Idaho Broadband Task Force

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Broadband Investment

Looking Back…

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Broadband Grants

Broadband Data Improvement Act

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Broadband Initiatives Program

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Broadband Data Improvement Act

The Broadband Data Improvement Act (BDIA) is a U.S. federal law enacted in 2008 to improve the quality and availability of broadband services. The BDIA has established a number of initiatives to:

- Improve the quality of state and federal data on the availability and quality of broadband services and;

- Promote the deployment of affordable broadband services to all parts of the nation

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Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

The Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) is an approximately $4 billion grant program administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to:

- Help bridge the technological divide

- Create jobs

- Improve education, health care, and public safety in communities across the country

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Broadband Initiatives Program

The Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) is administered by the Department of Agriculture and strives to:

- Fund projects that will support economic development and job creation beyond the immediate construction/operations of the broadband facilities

- Ensure that broadband service is provided to rural areas lacking access, targeting under- and un-served rural areas

- Implement in concert with the Department of Commerce (DOC) National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) broadband program, and the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) national broadband strategy

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So What's Happening In Other States?

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Broadband at the state level

Federal broadband efforts have focused mostly on deploying high speed service to rural and unserved areas through federal grants. State broadband initiatives have built on this implementation effort by increasing accessibility. Many state initiatives have included:

- Broadband task forces/councils to monitor and improve service deployment

- Studies designed to map where broadband is and isn't available

- Development of public/private partnerships to increase service availability and adoption

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Broadband at the state level

- In 2010, **all 50 states** and the District of Columbia created state offices, programs run by contractors, task forces, or legislative committees to review, manage, and incent broadband deployment and adoption

- Of these, **34 remain active***; the others have lapsed, either because funding ceased at the end of the BTOP program or because the initiatives were completed (**as of 2017*)

- The state broadband offices have generally been standalone or embedded in existing state agencies

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Intermountain West Broadband

MT UT WA OR ID

Montana	Utah	Washington	Oregon	Idaho
Statewide Broadband Office: **NO**	Statewide Broadband Office: **NO**	Statewide Broadband Office: **YES**	Statewide Broadband Office: **NO**	Statewide Broadband Office: **NO**
Public/ Private Partnerships Exist: **YES**	Public/ Private Partnerships Exist: **YES**	Public/ Private Partnerships Exist: **YES**	Legislative Advisory Council	Governor's Task Force
			Public/ Private Partnerships Exist: **YES**	Public/ Private Partnerships Exist: **YES**

Broadband Investment

Looking Forward…

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Between 2014 and 2018, AT&T invested more in the U.S. than any other public company — more than $140 billion including capital investment and acquisitions of spectrum and wireless operations.

Our wireless network now covers more than 99% of Americans.

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AT&T Investment in Idaho

- **49 upgrades** made in 2015-2017 including new cell sites, addition of wireless and wired network capacity and new broadband network connections in Idaho.

- Approximately **$90 million invested** by AT&T in its best-in-class wired and wireless networks in Idaho from 2015-2017

- **98.5 percent** of population in Idaho covered by the AT&T Mobile Broadband network as of May 10, 2019

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Connectivity for Rural Areas

Reliable and fast internet has the potential to democratize and advance opportunities in all communities by offering increased access to education, healthcare and employment. As innovation introduces new opportunities every day, AT&T is helping to increase digital inclusion for rural areas and undersubscribed populations through:

- Our low-cost home internet program offered in our wireline service areas (unfortunately, not in Idaho at this time);

- Expanding internet connectivity to largely rural consumers; and

- Educating and empowering consumers to get the most out of their connections.

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Public-Private Partnership: FirstNet

FirstNet is public safety's dedicated, nationwide communications platform. It is for all first responders – career and volunteer, urban, rural or tribal. It is bringing public safety communications into the 21st century with new, innovative capabilities, helping first responders connect to the critical information they need – every day and in every emergency.

FirstNet is built with AT&T in a public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority – an independent agency within the federal government. This helps ensure that the FirstNet communications platform and service offerings meet the short- and long-term needs of the public safety community.

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Roaming Partners

Domestic roaming partnerships are beneficial as we expand broadband in rural areas.

When an AT&T customer is no longer connected to the AT&T network, either due to no coverage, or a non-AT&T tower being connected to your device due to having a stronger signal at a given location, our roaming partners in rural areas provide the service our customers depend on.

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The Future is 5G

5G Evolution is our first step on the road to 5G. We're starting by enabling faster speeds on our existing LTE network—up to 2x faster than standard LTE.*

We're upgrading our network by:

- Increasing capacity and coverage on AT&T's network. This provides more support for data usage.

- Adding fiber to the network, which allows for higher peak speeds.

- Enhancing our core network to support lower network latency so it can respond even more quickly.

- Adding new tower equipment that we can upgrade through software.

*2X Faster: Based on AT&T standard 4G LTE v. 5G Evolution avg download speeds.   Available in select
areas only with capable device.

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Advocacy

AT&T believes it takes a collaborative approach between the public and private sectors, as well as smart public policy, to continue connecting more rural areas unserved by terrestrial broadband to the benefits of reliable and fast internet.

To that end, policies developed at all levels of government need to work with the market and foster continued private-sector investment and innovation by eliminating barriers to network deployment.

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The lesson of the Internet is that no audience is **too small**

Randall Stephenson
AT&T | CEO

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