September 9, 2025 Meeting - Seattle Community Technology Advisory Board

Topics covered included: Seattle IT Wireless Affairs Update; CTAB Workplan Items

This meeting was held: September 9, 2025; 6:00-7:15 p.m., via Webex and in City Hall Room 370

Attending:

Board Members: Phillip Meng, DeiMarlon Scisney, Omari Stringer, Aishah Bomani

Public: Raj Gunukula, Dorene Cornwell, Sanchit Gera, Harte Daniels, Cheri Allen, Call-in user, Robert Kruse

Staff: Trayce Cantrell, Alice Lawson, Jon Morrison Winters, Vinh Tang, Jake Hammock, Cass Magnuski

18 In Attendance

Phillip Meng: Good evening, everyone. Welcome to the September 2025 meeting of Seattle's Community Technology Advisory Board. It's great to see everyone. Let's begin with introductions. I'll go in order on my screen.

INTRODUCTIONS

Phillip Meng: Thanks so much for joining us. Great! Let's move on to approval of minutes and agenda. Is there a motion to approve the minutes?

DeiMarlon Scisney: I so move.

Phillip Meng: Can I get a second?

Omari Stringer: Second.

Phillip Meng: All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion passes. Can I get a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting?

Omari Stringer: I so move that the agenda be approved. .

Phillip Meng: Thank you. Can I get a second?

DeiMarlon Scisney: Second.

Phillip Meng: All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion passes. Let's move on to our first agenda item, Seattle IT Wireless Affairs Update with Alice Lawson. Alice, I turn it over to you to start the discussion.

SEATTLE IT WIRELESS AFFAIRS UPDATE

Alice Lawson: Great. Thank you very much. All right, can everybody see my screen? I apologize because you can't see my face. Maybe it's better that way. I'm glad to be back again. For those of you who have been around for at least a year, last July I did an update on wireless affairs. Some of this may be familiar content to some who have heard this before. And for those of you who have not, I am glad to share this with you, because I think it is an outstanding and unique part of our work. It has had an impact since 2020 since we went to 5G.

In terms of wireless affairs, the question is what does that even mean, and the question in Seattle is what is the origin story. Just quickly, we had in 2020 the fifth generation of cellular wireless networks beginning to roll out. And there was a tremendous amount of pressure on local governments for speed to support the infrastructure that went with that. And there was a lot of federal activity that was usurping our local control. There is not other way to say it. Giving us shock clocks and timeline and really giving a lot more power to the industry in the hope that this 5G rollout would happen nationally on a very speedy and effective basis. So, we as local government trying to protect the interests of our community in this, decided that we would work together to try to address industry wide interest as it impacted us, and also our residents, who had concerns. Many of you remember the early days of the fifth generation of wireless, and there was a lot of concern about safety of 5G antennas and how they would proliferate in our communities. And then, we also had the interests of City departments at play, because a lot of different departments are involved with the industry in rolling out and deploying this infrastructure. Because of these varied activities and because Seattle IT has an interest in making sure our community always has best in class infrastructure in the digital economy, we became the decided place to be a hub that would support all of those interests. And so that is what wireless affairs is. To be a single point of contact that an industry member, the community, or a City department could contact to get something done. To say, how can I get something done, or complain about something that I don't like, and that my role could be to to knew where within the City to navigate to get that addressed. So, the web site you see here is a web page we put up back in 2020, and it became kind of a landing spot, place for residents to navigate, or for industry partners who want to know where to start to do something when they're working within the City of Seattle.

The next natural question might be for Seattle IT. Besides our interest in having the best technology in our community, we have a digital equity focus with the Community Technology Digital Equity program for over 25 years has been focused on our under-served partners in community can have access to technology. And we have long understood that our lowest-income residents often rely on wireless connectivity as their

primary connectivity, not only for telephones. In the days when cellphones came out and people could afford only a cellphone, not a landline and a cellphone. Higher income residents might have both for a while. But then it quickly moved into data access and access to the internet. So, our most recent Technology Access and Adoption Study -- I'm sure you are familiar with this -- told us that we have still a significant number of our most disadvantaged community members, those living in poverty, those with English as their second language, older adults are more likely to rely more heavily on their wireless connectivity, their cellular phones, mobile phones. So, we saw that as a reason why Seattle IT needs to be in the forefront of making sure these networks are rolling out in an equitable way because of the community members that really rely on them heavily. And then more recently, last year the big launch the City had to stand up its CiviForm page, which is a place where members of the community can go to have a one-stop for all kinds of government, City programs to support them in one way or another. And the statistics -- I checked with our CiviForm people last week, and they're telling me that right now, based on the data -- Caveat: This isn't perfect data because there are some studies that we have to have on the back end of CiviForm that haven't always been in play -- but they tell me that 27 percent of CiviForm users are dependent on a mobile device. So, for all of those reasons, Seattle IT is at the forefront of making sure wireless affairs and this wireless build-out is going smoothly. That said, we as a local government do not have much authority when it comes to wireless. That lies with the federal government, and that means that we cannot tell the wireless carriers where to deploy equipment. They make their decisions based on network needs, and all we can try to do is try to influence that. So, from the beginning of the 5G rollout, the map on the left here, which is cellular activity utility poles, that was the first origins of 5G, where the industry thought they were going to be putting small cell antennas on utility poles all along the rights-of-way, as a way to enhance their network capacity. That didn't over the years actually manifest, for a couple of different reasons, but what you're seeing on the map is all of the places where there are cellular equipment on Seattle City Light utility poles. So, we've overlaid that on the top of the City's Race and Social Equity Index map, and for the next four years, every time I meet with industry, I have these maps as part of the meeting, because I'm trying to keep it in the forefront of the conversations with them so that as they are planning their networks, they are looking at equitable distribution. So, when it comes to 5G on poles, wireless on poles, you can see the big spike in the year of activity, 2029. That's when there were almost 800 applications to get on poles. And then it greatly reduced. It surged again 2023, and then this year. Last year was also a thin year. So, the carriers aren't making the same level of investment in terms of approach to enhancing that activity, but it is a place they use to fill in gaps, where there are very highly dense areas. That's why you see it a lot in the downtown core, primarily. Now the map on the right is another one we track, because the bigger picture, the cellular network, is not just those small cells. It is the signals that are coming

off the towers and the rooftops, and the buildings, and the larger antenna arrays that actually can serve a wider in more distributed patterns. So, we started tracking where the permitting -- and this is live, to date permitting -- has distributed around the City for the cellular equipment on private properties. And the reason we do that, when a carrier puts a structure on top of a building, it may stay there for years. So, we didn't just want to look at it from 2020 forward, but we have been tracking the level of connectivity in that permitting since 2020 just to get an idea of where that balance is in the industry. And you can see again on the right, with our chart here, that in 2021, even at the City Light side, their poles dropped down to 33, very low volume. It was one of the highest years for private properties. And the reason for that was at the federal level, the FCC had spectrum auction, and the carriers that bought that auction knew they could get better coverage by investing in equipment that could distribute that, versus the small cell antennas. So, we saw a change there. And we as a City thought that was very beneficial because one rooftop improvement with that spectrum is going to impact a lot more residents than on small cell on a specific utility pole. So, this is in digital equity how we've mapped it over the last four years and continue to keep that conversation at the forefront with the carriers.

