



# FIRST PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT 2010

<p>1. Recipient Organization (<i>Name and complete address including zip code</i>) Massachusetts Technology Park d/b/a Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC) 75 North Drive Westborough, MA 01581 United States Congressional District 3</p>	<p>2. Award Identification Number  NT10BIX5570070</p>
<p>3. Performance Narrative (Q1) <i>Please describe your project activities and progress for the first quarter of your award period. This should include a description of federal expenditures to date, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any delays or challenges. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)</i></p> <p><b>MassBroadband 123 accomplishments for the quarter ending September 30, 2010 include activities in the following milestone categories:</b></p> <p><u>Environmental Assessment</u> MTC competitively procured an Environmental Assessment firm, completed field work and initiated consultations with Mass Historical and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices.</p> <p><u>Construction Permits and Other Approvals</u> MTC developed and began negotiations on a memorandum of understanding with incumbent pole owners for an expedited process for surveying poles and processing pole attachment license applications; continued outreach to pole owners including Verizon, National Grid and Western Mass Electric; held initial and follow up sessions with 6 of 8 municipal electric companies in project footprint; conducted ongoing outreach to 123 communities to verify community anchor institutions, points of interconnection, and route information.</p> <p><u>Other - Procurement</u> MTC continued work on a competitive procurement process to contract with a Network Operator, interviewing three semi-finalists. New competitive procurements were issued for Owner's Project Management Services, Field Data Collection Services, and Route and Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) Validation Services. To lay the ground work for our design-build procurement, MTC prepared a detailed application that was submitted to the State Office of the Inspector General in early October to obtain approval for <i>MassBroadband 123</i> design-build process and procedures. MTC drafted a Request for Qualifications for a Design and Engineering firm to assist with the design-build procurement. MTC also hired a full-time project manager and part-time federal compliance officer during this period.</p> <p><u>Other - Outreach</u> MTC conducted numerous outreach meetings with stakeholders, including three public forums, meetings with 11 mayors in the service area and with six potential last mile providers.</p> <p><b>MassBroadband 123 challenges for the quarter ending September 30, 2010 include:</b></p> <p>When preparing the project schedule for the <i>MassBroadband 123</i> grant application, MTC assumed an award date of September 30, 2010 vs. the actual award date of June 30, 2010. As a result, we are still working on many of the milestones that we originally listed in our project plan for completion in Year 0.</p> <p>To date, the most challenging aspect of the <i>MassBroadband 123</i> project has been the numerous and complicated negotiations with many different right of way owners, including multiple utility pole and conduit owners in the project footprint. The pace of completing and executing these agreements has been slower than expected.</p> <p><b>Federal Expenditures to Date:</b></p>	

Through September 30, 2010, MTC has incurred \$824,347.74 of costs for the *MassBroadband 123* project. Of this amount \$560,721.33 is to be funded by the federal award of \$45,445,444, and the remainder is to be funded from state matching funds. The costs incurred include the amounts specified in the budget for the application preparation, the costs incurred from the time of the submission of the application through award, and the costs from the date of the award through September 30, 2010 for the activities described above. As of September 30, 2010, no federal funds had been received by MTC. The initial drawdown request will be submitted upon approval of the pre-Environmental Assessment budget.

#### 4. Performance Projections (Q2)

*Please describe your anticipated project activities and progress for the next quarter. This should include a description of federal expenditures, key milestones, the primary activities needed to accomplish those milestones, significant project accomplishments, and any potential delays or challenges you foresee. Please use the milestone categories provided in your baseline report (e.g., environmental assessment, design, rights of way) to structure your answer. (500 words or less)*

#### **MassBroadband 123 projects activities in the following milestone categories for the next quarter:**

##### Environmental Assessment

MTC will complete the NEPA environmental assessment process and submit on or before December 31, 2010.

This includes the associated consultations with Federal and State agencies including the National Fish and Wildlife Service, the State Historic Preservation Office, and Army Corps of Engineers.

##### Construction Permits and Other Approvals

In the upcoming quarter MTC will hire a Field Data Collection Services firm; begin surveying poles and preparing and submitting pole attachment license applications to pole owners; hire a Route and CAI Validation Services firm to continue refining the path, laterals and entrances to the CAIs, and continue working with towns to finalize the CAI list. MTC expects to execute memoranda of understanding for Field Data Collection and pole attachment and conduit agreements with the respective incumbent pole owners. MTC will continue negotiations with the municipal electric companies and networks in the project footprint.

##### Other - Procurement

In the upcoming quarter MTC will continue negotiations with Network Operator finalists; hire an Owner's Project Management firm; hire an Engineering and Design Services firm to assist with development of the design-build request for proposal (RFP); continue to pursue post-submission approval of the application for design-build authority from the State Office of the Inspector general, and post a letter of intent for the design-build RFP and begin to establish design and specification standards to be used in the design-build RFP.

##### Other - Outreach

MTC will continue to conduct outreach meetings with stakeholders.

#### **MassBroadband 123 anticipated challenges for the next quarter:**

To date, the most challenging aspect of the *MassBroadband 123* project has been the numerous and complicated negotiations with many different right of way owners, including multiple utility pole and conduit owners in the project footprint. While MTC is confident that the memoranda of understanding for an expedited pole attachment licensing process with the respective incumbent pole owners will be successful, we are concerned about the great amount of make-ready work that will likely need to be completed before pole attachment licenses can be issued. Much of the make-ready work that is expected to be required will need to be performed by third party entities that are not under the control of MTC. It would be very useful to know what other Comprehensive Community Infrastructure projects are doing about such potential road blocks, and have NTIA facilitate sharing of best practices among recipients.

#### **Federal Expenditures projected for the next quarter:**

MTC projects that expenditures for the *MassBroadband 123* project for the quarter ending December 31, 2010 will be approximately \$1.2 million for the activities described above. Of this projected amount, approximately \$816,000 would be funded by the federal award and the remainder would be funded from state matching funds.

I certify that I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

5a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

**Mitchell Adams**  
**Executive Director**

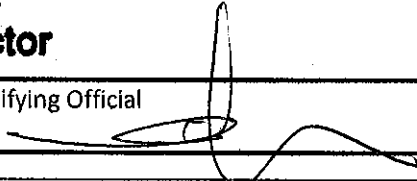
5c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)

508-870-0312, x1200

5d. Email Address

adams@masstech.org

5b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official



5e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour and 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Anthony G. Wilhelm, Director, Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., HCHB, Room 4887, Washington, D.C. 20230.