

University of Idaho
Extension

READYING IDAHO'S RURAL COMMUNITIES TO CAPTURE THE BENEFITS OF DIGITALIZATION



Idaho
Commission
for Libraries



DIGITAL
ECONOMY
PROGRAM

Shop the MODERN Way



TODAY IS BROADBAND



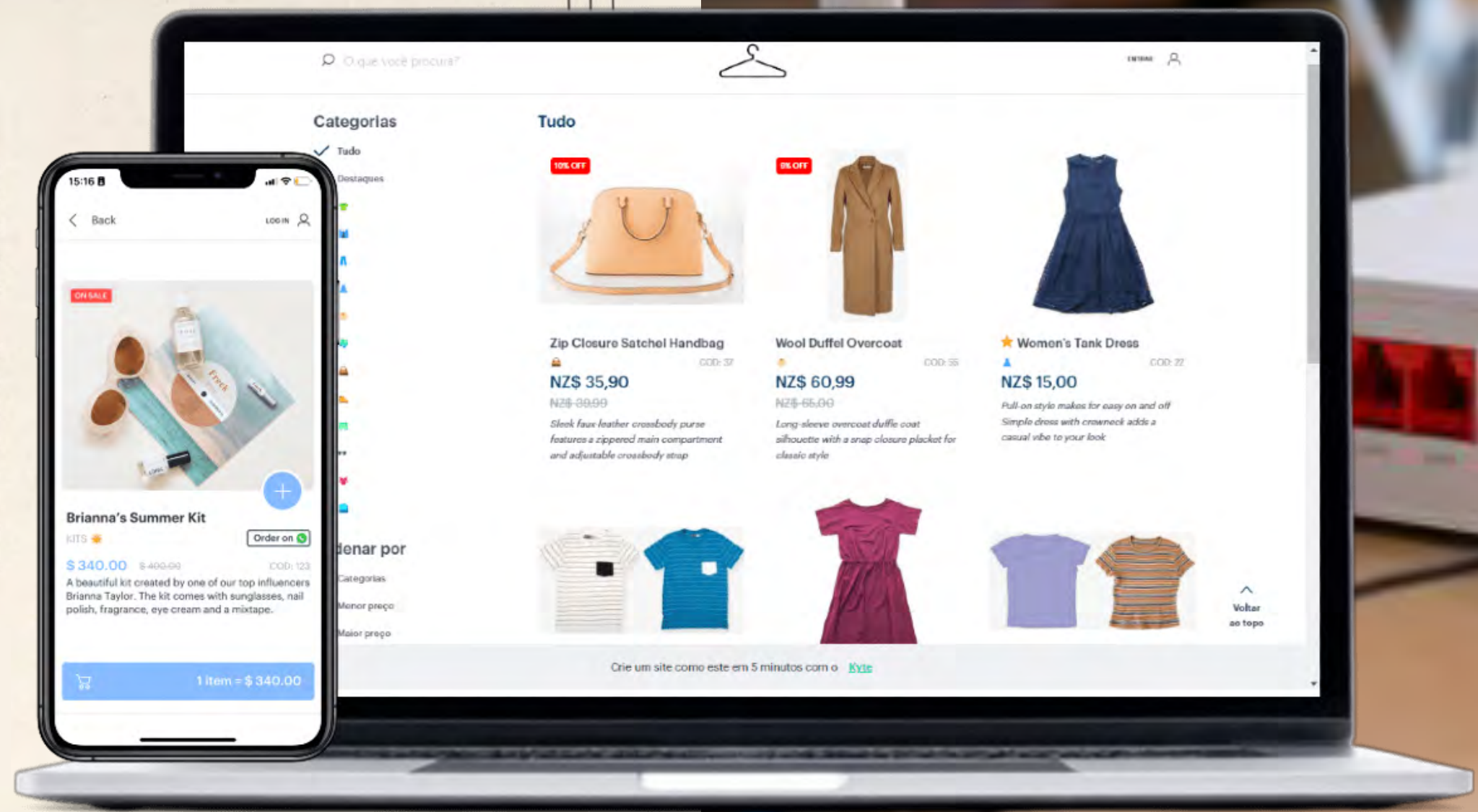
from your easy chair

That's the modern way to shop. In the ease and comfort of your home—alone, or with your family, you may select the merchandise you want from our catalog—"The Thrift Book of a Nation"—away from the fuss and confusion of crowded stores.

judge—to make your own comparisons and weigh your own values. You can take the whole family shopping with you—at the fireside or on the front porch.

Our new Fall and Winter Catalog of over 1100 pages, portraying 48,000 articles—every one at a real bargain price—is ready for those who would like to shop this new, modern way. We have reserved a copy for you. Just fill in and mail the coupon today.

Removed from the urgent influence of insistent salespeople, quietly and without interference, "The Thrift Book of a Nation" tells its story of quality, value and saving. You are the





RAMÓN HOBDEY-SÁNCHEZ

**STATE BROADBAND
PROGRAM MANAGER**





STEPHANIE BAILEY-WHITE

STATE LIBRARIAN



Idaho
Commission
for Libraries



**DIGITALIZATION EMPOWERS,
DIGITALIZATION DIVIDES**



BUILDING FROM COMMUNITY NEED NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Digital Access Workbook






Serves to help communities form action groups and develop plans. It focuses on resources and data for **broadband access, digital skills programming, and internet-enabled devices.**





Five **Elements** of Digital Inclusion:

- **affordable**, robust broadband internet service;
- internet-enabled **devices** that meet the needs of the user;
- access to digital skills **training**;
- quality technical **support**;
- accessible **apps** and online **content**

Category	A (1 Token)	B (2 Tokens)	C (3 Tokens)
Internet 	No access to Wi-Fi at home. Mobile plan with limited data. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mobile plan with limited data. Wi-Fi allows limited browsing, but you cannot stream high-quality videos at home. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Home broadband speeds allow unlimited browsing – mobile plan with unlimited data. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Devices 	Flip phone. No smartphones, tablets, or computers. No internet access on the flip phone and no camera. <input type="checkbox"/>	Adults have a smartphone. Schools provide a Chromebook to students for homework. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	There are smartphones, e-Readers, a smart TV, and laptops for everyone. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Digital Skills 	You have never sent an email. You don't use the internet to work or connect with others. <input type="checkbox"/>	You send and receive emails. You use the internet a little, but you don't know how to be safe online. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	You can use multiple email tools. You know how to interact safely online and use the internet frequently. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Technical Support 	No access – you pay to replace your device(s) when something goes wrong. <input type="checkbox"/>	You rely on friends, family, and internet searches for tech support. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	You have a full suite of tech support and insurance. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Digital Content 	You can borrow DVDs and books from the library, but the only digital content is eBooks. <input type="checkbox"/>	You have one online subscription to a steaming service. You have no other subscriptions. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	You have a full suite of subscriptions from streaming services to music to books. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL IDAHOANS (DAAI) PLAN

