



# Overview of Technology Transitions Policy Task Force

June 18, 2013

# Changing Communications Landscape

- Spending on circuit switched telephone services:
  - 2006 (\$182 billion); 2012 (\$123 billion); 2016 (\$106 billion)\*
- Spending on Voice over IP telephone services:
  - 2006 (\$3.8 billion); 2012 (\$15.9 billion); 2016 (\$22.6 billion)\*
- Spending on wireless telephone services:
  - 2006 (\$125 billion); 2012 (\$187 billion); 2016 (\$254 billion)\*
- Gigabit cities from Kansas City, to Burlington, VT to Cedar Falls, IA
- Over 55% of mobile subscribers now have smartphones (up from 16% in 2009)\*\*
- Widespread rollout of 4G LTE networks
- Over a third of U.S. households are now wireless-only\*\*\*

Sources: \*TIA 2013-2016 ICT Market Review and Forecast

\*\*comScore January 2013 U.S. Smartphone Subscriber Market Share Report

\*\*\*CDC National Health Interview Survey on Wireless Substitution

# Three Major Transitions

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- Copper to Fiber
- TDM to IP
- Wireline to Wireless

# Task Force Background

- FCC Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) Dec. 2011 recommendation; FCC should
  - "establish a task force to conduct a thorough policy and regulatory and review as it relates to the PSTN, which results in policies for the new communication environment."*
- Established by former Chairman Genachowski on Dec. 10, 2012
  - "The Task Force will conduct a data-driven review and provide recommendations to modernize the Commission's policies in a process that encourages the technological transition, empowers and protects consumers, promotes competition, and ensures network resiliency and reliability."*
- Builds on ongoing Commission activities
- Close coordination with NARUC Task Force on Federalism and Telecommunications

# Core Values Guiding Task Force

- Consumer Protection
- Universal Service
- Competition
- Public Safety

*"Technological transitions don't change the basic mission of the FCC. But technology changes can drive changes in markets and competition. And many of the Commission's existing rules draw technology-based distinctions. So the ongoing changes in our nation's communications networks require a hard look at many rules that were written for a different technological and market landscape."*

-Dec. 10, 2012 Task Force Announcement

## Task Force Actions To Date

- Dec. 14, 2012: Established a pleading cycle on two technology transition-related petitions from AT&T and the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA)
- Jan. 10, 2013: Issued Public Notice indicating that presentations made to the Task Force are subject to the Commission's ex parte rules (Docket 13-5)
- Mar. 18, 2013: Held public workshop focused on the capabilities and limitations of new and emerging technologies
- May 10, 2013: Issued Public Notice proposing to conduct a series of potential technology trials
  - Comments due Jul. 8; Reply comments due Aug. 7

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# Questions?