



COMPLETING THE NM BROADBAND HIGHWAY

Presentation to the Science, Technology & Telecommunication Committee

New Mexico Tech – Socorro, NM

August 8, 2022

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Office of Broadband Access and Expansion

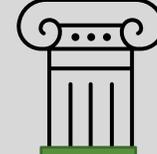
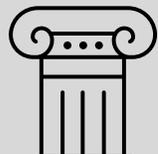
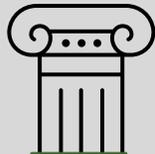
Agenda

- Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAAE) Approach and Plan
- Federal Funding and Timelines
- Building the Office Capacity
- Grant Pilot Program Notice of Funding
- Community Outreach
- Next Steps



OBAAE APPROACH AND PLAN

The Five OBAE Pillars



Foster Collaboration and Partnerships:

(e.g., SEN, PEN, RFN, Connect NM Council, Tribes and Pueblos, P3s, ISPs, Telcos, Coops, Counties, Border states, Nonprofits, Coalitions, Consortiums, Collectives, etc.)

Support a Robust Fiber State-wide Middle Mile

Plan the Foundation for Broadband (BB) Connectivity within 5-Year Period

Create and Adopt Innovative Approaches
(e.g., Spectrum, best practices, lessons learned, best in class tools)

Nurture Alternative Technologies (e.g., MM Wireless, HAPS, Satellite, Photoelectronics, Mesh Networks, etc.)

OBAE Framework

Primary Goals

- **Universal internet** access to all homes, businesses & community anchors
- **Universal mobile wireless** access
- *Free & secure **gigabit broadband** to all schools & libraries*
- Happy connected people

Guiding Approach

- **Engage & empower** communities & providers
- **Align public investment** with demonstrated need
- **Promote innovation &** technology diversity

Tools & Tactics

- **Last Mile** Access: Target resources through mapping & iterative pilot program
- **Middle Mile** Infrastructure: Align Local, State & Federal Investment
- **Digital Equity** Programming: Ensure that all barriers to true internet access and digital economy participation are eliminated

OBAE Duties

100% Connectivity

- NTIA Fund Applications (Middle Mile (MM), BEAD, TCP, Digital Equity)
- ARPA Fund Applications; USDA Fund Applications
- Coordination with neighboring states
- Grant making to providers or municipalities
- Technical Assistance on Planning, Applications & Deployment
- State coordinated MM Statewide Education Network Buildout Support

Digital Equity

- Broadband Adoption
- Digital Inclusion
- Devices
- Training and Help Desk
- Affordability

Community/Tribal Outreach

- County outreach; Tribal/Pueblo outreach
- Surveys
- Speed tests
- Information flow; BB Summits
- Technical assistance
- Needs and Requirements; Coordination with Indian Affairs Department

GIS Mapping

- Identifying served and unserved areas
- Knowledge of network locations
- ISP, Telco, Coop coordination
- FCC map coordination

New Mexico Broadband Grant Program Map

Published August 5, 2022.

Speed/Technology Grant Eligibility

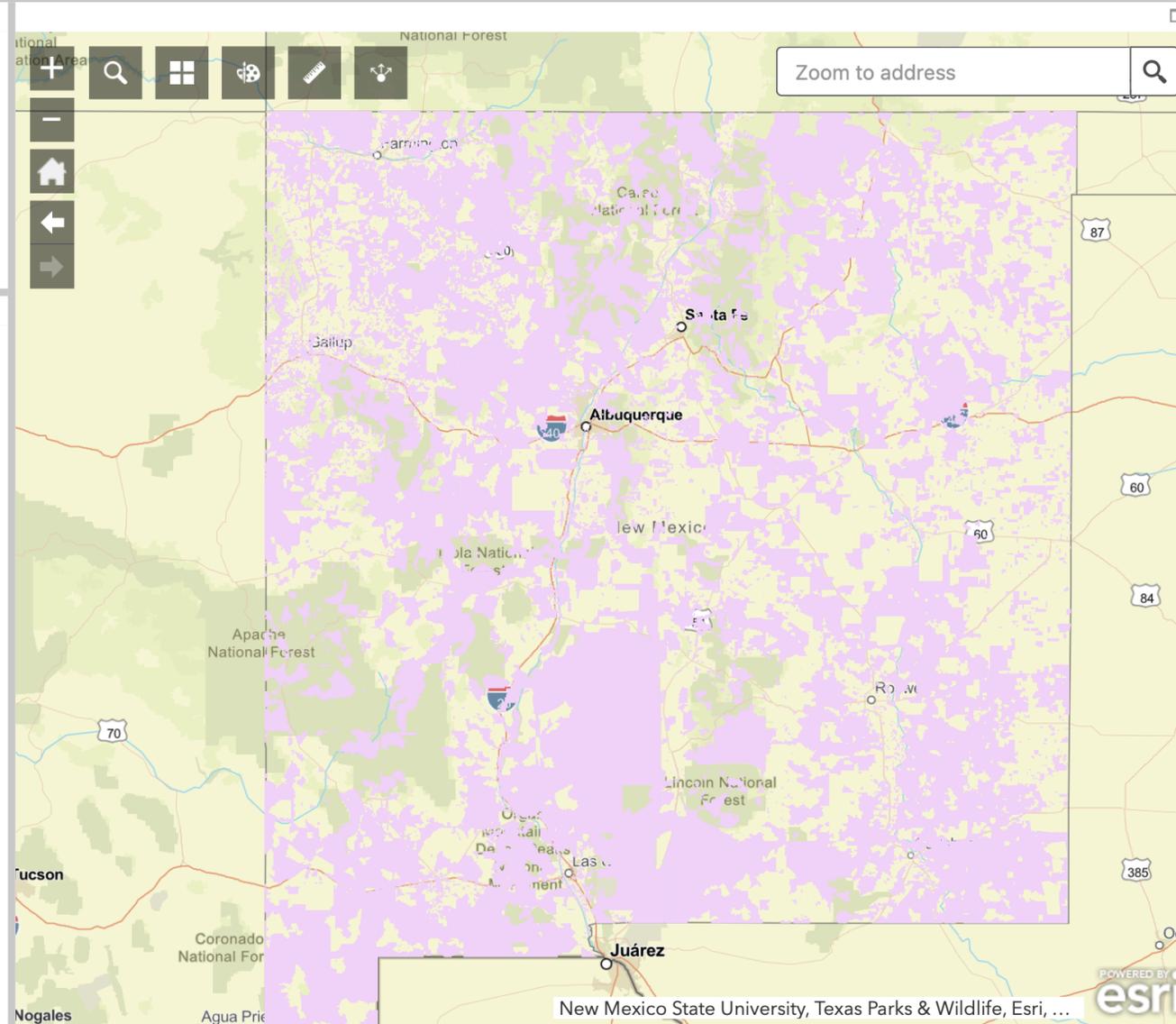
Layers

- Area Lacking 100 Mbps Download / 20 Mbps Upload (Wireline)
- Area Lacking 100 MBPS Download / 20 Mbps Upload (Wireline) No Prior Awards

General State Projects Federal

Layers

- Connect America Fund (CAF) I Awarded Area (2017)
- Connect America Fund (CAF) II Awarded Area (2018)
- Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Awarded Area (2020)
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY20 - 100% Loan
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY20 - 100% Grant
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY2022 - 50/50 Loan/Grant Under Review
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY2022 - 100% Grant Under Review
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY2022 - 100% Loan Under Review
- USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program FY2022 - 100% Grant Tribal/SV Community Under Review
- FCC 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Applications



Speed Test About Funding



New Mexico Broadband Program
Office of Broadband Access and Expansion
Department of Information Technology



Legend Print

Area Lacking 100 MBPS Download / 20 Mbps Upload (Wireline) No Prior Awards

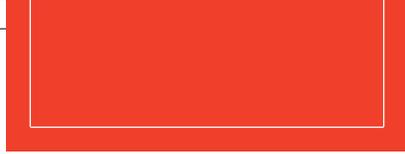


County Boundary



Tribal Land





FEDERAL FUNDING AND TIMELINES

100% Connectivity: >\$1B Funding Enables BB Buildout

NTIA Digital Equity Funds

- ✓ Submitted plan July 12. Releases \$740K Planning Funds
- ✓ Engaged SME contractors for community + tribal outreach and Digital Equity (DE) Planning
 - Outreach and detailed planning September 2022 - September 2023
 - Submit detailed plan October 2023. Releases DE implementation funds
 - Implement DE Plan October 2023 - 2025

