

# CCI LEGISLATIVE ISSUE FORM

## for 2018 Legislative session

CCI is soliciting potential legislative issues for the 2018 legislative session. Please answer each of the questions below for each of your county's legislative issues. If your county submits multiple issue forms, please prioritize your issues. Submitted issues are discussed during the summer steering committees and district meetings. We encourage you to confer with your county managers or administrators and department heads, as well as other elected officials, to determine what issues are the most pressing in your county and have implications for other counties. All submitted issues forms must have the support of the Board of County Commissioners or the Mayor/City and County Council.

In accordance with the Legislative Principles that are part of CCI's Policy Statement, "...initiated legislation should be realistic and closely related to the conduct of our members' responsibilities if we are to retain a high level of credibility. Local elected official groups, county and otherwise, as well as other interest groups, should be encouraged to find sponsors for and initiate their own proposals, allowing our members and CCI to take a supportive role when the bill is introduced."

Please fax or email your issue forms to Jeanne DeHaven at 303.861.2818 or [jdehaven@ccionline.org](mailto:jdehaven@ccionline.org). Please feel free to use more than one page when submitting issues and to submit additional documentation or background information related to the issue. Legislative Issue Forms should be returned by **Friday, June 30, 2017** in order to be discussed during the summer legislative review and steering committee meetings.

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### ISSUE 1 (BROADBAND):

Name: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Title: BOCC (Lead on THIS Issue: Lynn Black, County Administrator)

County: SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Phone: 970-369-5427

E-mail: [lynnb@sanmiguelcountycogov](mailto:lynnb@sanmiguelcountycogov)

1.) Issue:

**Lack of access to abundant, redundant, affordable, reliable broadband in rural areas**

2.) Background:

**In several recent legislative sessions, broadband legislation has originated outside of CCI/Mountain Connect stakeholders that would be very detrimental to rural broadband enhancement efforts and further expand the "broadband divide".**

3.) Proposed Solution/Legislative Remedy (Please provide the specific statutory citation your board is requesting to modify AND the proposed language you are requesting.)

**A group of diverse rural broadband stakeholders being facilitated by CCI staff is meeting to develop balanced and effective legislation to provide meaningful authorities and policies that will result in broadband deployment in rural areas in Colorado. Specific legislative concepts are being developed by these subject matter experts and will be shared when ready. Their next meeting is after the Club20 July 13 Steering Committee meetings in Montrose.**

4.) County Commissioner role in this issue?

**Assist with securing appropriate bipartisan bicameral legislative sponsors, use relationships to reach out to stakeholders for broad support, and testify at hearings.**

5.) Proponents/Opponents (Please indicate if your board has had conversations with proponents/opponents to date and their perspective on this proposal):

**Big telecom may be an opponent but goal is to craft balanced legislation that will be positive for County's and incumbent providers.**

6.) Have you visited with your legislator(s) about their reaction to this proposal? Are members of your delegation likely to sponsor, support, or oppose this proposal?

**Sen. Coram has expressed his support for being a potential sponsor of a good broadband bill, along with other house and senate sponsors, including leadership such as Rep. Duran, from both state chambers.**

7.) Anticipated Fiscal Impact:

**Legislation that results in broadband infrastructure in rural areas will have very positive fiscal impacts for local governments, citizens and businesses. Depending on the actual legislation and if there is state partnership funding, it may or may not have a state fiscal impact. Lack of broadband is concentrating 80% of Colorado's jobs in the Front Range urban areas and causing negative economic impacts, challenges for diversifying and recovering rural economies, inadequate infrastructure for tele-health, education, public safety, and other local government services.**

8.) Please list the subject matter experts CCI staff can follow-up with for more information on this proposal:

**Eric Bergman, Brandy DeLange, others.**

9.) Priority Ranking (If multiple issues submitted):

**1**