When it comes to the actual buildout of wireless, I also wanted to share how interesting, but also how complicated it is for the industry and for the City to work in this sector. These are some pictures that show you the variety of antenna types that are going on poles around the City. And some of these pictures where you can see the antenna and the amount of wiring involved, you can understand the level of engineering and construction coordination that is needed with that. And the second set of slides are where there are antennas and different types of arrays on private properties. So, on the buildings, on the rooftops, on the lower left here, and how much City departments are trying to work with the carriers to make sure that those arrays aesthetically aren't as impactful on the surrounding community. The top middle building with the two antennas up to the right is the Medical Dental Building downtown. That was an example of one, a historic property, actually, to have a minimal impact on that attachment to that was something that was really important to our Department of Neighborhoods historic coordination. When it does come to Seattle IT as a hub and a wheel of departments, that is because there is quite a variety of departments involved in this work in one way or another. So, this long list is just to make sure that everyone can see the full name of the department, even though my next slide is going to use acronyms.

Our first and probably heaviest interactive group with the wireless sector is Seattle City Light, and that is because with the volume of antennas that go on utility poles and the amount of work involved in that, as well as the fiber optic lines that serve those antennas. They also run on utility poles or in the ground and up along them. City Light for years has been a leader in the nation, actually in having a joint use team. That is a

group within the department that specifically works with third parties who want to attach things to City Light poles. They've got really great systems and great applications that applicants can use to do the work, to engage with the City, to get applications approved, and to deploy equipment used in City Light facilities. And the next big hitter in this realm is the Department of Transportation (SDOT). All of the work, all of the City Light poles, are the public rights-of-way. That means that City Light, as the public right-of-way manager, to have the lead role in the permitting of that construction work, as well as the design standards that are in place for poles in the right-of-way and what the facilities on those poles, what dimensions and sizes and constraints they have around that. Then we have the Department of Construction and Inspections, which are the ones that take all of the applications for building permits on the private properties. And they also do electrical inspections. And then we get into some more fined tuned use cases. So, Seattle Public Utilities. A lot of our wireless carriers have equipment deployed on water towers and maybe some poles that are involved in Seattle Public Utilities sites on other proprietary property they own. Department of Neighborhoods gets involved when deployments are going to be in a historic district, and that is whether it's on a building in a historic district, or a pole in a historic district. They have oversight there to try to ensure that there is going to be an aesthetic connection with design standards for that historic district. Finance and Administrative Services which runs and organizes all of the City buildings. They work with the wireless carriers who have a lot of facilities and antennas on the Seattle Municipal Tower parking garage. And then, if there are other municipal properties that need leasing support, SAS helps with that. One department that has been heavily active over the past decade and is actually going to be wrapping up at the end of this year, and that is the Office of Waterfront and Civic Planning OWCP), and they have done a tremendous amount of work with the wireless sector over the last four and a half years to integrate their facilities into (unintelligible). I have a separate slide on that and will touch on it in a second. Seattle Center. again, they have been working for some years wanting to improve the wireless services that are available to tourists on the campus. This last year, they finally made some progress there. And then, lastly, we have Seattle Parks and Recreation. While they do not allow to have wireless equipment permanently put on Parks property, they do manage temporary use permits. which will happen for special events, like if there were something down on a pier at the waterfront, and there was not enough capacity, then they would get a temporary use permit for that special event, for Seafair or something like that.

So, altogether, those departments are doing work behind the scenes at all times to try to keep these wireless networks running properly so we can all enjoy it.

One of the cases I wanted to highlight is the Seattle waterfront. This is a group that has spent many years designing a very specific aesthetic look for the waterfront. And then in 2020, with those federal changes that happened, they told local governments, "You

cannot prohibit the placement of wireless facilities in the public right-of-way. You can only impact the design considerations around the aesthetics. We approached the waterfront and talked with them and said, 'the carriers want to come down on the waterfront, and now would be the time to work with them to get things planned and organized as you are building, versus having to come in later and want to tear things up or add things on your poles that you don't like the looks of. This group is heavily engaged with the wireless industry and worked with all of them together to come up with one unified pole look, which are these thicker police which you see around. All three carriers use the exact same pole type and that is unique, I think, because other parts of the City carriers each have their own approach to what their wireless arrays will look like. But the waterfront's work with them came up with this specific design which protects the aesthetic in the waterfront. And the waterfront group had to integrate all of that civil infrastructure work into their ongoing project on the waterfront And that was to try to get the fiber pathways and the (unintelligible), and those kinds of things that are needed for these facilities in place as the waterfront was being built. So, that was a lot of work, and they did a tremendous job working with the wireless sector to make it happen. And the good news is they've got 37 of 39 poles along the waterfront that are going to become these hybrid poles and are already deployed; and all of the carriers are already operational. So, everyone with every different kind of mobile service -- and that includes people who buy mobile service from secondary providers like Cricket Wireless, Mint Mobile, which are companies that lease the actual capacity from the three big carriers. We are really pleased with that, and when you are on the waterfront for its grand opening this weekend, check out the hybrid poles.

The next project I wanted to highlight is the Seattle Center. This is one, again, where they have been trying for some years to come up with a unified plan for deploying a state-of-the-art wireless network that all of the carriers could run over on the campus as a way to make sure that high density events on the campus can meet the needs of all of the visitors, but also so that Seattle Center staff didn't have to continue working individually with each carrier, which have at this point, temporary sites around the campus. So, a year and a half ago, they did an RFP process and they picked the Verizon Wireless as the successful bidder. And they have been working with Verizon to design a system that is going to be the one system on the campus that all of the carriers can use. And it is going to be a robust network that also allows for scalability. So, as the future needs in wireless connectivity grow, this network should have that scalability without having to have a lot of new deployments. The big effort, after deciding what the carrier is, was the design of it, because design aesthetics is very important on campus, too. the photos you see here are the proposed pole designs that are going to be going around the campus. And although the numbers of poles originally proposed by Verizon was higher, they were able to work with center staff and get it down to eleven to try to minimize the impact around the campus. Everyone is hopeful that these are going to be

poles that just kind of disappear into the landscape, and make for terrific coverage as the coming of FIFA 2026. So, they are going to be constructing these locations, projected to start in January and be completed by May. I have also been highlighting the outside, but they are also going to be doing inside buildings. So, the armory, Fisher Pavilion, Phelps Center Exhibition Hall, and the 5th Avenue Mercer Garages are also going to be part of these network enhancements. So, the mobile connectivity will be terrific all around the campus, and inside, too.