\$30M+*

NTIA BEAD Funds

- ✓ Submitted GOV Letter of Intent (LOI) July 18.
 - On track for August 15 plan submittal date. Releases \$5M planning funds
 - Submit detailed plan May 2023. Releases broadband infrastructure funds
 - Award grants when funding released
 - Implement Last Mile 2024+

\$700M+*

NTIA MM Funds

- Architecting State-Coordinated Statewide MM Plan. ISP or ISP coalitions may submit independently.
- On track for September 30 submittal. Releases middle mile infrastructure funds.
- Award Grants when funding released
- Implement Middle Mile 2023+

\$50M -100M*

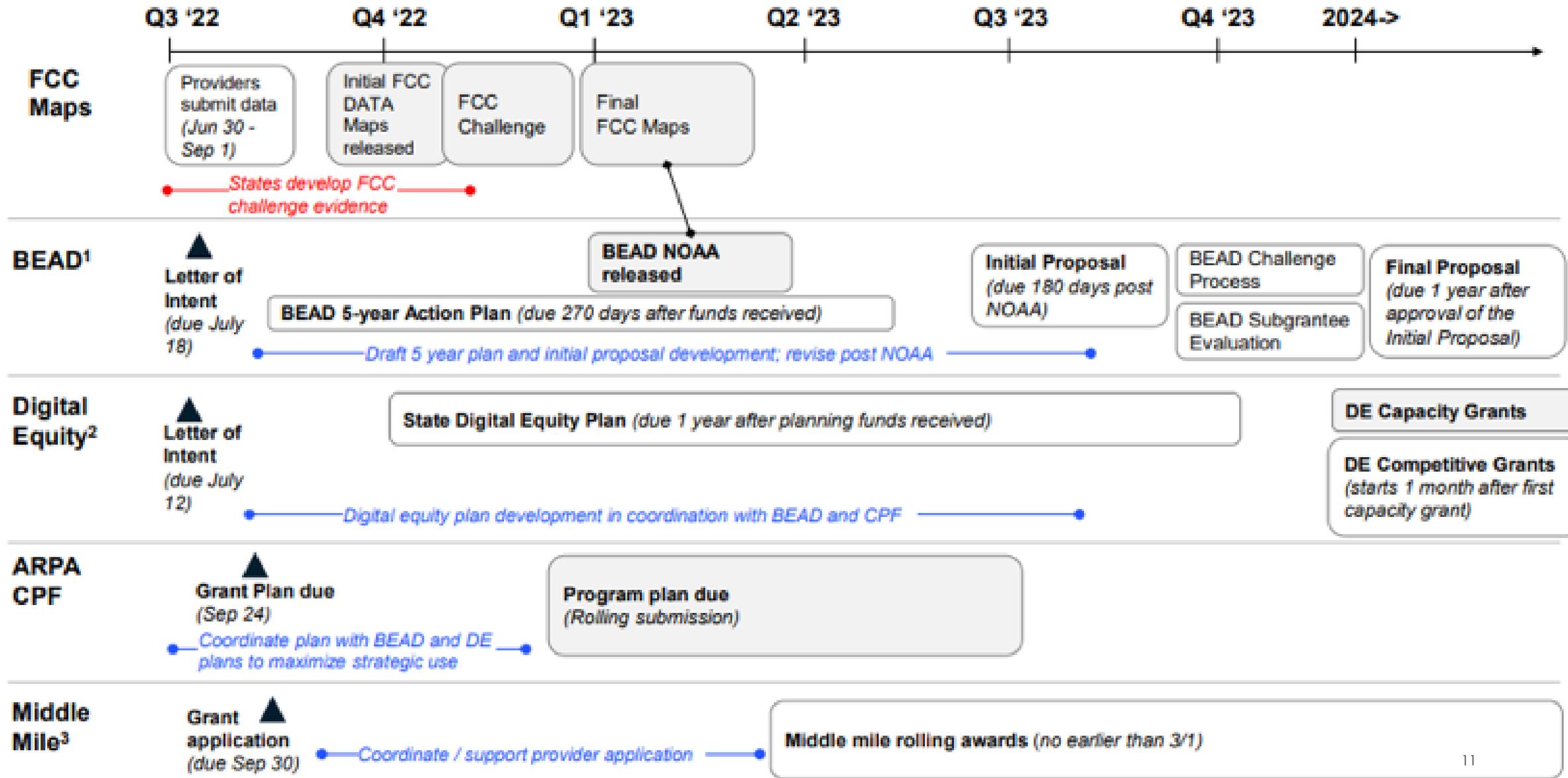
*estimates

100% Connectivity: >\$1B Funding Enables BB Buildout

Connect NM Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Council members appointed, Interim Chair Selected and Established Seven Working Groups✓ Allocated \$70M by Legislature for MM and Last Mile deployment✓ Rule Making in process✓ Award Grants 2023+	\$70M
ARPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Developed Pilot Grant Program, application and scoring criteria✓ On track for <u>Week of August 8</u> Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)✓ Award Round 1 of grants starting Fall 2022✓ Implement Middle Mile/Last Mile 2022+	\$123M
Tribal Connect Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Awaiting announcement of Round 1 <u>August 11</u>✓ Round 2 due - TBD✓ Implementation 2022+	\$200M*
USDA Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Six NM Awardees announced for loans and grants✓ Implementation 2022+	\$57M

