

# TECHNOLOGICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL CHARTER

## **1. The Committee's Official Designation**

The official designation of this federal advisory committee is the Technological Advisory Council (TAC).

## **2. Authority**

The TAC is hereby established at the direction of the Chairperson of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act as amended, 5 U.S.C. App 2.

## **3. Committee Objectives and Scope of Activities**

Technology is continually evolving, offering new opportunities to circumvent the challenges of radio spectrum scarcity and interference and to foster the growth of ubiquitous, high-speed, low-latency connectivity. This kind of technical innovation is fundamental to the economic prosperity and national security of the United States. In the age of ever-faster technical development, maintaining our leadership in high priority emerging technologies will require careful planning and execution. The FCC must stay atop of new developments to ensure that the nation can continue to turn scientific research into usable communications technologies swiftly and efficiently.

The purpose of the TAC is to provide technical advice to the Federal Communications Commission and to make recommendations on the issues and questions presented to it by the FCC. The TAC will focus on key issues affecting the development and deployment of emerging communications technologies to spur opportunities for innovation, competition, adoption, greater efficiencies, job creation, and other national priorities. The TAC will address questions referred to it through the TAC Designated Federal Officer by the FCC Chairperson, the Chief of the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology, or the FCC Chief Technology Officer. The questions referred to the TAC will be directed to technological and technical issues in the field of communications.

## **4. Description of the Duties for Which the Committee is Responsible**

The duty of the TAC is advisory only. In response to the questions referred to it, the TAC will gather data and information, perform analyses, and prepare reports and presentations that provide advice and recommendations to the Commission.

## **5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports**

Chairperson, Federal Communications Commission.

## **6. Support**

The Federal Communications Commission will provide the facilities and staff support necessary to conduct meetings in Washington, D.C. Members of the committee serving as representatives will serve without any government compensation, and will not be entitled to travel expenses, per diem or subsistence allowances.

## **7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years**

Annual operating costs associated with supporting the TAC's functions are estimated to be \$178,000 and one equivalent full-time regular government employee.

## **8. Designated Federal Officer**

A full-time or permanent part-time employee, appointed by the FCC Chairperson, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittee's meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the FCC Chairperson.

## **9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Committee Meetings**

The TAC will meet approximately three to five times per year, with the possibility of more frequent meetings by informal subcommittees. Meetings of the TAC shall be open to the public. Timely notice of each meeting shall be published in the *Federal Register* and shall be further publicized through other appropriate vehicles.

## **10. Duration**

The TAC shall convene for a two-year period from the date on which this charter is filed. The charter may be renewed for an additional two years prior to the charter termination date.

## **11. Termination**

The TAC will terminate two years from the date on which this charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed before that date for an additional term.

## **12. Membership and Designation**

Approximately 40-50 members of the TAC, including the TAC Chairperson, will be appointed by the Chairperson of the Commission. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs), as necessary. Members will be recognized for their superior qualifications and experience in the technology matters to be addressed by the TAC, including individuals who may hold technical leadership positions such as Chief Technical Officer. Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to address effectively the new technology issues that will be referred to the TAC.

Members should be prepared to attend three to five meetings per year and are responsible for all associated expenses. Members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connections to, persons or entities that are, or will, be regulated by or who have interests before the FCC.

## **13. Subcommittees**

The Chairpersons of any subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Commission. Recommendations of subcommittees must be reported to the Committee as

a whole, and only as modified or ratified by the Committee as a whole may such recommendations be reported to the Chairperson of the Commission.

**14. Recordkeeping**

Records of the proceedings will be kept as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the committee or its subcommittees shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records as appropriate shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

**15. Filing Date**

September 7, 2021