Broadband Planning Committees (BPCs)

The first step toward establishing the future of broadband in your community.

HOW DO YOU CERTIFY YOUR BPC FOR TAP?

In preparation for forthcoming state and federal funds, the Broadband Development Office (BDO) is establishing the Technical Assistance Program (TAP). This program aims to augment the capacity of local governments and communities by providing technical assistance with broadband planning and consulting services, free of charge.

Applications to TAP may only be submitted by a committee leader of a certified BPC. Committees can become certified by completing the Broadband Planning Committee Certification Form. The form must be submitted to the BDO before the TAP application period opens.

For more information about TAP or how to register a BPC, visit comptroller.texas.gov/programs/broadband/tap/.

WHAT IS A BPC?

A BPC is a group of community members who organize to address gaps in the availability and usability of broadband as well as to connect the identifiable goals and needs of the area with available resources and expertise. BPCs should aim to facilitate the long-term sustainability of a community's broadband planning and development.

HOW DO YOU START A BPC?

Establishing a BPC begins with community organizing to identify the relevant community stakeholders and committee leaders. A BPC should reflect the community it serves to the fullest extent possible. **At a minimum, BPCs should contain:**

• At least two members.
• At least one county-elected office holder of the local area.
• At least one appointed committee leader.
• A majority of committee leaders who live in the area they serve.

WHO SHOULD JOIN A BPC?

BPCs should reflect the people and businesses they serve. To the extent possible, membership should include:
• Private citizens.
• NGOs.
• Utilities and ISPs.
• Education representatives.
• Government officials.
• Business community members.

UPCOMING MILESTONES

April 2024 – Open Registration for Broadband Planning Committees

May 2024 – Open Application Window for Technical Assistance Program