SESSION PURPOSE

To identify:
- The role of broadband availability, adoption and utilization in new business, industry, and entrepreneurial development and support, revitalization of downtowns, and public infrastructure upgrade and expansion.
- Obstacles and constraints to the use of broadband to support and facilitate economic development.
- Assets and opportunities that can be leveraged to support economic development. Potential 3-to-5 year goals toward achieving the necessary level of broadband-related capabilities.

AGENDA

9:00 Welcome and Introductions
Project Consultant Briefing

9:30 Impact of Broadband on Economic Development
- What possibilities do broadband availability, adoption and utilization present for the area’s economic development goals? What broadband-dependent economic development opportunities and innovations are available now or on the horizon?
- What’s at stake if the level of broadband adoption and utilization inhibits those possibilities?
- What economic development gains could occur in the 3, 5, and 10 year windows through adoption and utilization of broadband resources?

10:20 Break

10:30 Barriers & Opportunities
- What is known about broadband adoption and utilization “gaps” or missed opportunities for economic development?
- What are the primary constraints or barriers to taking full advantage of the possibilities of broadband as a means of economic development?
- What community assets or other opportunities can be leveraged?

11:20 3 – 5 Year Goals
- What broadband adoption and utilization goals should be established in the near and mid-range future in support of economic development goals?
- Which of the assets and opportunities identified in the previous discussion have the potential to contribute the most “lift” to those goals?

11:55 Next Steps

Noon Session Closing