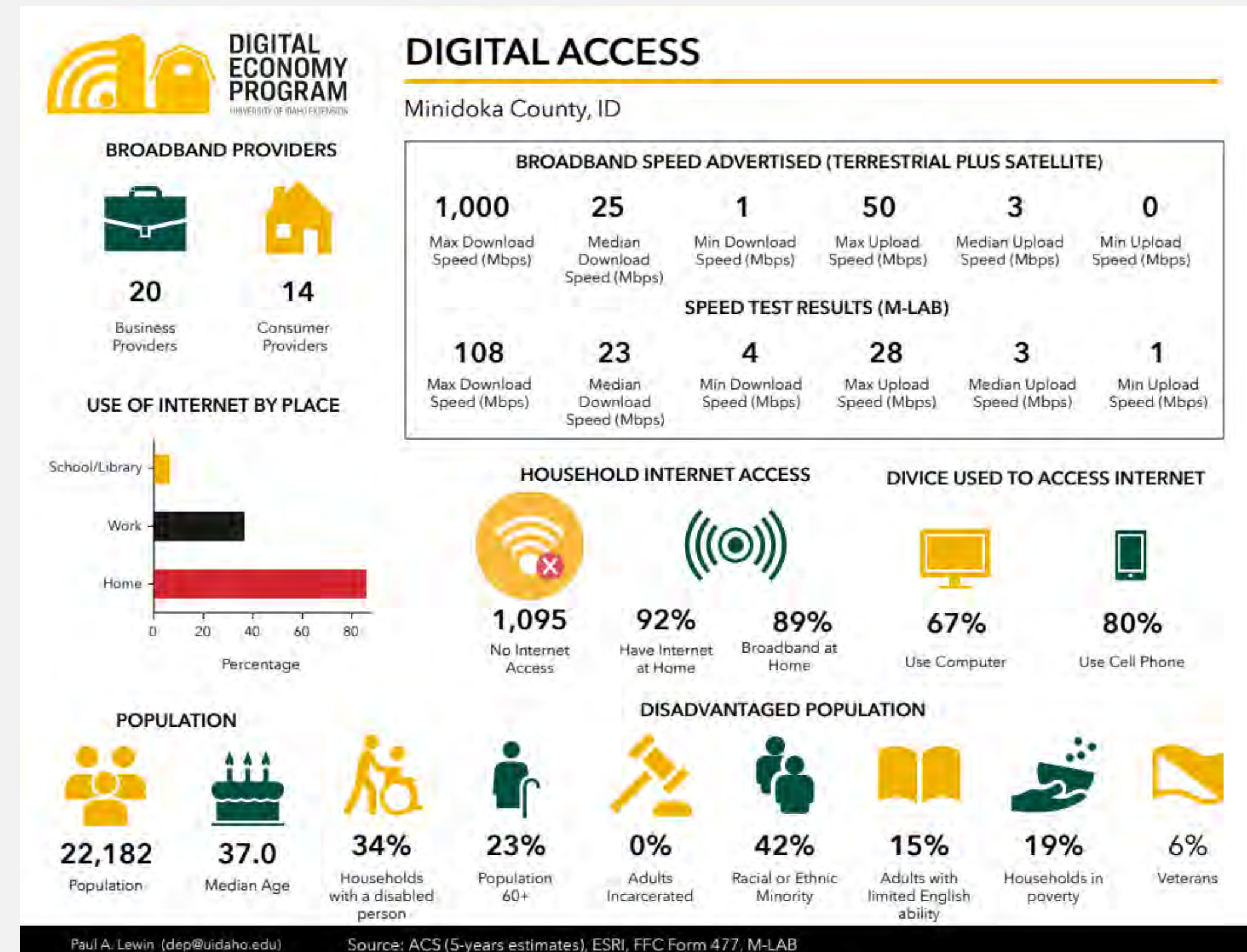
The covered populations the plan must address include:

low-income households, **aging** individuals, **incarcerated** and recently incarcerated individuals, **veterans**, individuals with **disabilities**, individuals with a **language barrier**, individuals who are members of a **racial or ethnic minority group**, those with **low literacy levels**, and individuals who primarily **reside in a rural area**.

DATA RESOURCE

AVAILABLE AT UIDAHO.EDU/DIGITAL-ECONOMY

- COUNTY REPORTS
- COMBINE BROADBAND & IDENTIFIED POPULATIONS DATA





FEDERAL & STATE BROADBAND UPDATES



INTERNET FOR ALL

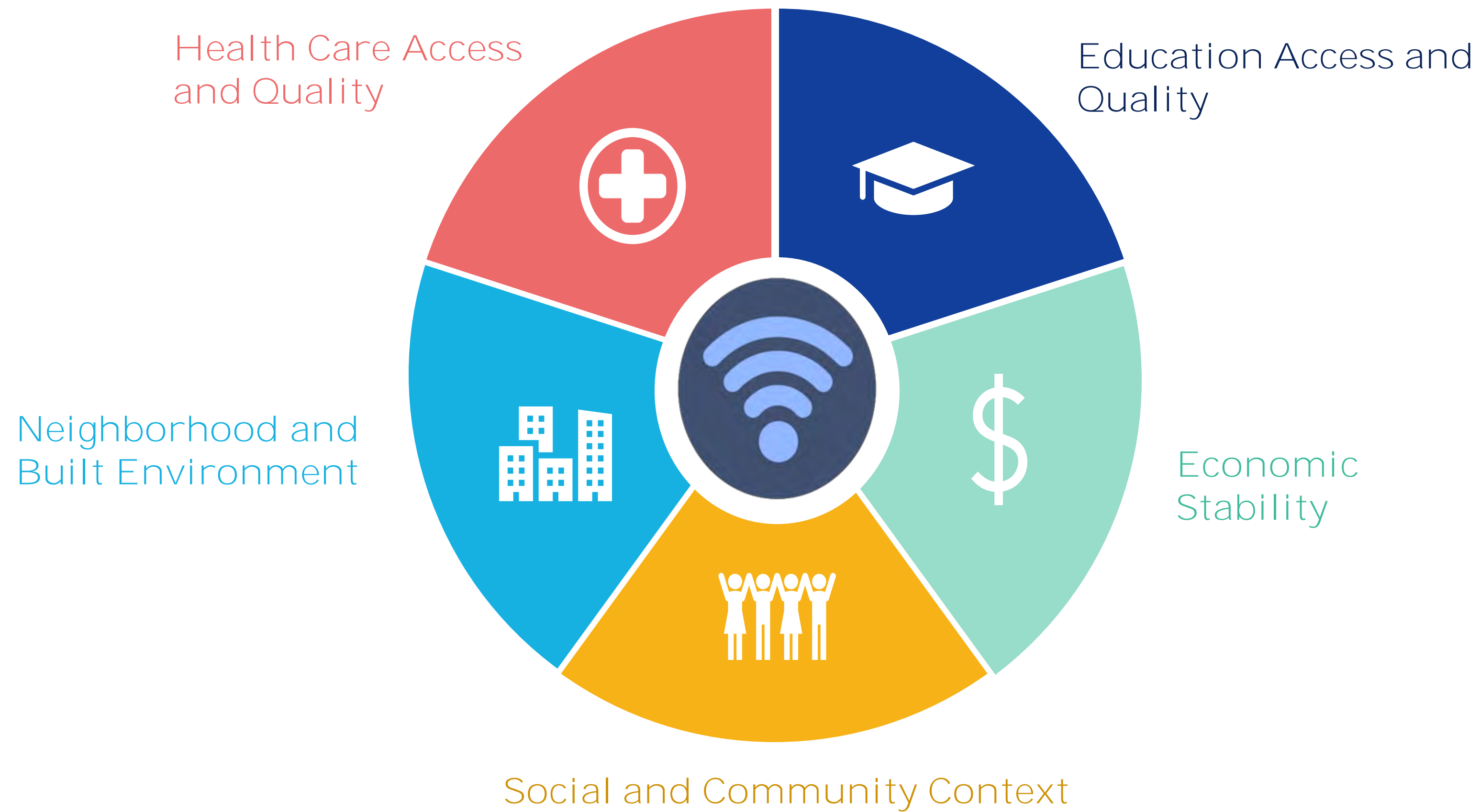
FUNDED BY THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S NATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION



3/21/2023

Digital equity and the social determinants of health



NTIA will administer ~\$48B through four programs that drive high-speed Internet access, affordability, and adoption

NTIA will administer ~\$48B of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

BEAD	DIGITAL EQUITY	TRIBAL	MIDDLE MILE
\$42.45B	\$2.75B	\$2.00B	\$1.00B
Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program	Digital Equity Act	Tribal Connectivity Technical Amendments	Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure
A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.	Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.	A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed Internet access and adoption on tribal lands.	A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.

