

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number
48-50-M09064

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
07-02-2012

1. Recipient Name
Connected Nation, Inc - Texas

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:
The State of Texas

3. Street Address
1020 College Street,

8. Final Report? Yes No
9. Report Frequency
 Quarterly
 Semi Annual
 Annual
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code
Bowling Green, KY 42101-2137

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)
01-01-2010

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)
12-31-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:
06-30-2012

9a. If Other, please describe:
N/A

10. Broadband Mapping 10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

281 Communications, Inc.: The provider elected not to participate during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. On January 5, 2012, a company representative provided notification and requested no additional contact in the future. As of June 18, 2012 the provider remains non-responsive.

Americatel Corporation: The provider was non-responsive during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. As of June 27, 2012, and the provider indicated that they will not participate and remains non-responsive.

Anvil Communications: The provider elected not to participate during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. As of June 28, 2012, a company representative provided notification that they will not participate. The status has since been changed to "Slated Field Audit for Estimated Coverage Analysis" and a program engineer will be dispatched to independently gather data to create a coverage estimation document for submission to NTIA.

Buford Media Group: The provider elected not to participate during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. On June 28, 2012, a company representative provided notification that they will not participate.

Burcham Solutions, LLC: The provider was non-responsive during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. Multiple contact attempts were made, and as of June 27, 2012, the provider indicated a willingness to participate but has yet to submit data.

Centrovision: The provider elected not to participate during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. On June 7, 2012, a company representative provided data but has yet to approve the preliminary propagation studies submitted by program engineers.

CIT - Campbell Information Technology: The provider was non-responsive during the April 2012 mapping cycle to NTIA. Multiple contact attempts were made, and as of June 18, 2012, the provider remains non-responsive.
... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

No data has been collected through extraction or extrapolation.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

Connected Texas (CTX) deployed a new interactive mapping web application, called My ConnectView, on April 2, 2012. The

application is housed in a highly available, monitored, and managed environment. New feedback features allow consumers to send comments directly to program geographic information systems (GIS) staff; a screenshot of the user's current interactive map view is also attached to the feedback to provide additional details.

Consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries is also collected. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

The new interactive broadband map, My ConnectView, was launched on April 2, 2012 and is publicly available on the Connected Texas website (<http://www.connectedtx.org/interactive-map>). There were a total of 891 visits to My ConnectView between April 2, 2012, and June 30, 2012.

During this quarter, the project received a total of 9 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 3 for this quarter.

For this reporting period, 142 field verification tests were conducted. Thus far, project staff conducted multiple tests on the following providers: Aledo Broadband; Alenco Communications Inc.; Allegiance Communications; Alpheus (d.b.a. Aspen Communications); AMA TechTel; AT&T; AwesomeNet Inc.; Baja Broadband; Basin 2 Way Radio Inc.; Basin Broadband; Big Bend Telephone; Blossom Telephone; Border to Border Communications Inc.; Brazoria Telephone Company (d.b.a. Coastal Link); Broadband Data Services of Texas LLC; Broadcomm.US; Broadwaves; Buffalo Cable TV; Cable One Inc.; Cameron Telephone Company LLC; Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative Inc.; Central Texas Cable Partners Inc.; Central Texas Telephone Cooperative Inc.; CenturyLink; Cequel Communications (also d.b.a. Cebridge, Suddenlink); Charter Communications; CKS Wireless Inc.; Clearwire Corporation; Coleman County Telephone Cooperative Inc.; Colorado Valley Telephone Cooperative LLC.; Comcast Cable Communications LLC; Community Telephone Company Inc.; Consolidated Communications; Conterra Communications; Cumby Telephone Cooperative Inc.; DCTexas. Net; Dell Telephone Cooperative Inc.; Digitex.com; Dot 10 Wireless; East Texas Broadband; East Texas Cable;

... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

Not applicable. Verification activities have been initiated.

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

10.51

Connected Texas's FTEs reported for the quarter include 10.14 FTEs for staff, 0.37 FTEs for permanent consultants, and 0.0 FTEs for temporary, cyclical contractors. The project is fully staffed with a base of 10.51 FTEs.

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connected Texas project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts in their respective areas. By leveraging the expertise of the subject matter experts, the project benefits from their knowledge and skills without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

Not applicable

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

This project is fully staffed with a base of 10.51 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Connected Nation - Broadband Planning Manager	3	09/04/2007
Connected Nation - Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
Connected Nation - CAI Coordinator	11	09/16/2009
Connected Nation - CAI Manager	52	12/13/2004
Connected Nation - Chief Policy Counsel	3	08/09/2010
Connected Nation - Compliance Coordinator	6	08/01/2008
Connected Nation - Director Program Support	14	12/01/2004
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	8	07/13/2009
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	9	07/13/2009
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	42	01/18/2010
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	97	12/01/2009
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	100	08/24/2009
Connected Nation - ETS Manager	23	07/01/2007
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	3	09/17/2007
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	4	04/01/2010
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	38	11/16/2009
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	40	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - GIS Services Manager	40	05/15/2007
Connected Nation - Grants Management Officer	11	02/24/2003
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Manager	12	03/24/2009
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	4	10/01/2007
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	10	02/02/2009
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	10	01/04/2010

Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	34	01/04/2010
Connected Nation - Partnership Manager	3	07/01/2007
Connected Nation - Policy & Research Outreach Specialist	9	03/24/2009
Connected Nation - President & COO	11	01/14/2008
Connected Nation - Program Coordinator	100	06/27/2011
Connected Nation - Program Manager	100	09/09/2009
Connected Nation - Project Coordinator	39	04/01/2005
Connected Nation - Project Management Director	7	12/16/2009
Connected Nation - Project Manager	4	08/20/2007
Connected Nation - Project Manager	36	03/16/2010
Connected Nation - Provider Relations Manager	15	02/17/2005
Connected Nation - Research & GIS Analyst	44	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	3	02/01/2010
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	4	09/19/2011
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	7	10/17/2011
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	9	06/01/2009
Connected Nation - Research Manager	8	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - State & Local Program Director	19	08/04/2008
Connected Nation - State Services Specialist	18	03/24/2009
Connected Nation - State Services Sr. Specialist	2	12/20/2009
Consultant - Associate Counsel	3	09/14/2009
Consultant - ETS Analyst	30	08/24/2009
Consultant - Financial Consultant	3	04/01/2008
Consultant - General Counsel	1	01/01/2007

Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
ESRI Production Support	GIS Consultants	N	Y	09/21/2009	12/31/2009	19,271	0
Eastern Research Services	Research Survey	Y	Y	02/08/2010	02/07/2012	120,917	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	01/01/2010	12/31/2014	441,633	335,627

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$3,634,648 10q. How much Remains? \$4,391,352

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$1,290,969 10s. How much Remains? \$812,310

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$2,861,710	\$651,821	\$3,513,531	\$1,151,321	\$2,250	\$1,153,571
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$613,836	\$175,076	\$788,912	\$258,539	\$483	\$259,022
Travel	\$436,998	\$0	\$436,998	\$186,381	\$582	\$186,963
Equipment	\$178,963	\$0	\$178,963	\$98,847	\$0	\$98,847
Materials / Supplies	\$86,035	\$0	\$86,035	\$47,918	\$0	\$47,918
Subcontracts Total	\$926,612	\$175,690	\$1,102,302	\$605,126	\$335,627	\$940,753
Subcontract #1	\$321,061	\$0	\$321,061	\$120,917	\$0	\$120,917
Subcontract #2	\$73,819	\$0	\$73,819	\$19,271	\$0	\$19,271
Subcontract #3	\$473,145	\$175,690	\$648,835	\$441,633	\$335,627	\$777,260
Subcontract #4	\$19,904	\$0	\$19,904	\$10,743	\$0	\$10,743
Subcontract #5	\$38,683	\$0	\$38,683	\$12,562	\$0	\$12,562
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$167,571	\$911,067	\$1,078,638	\$30,504	\$948,935	\$979,439
Total Direct Costs	\$5,271,725	\$1,913,654	\$7,185,379	\$2,378,636	\$1,287,877	\$3,666,513
Total Indirect Costs	\$2,754,275	\$189,625	\$2,943,900	\$1,256,012	\$3,092	\$1,259,104
Total Costs	\$8,026,000	\$2,103,279	\$10,129,279	\$3,634,648	\$1,290,969	\$4,925,617
% Of Total	79	21	100	74	26	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/Software purchases for the project to date include:

- Interactive Mapping Application- \$60,000
- GIS Software & Maintenance- \$22,298
- Computers & Software- \$30,085
- Speed Test Software- \$6,337
- Google Earth Pro- \$585
- Spectrum Analyzer- \$5,323

• GPS Unit(s)- \$516

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage server, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, a spectrum analyzer, GPS units, interactive map upgrades/maintenance, ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

All datasets used in this project have been contributed in-kind. Datasets used by the project to date and their respective in-kind contribution value are as follows:

- Commission on State Emergency Communications Regional Planning Commission's input - \$7,395
- District & Municipal Public Safety Answering Point data - \$1,419
- K-12 School address data - \$26,895
- TX ISD Superintendents and Technology Coordinators - \$3,768
- TX Water Board Orthoimagery - \$465,000
- TX Workforce Commission IT - \$82
- Workforce Solutions data - \$770

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

In an effort to increase Community Anchor Institution (CAI) data during this reporting period, Connected Texas has focused on a single CAI sector per month. This has allowed the project team to focus and solicit support from the state client in an effort to identify organizations to aid data outreach. We have experienced significant increases in data numbers because of this focused approach of data collection.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Connected Texas has experienced some challenges regarding support from state agencies and departments related to CAI outreach. Their support is essential to the success of the outreach. Therefore, it became essential to enlist the support of the state client to encourage outreach.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

The Connected Texas initiative saw positive mainstream media stories on the project's mapping resources and broadband expansion efforts distributed to more than 94.8 million news consumers. The Connected Texas monthly e-newsletter has been distributed to more than 2,900 subscribers. E-newsletters disseminated to stakeholders this quarter have been provided as PDF attachments to this report.