* estimate

FEDERAL FUNDING TIMELINES

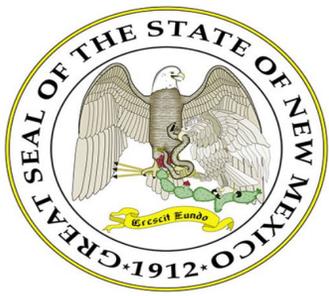




BUILDING OBAE CAPACITY

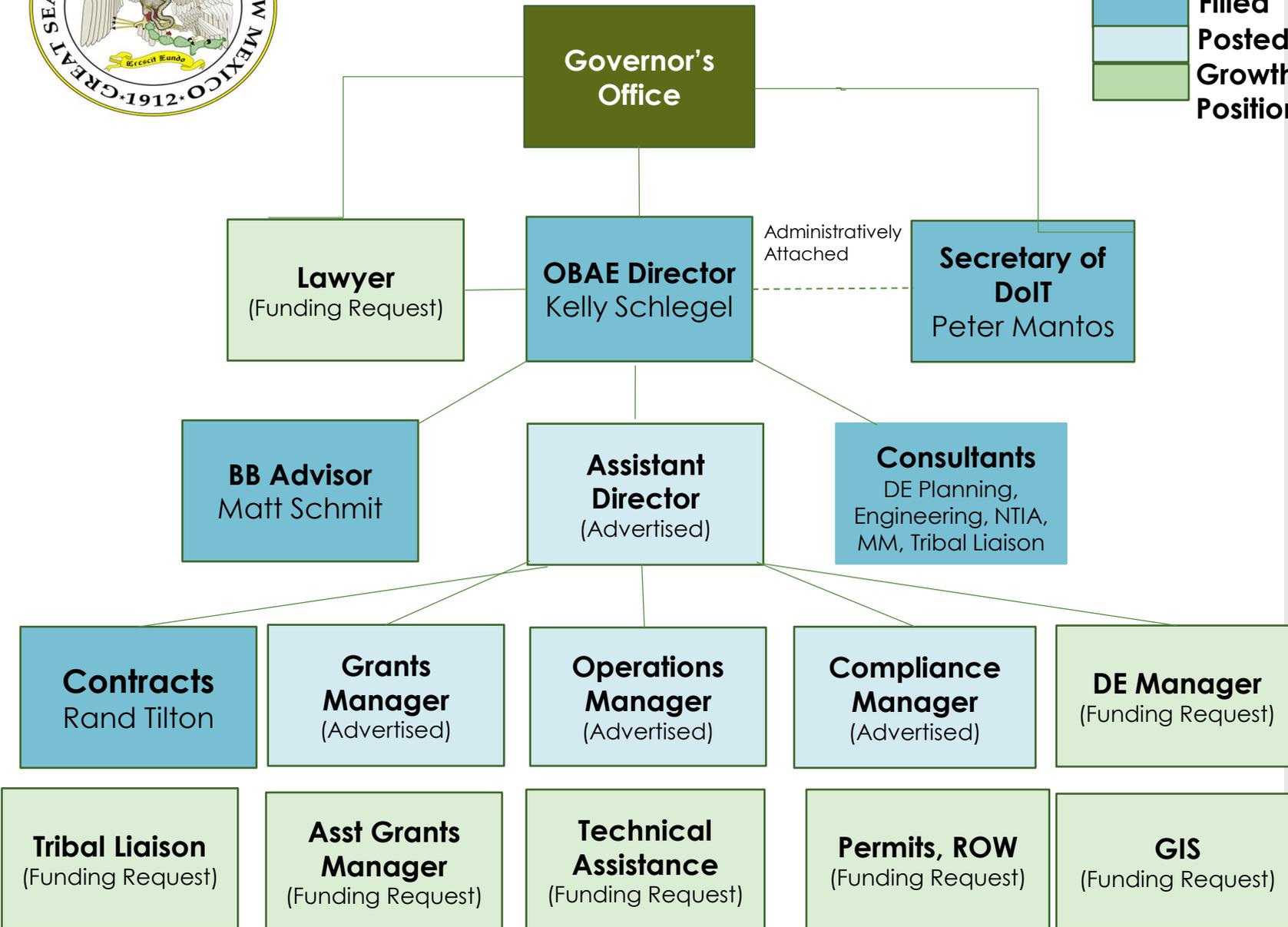
Recent Progress on OBAE Staffing

- Director of OBAE started July 11 & moved to New Mexico July 14
- Contracted engineering firm for expertise
- Posted Four Positions:
 - Assistant Director, Grants Manager, Compliance Manager, Operations Manager
 - Consistent with current Operating Budget of \$680K
- Contracted with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs):
 - Digital Equity, Community Outreach, Tribal Liaison, NTIA, and Middle Mile, Project Management firm
- Identified OBAE growth positions and cost



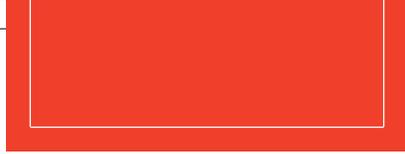
OBAE Organizational Chart

Filled
 Posted
 Growth Position



OBAE Staff-Up Ensures Broadband Execution Success

- Review, score and award grants for MM and Last Mile
- Technical assistance on grants
- Form key collaborations
- Community and tribal engagement
- DE Planning and Implementation
- Technical assistance on deployment
- Collaborate on School Education Network Deployment
- Coordinate Statewide Middle Mile Initiative
- Collaborate with Connect New Mexico Council



ARPA NOFO

Notice of Funding Opportunity

- Announcement of Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and press release week of August 8 for ARPA Capital Projects Fund (\$123M)
 - Fund “ready” Middle Mile and Last Mile projects
- Application, Handbook and Method of Submittal
- Three Types of Projects:
 - Fiber to the Premise (FFTP),
 - Fixed Wireless (where FFTP is not feasible)
 - Alternative Technologies (where Fixed Wireless is not feasible)
- Technical Assistance will be available
- Grant reviewers being identified and trained
- Round 1: August – November; *October awards for “shovel ready projects”
- Round 2: February 2023 launch (anticipated)

