Recommendations to Increase Supplier Diversity in Digital Infrastructure Development

Submitted by the
Supplier Diversity Subgroup
of the
Diversity in the Tech Sector Working Group

FCC Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment

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(1) Information Communications Technology (ICT) sector businesses are encouraged to increase the transparency of their supplier diversity goals, objectives and achievements. We recommend that the new Communications Equity and Diversity Council compile and report such information to the FCC.

(2) The Commission use that data to host a series of workshops that raise awareness about federal programs that can benefit 5G and rural infrastructure deployments and related services.

(3) The Commission should issue a formal statement to companies under the agency’s jurisdiction through the Office of Communications Business Opportunities about the importance of supplier diversity in high-investment critical innovation opportunities, including 5G.

(4) The Commission should continue to leverage the ACDDE to gather, report, and share strategies for ensuring the diversity and inclusion of minority-and women-owned businesses in their emerging sectors.