

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS Cable Television Division

News Release

GOVERNOR

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DCCA RECEIVES \$1.9 MILLION GRANT TO FUND BROADBAND MAPPING AND PLANNING ACTIVITIES IN HAWAI'I

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) has been awarded a \$1.9 million federal grant to develop an online database that can be used by consumers to identify the availability, speed, and location of broadband services throughout Hawai'i.

The State's broadband map will also be displayed in a national broadband map, a tool that will provide consumers with improved information on the broadband Internet services available to them.

The grant was issued by the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The grant includes approximately \$1.4 million for broadband data collection and mapping activities over a two-year period and \$500,000 for broadband planning activities over a five-year period in Hawai'i. DCCA has teamed with the University of Hawai'i Pacific Disaster Center, which is taking the lead on completing the mapping activity.

"The mapping effort will provide an important resource for consumers in Hawai'i, enabling them to identify and choose between the growing number of broadband services that are becoming available in the state," said DCCA Director Larry Reifurth. "We hope that the broadband map will encourage increased competition between broadband service providers by giving them additional information regarding communities within the state that would benefit from the availability of new broadband services." To learn more, contact the Cable Television Division at 586-2620 or email at <u>catv@dcca.hawaii.gov</u>.

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