

OHIO BROADBAND COUNCIL CHARTER

**Implementation of Executive Order 2007-24S
Establishing the Ohio Broadband Council and
Broadband Ohio Network**

Accepted: December 4, 2007

OHIO BROADBAND COUNCIL CHARTER

1. OVERVIEW

Established by Governor Ted Strickland in Executive Order 2007-24S, the Broadband Ohio initiative leverages the state's significant, prior investments in broadband facilities to extend the reach of Ohio's broadband network and further Ohio's leadership in network innovation.

When fully implemented, the Broadband Ohio initiative will ensure that all Ohio's citizens, businesses, governments, educational institutions, non-profits and healthcare facilities have viable access to superior broadband services. Full participation in the digital society is crucial so that Ohio emerges as a global leader in: economic development, education, healthcare, innovation, world-class research and efficient delivery of state services; thereby powering Ohio's economy and connecting to world markets.

Because the development of a single system for providing broadband data networks by the State will be an efficient use of taxpayer dollars, Governor Strickland ordered the establishment of the Ohio Broadband Council ("Council"). The Council will unite key state agencies and advise in the development of a strategic plan for the deployment of a new, statewide broadband network. This charter defines the Council's mission, scope, organizational structure, authority and stakeholders. Due to the complexities, dynamics and unknown factors associated with this project, this charter serves as a foundation for the Council's organizational structure as of December 2007.

2. SCOPE

The Council will, under the guidance of Executive Order 2007-24S,

- Direct a unified, statewide broadband development effort
- Unite key state agencies, members of the legislature and representatives from Ohio's business and labor communities, local governments and the general public to establish direction for significant broadband infrastructure and develop policies for the phased implementation of Broadband Ohio
- Provide advice and expertise in the development of a strategic plan for statewide broadband deployment, determining the resources necessary for its implementation
- Coordinate all broadband activities that receive state-appropriated funds and pursue new federal and private-sector investments in broadband
- Establish policies that promote new public and private broadband and networking investments
- Support a strategic plan to achieve Digital Inclusion

3. STRATEGY

Vision

The Council shall achieve the following turnaround Ohio goals:

1. Establish Ohio as a world-class competitor by making Ohio the national leader in the deployment and effective use of broadband networking.
2. Develop the jobs of the future by leveraging the state's investment in broadband infrastructure to create a competitive, well-connected economy in Ohio.
3. Create cost savings through the coordination of Ohio's public broadband resources, leveraging the state's significant investments and more efficiently operating and spending limited resources.

Mission

The Council will fully participate in the planning, integration and implementation of the Ohio Broadband Plan to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of broadband service to Ohio's eighty-eight (88) counties. The Council will develop plans consistent with the overall technology goals and objectives of the State, while supporting, to the extent possible the specific missions of each agency.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

The Council is bound by the scope of responsibilities as established by Executive Order 2007-24S as well as those responsibilities associated with serving the state of Ohio.

The following roles and expectations are provided to guide the Council:

- The Council will establish strategic direction and policy to fulfill the areas of responsibility as defined by the Executive Order 2007-24S.
- The Council will commit time, skills and knowledge to the meet the requirements of EO2007-24S and will seek assistance and expertise as necessary.
- The Council will serve as the champions of Broadband within their respective agencies, communities and industries.
- The Council will serve as the strategists for the establishment of the Broadband Ohio Network.

5. MILESTONES

The Council and Subcommittee members will participate in activities and tasks as necessary to ensure all Ohio's citizens, businesses, governments, educational institutions, non-profits and healthcare facilities have viable access to affordable broadband services. Efforts as coordinated by the Council include:

- Establish the OBC to coordinate Ohio's significant broadband infrastructure and seek other opportunities and sources for funding

- Improve Digital Inclusion in Ohio, through strategic broadband investments and planning
- Create the NextGen Network to support OIT's mission to improve and consolidate broadband service delivery to Ohio's executive agencies, boards and commissions
- Support higher-education's leadership role in broadband by leveraging OSCnet to focus on innovation, research, education, and economic competitiveness
- Support policies that encourage new network investments by private sector firms in underserved areas
- Provide advice and expertise in the development of a strategic plan to secure federal funding for broadband initiatives in Ohio across all agencies, educational institutions, healthcare, and local governments

6. STAKEHOLDERS

In the context of Broadband Ohio a myriad of state and local government personnel, agency customers, private industry and Ohio citizens have interest in the successful implementation of Broadband Ohio Network.

7. COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT

The Council will establish a communications management plan for the Council structure to ensure that all members of the Council, its committees, and interested parties receive current, relevant information on status of the Council's scope. The Council will develop and refine its expectations for communication (reporting status, issues, risks, etc.) within the Council structure. The Council's expectations may vary depending on the scope of each Committee and/or as the phases of the project plan proceed.

8. SCOPE MANAGEMENT

The Council will proactively manage its scope. The Council is responsible for developing a strategic plan for the deployment of a new, statewide broadband data network; however, the Council could be susceptible to accept tasks beyond its scope. Given our missions, however, the Council and its subcommittees must remain ever cognizant of the goal to extend access to Ohio stakeholders.

ACCEPTANCE

The undersigned acknowledge the Council accepted the roles and responsibilities as outlined in this document this day, December 4, 2007.

Co-Chairs:



R. Steve Edmonson
Director, OIT
State Chief Information Officer



Stanley C. Ahalt, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Ohio Supercomputer Center