

DRAFT 2018 Broadband Task Force

Policy Recommendations

1. Fund the Office of Broadband Development through the base budget at levels sufficient for it to meet its statutory mandates and create an OBD operating fund to advance and promote programs and projects to promote broadband adoption and use.
2. Provide on-going biennial funding of the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program at \$69.7 million per biennium until the state achieves its broadband speed goals.
3. Continue to understand the advances in technology that will drive both the demand for better broadband access and that will enable the delivery of broadband access to its citizens.
4. Establish a legislative cybersecurity commission, whose scope of work includes: information-sharing between policy-makers, state agencies, and private industry related to Minnesota's cybersecurity infrastructure, cybersecurity workforce issues and emerging technology, to: (a) develop legislation to support and strengthen Minnesota's cybersecurity infrastructure, and (b) provide input or recommendations related to developing a multi-year strategic plan to secure Minnesota's IT environments.
5. Provide direct funding to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for broadband mapping.
6. Review and consider state general obligation bonding as a possible additional financing tool to facilitate fiber optic cable deployment and achieve the state's broadband speed goals.
7. Adequately fund the Telecommunications Access Equity Aid and Regional Library Telecommunications Aid (RLTA).
8. Continue a Minnesota Broadband Task Force as a resource to the Governor and the Legislature on broadband policy with a broad representation of perspectives and experiences, including provider, community, business and labor interests.

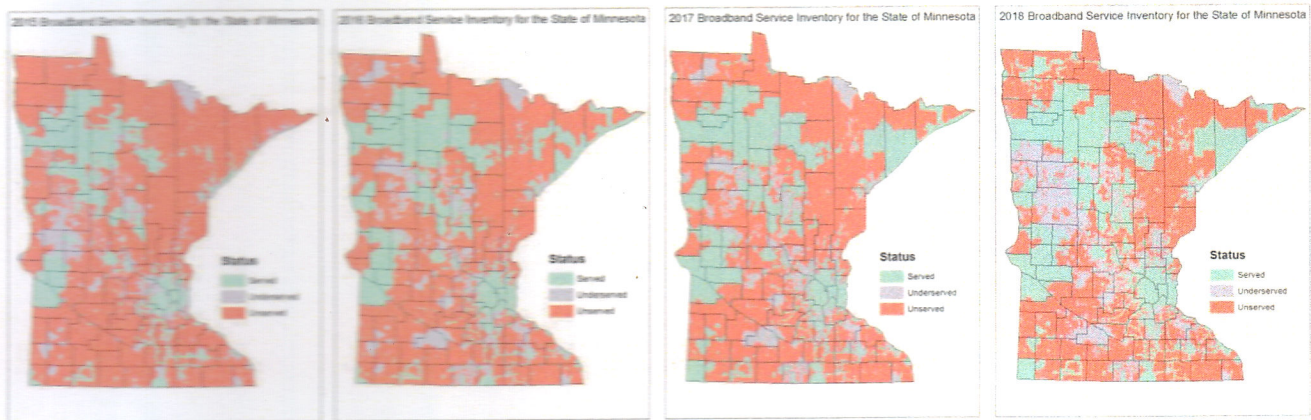
The Minnesota Broadband Model

Progress since 2014: Expanding Access to Broadband Statewide

Real investment. Real progress.

More than 90% of Minnesota households now have access to broadband at speeds of 25 Mbps/3 Mbps

Nearly 75% of Minnesota households now have access to broadband at speeds of 100 Mbps/20 Mbps, up from 39% in 2015



\$85.2 million in state broadband investment

\$110.6 million in matching local/private broadband investment

Served via funding from Minnesota's Border-to-Border Broadband Grant Program

- 34,000** households
- 5,200** businesses
- 300** community institutions