



LEXINGTON

DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY FOR LEXINGTON

Troy Black, Administrative Specialist

Office of the Mayor

Budget, Finance & Economic Development Committee

June 24, 2025





- Congress passed the Digital Equity Act in 2021 as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This act, also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, included \$2.75 billion for programs aimed at closing the digital divide and ensuring all communities have the technology and skills needed to participate in the digital economy.
- Digital Equity is when individuals and communities have the information technology resources they need to participate fully in the economy and society. This includes access to information, education, job opportunities, healthcare, and civic engagement platforms.
- Kentucky's Digital Equity Plan was presented in early 2024, and the state was awarded federal funding to implement the plan. The plan was developed in collaboration with Kentuckians to address issues like internet affordability, digital literacy, and access to devices.





- City Officials held a series of internal meetings and discussions to determine the best course of action to support the Digital Equity Act of 2021 and the Kentucky Digital Equity Plan. It was determined that we need a local Digital Accessibility Plan that incorporates community voices, identifies services and gaps, informs policy, and guides access to resources.
- August 2024 Digital Accessibility for Lexington item referred to the Urban County Council's Budget, Finance & Economic Development (BFED) Committee. Councilmember James Brown, in coordination with Chief Development Officer Kevin Atkins' office, formed the Lexington Digital Accessibility Workgroup to develop a Digital Accessibility Roadmap for Lexington.



WORKGROUP Members



LEXINGTON

Troy Black – LFUCG (Office of the Mayor)

Liz Rodgers – LFUCG (CIO)

Amy Glasscock – LFUCG (Workforce Development)

Ciara Coleman – LFUCG (Office of the Mayor)

James Brown – Councilmember At-Large

Joseph Hale – Councilmember District 7

Kristi Stambaugh – LFUCG (Division of Aging)

Hilary Angelucci – LFUCG (Office of CAO)

Tatum Dale – Office of Congressman Andy Barr

Jason Keller – Spectrum Communications

Lafe Taylor – The Ignite Project

Cheryl Klever – Commerce Lexington

Heather Gate – Connected Nations

Jamie Rodgers – Accenture

Mason King – Jubilee Jobs

Nick Such – Awesome Inc

Bruce Smith – Digital Equity Collaborative

Dr. Ron Chi – Fayette County Public Schools

Erin Tipton – Bluegrass Community Technical College

Kevin Shoedinger - K. North

Stephanie Bell – Kinetic by Windstream

Latarika Young – Lexmark International, Inc.

Angela Roberts – Fayette County Public Schools

Sharon Murphy- LFUCG Legislative-Aide





Vision Statement

- A thriving Lexington where every resident, regardless of age, background, or location, has access to affordable broadband, reliable devices, and the skills to navigate the digital world. By leveraging technology and collaborative partnerships, we aim to unlock new economic opportunities, improve health outcomes, and enhance educational experiences.

Goals

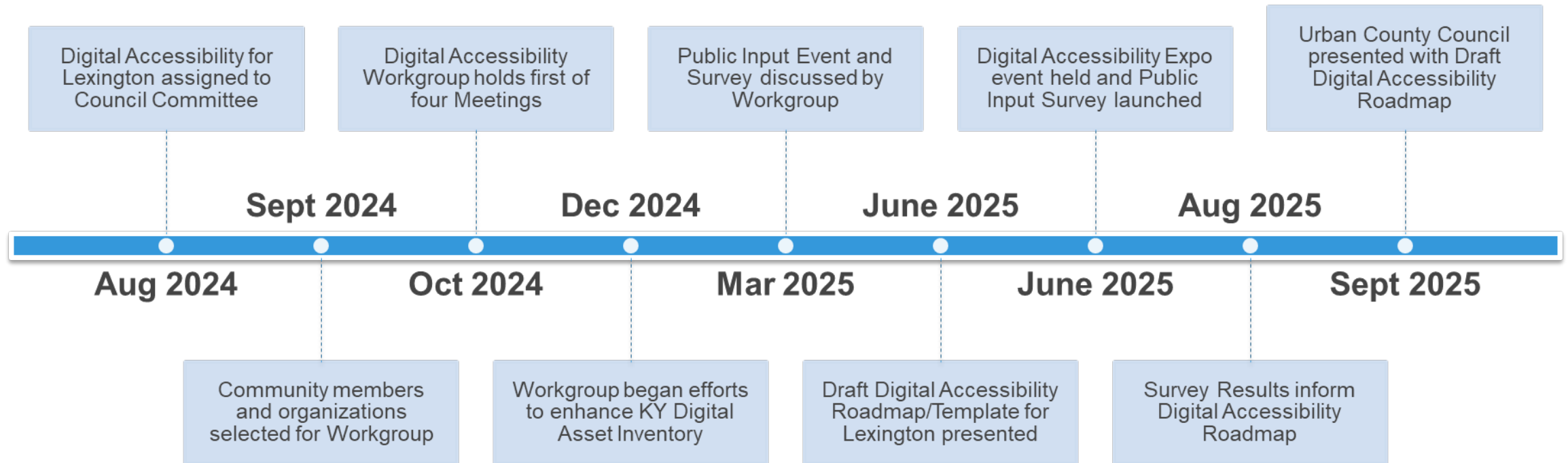
- Organize outreach efforts to identify current providers and available services
- Determine service gaps and match potential contributors to gap opportunities
- Gather community feedback to determine the efficacy of services and/or messaging
- Create and publish an online inventory of Digital Accessibility resources in Fayette County
- Cultivate collaboration among partners to broaden reach and improve access to available funding
- Develop a Digital Accessibility Plan (Roadmap) for Lexington



Timeline



LEXINGTON





Efforts

- The workgroup has convened meetings at four different partner locations across Lexington that offer digital accessibility resources.
- The workgroup has worked to promote the Kentucky Asset Inventory Survey within our networks, encouraging participation and contributing to a noticeable increase in the number of businesses listed as offering digital accessibility services in Lexington.
- These meetings generated valuable feedback from our partners, which has helped refine our vision statement and expand the reach of our digital accessibility initiatives by using their networks to help spread awareness.





Local Survey

- Gather community feedback to determine the efficacy of services and/or messaging
- Organize outreach efforts to identify current providers and available services
- Feedback we receive from the surveys at the event will help shape our digital accessibility roadmap.

Get Connected Lex – A Digital Accessibility Expo

- Opportunity for community members to gather and learn about Lexington-Fayette County's digital future and raise awareness about digital resources available in Lexington-Fayette County.
- Guest speakers will host sessions providing information on topics such as Internet Safety, Education and Workforce, AI, Resources, Devices, and Healthcare.
- Exhibitors will share information about their organizations and the services they offer to the community.
- Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lexington Senior Center, 195 Life Lane. Open to the public. Lunch provided.
- #GetConnectedLex





GET CONNECTED LEX

A Digital Accessibility Expo

Saturday, June 28

Lexington Senior Center

195 Life Lane

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Come out & join the community for a day of engagement, input and education, in order to help plan Lexington's digital future.

- ✓ Internet Safety & Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- ✓ Help with your computers & other devices
- ✓ Virtual Reality Demonstration & Workforce Development



LEXINGTON
Urban County Council



**Door Prizes &
Free Giveaways!**



**Lunch Provided
@ 12:00 p.m.**

Questions?



LEXINGTON

