



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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FCC ANNOUNCES PARTICIPANTS IN FIRST STAFF WORKSHOP FOR NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission's first staff workshop Thursday for the development of a National Broadband Plan will focus on civic engagement and e-government, and will feature participants who include Vivek Kundra, United States Chief Information Officer, Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute, and others. The workshop will conclude with an open mike session providing an opportunity for public participation.

"This is the first in a series of workshops representing unparalleled openness and public participation," Chairman Julius Genachowski said. "It is highly fitting that civic participation is the first topic as we will need broad participation from all stakeholders in order to meet the moment and deliver a National Broadband Plan to Congress in February."

Staff workshops will be held throughout August and into September to promote an open dialogue between the FCC and key constituents on matters important to the National Broadband Plan. The workshops are open to the public at the Commission's headquarters building and online. The public is encouraged to register by visiting http://www.broadband.gov/ws_egov.html

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which was signed into law on February 17, 2009, directed the FCC to submit a National Broadband Plan to Congress by February 16, 2010 that "shall seek to ensure that all people of the United States have access to broadband capability and shall establish benchmarks for meeting that goal."

What: National Broadband Plan Staff Workshop: Civic Engagement and e.Gov

Where: FCC Commission Room, 445 12th St. SW, Washington D.C. 20554 and online at http://www.broadband.gov/ws_egov.html

When: Thursday, August 6, 9:30 a.m.

Panels

FCC participants

- Eugene Huang, moderator
- Steve Van Roekel
- Kristen Kane
- Mary Beth Richards

Panel 1: A View from Government

45 minutes; each participant will be allotted 5 minutes, leaving 25 minutes for questioning

- **Vivek Kundra**, U.S. CIO and former CTO of Washington, D.C., will provide insight into how his “IT Dashboard” and “Apps for Democracy” increased civic participation and made the government more efficient. He will also discuss how government investments in cloud computing and telepresence might result in improved performance while accelerating American broadband leadership.
- **Graham Richard**, former Mayor of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, will discuss how his city used broadband to improve its performance and what should be standard practices for all governments.
- **Beth Noveck**, United States Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Open Government, will discuss new opportunities for governments to engage citizens through broadband and emerging technologies, including through the use of collaboration platforms.

Panel 2: A View from the Non-Profit Sector

45 minutes; each participant will be allotted 5 minutes, leaving 25 minutes for questioning

- Chicago Committee for 2016 Games will provide a view of how that organization is using a broadband platform for organizing the city to support the effort to obtain the Olympics.
- **John Wonderlich**, Policy Director of the Sunlight Foundation, will discuss best practices for government engagement of citizens.
- **Norm Ornstein** of the American Enterprise Institute will discuss how broadband can affect campaigns and elections.
- **Andrew Rasiej** of the Personal Democracy Forum will discuss innovative uses of broadband that enhance democracy.
- **Professor Ellen Goodman**, Rutgers School of Law, will discuss how broadband could create new opportunities for civic engagement through public media.

Panel 3: Open Mike Session– Suggestions from the Audience

25 minutes

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News about the Federal Communications Commission’s development of the National Broadband can be found at <http://www.broadband.gov/news.html>