Nebraska Information Technology Commission -Rural and Community Technology Development Planning Group Charter--

1. Introduction

The Rural and Community Technology Development Planning Group is an advisory committee (hereafter referred to as "Planning Group") of the Community Council of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (hereafter referred to as "Commission"). The Planning Group is composed of representatives from the Department of Economic Development, the Rural Development Commission, the Public Service Commission, the University of Nebraska, the Community College system, the Community Council of the NITC, the League of Nebraska Municipalities, the Nebraska Association of Counties, Nebraska's Congressional delegation, and other stakeholders.

2. Purpose of Charter

The purpose of this charter is to provide operational guidance to the Planning Group members and to provide general information to all who read the proceedings and recommendations of the Planning Group.

3. Authority

The authority for the Planning Group is derived from Section 6-7 of LB924 passed April, 1998. LB 924, Sec 6-7. "Establish ad hoc technical advisory groups to study and make recommendations on specific topics, including work groups to establish, coordinate, and prioritize needs for education, local communities, and state agencies[.]" NEB. REV. STAT. § 86-1506(7).

4. Building Information Age Communities Planning Group Mission and Responsibilities

4.1 Planning Group Mission

The mission of the Planning Group is to make recommendations concerning the development of a comprehensive approach to providing IT development training and assistance to communities, especially as regards rural economic development issues.

4.2 Planning Group Responsibilities

- 4.2.1 Inventory and assess current programs and strategies that address community IT leadership and planning, intellectual infrastructure, and telecommunications infrastructure in communities.
- 4.2.2 Identify specific gaps, duplication and collaborative opportunities regarding information technology needs in communities, including community IT leadership and planning, intellectual infrastructure, and telecommunications infrastructure.
- 4.2.3 Make recommendations regarding program development.
- 4.2.4 Inventory community-based IT planning groups in the state.
- 4.2.5 Work with the Technologies Across Nebraska initiative to review, make recommendations, and develop Information Technology toolkit resources for communities.
- 4.2.6 Conduct a series of meetings with members of community IT committees to review the Planning Group activities outlined in this document and solicit feedback.
- 4.2.7 Make action item and policy recommendations to the Community Council and the NITC by September 30, 2001.

5. Membership

5.1 Representatives

The Planning Group will be comprised of representatives from the Nebraska Information Technology Commission, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, Nebraska Public Service Commission, Nebraska Rural Development Commission, University of Nebraska, Community Colleges, League of Nebraska Municipalities, Nebraska Association of Counties, Nebraska's Congressional delegation, and other stakeholders.

5.2 Member Responsibilities

Each member is responsible for maintaining two-way communication with their organization and constituents concerning issues brought before the Planning Group.

6. Meeting Procedures

6.1 Chair(s)

The Planning Group will select a chair or co-chairs.

6.2 Staff Support

The NITC will provide staff support to the Planning Group.

7. Duration of the Charter

The Planning Group's charter will expire on September 30, 2001 unless renewed by the Community Council.

Approved by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission on April 25, 2001.