



October 19, 2007

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

On Thursday, October 18, 2007, the Patrick Administration filed legislation entitled "An Act Establishing and Funding the Massachusetts Broadband Institute" to ensure affordable and available broadband access statewide. Under the proposed legislation, the Broadband Institute will manage a newly created Massachusetts Broadband Incentive Fund, which will be financed through a \$25 million bond allocation. The proposed Broadband Institute would operate as a new division under the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. It would make strategic and targeted public investments with the objective of providing high-speed Internet services to all currently un-served communities by 2010.

This represents an important first step in the creation of a Broadband Institute that will seed public-private partnerships to develop broadband infrastructure, targeting the citizens and businesses in un-served areas of the Commonwealth. The proposed legislation will require the close evaluation and deliberation by the Legislature, which has been so instrumental in the development of broadband policy to date.

As you are well aware, there is tremendous ongoing activity and momentum around broadband deployment in Massachusetts. We will continue to support efforts throughout the Commonwealth to advance broadband connectivity. We are preparing for action on the broadband landscape.

In keeping with our commitment to provide up-to-date, accurate information to municipalities, stakeholders, advocates and policymakers, we are enclosing the following materials:

- Executive Summary of Legislation as published by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED)
- Full text of Broadband Legislation as filed
- EOHED Press Release
- Map of Broadband Availability in Massachusetts Municipalities
- Massachusetts Broadband Incentive Fund Briefing Document
- Where to go for more information
- Contact Information

Once the proposed legislation is enacted, we look forward to working with you more closely. Until the legislation is enacted, however, we will refrain from engaging in any one-on-one meetings or discussions regarding the proposed Broadband Institute and its operations.

Thank you again for your interest in this exciting new initiative, and we will be in touch regarding future developments.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Adams
Executive Director
Massachusetts Technology Collaborative

Pat Larkin
Director
MTC's John Adams Innovation Institute