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Title **0019** 11/03/2023

by **Leslie Scott** in **Digital Equity Public Comment (English)** id. 44602245

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## Original Submission 11/03/2023

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Please provide your first and last name Leslie Scott

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Please provide email address lscott@kcdigitaldrive.org

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Please provide a telephone number if applicable +18166121132

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If you are affiliated with an organization, please provide the organization name KC Digital Drive

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Additional information submitted to KOBD- [linked here](#).

If you are affiliated with an organization, please share a brief paragraph about your organization and its work in promoting digital equity

KC Digital Drive is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to make Kansas City a digital leader and to improve the quality of life for all people in the region.

Through initiatives that grow Kansas City's presence as a digital leader, we are able to ameliorate equity barriers, increase opportunities for economic prosperity, and elevate the community as a key informant in the innovation process.

In 2011, Kansas City was named the nation's first Google Fiber Community, thereby launching a period of extreme digital transformation. As implementation moved forward, digital equity issues quickly emerged. KC Digital Drive was established in order to address inequality in this space, and to deliver meaningful use cases and increased economic opportunity using this new technology infrastructure.

Leveraging many of the assets of our for-profit partners, we have built a collaborative business model directed to:

- Decrease socioeconomic differences in the utilization of new technologies.
- Lead the development of technology solutions for vexing public problems.
- Increase adoption of emerging technology

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If affiliated with an organization, please provide a link to website

<https://www.kcdigitaldrive.org/>

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Who is your main point of contact if we have further questions? Please provide their name and the best method to communicate with them if they are not the commentor on this form

Aaron Deacon, [adeacon@kcdigitaldrive.org](mailto:adeacon@kcdigitaldrive.org)

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Is there any additional background information you would like our office to know?

I emailed a PDF file that included my comments to OBD staff.

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Please rank the Kansas digital equity plan on how it accomplishes the following:

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Question 1: Outlines the current state of digital equity in Kansas

Well

Question 2: Outlines a vision for digital equity in Kansas that recognizes the state's unique social and economic circumstances

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Very well

Question 3: Identifies the barriers to digital equity faced by each of the state's covered populations

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Well

Question 4: Establishes an implementation strategy to achieve digital equity

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Well

Question 5: Describes how Kansas will coordinate and conduct outreach amongst digital equity partners and stakeholders

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Average

Question 6: Describes how Kansas will coordinate its use of DEA funding with any funds it will receive in connection with BEAD or other digital equity funding

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Average

Question 7: Identifies the assets available to help connect Kansas' covered populations

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Well

Question 8: If there are any digital equity assets that you feel have not been listed in the digital equity plan, please list them here

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Question 9: Please indicate which sections of the Kansas digital equity plan you are providing comment on

Section 3: Current State of Digital Equity: Barriers and Assets  
Section 4: Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement  
Section 5: Implementation

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Please provide comment on Section 3: Current State of Digital Equity: Barriers and Assets

See file emailed.

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Please provide comment on Section 4: Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement

See file emailed.

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Please provide comment on Section 5: Implementation

See file emailed.

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By submitting this form for public comment and evidence to support your comment, you are accepting responsibility for the accuracy of the information submitted and that it is true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You agree to be contacted by the Kansas Office of Broadband Development, Kansas Department of Commerce should the need arise. Furthermore, by making this submission, you understand that Kansas Department of Commerce and the Office of Broadband Development reserve the right to publicly publish your comment and evidence provided. Falsification of information will result in rejection of future public comment submissions and could result in legal action. Please type your name and today's date in the text box below.

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Leslie Scott 11/2/23