

EXECUTIVE ORDER

RECREATING THE COLORADO STATEWIDE INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE AS THE MULTI-USE NETWORK TASKFORCE

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order recreating and renaming the Colorado Statewide Information Infrastructure Task Force to the Multi-Use Network Task Force.

1. Background and Purpose

A significant disparity between rural and urban communities in technology investment led to a "telecommunications gap" that left rural communities further behind and greatly impaired their ability to compete economically. An integrated statewide telecommunications infrastructure is essential to ensuring the citizens of Colorado access to government services, educational opportunities, and the information resources they need to keep Colorado's economy competitive, locally and abroad. The Colorado Statewide Information Infrastructure Task Force was created on August 21, 1998, by Executive Order B 004 98, to address the "telecommunications gap" and its negative impact on the economy. It called for integration of the telecommunications infrastructure, thereby reducing the telecommunications gap between rural and urban communities. However, the continued practice of purchasing technology on a department-by-department basis has slowed the State's realization of its goal. A change in strategy is necessary to put the State on a path that will ensure the realization of its integration goals.

The effectiveness of the task force may be enhanced in two ways. First, by including representatives from departments not yet represented, the task force will gain greater expertise in its work towards integration of the telecommunications infrastructure. Second, a description of the task force mission with greater specificity will eliminate any ambiguities that may currently exist.

Integration of Colorado's telecommunications infrastructure will provide Colorado's state and local governments, educators, businesses, and citizens with connections between and among institutions of higher education, school districts, public libraries, public hospitals, courts, and government offices. This integration can be achieved through planned and coordinated purchases of telecommunications technology by all state departments, agencies, and institutions, including higher education. These coordinated purchases allow the state to take advantage of technologies of scale and assume the role of an "anchor tenant" in encouraging private sector investment in the

infrastructure adequate to provide state-of-the-art telecommunications throughout the state. The resulting investment will lead to increased efficiency and greater economic development.

In addition to the economic benefits, use of the Multi-Use Network will transform government service. The Multi-Use Network provides the high-speed Internet connections that make "e-government" possible. This process allows citizens to fill out forms and obtain licenses and permits over the Internet instead of the traditional, time-consuming methods such as standing in line. Once the Multi-Use network is complete, on-line applications will be accessible to the vast majority of Colorado citizens, making our State government more user friendly.

2. Task Force Recreated

The Colorado Statewide Information Infrastructure Task Force is hereby recreated as the Multi-Use Network (the "Task Force"). The Task Force shall perform only those duties and functions specifically designated in this Executive Order.

3. Scope

- A. To achieve the desired benefits in efficiency, economies of scale, and economic development, all state departments, agencies and institutions, including higher education shall:
 - i. Migrate their telecommunication networks to the Multi-Use Network and cease operation of and any new development of disparate telecommunication networks.
 - ii. Convert their network traffic to the Multi-Use Network in a timely manner according to Private Partner(s) and Department of Personnel/General Support Services, Colorado Government Technology Services project deployment schedules.
 - iii. Provide timely information requested by the Department of Personnel/General Support Services to aggregate statewide telecommunications technology purchasing.
- B. The Department of Personnel/General Support Services shall:
 - i. Implement and operate the statewide Multi-Use Network in partnership with its public/private partner(s), with oversight provided by the Task Force.
 - ii. Maintain a central database and clearinghouse for current telecommunications standards that may be established and for other information that may be helpful to the managers of all state

departments, institutions, and agencies, including higher education, in the use and purchase of telecommunications technologies.

iii. Manage, administer and support the functions of the Task Force.

4. Membership of the Task Force

- A. The Executive Director of the Department of Personnel/General Support Services or the Executive Director's designee shall chair the Task Force. The Executive Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for communication between the Task Force and the Governor.
- B. At least one representative from the following departments shall be appointed by the Governor based on recommendations from the Executive Directors: the Department of Corrections; the Department of Education; the Department of Human Services; the Department of Labor & Employment; the Department of Natural Resources; the Department of Public Safety; the Department of Revenue; the Department of State; the Department of Transportation; and the Governor's Office of Innovation and Technology.
- C. Up to three representatives shall be appointed by the Governor from the Department of Higher Education.
- D. The membership of the Task Force may be modified by the Executive Director of the Department of Personnel/General Support Services.

5. Duties and Powers of the Task Force

The Task Force shall have the following duties and powers.

- A. Ensure the aggregation of the state's purchases for telecommunications services.
- B. Promote standards for the compatibility of equipment and software among state departments, agencies, and institutions, including higher education, to facilitate the sharing of information.
- C. Monitor the activities and progress of the state's private partner(s) to ensure that the contractual terms of the public/private partnership are fulfilled.
- D. Report periodically to the Governor on progress toward the goals outlined above.
- E. Engage other departments, agencies and institutions in supportive roles in the process, as appropriate.

F. Coordinate with other public entities to achieve the overall goals of this Executive Order.

6. Duration.

The Task Force shall continue in existence until December 31, 2005, unless review terminated or extended beyond that date by executive order of the Governor.

7. Past Executive Orders Superseded and Replaced

This Executive Order shall repeal and replace all previous executive orders pertaining to the Colorado Statewide Information Infrastructure Task Force, and specifically Executive Order B 004 98, Colorado Statewide Information Infrastructure.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado this 12th day of January, 2001.

(Signed) Bill Owens, Governor