Now an example where our partnership over the years and working to keep communication with the wireless industry really, I think, paid off. We had a local event planner -- there was a heavy user at Magnuson Park who contacted our office with concern that the wifi and cell capacity for large events when vendors are trying to do transactions just wasn't sufficient. /So, we were able to find out from them that what they were trying to do was to use T-Mobile Hotspots for the supplemental coverage for those events. So, we reached out to the T-Mobile team and asked them if they could evaluate it. They looked and did a signal coverage mapping of the campus, and then they went and looked around and they determined that they had one antenna across the street from the park, but all three of the antenna panels were facing toward the neighborhood. And they determined that they could reorient one of those panels toward the park to improve the park coverage and at the same time not degrade the coverage that was serving the surrounding community. So, they did that work, and after it was done, you can see here great improvement, not only in Hangar 30, which was the original target, but all across the park. So, anyone that goes there with T-Mobile or any of the secondary carriers that use T-Mobile access will have much better coverage. So, that's just a type of benefit that we see from keeping this wireless affairs role. We are in constant communication with industry. We try to work with them to hear what their concerns are regarding City process, and effective role out of their facilities. And then they are willing to work with us and support us when we come to them when we have areas of concern.

The next big activity level that we are gearing up for in the whole entire City is FIFA 2026 preparation. I'll just comment on that because we know that there is going to be a peak number of visitors in Seattle. They will all be mobile connected in and around our City. And so, already carriers are working on facility upgrades to make sure that the wireless networks have capacity needs met. And we see that with City Light reporting that this year alone, we've already had 75 applications for modification. So, it's listed equipment that is on a pole is going to be changed out to be equipment that has more capacity. The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is also getting more applications and more interest in fiber deployment in advance of FIFA as well as other wireless-related projects in the right-of-way. And they have been working hard with industry to early on make them aware of where there are going to be moratoriums and

things like that would impact construction work. during the event as we try to gear up for this event. By then, the Seattle Construction and Inspections Department is also seeing more carrier applications for co-locations, they call it, putting a second set of antennas onto a building, or again, upgrade or modify existing ones. We are expecting that, with this work, the good work of City Light, SDOT, SCI, their constant communication and good relationships with the wireless sector, and the wireless sector's interest in having good network capacity here, we are going to have good coverage during FIFA and afterwards.

The last thing I wanted to touch base on was another angle on wireless affairs. It is not private sector oriented. The Seattle Community Network -- I think a lot of you are familiar with them, because not only did they present last year to you (and they would be happy to do that again, if you are interested.) -- but we also have supported them as a City through our Technology Matching Fund Grants. Seattle Community Network started off using cellular LTE technology with Citizen Broadband Radio spectrum, a public spectrum that they could give sim cards or to compatible mobile phones and hotspots for people who are low-income in low-income areas. That was the vision, so they could get their internet connectivity that way. That really got started right before Covid and the early time of Covid. We worked closely with them and the City helped to fund the equipment that they placed on top of Franklin High School and Garfield High School that serve a couple of the zones where that connectivity is available. And King County also provided funds where they did a couple of their sites. But in that early maybe year and a half of deploying this, they came to find out that the take rate and the impact wasn't as great as they had hoped with this kind of signal. So, then they pivoted and they found that a better way to use their skills and interests and technology was to more target and focus on areas where we had concentrations of housing-insecure residents. So, working with Nickelsville, the Low Income Housing Institute, Share, and the tiny house villages and their shelter sites. The 2024 Technology Matching Fund gave them $42,000 toward that effort. They had already been doing some. You can see a list o all of the sites they have now gotten connected here, using -- sometimes it's cellular backhaul, and sometimes it's a hard line wire connection for the Access for All program, and sometimes it's a hotspot that the Seattle Public Library is letter them use as backhaul. They are a very innovative group and they are expanding their impact and are continuing to work with the Low Income Housing Institute to find more sites where they can deploy. And the City is a really big supporter of this effort because we see it as the one that is having the most targeted impact on places where it is really, really hard for these residents to ever get a permanent wired line connection to where they are. Mobility is just always going to be important for them. We also this as an important area to monitor, because the CBRS spectrum that they initially relied on for the community cellular network, which is still in existence and that people are using, is at risk under a current federal -- basically the 'big, beautiful bill,' which has reauthorized the FCC to

have spectrum auctions and set a very high bar for how much spectrum the FCC and how much money they need to make. and the spectrum was not protected in that bill. So, there is some thought that the FCC may decide to basically change that spectrum from being free public spectrum and make it licensed spectrum, which would, of course, take it out of the hands of so many groups like ours and others around the country who don't have a lot of budget and have relied on it being free in order to utilize it to serve people.

Just quickly to wrap up, I always wrap up conversations like this with challenges, So, it is a construction challenge. There is a tremendous amount of work going on at any time within Seattle, especially in the downtown corridor construction. And we address that through our Department of Transportation having a very well-refined and proactive project coordination office, and they have this project to coordination map that allows carriers or anyone who wants to do construction to look and see where things are planned to be happening to see if they could potentially get in where the ground is already going to be open or to coordinate with someone else. This comes into play as a big challenge for our carriers getting fiber to poles where they want to attach antennas. It is a very difficult and a very expensive process for them. So again, working with SDOT coordination office is a big support for that effort. And a more recent thing we are working on right now is an inter-departmental training event that is just for a telecom audience. And it is going to be titled 'How to best prepare your project.' How to research what is under City streets. It will be a one-time training, and will be recorded and can be developed or used on demand afterwards. The idea is if the telecom companies maybe have new staff or something in the area and are just not familiar with all of our resources that already exist within the City, for them to do their project design planning, we are going to have that available for them. It’s going to be the record development manager, which is Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light, Seattle Department of Transportation, and myself, Seattle IT are involved with that training.

And then the last thing, as I mentioned, with that spectrum challenge potentially with CPRS and the Seattle Community Network, as an inter-departmental team and wireless affairs, I keep my finger on the pulse of the federal activity that is going on to make sure that we take every opportunity we can to maintain our local control over working with industry, and working on the roll out of these networks in our community. We are working under a system, as I mentioned, where we do not have the authority to tell the carriers where they can or cannot put things. We can only review their applications to put them in certain places to make sure they are meeting aesthetic standards for poles in the right-of-way and other kinds of safety and code standards that are required. But City Light and SDCI are working under federally-imposed shock clocks for a lot of these wireless-related applications. And there is some talk at the federal level now and a real risk that they might try to impose even more of those kinds of shock clocks on maybe

right-of-way use permits that SDOT does. And that just creates a real challenge for staff, who are already working very to review and get permits out quickly, and to be under shock clocks is really a question of who do you get in front of? Because most of these departments are working on a first in, first out basis when it comes to applications for any kind of permitting. So, it puts us in a difficult position as a local government when we have shock clocks imposed on us federally. With that, does anyone have any questions?

Philip Meng: Alice, thanks so much for your presentation. I will lead off with a couple of questions. One that goes back to the July, 2024, and one that does not. My question related to July, 2024, I remember that we talked about SDOT's uniform pole design and the work that other agencies are doing around uniform pole design for the Seattle waterfront, and how Seattle IT is coordinating that. I'm curious to know if we will be doing this in any other parts of the City, where we will start to see some of this visual uniformity. That's the question that relates back to that. Then, the one that doesn't: I wanted to learn a little bit more about what you were talking about at the end, which is changes in the federal government. Of course, there have been considerable changes since last July at the federal level. I'm wondering if there are any specific ways that the relationship has changed, or ways that they are approaching spectrum deployment differently?

