



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PAT QUINN

207 STATEHOUSE

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

April 27, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

As Chairman of the Illinois Broadband Deployment Council, one of my long-standing priorities is to improve the cost, speed and availability of world-class information and communication networks in rural, low-income and disadvantaged communities. I firmly believe that broadband progress made possible by the BTOP will hasten innovation in education, government, public safety, health care, economic and community development in Illinois. Seldom does one program offer such promise.

That's why we made an unparalleled state investment in Illinois' BTOP applicants. The "Illinois Jobs NOW!" public works plan, signed into law in July 2009, designates \$50 million for state financial commitments to exceptional BTOP projects. We partnered with public universities to provide grant writing assistance to groups seeking to serve Illinois, and finally, in the interest of smart planning, we called on our state transportation and IT departments to install fiber optic duct (where it does not already exist) in all new public construction projects that open, bore, or trench alongside State-owned infrastructure.

If funded, the attached projects will have an immediate and long-lasting positive impact on the economic recovery in Illinois.

I appreciate the size and the pressure of your historic charge to carry out this program. We in Illinois are grateful for the chance to work with you to maximize the public benefit of the BTOP. Please accept these recommendations as a signal of our willingness to cooperate in all future related efforts to achieve the ambitious broadband vision that President Obama, the U.S. Congress and I share.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Quinn".

Governor Pat Quinn



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Highly Recommended

Project	Type	Organization	ID
Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership: East Central	CCI	Illinois Dept. of Central Management	4243
Illinois Broadband Opportunities Partnership: Southern	CCI	Delta Communications, LLC	4250
Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership: Northwest	CCI	Northern Illinois University	6681
West Central Illinois Next Generation Network	CCI	Geneseo Communications, Inc	4317
Cook County & South Suburban Connected Consortium	CCI	County of Cook	4513

Recommended

Project	Type	Organization	ID
Illinois Public Computer Centers Project	PCC	Illinois Dept. of Commerce	6263
SmartChicago Public Computer Center	PCC	City of Chicago	4523
SmartChicago Comprehensive Community Infrastructure	CCI	City of Chicago	7314
Metro East Digital- Comprehensive Community Infrastructure	CCI	LB Davis Neighborhood House	5121
Metro East Digital- Sustainable Broadband Adoption	SBA	LB Davis Neighborhood House	6908
Low Income Seniors & People with Disabilities Online	SBA	MyWay Village, Inc	4561



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June 16, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling,

In April, I highly recommended five BTOP projects:

- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership: East Central CCI
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership: Southern CCI
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership: Northwest CCI
- West Central Illinois Next Generation Network CCI
- Cook County & South Suburban Connected Consortium CCI

I write today to clarify the fact that each of these five outstanding proposals, including the "West Central" and "Cook County" efforts, is part of the *Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership* family of projects. These proposals are complementary and were coordinated to best serve all the regions of the state.

Second, I write to note that my original letter did not include recommendations for three BTOP proposals, all of which deserve serious consideration. Although these projects did not secure State funding, they are due a full review and I enthusiastically support them. Each of these projects stands to deliver immediate, long-lasting benefits to the people of Illinois. They include:

- Hayner Public Library District: Public Computer Center proposal (Application ID 4298)
- Railband LLC: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure proposal (Application ID 4286)
- Illinois Institute of Technology: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure proposal (Application ID 7641)

As always, please let me know how my staff or I can help support you as you carry out our President's bold broadband agenda. I look forward to seeing you on June 24 in Chicago.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Quinn".

Governor Pat Quinn