



## UPCOMING BROADBAND OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS

### JOIN THE MONTHLY BDO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROUNDTABLE CALL

**Next Call:** Thursday, October 2, 2025 | 10:00–11:00 AM CT | Virtual

**Open To:** Local elected officials, COG staff, nonprofits and community stakeholders.

Connect with the BDO and other stakeholders the first Thursday of every month to discuss broadband expansion efforts.

*\*If you'd like to be added to the BDO distribution list to receive the meeting link directly, let us know. We will also provide the links below through TARC via email as they become available.*

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: TEXAS MIDDLE MILE (TMM) PROGRAM

**Total Available:** Up to \$200M

**Application Deadline:** Nov. 20, 2025, 2:00 PM CT

**Supports:** Expanding middle-mile broadband in unserved/underserved areas, boosting resiliency, affordability, and integrating with flood detection & monitoring systems.

**Eligible Applicants:** Local governments, utilities, river authorities, state agencies, and for-profit businesses (except last-mile providers).

**Priority Focus:** Flood Emergency Warning Systems Projects that support flood detection and monitoring systems in vulnerable areas may be eligible for up to 100% funding. All other eligible projects may qualify for up to 80% of funding.

**Learn more & apply:**

[comptroller.texas.gov/programs/broadband/funding/middle-mile/](https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/broadband/funding/middle-mile/)

### TEXAS REGIONAL BROADBAND PROGRAM (TRBP) – PROGRESS UPDATE

TARC, in partnership with the Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO) and funded through the Broadband Infrastructure Fund (BIF), is launching the Texas Regional Broadband Program (TRBP) a three-year initiative to strengthen broadband and digital opportunity planning across all participating COG regions.

The program will help COG's dedicate staff, engage stakeholders, and develop Regional Digital Opportunity Plans that align with statewide goals. TARC will coordinate the effort, BDO will provide funding and guidance and COGs will lead local engagement.

#### Tentative Timeline:

- **Fall 2025:** Program design & workgroup meetings
- **Early 2026:** Launch of COG planning activities
- **2026–2027:** Regional Digital Opportunity Plans developed and/or implementation

### BDO PROGRAM UPDATES

- **BEAD Program:**
  - Benefit of the Bargain (BOBR) Round closed – 4,539 applications, \$6.4B in requests.
  - Final Proposal Deadline extended to Oct. 27, 2025 (NTIA approved).
  - Special process coming mid-Sept for locations not yet covered.
- **Workforce Grant Program:**
  - \$25M available for fiber optic/broadband workforce training.
  - 19 applications received, \$60M requested; awards expected this fall.
- **Technical Assistance Program (TAP):**
  - 6 county broadband plans published; 12 more nearing finalization.
  - No-cost planning support continues for participating counties.
- **BDO Staffing:** Omar Ledezma appointed Digital Opportunity Program Supervisor.

### Have Questions or Need Support?

✉ Email – Alex Guerrero, Director of Regional Initiatives, [alexg@txregionalcouncil.org](mailto:alexg@txregionalcouncil.org)

🌐 Stay informed: [Texas Broadband Development Office](https://www.texasbroadband.org/)