

AGENDA
NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
Nebraska Public Media - Board Room
1800 N 33rd St
Lincoln, Nebraska
Friday, March 10, 2023
10:00 a.m. CT

Virtual Conferencing via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/94855661235>

- I. ROLL CALL; MEETING NOTICE; OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT
- III. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 10, 2022, MEETING MINUTES (*Attachment III*) ***
- IV. REPORTS
 - A. EDUCATION COUNCIL (*Attachment IV-A*)
 - 1. Approval of membership nominations. ***
 - 2. Digital Education and Network Nebraska updates.
 - 3. Update education related action items in the Statewide Technology Plan. ***
 - B. GIS COUNCIL (*Attachment IV-B*)
 - 1. Approval of membership nominations. ***
 - 2. GIS update.
 - C. COMMUNITY COUNCIL (*Attachment IV-C*)
 - 1. Digital Equity planning update.
 - D. eHEALTH COUNCIL (*see Attachment IV-C*)
 - 1. Approval of membership nominations. ***
 - E. TECHNICAL PANEL (*Attachment IV-E*)
 - 1. Enterprise project status dashboard report.
 - F. CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (*Attachment IV-F*)
 - 1. Review of the OCIO's consolidation project (LR406).
- V. BROADBAND UPDATE (*Attachment V*)
- VI. OTHER BUSINESS

VII. ADJOURN
[12:00 p.m.]

Future meetings: July 14, 2023, and November 9, 2023

*** Action item.

The Commission will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda but reserves the right to adjust the order and timing of items and may elect to take action on any of the items listed. If you need interpreter services or other reasonable accommodations, please contact the Commission at 402-471-3560 at least five days prior to the meeting to coordinate arrangements.

Meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on January 31, 2023. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on March 3, 2023. Virtual conferencing option added on March 8, 2023.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act | Commission Meeting Documents

VIRTUAL CONFERENCING INFORMATION

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149.137.40.110 (Singapore)
64.211.144.160 (Brazil)
149.137.68.253 (Mexico)
69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)
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Attachment III

NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Nebraska Public Media - Board Room
1800 N 33rd St Lincoln, Nebraska
Thursday, November 10, 2022, 10:00 a.m. CT

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Toner, Chief Information Officer, Chair
Senator Suzanne Geist, Nebraska Legislature
Leah Barrett, Northeast Community College
Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska
Jim Ediger, Hamilton Telecommunications
Shane Greckel, Greckel Farms, LLC
Kirk Langer, Lincoln Public Schools
Zach Mellender, Omaha Zoological Society
Dan Spray, Precision Technologies, Inc.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gary Warren, Hamilton Telecommunications

STAFF PRESENT:

Rick Becker, NITC Administrative Manager and Legal Counsel
Anne Byers, Digital Equity Manager/ NITC Administrative Manager
Casey DunnGossin, GIS Coordinator
Becca Kingery, Education IT Manager
Lori Lopez Urdiales, Office Services Manager II

ROLL CALL; MEETING NOTICE; OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on October 12, 2022. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on November 4, 2022. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall of the meeting room and a link was included with the agenda. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 4, 2021, AND MARCH 10, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Spray moved to approve the November 4, 2021 and March 10, 2022 minutes as presented. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Barrett- Abstained, Blackman-Abstained, Langer- Abstained, Ediger- Abstained, Greckel-Yes, Mellender- Abstained, Spray-Yes. Results: Yes-3, No-0, Abstained-5. Motion carried.

REPORTS

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Ms. Kingery provided the report.

Mr. Greckel left the meeting.

Approval of membership nominations. The council is requesting commission's approval of the following membership nominations:

- Nick Muir, Chief Information Officer, Wayne State College, representing State Colleges
- Jeremiah Ourada, Director of Technology and Research Center, Nebraska Wesleyan University, representing Independent Colleges

Commissioner Barrett moved to approve the Education Council's membership nominations. Commissioner Spray seconded. Roll call vote: Spray-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Ediger-Yes, Langer-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Barrett-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Greckel returned to the meeting.

Network Nebraska Update:

Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network. The newest Network Nebraska RFP has been turned into the State Purchasing Bureau. It contains about 40 leased lit fiber circuits and about 30 Special Construction Matching E-rate Fund circuits for public libraries. Three public libraries took advantage of the Public Service Commission's Special Construction Matching E-rate funds for new fiber for 2022-23: Nancy Fawcett Memorial Library (Lodgepole), Fairmont Public Library, and Kimball Public Library. The total estimated feet of fiber construction were 3,595 with an average cost of \$23.01 per foot. The average fiber construction cost per library was \$19,606.00, or an average of \$1,960.60 of State Matching Funds per library. Network Nebraska was able to utilize GEER I funding for Backbone equipment upgrades to better serve participants. Network Nebraska continued to observe an uptick in Distributed Denial of Service attacks throughout the state, as a result GEER I funding was utilized for a DDoS equipment refresh.

Effectively communicate to current and potential Network Nebraska Participants. The Office of the CIO has been involved in the Nebraska statewide eduroam pilot project for 2021-23 and is collaborating on the eduroam website and content to be shared with eligible K-12 entities. Nebraska K-12 entities currently have a participation rate of 63% across the state, serving approximately 50% of Nebraska students. b. The Network Nebraska status page (<https://status.networknebraska.net/>) has had favorable reviews, and the University of Nebraska's new AlertSense communications system is working well. Identify needs and deliver advanced services to meet the growing needs of its membership a. Network Nebraska is in support of cybersecurity awareness training to be made available to all schools, as well as multi-factor authentication, and external vulnerability testing.

Digital Education Update

Disseminate informational reports to ensure the success of Nebraska digital education. Work is continuing with the Nebraska Department of Education and the ESU Coordinating Council on the Future Ready Digital Learning Collaborative Planning. Next steps include future planning for the STEADfast project, a speed test project spearheaded by Educational Service Unit 10 for utilization across the state.

Expand awareness and address the need for equity of access. As the STEADfast project continues to be developed, we will have a more accurate model of lack of equity of access across Nebraska; this information will be vital in future project planning. Office of the CIO staff have continued to monitor the development of wireless and satellite technologies to gauge their potential in narrowing the Homework Gap in sparsely populated areas where student households are unserved or underserved.

Ms. Kingery entertained questions and comments from the commissioners. A recommendation was made to encourage ESUs to work more closely with libraries. Commissioner Barrett suggested a potential partnership with Community Colleges to provide needed technological support.

Senator Suzanne Geist arrived at the meeting.

GIS COUNCIL

Ms. DunnGossin provide the report.

May 2022. The GIS Council met in May with a quorum and voted to recommend the NITC adopt the current USGS (US Geological Survey) 3D Nation Standards by reference as the Elevation standard for Nebraska. By aligning the Nebraska Elevation standard to the USGS 3D Nation standard the Nebraska standard will remain current, with periodic reviews and recommendations by the GIS Council as needed. The GIS Council that the Boundary Working Group met, and that the Legislature decided to conduct an Interim Study (LR 370). One of the reasons for the study was due to discrepancies discovered during the redistricting initiative. The GIS Council discussed that a public entity received funding for a lidar project in Eastern Nebraska that covered several counties in the Omaha-Metro Area. The project will provide better than QL1 lidar1 with 6-in contours2.

August 2022. The GIS Council met in August, but a quorum was not present to conduct official business. The GIS Council discussed need to send an updated recommendation to the Tech Panel and NITC related to Street Centerline and Address Point Standards. The updated NENA standard was created to update URLS and fix some errors in the previous version. The GIS Council also discussed adding interested members to the Boundary Working group. The USGS discussed the completed 3DEP projects in Nebraska and acknowledged that accessing data and deliverables from the USGS is not as simple as it was via FTP. The GIS Council also discussed that the lidar acquisition for the Omaha-Metro Area was signed and had been collected in in March and April 2022. All of Douglas, Sarpy, 70% of Washington, City of Fremont, and parts of Lancaster County were completed. Deliverables from the project are expected in September 2022.

November 2022. The GIS Council met in November 2022 with a quorum to conduct official business. The GIS Council voted to recommend the NITC adopt the current NENA (National Emergency Number Association) Street Centerline and Address Point Standards by reference. The GIS Council also nominated and voted Mr. Christian Nielsen (Public Service Commission) to be the Vice Chair for 2023. The GIS Council was presented information from the USGS on the status of the final federally funded lidar project in Nebraska as part of the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP). The USGS also shared that because Nebraska has lidar coverage that meets 3DEP standards, there are no plans to refresh lidar data on a set schedule and it is unlikely other federal agencies will fund large lidar projects in Nebraska. The USGS shared information on the 3D National Topography Model and the 3D Hydrography Program that will use lidar data collected for 3DEP. The GIS Council discussed the Legislature Interim Study (LR 370). The Study identified 336 statutes that reference: "boundary/boundaries", "GIS/Geographic Information Systems", and other terms that may indicated identifying an area spatially in Nebraska. Once the statutes have been reviewed the boundary working group will meet to discuss the findings. The GIS Council was presented with information on the lidar data collected in the Omaha Metro Area. The data returns are being delivered to the departments, and QC has started. One county noted that the data is such high quality that they can identify street light arms and are looking forward to conducting additional data analysis and modeling.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ms. Byers provided the report.

Approval of Membership Nominations. Connie Hancock has resigned from her position and not able to serve on the council. The Community Council is requesting the NITC's approval of the nomination of Jason Tuller, Extension Educator, to serve on the Community Council.

Commissioner Ediger moved to approve the Community Council membership recommendation. Commissioner Barrett seconded. Roll call vote: Blackman-Yes, Langer- Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Spray-Yes, Toner-Yes, and Barrett-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

State Broadband Funding. LB 388 which was enacted in 2021 created the Broadband Bridge Grant Program. \$20 million a year for two years was appropriated for the program. The first round of grants

were awarded in January and February 2022. Sixty-one grants were awarded totaling \$19.2 million to connect 12,640 locations. Awards for the second round will be announced in December 2022. The Nebraska Broadband Bridge program will provide the framework for the distribution of federal broadband funding.

Federal Broadband Funding. Federal broadband funding received by the State of Nebraska is being coordinated by the Connect Nebraska Working Group—an interagency working group comprised of staff members from the State Budget Office, Governor’s Policy Research Office, Nebraska Public Service Commission, and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission/Office of the CIO.

Capital Projects. LB 1024 which was enacted in 2022, allocated funding from the Capital Projects Fund by Congressional District. On August 30, 2022, the U.S. Department of the Treasury approved an award of \$87.7 million to connect 21,000 homes and businesses to affordable, reliable high-speed internet services in Congressional Districts 1 and 3. The Nebraska Public Service Commission will distribute the funding through the Nebraska Broadband Bridge grant program in early 2023. The press release is at <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0931>. The Public Service Commission anticipates opening a round of the Broadband Bridge Grant Program in early 2023 to distribute the funding. An application for approximately \$41 million in funding has been submitted for funding for multipurpose community facilities in qualified census tracts in Omaha for Congressional District 2. The Nebraska Department of Economic Development will administer this funding.

BEAD. The State of Nebraska has also applied for funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program. Nebraska will receive at least \$100 million for broadband deployment projects through the BEAD program. The State of Nebraska expects to receive \$5 million in planning funds in November 2022 to develop a five-year broadband deployment plan. The Nebraska Public Service Commission will administer the BEAD funding.

State Digital Equity Planning Grant. Nebraska will receive \$600,000 to develop a state digital equity plan through the State Digital Equity Planning Grant in November 2022. States which complete digital equity plans will be able to apply for a minimum of \$7.2 million over 5 years to set up a state digital equity grant program. The Nebraska Information Technology Commission/Office of the CIO will administer the State Digital Equity Planning Grant. A one-page summary of the grant and a fact sheet was included in the meeting materials. The Community and eHealth Councils will both be supporting the state digital equity planning effort.

Broadband Mapping. The current broadband maps overstate broadband availability. The FCC has implemented a new data collection process. The first iteration of the improved map of broadband availability is expected in November 2022. The NTIA expects to use the second iteration of the FCC map which is expected in the spring of 2023 to determine final BEAD funding allocations for states. The Nebraska Public Service Commission is working to identify a vendor to develop a state broadband map using BEAD funding.

Ms. Byers entertained questions. Discussion followed regarding the accuracy of the broadband maps.

eHEALTH COUNCIL

Ms. Byers provided the report.

Mr. Spray left the meeting.

Approval of Membership Nominations. The eHealth Council is requesting the NITC’s approval of the nomination of Professor Liaquat Hossain, Chair, Department of Cyber Systems, University of Nebraska-Kearney, to serve on the eHealth Council.

Commission Ediger moved to approve the eHealth Council’s membership nomination. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Mellender-Yes, Langer- Yes, Blackman-Yes,

Greckel-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Toner-Yes, Ediger-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Spray returned to the meeting.

The eHealth Council and Digital Equity. Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. Studies estimate that clinical care impacts only 20 percent of county-level variation in health outcomes, while social determinants of health (SDOH) affect as much as 50 percent. Within SDOH, socioeconomic factors such as poverty, employment, and education have the largest impact on health outcomes.

Internet access is considered a social determinant of health. In 2015 the FCC formed the Connect2Health Task Force (C2HFCC Task Force) to study the relationship between internet access and health. In their analysis, the FCC suggested that there is a “connectivity continuum” influencing health. Internet access is becoming increasingly important for health. We use the internet for a number of health-related applications, including:

- Researching information on medical conditions
- Managing appointments and prescriptions
- Checking lab results
- Telehealth consultations
- Home health monitoring

Research is showing the impact of internet access on mortality and health outcomes:

- Places with limited internet access had higher mortality rates, especially in urban areas.
- In a cohort study of 9,378 patients, participation in a remote monitoring program was associated with lower odds of hospitalization for patients testing positive for COVID-19.

The state digital equity plan will try to leverage the investments that the state has made in health information exchange and health technologies. Nebraska continues to be a leader in health information exchange with near universal participation in the statewide health information exchange, CyncHealth. LB 411 which was signed by Governor Ricketts on May 24, 2021, mandated participation in the state health information exchange by ambulatory surgical centers, critical access hospitals, intermediate care facilities, long-term care hospitals, mental health substance use treatment centers, PACE centers, pharmacies, psychiatric or mental hospitals, public health clinics, and rehabilitation hospitals. In particular, there are a couple of services provided by CyncHealth that are related to digital equity:

- CyncHealth also offers a solution to address social determinants of health (SDOH) and to help connect patients to resources including food, housing, transportation, mental health support, state benefits, and employment services. Internet access is considered a social determinant of health.
- The MyCyncHealth patient portal is available for Medicaid patients. The portal is at mycynchealth.org.