FCC to administer \$14.2B

For Affordable Connectivity Program, which replaced the EBB program

USDA to administer \$2.0B

Via the Rural Utilities Service

Private Activity Bonds \$0.6B

Authorizes State and local governments to use private activity bonds for rural broadband

BEAD program will provide ~\$42.45B for infrastructure planning and implementation

Funding pool
\$42.45B

A program to get all Americans online by funding partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed Internet.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Entities eligible to apply for this program include:

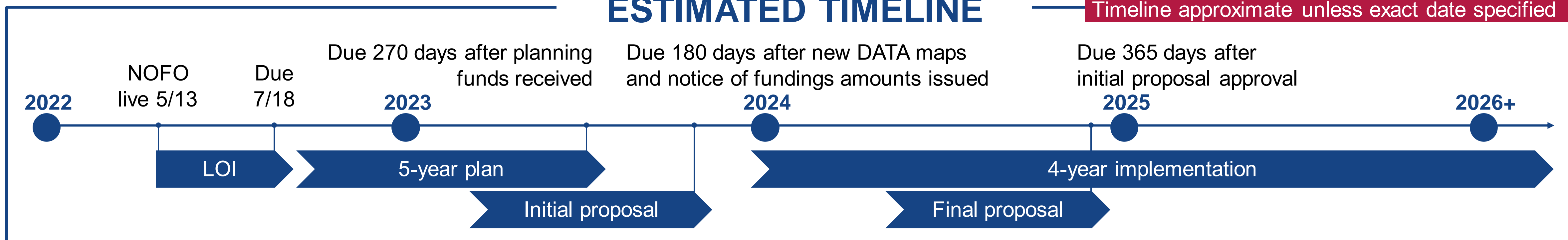
- All 50 States
- The District of Columbia and Puerto Rico
- Other Territories: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Example eligible uses of funds include:

- ☆ Planning for deployment of Internet
- ☆ Deploying or upgrading Internet
- ☆ Installing Internet in multi-tenant buildings
- ☆ Implementing adoption and digital equity programs
- ☆ Workforce and job training

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



Digital Equity Act created three programs to promote digital equity and inclusion

Funding pool
\$2.75B

Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed Internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

The Digital Equity Act created three programs:

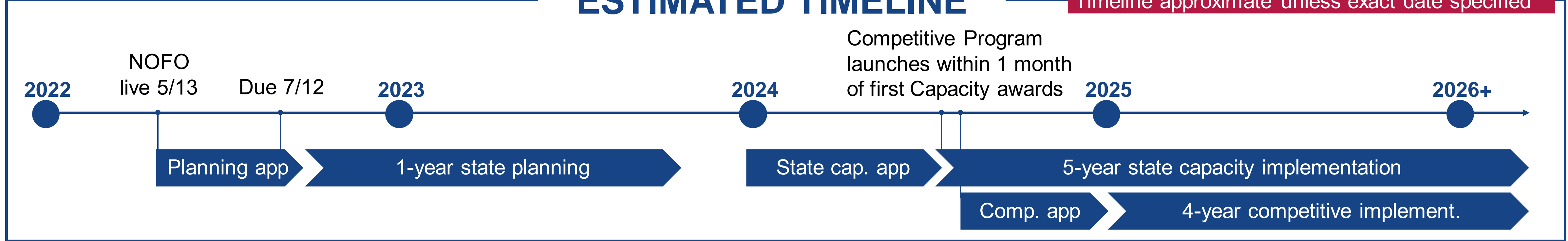
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>State Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans | <p>State Capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion | <p>Competitive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities |
|--|---|--|

Example eligible uses of funds include:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Developing digital equity plans; states must develop a plan to be eligible for state capacity grants ★ Implementing digital equity plans and related activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Making awards to other entities to help make digital equity plans ★ Providing digital literacy and digital skills education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Improving accessibility and inclusivity of public resources ★ Facilitating the adoption of high-speed Internet |
|--|--|---|

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



Technical amendments and new funding will strengthen current Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

Funding pool
\$2.00B

A program to help tribal communities expand high-speed Internet access and adoption on tribal lands.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

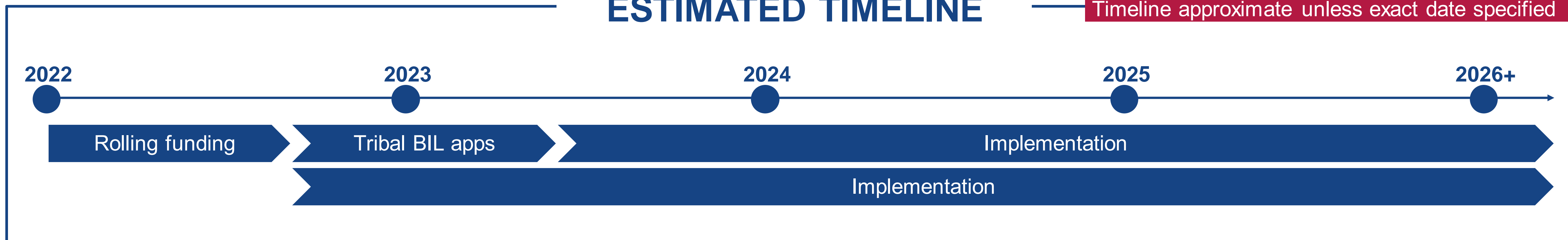
New funding will be used for additional new grants and to fully fund grants from first round of awards

Amendments to original program:

- Relaxes time requirements of original program
- Allows infrastructure grantees to spend up to 2.5% of the total project cost for related planning, feasibility and sustainability studies
- Preserves unused allocated funds for other Tribal broadband projects instead of reverting to the Treasury

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



Middle Mile Grant Program will invest in the construction, improvement or acquisition of middle mile infrastructure

Funding pool
\$1.00B

A program to expand middle mile infrastructure, to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

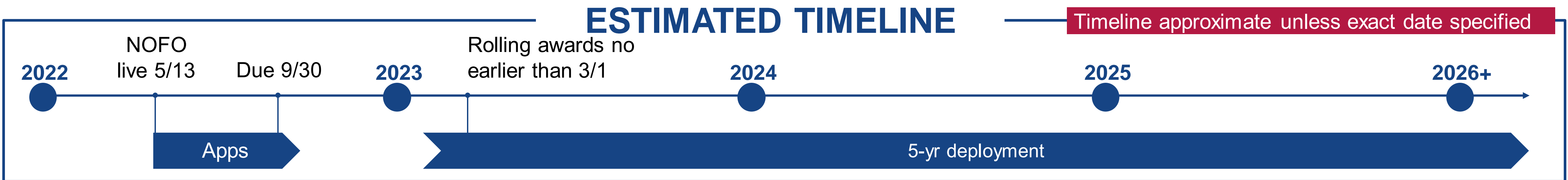
Middle mile infrastructure refers to the mid-section of Internet infrastructure that carries large amounts of data at high speeds over long distances and connects the "backbone" of Internet infrastructure to the "last mile", which connects to end users

Entities eligible to apply include a wide variety of entities, incl. but not limited to government entities, utilities, companies, and non-profits that provide Internet services

Example uses of funds:

- ☆ Construction, improvement or acquisition of facilities and equipment
- ☆ Engineering design, permitting and work related to projects
- ☆ Personnel costs, including salaries and benefits
- ☆ Other costs necessary to program's activities

ESTIMATED TIMELINE



Contact Information

Eric Forsch

Federal Program Officer – Idaho and Oregon

National Telecommunications and Information
Administration
Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth

M: 202-993-5148

E: eforsch@ntia.gov

Additional resources about the programs

- 1 Visit the InternetForAll.gov for additional information on federal funding programs
- 2 Engage with your State or territory regarding their plans to improve high-speed Internet access
- 3 Submit questions to InternetForAll@ntia.gov.
- 4 Attend future NTIA webinars, including program-specific application guidance webinars for applicants



Readying Rural Communities for Benefits of Digitalization

University of Idaho

Ramón S. Hobdey-Sánchez
State **Broadband Program Manager**
Idaho Department of Commerce

June 28, 2023
Moscow, Idaho



IDAHO BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD

Vision: Idahoans have access to affordable and reliable broadband infrastructure by 2027.

Mission: We will deliver a roadmap to close the digital divide in Idaho. We commit to providing equal access to economic development, public safety, telehealth, and education opportunities with investments in broadband infrastructure. We will prioritize funding for our most needed areas identified as households, businesses, and communities in unserved and underserved areas.



IDAHO OFFICE OF BROADBAND



OUTREACH



TRANSPARENCY



PARTNERSHIPS



TEAMWORK



COMMUNICATION

LINK UP IDAHO

Please visit: LinkUp.idaho.gov

STAY
Informed
Engaged &
Educated

Mapping
Grants
Speed Tests
Surveys
Resources

CURRENT & FUTURE FUNDING

IBF: ID Broadband Fund

**CPF: Capital Projects Fund
(ARPA)**

**BEAD: Broadband Equity, Access
and Deployment (IIJA)**



CURRENT & FUTURE BROADBAND FUNDS

Idaho Broadband Fund

\$8.7 million

(obligated \$26.3M January 25, 2023)

ARPA

(Capital Projects Fund)

\$120 million*

*FY23 Supplemental for \$124.1M.

