



September 16, 2024

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADBAND

UPDATED NOTICE OF Q3 CONNECTICUT BROADBAND STAKEHOLDER ROUNDTABLES

High-speed internet has become an indispensable tool for participation in the economy, education, healthcare, and social relationships. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's ("DEEP") Office of Telecommunications and Broadband is focused on developing equitable policies and programs to bring the economic and social benefits of broadband access to the residents and businesses of Connecticut. This mission includes the equitable deployment of broadband infrastructure and removal of barriers to adoption for all Connecticut's residents. DEEP is administering two broadband infrastructure grant programs funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund ("CPF") and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment ("BEAD") Program to further these goals.

Input from stakeholders in public service, the private sector, and community organizations is vital to the equitable deployment of broadband infrastructure throughout the State and DEEP values these perspectives on how best to fulfill the State's deployment and digital equity objectives. Given that broadband initiatives are being coordinated across multiple state agencies, DEEP has extended invitations to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Commission for Educational Technology and the Connecticut Education Network (CEN) to participate during the roundtables. Digital equity initiatives and broadband grant funding opportunities will be covered in an effort to address both broadband access and adoption. As such, DEEP, in collaboration with DAS, is engaging in quarterly discussions tailored to each of these stakeholder groups. These joint roundtable opportunities will allow DEEP and DAS to share program updates and engage in a discussion on the opportunities and obstacles to universal, affordable, and reliable high-speed internet.

DEEP, joined by DAS, **held** roundtable discussions virtually via ZOOM on the following dates to provide State program updates followed by an opportunity for public comment and Q&A. Future roundtable discussions may be held fully virtually, in hybrid sessions, and/or at field locations throughout the state:

Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: Internet Service Providers

September 23, 2024, at 2:00 PM

You can access the meeting recording at the following link:

[Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: Internet Service Providers Recording](#)

Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: State, Tribal, and Municipal Governments

September 25, 2024, at 2:00 PM

You can access the meeting recording at the following link:

[Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: State, Tribal, and Municipal Governments Recording](#)

Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: Community Organizations

September 26, 2024, at 2:00 PM

You can access the meeting recording at the following link:

[Connecticut Broadband Roundtable: Community Organizations Recording](#)

Any questions regarding these meetings may be directed to Jillian Kara, DEEP Office of Telecommunications and Broadband, at DEEP.Broadband@ct.gov.

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