

OFFICE OF BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT



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The Kansas Office of Broadband Development (KOBD) has developed the Kansas Broadband Ready Communities (KBRC) program to address broadband access challenges in unserved and underserved areas of the state. The program aims to assist communities in preparing for future grant funding opportunities by providing an efficient and accessible path to broadband readiness. Communities seeking certification under KBRC must adopt an ordinance that aligns with the minimum requirements outlined by the program.

These requirements include:

- a designated point of contact,
- timely review of project applications within 30 business days,
- transitioning to electronic filing systems,
- ensuring reasonable filing fees, and
- prohibiting discrimination in permitting procedures.

**KOBD INVESTMENT
PROGRAMS**



**BROADBAND EQUITY
ACCESS
AND DEPLOYMENT**



**KOBD PERMITTING
RESOURCES**



CONNECT

8:30 AM REGISTRATION, NETWORKING & BREAKFAST

9:00 AM WELCOME

Jade Piros de Carvalho, Director, Kansas Office of Broadband Development

9:10 AM FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE

Melinda Stanley, Federal Program Officer with National Telecommunications Information and Administration

9:30 AM 101 - SECTION 106

Katrina Ringler, Deputy State Historic Preservation Office, Director, Cultural Resources Division, Kansas Historical Society

Join the Historic Preservation Office as they provide an introduction to Section 106. This guidance from the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, requires federal agencies take cultural resources into account when planning projects.

10:15 AM NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 AM NEPA OVERVIEW & PERMITTING DEMO

Chris Baird, Environmental Program Officer, National Telecommunications Information and Administration

Join a Federal NEPA expert as he shares the federal perspective on considerations to be made for National Environmental Policy and demonstrates a newly launched NTIA tool designed to help federal broadband grant recipients and subgrantees identify and understand the types of permits they will need and plan routes for their broadband deployments. Identifying permit requirements early, initiating pre-application coordination with permitting agencies and avoiding environmental impacts help drive successful infrastructure projects.

ALL

11:15 AM BREAK (SESSION SWITCH)

11:20 AM POLE ATTACHMENTS + PERMITTING

Moderator: David Soffer, WANRack

Panelists:

Brent Cunningham, Cunningham Communications
Tina Steele, Manager, Contract Programs, Evergy
Mark Scheibe, CEO, Heartland Electric Cooperative

Pole attachments play a pivotal role in broadband infrastructure, yet navigating the intricacies of pole access can be daunting. This session explores the regulatory landscape, technical standards and operational challenges associated with pole attachments, offering practical insights for streamlining the process.

12:15 PM (GRAB A BOXED LUNCH)

12:30 PM DON'T LET YOUR ROW BECOME A WOE

Moderator: John Idoux, Director Governmental Affairs, Brightspeed Communications

Panelists:

Lucius Duerksen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dale Kirmer, Highway Permit Administrator P.E., Kansas Department of Transportation
Jim Hild, Union Pacific
Melissa Cannon, BNSF

Addressing right-of-way challenges is essential for successful broadband deployment. This session focuses on the complexities of acquiring and managing right-of-way permissions, including legal considerations, negotiation strategies and best practices for overcoming common obstacles.

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1:45 PM NETWORKING BREAK

2:00 PM COMMON PERMITTING PRACTICES

Damon Gomez, Sr. Project Manager, Bartlett & West

Join Kansas-based engineering and technology company Bartlett & West as they share best practices and efficiencies to streamline your permitting plans. Bartlett & West offers deep industry knowledge, creative problem-solving and tools to help your organization plan, design and build projects, all while they connect businesses and communities through innovative technology solutions.

2:45 PM BREAK (SESSION SWITCH)

2:50 PM BEAD PREQUALIFICATION PROJECT FUNDING AREA PREVIEWS

Join KOBID for a quick preview of the upcoming prequalification and project funding areas.

3:20 PM CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

Jade Piros de Carvalho, Director, Kansas Office of Broadband Development

Network: TPECClient
Password: OVGClient