IJA

(Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program)

\$150 million*

*The FY24 Commerce budget included \$100M, plus a \$50M roll over from FY23.



More Flexibility

Less Flexibility

IDAHO BROADBAND FUND \$8.5M

IRON/IIG Project (\$20M)

198-mile public/private partnership project from Grangeville to Star

Port of Lewiston Project (\$6.3M)

Connects with the IRON/IIG project from Moscow to Grangeville (100 miles)

North-south middle-mile backbone designed to connect and support rural Idaho.

**EDUCATION
HEALTHCARE**



IDAHO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Program Highlights:

- \$120M for last-mile and hybrid broadband projects
- Underserved and unserved locations
- *Focus on improving tele-work, education and health*

31

May 22nd: Grant Application Period Opened

July 3rd: Grant Application Period **Closes**

December 31, 2026: Project must be Completed

Idaho CPF Grant Awards Estimated Fall 2023



Idaho BEAD Program

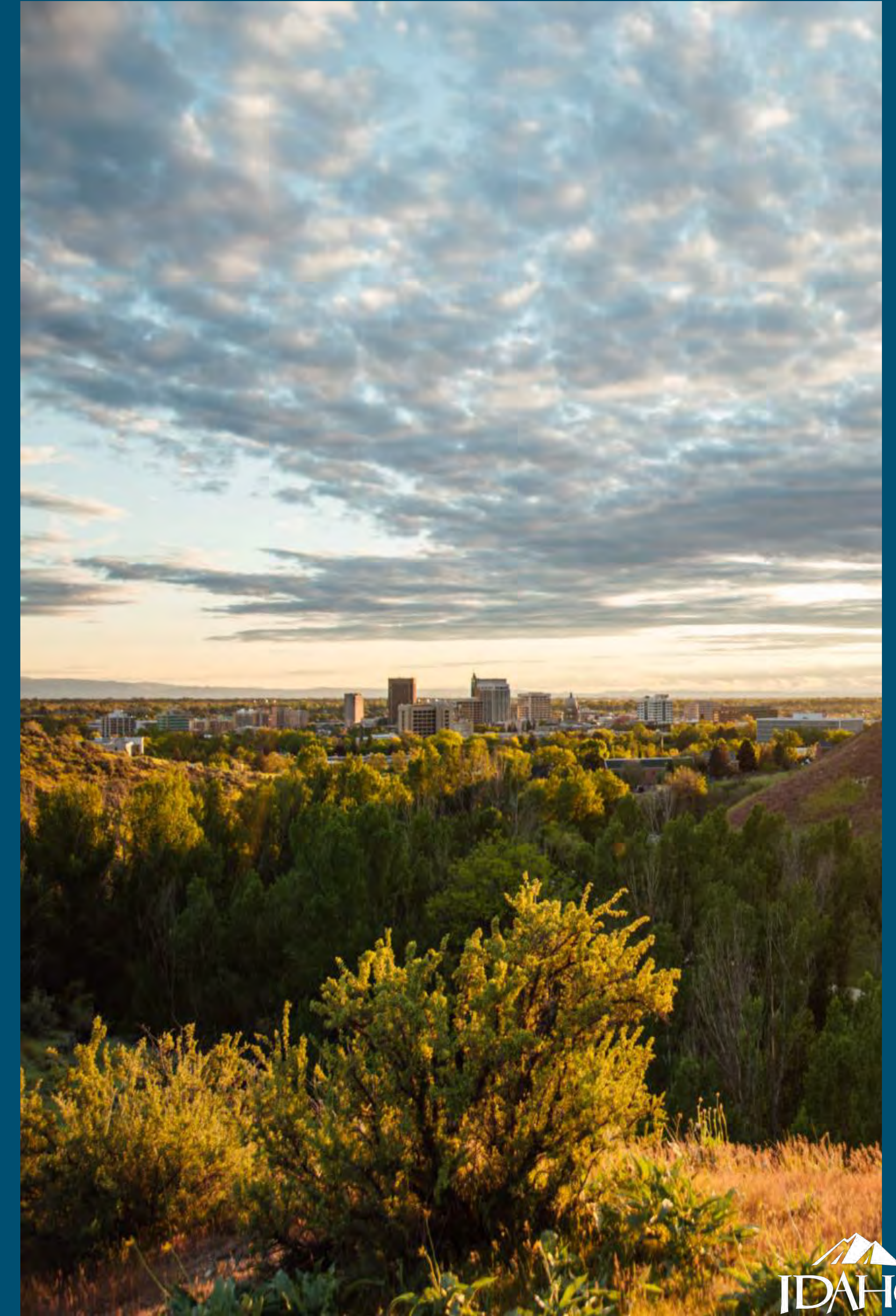
Program Highlights:

- GOAL = Connect everyone in America to affordable, reliable high-speed internet.
- Idaho's BEAD allocation = **\$100M+** for last-mile broadband projects
- Prioritizes UNSERVED and then underserved locations
- \$500K local planning grants

June 28, 2023: 5-year Action Plan submitted to NTIA.

December 2023: Submit Initial Proposal to NTIA.

Fall/Winter 2024: Submit Final Proposal to NTIA.



¿QUESTIONS?



RAMÓN S. HOBDEY-SÁNCHEZ, J.D.
STATE BROADBAND PROGRAM MANAGER
IDAHO OFFICE OF BROADBAND IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE OFFICE: 208.287.3153
CELL: 208.860.6513

RAMON.HOBDEYSANCHEZ@COMMERCE.IDAHO.GOV

Digital Equity Covered Populations



Sum of Vulnerability Indices



Covered Populations

Index calculated using the covered populations defined by the NTIA in the Digital Equity Act.

Socioeconomic Index

Index calculated from variables: poverty, unemployment, housing cost, no high school diploma, and no health insurance.

Household Index

Calculated from: multi-unit structures, mobile homes, crowding, no vehicle, and group quarters.

Racial & Ethnic Minority Index

Calculated from racial variables, excluding Caucasian.

Housing & Transportation

Calculated from: senior citizens, children, persons with a disability, single-parent households, and English language proficiency.

HIGHER INDICES (DARKER COLORS) INDICATE HIGHER VULNERABILITY. INDICES ARE CALCULATED USING STANDARDIZE AND NORMALIZE FUNCTIONS.



[Home](#)

[Submit a Challenge](#)

[Resources](#)

Does your Internet meet the Challenge?

Is your internet slow, unreliable or spotty? We want to know about it!

