



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members
FROM:  Lynnisse Roehrich-Patrick
Executive Director

DATE: 5 January 2016

SUBJECT: Broadband Internet Technologies, their Capabilities and Availability in Tennessee

The attached documents include

- a copy of a presentation by Victor Hazlewood, chief operating officer of the University of Tennessee Joint Institute for Computational Sciences (attachment A), who will provide information about
 - technologies used to provide internet access, and
 - the effects of connection speed and other factors on different online tasks;
- technology guidelines by the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration's division of Strategic Technology Solutions for state employees working out of the office (attachment B);
- a map showing an example of maximum advertised downstream speeds reported by providers for census blocks in Southwest Tennessee Development District (attachment C); and
- a 2015 survey on the percentage of Americans with at-home broadband connections and factors affecting adoption conducted by Pew Research Center (attachment D).

In addition to Victor Hazlewood, a representative from the Department of Finance and Administration's division of Strategic Technology Solutions will speak about these and other broadband issues. This information is being provided to support development of the Commission's report due next January on broadband deployment, availability, and adoption and tax policy and barriers to expansion by public and private providers.