Alice Lawson: Thank you. Those are great questions. On the waterfront pole design, that was a unique opportunity we had. Because the waterfront literally was being redeveloped with a uniform look in place, if we had another part of the City that was going to do something similar, like say we decide to redevelop Broadway on Capitol Hill, which would have a certain look and feel to its multi-year project, then definitely we would want to be involved and say that we want to have a uniform pole design as part of that aesthetic. But it is a challenging thing to do in our active City, where neighborhoods are ongoing entities, and the poles that are there that the carriers get to deploy on. We don't have a way, other than with special projects to go backwards. It is a very expensive proposition to change a pole, to require a carrier to change a pole to a different look if that isn't something that is happening with every pole that changes in that area. Does that address that question?

Philip Meng: It does, yes.

Alice Lawson: And I say that because I have traveled in other cities, and whenever I go someplace, I am always geeking out on this wireless stuff. So, I'm looking at the poles and the wires. And I've been to a few cities where they have this under development, and I see how casual approaches to these wireless poles. And there are three different styles mixed around. And they might all be integrated, but one is fat on the bottom, another is fat on the top, and so I feel in Seattle that we do a terrific job

working together with multiple departments and all of the carriers to say let's have one nice, clean look, and to be able to accomplish that was a really good outcome.

Okay, then I'm going to answer the other question about the federal. And I see that DeiMarlon Scisney has his hand up. What has happened at the FCC, which is the federal authority that manages spectrum or radio-frequency signal. It is fascinating to look at the chart, that there is so much spectrum out there in the air that we don't see. And it is all partitioned off in different ways for different users. A lot of it is for the federal government and a lot of it is for the Department of Defense. And what has been happening over the years, as wireless technology, cellular technology has proliferated in our daily living, is that the industry has been pushing for more spectrum. They want more, and so the federal government has been trying to repackage and auction off the early spectrum that wasn't being used. But anything that was really good spectrum, which means it travels far and it travels through barriers was already being used for something else. So, there is a lot of repackaging that goes on. And the Department of Defense is one of those areas where they have a lot of spectrum. They don't necessarily use it all of the time constantly. And the spectrum where the CBRS is actually the Department of Navy's spectrum. What that was spectrum where they came within the model of 'shared.' So, the Department of Defense still is the primary, and if the Navy is in the area and needs the spectrum, all of the users on that get bumped off. Then they took a portion of it and they licensed that to the highest bidder. So we have carriers like Comcast got some of the spectrum, and Verizon. And then they've got the lower tier. A certain amount of it is the general access free spectrum. So, it is a dynamic sharing system. It was interesting for us in Seattle. One of the reasons we wanted to support looking at it was proof of concept in a port City with a lot of Navy presence, could it be useful spectrum for us? And it did prove useful. It didn't prove that with the Navy being so close would knock the connectivity off of the general access people on a regular basis. But that spectrum, again, is at risk because the FCC is now looking for more ways to repackage what they consider reliable spectrum and get on a high dollar lease for it, basically a license. And the industry, just like these other spectrums they've got, they are always advocating at the federal level for more and more spectrum. They need more. They are looking ahead. They are looking for the growing needs and interests of community, and so that is what we are watching for and think that there is a risk in pressure at the federal level. In the current administration, which is very industry-focused, they are more than likely to follow something that has happened in the past where local governments are considered the reason why networks aren't growing fast enough or being deployed fast enough. We don't necessarily agree, because we do all of the work we can to be in communication and to get these networks out, and we see that there are a lot of complex construction, reasons, and coordination needs. So, it's hard and it is very expensive to go to these networks for the carriers. But at the federal level, if the message is local governments are the problem and the carriers need more

spectrum, then we feel that there is a risk of the federal government taking actions that will take away more of our local control around things, make us use shock clocks, make us lessen the fees we can charge for certain things, and again, potentially repackage spectrum that had once been meant for general public use for free, and auction it off to the private carriers. Si, it is concentrating more spectrum into the private carriers, which means that we all have to buy it back from them through our mobile plans.

DeiMarlon Scisney: I have a few questions. The Seattle Community Network, we are familiar with their work and love the model for supporting housing-insecure communities. And the maps that you showed, I do believe that those were GIS maps that you had with the small cell and rooftop installations. They show an overlap with areas of high racial and social disadvantage. So, my question is are there plans to expand models like SCN to more neighborhoods, and then how is the City engaging with community-based organizations to ensure that that deployment is both equitable and aligned with community priorities, much like working with the waterfront, to steward that at the waterfront?

Alice Lawson: That's a great question. We are constantly working with Seattle Community Network. We just had a meeting last Friday with them and the Seattle Public Library, which has some funds and want to support some deployment, and tiny home villages. We continue being in conversation with them, but the real challenge is the cost. Building a network is one thing, and maintaining it is another big challenge. And so, the Seattle Community Network has been relying on volunteers to do that build out and that is where we have been able to support them. Many times, since 2021, to buy equipment. And now we talk with them a little, but they are interested in is there a way to somehow rent or lease Seattle fiber backhaul. We have looked at that closely with them. It is a challenging system, because the City does not own wide open paths of fiber that run throughout the City. We have developed our fiber network in partnership with many other public entities, so segments of the fiber network are owned by different parties within any one cable. So, it makes it super difficult. But we are definitely talking with the Seattle Community Network. We think that the work they are doing is exactly the kind of model that really can help to address the need. They know where the audiences are that need it the most. They try to mobilize volunteers and interested people from those communities to support it. It's just a matter of working with them on getting the funding and the support to get the infrastructure up. But other than our Technology Matching Fund, and if we could find coordinated efforts through other grants or something that push them towards -- wo do that, too. We try to let them know if we hear of a grant. Like T-Mobile was having some program for community organizations, and we give them that kind of thing. If they need letters of support, we do that for them. We just don't have a fund to say 'we're going to give you X amount of money and want

you to build onto all of these tiny home villages. So, we are just supporting their incremental effort to do that.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Got it. Thank you. And I am a TMF reviewer, so am very familiar with their work, as well. I appreciate that in the context. You talked about the different providers. You also talked about the City departments that are involved in wireless expansion. I'm curious. What have been the biggest challenges in aligning so many agencies? And if you can speak to lessons learned, I know that you talked about the inter-departmental team, as well. I'm just curious about any challenges in aligning so many different agencies, since I believe there were six or seven different agencies there.

Alice Lawson: One of the great things, we call it our inter-departmental team, our Telecom ID Team. We get together monthly and it is key staff, and all of those departments that have at some point in their work interaction with the telecom sector. It can be wireless and it can also be companies like Lumen, Comcast, Astound, Zipley, who have the fiber infrastructure that supports that. And so, by meeting regularly every month touching base with each other, we have that opportunity to talk about what kinds of trends and activities we are seeing, and support each other that way. It is the natural place where things can come up and departments can say 'I can help you with that,' or 'We're working on that, too.' And they then can meet offline and continue those kinds of conversation. So, it is that regular touch bases that is really important. Another key, I think, to our success has been super fortunate over the last five years, is that we have mostly the same staff in those roles. These are people that have experience working with each other within departments, but also working with the telecom liaisons and the telecom contractors, and all of those things. Anytime we have a turnover in staff and they have to get up to speed, that's always a little bit challenging. But we are just lucky as a City that we've got really dedicated people in those departments that do good work. They are interested in talking and being collaborative with each other and with industry and they really like their jobs and their missions and so are staying in their roles. I would say that those are the keys to success.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Thank you. I appreciate the context and the telecom team, as well. That's interesting. Last question, then I'll pass it off. With the large events, we know that FIFA is coming, there is $929 million of impact with the six games and things of that nature. Even looking at the smaller picture, I live four minutes from Magnuson Park, as well, and so am super excited about these advancements with T-Mobile there. But I'm curious about what strategies are being considered to balance the temporary capacity needs with more of the longer term community benefits from these infrastructure investments, because there are some historic investments that are happening right now for FIFA. But what kinds of strategies are in place being considered to balance that temporary capacity now, with the longer term community benefit?

