


# Coalition Building for Broadband Expansion



**NLC** NATIONAL  
LEAGUE  
OF CITIES  
CITIES STRONG TOGETHER




# Expanding broadband infrastructure in your state

- Office of Broadband
  - State broadband leaders
  - Federal investment/commitments/analysis in broadband expansion:
    - Which state or local organizations were involved?
    - What have they already committed to?
    - Have they already identified barriers to broadband?
- 



# Likely friends and allies

- Pre-existing coalition: *State Broadband Office, Connect Office*
  - Library associations
  - Rural Development Corporation
  - State field office for USDA Rural Development Office
  - Higher education
  - Internet Service Providers
  - Council on Rural Development
  - Small Business Development Centers
  - Economic Development Corporation
  - U.S. Senate office
  - Coalitions of Governments, or COGS
  - Vermont Communications Union Districts
  - Maine Broadband Utility Districts
  - Electric Coops
  - CIRCLE
- 

# Contact information for panelists



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Panelists:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <a href="#">Angela Bennink</a> – General Manager, Kitsap Public Utility District</li><li>❖ <a href="#">Dan Cohen</a> – JD, Cohen Law Group in Pittsburgh, PA</li><li>❖ <a href="#">John Fogle</a> – Councilmember, Loveland, CO</li><li>❖ <a href="#">Michelle Frisque</a> – American Library Association</li><li>❖ <a href="#">Austin Thompson</a> – MBA, Strategic advisor and technology educator for Media Democracy Fund</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="mailto:angela@kpud.org">angela@kpud.org</a></li><li>• <a href="mailto:dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org">dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org</a></li><li>• <a href="mailto:John.Fogle@cityofloveland.org">John.Fogle@cityofloveland.org</a></li><li>• <a href="mailto:michelle@frisqueconsulting.com">michelle@frisqueconsulting.com</a></li><li>• <a href="mailto:austin@cdxdata.com">austin@cdxdata.com</a></li></ul>



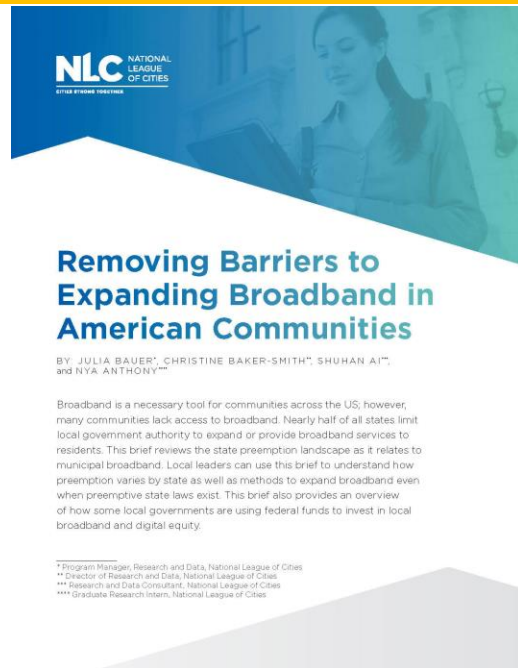
# Resources from the chat



- John Fogle, City of Loveland Colorado
  - <http://www.lovelandpulse.com>
  - [John.fogle@cityofloveland.org](mailto:John.fogle@cityofloveland.org)
  - <http://www.nococommunityfiber.com> - is a consortium of community broadband providers in Northern Colorado spawned by Pulse (Loveland, CO), Connexion (Ft Collins, CO), Trailblazer (Estes Park CO), Nextlight (Longmont, CO)
  - <https://www.centennialco.gov/Government/City-Projects-and-initiatives/Fiberworks>
- Angela Bennink, General Manager Kitsap PUD and Board Chair American Association for Public Broadband
  - Join American Association for Public Broadband to bring a strong voice nationally: [www.aapb.us](http://www.aapb.us)
  - [angela@kpud.org](mailto:angela@kpud.org)
- Michelle Frisque, ALA Broadband Consultant
  - [michelle@frisqueconsulting.com](mailto:michelle@frisqueconsulting.com)
  - <https://www.ala.org/>
  - <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/broadband/digital-equity-resources>
  - Website with State BEAD and Digital Equity Plans that are ready for review and public comment: <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/public-notice-posting-state-and-territory-bead-and-digital-equity-plansproposals>
- Austin Thompson, Digital Equity and Opportunity Initiative
  - [Austin@CDXData.Com](mailto:Austin@CDXData.Com)
  - Linked-In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/austin-thompson-mba-cspo-547b00b/>
  - Website: <https://www.digitalequityandopportunityinitiative.com/>
- Dan Cohen, Cohen Law Group
  - [dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org](mailto:dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org)
  - (412) 447-0130 x110



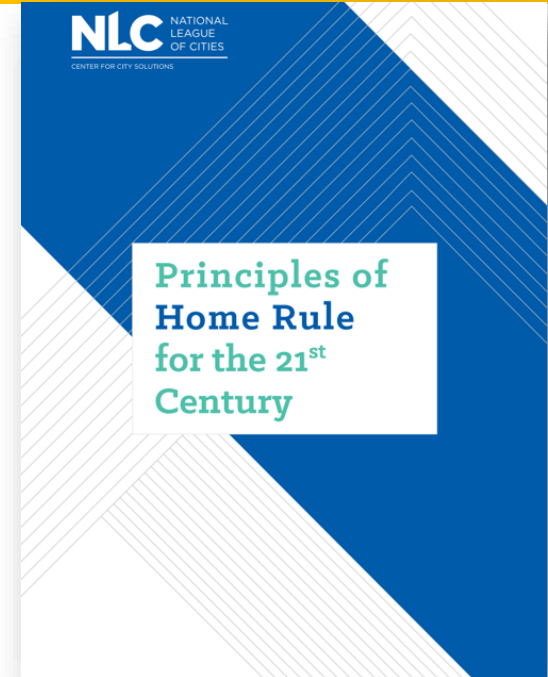
# NLC Resources



*Removing Barriers to Expanding Broadband in American Communities (2023, January)*



*Digital Equity Playbook- Five Factsheets*



*Principles of home rule for the 21<sup>st</sup> century (2019)*

# Upcoming NLC Resources: Local Authority Dashboard

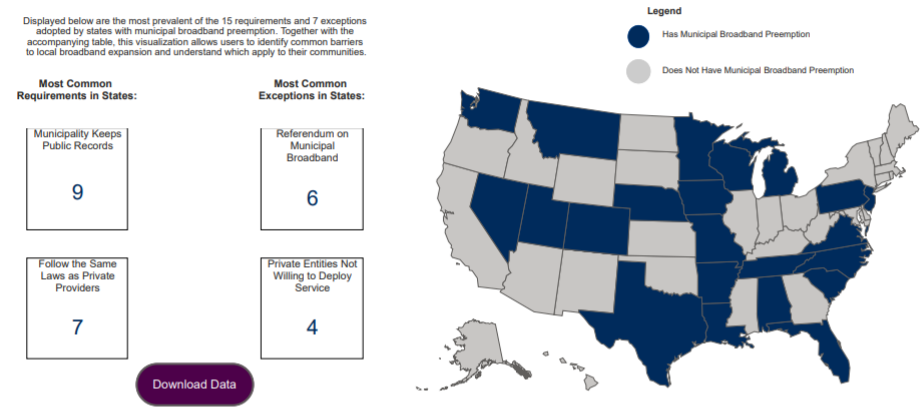
## Understanding Opportunities for Local Authority: Municipal Broadband

Preemption is the legal process wherein a higher level of government displaces the regulatory authority of a lower level of government.

This dashboard visualizes state preemption of local authority with respect to municipal broadband.

The map below depicts states that preempt local broadband authority, and hovering over each state reveals its respective count of preemptions. An additional table contains resources to understand each state's regulations, and allows users to filter their search by state, specific preemptive regulations, and the form of preemption for each regulation (i.e., requirement, exception, or permitting).

Source: Center for Public Health Law Research, Temple University Beasley School of Law, 2022



Displayed below are the most prevalent of the 15 requirements and 7 exceptions adopted by states with municipal broadband preemption. Together with the accompanying table, this visualization allows users to identify common barriers to local broadband expansion and understand which apply to their communities.

### Most Common Requirements in States:

Municipality Keeps Public Records  
9

Follow the Same Laws as Private Providers  
7

### Most Common Exceptions in States:

Referendum on Municipal Broadband  
6

Private Entities Not Willing to Deploy Service  
4

Download Data

State	Preemption Type	Form of Preemption	Resource 1	Resource 2
Alabama	Additional Services with Internet Provided	Requirement	<a href="#">Broadband Officer</a>	
Alabama	Municipality Keeps Public Records	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Alabama	Nondiscriminatory Access to Poles	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Alabama	Rates Reflect Cost of Providing Service	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	<a href="#">Providers Pricing Comparison</a>
Alabama	Service Areas Historically Underserved	Requirement	<a href="#">Technical Assistance Program</a>	
Alabama	Voter Referendum Approving Municipal Broadband	Requirement	<a href="#">State Law Guide</a>	
Arkansas	Municipality Keeps Public Records	Exception	<a href="#">Broadband Officer</a>	
Arkansas	Permits Not Specified	Permitting		
Arkansas	Rates Reflect Cost of Providing Service	Exception	<a href="#">Providers Pricing Comparison</a>	
Arkansas	Service to a Restricted Geographic Area	Exception	<a href="#">Service Boundary Mapping</a>	
Colorado	Permits Not Specified	Permitting		
Colorado	Private Entities Not Deploying Service	Exception	<a href="#">Internet Service Provider Map</a>	
Colorado	Service to a Restricted Geographic Area	Exception	<a href="#">Service Boundary Mapping</a>	
Colorado	Voter Referendum Approving Municipal Broadband	Exception	<a href="#">State Law Guide</a>	<a href="#">Referendum Guidance</a>
Florida	Account for Finances Separately	Requirement	<a href="#">Broadband Officer</a>	<a href="#">Toolkit</a>
Florida	Follow Private Provider Laws	Requirement	<a href="#">Administrative Register</a>	
Florida	Pay Taxes as Private Entity	Requirement	<a href="#">Local Planning Team Leaders</a>	
Iowa	Follow Private Provider Laws	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Iowa	Municipality Certified for Broadband	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Iowa	Municipality Keeps Public Records	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Iowa	Rates Reflect Cost of Providing Service	Requirement	<a href="#">Providers Pricing Comparison</a>	
Louisiana	Account for Finances Separately	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	<a href="#">Financing Options</a>
Louisiana	Conduct a Feasibility Study	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Louisiana	Follow Private Provider Laws	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Louisiana	Municipality Keeps Public Records	Requirement	<a href="#">Regulatory Requirements</a>	
Louisiana	No Subsidies for Service From Other Revenues	Requirement	<a href="#">Grant Application</a>	