

B 010 07

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Creating the Governor's Innovation Council

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order creating the Governor's Innovation Council ("Council").

1. Background and Need

To compete effectively in the private sector and to efficiently provide government services, Colorado must be ambitious and innovative in its use of technology. We can vault our state into the nation's technology elite while using information technology to save taxpayers millions of dollars. To do that, we must take advantage of the technical and entrepreneurial expertise within Colorado.

Colorado is faced with three technology-related challenges that leaders in Colorado's high-tech community can be of invaluable benefit in meeting. First, many Coloradans, particularly those living in rural areas, still lack access to broadband internet services. Lack of access inhibits economic development in these areas, slowing access to information, job listings, and opportunities for remote work. Second, Colorado state government has for years used an uncoordinated, non-uniform approach to providing government information technology services. Executive Order D 016 07, which strengthened the role of the State Chief Information Officer and the Governor's Office of Information Technology's in managing government technology, was an important first step towards addressing these issues. These long overdue reforms, however, will be challenging to implement. Finally, economic development in Colorado depends, in part, on our ability to champion the state's technology industries and to ensure that we nurture technology development and start-up companies.

These three challenges are intertwined: innovation goes hand-in-hand with the broader quest to spur the development of broadband infrastructure throughout the state. Moreover, government users, such as those providing public safety services, can act as anchor tenants in rural areas, driving the rollout of broadband infrastructure in all areas of the state. Individuals and businesses can then take full advantage of the information services provided by that broadband access, and better access to broadband services can help spur innovation and technology development in traditionally underserved communities.

This Executive Order creates the Governor's Innovation Council, which will bring together leaders from Colorado's technology community to ensure that we fulfill the state's potential in its use of technology. The Council will provide support to the Office of Economic Development and International Trade in its efforts to champion Colorado as an ideal locale for technology businesses. In addition, the Council will develop and assist in the execution of a plan to facilitate broadband deployment throughout the state. Finally, the Council will lend its expertise to the State Chief Information Officer in his efforts to improve the efficient use of technology by state government.

2. Mission and Scope

The mission of Council is to provide support in three primary areas: economic development; broadband deployment; and efficient and effective use of technology in government. In support of these missions, the Council shall:

- A. Serve at the direction of the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade as international ambassadors and champions of Colorado's technology industries, supporting state efforts to make the case for Colorado as an ideal place to nurture technological development and start-up companies.
- B. Develop and assist in the execution of a plan to facilitate broadband deployment throughout Colorado.
- C. At the direction and request of the State Chief Information Officer and the Office of Information Technology, provide feedback and input regarding Colorado state government's effective and efficient use of technology.

The Council and its Working Groups shall periodically make recommendations to the Governor, the State Chief Information Officer, and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade.

3. Membership

- A. The Council shall be composed of up to forty (40) members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.
- B. The Governor shall appoint three members of the Council to serve as co chairs.
- C. The Council shall be broken down into the following Working Groups, whose membership shall be designated by the Governor:

- i. Entrepreneurship Working Group;
 - ii. Broadband Deployment Working Group; and
 - iii. Government IT Management Working Group.
- D. Each Working Group shall have two co-chairs, as designated by the Governor.
- E. The Council and Working Group co-chairs shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Council.

4. Staffing and Resources

The Council shall have the power to accept money and in-kind contributions from private entities, but only to the extent such donations are necessary to cover its expenses. Any money contributed to the Council shall be directed to the Office of the Governor and deposited with the Treasurer of the State of Colorado in an account within the Office of the Governor's budget. Members of the Council shall serve without compensation, but may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee and upon the approval of the Office of the Governor, be reimbursed for any actual expenses incurred.

5. Directive

The Governor's Innovation Council is hereby created.

6. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in force until modified or rescinded by a subsequent Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado, this 17th day
of October, 2007

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor