

DA 16-1106
September 29, 2016

FCC ANNOUNCES REAUTHORIZATION OF ITS INTERGOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SOLICITS NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMITTEE

By this Public Notice, the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission” or “FCC”) announces the reauthorization of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (“IAC” or “Committee”) and solicits nominations for membership on the IAC. The current term of the IAC expired on July 14, 2016. The term of operations for the reauthorized IAC will be limited to two years, with an option for reauthorization at the end of the two-year period, and will commence with its first meeting. Nominations for membership are due by December 5, 2016.

MISSION AND FUNCTIONS

The mission of the IAC is to provide advice to the Commission on the many telecommunications issues affecting local, state and Tribal governments that are within the jurisdiction of the FCC. These issues can range from major FCC policy priorities such as broadband adoption and deployment, especially in unserved and underserved rural areas and Tribal lands, strengthening public safety communications infrastructure and emergency response capabilities, streamlining facilities siting, while respecting public rights-of-way, monitoring the transition from “legacy” telecommunications services to emerging wireline networks and wireless networks, and ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the universal service programs.

During its two-year term, the IAC may be tasked by the Chairman to produce specific deliverables that will further the Commission’s mission and objectives, including, but not limited to, those related to the deployment and adoption of broadband services for Tribal and rural communities and other unserved or underserved areas, “Smart Cities” and infrastructure-related initiatives, and consumer complaints processes and data. The duties of the Committee include providing guidance to the Commission, to gather data and information, and to perform those analyses that are necessary to respond to the questions or matters before it.

BACKGROUND

The IAC, formerly known as the Local and State Government Advisory Committee (“LSGAC”), was created in 1997 to provide guidance to the Commission on telecommunications issues of interest to state, local and Tribal governments, as well as to the Commission. On July 17, 2003 the Commission adopted an Order approving revisions to its rules governing the LSGAC, changing the name from the LSGAC to the IAC in order to maintain and strengthen its intergovernmental nature and qualification as an advisory committee exempt from the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (“FACA”). The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) within the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau is the Chairman’s designee to serve as liaison to the IAC and provide oversight of the committee.

MEMBERSHIP

Pursuant to Section 0.701(b) of the Commission’s rules, the IAC is composed of fifteen members (or their designated employees) as follows: 1) four elected municipal officials (city mayors and city council

members); 2) two elected county officials (county commissioners or council members); 3) one elected or appointed local government attorney; 4) one elected state executive (Governor or Lieutenant Governor); 5) three elected state legislators; 6) one elected or appointed public utilities or public service commissioner; and 7) three elected or appointed Native American Tribal representatives.

Individuals described in Section 0.701(b) of the Commission's rules may designate a government employee to represent them on the IAC and to attend meetings on their behalf, provided that they submit a designation letter that is accepted by the Chair of the Commission. However, to ensure compliance with the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), which provides for an exemption from the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) for certain intergovernmental groups, such designation letters must be from an appropriate "elected officer of State, local and Tribal Governments." To further ensure compliance with UMRA, any nomination of appointed attorneys, commissioners or representatives (or the designated employees of such individuals) also must be supported by a designation letter from an elected officer of a state, local or Tribal government, for whom such appointees will be serving in their official capacities. Compliance with the requirements of section 204(b) of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) ensures that the IAC can continue to operate with the informality and flexibility that have proven so effective in the past and that inhere in its FACA-exempt status.

The Chairman of the Commission appoints IAC members through an application process initiated by a Public Notice, and selects a Chairman and a Vice Chairman to lead the IAC. The Chairman of the Commission may also appoint members to fill any vacancies and may replace an IAC member, at his discretion, using the appointment process.

Nominees must be willing to serve a two-year term of service, which requires attendance at four (4) meetings per year in Washington, D.C. at the applicant's own expense. Members must attend a minimum of fifty percent of the IAC's yearly meetings and may be removed by the Chairman of the IAC for failure to comply with this requirement. Members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connection to, persons or entities who are, or will be, regulated by, or who have interests before, the Commission.

CANDIDATE EXPERTISE

The Commission is interested in candidates with expertise relevant to broadband infrastructure deployment and adoption, particularly those with knowledge and experience specific to Tribal and rural communities, "Smart City" and infrastructure-related initiatives, state and local government consumer complaints processes and data trends, and public safety and homeland security matters.

APPLICATIONS AND SELECTION

Nominees for IAC membership must submit their applications: (1) online via email; and/or (2) hardcopy via mail. Applications must be received by 5 pm no later than December 5, 2016. Applications submitted via email must be sent to iac@fcc.gov. Hardcopy applications submitted via mail must be addressed to:

Attn: Carmen Scanlon, Attorney Advisor
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

The application does not require a particular format but must include the following information:

- Resume (including applicant's current position);
- Contact information (both email and mailing addresses, as well as telephone numbers);
- A brief description of the applicant's area of expertise and qualifications to serve on the IAC, including the applicant's experience with telecommunications issues affecting local, state, or Tribal governments. Candidates are encouraged to provide links to any articles they have authored on relevant topics and/or public appearances available on the web for viewing; and,
- The position(s) that the applicant is applying for, i.e., elected municipal officials (city mayors and city council members); county officials (county commissioners or council members); elected or appointed local government attorney; elected state executive (Governor or Lieutenant Governor); elected state legislators; elected or appointed public utilities or public service commissioner; or elected or appointed Native American Tribal representatives. If an applicant potentially qualifies for more than one position on the IAC, he or she should specify which position they seek.

Once the Chairman of the Commission selects the members for the reauthorized IAC, the Commission will release a Public Notice announcing appointments of the new membership.

ACCESSIBLE FORMATS

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice) or (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

For further information, please contact: Carmen Scanlon, Attorney Advisor, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-0544, carmen.scanlon@fcc.gov.