I. Action:	Co-Sponsor the Telecommunications Infrastructure Needs Assessment (TINA) Study
II. Sponsoring Entity:	NITC Community and State Government Councils of the NITC Division of Communications
III. Goals and Objectives:	 Prepare a comprehensive inventory and assessment of the current telecommunications infrastructure. Identify the implication that a proper network design would have on economic development. Provide dialogue with communities of interest. Inform Nebraska public officials about strategies. Identify new telecommunications and information technologies and plans for the future public and private development. Identify current and future information application requirements for communities of interest. Engage communities of interest in preparing telecommunications strategies recommendations with a business case, budget & timeline. Identify policy issues for consideration by appropriate policy making entities. Recommend an on-going process to implement, review and revise to meet needs.
IV. Justification / Rationale:	The State of Nebraska is the state's largest telecommunications consumer. Through planning and coordination, the State of Nebraska can prepare for e-government and increased services, aggregate resources and improve collaboration, and identify gaps in management in training while identifying a sound and useful infrastructure for Nebraska's future. The plan will also examine the impact of the State's telecommunications investment on Nebraska's communities.
V. Work Plan:	Mid October, 1999 Inventory completed Early December, 1999 Needs assessment completed January, 2000 Draft plan completed January-March, 2000 Operational aspects of the plan developed March, 2000 Final plan completed

VI. Required Resources:	The TINA study will be performed by Federal Engineering.
VII. Estimated Cost (if appropriate):	Contributions from the NITC include \$10,000 from the NITC/CIO, \$20,000 from the Community Council, and \$20,000 from the State Government Council