Several health systems are using telehealth. We will be reaching out to them to learn how the State of Nebraska can advance the use of telehealth and health monitoring. The eHealth Council will be supporting the state digital equity planning effort.

TECHNICAL PANEL

Mr. Langer provided the report.

Technical Standards and Guidelines.

Proposal 25. Amend provisions of the Information Security Policy. The proposal includes the following provisions:

- Section 1 adds a new definition for CIS, the Center for Internet Security. Future security related standards will reference certain documentation published by that organization.
- Section 2 amends the system maintenance standard.
- Section 3 adds a new standard for low-code/no-code and containerized development. There are currently no NITC standards specifically relating to this type of development.

Commissioner Spray moved to approve Propose 25. Commissioner Mellender seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Langer- Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-No, Mellender-Yes, Spray-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-1, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Proposal 27. Amend mobile device and portable storage device provisions of the Information Security Policy. The proposal includes the following provisions:

- Section 1 adds new definitions for “mobile device” and “portable storage device.” These definitions are based on definitions used by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.
- Section 2 renames and amends the portable storage device standard.
- Section 3 amends the minimum mobile device configuration standard.

Commissioner Greckel moved to approve Proposal 27. Commissioner Spray seconded. Roll call vote: Spray-Yes, Ediger-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Langer- Yes, Blackman-Yes, Barrett-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Proposal 28. Amend access control and minimum configuration provisions of the Information Security Policy. The proposal includes the following provisions:

- Section 1 amends the identification and authorization standard to use general terms for a unique identifier and identity management system rather than specific references to Active Directory.
- Section 2 amends the privileged access accounts standard by adding a requirement for multifactor authentication where technically feasible and authorizing the state information security office to grant exceptions.
- Section 3 amends the minimum workstation configuration standard.
- Section 4 repeals prior versions of the standards.
- Section 5 outright repeals the minimum laptop configuration standard. Laptops have the same configuration requirements as workstations and any additional requirements are included in the existing remote access standard (section 8-301).

Commissioner Mellender moved to approve Proposal 28. Commissioner Ediger seconded. Roll call vote: Barrett-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Langer- Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Spray-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Proposal 29. Amend GIS data standards. The proposal includes the following provisions:

- Section 1 adopts a new standard for lidar by reference to the most recent version of the USGS standard.
- Section 2 amends the street centerlines standard to reference the most recent version of the NENA standard.
- Section 3 amends the address points standard to reference the most recent version of the NENA standard.

Commissioner Spray approve Proposal 29. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Langer- Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Mellender-Yes, and Spray-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Enterprise Projects.

Enterprise project status dashboard report. Mr. Langer reviewed the dashboard report.

Close the following enterprise project: Centrex Replacement, Office of the CIO. At their meeting on April 12, 2022, the panel recommended closure of the Centrex Replacement project. The project was successfully completed.

Commissioner Spray moved to close the Centrex Replacement enterprise project. Commissioner Mellender seconded. Roll call vote: Blackman-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Toner-Yes, Ediger-Yes, Spray-Yes, Mellender-Yes, and Langer- Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Approval of enterprise project designation for the following project: New Budget Management and Request System, Dept. of Administrative Services, State Budget Division. At their meeting on August 9, 2022, the panel recommended designating the New Budget Management and Request System project by the Dept. of Administrative Services, State Budget Division as an enterprise project

Commissioner Barrett moved to designate the New Budget Management and Request System as an Enterprise Project. Commissioner Mellender seconded. Roll call vote: Spray-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Ediger-Yes, Langer- Yes, Blackman-Yes, Barrett-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Approval of the Recommendations on Technology Investments for the 2023-2025 Biennium.

Mr. Langer provided an overview of the project review process. Each project was discussed.

Colleen Byelick and Chad Sump from the Secretary of State's office were available for questions.

A draft report was included with the meeting materials.

Commissioner Spray moved to approve the report. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Toner-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Langer- Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Mellender-Yes, and Spray-Yes. Results: 8-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstained. Motion carried.

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Mr. Toner provided the report.

APPROVAL OF THE REVISED STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN

The commission is responsible for developing a statewide technology plan. The commission has adopted six strategic initiatives to provide the basic structure of the plan with related action items under each initiative. The six initiatives are: State Government IT Strategy, Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure, Network Nebraska, Digital Education, Rural Broadband and Community IT Development, and eHealth. Staff and the advisory councils have prepared a draft revised plan for the commission's approval.

Commissioner Blackman moved to approve the revised Statewide Technology Plan. Commissioner Ediger seconded. Roll call vote: Blackman-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Toner-Yes, Ediger-Yes, Spray-Yes, Mellender-Yes, Barrett-Yes, and Langer- Yes. Results: 8-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstained. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE PROGRESS REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-518 provides, in pertinent part: "By November 15 of each even-numbered year, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission shall submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature." Staff have prepared a draft report for the commission's approval.

Commissioner Greckel moved to approve the Progress Report to the Governor and Legislature. Commissioner Mellender seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Barrett-Yes, Blackman-Yes, Langer-

Yes, Ediger-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Mellender-Yes, and Spray-Yes. Results: 8-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstained. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURN

With no further business and without objection, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by staff.

Attachment IV-A

Biographical Sketches – Nominated Members for NITC Education Council

Mr. Andrew Buker – Public University Representative

Andrew Buker is the Assistant Vice President of Infrastructure Services for the University of Nebraska System. While in this role, Mr. Buker lead a diverse team of approximately seventy staff that provide support for the Universities network, server, data center, and telephony services that provide support for approximately 50,000 students and 16,000 faculty and staff. Mr. Buker simultaneously provides support for approximately 450,000 Nebraska K-12 by his involvement with Network Nebraska. Mr. Buker brings years of leadership, expertise, and professionalism, as well as previous council experience as he has served as an active alternate for the NITC Education Council since 2018.

Dr. Jaci Lindburg – Public University Representative

Jaci Lindburg, Ph.D. is Associate Vice Chancellor of Innovative and Learning-Centric Initiatives at UNO. Prior to this role, Lindburg spent three years in service as Assistant Vice President for NU ITS at the University of Nebraska and Director of Digital Learning at UNO. Within NU ITS - a division serving the Kearney, Lincoln, and Omaha campuses - she serves as Chief Academic Technology Officer in addition to leading IT Strategy, which includes strategic planning, reporting, project management, digital accessibility and communications. As Director of Digital Learning at UNO, Lindburg leads a team of instructional designers, instructional technologists, online learning specialists, and classroom technology engineers to form a robust support environment for faculty who teach online and with technology.

Ms. Stacy Jolley – Nebraska Boards of Education Representative

Stacy Jolley is currently serving on the Millard Public Schools Board of Education and has been an active member since 2018. While serving in that capacity, she has been selected for officer positions since 2020, including serving as the School Board President for 2022. Prior to her service on the Millard School Board, Ms. Jolley also held a Board of Directors position with the Millard Public School Foundation where she also acted in the capacity of Board President from 2017 to 2018. She is the current Vice President of the Nebraska Association of School Boards. Her drive to be impactful in her community prior to her role on various Boards is well demonstrated in her involvement as a school volunteer, a member of multiple advisory committees, and a community representative.

TO: NITC Commissioners
FROM: Becca Kingery, Education I.T. Manager
DATE: 03/10/2023
RE: Network Nebraska and Digital Education Initiative Reports

Education Council update: The Education Council has met on one occasion since the November NITC meeting and will be meeting again on April 19. To promote progress toward action items the Education Council made the decision to create Task Groups, allowing for research and recommendations to be made in between Education Council meetings and reported back to the Education Council for discussion and potential vote.

There were four groups created focusing on Communication, Digital Education, Network Nebraska Services, and Security.

Network Nebraska Update:

The newest Network Nebraska RFP closed for bids January 17, 2023. It contained about 40 leased lit fiber circuits and about 30 Special Construction Matching E-rate Fund circuits for public libraries. Approximately 50% of the special construction sites resulted in actionable bids, which is an improvement from previous RFPs, regardless steps are being taken to promote a greater success rate for future RFPs.

Digital Education Update:

Progress continues to be made in the deployment of eduroam across the state. Representatives from the University and the OCIO recently met with Omaha Public Schools to discuss deployment; likewise, the eduroam team has had discussions with Cox Communication regarding deployment on their public hotpots in the Omaha area.

Action Items

1. **Action: Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, secure, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network that shall meet the demand of state agencies, local governments, and educational entities as defined in section 79-1201.01.**

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP); Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG), OCIO/NITC staff

Timeframe: 2022-24

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, which is a participant-funded budget.

Targets/Deliverables:

1.1 NNAG and CAP will guide Office of the CIO (OCIO) decisions regarding network capacity, services, and reliability.

1.1.1 Measurables: A) NNAG co-chairs will attend monthly CAP meetings and share information. B) CAP liaisons will attend bi-monthly NNAG meetings and share information.

1.2 Evaluate the effectiveness of the current Network Nebraska fee structures and address changes related to the associated business models as related to core functions and additional services.

1.2.1 Measurable: A) NNAG will convene a retreat and present suggested modifications to the Education Council's Network Nebraska task group and to the Chief Information Officer

2. **Action: The Education Council, OCIO/NITC staff, and Network Nebraska support staff will sufficiently and appropriately communicate to, and in support of, current and potential Network Nebraska Participants.**

Lead: Education Council; OCIONITC Staff, Network Nebraska support staff

Participating Entities: Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP); Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG)

Timeframe: 2022-24

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, which is a participant-funded budget.

Targets/Deliverables:

2.1 Develop and implement a communications strategy.

2.1.1 Measurables: A) Specific data and reports in an online newsletter or other form of communication to members outside of the annual fee memo. B) Designated representatives send timely notifications of changes in procedures affecting member relations with the Network Nebraska Support Team.

2.2 Conduct a periodic survey of Participants to guide direction and service development.

2.2.1 Measurable: A) Survey is conducted, and data from the survey is compiled for sharing with NNAG, CAP, and the NITC Education Council.

2.3 Develop, publish, and maintain a catalog of Network Nebraska services comprised of services offered directly by Network.

2.3.1 Measurable: Catalog of services is published and updated annually

2.4 Enhance communications regarding change control events affecting Network Nebraska membership.

2.4.1 Measurable: The Network Nebraska Support Team use AlertSense and NN_INFO listserv to communicate change control events to Network Nebraska members.

3. Action: Identify needs and deliver advanced services to Network Nebraska members, including security, cloud computing, and education infrastructure, to meet the growing needs of its membership.

Lead: Education Council; CAP; NNAG; NU-ITS Staff

Participating Entities: ESU-NOC; Higher Education CIOs

Timeframe: 2022-24

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, or from consumption-based billing.

Targets/Deliverables:

3.1 Develop applicable practices and strategies for advanced services to be delivered across Network Nebraska in educational environments and determine how to incorporate them into the Network Nebraska business model.

3.1.1 Measurable: A) Formulation of a Strategy document

3.2. Select and implement additional services for Network Nebraska members.

3.2.1 Measurable: A) Additional services added to Network Nebraska services list or provided by member "centers of excellence" throughout the Network Nebraska framework.

4. Action: Promote the adoption of statewide cybersecurity practices for Nebraska K-20 education.

Lead: Education Council; CAP; NNAG; NU-ITS Staff

Participating Entities: ESU-NOC; Higher Education CIOs

Timeframe: 2022-24

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, or from consumption-based billing.

Targets/Deliverables:

4.1 Actively support the formation of, and educational representation on, the statewide cybersecurity advisory committee and development of the statewide cybersecurity action plan under the authority of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

4.1.1 Measurable: A) Identify experts and key stakeholders among the K-20 community and promote involvement.

4.2 Encourage and promote best practices in cybersecurity to ensure adoption by all Nebraska K-20 entities.

4.2.1 Measurable: A) Review and recommend best practices relevant to cybersecurity in K-20 education. B) Identify communication avenues to disseminate information to stakeholders.

4.3 Encourage K-20 membership to actively participate in cyber-related community and industry events to broaden and share knowledge and experience

4.3.1 Measurable: A) Identify events and communicate availability to members.

Other Recommended Measurables:

- Network Nebraska backbone uptime
- Network Nebraska Internet access uptime
- Network Nebraska backbone bandwidth utilization (actual)
- Network Nebraska membership growth
- Network Nebraska Internet growth (purchased and actual)
- Network Nebraska unit cost of Internet
- Number of public, non-public, and non-education entities connected to Network Nebraska

Attachment IV-B

March 10, 2023

To: NITC Commissioners

From: Casey DunnGossin, State GIS Coordinator

Tim Erickson, Chair, GIS Council

Christian Nielsen, Vice Chair, GIS Council

Subject: GIS Council Report

GIS at the State of Nebraska:

The State of Nebraska has an enterprise approach to GIS, data, and deploying GIS software and online environments. The OCIO GIO team is responsible for providing access to GIS software, the portal environments, and sharing enterprise data or data that agencies want to share publicly or with other agencies. We are a team of four, with three developers and a team lead.

The GIO team administers and manages five different portal environments currently. We work with eleven agencies, who pay into the GIS cost rate and utilize the environments. Department of Transportation and Department of Natural Resources are the agencies with the most robust GIS development. Other agencies that continue to increase their GIS functionality are Environment and Energy, Health and Human Services, Public Service Commission, and Education. Finally, we have agencies that are just starting with the GIS Enterprise and will have major projects this year like NLCC and NDA.

A major project that the GIS Council, GIO team and other agencies took on a number of years ago is the evolution of NebraskaMAP. NebraskaMAP is an open data site built off Esri's Hubsite (basic). This site allows agencies to share data, maps and applications with the public and even allow for public download and use of authoritative data. We continue to look at datasets and applications that may benefit taxpayers and agencies to be added to NebraskaMAP. A key benefit is that this cuts down on public record requests because the data is already available in a useable format for the requestor. NebraskaMAP has collaborations with Nebraska Game and Parks, and Douglas County GIS. We are planning to add collaborations with Lincoln/Lancaster County GIS and Sarpy County GIS as well, because these departments have Portal for ArcGIS deployments.

