CONNECTING UTAH

FOCUS GROUP
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GENERAL PUBLIC

CONNECTIVITY TODAY

- Where are the anchor institutions in your community? What groups do they serve? What services do they offer?

    o Libraries, senior centers, hospitals, community centers, colleges, schools, etc.

- What digital access, literacy or affordability programs are currently available in your community?

- What types of digital access, literacy, or affordability programs would you like to see in your community?

- How accessible are digital resources for education, employment, and health in your community?

- What concerns are there about broadband expansion?

- How do you feel about connectivity in your area?

- What does residential connectivity look like?

- What does business connectivity look like?

CHALLENGES

- What have you heard from businesses, residents, visitors, etc. regarding connectivity?

- What would your community look like if everyone had access to affordable and reliable high-speed internet? What does success look like?

- What concerns does your group have surrounding expanding connectivity in your community?

- Are you aware of any existing workforce development programs and initiatives in your community?

- Have you participated in any broadband programs in the past? Were those efforts successful?

BROADBAND PLANNING

- Do the Internet Service Provider(s) currently serving your area offer sufficient service levels to meet the needs of businesses, anchor institutions and residents? Are the available service levels affordable?

- What resources or guidance does your community need to fully access high-speed internet and digital resources?

- Do you have the financial resources necessary to address your broadband needs?

- Does your local workforce have the technical skills needed to participate in broadband expansion efforts?

- Does your staff have the technical skills needed to address this topic?

- Have you been partnering with governmental agencies, ISPs, or other groups in your region to address local connectivity?

- Do you see your local ISP as a collaborative partner?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

CONNECTIVITY TODAY

- Where are the anchor institutions in your community?

    o Libraries, senior centers, hospitals, community centers, colleges, schools, etc.

- What digital access, literacy or affordability programs are currently available in your community?

- What does internet connectivity look like in your community?

- How do you feel about connectivity in your area?

- What concerns are there about broadband expansion?

CHALLENGES

- What have you heard from businesses, residents, visitors, etc. regarding connectivity?

- Are you aware of any potential deployment challenges? Environmental? Permitting? Legislative? Workforce?

- What impacts could your community experience as a result of BEAD/Digital Equity (DE) funding? What does success look like?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- What are the demographics of your communities?

- Where are your economic centers?

- What does your community look like in the future?

- What challenges are complicating broadband expansion?

- What are your plans for economic development? 5 years? 10 years?

BROADBAND PLANNING

- Does the Internet Service Provider(s) currently serving your area offer a level of service sufficient to meet the needs of businesses, anchor institutions and residents? Is it affordable?

- Do you have a connectivity plan?

- How could Connecting Utah and/or the local Association of Governments support you in preparing a broadband plan? What resources or guidance is needed?

- What infrastructure assets are available in your community? Conduit? Tower access? Right-of-way?

- Are there any topics not addressed today that should be discussed in future meetings?