Alice Lawson: I wouldn't necessarily characterize that what the carriers are doing is just temporary. If it was just temporary, it would be -- they call them COWs, Cells on Wheels. Literally, like with natural disasters and stuff, they can pull in temporary facilities that they can stand up in a concentrated area, and then they can de-deploy them. What we are seeing now is is actually upgrading their antennas, their facilities, that are on the City poles that are on rooftops and private properties. That is an expensive, committed investment, so I think that those are going to stay. It is one of the way they are probably, if I were to guess, because I don't have access to see their long-term network capacity, heat map needs and projections, but if I were to guess, the growth they are getting ready for with FIFA to support peak demand like that will also stake them well to a City that is continuing to grow generally and to a community that continues to rely more and more on mobile connectivity and maybe even more advanced uses of that mobile connectivity, which will all make network demand for them. If you're not a T-Mobile customer, one thing I always want to circle back and do is ask if there is somebody that is an ATT customer or a Verizon customer? How is the signal coverage in Magnuson Park? If we find out that it is not great, we can talk to them and see they can do.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Thank you, Allice. I'll pass it to Dorene Cornwell.

Dorene Cornwell: There are two things going on. I live in a neighborhood where now I am a Verizon customer, an I'm getting these notices that say they are upgrading our network to 5G in my neighborhood, some things might not work for a while. This is excited, because I know there is a ton of construction in the transit-oriented development. I live near the new Judkins Park Light Rail station. So, coming back to D's question, there are two pieces of it. Is anybody looking at the outcomes for people who have cellular access and live in a tiny house. What differences does it make in their lives. either is they've got subsidized plans or if they decide that this is important enough to spend more money on it. I don't know if you would know if anybody is doing anything to look at that. But the other piece is just for end customers, not business or the big sports venues or whatever, what can you do to ensure that this higher end access stays affordable? If peoples' demand, for example, for Telehealth grows, because it is going in in a neighborhood, somebody who needs subsidy is going to have the same access? I know you keep saying that you don't really have a lot of control, but what kind of mechanisms can you think of to ensure that the high speed stuff doesn't just widen the digital divide for people at the low end, or even people -- I know a few people who have a land line and maybe they have a cell, too, but there are different quirks about what kind of services they have, like a land line with no long distance, or a cell.

Alice Lawson: I appreciate that and I appreciate your mentioning Judkins Park. One thing I do want to offer to all of you is let me know if you do have areas in the City where

you feel that you have connectivity issues. Once that kind of information gets to me, that is when I can engage the carriers and ask them to look into it. "I'm hearing about a dead zone or a weak zone.' So, that is important. In terms of tiny home villages, were you talking qualitatively, meaning how it is changing their life to have that connectivity?

Dorene Cornwell: Yes. I guess it's both. How is it changing their lives, and how does that ripple out as far as change in their lives? Are they able to do more? Are they able to get into different housing? Are they able to get medical conditions addressed better? Are they just able to be able to talk to their friends and neighbors and relatives who live in other parts of the country? It is kind of a big question.

Alice Lawson: Yes, it's a really good one. And I think we don't have any formal survey staged by the City at this point. But it is something I know that the Seattle Community Network, the origins of that network, is the local connectivity lab, which is out of the University of Washington. The leader of the lab, as well as the network is Esther Jang, and she is an academic, and she is very interested in looking at those kinds of impacts. It is one of those things when I touch base with her, I will ask her. As they take up a village, are they trying to get a before and after? That would be a great thing. So, I appreciate you mentioning that. But we at Seattle IT are not staged to do any of this. It would be the Technology Access and Adoption study where we might do that kind of thing again. Jon Morrison Winters, if you want to speak to that? Like if we would ever do subgroups to try to get a closer look at these communities?

Jon Morrison Winters: Yes. I would be happy to walk you through some of that, Dorene, if you would like. In addition to the broad landscape of the Internet Access and Adoption Study. There are focus groups.

Dorene Cornwell: I know that the Internet Access and Adoption Study specifically oversample residents of the Seattle Housing Authority. There are reasons that online surveys don't work for people who have digital barriers. I know that there were different focus groups and different things that looked at people who were unhoused, and people who were unhoused who were English speaking, or people whose first language is some other language. I know that there was some oversampling about that. I'm going to see if I can make some time to get the data soon, because I have good intentions.

Alice Lawson: Harte Daniels was going to dovetail on this one, too. That idea of affordability: The one way the wireless industry in its own evolution, has affordability by the major carriers subleasing in their network to the low cost programs. From my perspective in wireless affairs, trying to promote rollout and deployment by all of the carriers, I feel like promoting a competitive environment is one of the best ways we can impact service and price. Even though the three main carriers have what you would consider top tier plans, for most limited income residents, that might not be the best. The better their networks are when they're subleasing them to Cricket, and some of

those virtual operators that charge $15 a month or something like that for a plan, the experience for that user is better when the overall network is better. So, that's why I say it has the greatest impact in terms of where we do have some leverage. Just trying to make sure that all of them have really good, robust, networks spread throughout the City, so no matter where somebody gets their plan they have a good experience, and good service.

From Chat: Phillip Meng

Unverified

6:53 PM+1 for D's question. Thinking about the digital equity implications here, would love to hear how you read the map of infra investments compared with the Race & Social Equity composite index

Dorene Cornwell: So, the squeaky wheel when your network is iffy. Thank you. One last question. I know that we talked a little bit about the City's front end where you can go and apply for a whole bunch of things at once. Is anybody looking at what would be a good way to respond, if for example, the federal government says that people are going to have to qualify for SNAP every six months instead of once a year. What kinds of impediments does that make for anybody hitting it from different directions, one-stop shopping kind of environment?

Alice Lawson: Well, maybe Jon could speak to this better. But my first thought on that is the CiviForm platform is for City programs. So, the criteria for eligibility, if there was something like you having to show your SNAP eligibility, I can't speak for all of the different programs, but I know from my experience with the cable discount program, that often Seattle's discount programs often had higher income thresholds for someone to be eligible than federal programs. So, you had to be poorer to get into national programs, but locally, we didn't have to. So, my thought was even if the feds were to change a couple of times on SNAP, we probably, as a City government, aren't going to let that get in the way of our local programs reaching the right people.

Dorene Cornwell: Great. Thank you so much. Harte, is it your turn?