*Subject to Appropriation

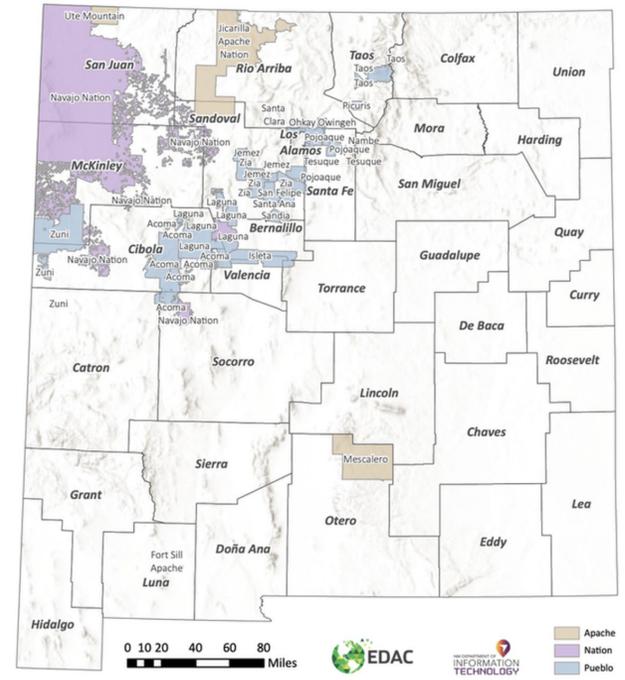


COMMUNITY/TRIBAL OUTREACH

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, BUILD THE PLAN, BUILD
DATABASE/MAPS

Benchmark Data by County

The Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE) has commissioned the development of County "Benchmark Data" from nationally recognized "authoritative" sources. These data are to be presented publicly using an online interactive infographic application. These data can be downloaded and used by communities in preparation of funding proposals or to present to stakeholders the need for improved broadband.



Doña Ana Broadband

- Information
- Surveys
- Outreach
- Press
- Materials
- Data
- Dashboard
- Reports



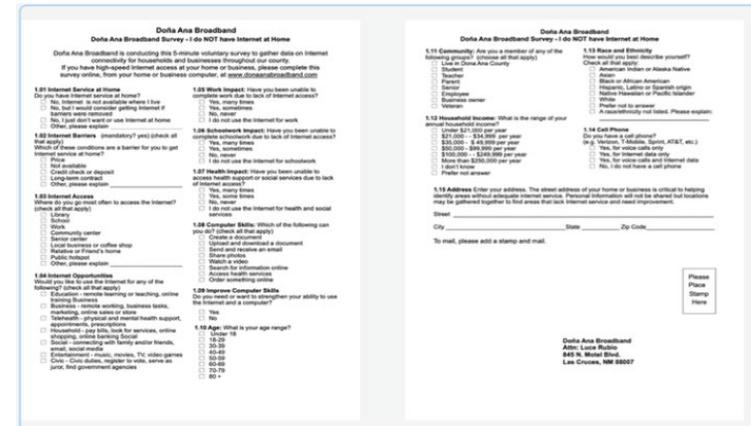
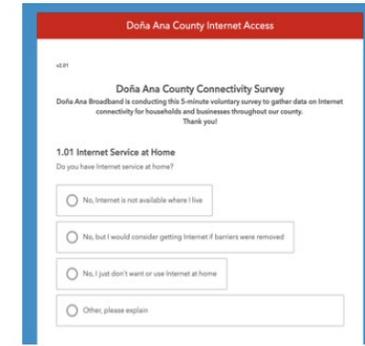
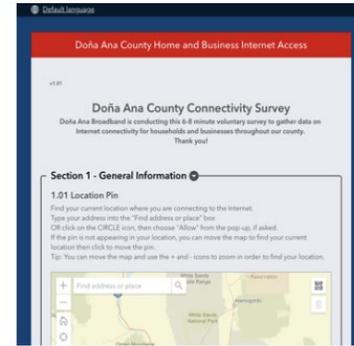
Local Coalition Highlights

Engaged a wide range of organizations and agencies; Met consistently over a period of time; Identified champions; Established systems for communicating and sharing information; Leveraged skills and assets of stakeholders; Provided clear opportunities for stakeholders to participate; and Deployed a community survey and speed test

Website: <https://www.DonaAnaBroadband.com>

Broadband Survey Pilot

- Two Versions: I HAVE Internet I Do NOT Have Internet
- In English and Spanish
- Online and Offline via: Web QR Code Download, Print, and Mail Tablet Version (offline)



Next Steps

- **CY-3Q22**

- **Submit BEAD application - August 15**
- **Build staff and office capacity**
- **Award first pilot program grants (ARPA Capital Projects Fund)**
- **RFI for additional stakeholder feedback ahead of NTIA MM submission**
- **Submit NTIA MM application - September 30**
- **Tribal Summit and “Digital Inclusion Week” event – October 3-7**
- **Complete rulemaking for Connect NM Broadband Grant Program**
- **Complete written Statewide Broadband Strategic Plan**

