



NYS Broadband Flash Bulletin

Volume 4, Issue 10

www.nysbroadband.ny.gov

Broadband Program Office Continues Connect NY Broadband Grant Workshops

The Broadband Program Office will host a workshop this week for the mid-Hudson Region to discuss the \$25 million Connect NY Broadband Grant Program. The Connect NY program, announced in August by Governor Cuomo, is designed to increase broadband deployment and adoption in New York State.

The workshop will be conducted via webinar and pre-registration is required.

To register for the event, visit <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/connect-ny-broadband-grant-program-information-session-mid-hudson>.

For additional details on the connect NY Broadband Grant program visit www.nysbroadband.ny.gov.



New Broadband Mapping Data Published

The New York State Office of Cyber Security (OCS) published new mapping data to support the **Connect NY Broadband Grant Program**. The new data can be downloaded on the New York State Broadband Mapping website www.broadbandmap.ny.gov, and found under the "What's New" section.

This effort was designed to help applicants determine unserved and underserved areas at a more granular level for proposed project service areas, and has been filtered to identify residential service availability at or above the speed thresholds established by the Connect NY Grant Program (at least 6 Mbps download/1.5 Mbps upload). The data are available as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet depicting estimated broadband availability for each municipality and tribal community in New York State, and as a GIS file (ESRI shape file) of estimated broadband availability by census blocks within the State.

After the **October 5, 2012** closing of the Connect NY grant submission period, OCS will post the service boundaries (footprint) and applicant identification information for all of the proposed projects as overlays on the NYS Broadband Map. Providers will then have the opportunity to submit availability and/or advertised speed data related to existing service within a proposed project footprint. The supplemental information will be made available to the parties evaluating the grant proposals and will be protected from disclosure as appropriate under the terms of any non-disclosure agreements executed with OCS.



Questions about these new data files or any other data made available on the NYS Broadband Map website should be directed to nysbroadbandmapping@dhses.ny.gov.

Questions related to the Connect NY Grant Program and eligibility criteria should be directed to nysbroadband@esd.ny.gov.



New York State to Participate in Forever Wired Conference on September 28

Clarkson University is hosting the fourth annual **Forever Wired Conference on Friday, September 28**, on the Clarkson campus in Potsdam, New York.

The focus of this year's conference is on the state of broadband in the Adirondack North Country and the progress made in generating greater awareness and economic opportunities. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss responsible and sustainable economic growth in the Adirondack region.

The conference is a central component of the Adirondack Initiative for Wired Work, which is championed by a team of regional leaders and professionals dedicated toward creation of a sustainable economy in the greater Adirondack North Country. Through their activities, the Adirondack Initiative encourages telework, green-tech commerce and entrepreneurship from home offices and businesses with minimal impact on the natural environment.

David Salway, Director of the New York State Broadband Program Office will be moderating a panel discussion with Q&A at 1p.m. The panel will include several professionals from the greater Adirondack region who have leveraged broadband connectivity into successful business models. These individuals will discuss future challenges faced in northern New York, and several strategies and policies that may be used to face them.

The panel discussion will be preceded by connectivity success stories at 12:30 p.m., featuring personal stories from northern New Yorkers whose lives and businesses have been significantly impacted by broadband accessibility. Local entrepreneur Janessa Scott, a representative from the Adirondack Wild Center, and a Town of Keene representative are all scheduled to take part.



"Forever Wired has been the key outreach initiative of the Adirondack Initiative hosted by Clarkson for the last four years," said conference chair Kelly O. Chezum, vice president for external relations at Clarkson. "The growth in broadband coverage and the number of new broadband funding opportunities are good outcomes for everyone who wants to see sustainable and responsible growth in our region. This is the critical infrastructure we need to encourage working-wired entrepreneurs, mobile workers, corporate telecommuters and people interested in green tech commerce."

The agenda for the 2012 Forever Wired Conference includes an 11:30 a.m. luncheon with a keynote address by North Country Regional Economic Development Council Co-chair Tony Collins, president of Clarkson University. In multiple capacities, Collins has served as an advocate for better connectivity in northern New York. His experience includes involvement in both federal and state broadband policies.

"Broadband is now being installed and delivered in the Adirondack North Country and the effects are enormous," said Collins. "But now that broadband is here, our businesses need to work to adopt it because in today's global economy if you are not connected, you are not in the game. It really makes no sense that other countries can be ahead of us on this."

For more information or to register for the Forever Wired Conference, go to <http://www.clarkson.edu/adk> or e-mail foreverwired@clarkson.edu.

To read Clarkson University's full press release visit http://www.clarkson.edu/news/2012/news-release_2012-09-21-1.html.

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