Harte Daniels: Okay, so I didn't want to start off with what I'm going to, but at the beginning I told you that there was something that I felt that you guys ought to know, because nobody is being aware of it. There are a couple that you just brought up. What is quality of life, and healthcare, etc. It's all gone down the (unintelligible). You are all going to get hit on the head as of the 30th. Dr. Oz has seen this and revoked all low income people, especially people on Medicaid, their rights have (unintelligible). They are not allowed to have (unintelligible). When you were talking about the CiviForm and the fact that people are going to have to reup and reup and reup. Again, previous administrations have attempted to (unintelligible), and that is -- the Medicaid expansion

has eligibility experts. If you are making more than (unintelligible), you don't have to be a patient on whether or not you qualify for (unintelligible). You may be talking about making these alliances, but you might want to start dovetailing some of these things. I have worked during Covid heading up Teleheatth for Seniors, and again, I didn't get much response out of the Seattle people. Maybe they were too busy with other things. Now you might have Telehealth that (unintelligible) for lower income people or constituencies in the digital equity community who have the knowledge and the tools for the access. I've been working on that and the community health plan of Washington (unintelligible). But, beginning in March, Dr. Oz said, 'Cut it off now.' And everybody said, 'Well, we already have our schedules with our providers. And then he said, 'Okay, but they all have to be gone by September 30. So, you are going to have to readjust your concept of how technology affects the quality of life. (unintelligible) My question, actually, starts with an extreme example of teams thinking together, working together (unintelligible), etc. I think that is something that should be seen in other cities (unintelligible). You were talking about SCN, but one of the great (unintelligible). So, I'd like to see more of that (unintelligible).

Dorene Cornwell: Harte, you're pinging in and out. Is that your network or is that something you can have some control over?

Phillip Meng: I'm struggling to hear, too.

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:02 PM Telehealth for low income persons has been revoked by CMS! Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:09 PM

eligibility re: cvi form - you're overlooking an asset

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:02 PM

Telehealth for low income persons has been revoked by CMS! Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:09 PM

eligibility re: cvi form - you're overlooking an asset

Harte Daniels: All right. Alice, what you need to know and other people that we talked to -- can you hear me now?

Phillip Meng: Yes.

Harte Daniels: All right. What I said before is that everybody is looking at quality of life and access for people who never had access through Telehealth. That is all very (unintelligible). They tried to do it in March, and the federally qualified health centers who are charged with helping those for whom nobody will take insurance, said, "I'm sorry. All of our medical providers are scheduled. You can't just rip up the schedules.' And they said you have until September 30, which is the federal fiscal year. Okay? So, everything you were just talking about a moment ago? Dead. That's what I wanted to talk about. (unintelligible) But we continue. Eventually, the community health plan of Washington (unintelligible). You may have seen it if you are on DELN. We're going to be able to be training and help get access. That's taken away. There is another -- when you are talking about (unintelligible) You have another asset in the City, and that is the group that they tried to form the last time that the Republicans were in office and because they associated it with the expansion of Meidcaid (unintelligible). ,,,,

From Chat: DeiMarlon "D" Scisney

Unverified

7:17 PM

Hey Phillip, can we turn to you to guide the Q&A section? We'd like to make sure our questions stay focused on the presentation. What is the direct question?

Alice Lawson: Can I just jump in for one quick second here? Because that is a really good point about OEM. One of the reasons why we don't have them included is our focus from the origin was working with the private sector partners who were building out the private networks and tried to influence that, exactly like you and Dorene Cornwell pointed to. Any way we can, let's keep equity; let's keep affordability in the conversation with them, even if we can't tell them to do anything. We want to keep at the forefront.

And over the years there have been successes in doing that. When it comes to OEM, it's a really great point. I can reach out, but I am wondering if OEM already has the public view and is asked to respond. And I am not expert in this at all, but I'm pretty sure that they have got the private telecoms on some of their groups and things like that. Because ....

Harte Daniels: (unintelligible) Now that you've got this part out, the next part is (unintelligible). And I'll give you another example. (unintelligible) You do know that there was over 8,000 (unintelligible) of population in Seattle out last Friday. And that bullet cut me off in the middle of translation with a patient trying to connect with their provider. Because everybody has moved to AI, etc., especially in those kinds of situations, to the internet. It took one bullet to take out (unintelligible). Not only you mentioned 8,000 in the population, but those groups of people, the very people in our constituency of digital equity effort all across the City. So, it was more than 8,000 that were affected.

Alice Lawson: Yes. Was that the power outage?

Harte Daniels: Yes.

Alice Lawson: So, it hit the power system. Well, you bring up a good point. One of the things that the telecoms and even we, as the City in our network struggle with its activity that damages our network Criminal activity, car accidents, whatever. That's an ongoing challenge, for sure. And that is where it is a question of some kind of redundancy and those kinds of things. But I didn't want to miss the opportunity to say one thing that I think is really interesting that Seattle Community Network is doing when it comes to emergency management. Part of the grant they got from the National Science Foundation a couple of years ago was to test that idea of community-based community cellular networks for emergency management purposes, and the impact income has on that. So, they were setting up one system in the Windemere area in Seattle, and the other one was in Westport, Washington. And they got it up, I think, in Westport last November, or maybe a year before in November. But that work is another way that Seattle Community Network can give us some insight in terms of community-based delivered response. The idea being if something goes down, a neighbor can get up and change it on their roof, or something, whereas they are not allowed to go touching a private carrier's equipment. So, I think that's a great activity we've got here in Seattle.

Harte Daniels: Right. You're also looking for money. You're also looking for the connection, etc. As I said, there is strong (unintelligible). I don't know if that is (unintelligible). That's where all of your carriers and private sector (unintelligible) the military (unintelligible). All of that. I'm just saying that there are more opportunities for collaboration possibilities. By going through that collaboration, (unintelligible) for this type of thing. And our (unintelligible) have made a connection through the (unintelligible)

post-graduate school. Those are my comment. When it comes to the public comments, I would like to elaborate to anybody who is on Medicaid, anybody who is uninsured, you have been declared not worthy of having Telehealth. You can only do it (unintelligible). I would like to see the (unintelligible). Remember that Dorene Cornwell and some other people started the concept of (unintelligible). Here is another idea. If you are going to force these people who are disabled, who can't drive, and have all of these other situations, I cannot (unintelligible) affected by this. It is taking way too long. Here are only two (unintelligible) something like that. Or 211. It still comes down to (unintelligible) access. (unintelligible) notorious for making patients miss their appointments and have to reschedule. (unintelligible) You can't even look at a provider's schedule for two days. (unintelligible) for the City, there has to be somebody (unintelligible) or whatnot that can help these people get modernized and help in this tsunami of an emergency that is going to (unintelligible). But nobody is aware of it. Nobody....

Alice Lawson: Thank you, Harte. I just want to make sure I understand. What you are saying is organizations like Hope Link are not technically prepared for what is coming, so they need technology support?

Harte Daniels: As I said over and over and over again, (unintelligible) to see the provider and they end up not having their appointment and try to reschedule. Metro access no better. And so, you have Lyft, you have Uber, you have all of the fleets that the City of Seattle has, and sometimes you guys are more (unintelligible).

