



## **B 2020 009**

### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

#### **Superseding and Replacing Executive Order D 2012 037 and Restating Broadband Responsibilities in the Governor's Office of Information Technology**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order superseding and replacing Executive Order D 2012 037 and restating the broadband responsibilities in the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT).

#### **I. Background and Purpose**

All Coloradans must have access to fast, reliable, and affordable broadband service to participate in our modern economy. Reliable broadband service is critical for anyone working or studying from home or accessing business, government, or healthcare services that are increasingly available online. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the transition to online services. We now rely on the internet to shop, see our doctors and other healthcare providers, educate our children, and maintain relationships with family and friends.

These shifts will not disappear when the COVID-19 crisis ends. Affordable, reliable, and fast broadband service is not a luxury; it is critical to how we conduct our personal and professional lives and access private- and public-sector services. Colorado must leverage funding opportunities and partnerships with local, State, and federal governments, communities, private industry, and other relevant organizations to ensure Colorado has robust and scalable broadband infrastructure.

This Executive Order supersedes and replaces Executive Order D 2012 037, which directed OIT to create broadband responsibilities. This Executive Order establishes and refines OIT's responsibilities by directing OIT, in coordination with the Colorado Broadband Office, to form an advisory board to focus on collaboration and coordination of broadband efforts for Colorado and to partner with the Office of Future of Work within the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment to provide regular updates to the board on digital inclusion and literacy.

**II. Scope and Membership**

- A. The Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) is directed to oversee and coordinate broadband activities for all State agencies.
- B. OIT, through the Colorado Broadband Office (CBO), shall create a Broadband Advisory Board (Board) that shall:
  - i. Review and provide feedback on policy and legislation regarding broadband initiatives.
  - ii. Convene regular meetings to discuss:
    - a. Public and private broadband project initiatives;
    - b. Future demand planning;
    - c. Recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on meeting current and future demands for economic development, education, healthcare, public safety, and tourism; and
  - iii. Educate citizens, private industry, government agencies, and elected officials on broadband concerns.
  - iv. Provide a formalized process to engage and address concerns from citizens, private industry, elected officials, and local and State government.
  - v. Centralize all broadband information from CBO, Department Of Local Affairs (DOLA), and Department Of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) websites into a single website.
  - vi. Partner with the Office of Future of Work to create a subcommittee focused on digital literacy and inclusion.
  - vii. As part of OIT's annual performance plans pursuant to the SMART Act (C.R.S. § 2-7-204), OIT will provide an update on broadband collaboration including projects initiated and completed, dollars spent or disbursed, and other metrics including digital inclusion.
- C. The Board shall consist of the following members:
  - i. The Executive Director of CBO, or their designee;
  - ii. The Executive Director of Office Economic Development and International Trade, or their designee;


- iii. The Executive Director of DOLA, or their designee;
- iv. The Executive Director of DORA, or their designee;
- v. The Executive Director of Colorado Department Of Transportation, or their designee; and
- vi. A representative from any other agency or organization that has relevant projects and initiatives focused on broadband activities within the State, as appointed by the Executive Director of OIT.

### III. Duration

Executive Order D 2012 037 is hereby superseded and replaced by this Executive Order. This Executive Order shall remain in effect unless modified or rescinded by future Executive Order of the Governor.



GIVEN under my hand and  
the Executive Seal of the  
State of Colorado, this  
thirtieth day of October,  
2020.

  
Jared Polis  
Governor