

(i) the resources, infrastructure, and cost structures now in place or available in the various rural regions of the State for developing or obtaining access to broadband communications;

(ii) the feasibility of using existing or alternative legal mechanisms and infrastructure to support the economical development of broadband communications in rural areas of the State;

(iii) the utility of several applications where broadband communications would benefit rural areas, such as applications relating to agriculture, medicine, and education; and

(iv) any other matters that the Task Force considers pertinent to establishing effective broadband communications in the rural areas of the State;

(3) shall encourage the development of specific goals for the State in the deployment of broadband communications in rural areas, including:

(i) the development of economically competitive access to broadband communications by the public and private sectors in each rural area of the State;

(ii) the availability of broadband communications access throughout the rural areas of the State to address issues of universal service in unserved and underserved communities;

(iii) the development and expansion of practical applications for the enhancement of economic development, and other public benefits;

(iv) the development of affinities and interconnection among the governmental units in the State, educational institutions, and private industry; and

(v) any other goals that the Task Force determines to be in the public interest;

(4) shall develop proposals and recommendations for the establishment and enhancement of broadband communications in rural areas by:

(i) reviewing government policies for the promotion, development, and economically competitive use of broadband communications;

(ii) identifying sources of funding and support, including leveraging of State and federal resources;

(iii) encouraging private and public participation in the development and use of broadband communications in rural areas, including demand aggregation and resource leveraging to enhance economic and technological development; and

(iv) examining any other pertinent issues; and