Click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. Submit written comments on or before 5 p.m. EST on May 1, 2023.

Internet for All NM Broadband Summit Buffalo Thunder May 24, 2023



9am - 3pm

The New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE), Connect New Mexico Council (CNMC), New Mexico Association of Counties (NMC), New Mexico Municipal League of Municipalities (NMML), and the National Telecommunications and Information

Administration (NTIA) invite you to the Internet for All: New Mexico Broadband Summit in Santa Fe and the Pueblo of Pojoaque.

This day long workshop will bring together critical stakeholders in New Mexico from the federal, state, tribal, and local governments, industry, and other key collaborators to discuss coordination on broadband efforts as the state prepares to receive significant broadband funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Connecting all people in New Mexico to affordable, reliable high-speed internet is critical to our economic stability and this event will provide an opportunity for us to discuss ways we can work together to efficiently and effectively utilize these federal dollars to the maximum extent.

There is no fee to attend this event. Registration for virtual participation will open on May 3. Lunch will be provided. If you have any special dietary needs, please contact Julia Pulidindi at (202) 748-7878 or jpulidindi@ntia.gov by Friday, May 12, 2023.

Click here for more information and to register.

NM Tribal Working Group Join the Meeting, Become a Member!

The Tribal Working Group is committed to ensuring New Mexico tribes are actively part of the historic broadband initiatives that will enhance tribal communities access to education, healthcare and economic development. You are invited to join the meetings.

Mission of Tribal Working Group

To assist and support New Mexico Tribes in developing and deploying broadband infrastructure through tribal consultation and engagement that leads to expanded access to health care, education and economic opportunity and includes strategies for access to funding, technical assistance, project management support, workforce development and sustainability in ways that protect tribal sovereignty.

NM Tribal Broadband Working Group Meetings

- Every other Wednesday at 12:00pm, MT
- https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86256047626?
 pwd=MXdrVDJrdXFqVkNjVVVPc2U2aU1RQT09
- Next Meeting April 26, 2023

If you are interested in becoming a member of the <u>Tribal Working Group</u>, please send an e-mail to: <u>connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us</u>. In the body of your e-mail, please include a brief statement of interest, including your experience relating to the work group's mission. Also, let us know how best to contact you about the status of your membership request. The Council appreciates your interest!



New High-Speed Internet Guide Highlights Unprecedented Funding to Support Underserved Communities

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced a new <u>guidebook</u> for states and organizations to consider when deploying

high-speed Internet service projects. The guide will help Public Housing Authorities, Multifamily Owners and Operators, and Tribes understand the mechanics of these two programs and the role they can play in ensuring that funds come to their neighborhoods – both urban and rural.

This resource provides guidance to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), HUD-Assisted communities and other stakeholders wondering how this funding will benefit their communities and what role they can play in ensuring that funds do come to their neighborhoods.



Connect New Mexico Connecting Our Communities

Connect New Mexico is a community-driven and community-focused resource to gather and share benchmark data and support local and regional community efforts to plan, fund, and implement broadband initiatives that provide reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband for all in New Mexico.

They honor the many community organizations, agencies, and individuals working to support Broadband for New Mexico, and invite you to get involved.

Connect New Mexico Council Working Groups

- Connect New Mexico Grant Program
- Digital Equity & Inclusion (Chair: Eli Guinnee)
- Mapping, Data & Evaluation (Chair: Peter Mantos)
- Regional Planning & Community Engagement (Chair: Katherine Crociata)
- Tribal Working Group (Chair: Godfrey Enjady)
- Permits, Poles, and Attachments (Chair: Ovidiu Viorica)

If you are interested in becoming a member of any of these groups, e-mail: connectnmcouncil@state.nm.us.

Check out their website, and sign up for the newsletter!

Resources

- New Mexico Office of Broadband Access & Expansion (OBAE)
- Connect New Mexico Broadband Grant Program
- NM Broadband Speed & Quality Testing



NTIA Advancing Internet For All Mapping Challenge Continues

In order to meet the urgency of this moment to connect the unconnected, NTIA will continue to target June 30 as the date by which they will allocate each state and territory's BEAD Program funding for high-speed Internet service. NTIA and the FCC have worked closely with states to assist them in the process of improving

the National Broadband Map to achieve this goal.

NTIA encourages states to continue to submit challenges to this map, which is meant to be a living document. Continued improvements will move us that much closer in making Internet for All a reality. Read the complete blog <u>here</u>.

Digital Equity Assistance Materials:

- Grant List
- Hi-Speed Internet Page
- Asset Mapping Guide
- NTIA's Digital Equity Act Program technical assistance materials
- What is Permitting?
- Environmental & Historic Preservation Checklist for BEAD
- Environmental & Historic Preservation Factsheet
- <u>Digital Equity Guide for States</u>
- Digital Equity Plan Template
- Digital Equity Plan External Best Practices
- <u>Digital Equity Needs Assessment Guide</u>
- Internet for All Webinars

New Mexico Tribal Broadband

Previous New Mexico Tribal Broadband Newsletters are available here.