Legislation with a GIS Connection

LB102 - Change provisions relating to the Land Surveyors Regulation Act and the Nebraska Plane Coordinate System Act

This bill was sponsored by Senator Erdman who worked with Casey Sherlock, the State Surveyor. Three of the 4 sections deal with Land Surveyor Regulations, one section redefines the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System and was drafted in line with

sample legislation provided by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS). I was able to attend the hearing and spoke in support of the sections 11-13 of the bill, which details the update for the Nebraska State Plane. Following the hearing Casey Sherlock, the State Surveyor, spoke at the GIS Council about the datum update and how the legislation may be amended to include approval from the GIS Council in the future. As of 2/24/2023 the legislation was moved to general file with a committee amendment making GIS council the approvers of the datum.

GIS Council Update – February 2023

The GIS Council met in February with a quorum. Tim Erickson, Representative of the Clerk of the Legislature is the current chair, and Christian Nielsen, Representative from PSC is the Vice Chair.

Casey Sherlock, the State Surveyor, presented on the topic of LB102 and the National Datum Update. The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is moving away from managing ground control points. If Nebraska wants to continue to have ground control points the state would have to create and maintain a dataset on our own.

Casey wanted to hear if the GIS Council had any concerns with the change made to LB102 in AMB 183, which designates the GIS Council as the body that would vote to approve changes to the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System. The State Surveyor's Office works with the NGS and approves NGS updates before they are released to the state. The updated system has a better grid, and better representation of the 'ground truth'. Douglas and Sarpy Counties will use the regional projection.

Tim Ericson, the Analyst working on LR 370 ([LR 370](#)). One of the reasons for the study was due to discrepancies discovered during the redistricting process. ~800 statutes were identified as needing review to identify the boundary or data steward. The goal is to have the report to the Boundary Working group for review by April 2023.

Agency Updates

Department of Natural Resources: Missouri River Ice Jam Event (December 2022). DNR has an Ice Jam Reporting Application and works with Natural Resource Districts (NRDs) to submit data. Lower Platte South is the original NRD but are now working with other NRDs to collect data when necessary. The agency is working on NeRFF (Nebraska Real-time Flood Forecasting) – flood inundation mapping with a soft launch in March 2023 with a public release goal of September 2023. Starting initial setup of 'Silver Jackets' Premium Hubsite for collaboration with the US Army Corps of Engineers. Awaiting Phase 2 dataset from NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service).

Department of Environment and Energy: Starting work on the 404 Permitting Portal using Esri Premium Hubsite, Survey 123, and a SQL Enterprise database. This portal has a go-

live deadline of Fall 2024. The GIO team developers and vendor developers will be building the solution for NDEE.

Sarpy County GIS: Metro area has received deliverables on the 6 in Lidar data project. Douglas County will host the data on DCGIS portal to allow public download of data. Working with USACE to map impervious surfaces. Setting up a Premium Hubsite to work with tourism consultants.

State Surveyor's Office: Working to image and index all surveys across Nebraska, updating county survey records. Deputy Surveyors are doing survey work mostly with BELF, collecting section corners and adding to the state dataset.

Legislature: The Legislature is in session. Still working on the LR370 report.

Public Service Commission: NG911 deployment continues, South Central & Panhandle region has implemented geospatial call routing. The MidEast and North East regions are next to move to the NG911 ESInet – transitioning to geospatial call routing is currently in progress.

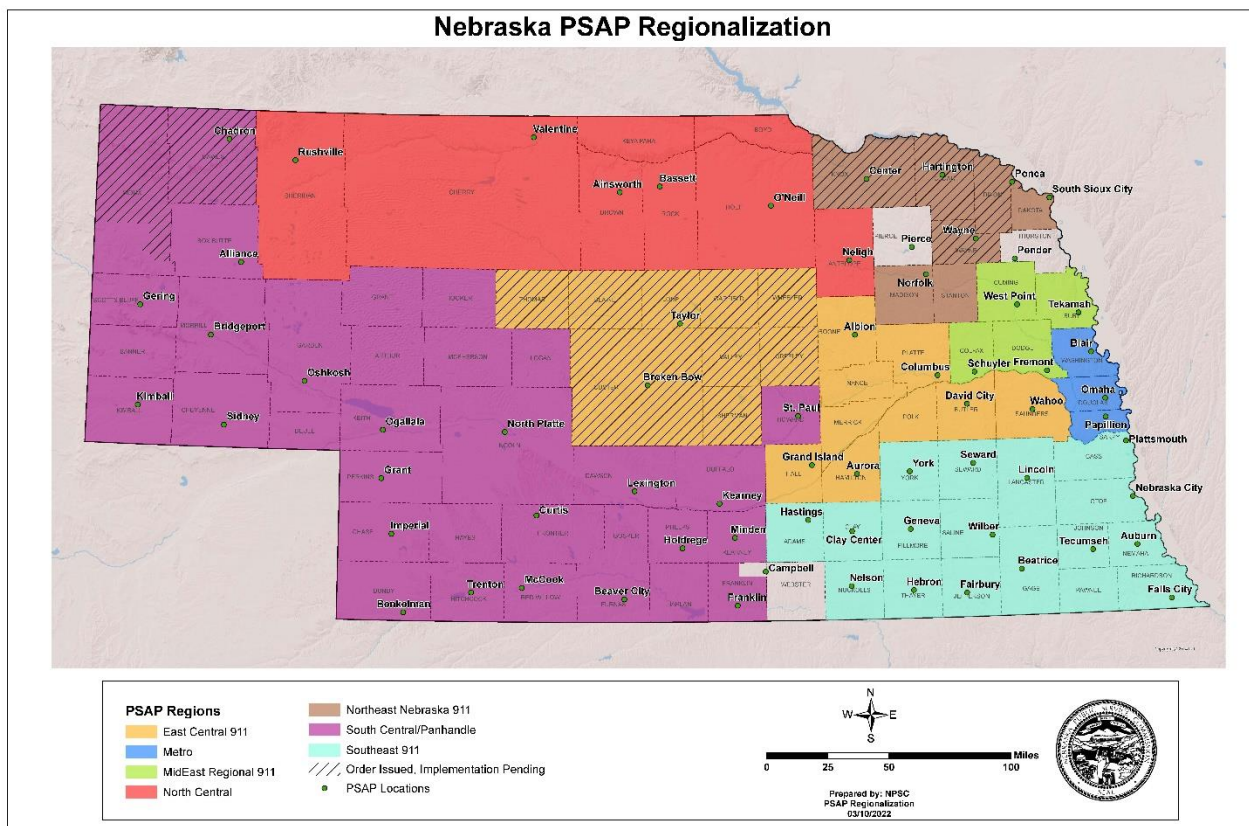


Figure 1: Nebraska PSAP regions as of February 2023

Department of Transportation: Working on several projects. Geomedia to Esri migration trial 1.5 months has included city, county maps and LRS. Culvert inventorying project – DOT is creating an inventory of culverts in Nebraska using FieldMaps.

GIS Professional Organization: GEON had their annual meeting/training day November 19, 2022. GIS/LIS promoted the GeoMentors program, February 10, 2023 was the deadline for schools to sign up for the ESRI Story Map competition.

Douglas County GIS: Three new leaders of GIS heavy departments due to elections, so are working on education. Currently operating two ArcGIS Enterprise Deployments (11.x), one for internal use and have implemented the use of webhooks. New Hubsite Vision Zero initiative. Omaps - Omaha metro area asset protection, public safety, and critical infrastructure support for first responders.

GIS Council Nominations:

Nebraska State Patrol – Charlie Lucas*

Charlie Lucas is a Lead Developer at Nebraska State Patrol. He has a Bachelor of Science in Math and Computer Science from UNL. Started working for NSP in 2013, originally working on the Criminal History system. Around a year later he transitioned to the TraCS and MACH systems. TraCS was originally just the electronic citations system for NSP but has grown to host about 140 agencies on in the state using dozens of forms. MACH was NSP's Vehicle Location system and has now grown to have around 120 agencies across the state and is currently the Computer Aided Dispatch system for NSP. Charlie has also helped expand the team from one person to six FTEs and a temp developer.

Charlie does not any formal training in GIS, but with the TraCS system we have steadily been collecting and using more location data, and MACH has always been built centered around the map. Lately NSP IT have been trying to focus on ways to better utilize the data collected both within these systems and in reports external to them.

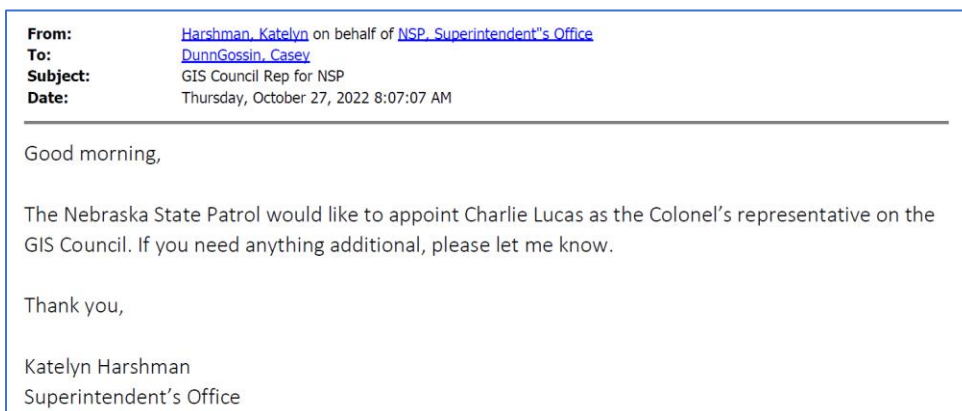


Figure 2: Image of the nomination email

Attachment IV-C

March 6, 2023

To: NITC Commissioners

From: Anne Byers

Subject: Community and eHealth Council Reports

The State Digital Equity Planning Grant has been the focus of both eHealth and Community Council activities. An update on the State Digital Equity Planning Grant will be included as part of the broadband update later in the meeting.

The eHealth Council has a nomination for a new member, Robert Wagner. His bio is below. I will be asking you to approve his nomination.

Robert Wagner

Early in Robert's career he spent time volunteering, working to bridge the gap in what was referred to at the time as the digital divide. Working in corporate financial technology, Robert organized IT departments from several large financial firms, resulting in over 5,000 used computers and associated hardware being donated to community-based organizations in and around the Omaha metro area.

Currently Robert serves as the Chief Information Security Officer at CyncHealth. Robert is responsible for information and data security for all CyncHealth entities. Robert is a seasoned information technology professional with extensive experience in the healthcare and financial industries. He is experienced in security implementation, mitigating ransomware attacks, and security infrastructure. Prior to joining CyncHealth, Robert was the Manager of Business Support at OrthoNebraska where he served as the CISO and oversaw information technology and information security. Robert holds a bachelor's in Business Administration and Computer Science and maintains several technical certifications including the following:

Certified Information Systems Security Professional (**CISSP**)
Certified Cloud Security Professional (**CCSP**)
Healthcare Information Security and Privacy Practitioner (**HCISPP**)
Systems Security Certified Practitioner (**SSCP**)
Amazon Web Services - Certified Cloud Practitioner (**AWS-CLF**)

Robert is active on the Board of Directors for the following organizations:
Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards
Nebraska HIMSS

CyncHealth began in 2008 as a 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to enable providers in the State of Nebraska to exchange healthcare data and support them in providing holistic and effective care to all patients. More than a decade later, CyncHealth now serves more than 1,100 facilities and connects over five million lives across the Midwest. We are proud that our health data utility serves as a highway of healthcare data exchange and makes us a partner in leveraging this data to create healthier communities.

Attachment IV-E

Projects Status Dashboard

February 2023

Enterprise Projects - Current

Agency/Entity	Project	NITC Designated
Nebraska Council of Regions	Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network	03/15/2010
Department of Health and Human Services	iServe Nebraska	11/12/2020
Department of Transportation	Financial Systems Modernization Project	07/08/2021
Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems	OPS Retirement Plan Management Transfer	11/04/2021
Department of Administrative Services, State Budget Division	New Budget Management and Request System	11/10/2022

Note: Status is self-reported by the agency

Project Storyboard: Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN)

Project Manager		Krogman, Sue	Status Report Date	1/30/23	Project Dates			Status Report Indicators		
Project Type		Major Project	Status	Approved		Start	Finish	Overall		
Stage		Build	Progress	Started	Plan	10/1/10	8/31/23	Schedule		
Total Estimated Cost		\$12,500,000.00	Estimate to Complete	83.24%	Baseline	10/1/10	8/31/23	Scope		
Actual Cost To Date		\$10,405,204.00			Days Late	0	0	Cost and Effort		
Project Description					Key Accomplishments					
<p>The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) is a project that will connect a majority of the Public Safety Access Points (PSAP) across the State by means of a point to point microwave system. The network will be a true, secure means of transferring data, video and voice. Speed and stability are major expectations; therefore there is a required redundant technology base of no less than 100 mbps with 99.999% availability for each site. It is hoped that the network will be used as the main transfer mechanism for currently in-place items, thus imposing a cost-saving to local government. All equipment purchased for this project is compatible with the networking equipment of the OCIO.</p>					<p>Met with the Richardson County Board to receive approval to access their new County tower for installation. Met with contractor and Webster County to get site approvals for installation of a new tower.</p>					
Status Report Update					Upcoming Activities					
<p>UPDATE FOR JANUARY 2023 – Met with the Richardson County Board to receive approval to access their new County tower for installation. Also met with contractor and Webster County to get site approvals for installation of a new tower there. New IP20 equipment is being ordered for upgrades to our sites as well as Solarwinds updates that will enhance its capabilities in the network. Cass County fiber project has been approved and will be installed within the next 60 days.</p> <p>UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2022 – Meetings with Cass County Board to determine adding fiber to Cass County. The fiber would go from Cass County to Sarpy County and give NRIN a connection to the Orion Network. This would add another redundancy to not only Cass County, but to the East Central Region also. Work has been put on hold because of the high winds for any of the towers, hoping to resume those spots as soon as possible.</p>					<p>Cass County fiber project has been approved and will be installed within the next 60 days.</p>					
Issues by Priority		Risks by Priority		Current Issues						
<div></div>		<div></div>		No matching records were found						

Project Storyboard: iServe Nebraska

Project Manager		Agarwal, Ankush		Status Report Date		1/31/23		Project Dates			Status Report Indicators				
Project Type		Major Project		Status		Approved		Start			Finish				
Stage		Design		Progress		Started		Plan			4/6/2012/27/24				
Total Estimated Cost		\$33,524,476.00		Estimate to Complete		78.17%		Baseline			4/6/2012/27/24				
Actual Cost To Date		\$26,207,464.00						Days Late			00				
Project Description								Key Accomplishments							
<p>The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has embarked on the iServe Nebraska Program to improve access, outcomes, cost, accountability and quality of DHHS services through an integrated, consumer-centric model of practice, across all programs. DHHS intends the iServe Nebraska Program to be adaptive and incrementally deliver new business capabilities, enabling the state to move from a siloed and program-based business model, to an integrated service delivery model that is family and person-centered, focused on improving the overall health and well-being of all family members.</p>								<p>Completed iServe Launch 1 for Explore Benefits making available to all portal users as of 01/27/2023. Completed all public announcements successfully and all portal users were notified about the new features available to them. Complete Prod Release 1.10 for continued development of Launch 2 code deployment activities. Continued Launch 2 development activities; Major release planned for July 2023. Submitted Request for Additional Information (RAI) to CMS/FNS from IAPD-U findings. iServe Bridge development is ongoing, PI-1 is in progress.</p>							
Status Report Update								Upcoming Activities							
<p>Work continues for upcoming iServe minor and major releases. Multiple minor releases have been incrementally deployed since Launch 1 (April 2022). Incremental delivery to Prod will continue with upcoming minor releases. A major release was deployed on January 27 2023 releasing Explore Benefits functionality for all portal users.</p>								<p>Prepare Delivery and Deployment Activities for iServe Launch 2 Application Release to Select Community Partners on July of 2023. Start penetration testing that is scheduled to end March 2023. Start ADA testing that is scheduled to end April 2023. Prepare revised documentation and artifacts to align with FNS Concurrence and ORR Refresh Plan by May 2023. Continue iServe Bridge Project PI-1 development work. Submit RAI response to CMS/FNS for I-APD-U approval. Continue IBEEM planning work activities.</p>							
Issues by Priority				Risks by Priority				Current Issues							
<div></div>				<div></div>				No matching records were found							

Project Storyboard: NDOT Financial System Modernization (WO 275056)

Project Manager

Lusero, Cody

Project Type

Major Project

Stage

Design

Total Estimated Cost

\$5,945,871.00

Actual Cost To Date

\$366,815.76

Status Report Date

2/6/23

Status

Approved

Progress

Started

Estimate to Complete

6.17%

Project Dates

	Start	Finish
Plan	3/28/22	8/1/26
Baseline	3/28/22	8/1/26
Days Late	0	0

Status Report Indicators

Overall		
Schedule		
Scope		
Cost and Effort		

Project Description

275056 - NDOT Financial System Modernization
The Financial Systems Modernization effort is focused on moving all financial systems at NDOT off of the mainframe.

Key Accomplishments

Phase 1
1. Schedule percent complete increased by 4% to 88%, the schedule completion date moved out to 4/17. The primary cause of this delay is testing has only been done in the development environment. DAS is waiting for code to stabilize before moving to UAT environment for further testing
2. Security based user roles will be defined to enable NDOT staff to use role-based access instead of full administrative privileges currently used in the development environment
Phase 2
1. Schedule percent complete increased by 4% to 9%, the target completion remains 11/1
2. Phase 2 work plan has been baselined
3. To-Be processes were approved by leadership and RTM review is near complete
4. Cody presented at the 2/1 DOMM meeting to make districts aware of Phase 2 impacts downstream
5. Scheduled meetings to kick-off ACT/AFE architecture in early February
6. Plans are underway to develop a detailed work plan for Supply Base/Inventory configuration task identifying components for building user stories/sprints and a comprehensive schedule

Status Report Update

The team is working very hard on testing the Journal Voucher functionality. We have found quite a few bugs as well as a few new requirements but the development team is turning things around quickly which is great. Our delivery date slipped by 10 days with the past week's update, mostly caused by the testing cycles and active development still taking place.
Phase 2 is underway as well with the Architecture phase for the Inventory module wrapping up in the next week. We are also beginning the Architecture phase for Contracts Management module this week. The team will be putting together a more detailed configuration plan for Inventory after the architecture is complete.

Upcoming Activities

Phase 1
- Complete General Ledger Reporting and Testing
- Migrate Journal Voucher development to User Acceptance Testing environment and continue testing
- Begin General Ledger training
Phase 2
- Complete Architecture tasks for both Inventory and Contracts Management modules
- Create detailed work plan for Inventory Implementation

Issues by Priority

Risks by Priority

Current Risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Priority	Status	Target Resolution	Owner
Resource Allocation				Open		Lusero, Cody

More Risks...

Date: 2/8/23, 8:58:26 AM CST

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Project Storyboard: OPS Retirement Plan Management Transfer

Project Manager		Deshpande, Jaydeep	Status Report Date	2/1/23	Project Dates			Status Report Indicators		
Project Type		Major Project	Status	Approved		Start	Finish	Overall	<div></div>	<div></div>
Stage		Requirements	Progress	Started	Plan	10/1/21	8/31/24	Schedule	<div></div>	<div></div>
Total Estimated Cost		\$4,200,000.00	Estimate to Complete	0.00%	Baseline	10/1/21	8/31/24	Scope	<div></div>	<div></div>
Actual Cost To Date		\$0.00			Days Late	0	0	Cost and Effort	<div></div>	<div></div>
Project Description					Key Accomplishments					
NPERS OPS (Omaha Public School) project - data and document migration from the OPS environment to NPRIS and OnBase.										
Status Report Update					Upcoming Activities					
<div>1. New vendor engament started with Linea Solutions</div> <div>a. NPERS started engaging with Linea post the contract signing.</div> <div>b. NPERS has already met with Linea and Linea is proceeding with the project's discovery phase.</div> <div>c. Going ahead OPS team has also been informed that Linea memmembers will be starting discovery with OPS staff as well</div> <div>d. Plan is to continue building the engagement</div> <div>3. Infrastructure setup for the Vendor onboard</div> <div>a. NPERS has created tickets to get the vendor consultants setup in the state active directory and get VPN access</div> <div>b. NPERS has also put in request for Network Team to set up a managed switch at NPERS for the OSERS jump boxes(SR3505788)</div> <div>c. NPERS is awaiting an answer from the OCIO Firewall Team regarding the feasibility of applying firewall rules to machines with static IPs on a machine-by-machine basis</div> <div>d. NPERS has requested for a new repository virtual server on the isolated DEV/TEST subnet (SR3528068)</div> <div>e. NPERS has requested for creation of secondary ECM DEV/TEST server (SR3524689)</div> <div>f. NPERS is also in the process of setting up new development and SIT environments for the vendors to work on</div> <div>g. NPERS has also contacted the State's IBM sales contact for additional Websphere licenses for the new environments for the project</div>										
Issues by Priority		Risks by Priority		Current Issues						
<div></div>		<div></div>		No matching records were found						

Project Storyboard: New Budget Management and Request System

Project Manager

Bush, Gary

Status Report Date

12/13/22

Project Type

Major Project

Status

Approved

Stage

Requirements

Progress

Not Started

Total Estimated Cost

\$1,209,574.00

Estimate to Complete

0.00%

Actual Cost To Date

\$0.00

Project Dates

Start

Finish

Plan

2/21/23

8/1/23

Baseline

Days Late

0

0

Status Report Indicators

Overall

Schedule

Scope

Cost and Effort

Project Description

The State of Nebraska has used the Nebraska Budget Request and Reporting System (NBRRS) for the past 15 years. The State Budget Division seeks to take advantage of improvements in software and methodologies in budget management and request submission process of agencies, boards, and commissions of the state.

Key Accomplishments

Status Report Update

Project getting underway... no update at this time.

Upcoming Activities

Issues by Priority

Risks by Priority

1

Current Risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Priority	Status	Target Resolution	Owner
Project kick-off				Open	2/21/23	Bush, Gary

More Risks...

Date: 2/8/23, 8:58:26 AM CST

Page 5 of 5

Attachment IV-F

Testimony and Handouts

LR406 Hearing

October 7, 2022

Ed Toner

Chief Information Officer

I. INTRODUCTION

Chairman Stinner and members of the Appropriations Committee, my name is Ed Toner (E-D-T-O-N-E-R).

I am the Chief Information Officer for the State of Nebraska. I appear before you today to testify on LR406.

The National Conference of State Legislatures published an article titled “The Case for IT Consolidation” in April of 2018. The article contained the following statement, “Consolidating IT resources across a state, though not an easy process, is clearly the favored path.” Nebraska is one of the very few states that has achieved that favored path.

In 2015, recognizing that the state’s siloed and disparate legacy agency approach could no longer address the growing and changing needs of the citizens and taxpayers, the Office of the CIO looked for a better solution to provide enhanced services through a consolidated IT environment. What did we mean by “consolidated?” In short, for code agencies the OCIO would be responsible for infrastructure and enterprise applications and agencies would be responsible for agency-specific applications. Nebraska’s consolidation is:

- One network – one domain;
- Centralized management of active/hot-standby, geographically separated data centers;
- Hardware managed by the OCIO;
- Servers located in only the state’s two data centers managed by the OCIO;
- Enterprise applications managed by the OCIO; and

- Applications that are specific to an agency are managed by the agency, but the technical infrastructure is managed by the OCIO.

Information technology was moved out of its traditional order-taker role to that of a strategic policy, business and service partner. The OCIO's initial focus included centralizing information technology policy, strategic planning, project management, infrastructure, and addressing enterprise security needs.

Enterprise applications are managed by the OCIO such as email, data storage, etc. Applications that are specific to an agency are managed by the agency business teams which allows them full control of their line-of-business. Line-of-business services consist of those differentiated services core to the strategic mission of the agency.

Consolidation efforts took place in three phases over 18 months:

- Phase 1: Networks,
- Phase 2: Server Administration, and
- Phase 3: Desktop Support.

Existing organizations and functions were consolidated, several were materially strengthened via depth of support and incorporation of industry best practices. The technology consolidation enabled major reductions in staff and technology expenditures, while maintaining or increasing service levels.

A number of new functions, processes and organizational units were also created: a centralized Incident Management team to enhance technology support; the Risk Mitigation and Compliance team which

addressed concerns about security; a centralized Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team to address cross-boundary data mapping issues; a consolidated infrastructure organization to remediate reliability issues; and the creation of strong centralized project and change management programs.

During this consolidation, no additional funds were requested to upgrade aging hardware. No outside consulting firm was hired to manage or provide guidance for the effort. It was entirely funded from the existing OCIO revolving fund budget.

LR406 sets out seven items to be addressed as part of this interim study:

- Items (1) through (4) are a review of various budget programs, services, and staffing levels for the Office of the CIO. We have prepared a handout that includes information and data in response to these items;
- Item (5) relates to “[e]vidence of improvements resulting from the consolidation initiative.” Most of my prepared remarks that follow will address this issue. The charts and data included with this testimony will show that, to date, the consolidation project has saved the state over \$38 million; and
- Finally, items (6) and (7) relate to potential improvements to the consolidation initiative. I will touch briefly on these two items in my concluding remarks.

II. CONSOLIDATION BENEFITS

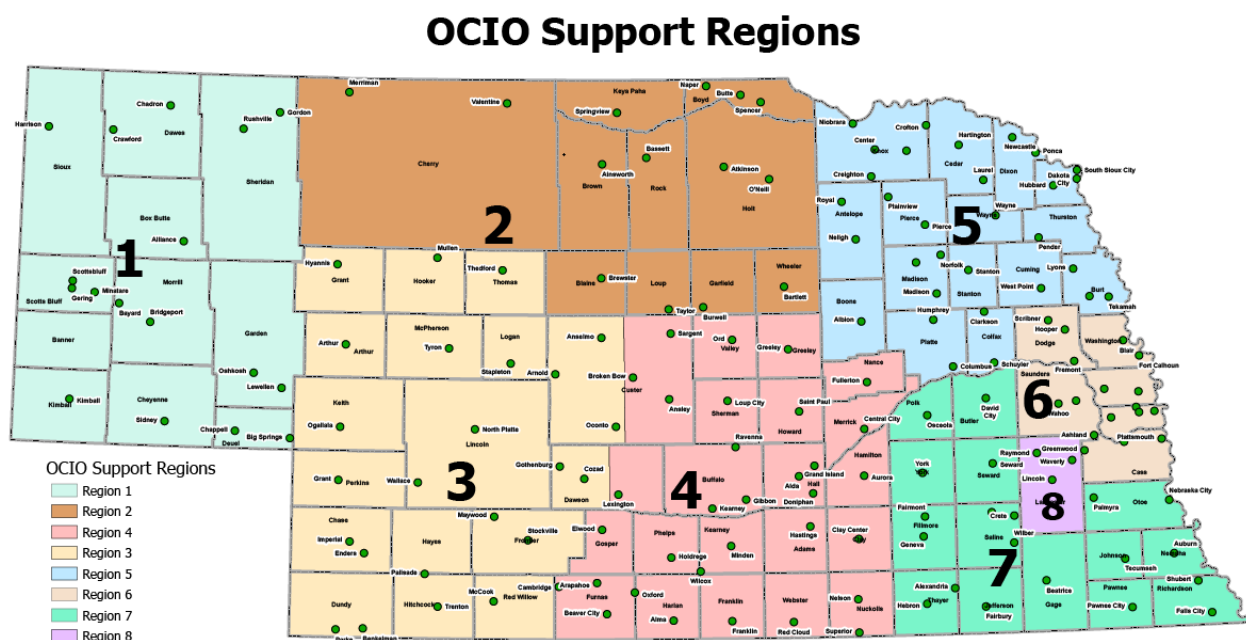
Through the tireless efforts of personnel in the Office of the CIO, the State of Nebraska has placed among the top states in the country for technology by the Center for Digital Technology. Nebraska received two awards from the center: one for “Resilience: Disaster Recovery and Continuity of

Operations (DR/COO)” and a second for “Innovation.” The Office of the CIO also earned the 2018 Enterprise Technology Management Initiative Award for State Technology Consolidation from the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO). This award celebrates the country’s leading government IT services.

1. TACTICAL BENEFITS

We consolidated technical support by restructuring existing agency support positions located outside of the Lincoln area. We had enough resources to meet staffing benchmarks to support eight separate service centers. This allowed us to locate technical support closer to the customers and gives us the ability to recruit from multiple rural areas of the state. We improved service levels and standardized processes across the state with integrated tools and automation.

