

April 15, 2013

**To:** NITC Commissioners  
**From:** Anne Byers  
**Subject:** Community Council report

On January 12, 2010, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration awarded the Nebraska Public Service Commission approximately \$2.1million for broadband data collection, mapping and planning activities over a two-year period. On September 27, 2010 an additional \$3.5 million was awarded to the Public Service Commission for mapping and planning activities in years two through five of the project. The NITC Community Council is partnering with the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, and the AIM Institute to implement the planning component of the broadband mapping grant.

- **Broadband Map.** A broadband map of Nebraska has been developed with information from telecommunications providers. The map is available at [broadbandmap.nebraska.gov](http://broadbandmap.nebraska.gov). The data collected is also used to create a national broadband map ([www.broadbandmap.gov](http://www.broadbandmap.gov)).
- **Broadband Conference.** Nearly 300 people attended the 2nd annual Broadband Connecting Nebraska Conference held October 2, 2012 featuring Internet pioneer, Vint Cerf. Planning for the 2013 conference Oct. 16-17 in Kearney is underway.
- **Best Practice Videos.** Twelve videos highlighting best practices in expanding broadband adoption have been produced and made available on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and [broadband.nebraska.gov](http://broadband.nebraska.gov).
- **Webinars.** Up to four webinars are being offered each year of the grant to address broadband adoption and utilization.
- **Regional Planning.** Regional planning teams have been formed to create regional plans. Focus groups have been convened to solicit input on broadband issues.