

**RURAL COMMUNITY  
BROADBAND NETWORK**

# List of Initial Action Steps



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## **Identify Community-Specific Expected Benefits**

**Education**

**Economic Development**

**Security/Safety**

## **Address High Level Feasibility Considerations**

**Needs Assessment**

- **Household**
- **Schools**

- **Local Government**
  - **Administrative**
  - **Public Safety**
  - **Library**
- **Financial**
  - **Acceptable Risk-Return**
  - **Potential Funding Sources**
  - **Cost Estimation**

## **Administration & Management**

- **Timeframe**
- **Possible Business Models**
  - **Public-Private Partnerships**
  - **Federal and/or State Funding Sources**
  - **Roles of Local Telephone and/or Cable Services Provider(s)**
- **Regional Involvement**

## **Incorporate Feasibility Considerations**

### **Into Focused Business Plan**

- **Priorities**
- **Allow Needs and Initial Funding Concerns to Drive Feasibility**

### **Issue Requests For Proposal For**

#### **Specific Network Architecture**

- **Remain Open to All Possible Technology Solutions, e.g., Wireless vs Wired, Delivery Through Power Grid, etc.**
- **Allow Bidders the Options to Develop Their Own Network Designs**

## TELECOM DIRECTIONS GROUP

This list of initial action steps is provided compliments of the Telecom Directions Group (TDG), for any rural community that is potentially interested in developing broadband services. TDG is a division of Telecom Directions, LLC.

Feel free to download the other documents in this series relating to developing a rural community broadband network: “Readiness Checklist” and “Create a Business Plan for a Rural Community Broadband Project,” via the Telecom Directions Group Page, at [www.telecomdirections.com](http://www.telecomdirections.com).

Considering action steps is only one of several tasks involved in establishing a rural community broadband network. The Telecom Directions Group is available to provide project concept and articulation assistance to rural communities. Our customized services cover the entire range of project planning tasks, from developing a business plan using these guidelines, to developing and issuing requests for information and requests for proposals. These are fee-based services.

Since 1987, Telecom Directions has been an independent consultancy based in Seattle, Washington, and has no affiliation or remunerative relationship with any provider of telecommunications equipment or services.



Henry Baird is a 14-year member of the Society of Telecommunications Consultants and has been elected twice to its board of directors. He is also a member of the Project Management Institute and the International Society of Parametric Analysts. He holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Washington and a Master of Arts in Expository Writing from the University of Iowa.