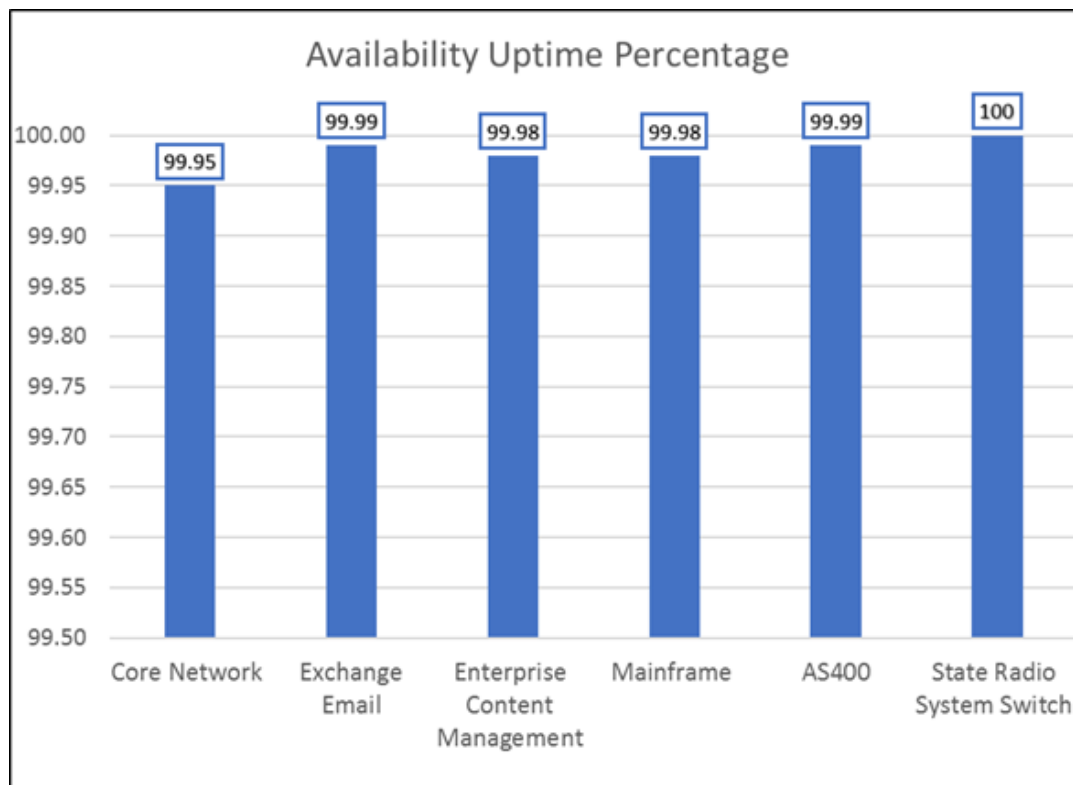
The included map shows the eight OCIO support regions.



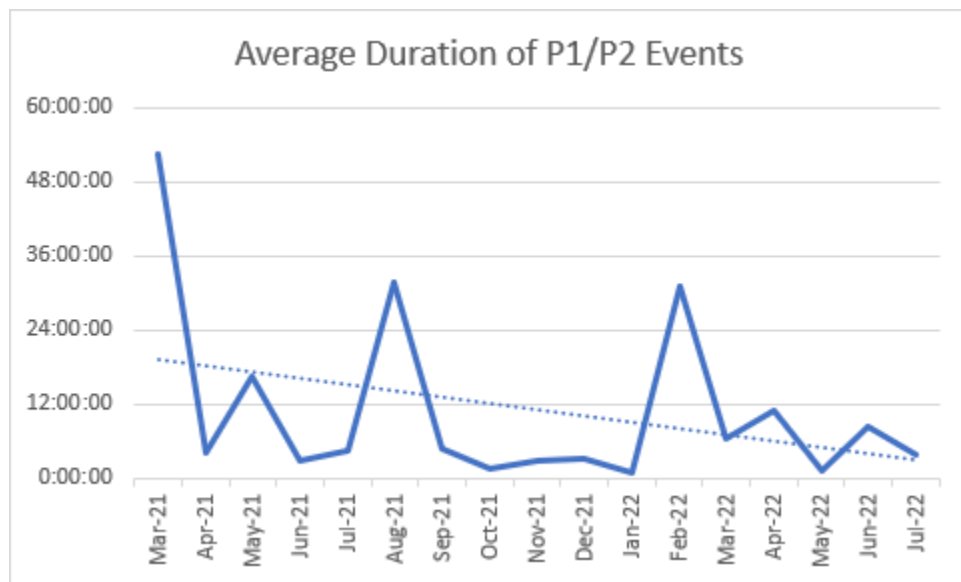
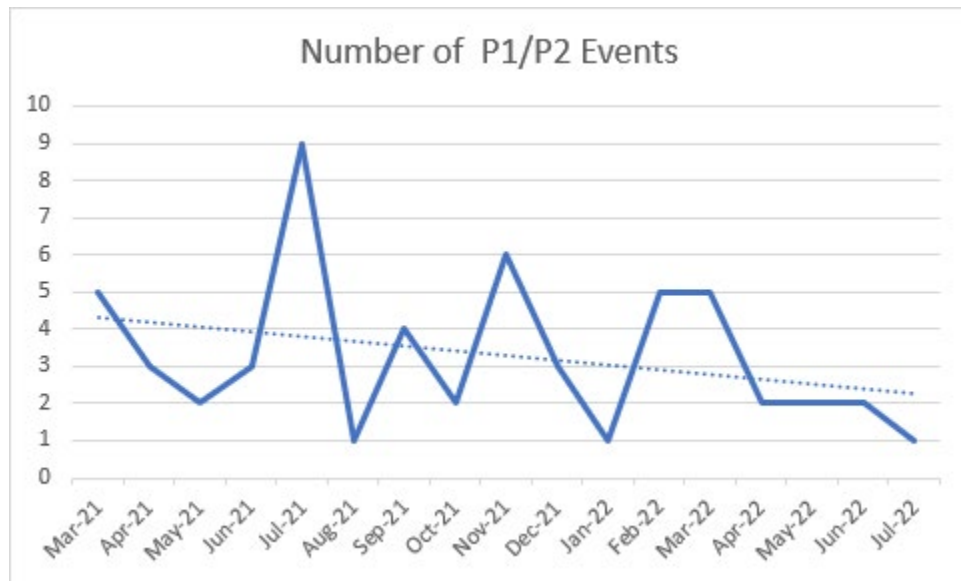
2. OPERATIONAL BENEFITS

Operational benefits include the time saved through increased system availability, reduced downtime, and enhanced disaster recovery capabilities. Redundant data centers located in Omaha and Lincoln have the capability of running all critical state applications independently. This allows for failover to the alternate data center when issues occur. In 2021 the failover plan was tested with success when the core network availability was affected by an edge router hardware failure. The team limited the duration of the outage by routing traffic to the alternate data center allowing for successful replacement the following weekend.

A chart with average system availability uptime over the past 12 months is included in the materials.



With respect to critical issues, which we call P1 and P2 events, you can see in the included charts that the number and duration of these events has steadily decreased since consolidation.



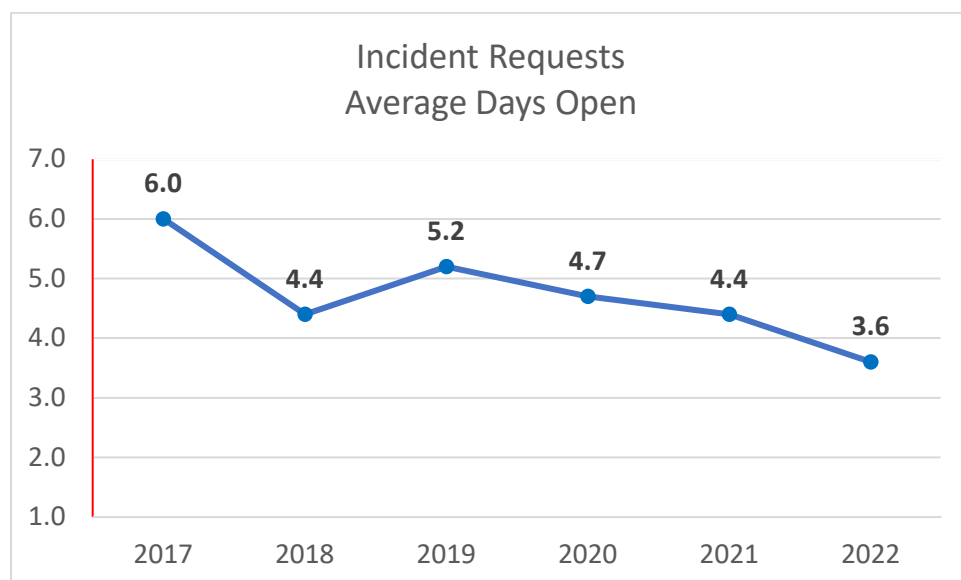
3. STRATEGIC BENEFITS

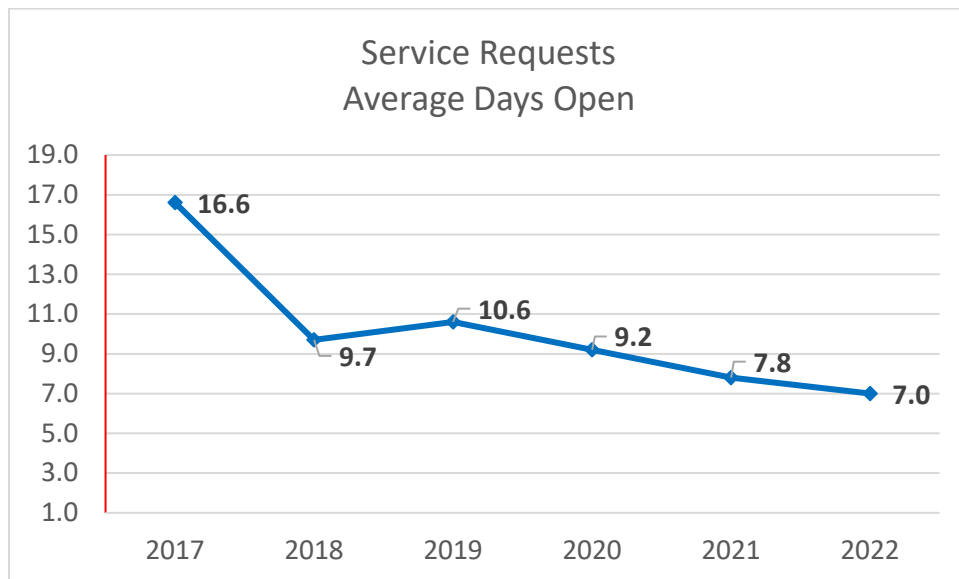
In 2020, the OCIO was presented with the responsibility of transitioning a large number of state teammates to a remote working environment. Because of consolidation, the infrastructure necessary to deliver on this responsibility was already in place and functioning. While many states lacked sufficient capacity to adequately support the demand in usage, Nebraska was not one of them. The customers of the OCIO immediately had access to a secure virtual private network (VPN) with multi-factor authentication (MFA) for a secure work from home environment.

III. RESULTS

1. IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

Since consolidation completion in 2019 we see a steady declining trend in time to resolve for both incident and service requests with high customer satisfaction ratings.

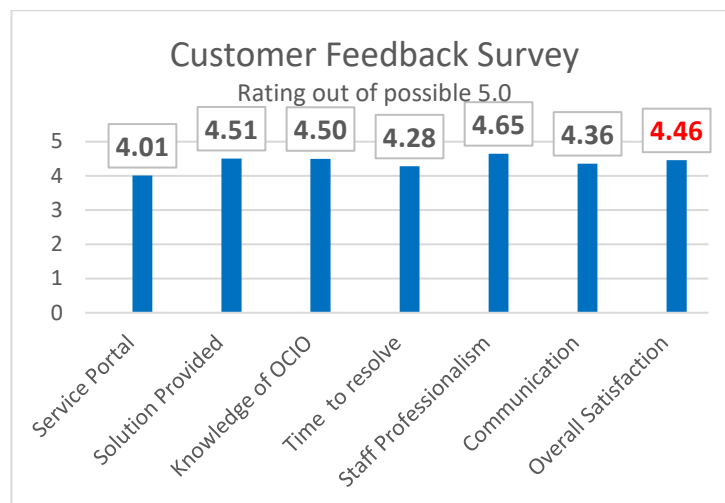




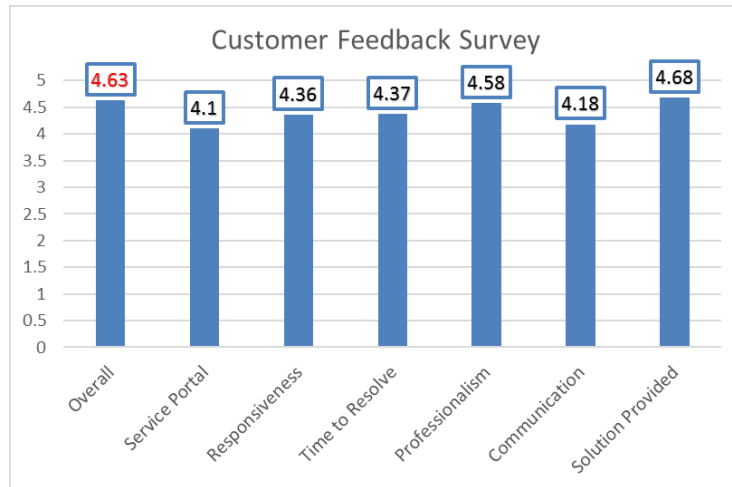
2. IMPROVED SERVICE QUALITY

Customer survey results for the past three years are included in the materials.

