Proposed Purpose and Process
for Developing Task Force’s 2018 Report

Opportunity: Leverage the experience and knowledge of Task Force members and the constituencies they represent to collect and deliver to the Governor and his successor a road map of what it would take for Minnesota to meet its 2026 broadband goals.

Need: As Task Force’s 2017 report cautioned, “As Minnesota strives to meet its updated broadband speed goals, much work remains.” Legislators have asked whether Minnesota has a state plan to achieve its broadband goals.

Process: Leverage Task Force members’ networks to convene dialog with interested/impacted constituents. Key takeaways and themes from this dialog would be used to craft a set of state policy recommendations to ensure Minnesota meets its 2026 broadband goals. Among other participants, the Task Force could invite people on the list of suggested speakers for 2018 – including industry association members and representatives, tribal leadership, and MN Rural Broadband Coalition members – into facilitated discussion about what would it take to achieve Minnesota’s 2026 broadband goals. Task Force members would participate, sharing their experience and expertise. Together, stakeholders would discuss: What set of policies and practices would lower barriers to achieving our state’s ambitious goal? The facilitated discussion would be designed to draw from participants input relevant to the Task Force’s report, ensuring the report is future-focused rather than exclusively reflective.

Report Contents: The topics addressed in facilitated conversation would be aligned with the content outline of the report. The chosen topics would in turn be based on existing subcommittee assignments. Accordingly, the report would be framed around the following inquiry: What can Minnesota do in terms of responding to technology change, federal policy, and economic development opportunities to achieve Minnesota’s 2026 broadband goals?

Deliverable/output: A road map of informed policy priorities and choices to ensure Minnesota meets its 2026 broadband goals. Consensus will be sought on as many topics as possible; where
it is not achievable, the range of positions would be represented. We think there would actually be a lot of topics on which consensus could be reached!

**Partners:** The list of stakeholder participants could be developed by Task Force members from the constituencies they represent. As necessary, the Task Force could seek out implementation/funding partners for any needs associated with hosting the stakeholder dialog. For example, perhaps MHTA could solicit members for donations of strategic planning talent. Blandin could offer to pay for hosting expenses.
What is FirstNet?

The First-Ever High-Speed Nationwide Wireless Broadband Network Dedicated to First Responders

Founding and Mission

- The FirstNet network grew out of and addresses a 9/11 Commission recommendation calling for interoperable communications for all U.S. first responders. FirstNet is an independent government authority established in 2012 by Congress.

- FirstNet's public safety mission is to build and deploy the first-ever high-speed nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to first responders.

The FirstNet and AT&T Public-Private Partnership

- FirstNet and AT&T announced their public-private partnership on March 30, 2017, and are bringing their resources and expertise together for the benefit of public safety.

- FirstNet brings its relationships with states, territories, tribes, federal agencies, and public safety and deep public safety expertise to this partnership, as well as 20 MHz of spectrum (Band 14) and $6.5 billion in initial funding for the network.

- AT&T is making a significant investment in public safety: $40 billion over the 25-year life of the contract.

- Instead of conducting a "greenfield" build of the Network, this public-private partnership will utilize AT&T's national footprint and commercial resources — including a $180 billion infrastructure. This will help deliver specialized features, in an efficient manner to public safety.

Why AT&T and FirstNet?

- With the FirstNet network, first responders will have access to fast, highly secure and reliable communications whenever they need them. This will help first responders stay safe while they help others during both day-to-day operations and disaster response and recovery, and when managing large events.

- Through this new public-private partnership with FirstNet, AT&T will deliver a dedicated, interoperable network and ecosystem that will give first responders the technology they need to better communicate and collaborate across agencies and jurisdictions – local, tribal, state and national.

- One of the key benefits of the FirstNet Service will be the availability of quality of service and priority for data services after a governor opts in. These features will be made available over the entire AT&T network (AT&T LTE bands) at no additional charge to primary users of AT&T's FirstNet services.

- Preemption (for opt-in states) is anticipated on all AT&T LTE bands by the end of 2017. The feature will provide primary users with access to the Network when the need arises without competition from commercial customers. Preemption will be available on Band 14 when that spectrum is deployed.

- This network will provide public safety, for the first time, with a dedicated help desk specifically for them – 24/7, 365, just like their mission.
Minnesota to Transform Communications for Public Safety through FirstNet

Dear Friends,

I'd like to share some exciting and historic news with you.

Gov. Mark Dayton has signed a letter accepting the FirstNet and AT&T plan to deliver a wireless broadband network for Minnesota's public safety community. With this decision, Minnesota joins a growing list of 23 states that have chosen to "opt in" to FirstNet and bring advanced technologies that will help first responders save lives and protect communities.

FirstNet and AT&T will build, operate and maintain a highly secure wireless broadband communications network for Minnesota's public safety community at no cost to the state for the next 25 years. The FirstNet network will deliver innovation and create an entire system of modernized devices, apps and tools for first responders.

This is one of the most economical and technologically advanced decisions Gov. Dayton will make for Minnesota's first responders and the residents they serve. The network will transform the way Minnesota's fire, police, EMS, emergency management and other public safety personnel communicate and share information. Specifically, FirstNet and AT&T will:

◆ **Connect** first responder subscribers to the critical information they need in a highly secure manner when handling day-to-day operations, responding to emergencies, and supporting large events like championship sporting events in Minnesota.

◆ **Create** an efficient communications experience for public safety personnel in agencies and jurisdictions across the state. This would help during natural disasters and severe weather events, including heavy rains and snow storms, tornadoes and high-velocity, straight-line winds.

◆ **Enhance** and expand network coverage across Minnesota's diverse landscape, benefitting first responders and residents throughout the state's rural areas, across Minnesota's vast plains, in wilderness areas and around its many lakes and waterways.

◆ **Usher in** a new wave of dependable innovations for first responders. This will create an ever-evolving set of life-saving tools for public safety, including
public safety apps, specialized devices and Internet of Things technologies. It also carries the potential for future integration with NextGen 9-1-1 networks and Smart Cities' infrastructure.

The FirstNet solution that will be built in Minnesota was designed with direct input from the State of Minnesota and Minnesota's public safety community to address the state's unique communication needs. This includes extending AT&T's industry-leading coverage to first responders in rural areas and improving coverage along Minnesota's border with Canada.

The decision enables FirstNet and AT&T to begin creating an entirely new wireless ecosystem for public safety communications. Minnesota's first responder subscribers will have immediate access to quality of service and priority to voice and data across the existing nationwide AT&T LTE network.

Preemption for primary users over the AT&T LTE network is expected by year-end. This means fire, police, EMS and other public safety personnel will have dedicated access to the network when and where they need it — 24/7/365, like their mission.

AT&T is honored to bring FirstNet to Minnesota. We are proud to already have the most wireless coverage in Minnesota. We are excited to strengthen our network across the state through FirstNet. And we look forward to working with the public safety community and leaders statewide to create an entirely new wireless ecosystem for public safety communications.
For more information on FirstNet, please visit FirstNet.gov/mediakit and att.com/FirstResponderNews. For more about the value FirstNet will bring to public safety, please visit FirstNet.com.

Sincerely,

Paul Weirtz
President — AT&T Minnesota