Phillip Meng: If I can jump in here, perhaps we can take this conversation offline. I think there is really a broad set of questions here, and we want to remain more narrowly focused on the wireless affairs.

Harte Daniels: You got it. So, I said what I said on the wireless affairs. There are other options available (unintelligible) done such a fantastic job. You can build on what you have with some of these other resources. Anybody out there that is interested in the healthcare, the residents of Seattle (unintelligible). Thank you.

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:33 PM

So D, the direct question was now that this much has been done, can they reach out to do more collaboration with other groups that affect the residents? Low income people are impacted worse in disasters and healthcare

From chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:34 PM

Can they reach out to more than the obvious groups to get more money?

From Chat: Harte Daniels

Unverified

7:35 PM

And to think that this new wireless win will help with healthcare access no longer exists.

Phillip Meng: Thanks, Harte. Are there any other questions. I'm excited that there is so much enthusiasm around this topic. I have one final question, piggybacking off of something that DeiMarlon Scisney mentioned earlier, which is if we go back to the map of infrastructure investments compared with the Race and Social Equity Composite Index, I want to get your take on how you read that. How do you think about how those investments related with advantage and disadvantage in those neighborhoods?

Alice Lawson: What we look at is the distribution through the areas, the highest equity areas, second highest equity, even though the Race and Social Equity Index has a lot of factors that play into how those areas are prioritized that way, and technology access is not one of them. I know that's something that our office has been in some conversation with the people on the back end that create the index for future version. But what we do is just say we presume, if its a high equity area or second highest equity area, there are some major factors, and income level might be one of them. We know the Technology Access and Adoption Study tells us that income level is a huge driver in someone's reliance on mobile connectivity as their only broadband potentially. So, we just look to see if there is indication that the carriers' facilities, where they are, where they are planned to go, where they are distributed around, especially in those areas. And then, when it comes to mostly the building on the rooftops and the towers is more consequential because one upgrade in one of those areas can serve many blocks of neighborhoods. Versus the one on the left, the utility pole. One of those markers will only serve a City block or more. With that one, we look for maybe along transit lines where we have people waiting or rely on public transit to do their community things. And we look at it just to keep the conversation with the carriers, because we just don't have the ability to tell them that we don't have enough small cell in southeast Seattle and you've got to invest more. We can't tell them to do that, but we can influence them. And if you see the batch of little green and orange dots that are down near Seward Park, that batch is called Hillman City. That was a success story for our interdepartmental efforts because of how long we have been talking about it and showing these maps.

When City Light got a very large application across the City for all kinds of deployments from one company they noted, you've got some in Hillman City, which is one of those less advantaged areas on this map that we've been tracking. What if you built out there first? And they agreed to do it. So, that was one of the first polygons that that company built in their larger build-out effort. It is not fast and rapid impact, but there are impacts. We take any win like that one as a sign that we're going in the right direction. People are thinking about it, and if we can influence more change, we will keep trying. Does that help explain?

From Chat: Lawson, Alice

seattle.gov

7:24 PM

Alice Lawson

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Phillip Meng: Absolutely. And thanks for sharing this success story. And thanks again for sharing this update. It is much appreciated by CTAB.

Robert Kruse: May I ask a question? I have been working a lot with technical experts at T-Mobile 5G, specifically with their new APIs. And I've had the benefit of meeting with engineers behind the scenes and learning about some of the (unintelligible) driven around, not just in my neighborhood, and I live in the West Seattle area, but I've driven around the east side and up in Kirkland, and I have been able to measure cellular strength. It is fascinating to see that (unintelligible) has not great connectivity. Same with Medina. And I don't know what you are measuring here, but I can tell you that they have got some new tools working with developers that allow people to turn up the quality of their service, whether it's bandwidth or latency, because you can just talk to the network and turn on a certain capability. And I bet you that there is a way to include this as part of a package with a nonprofit or certainly, a school. Impact would be in real time, because you can literally now, with these new APIs, call the network and it's like ordering a pizza. (unintelligible) Using this with mission-critical work, like in an ambulance or medical app is one thing, but I never thought about it from this perspective. And I just don't know if you guys are aware that these APIs even exist.

Alice Lawson: I would appreciate any link or anything you could send me. I put my information into the chat. That would be terrific. Any new technology we can help share with residents to improve their service would be fantastic. The comment you made about some of our higher income areas in the region not having great connectivity isn't necessarily a big surprise. And the reason for that is where equipment can be deployed can be limited to some extent by zoning. So, if the zoning in those neighborhoods is pretty tight, and you can't put anything in the residential area, then that means they are probably relying on a tower someplace outside of the residential area, and that tower can't keep up with demand. Or maybe there are curbs or something. So, this is interesting to see, and that's why it is important for you all to let me know if you have areas where there is still not great service.

Robert Kruse: I just don't know what you mean by equity, because you could just turn on and (unintelligible).

Alice Lawson: Yes. Well maybe that would solve it all. I'd like to look into that. With equity, we wanted to make sure we didn't have dead zones or older equipment that wasn't working as well in our lower income areas. We want to make sure that the investment that they are making was spreading around. So, the data points showing on the maps are actually a permit to do something. So, it's not necessarily a proliferation map. It's more like a facilities map.

Robert Kruse: (unintelligible)

Alice Lawson: I would love to. Thank you, Robert.

From Chat: Robert Kruse

venlogic.com

7:35 PM

rkruse@venlogic.com

From Chat: Robert Kruse

venlogic.com

7:35 PM

rkruse@venlogic.com

Robert Kruse, 206-726-9656

From Chat: Robert Kruse

venlogic.com

7:37 PM

Glad to discuss 5G APIs and Quality (digital equity) on demand.

Alice Lawson: Well, thanks, everybody. I'm excited about this. I feel it is an interesting line of work. As much as we all rely upon mobile connectivity, I think the people in the City departments doing the work are terrific. I think the carriers are terrific. It is not easy what they're doing and it's expensive. And they have been really good at working with us versus just pushing back and trying to use sticks with us, federal preemption, things like that. They try to work with us. So, I think we've got a pretty good environment going here. So, thank you all, and please do send me ideas or feedback. You've got my contact information.

CTAB WORKPLAN ITEMS

Phillip Meng: Thanks so much, Alice. Great presentation. It's a great segue to the next part of our agenda, which is on work planning and committee updates. In particular, I want to start with the Digital Equity. Committee. As you all know, earlier this year, we hosted a Digital Equity Telecom workshop. I'm touching upon a lot of the same things here, some of the follow-up items, as well as the (unintelligible) that we plan to partner with organizations. I will pass it over to Sanchit Gera.

Sanchit Gera: Thanks for the intro. We did the telecom earlier this year, back in January. We never had a chance to review it with the board as a whole. Basically, we are just summarizing the main themes that came up as part of the discussion, summarizing the digital programs that ATT and Verizon have in place for digital equity issues. I'd like to focus on next steps (unintelligible). Feel free to ask questions and we can discuss. Starting off with the executive summary, just a high level piece we want to cover as part of this talk. We will move to specific insights. I believe that Alice Lawson shared many of these in her presentation, as well. I'm just sharing some of the insights that we got from the Technology and Adoption Study. For the most part, Seattle households do have good access. Ninety-eight percent of households have some form of internet coverage. When we start looking at different people who don't speak English as a primary language, for example, the coverage isn't as great at only 75 percent. There are conditional areas where people might have internet needs besides just basic internet access. These can take (unintelligible) formats.

