

March 13, 2015

To: NITC Commissioners
From: Anne Byers
Subject: Community Council Report

Membership. The Community Council has recommended Shonna Dorsey’s nomination as a member of the Community Council. I will be asking for approval of her nomination. Her bio can be found below:

[Shonna Dorsey](#) is a co-founder and the Managing Director for Interface: the Web School. Shonna was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska and is an alumnus of the University of Nebraska-Omaha (UNO) where she earned both Bachelor's and Master's of Science degrees in Management Information Systems (MIS). Her career includes training facilitation, project management and application development. She has earned the Project Management Professional (PMP) and Project Management Institute-Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP) certifications through PMI.

Outside of Interface Web School, Shonna is the co-founder of the monthly meetup group [Coffee and Code](#) which she hosts in partnership with [Autumn Pruitt](#) of [Aromas Coffee](#). Shonna is also a Leadership Omaha program participant (class 37) and a 2014 recipient of the 40 Under 40 Award through the Midlands Business Journal. As a professional who is passionate about education, Shonna is excited to extend support to the region's tech talent development and retention efforts through Interface: the Web School.

Broadband Plan Update. The NTIA just updated the federal broadband map (broadbandmap.gov) with data from June 30, 2014. Updated information on our target measures can be found below:

Measure	Baseline—Data from Dec. 31, 2013	Update—Data from June 30, 2014	2020 Target
% of population with broadband service of at least 25 Mbps down available	74.9%	79.3%	90%
% of population with broadband service of 1 gbps down available	11.5%	14.5%	25%

Nebraska ranked 10th in the availability of gigabit service and 38th in the availability of 25 Mbps service.

Nebraska Broadband Initiative. The NITC Community Council has partnered with the Nebraska Public Service Commission, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, and AIM on a five-year broadband mapping and planning initiative. The grant ended in January 2015. An evaluation conducted by the Heartland Center for Leadership Development made the following recommendations:

- Continue the annual conference;
- Sustain collaboration among stakeholders, including providers;
- Maintain the mapping element;
- Find ways to continue youth engagement; and
- Maintain a public education strategy.

The Nebraska Broadband Initiative is discussing ways to continue the progress made through the grants:

- A new website (broadband.nebraska.gov) is scheduled to go live by March 20.
- Discussions are underway with the Nebraska Rural Futures Institute to include additional pre-sessions on broadband.
- Community Council members have been working with the Nebraska Library Commission to encourage libraries to offer youth coding opportunities.
- A workbook is being developed to help communities address broadband development.