



TPT Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

**February 9, 2007
Downtown Resource Center
17 S. Perry Street, Pontiac
9:00 a.m.**

Introduction – see attendance list at end of summary.

The Committee discussed individual chapters of the Planning For Technology portion of the toolkit. General Comments:

- How do each of these chapters point back to technology and to the knowledge economy?
- Set high level assumptions of what communities might look like 5-10 years out
- Franchise agreements – what impacts does this have?
 - Density drives buildout...some communities who according to their master plan will never reach the density level stipulated in the agreement for the provider to supply broadband

Community Master Plan

- Need to strengthen ties to technology and Emerging Sectors Program
- De-emphasize problems with wires and cabled infrastructure because advances in wireless technology may allow for more flexibility and have less impact on right-of-way
- From a community development standpoint, what are the implications that the evolution of technology will have? Examples:
 - Expansion of ecommerce will have impacts on road funding which currently looks at peak loads (number of cars)
 - Tax policy: how do you tax someone who works at home office and employs 150 people? Right now, you can't
 - Traditional targets for amount of commercial, office, industrial areas in communities will change
- Strive to eliminate regulations instead of encouraging them (e.g., home office)

Zoning Ordinance

- How will overlay districts impact technology?
 - Possibly use as a way to deregulate

- Need to cover what happens when some technology is rendered obsolete (e.g., cell towers)
- What is the longevity of the 4 tiers of technology?
- The value of fiber optics is much greater than traditional cable, etc. because with more bandwidth they allow/provide for more services (phone, internet, television). What are the implications of this?
 - Potential risk of damage to this infrastructure is more costly and has much greater impact on residents than traditional infrastructure

Development Regulations

- Have a pier group of building officials review and provide comment for this section
- Strengthen ties to Green Building Council

Right-of-Way Master Plan

- Certain types of infrastructure can be either above or below ground – but some components may need to be more readily accessible (e.g., city of Birmingham has Green boxes in middle of sidewalk that contain elements of telecommunication infrastructure that cannot be buried). Brian Blaesing will send bullet points and picture of this from Birmingham.
- Utility companies also use easements and encumbrances to build their networks – this provides additional opportunity to connect areas of public ROW. Some companies (e.g., ITC Transmission) are more open to accommodating additional uses (trail, other public access) than what has been allowed traditionally. These areas can and do carry telecommunication infrastructure.
- Master ROW Plan is not only about roads. It's really a planning and community development resource.
- Need more on alternative transportation
- Stress importance of ROW Master Plan – when a development occurs communities should be pushing for ROW because it will be even more expensive to acquire later.

Permitting Process

- Multiple jurisdictions and inspections

Present:

Dick Carlisle, CWA
John Enos, CWA

Scott Oppmann, OCIT
Ryan Dividock, PEDS

Jim Schafer, Madison Heights
Arthur Schufflebarger, Village of Milford
Bret Rasegan, PEDS

JoAnn Browning, PEDS
Brian Blaesing, RCOC