

Making Rural Communities Better with Broadband Workshop – Presentation & Links

The Oregon Rural Development Council in partnership with USDA Rural Development's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) held a rural broadband workshop on Feb. 2-3, 2016, in Bend, Oregon. The event offered information on how to build strong rural economies use broadband for educational opportunities; improve healthcare; job creation, retention, and growth; and other efforts. Updates included current initiatives and information on planning and deployment strategies, technical assistance, and funding opportunities for rural broadband projects. Presentations and links from the workshop are archived below.

Questions may be directed to Jill Rees, Community Development Specialist & Native American Coordinator; USDA Rural Development – Oregon, (503) 414-3302 or jill.rees@or.usda.gov. All linked presentations are in PDF format unless otherwise noted.

Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Tony DeBone, Deschutes County Commissioner
- Vicki Walker, USDA Rural Development State Director & Executive Committee Member, Oregon Rural Development Council (ORDC) • [ORDC History](#) • [ORDC Fact Sheet](#)
- Keith Adams, Assistant Administrator, USDA Rural Development Rural Utilities Service (RUS) • [Presentation](#)

Message from Senator Jeff Merkley

- Phil Chang, Office of Senator Merkley • [Letter from Senator Merkley](#)

State Government Broadband Focus & Perspective

- James Labar, Regional Solutions, Office of the Governor
- Chris Tamarin, Telecommunications Strategist, Oregon Business Development Department • [Presentation](#)

Success Stories: Community Efforts to Bring Broadband to Unserved Areas

- Michael Smith, Sherman County Commissioner • [Presentation](#)
- Julie Murray-Jensen, Vice President of External Programs, Klamath Community College • [Presentation](#)

National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband USA Program

- Timothy Moyer, Program Manager, Broadband USA, NTIA • [Presentation](#)

Getting a Rural Broadband Effort Started

- Ken Kuchno, USDA Rural Development RUS Telecommunications Program Director • [Presentation](#)
- Marsha Spellman, Principal, Converge Communications • [Presentation](#)
- Nancy Jesuale, President, NetCity, Inc. • [Presentation](#)

Making Rural Communities Better with Broadband Workshop – Presentation & Links (continued)

Funding Opportunities for Infrastructure

- Mike Solt, Special Public Works Fund (SPWF) & WW Coordinator, Business Oregon • [SPWF Program Link](#)
- David Porter, Regional Representative, U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Agency (EDA)
 - [EDA Funding Opportunities Link](#) • [EDA Contacts Link](#)
- Eric Foley, NMTC Compliance Manager, Ecotrust • [Presentation](#)
- Jill Rees, Community Development Specialist, USDA Rural Development – Oregon • [Presentation](#)
- Shawn Arner, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Loan Originations, USDA RUS • [Presentation](#)

RD Apply: USDA's New Online Application

- Ryeon Corsi, Program & Management Analyst, USDA RUS • [Presentation](#)

The Pros and Cons of Different Broadband Technologies

- Aylene Mafnas, USDA RUS Engineering Branch Chief • [Presentation](#)

Connect America Fund Progress

- Phil Grate, Regulatory Affairs Director, CenturyLink & Renee Willer, Frontier Communications • [Presentation](#)

Support and Program Provisions for Native American Tribes

- Bob Erlich, Special Projects Coordinator, USDA RUS • [Presentation](#)
- Jeff Anspach, DDR Consulting & Adam Haas, Principal, Converge Communications • [Presentation](#)

Leveraging Your Project and Partnerships

- Ed Fendley, Office of Sustainable Communities, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) • [Presentation](#)
 - [Cool & Connected Announcement & Webinar Opportunity](#)
- Carrie Pipinich, Project Manager, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) • [Presentation](#)
- David Soloos, State of Oregon in the Office of the State CIO, FirstNet POC • [Presentation](#)
- Joel McCarroll, Traffic Supervisor, ODOT Region 4 • [Presentation](#)
- Sabrina Carson, Willamette Education Service District (ESD) • [Link to Oregon DOE e-Rate Program](#)

Connectivity to Further the Health Care Mission

- Mark Lovgren, OHSU Telehealth Services Director • [Presentation](#)
- Doug Romer, Executive Director, Patient Care Services, Grande Ronde Hospital • [Presentation](#)
- Cathy Britain, Telehealth Alliance of Oregon • [Presentation](#)
- Shawn Arner, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Loan Originations, USDA RUS • [Presentation](#)
 - USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine [Grant Application Information](#) & [Webinar](#)