



## PUBLIC NOTICE

March 15, 2024

The American Samoa Department of Commerce (ASDOC), Broadband Coordination, Opportunities, Redevelopment and Deployment (BCORD) Office, invites the public to review and submit comments on the territory's first ever Digital Equity Plan. It is the aim of the program to ensure that the voices, experiences and concerns of the public are in alignment with this plan. The comment period is open from March 15 to April 15, 2024.

The U.S. Department of Commerce - National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has estimated an allocation of approximately \$3.6 million over an eight year time period for the Digital Equity Capacity Grant to American Samoa under the administration of ASDOC. The Digital Equity program is a nation-wide initiative funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for the purposes of improving digital adoption, skills training development and boosting community resources surrounding the use of technology in the United States, under the "Internet for All" campaign.

The vision of the BROADBAND iNEI Digital Equity Plan is to "ensure that our collective villages of American Samoa have access to affordable, inclusive, accessible and secure resources and opportunities to become an effective part of the digital global village."

The Digital Equity Plan is available online at <u>broadband.as.gov</u> or <u>doc.as.gov</u> or by visiting the Department of Commerce, 2nd Floor of the A.P. Lutali Executive Office Building in Utulei. You may also contact the Territorial Broadband Coordinator via phone at (684) 633-5155 or by email at bcord@doc.as.gov.

If you have any comments or questions regarding the American Samoa Digital Equity Plan Draft, please provide it in writing to our office at the address listed below or the email address bcord@doc.as.gov or via Google Form accessible on our website or Facebook page @amsamoabcord. Follow us on social media for more program updates and activities.

**BCORD** - Digital Equity Coordinator

Subject: Digital Equity Plan Email: bcord@doc.as.gov Office: 684-633-5155

Comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. (Samoa Standard Time) on April 15, 2024 for consideration by the Digital Equity Coordinator.

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:

Petti T. Matila

Director of Commerce