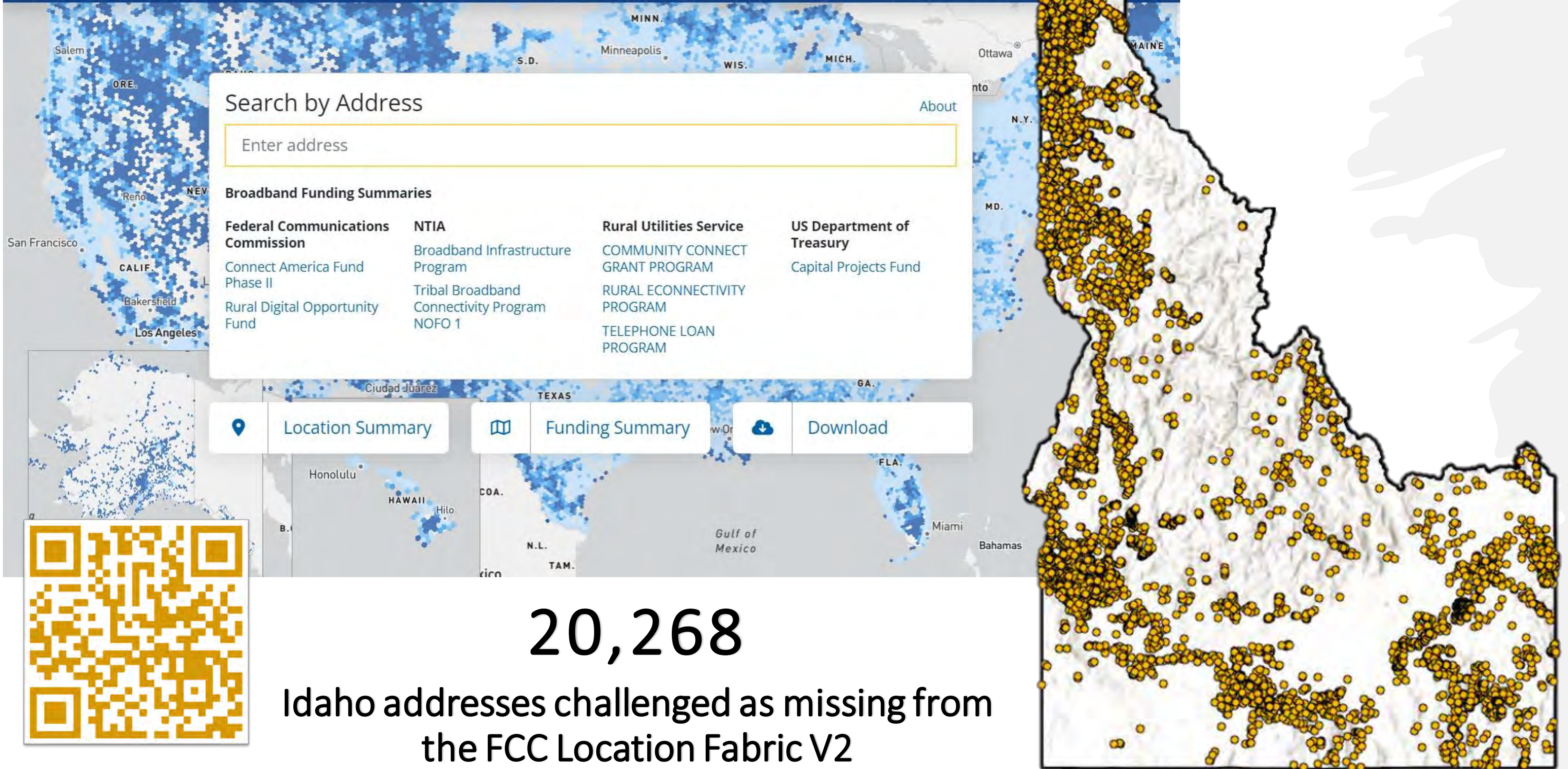
We need information about the quality of your internet coverage. The more information we receive, the better we can prioritize the communities with the highest need.

With your help, Idaho can continue improving connectivity while closing the digital divide between underserved communities. Our goal is accessible and reliable internet for all Idaho residents.

Submit information on your internet coverage below.

[Take the Challenge](#)





20,268

Idaho addresses challenged as missing from the FCC Location Fabric V2



Link Up Idaho Capital Projects Fund Application

Layers Legend

Map Layers

- Administrative Boundaries
- Location Fabric (zoom in to see)
- Layers you can edit for your application (see tools on right-hand side)
- Previously Awarded Grants
- Broadband Availability
- Demographic Information
- Digital Equity Covered Populations
- Terrain

100 km

Esri, USGS, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Powered by Esri

About the Tools

1. Draw Project Area
2. Add Details (Optional)
3. Export Data and Print Maps

Additional Links/ Challenge FCC Data

About the Tools

The tools are organized in order of operations:

- Step 1** Start by drawing the project area. Double click to complete the area. If your organization has GIS capabilities, you may optionally download the feature service to desktop on this step.
- Step 2** is optional and allows you add various points (for example, for addresses, poles, critical broadband infrastructure), line (for example fiber and conduit) and polygons (areas for example for building footprints and other areas of interest). Those will appear on the map in can be shown on i map or exported for inclusion with the application.
- Step 3** allows you to create maps in pdf and jpg format and also export your map drawings into various formats.

If the FCC availability data is incorrect consider doing

Selected features: 0

CPF Map Companion

Idaho Dept of Commerce
Office of Broadband



Digital Access for All Idahoans Plan

June 28, 2023

Readying Idaho's
Rural Communities to
Capture the Benefits
of Digitalization



Why & Who is ICfL?

- We're a state agency, formed in 1901 with a mission to build the capacity of libraries to best serve their communities.
- The library community and others have been working on digital access issues for decades and are natural partners in these efforts.
- 100% in support of and in collaboration with the Governor's Office, the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board, the State Broadband Office.

Alignment

Strategic Objectives

- Engage in partnerships with state agencies and experts.
- Engage with the Idaho State Board of Education, independent school districts, libraries, and institutions of higher learning to identify broadband infrastructure gaps ... and to improve digital access, literacy, and usage.
- Create a separate technical plan that will assist with federal grant awards and identify the specific processes, tactics, and details of each strategic objective.



DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL IDAHOANS (DAAI) PLAN

Funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is provided for each state to develop a digital access plan to ensure every American can use reliable high-speed internet.

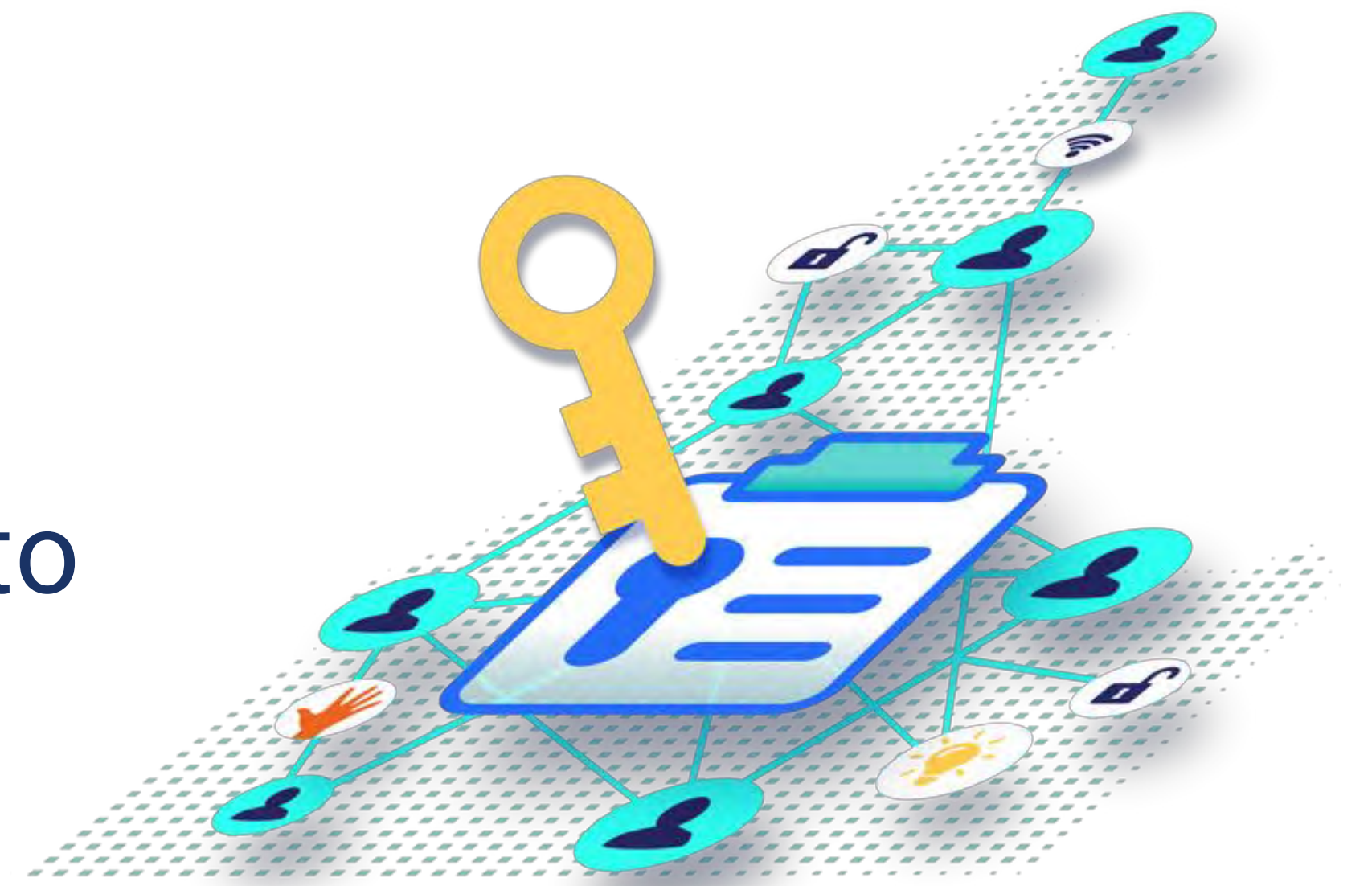
- \$564,706 for planning
- Several million dollars after the plan is approved each year for five years to implement elements of the plan.

DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL IDAHOANS (DAAI) PLAN

Planning funds will be invested in three major activities:

- community and partner engagement
- data collection and analysis
- report development and distribution

Contracting with **BSU's Idaho Policy Institute** to accomplish these activities.



DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL IDAHOANS (DAAI) PLAN

Steering Committee Members

David Brandt: Idaho Commission on Aging

Vicky Fajardo: Idaho Women's Business Center & Member of Idaho Hispanic Foundation

Valerie Fast Horse: Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Melissa J. King: Nez Perce Tribe

Heidi Nash: College of Western Idaho

Ted Oparnico: Idaho Department of Correction

James D. Ruchti: State Senator

Don Ruffing: Low Income Support Inc.

Amber Smyer: University of Idaho Extension Digital Economy Program

Nicholas Stallings: Idaho Assistive Technology Project

Kevin Wallior: Idaho Division of Veteran Services

DAAI Timeline

Nov. 15, 2022
funds available --
have one year to
write the plan

Nov. 21, 2022
started working
with contractor
on surveys/focus
groups

Jan / Feb. 2023
form statewide
coalition & steering
committee

Aug. / Sep. 2023
plan ready for 30-day
public comment period

March - Oct.
2023
form broadband
action teams
host additional
events
conduct telephone
survey
conduct asset
inventories
align plan with
other state
plans

Community Coalition Call



Thursday, August 17, 11:00 am (MDT)

We'll walk through the elements of the plan including:

- Our **vision** for a connected Idaho
- Key **data** from BSU's research
- Our **strategies** for addressing digital access

<https://libraries.idaho.gov/event/digital-access-for-all-idahoans-community-coalition-call-2/>

Contact Us:

Stephanie Bailey-White, director

208-639-4145 / Stephanie.Bailey-White@libraries.idaho.gov

Dylan Baker, deputy state librarian

208-639-4167 / Dylan.Baker@libraries.idaho.gov

Chelsea Summerlin, digital inclusion consultant

208-639-4175 / Chelsea.Summerlin@libraries.Idaho.gov

Website: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/digital-access-for-all-idahoans/>

Introduction to the USDA & Overview of Rural Utilities Service Programs

Presented by:

Peter Hawkes

General Field Representative (GFR)
Wyoming/Idaho



Rural Development's (RD) Mission

USDA Rural Development

Committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America.

- Provide **loans, grants, and loan guarantees** that support essential services, such as:
 - Housing
 - Economic Development
 - Health Care
 - First Responder Services and Equipment
 - Water, Electric, and **Telecommunications Infrastructure**



Funding for Rural Broadband

- Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan Program
- Rural Broadband Program
- Community Connect Grant Program
- ReConnect Program
- Broadband Technical Assistance



Rural Development Background

Rural Development includes 3 agencies with unique programs and objectives:

- **Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**
- Rural Housing Service (RHS)
- Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)
- Across the three agencies, Rural Development administers over 40 programs.
 - RUS Electric & **Telecommunications** programs are administered by National Office
 - RHS and RBS programs are administered by State & National Offices

RUS Telecommunications Program History

From electricity to broadband...

- 1935** Rural Electrification Administration (REA) created and began providing financing to promote rural electrification
- 1949** REA received authority to finance telephone service in rural communities
- 1995** Evolving from the REA, the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) required all financed telecommunications networks have the capacity to deliver broadband
- 2010 to present** RUS has approved over **\$8 billion** in loans and grants to build out broadband infrastructure and expand distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas

Highlights

- Created in 2002 and is a Competitive Grant Program
- Program Regulation and FOA: Community Connect Grant Program Regulation, 7 CFR 1739 Subpart A.

CLOSED JUNE 20th, 2023

- Minimum and Maximum Grant Amounts:
 - \$100,000 min / \$5,000,000 max; with **15% match** (*cash*)
- SUTA and SECD eligible
- Areas with 2020 Census Populations <20,000

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

1. *Follow the Application Guide & have council review the Grant Agreement*
2. *Be thorough and specific as to what you intend to propose;*
3. *Documentation or support from Community Leaders or organizations within the PFSA;*
4. *Serve all household & businesses in the PFSA*

Broadband Technical Assistance

CLOSED JUNE 20th, 2023

Purpose: BTA provides financial assistance to eligible entities to receive or deliver broadband technical assistance, provides training, and supports the development or expansion of broadband cooperatives.

Funding Type: Cooperative Agreements

Eligible Entities: Federally recognized Tribes, nonprofits, for-profit businesses, institutions of higher education, cooperatives.

Contact Peter Hawkes, General Field Representative for additional information

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan Program

Standard Loan Terms include:

- 2 Year Principal Deferral
- Interest Rate at the Cost-Of-Money
- Loan Maturity - Life of the Facilities Financed Plus 3 Years

Staff can assist and review loan applications before submission

Community Connect Grant Program

Applications were submitted electronically through the new online application system.

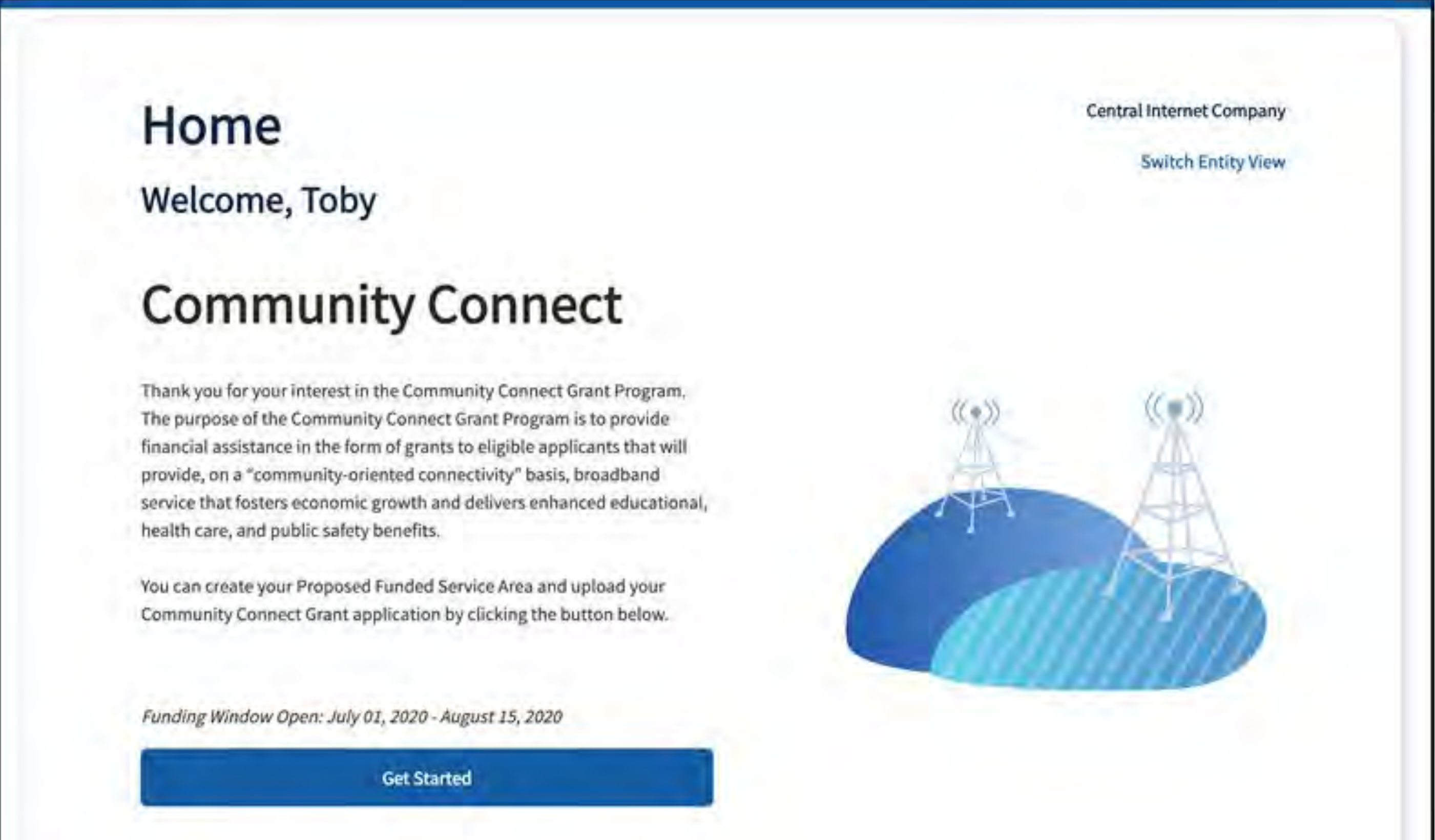
Resources are available on the website at: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-connect-grants>

