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APEC 2023 PALM SPRINGS

APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group TEL66

U.S. Economy Update February 2023

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Recap: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (a.k.a. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)

U.S. House of Representatives and Senate passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) – Nov. 2021

- IIJA provides $65 billion in funding for broadband deployment
- The majority of the funding, $42.45 billion, is allocated to the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program
- Each state, D.C., and P.R. received an initial allocation of $100 million -- and $100 million was divided equally among the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands -- to support planning efforts including building capacity in state broadband offices and outreach and coordination with local communities
- BEAD will be the single largest federal government investment in broadband deployment in the economy's history
- To ensure effectiveness, minimum requirements will be 100/20 Mbps
- NTIA manages the BEAD program

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NTIA Awards $304 million for Network Expansion Planning

The National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) awarded money to every state, plus Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico for use to plan out networks that connect every American to affordable, high-speed Internet

States will receive a historic influx of money to expand out high-speed Internet service as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (a.k.a. the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, IIJA)

The planning grants are down payments for states and territories to use so they can absorb the coming additional funding for actual construction effectively

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NTIA Awards $304 million for Network Expansion Planning

Each U.S. state has different needs and unique challenges in bridging the digital divide, so these "planning grants" recognize the importance of flexibility.

Some broad trends driving the ways U.S. states are putting this money to use:

1) They are using the funding to identify unserved and underserved locations, to help understand the digital divide;

2) They are also deploying funding to increase staffing and capacity at their state-level broadband offices and programs; and finally

3) They are seeking to ensure that telecoms networks are inclusive by investing in digital equity, including through community surveys to better understand the barriers faced by underrepresented groups in Internet adoption.

NTIA's Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives (OMBI) Releases First Annual Report

NTIA’s Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives released an annual report identifying barriers to high-speed Internet access in minority communities and outlining the office’s role in achieving digital equity across the United States.

Examples of OMBI’s key 2021-2022 accomplishments highlighted in the report include:

- Administering the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program (CMC) and granting over $20 million in the program’s first ten awards
- Collaborating with federal, state, tribal, and anchor institution stakeholders through interagency outreach, partnerships with national advocacy organizations, and support of NTIA’s Digital Equity Leaders Network re-launch
- Building capacity of anchor institutions and their communities through ongoing technical assistance activities exceeding 2000 participants

NTIA's Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives (OMBI) Releases First Annual Report

In addition to highlighting the office's key 2021-2022 accomplishments, the report:

1) Summarizes current initiatives to support and build capacity in Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Serving Institutions;

2) Outlines barriers to access for students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding anchor community; and

3) Provides recommendations to improve efforts to expand digital access and adoption.

The office will continue to build on promising successes from 2021-2022, as well as the insights into digital disparity made over this past year.

The report can be read in its entirety on NTIA's BroadbandUSA website.

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CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

CISA Report to Help K-12 Schools Address Evolving Cybersecurity Threats

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released its “Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats” report and toolkit to help K-12 schools and school districts address systemic cybersecurity risk and better protect against threats.

The report’s findings highlight the importance of resources, simplicity, and prioritization to effectively reduce cybersecurity risk. To address these issues, CISA provides three recommendations to help K-12 leaders build, operate, and maintain resilient cybersecurity programs:

- Invest in the most impactful security measures and build toward a mature cybersecurity plan.
- Recognize and actively address resource constraints.
- Focus on collaboration and information-sharing.

The report and toolkit are available at: https://www.cisa.gov/protecting-our-future-partnering-safeguard-k-12-organizations-cybersecurity-threats

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CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

CISA Releases 2022 Year-in-Review

CISA's Year-in-Review report highlights the four core areas of its overall mission:

- Cyber Defense
- Risk Reductions and Resilience
- Operational Collaboration
- Agency Unification

CISA's Strategic Plan focuses not only on how it works to reduce risk and build resilience, but also on how the agency is unifying through integrated functions, capabilities, and workforce. CISA's accomplishments outlined in its Year-in-Review are grounded in its core values of Collaboration, Innovation, Service, and Accountability.

