

**Background Information - Public Meeting on the Broadband Initiatives in the
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**
March 10, 2009 (10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.)

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Rural Development, and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will host a public meeting on March 10, 2009, in connection with the broadband initiatives funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-5.

The meeting is open to the public and no advance registration is required. The agenda for the March 10, 2009, Public Meeting held at the Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, at 10:00 A.M. (Auditorium) is available at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/Agenda_090310.pdf

ATTENDING THE PUBLIC MEETING IN PERSON

LOCATION

The meeting is held in the Auditorium of the Herbert C. Hoover Building, headquarters of the Department of Commerce, located between 14th Street and 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution Avenue.

US Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230
(202) 482-1850

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Security - NTIA will begin security processing for attendees at 8:00 A.M., Eastern Time. The meeting is scheduled to start at 10:00 A.M. Eastern Time. **NTIA expects a high level of attendance. Please allow sufficient time to process through security.** Laptops or other portable equipment may delay the security process, so please allow sufficient time. Attendees are advised to "travel light" and to not bring non-essential equipment. The Auditorium has a capacity of 489 seats. For safety reasons, DOC will not seat more than capacity allows.

Overflow - If NTIA exceeds the capacity of the Auditorium, visitors will be directed on a first-come-first-serve basis to two overflow rooms, immediately adjacent to the Auditorium. These two rooms will have audio and video function.

DIRECTIONS

For easy directions from your location to the Department of Commerce, please click on the URL below.

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?name=US+Department+of+Commerce&city=Washington&state=DC&address=1401+Constitution+Ave+NW&zipcode=20230&country=US&latitude=38.892089&longitude=-77.031967&geocode=ADDRESS&id=2519107>

By Metro - The Department of Commerce is readily accessible via Metro.

<http://sc94.ameslab.gov/TRAVEL/metro.html>

Exit from the Federal Triangle Metro stop and follow the escalators to the promenade. Walk straight through the lobby of the Ronald Reagan Building, then through the Ronald Reagan Building food court, then through the underground pass, through to the Department of Commerce. You will be entering the building through the Tunnel Entrance.

Handicapped Accessibility - The Department of Commerce is fully handicapped accessible. Individuals requiring ramp access should use the entrance for the National Aquarium, located directly next to the main Department of Commerce entrance, or the Tunnel Entrance.

Special Assistance - NTIA ushers will be on hand to escort attendees into the building and to the Auditorium. Attendees requiring special assistance of any kind may contact Barbara Brown at (202) 280-8260.

ACCESSING THE HERBERT C. HOOVER BUILDING

All visitors should bring ID to process through security and Check-In at the Registration Desk.

Federal Employee Access to Building - Please display your Federal identification to the guards at the main entrance on 14th Street or the Tunnel Entrance (access via Ronald Reagan Building) for admittance to the Department of Commerce.

Citizen Access to Building - Please display your Driver's License or other Federal identification to the guards at the main entrance on 14th Street or Tunnel Entrance (access via Ronald Reagan Building) for admittance to the Department of Commerce.

Press Access to Building - Members of the media should enter through the Aquarium Entrance, immediately adjacent to the main entrance on 14th Street. Please display your Driver's License or other Federal identification to the guards for admittance to the Department of Commerce. Please allow sufficient time to process equipment such as cameras. An NTIA Usher will escort you the Press Check-In.

ATTENDING THE PUBLIC MEETING REMOTELY

Interested parties may participate in the Public Meeting remotely as follows:

- dial-in to the teleconference,
- view the live web stream of the meeting.

URL for Web Stream - The meeting will be broadcast live and for free. The URL for the webcast will be posted on the main page of the NTIA website, <http://www.ntia.doc.gov>. Visitors will click on the play button in the video player to watch the live broadcast. Online participants can contribute comments via live chat.

Dial-In Teleconference - The moderated teleconference will be listening-only mode until the Public Comment phase. The moderator will facilitate listeners who wish to make comments.

- Dial-In Number: (800) 779-2719
- Access Code: 1234
- TTY Number: Dial "711" to access your State Relay provider and then provide the Relay with Dial-In access information to join the call.

For more information, contact Barbara Brown at bbrown@ntia.doc.gov.