

eCommunity

Future-Proof | Neutral | Eco-Friendly

Providing the support you need &
the choice you want both today and tomorrow

Broadband is the key to the future success of the U.S. economy and American democracy.

In just over a decade, broadband-based services have completely changed commerce, public discourse, and how we interact with each other and the rest of the world.

But to truly unlock broadband's unlimited potential, everyone should be connected, have independent access to the services they need and the ability to afford the services they want.

Private industry has failed to deliver broadband to everyone within America. Today, 60% of Americans do not have access to broadband-based services. The remaining 40% of Americans receive 1/10th the capacity offered to citizens of other leading countries. As a result, America lags far behind the world in the Information Revolution.

The US Government has concluded that everyone must have access to broadband and private industry can no longer be entrusted with deploying broadband alone. To accelerate the deployment of broadband, the U.S. Congress has appropriated \$4.7 billion to establish a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. This program allows both service providers and broadband infrastructure companies to partner with communities to deploy "high-capacity broadband pipes" closer to users in rural, remote, and underserved communities. Once those "pipes" have been constructed, other entities will be allowed to connect to the pipes to deliver broadband-based services, which will spur competition and facilitate service to people and businesses within the community.

However, since these new pipes will be publicly-funded, the Administration is mandating that they must operate in conformity with basic principles of openness. To ensure openness, the infrastructure must be independent of the service offered over it. Any deviation will undermine the Commander's Intent.

To assist the government in deploying broadband to underserved urban and rural communities while yielding the greatest return on the taxpayers' investment, A2D has created the eCommunity: A community empowerment initiative that helps citizens reach self-sufficiency by (a) eliminating the digital divide, (b) connecting residents to each neighborhood support agency and (c) providing access to information and technology to improve personal income-generating capability

1. **Platform:** A service-provider-neutral, fiber-based, broadband infrastructure that provides maximum transmission speed, lowest costs, and connection locally and to the world.
2. **Resources:** Creates a partnership to unify support organizations and ensure that computers, software and training are available to all.
3. **Support Services** – Provides affordable access to local data, voice & video support services, and no cost access to public websites (.gov, .edu & .org.)
4. **Provider Choice** – Multiple service providers COMPETE for customers, which increases quality and decreases cost for fee-based services.

Broadband alone is not enough to become self-sufficient, without the appropriate tools and skills.
"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

“The gateway should be free and the gatekeeper should be independent”

The objective of eCommunity is to be the community’s digital gatekeeper whereas:

- a) The end-user’s broadband connection is owned and managed by an independent infrastructure company
- b) All service providers interested in delivering service must connect to a single community gateway.
- c) The end user receives free access to community-based services which are independent of subscriber services.
- d) The end user may subscribe to any available service provider to receive access to globally available services.

The eCommunity program was created to bridge the digital divide within underserved communities by providing a broadband connection that is service provider neutral, sustainable, and interoperable. Because the eCommunity broadband infrastructure is fiber-based and service provider independent, it can be deployed to any community in America.

eCommunity Benefits

Technology

- **Universal Connectivity** - Every household, business and public service agency receives a single, fiber-to-the-enclosure (FTTE) broadband connection.
- **Up to 500Mbps of intranet bandwidth** - Independent connectivity to community-based service domains including but not limited to .org, .edu, and .gov websites.
- **Up to 500Mbps of Internet Bandwidth** - Subscribe to any ISP and instantly connect to the world wide web.
- **Choice of service providers** - choose any combination of voice, video, and data service providers.
- **Intra-Communications** - Direct dial any community member, 911/411, and public service agency from home phone without a phone subscription.
- **Community Video** - Access community video content such as educational video-on-demand, interactive video conferencing, and local broadcasts, without a CATV subscription.
- **Community Systems Management** - Monitor and control community utilities, surveillance, access controls, wireless and building automations systems.
- **Eco-Friendly** - Allows community residents to monitor their daily utility usage, in real time, in order to reduce overall usage and costs.

eCommunity will be introduced through the following:

New Development - Developers who want their communities to be broadband ready may partner with A2D to initiate the construction of the eCommunity Gateway and broadband-infrastructure within their development. Once construction starts, the eCommunity platform will expand beyond the boundaries of the initial community to neighboring households & businesses.

Homeowner’s Association (HOA) - A homeowner’s association can partner with A2D to integrate eCommunity within their neighborhood. Once construction starts, the eCommunity platform expand beyond the boundaries of the initial community to neighboring households & businesses.

Social Government Agency - Social government agencies such as small cities (urban & rural), housing authorities, economic development commissions, and school districts may partner with A2D to integrate eCommunity within their community. Once construction starts, the eCommunity platform will expand beyond the boundaries of the initial community to neighboring households & businesses.

Social

- **Tools** - eCommunity partners with non-profit organizations to ensure that every household has a computer and necessary software.
- **Community Messaging** - Each family is provided a free (in-bound) phone number, voicemail and e-mail, where they are able to receive phone calls and messages from potential employers and social support services (i.e. educational, governmental and non-profit organizations).
- **Promotes Self-sufficiency** - Each eCommunity provides its members access to the tools, equipment and training they need, which includes the following informational resources:
 - *Education* - Communicate with teachers, access homework assignments, progress reports, tutorials and educational videos.
 - *Health* - Access preventative health information, remote communication with healthcare professionals.
 - *Family Life* - Provides instant access to on-line family resources, such as DFCS, Department of Labor and the CDC.
- **Subsidized Services** - - Allows local non-profit organizations and government agencies to provide bundled subscription-based services.

eCommunity: *Providing the support a family needs & the services they want.*

Learn more at www.a2dinc.com