

**2021 PROPOSED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Members

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Sen. Michael Padilla, Vice Chair
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Sen. Mark Moores
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto

Sen. Harold Pope
Rep. Angelica Rubio
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato
Sen. William P. Soules
Rep. Melanie A. Stansbury

Advisory Members

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo
Rep. Joy Garratt
Sen. Leo Jaramillo

Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Andrea Romero
Sen. Bill Tallman

Work Plan

The Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on May 3, 2021. As time permits, the committee proposes to address the following topics:

1. status reports, planning and progress regarding the state's efforts to increase broadband development statewide, including reports regarding:

A. the establishment of and planning for the newly created Office of Broadband Access and Expansion; and

B. the Connect New Mexico Council;

2. a status report from the Public School Capital Outlay Council on the development of a statewide education technology infrastructure network pursuant to Laws 2021, Chapter 49;

3. reports on telemedicine and what is needed, available and being pursued for patient-to-doctor appointments;

4. reports on distance learning and what is needed, available and being pursued for student-to-teacher instruction;

5. an examination of how to build a systemic, statewide approach to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, including approaches to recruit students into STEM courses and prepare them for STEM-related careers;

6. an examination of approaches to improve information technology (IT) project development, management culture and reporting processes within state agencies and the oversight and evaluation of those projects by legislative committees;
7. energy system modernization, with particular focus on the following topics:
 - A. the ability of New Mexico's current grid to meet the anticipated demand;
 - B. the ability of the current grid system to adapt to the emergence of renewable energy production sources;
 - C. the security of the state's energy development and distribution systems; and
 - D. approaches that the state might take to capture revenue streams from renewable energy sources, including examining approaches from other states;
8. economic development initiatives related to science, technology and telecommunications;
9. research and development programs at research institutions in New Mexico, including new and emerging technology and entrepreneurial programs at the state's universities;
10. the status of state IT projects, including Department of Information Technology project updates and Legislative Finance Committee quarterly reports on program management;
11. space industry development and opportunities;
12. updates on Sandia National Laboratories and Los Alamos National Laboratory;
13. modern technology and methods in farming and nutrient enhancement in food products;
14. updates on public safety programs, including E911 and mobile public radio systems;
15. telecommunications regulation in New Mexico;
16. an examination of the potential use of technology to improve traffic law enforcement;
17. issues concerning regulatory parity of broadband transmission services; and
18. options for existing broadband transmission using existing utility infrastructure.

**Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee
2021 Proposed Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 10	Video Conference
July 22-23	Los Alamos
August 24-26	Las Cruces
September 16-17	Roswell
October 26-27*	Los Lunas
November 15-16	Santa Fe

*Meetings outside the State Capitol after September 30 require New Mexico Legislative Council approval.