Contact Information

Loan Origination and Approval Division

Email: community.connect@wdc.usda.gov

Call: 202-720-0806



The screenshot shows a web application interface for the Community Connect Grant Program. At the top right, it says "Central Internet Company" and "Switch Entity View". The main heading is "Home" followed by "Welcome, Toby". Below that is the "Community Connect" title. A paragraph explains the program's purpose: "Thank you for your interest in the Community Connect Grant Program. The purpose of the Community Connect Grant Program is to provide financial assistance in the form of grants to eligible applicants that will provide, on a 'community-oriented connectivity' basis, broadband service that fosters economic growth and delivers enhanced educational, health care, and public safety benefits." Below this is a call to action: "You can create your Proposed Funded Service Area and upload your Community Connect Grant application by clicking the button below." A blue button labeled "Get Started" is visible. To the right of the text is an illustration of two radio towers on a blue globe. At the bottom, it states "Funding Window Open: July 01, 2020 - August 15, 2020".

ReConnect Program

“Rural eConnectivity Program” regulation has been published. Highlights of the new regulation include:

- Broadband speeds, funding limits, scoring criteria, and protected areas will be announced in Federal Register notices or Funding Opportunity Announcements when new application windows are opened
- If awarded, grant funds may be used for eligible preapplication expenses in the first advance request

See [7 CFR 1740](#) published in the [Federal Register](#) on February 26, 2021 for the regulation text.

Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant Program

Distance Learning means the real-time, interactive delivery of curriculum via telecommunications and promotes the connection of students and teachers at remote sites.

- Provide educational programs, instruction, or information originating in one area, whether rural or not, to students and teachers who are located in rural areas; or
- Connect teachers and students, located in one rural area with teachers and students who are located in a different rural area.

Telemedicine is a real-time, interactive, telecommunications link to an end user from medical professionals at separate sites in order to exchange health care information for the purpose of providing improved health care services to residents of rural areas.

- Benefits rural residents both in reduced travel and improved access to service

Program Historic Numbers



Telecommunications Programs – All State Investments

Between FY2010 and FY2021, RUS has approved almost \$9 billion in funding for broadband and distance learning and telemedicine projects that serve rural residents.

Program	Projects Approved	Funds Approved
Telecommunications Infrastructure Program	197	\$3.3 Billion
ReConnect Program	181	\$1.5 Billion
Rural Broadband Access Program	10	\$273.4 Million
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program	1,303	\$474.5 Million
Community Connect Grant Program	138	\$241.8 Million
Broadband Initiatives Program	258	\$2.9 Billion
Grand Total	2,087	\$8.7 Billion

*Table shows award data **at time of obligation** for all programs except ReConnect and BIP, which show present award data.

Updated: 10/27/2021

Telecommunications Programs – Tribal Investments – All States

As of August 1, 2021, RUS approved over \$148 million in telecommunications projects serving Tribal Lands, Tribal Organizations, American Indians, and Alaska Natives.

Program	Funds Approved
Telecom Infrastructure Program	\$9 Million
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program	\$6.3 Million
Community Connect Grant Program	\$3.3 Million
ReConnect Program	\$139 Million
Grand Total	\$148.6 Million

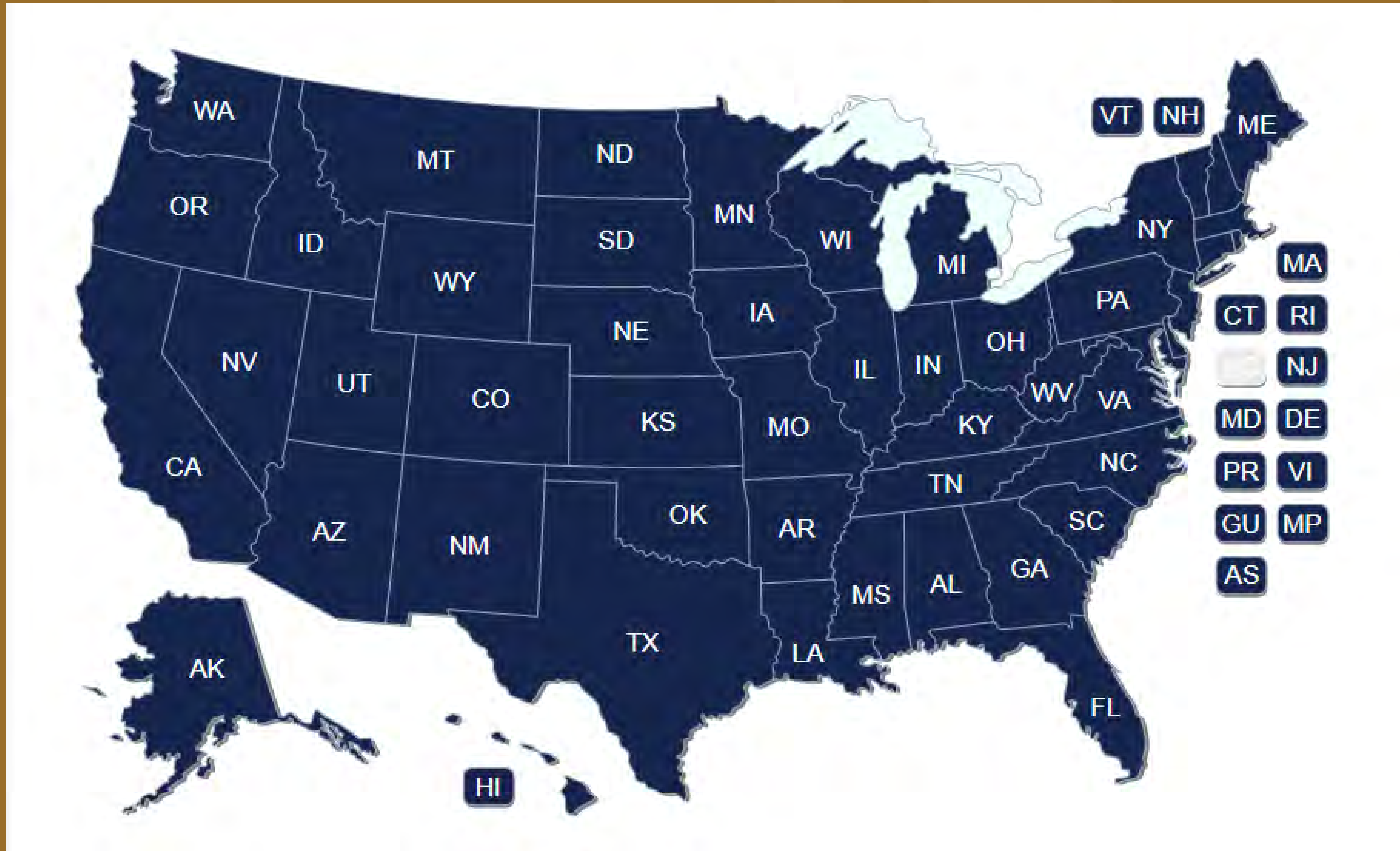
Updated: 10/27/2021



Questions?