Going into the telecom forum discussions specifically, there are a few main themes that emerged from both ATT and Verizon, the first one being digital navigation and support for seniors. Both ATT and Verizon mentioned some forms of programs that they have in place for helping out seniors through things like workshops, specific pricing plans, discounts for seniors, and stuff like that. They have some programs for disadvantaged

households, again through discounts, or subsidized plans meant to be received by under-served communities. Things like offline courses and workshops and in other languages, and serving small businesses through grants or programs.

In the future, specific plans that both ATT and Verizon have and there is some overlap with the previous section. (unintelligible) they cannot value. (unintelligible) and collaboration in the forum. They are partnering with Alice (unintelligible) and donating them (unintelligible).Also the Technology Matching Fund.

Phillip Meng: Folks, any questions on this document? It's the kind of thing that we want to bring forward and really talk through so that we can be taking more action on the items discussed.

Robert Kruse: I did happen to notice it's the size of these two companies combined. I'm just curious because they are local. We've got much greater access because of people at every level, from the nonprofits to the for-profits, to wholesale, every possible angle. It just takes a while to get inside and navigate their organizations. But I'm happy to help connect you to folks at T-Mobile so you can get their perspective. I'm pretty sure they've got a senior program, and they've got a lot of other things that maybe you want to know about.

Harte Daniels: They participated in the previous year, and right before DELN did the same forums.

Robert Kruse: Where is this document going?

Sanchit Gera: That's a great question. It's something we have to decide on. In the past, this has been disseminated.

Phillip Meng: What we'll do for certain, and any of the community-based organizations that participated, we will want to circulate this with them. We would like to circulate it with DELN, as well, and certainly with some other organizations regarding insights, actionable pieces. To your point, Robert, yes, T-Mobile has participated in the past, but we welcome leads for how we can engage more. And we will follow up with you.

Robert Kruse: I don't think they're working with lawmakers. Have you guys had much input from different lawmakers, whether they are representatives or State senators on these questions, or would they be a target for this document when it is complete?

Phillip Meng: Absolutely. We would love to engage more with folks in Olympia.

Robert Kruse: I brought a State senator to meet with senior leaders at T-Mobile two weeks ago. So, I'm really happy to help you guys get in and around the group. It is complicated to figure out how to do it. But I'm happy to help and maybe save some time

here. I'm sure there's a lot of interest in every aspect, from State laws that could be passed and how to put a bill in, all the way to what the foundations -- all three of these carriers have foundations. We have a whole lot of foundations in the northwest that probably would like to hear about this, also.

Phillip Meng: Well, I know there's a ton of interest in better tracking and engaging with legislative action here. DeiMarlon Scisney, I know that has been a big focus for you, as well. Let's get some time together.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Yes. If I may say, as well, Outreach will be brief in our report, but we have our partners through the digital equity partners, and working with Sabrina with Rep. Mia Gregerson and others. But I would love to talk with anybody else. When the board for the 37th Legislative District as well as with Rep. Santos, so anything from that standpoint. But yes, we need connections from the legislative side. We're always looking to grow those. I appreciate that, Robert.

Phillip Meng: We've had a good amount of engagement around H.B. 1503 earlier this year. Let's definitely follow up. Any other questions on the digital equity in telecom compilation? Again, big thanks to the committee for all of the work in pulling this together.

Sanchit Gera: Just going back to the previous part about how we want to disseminate this, is that something we want to do ourselves, or does that have to go through Vinh Tang.

Phillip Meng: There should be pieces that we can do ourselves.

Sanchit Gera: Do we want to put this on CTAB's website?

Phillip Meng: That's a great point. Vinh Tang, is that something that we could do, link resources and presentations? I think it would be good to do that.

Vinh Tang: Yes.

Phillip Meng: Fantastic. Sanchit, I'll start a thread so we can get this posted. Thanks very much, Sanchit. I want to recognize Sanchit Gera, too. As you all know, Coleman Entringer has stepped down from the committee. He has moved to a new city. But Sanchit Gera has really stepped in and done a great job. All right. Let's move on to committees. Anything to share from the Outreach Committee?

COMMITTEE UPDATES

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

DeiMarlon Scisney: Yes. So, the Outreach Committee is continuing to focus on strengthening relationships with community partners in building this broader eco-system of engagement and ensuring that CTAB's work is connected to both grassroots and policy level conversations. On the Digital Equity and technology access side, one of the things was the creation of a curated partner list, as was mentioned. I will send that out to everybody. I don't want to drop the link in the chat, and then have people lose the link. But I can send that to Phillip Meng and he can disperse that to everyone. A curated list of partners has been developed and is now being actively engaged, so what we can leverage as far as outreach materials to send on behalf of CTAB, but then also disaggregating that as far as policy and stakeholders, community-based organizations, partners, funders, things of that nature. So, you all can take a look at that whenever you have time. There has also been direct communication with the digital equity partners, DELN and others. I have been participating in a few of these other conversations, who are really interested in partnering with CTAB in upcoming things. I didn't make it to the last Digital Equity Partners meeting, but I will be at the coming ones. I think that that was everything in the collaboration with DELN and Digital Equity Partners. I think that's everything on my list. I will send that list out to everybody. Please take a look at that. If you can join me at the other meetings. We are getting into policy time. I serve on a couple of other boards and they are gearing up towards that in Olympia. So, we really want to start curating that list out of our policy partners, and how we can better leverage those in accordance with CTAB. And a lot of these have been intersecting with Digital Equity Affairs, which I know is a mission of CTAB, but not the sole mission of CTAB. So, I don't want to get too caught up in that, as well. I was asked to participate in the AI Task Force. I was asked to be on a subcommittee as part of that for data. So, I can bring back any information from the AI Task Force, as well, and keep us abreast of that so that we're not solely sitting in solely on digital equity-specific affairs. That's everything on my end.

Phillip Meng: Outstanding. We look forward to the list. And D, is there anything you need from the rest of the board on engagement or a review perspective?

DeiMarlon Scisney: I think the real engagement will come over these next few months, getting back into session. Really what CTAB can do -- and I put together that list of how we can activate CTAB come policy time -- so citing things, commenting. And then Sabrina also sends out different types of engagement forums that we can sign onto. I will be sure to filter that down the list. But really, any time that we need active participation from CTAB, I will let you know and we can steward that together if there is ample time. I know previously, there were some things where we needed them within 48 hours, but we have ample time for that, also.

Phillip Meng: Thanks so much. Any other updates? If not, with seven minutes remaining we will move into public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Phillip Meng: Would anyone like to share anything. We've had some pretty broad discussions today. So, if nothing else, thank you all very much for the great discussions. Robert Kruse, we will follow up. And note again that Alice Lawson's contact info is in the chat. Thanks, all. Have a fantastic. rest of your Tuesday.

ADJOURNMENT