

# Checklist

## Secure Broadband & Digital Equity Investments for Your City



Pinpoint unserved and underserved locations in your community.



Identify incumbent and new ISPs that are considering expanding in/to your area.



**Note:** BEAD applicants can be awarded up to nine points for “Local Government Support” and your city is able to submit letters of support to multiple ISPs’ applications. Do not pass up this opportunity to be a partner and inform service providers about community needs and projects.



Review local permitting and rights-of-way policies. Ensure they are streamlined, straightforward and not overly cumbersome.



Evaluate ongoing and upcoming infrastructure projects (water, wastewater, stormwater, natural gas). Consider how to sequence or align these with broadband projects to avoid interference or disruption.



Identify and mark utility locates, including conduits. Have schematics and GIS maps, if available, on hand.



Engage all the necessary stakeholders in the planning and implementation processes, including the public, your county, development authority, Regional Commission, schools, hospitals, technical colleges and businesses.



Identify unique connectivity challenges for “covered populations,” e.g. seniors, disabled persons, those who are not fluent in English and historically underserved populations.



Make a list of 3-5 top priorities to expand digital connectivity in your community.



- Refer to a community-wide broadband needs assessment if your city has one. If not, consider doing one.
- Look internally at municipal broadband needs as well. Is your city’s network sufficient to support current and future technological upgrades for your police, fire, emergency response, public works, transportation networks and other municipal services?