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CISA 2022 Year-in-Review Accomplishments

Cyber Defense

- In October 2022, CISA released its Cybersecurity Performance Goals (CPGs) to establish a common set of fundamental cybersecurity practices for critical infrastructure, focusing on helping SMEs and organizations.
- More than 700 Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosures in 2022
- Joint Cybersecurity Defense Collaborative (JCDC) coordinates the activities of the U.S. government and private sector to discuss potential vulnerabilities and solutions in order to address weaknesses quickly and efficiently

Risk Reduction and Resilience

- CISA coordinated with FEMA to create funding mechanism for state, local, and territorial governments to form their own cybersecurity offices
- CISA conducted the 8th Cyberstorm Exercise – a biennial (every 2 years) exercise of a simulated discovery and response to a significant cybersecurity incident. Exercise had more than 2,000 participants and over 100 private sector entities.
- Inaugural National Summit on K-12 School Safety and Security

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CISA 2022 Year-in-Review Accomplishments

Operational Collaboration

- CISA worked with the Department of State to implement capacity building programs for over 1,000 people from 31 countries
- CISA opened its first attaché office in London to serve as a focal point for collaboration with UK government officials
- CISA's 10 regional domestic offices helped with 194 incidents and 197 special events

Agency Unification

- CISA is one of the U.S. government's youngest agencies and continues to build capacity through hiring and training activities
- In addition to fulfilling its core mission, CISA focused on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in order to build a well-rounded organization
- CISA also created an External Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Office to ensure equitable access to CISA resources and making sure CISA's actions individual liberty and fairness

2022 U.S. CHIPS and Science Act

- Signed into law August 9, 2022
- Makes historic investments that will poise U.S. workers, communities, and businesses to win the race for the 21st century.
- Strengthen American manufacturing, supply chains, and national security, and invest in research and development, science and technology, and the workforce of the future to lead in the industries of tomorrow.
- Public investments in R&D lay the foundation for the future breakthroughs that over time yield new businesses, new jobs, and more exports.

2022 U.S. CHIPS and Science Act

CHIPS Act Funding and Aims – Overall Funding

The CHIPS Act directs $278.2 billion over the next ten years to be dedicated to improving American competitiveness and increasing scientific R&D

$52.7 billion is allocated for semiconductor manufacturing, R&D, and workforce development, $24 billion in available tax credits for manufacturers, and $3 billion in advanced technology research and manufacturing

Most CHIPS and Science Act funding ($225.5 billion) is authorized for increasing and improving education in STEM fields, advancing research in climate, new energy technologies and innovation, physics, biology, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and domestic manufacturing. The Act has numerous provisions as well to foster development of regional technology hubs intended to broaden prosperity

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2022 U.S. CHIPS and Science Act

- Includes $1.5 billion for promoting and deploying wireless technologies that use open and interoperable radio access networks.
- **Catalyze regional economic growth and development.** Authorizes $10 billion to invest in regional innovation and technology hubs across the country, bringing together state and local governments, institutes of higher education, labor unions, businesses, and community-based organizations to create regional partnerships to develop technology, innovation, and manufacturing sectors.
- Authorizes **new and expanded investments in STEM education and training** from K-12 to community college, undergraduate and graduate education to ensure more people from all backgrounds and all regions and communities around the country, especially people from marginalized, under-served, and under-resourced communities, can benefit from and participate in STEM education and training opportunities.

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State Department's Cyberspace and Digital Policy Bureau

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The Cyberspace and Digital Policy Bureau

The Cyberspace and Digital Policy Bureau officially began operations on April 4, 2022

- The new bureau has several offices that handle different policy issues
  - ICP – The Division for International Information and Communications Policy
    - The Office of Bilateral Affairs
    - The Office of Multilateral Affairs
    - The Office of Technology Security
  - ICS – The Division for International Cyberspace Security
    - The Office of International Engagement and Capacity Building
    - The Office of Global Policy, Plans, and Negotiations
    - The Office of Threat Management and Operational Coordination
  - CDF – The Coordinator for Digital Freedom
  - SPC – Strategic Planning and Communications Unit

The Cyberspace and Digital Policy Bureau

Nathaniel C. Fick – Ambassador at-Large

Ambassador at-Large Fick was sworn in on September 21, 2022 as CDP's inaugural leader.

Prior to joining the State Department, Ambassador Fick was a technology executive and entrepreneur. He was CEO of the cybersecurity software company Endgame from 2012 through its acquisition by Elastic in 2019. Ambassador Fick spent nearly 10 years as an operating partner at Bessemer Venture Partners, working with management teams to build technology businesses.

From 2009 to 2012, Ambassador Fick was CEO of the Center for a New American Security, a national security research organization in Washington. Earlier in his career, he served as a Marine Corps infantry and reconnaissance officer. Ambassador Fick holds degrees from Dartmouth College, MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School, and MBA from Harvard Business School.

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Questions?

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