

*Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature as to the most effective and efficient ways that federal broadband rural infrastructure funds received after the operative date of this section should be expended if such funds become available;*

–Nebraska Revised Statutes 86-1102(3)(f)

## **Federal Rural Broadband Infrastructure Funds**

### **Draft Recommendation**

If federal rural broadband infrastructure funds become available, the Rural Broadband Task Force will immediately form a subcommittee to review any rules or requirements associated with the funding and will draft recommendations on how the funds should be expended. The subcommittee will address the following questions and any other issues identified in the rules and requirements:

- Who should administer the funds? Should other agencies/entities be involved/consulted in the development of guidelines and selection criteria?
- How should the distribution of infrastructure funds be coordinated with the NUSF?
- Should the funds be distributed through a grant program, a reverse auction, or other mechanism?
- What criteria should be used to evaluate grant applications or bids?
- Should the funds be available to all carriers or just ETCs?
- Should rural communities be involved in the process? How could they be involved?