This quarter, the Connected Texas program experienced a monumental month. In May 2012 Connected Texas Engineering and Technical Services (ETS) staff focused on validating broadband services reported by providers in both the west and the southeast portions of the state. In fact, in one week, the work of program engineers encompassed approximately 2,272 square miles. <http://www.connectedtx.org/blog/post/may-miles-mount>

Texas Perks of Propagation – "Geocoding" describes the process of assigning geographic coordinates (e.g. latitude and longitude) to street addresses or other points. Potential customers can be pinpointed by overlaying geocoded address locations atop an engineering map tool, called a propagation study. Connected Texas is offering resources as the expansion of broadband access into unserved areas continues. Providers are faced with a litany of questions regarding the best practices for facilitating a reliable last-mile solution. Such questions may include identification of potential subscriber locations, how to reach them, types of equipment to be used, and ways to minimize truck rolls. Profitability requires keeping road-time down and customer installation numbers high.

... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

Broadband Capacity Building Milestones Year 3, Quarter 2 per approved project plan:

Milestone: 2012, Quarter 2, Connected Texas program office administration.

This milestone was met. The program office in Austin remains fully staffed. During the quarter, program staff conducted a series of agency and legislative visits including senate and congressional visits in Washington, DC to brief representatives on the mission and current activities of the Texas State Broadband Initiative. In partnership with the Texas Public Utilities Commission, Connected Texas

conducted outreach to all Texas eligible telecommunications carriers to encourage their participation in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline Broadband Pilot and gave technical assistance to those who chose to apply. Connected Texas also leveraged a number of regional partners such as Texas Cable Association, Texans for Economic Progress, and the Texas Association of Regional Councils, to conduct local community outreach in key areas of need across the state.

Milestone: Conduct 2012, Quarter 2, Stakeholder Group meeting.
This milestone was met. Connected Texas and the Texas State Library co-hosted the 2012 Q2 Broadband Taskforce Meeting on April 12, 2012. This gathering of state agencies, broadband providers and related industry representatives, local/regional community leaders, and community service organizations discussed the current state of broadband access, adoption, and use in Texas and the necessary steps to address areas and populations still in need across the state.

... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance

Connected Texas submitted an amended project plan, which includes the developed research plan for years 3 through 5, to NTIA during Q2 2012. Upon approval of the amended project plan, the 2012 residential survey will be initiated.

Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

While Community Champions are being identified and planning teams are being engaged, the number and makeup of the planning regions remains in flux. The approved project plan accounts for 29 planning regions. CTX continues to discuss the number, size, and make-up of the planning regions with Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) in order to maximize efficiency and participation.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning? Yes No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance

Upon approval of the amended project plan, the 2012 residential survey will be initiated. The program anticipates the survey will be initiated in Q3 2012. In turn, the 2012 residential survey will be analyzed and initial results will be released to the state in Q4 2012, and the survey results will be finalized and released in Q1 2013.

Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

Nothing to report.

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0

11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

11i. Planning Worksheet						
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

Nothing to report.

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

No additional challenges or obstacles were encountered during the quarter.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project
Broadband Capacity Building

Connected Texas maintains a regular blog and posted thirteen entries in this quarter. Connected Texas also issued eight press releases this quarter. Some of the stories include:

Broadband Spotlighted at Texas Rural Challenge – Broadband is the key to economic development. No group knows that better than the community leaders who attended last week’s Texas Rural Challenge event. The third annual meeting was held through the University of Texas San Antonio Institute for Economic Development’s Rural Business Program in San Marcos. The goal was to bring leaders together to spur small business and economic growth in rural communities across Texas by providing practical and proven approaches to rural development. Connected Texas staff was on-hand at the statewide conference to help promote the state’s new Connected program. <http://www.connectedtx.org/blog/post/broadband-spotlighted-texas-rural-challenge>

In anticipation of the first ever Texas State Broadband Summit, Connected Texas issued several blog posts including: Join us at the Connected Texas Broadband Summit – We’re marking a major milestone in our work together to expand broadband access, adoption, and use across Texas! Our inaugural summit promises to make a big impact in shaping the economic, educational, and social future of our state through the expansion of broadband availability. Will we see you there? The summit is free and we’re encouraging others who are interested in promoting economic growth and opportunity to join us to discuss how broadband can play a major role in building a better future. <http://www.connectedtx.org/blog/post/join-us-connected-texas-broadband-summit> (6/5)

... please refer to the Texas Q2 2012 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

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

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Bernie Bogle

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

07-27-2012