- **CY-4Q22**

- **Phase 1 of 4 detailed DE planning**
- **Plan community and tribal surveys**
- **Phase 1 of detailed BEAD Planning**
- **Onboard new OBAE staff**
- **Support SEN buildout**



BACKUP

Broadband 101

Middle Mile

- Can be wired or wireless
 - Wired: Fiber-Optics the Best and most expensive (~\$24-\$40/ft buried, varies on soil conditions, use of power poles)
 - Wireless: Microwave, etc., Cheaper but less capacity and suffers in extreme weather
- Opportunity for emerging technologies

Last Mile

- Anchor Institutions Include: Tribal Programs, health, libraries, education, public safety
- Connecting homes
- Direct fiber connections, ideally for high bandwidth needs
- Can be wired (Fiber-to-the-Home) or Wireless
 - FTTH is the best but very expensive
 - Wireless can use licensed or unlicensed spectrum
- Note on spectrum: Tribes do not control their airwaves



Broadband Funding Award Highlights

USDA Reconnect Program - Rural Development (July 2022)

- Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.(Cibola and McKinley Counties) \$3,681,000
- Eastern New Mexico Rural Telephone Cooperative (Chaves, Colfax, DeBaca, Guadalupe, Harding, Lincoln, San Miguel, Torrance, and Union Counties) \$14,749,747
- Peñasco Valley Telecom (Chaves Eddy, Lincoln, and Otero Counties) \$28,927,570
- Tularosa Basin Telephone Company Inc. (Lincoln and Otero Counties) \$5,825,102
- Valley Telephone Cooperative (Hidalgo and Luna County) \$44,924,000

Broadband Equity Fund Grants - NM Broadband Collective (June 2022)

- Colores United (Luna County) \$75,000
- Picuris Pueblo (Taos County) \$59,904
- True Kids 1 (Taos County) \$33,000
- Pueblo of Cochiti (Sandoval) \$40,500
- Pueblo of Laguna Utility Authority (Cibola County) \$71,596
- Yee Ha'oolniidoo (San Juan and McKinley Counties) \$75,000

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program - NTIA & Department of Commerce (Fall 2021)

- Taos Pueblo Planning, Feasibility, and Sustainability Studies (Taos County) \$477,817

BEAD Planning: Overview of **PROPOSED** Methodology

Workstream 1
Strategy & Planning

Workstream 2
Outreach & Engagement

Workstream 3
Data Collection & Analysis

Workstream 4
Develop & Execute Funding Program

5-Year Action Plan:
summer 2023

- Develop vision, mission, & values
- Develop goals & metrics
- Design or document broadband office operating model

- Identify stakeholders
- Develop & execute outreach
- Establish broadband office operating model

- Create Cost Optimization
- Develop planned Funding Utilization Model
- Conduct impact analysis
- Conduct Asset Inventory
- Document current grant & deployment programs
- Identify funding
- Review mapping data

- Develop grant strategy based on Funding Utilization Model
- Develop workforce strategy
- Publish 5-Year Action Plan

Initial Proposal:
late 2023

- Prioritize projects, technologies, geographies, & subrecipient eligibility
- Draft Integrated Master Schedule

- Continue outreach & engagement

- Review FCC maps
- Challenge FCC maps
- Update Cost Optimization Model
- Update Funding Utilization Model

- Refine grant strategy based on Funding Utilization Model
- Publish Initial Proposal
- Solicit public comment
- Submit Initial Proposal

Final Proposal:
2024

- Finalize projects, technologies, geographies, & subrecipients
- Finalize Integrated Master Schedule

- Continue outreach & engagement

- Incorporate public comment
- Run challenge process

- Execute grant program cycles
- Submit Final Proposal

NTIA FUNDING TIMELINES

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



Digital Equity Program

Administrative Entity: State of New Mexico

Planning Funds: \$740,534.91

Planning Window: Through Fall 2023

BEAD Program

Administrative Entity: State of New Mexico

Planning Funds: \$5,000,000

Planning Window: Through Summer 2023*

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified