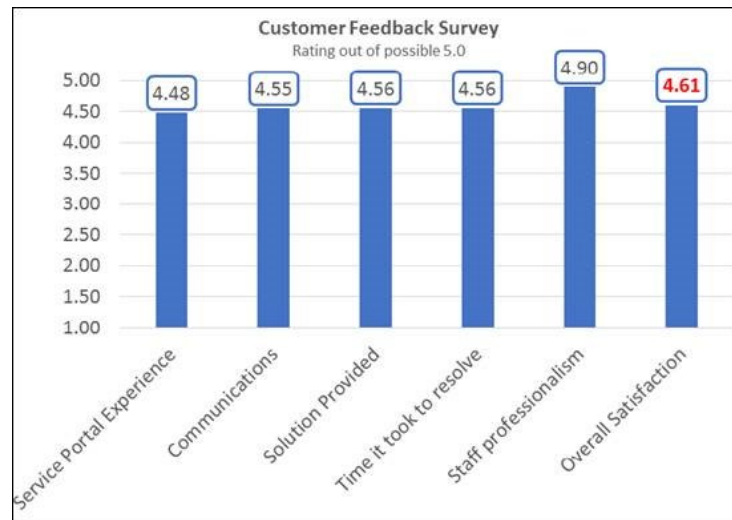
2019



2020



2021

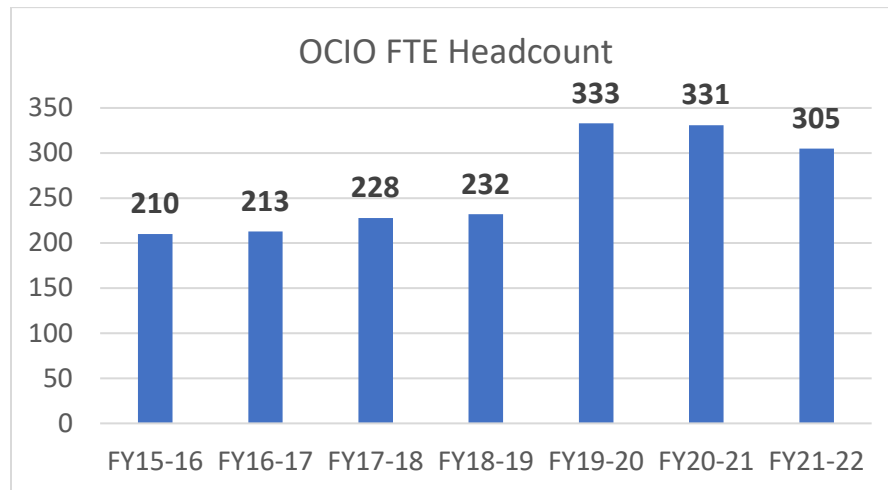


IV. SAVINGS

1. STAFF SAVINGS

Consolidation reduced the need for technology resources by 77 FTEs and 16 contractors with an accumulated cost savings of \$30,083,922.

The included charts show the 101 FTEs transferred from agencies to the OCIO, the 77 FTEs eliminated, and the 16 contractor positions eliminated.



				FTE Eliminated				
				Based on \$65K/yr/FTE			Eliminated	
							77	
						73	FY21-22	Total
				68	FY20-21		\$260,000	\$ 260,000
			64	FY19-20	\$325,000		\$325,000	\$ 650,000
		45	FY18-19	\$260,000	\$260,000		\$260,000	\$ 780,000
	43	FY17-18	\$1,235,000	\$1,235,000	\$1,235,000		\$1,235,000	\$ 4,940,000
10	FY16-17	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000		\$130,000	\$ 650,000
FY15-16	\$2,145,000	\$2,145,000	\$2,145,000	\$2,145,000	\$2,145,000		\$2,145,000	\$ 12,870,000
	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000		\$650,000	\$ 4,550,000
FY Total	\$650,000	\$2,795,000	\$2,925,000	\$4,160,000	\$ 4,420,000	\$ 4,745,000	\$ 5,005,000	\$ 24,700,000
	-----Consolidation-----							

				Contractors Eliminated				
							Eliminated	
							16	
				16	FY20-21		FY21-22	Total
			16	FY19-20	\$0		\$0	\$0
		7	FY18-19	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
	7	FY17-18	\$40,804	\$40,804	\$40,804		\$40,804	\$ 163,216
3	FY16-17	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
FY15-16	\$485,792	\$485,792	\$485,792	\$485,792	\$485,792		\$485,792	\$ 2,914,752
	\$329,422	\$329,422	\$329,422	\$329,422	\$329,422		\$329,422	\$ 2,305,954
FY Total	\$329,422	\$815,214	\$815,214	\$856,018	\$ 856,018	\$ 856,018	\$ 856,018	\$ 5,383,922
	-----Consolidation-----							

2. PHYSICAL SERVERS ELIMINATED/VIRTUALIZED SAVINGS

Savings from eliminated and virtualized servers are provided in the chart below.

Physical Servers Eliminated/Virtualized							
Based on \$2850/yr/physical - \$1500/yr/vm license							
					362		
					326	FY21-22	Total
			296	FY20-21	\$102,600	\$	102,600
		229	FY19-20	\$84,856	\$84,856	\$	169,712
		159	FY18-19	\$196,650	\$196,650	\$196,650	\$ 589,950
	90	FY17-18	\$142,950	\$142,950	\$142,950	\$142,950	\$ 571,800
	FY16-17	\$99,900	\$99,900	\$99,900	\$99,900	\$99,900	\$ 499,500
FY Total	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$ 729,000
	\$121,500	\$221,400	\$364,350	\$ 561,000	\$ 645,856	\$ 748,456	\$ 2,662,562

3. CONSOLIDATED COUNTY AS400 SERVER SAVINGS

Savings from the county AS400 servers that were eliminated and virtualized are provided in the chart below.

Physical Servers Eliminated/Virtualized										
Based on \$4000/yr/physical + \$800 maintenance costs										
				Servers	Annual Maintenance					
				FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	Total	
93 County(109 State Owned AS400 Servers)				\$523,200	\$87,200	\$87,200	\$87,200	\$87,200	\$ 872,000	
71 County (74 County Owned AS400 Servers)				\$355,200	\$59,200	\$59,200	\$59,200	\$59,200	\$ 499,500	
				\$878,400	\$146,400	\$146,400	\$146,400	\$146,400	\$1,371,500	

4. CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS SAVINGS

A review of states by the National Governors Association (NGA Center for Best Practices – Issue Brief) found that operating consolidated data centers saves states millions of dollars. The OCIO consolidated into two data centers in Lincoln and Omaha. The agency data centers that were closed because of

5. DUPLICATE SOFTWARE SAVINGS

Consolidation allowed us to eliminate some duplicate software. Benefits of eliminating redundant applications include reduced software licensing costs, enhanced availability, and enhanced security. A table with the savings from duplicate software elimination is included in the materials.

Duplicate Software Elimination Savings							
Application plus one-time Server Costs							
	Initial Save		Annual Savings				
	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	Total
	\$55,186	\$36,786	\$36,786	\$36,786	\$36,786	\$36,786	\$ 239,116

6. TOTAL SAVINGS

Staff savings	\$	30,083,922
Server savings	\$	2,662,562
County AS400	\$	1,371,500
Data centers	\$	3,999,705
Duplicate software	\$	239,116
TOTAL	\$	38,356,805

V. BUDGET IMPACT

Program 173 took the full impact of the consolidation. As shown in the included chart, the additional operating expenses were minimal when taking into account the additional PSL expenses and the additional server expenses transitioned to this program.

	Pre-Consolidation				Post Consolidation		
	Program 173 Revolving Funds						
	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22
Total Expenses	\$39,855,325	\$38,246,799	\$43,369,874	\$49,386,082	\$61,267,485	\$62,310,893	\$61,571,382
(Less) PSL Expenses	\$3,026,114	\$3,125,578	\$4,101,074	\$4,195,415	\$10,691,303	\$11,291,555	\$11,462,838
Operating Expenses	\$36,829,211	\$35,121,221	\$39,268,800	\$45,190,667	\$50,576,182	\$51,019,338	\$50,108,544
					\$3,097,950	\$2,983,950	\$2,850,000
					47,478,232	48,035,388	47,258,544

VI. CONCLUSION

Finally, with respect to potential improvements to the consolidation initiative, I welcome this committee's review of our consolidation initiative and any recommendations you may have. From the Office of the CIO's perspective, this initiative was completed successfully in 2019. However, we are always looking for opportunities to improve how we provide services to our customers. Consolidation has created additional opportunities for the OCIO. The following are a few projects we are considering:

- Consolidation of enterprise applications, such as: time entry system, contract management system, and technology asset management; and
- Expanding our role and partnership with other non-code agencies.

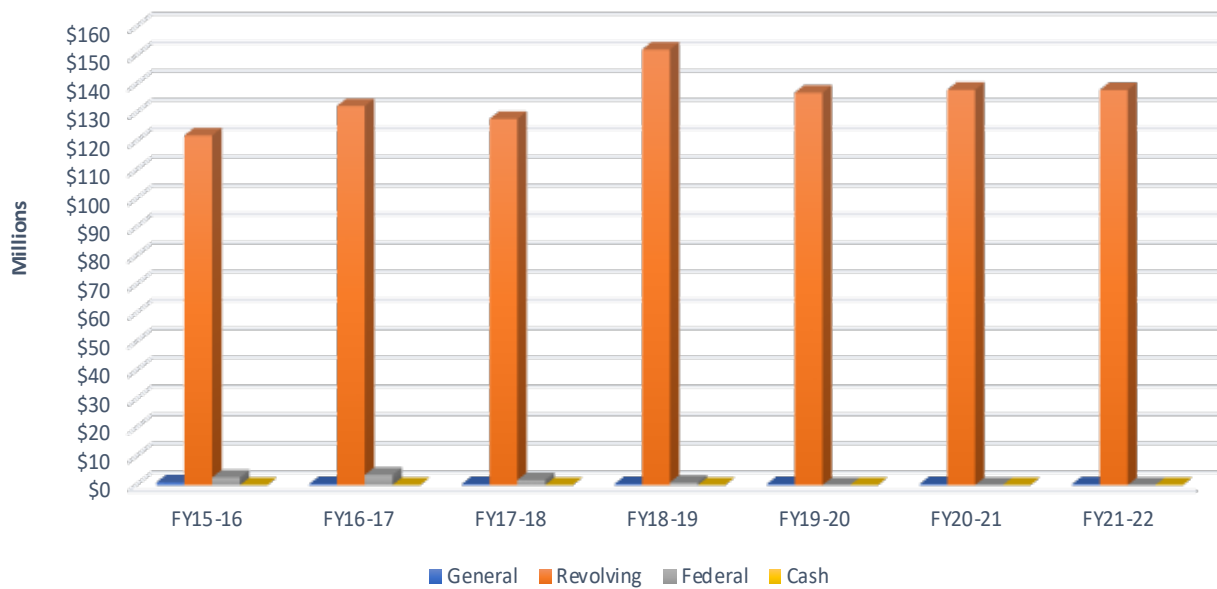
In closing, I would like to thank the Governor, this committee, and the participating agencies for supporting our efforts to better manage information technology for the State of Nebraska. I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

ATTACHMENTS

1) Analysis of budget programs under the purview of the office of Chief Information Officer, including revolving funds and request for full-time equivalent employee;

OCIO - Overall Funding by Type							
	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22
General	\$ 1,057,396	\$ 384,061	\$ 358,177	\$ 370,973	\$ 356,481	\$ 356,396	\$ 325,784
Revolving	\$ 122,143,301	\$ 132,416,067	\$ 127,897,547	\$ 152,118,795	\$ 137,055,634	\$ 138,068,011	\$ 137,994,942
Federal	\$ 2,700,909	\$ 3,572,180	\$ 1,775,202	\$ 909,680	\$ 8,110	\$ -	\$ -
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 17,182	\$ 35,000
	\$ 125,901,607	\$ 136,372,309	\$ 130,030,925	\$ 153,424,448	\$ 137,445,226	\$ 138,441,589	\$ 138,355,726

OCIO - Overall Funding by Type



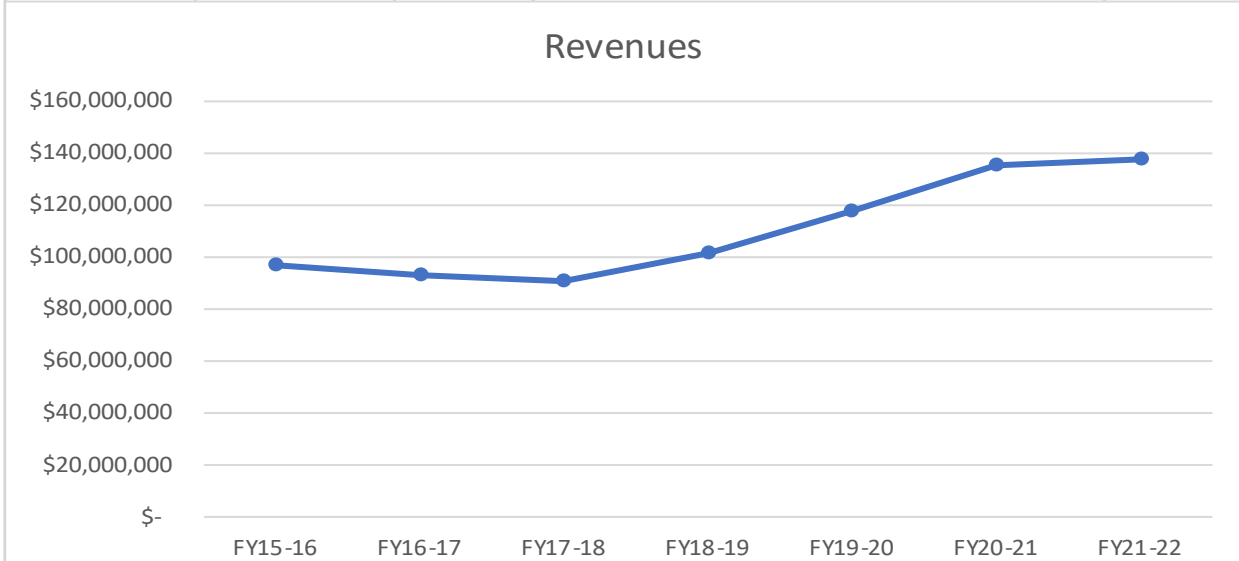
Note: The OCIO had no requests for the addition of any full-time employees (FTE's) during this timeframe. Any increase in OCIO headcount was a result of positions being re-allocated due to consolidation.

1) continued

						Program 935 (Armstrong Renovation)	
FY15-16	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 457,263	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,058	\$ 551,075	\$ 1,057,396
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 3,130,259	\$ 74,486,222	\$ 39,855,325	\$ 4,671,496	\$ -	\$ 122,143,301
Federal	\$ 2,700,909	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,700,909
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 3,158,173	\$ 3,130,259	\$ 74,486,222	\$ 39,855,325	\$ 4,720,554	\$ 551,075	\$ 125,901,607
FY16-17	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 384,061	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 384,061
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 3,728,641	\$ 84,730,136	\$ 38,246,799	\$ 5,710,492	\$ -	\$ 132,416,068
Federal	\$ 3,572,180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,572,180
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 3,956,242	\$ 3,728,641	\$ 84,730,136	\$ 38,246,799	\$ 5,710,492	\$ -	\$ 136,372,309
FY17-18	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 358,177	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 358,177
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 2,724,379	\$ 72,925,328	\$ 43,369,874	\$ 8,877,966	\$ -	\$ 127,897,547
Federal	\$ 1,775,202	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,775,202
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 2,133,379	\$ 2,724,379	\$ 72,925,328	\$ 43,369,874	\$ 8,877,966	\$ -	\$ 130,030,925
FY18-19	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 370,973	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 370,973
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 3,211,437	\$ 88,518,208	\$ 49,386,082	\$ 11,003,068	\$ -	\$ 152,118,795
Federal	\$ 909,680	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 909,680
Cash	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Total	\$ 1,305,653	\$ 3,211,437	\$ 88,518,208	\$ 49,386,082	\$ 11,003,068	\$ -	\$ 153,424,448
FY19-20	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 356,481	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 356,481
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 2,407,096	\$ 63,806,339	\$ 61,267,485	\$ 9,574,714	\$ -	\$ 137,055,634
Federal	\$ 8,110	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,110
Cash	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Total	\$ 389,591	\$ 2,407,096	\$ 63,806,339	\$ 61,267,485	\$ 9,574,714	\$ -	\$ 137,445,226
FY20-21	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 356,396	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 356,396
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 2,858,277	\$ 62,150,162	\$ 62,310,893	\$ 10,748,679	\$ -	\$ 138,068,011
Federal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cash	\$ 17,182	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,182
Total	\$ 373,578	\$ 2,858,277	\$ 62,150,162	\$ 62,310,893	\$ 10,748,679	\$ -	\$ 138,441,589
FY21-22	Program 101	Program 170	Program 172	Program 173	Program 245		TOTAL
General	\$ 325,784	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325,784
Revolving	\$ -	\$ 2,379,944	\$ 64,907,203	\$ 61,571,382	\$ 9,136,413	\$ -	\$ 137,994,942
Federal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cash	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000
Total	\$ 360,784	\$ 2,379,944	\$ 64,907,203	\$ 61,571,382	\$ 9,136,413	\$ -	\$ 138,355,726

2) Analysis of agency revenues, including a list of billable services and fees;

FY	Revenues			
FY15-16	\$ 96,985,130			
FY16-17	\$ 92,694,115			
FY17-18	\$ 90,733,225			
FY18-19	\$ 101,504,444			
FY19-20	\$ 117,867,432			
FY20-21	\$ 135,132,018			
FY21-22	\$ 137,521,247			



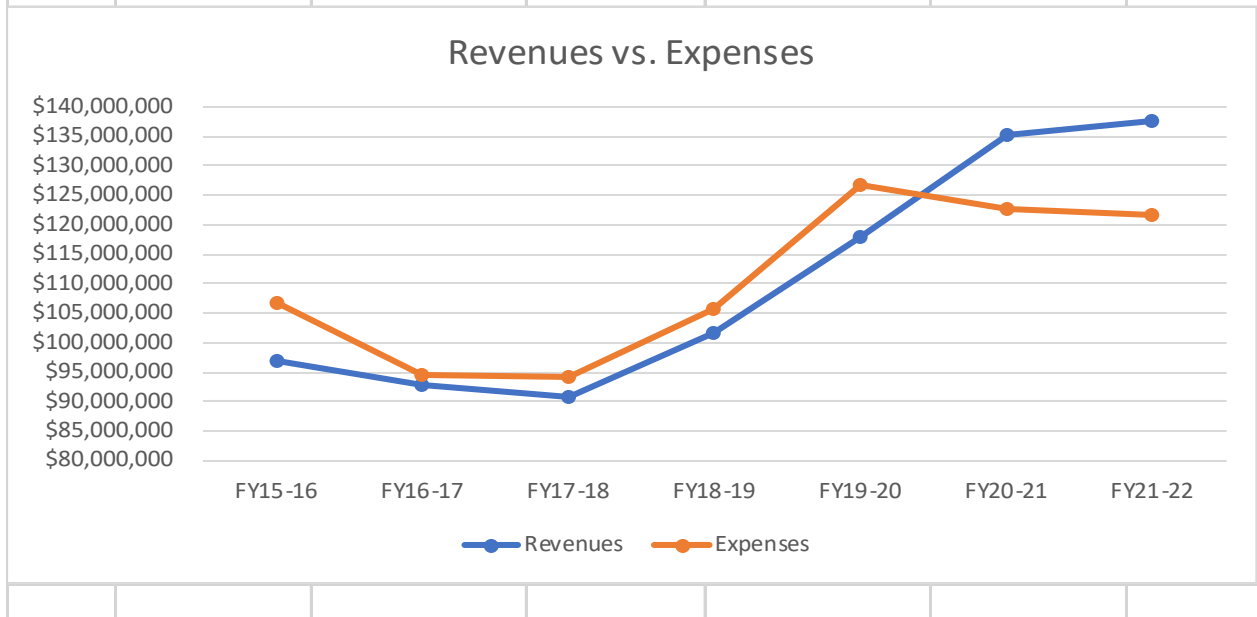
OCIO - Revenue Generating Service Offerings			
Application Development Services		Site Support	
Applications and Database Hosting Services		SITE SUPPORT	
KRONOS TIME ENTRY SERVICE		LAPTOP & PC LEASING	
SQL SERVER DATABASE HOSTING		State Gas Usage Tracking System	
STATIC WEB HOSTING		Video Conferencing	
Analytics & Reporting Services (OBIEE)		Voice/Wireless Communications	
Application Portfolio Management		SharePoint/TEAMS	
Automated Notification Services		Open Systems	
Cabling and Wire Services		Project Management Services (Clarity)	
VOICE/DATA OUTLETS		Public Safety	
Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)		Service Desk	
Fax Services		Network Services	
INBOUND/OUTBOUND/LONG DISTANCE		Security	
Enterprise Content Management (ECM)		Intergovernmental Data Services (IDS) AS400	
Geographic Information Services (GIS)		Mainframe Computing Services	
Hardware/Software Procurement		Microsoft (Office, Windows, Exchange)	

3) Comparison of expenditures to agency revenues;

FY	Revenues	Expenses	Variance
FY15-16	\$ 96,985,130	\$ 106,565,911	\$ (9,580,781)
FY16-17	\$ 92,694,115	\$ 94,629,276	\$ (1,935,161)
FY17-18	\$ 90,733,225	\$ 94,156,884	\$ (3,423,659)
FY18-19	\$ 101,504,444	\$ 105,807,708	\$ (4,303,264)
FY19-20	\$ 117,867,432	\$ 126,823,476	\$ (8,956,044)
FY20-21	\$ 135,132,018	\$ 122,731,646	\$ 12,400,372
FY21-22	\$ 137,521,247	\$ 121,562,117	\$ 15,959,130

Note: Per 2 CFR 200 Circular A-87, working capital reserves for 60 days is deemed reasonable.

OCIO average monthly expenses for FY2022 were \$10,130,177 for 30 days and \$20,260,354 for 60 days.

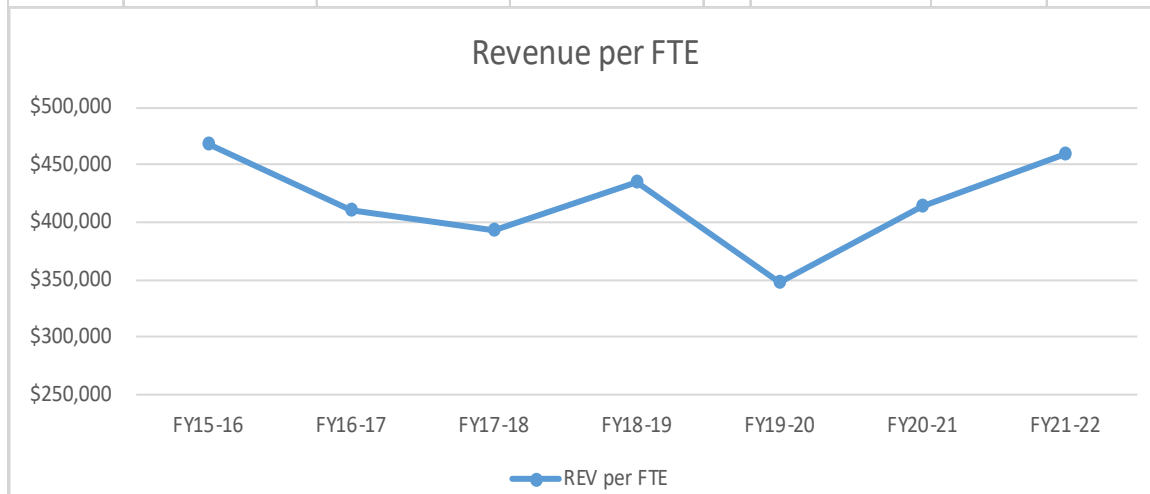


4) Review of historical increases in full-time equivalent employees compared with increases in revenue from billable services;

FY	Revenue	Revenue Change	FTE's at FYE	Chai	REV per FTE
FY15-16	\$ 96,985,130		207		\$ 468,527
FY16-17	\$ 92,694,115	\$ (4,291,015)	226	19	\$ 410,151
FY17-18	\$ 90,733,225	\$ (1,960,890)	231	5	\$ 392,785
FY18-19	\$ 101,504,444	\$ 10,771,219	233	2	\$ 435,641
FY19-20	\$ 117,867,432	\$ 16,362,988	339	106	\$ 347,692
FY20-21	\$ 135,132,018	\$ 17,264,586	327	-12	\$ 413,248
FY21-22	\$ 137,521,247	\$ 2,389,229	300	-27	\$ 458,404

Note: The OCIO did not request the addition of any full-time employees (FTE's) during this timeframe.

Any increase in OCIO headcount was a result of positions being re-allocated due to consolidation.



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 406

Introduced by Stinner, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the implementation the office of Chief Information Officer's information technology consolidation initiative to ensure efficient use of Nebraska taxpayer resources.

The office of Chief Information Officer's website states "The Office of the Chief Information Officer was created to assure a coordinated, efficient, and cost-effective approach is taken on an enterprise level for the deployment of technology by the Nebraska State Government. The Office of the CIO provides a wide range of technology services to state agencies, boards, and commissions, as well as political subdivisions. As the State continues to explore shared services, we have eliminated the duplication of several IT expenditures and services, lowered costs through enterprise purchases and agreements, and provided more efficient and effective ways to expand access to government services."

The office of Chief Information Officer has the duty to fulfill its mission statement and the obligation to ensure its stated purpose of coordinating a cost-effective operation of information technology services to Nebraska state agencies.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Analysis of budget programs under the purview of the office of Chief Information Officer, including revolving funds and requests for full-time equivalent employees;

(2) Analysis of agency revenues, including a list of billable services and fees;

(3) Comparison of expenditures to agency revenues;

(4) Review of historical increases in full-time equivalent employees compared with increases in revenue from billable services;

(5) Evidence of improvements resulting from the consolidation initiative;

(6) Existing needs for improvement in the consolidation initiative, where they exist; and

(7) Recommendations for the improvement of implementation of the consolidation initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Attachment V

The Future of Broadband In Nebraska

“Affordable, accessible, dependable, and high-speed broadband is both a quality-of-life necessity and a key to doing business in the 21st century.”

—Governor Jim Pillen

broadband.Nebraska.gov



Introduction

Patrick Redmond
Interim Broadband Director
Broadband Office
Patrick.Redmond@nebraska.gov
[\(402\) 471-4181](tel:(402)471-4181)



Overview

- Coverage
- New Broadband Office
- 4 Goals
- Accountability/ Transparency
- Technical Support
- E-Rate Special Construction

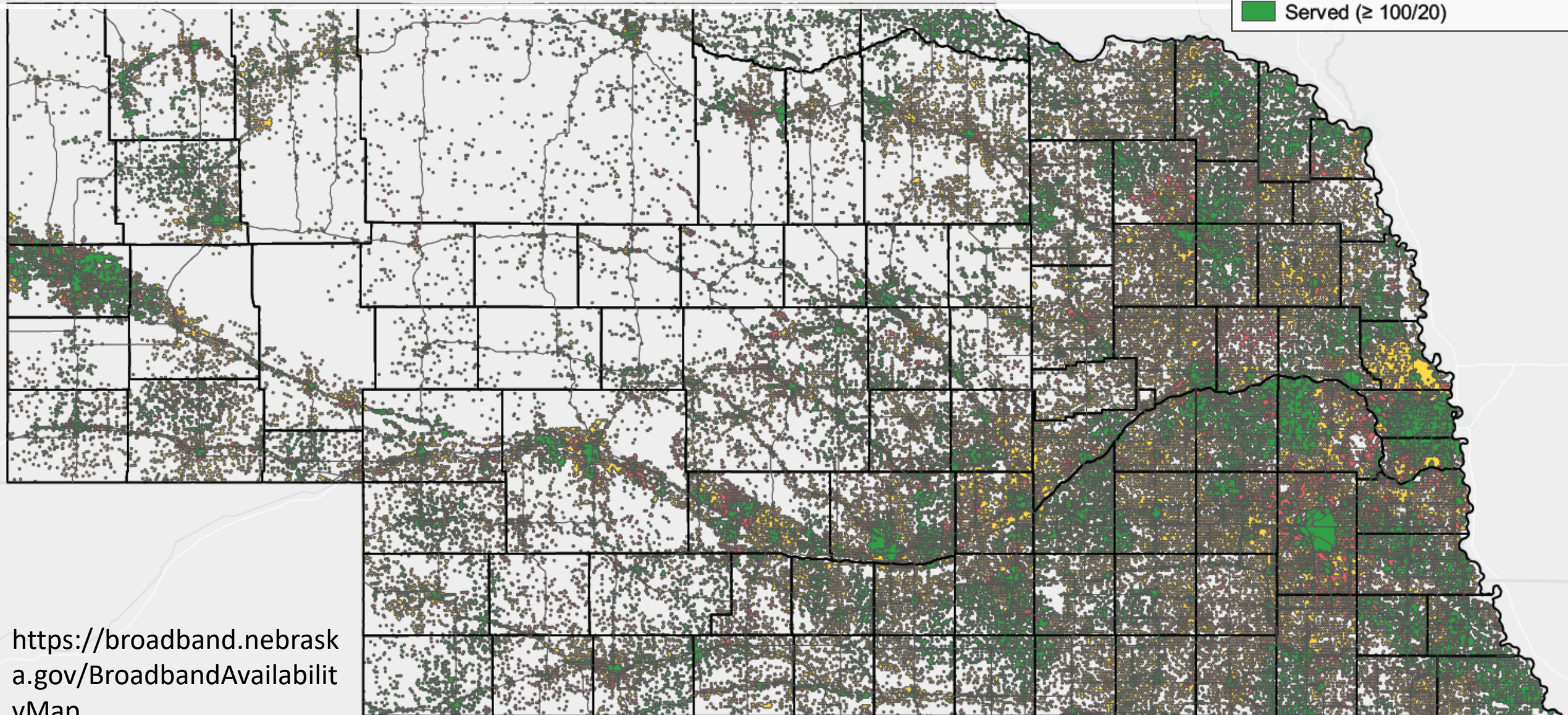


Coverage

FCC Fabric Coverage Map

Wireline & Licensed Wireless

- Unserviced (< 25/3)
- Underserved (< 100/20)
- Served ($\geq 100/20$)



