Background

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) provides quarterly statutory report to Congress on the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). This report covers activities from April 1 to June 30, 2017. Previous reports are available on our website at www2.ntia.doc.gov.

Program Progress

In 2010, NTIA invested $4 billion in 233 BTOP projects. As of June 30, 2017, only two BTOP infrastructure projects remained in active status: Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (LA-RICS) and the Executive Office of the State of Mississippi (Mississippi). All remaining projects completed their project activities.

Monitoring and Grants Administration

NTIA continues to protect taxpayer investments through real-time report analysis and engagement with the grant recipients on project activities and grant compliance. Each quarter, the active BTOP recipients also report their financial and project performance. NTIA analyzes these reports closely to monitor progress and compliance.

LA-RICS Update

During this period, LA-RICS focused on:

✦ *Software* – completing the software upgrades to the 4G Long Term Evolution network to support improved system functionality.

✦ *Network Testing* – optimizing the network using drive testing to identify potential coverage issues.

✦ *Portable Cell Towers* – continuing progress towards bringing nine additional cell-on-wheels onto the network by starting the preliminary site testing. LA-RICS expects to fully integrate each deployable unit into the system by next quarter.

Mississippi Update

During this period, Mississippi focused on:

✦ *Vendor selection* – selecting contractors for architectural and engineering services, as well as the environmental consultant to assist with the biological and cultural assessment of the proposed structure for its integrated public-safety communication system.

✦ *Planning* – continuing logistical planning efforts with key partners and possible vendors. The state plans to issue a request for proposals for equipment that supports the telemedicine facilities next quarter.

✦ *New equipment* – continuing to upgrade the state-wide microwave wireless system by installing new microwave equipment.

Broadband Economic Impacts

Find out about the economic and social impacts of the $4 billion BTOP program: BTOP Economic and Social Impact Study http://go.usa.gov/3fTb4

How can NTIA help now?

NTIA's BroadbandUSA program promotes innovation and economic growth by supporting efforts to expand broadband connectivity and meaningful use for all Americans. BroadbandUSA works with stakeholders from local and state government, federal agencies, non-profits and industry to:

✦ *Educate*: Arm stakeholders and broadband leaders with **solution-neutral guides** and **tools** that help them make the right decisions for their broadband initiatives

✦ *Convene:* Lead regional workshops and events to **advance the conversation** and **share lessons learned** regarding broadband connectivity and digital inclusion

✦ *Assist*: Provide **technical assistance** to communities and partners seeking **planning**, **funding and implementation** support for their broadband projects.

Contact Information

Please **contact** Aimee Meacham at ameacham@ntia.doc.gov if you would like us to help someone in your state with technical assistance or discuss other ways BroadbandUSA can help.

Next Report

The next quarterly report to Congress will cover July 1 to September 30, 2017.

Drawdowns
BTOP projects have drawn down roughly 97 percent of award dollars, totaling $3.595 billion.

BTOP Mileage
BTOP infrastructure recipients reported 117,072 miles of new or upgraded network infrastructure. This report includes our final update on key project indicators.

Economic Impact
BTOP's two percent increase to broadband availability is expected to yield $5.7 billion in **increased annual output**.