<https://broadband.nebraska.gov/BroadbandAvailabilityMap>

New Broadband Office (BBO)

- Duties of the Office
- Structure
- Reasoning



4 Goals

- Connect 99% of Nebraskans by 2027
- Expand digital equity and digital inclusion adoption by 2027
- Support a digital economy and expand telecommunications workforce
- Develop robust collaboration with all stakeholders



Accountability/ Transparency

- Incorporating stakeholder feedback
- Developing our communication strategy further
- Local Government Grant Input




Technical Support

- Technical Support Team
 - 2 FTEs
 - IIJA, Broadband, & E-Rate Grant Support
- 3-point plan
 - FAQs
 - Workshops
 - Walkthroughs



E-Rate Special Construction

- Great way of connecting Community Anchor Institutions
 - Federal Program providing between 40-90% of the total cost of construction and maintenance
 - An additional 20% is covered by NUSF-117/ Federal Match
 - 95 libraries would have their buildout fully covered
 - An additional 91 would need to provide 10% of the total cost of buildout
- 

For more information

Patrick Redmond

Interim Broadband Director

Nebraska Department of Transportation

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402-471-4181



Nebraska Digital Equity Planning Grant

Anne Byers
anne.byers@nebraska.gov

Overview

- What is digital equity?
- Why is it important?
- Connectivity and device gaps
- Priority or covered populations
- Planning activities



What is Digital Equity?

Digital equity is the goal of achieving parity in digital participation in the economy and society. It includes:

- Connectivity
- Digital devices
- Skills
 - Knowledge of Privacy and Security Practices



Digital Opportunities

Digital opportunities expresses a broader vision of enabling Nebraskans to grow our economy, improve access to health care, increase educational opportunities, and improve the lives of Nebraskans.



BEAD= Broadband Deployment
Digital Equity=Broadband Adoption

You need both broadband availability and adoption to realize the benefits of broadband.



Digital equity
is the chocolate
to BEAD's peanut butter.

Broadband availability and adoption are important for our economy

Deloitte found:

- Increased broadband subscription
- Greater broadband availability, and
- Greater subscription of higher speed broadband

lead to economic growth

Deloitte: Broadband for all: Charting a path to economic growth (2021)



Broadband availability and adoption are important for agriculture

Fully adopting next generation precision agriculture technologies in the U.S. would result in annual gross benefits :

- \$13 billion for row crops
- \$20.6 billion for livestock and dairy

USDA: A Case for Rural Broadband (2019)





51%



of Nebraska
farmers and ranchers
use precision agriculture
practices to manage
crops or livestock

Source: 2021 Farm Computer Usage and Ownership

Broadband availability and adoption are important for health

- Places with lower internet subscription rates had higher COVID-19 mortality rates, especially in urban areas.
- COVID-19 patients who used a remote health monitoring portal had a 32 percent lower rate of hospitalization, on average, than other COVID-19 patients. Portal users that did require hospitalization were discharged from hospitals 2.7 days sooner, on average.



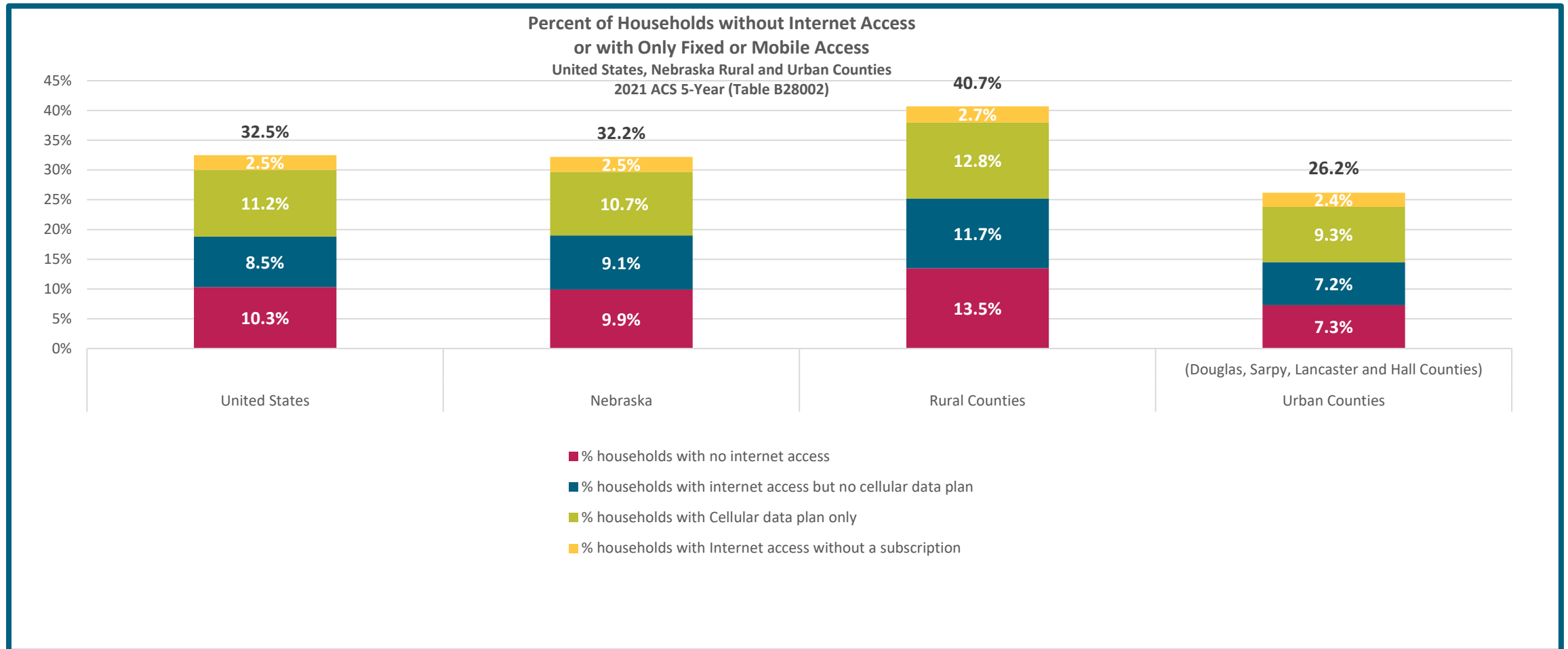
Both mobile and home connectivity are important for full digital participation

The Covid-19 pandemic and current labor shortages have accelerated the use of online services and applications.

- Some applications are best done using a larger device and home connectivity.
- Some applications require a mobile device and access.
- Those without both may experience difficulties accessing services and participating fully in the digital economy and society.

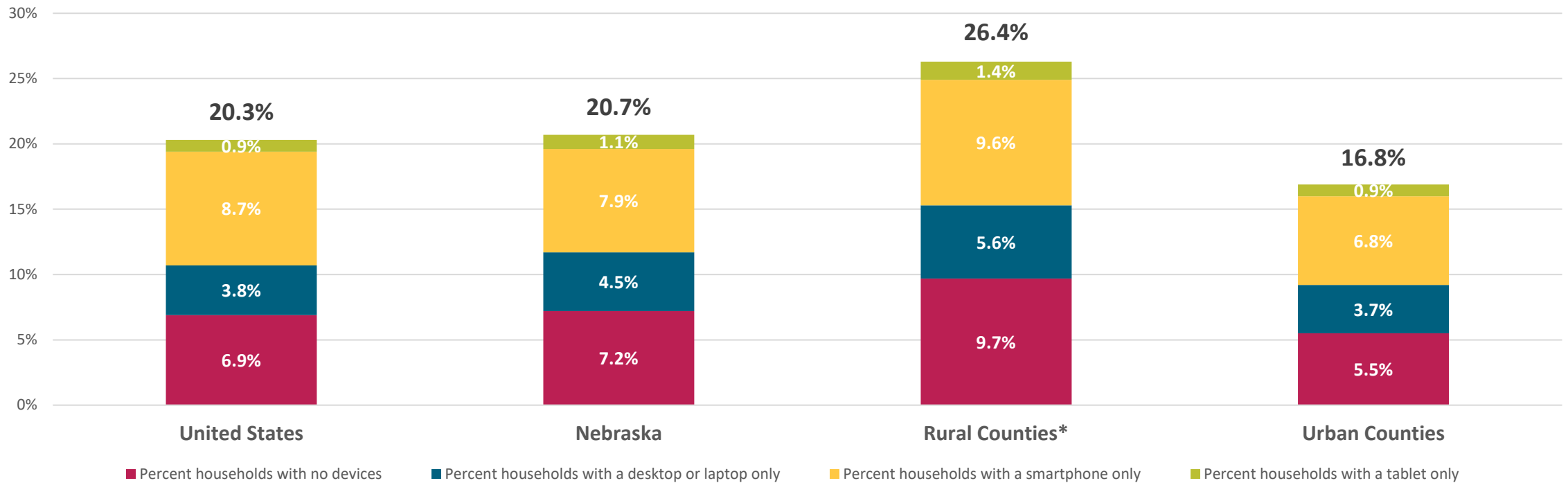


Rural-Urban Connectivity Gap

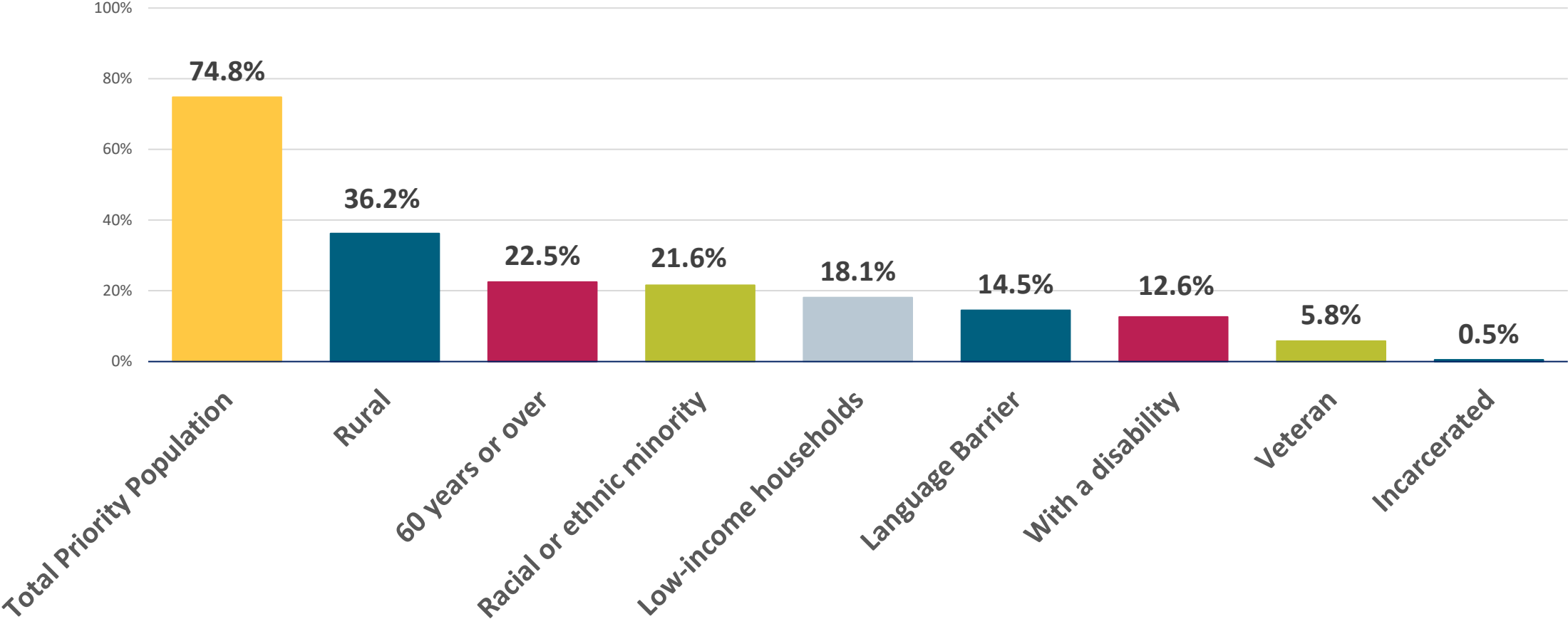


Rural-Urban Device Gap

Percent Households with No Digital Device
Or Only One Device
2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates Table B28001



Nebraska Priority Populations



Older adults & those with lower incomes are less likely to be connected



27% of Nebraskans age 65 and older do not have an internet connection at home




37% of Nebraskan households with household income of less than \$20,000 do not have an internet connection at home

Source: ACS 2020 5-year estimates


Digital Equity Funding

- Nebraska received a \$600,000 State Digital Equity Planning grant from the NTIA to develop a state digital equity plan
 - Digital Equity Planning grant started in December 2022 and the state digital equity plan must be submitted by November 30, 2023.
 - States can receive \$7.2 million or more over 5 years to set up a state digital equity grant program to support the implementation of their plan probably starting in 2024
- 

Digital Equity Planning Activities

- Regional digital equity plans
 - Weekly (or near weekly) webinars
 - Inventory of digital equity assets and best practices
 - Survey and focus groups
 - Outreach activities in conjunction with BEAD
 - State planning conference
- 

How you can participate

- Participate in regional planning groups
 - Join us for webinars
 - Share information on digital equity assets and best practices
 - Participate in outreach activities
 - Submit comments or just reach out to us
- 

Anne Byers

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Digital equity
is the chocolate
to BEAD's peanut butter.