Questions?

General Field Representative Coverage - www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/telecom-gfr





Peter Hawkes

peter.hawkes@usda.gov

Office: 208.339.1104

Rural Development | Rural Utilities Service
Telecommunications Program
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250
www.rd.usda.gov







LUNCH & NETWORKING

**IDENTIFYING PLACE-BASED
RESPONSES TO NARROW
DIGITALIZATION DIVIDES
LOCAL NETWORKS MATTER.**

DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL IDAHOANS (DAAI) PLAN

Vision Statement

Idaho supports all residents in thriving online through:

- **Digital literacy, cybersecurity, and technical support** – providing curated tools and resources to Idahoans to increase digital skills and online safety.
- **Public services and resources** – improving accessibility for Idahoans to connect and engage with local and state services.
- **Affordable broadband and devices** – ensuring Idahoans have broadband and internet-enabled devices that fulfill their unique work, school, and life needs.



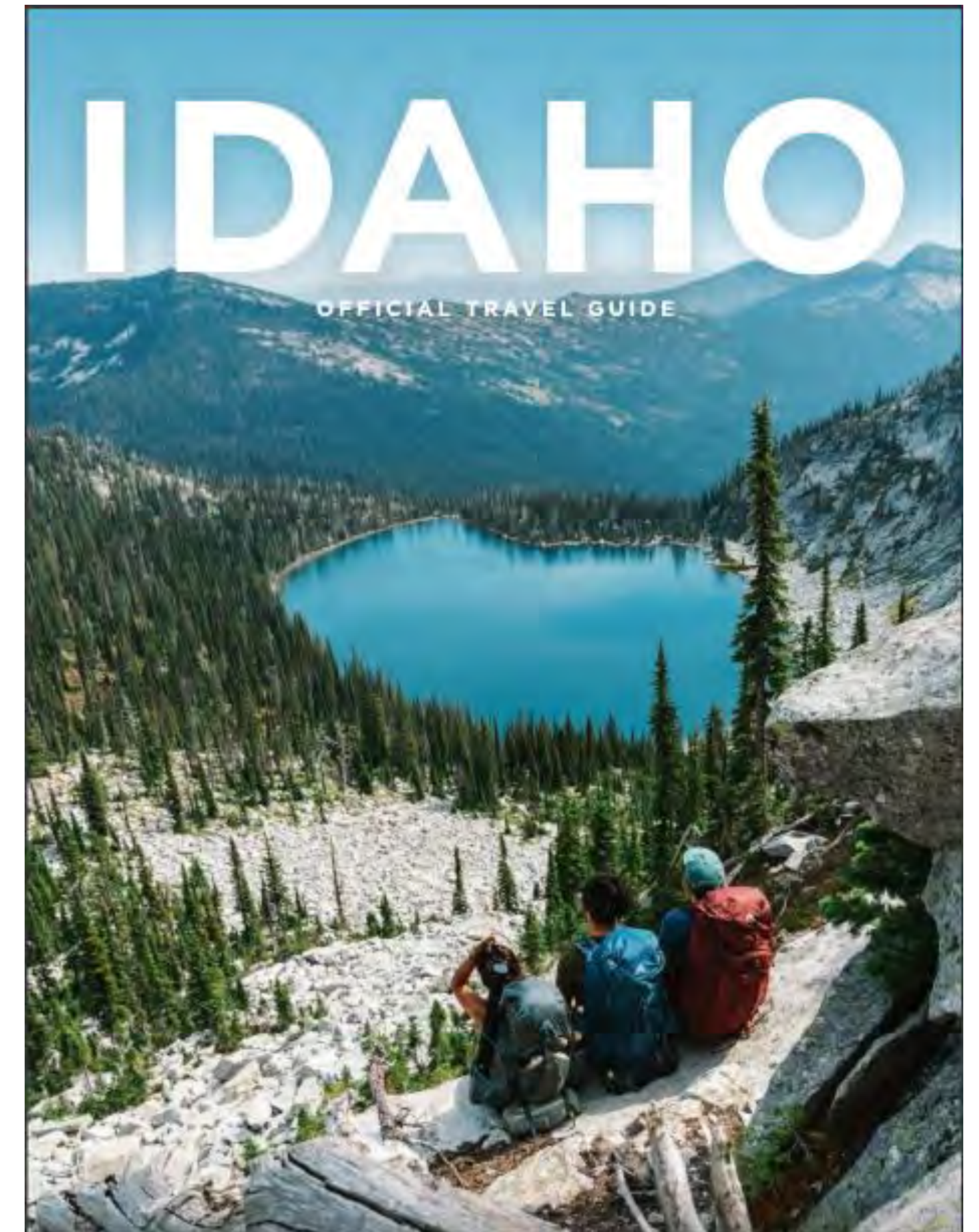
VISIONING FOR THE FUTURE

**IF OUR COMMUNITY WAS
“DIGITALLY CONNECTED,”
WHAT COULD INDIVIDUALS
AND BUSINESSES DO THAT
THEY CAN’T DO NOW?**

MAGAZINE COVER ACTIVITY

INSTRUCTIONS: 5 YEARS FROM NOW, YOUR COMMUNITY HAS IMPLEMENTED THEIR BROADBAND PLAN AND IS THE COVER STORY OF A MAGAZINE.

- **CHOOSE A MAGAZINE AND ANSWER:**
 - What is the headline, subheading, and story about your community?
 - Sketch a cover
 - Explain how your community was transformed?
- **REPORT OUT.**





ASSET MAPPING

**WHAT EXISTS IN YOUR
COMMUNITY TODAY TO
SUPPORT DIGITAL ACCESS?**

**WHERE IS THERE POTENTIAL
CAPACITY TO GROW?**

Local assets (Public, private and nonprofit organizations providing services and resources)

- Current efforts
- Potential efforts

Identified Populations	Affordable & robust broadband internet service	Internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user	Access to digital skills training
General			
Low- Income			
Aging			
Incarcerated/recently incarcerated			
Veterans			
Individuals with disabilities			
Individuals with language barriers			
Members of racial or ethnic minority groups			
Individuals with low literacy levels			
Residents in rural areas			



OBSTACLES

WHAT BARRIERS MAY EXIST TO MAKING YOUR VISION A REALITY?

- ADOPTION AND USE OF THE INTERNET AND DEVICES
- PROVISION OF DIGITAL ACCESS SUPPORT SERVICES
- COMMUNITY AWARENESS ISSUES
- ASSESSING THE DIGITAL ACCESS LANDSCAPE



POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

IDENTIFY UP TO THREE PROJECTS THAT YOU PERSONALLY CONSIDER TO BE A PRIORITY FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

- IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT
- OBSTACLES



NEEDED VOICES

IDENTIFY WHO NEEDS TO BE AT THE TABLE

- WHO CAN MOVE THIS PLAN FORWARD?
- WHO BENEFITS?
- WHO IS LEFT OUT OF DIGITAL ACCESS?



POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)

- **NECESSARY RESOURCES**
- **LEADERS**
- **TIME FRAME**
- **HOW WILLING ARE YOU TO
MAKE THIS A REALITY?**



LEVERAGING EXISTING RESOURCES



University of Idaho
Extension



**DIGITAL
ECONOMY
PROGRAM**



MISSION

ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF IDAHOANS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE EVOLVING DIGITAL ECONOMY FOR MORE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

Anticipated impacts of supporting digital transformation:

- **Empower Families** - Increase median household income & quality of life for citizens of rural Idaho and disadvantaged and minority populations.
- **Provide Education** - Change attitudes, knowledge, and behavior regarding remote work opportunities.
- **Job Creation** - Reduce local unemployment rates without the expense of recruiting new businesses.
- **Retain Local Talent** - Reduce post high school relocation.
- **Improve Rural Viability** - Fortify rural businesses through online expansion.
- **Strengthen Tax Base** - A bigger population with bigger incomes means more local revenue.

THE DEP TEAM

- Paul Lewin, PhD, Director & Principal Investigator
- Amber Smyer, Program Manager
- Stephanie Guyton – Northern Instructional Coordinator
- Monica Hampton – Southeastern Instructional Coordinator
- Destinie Hart – Southwestern Instructional Coordinator



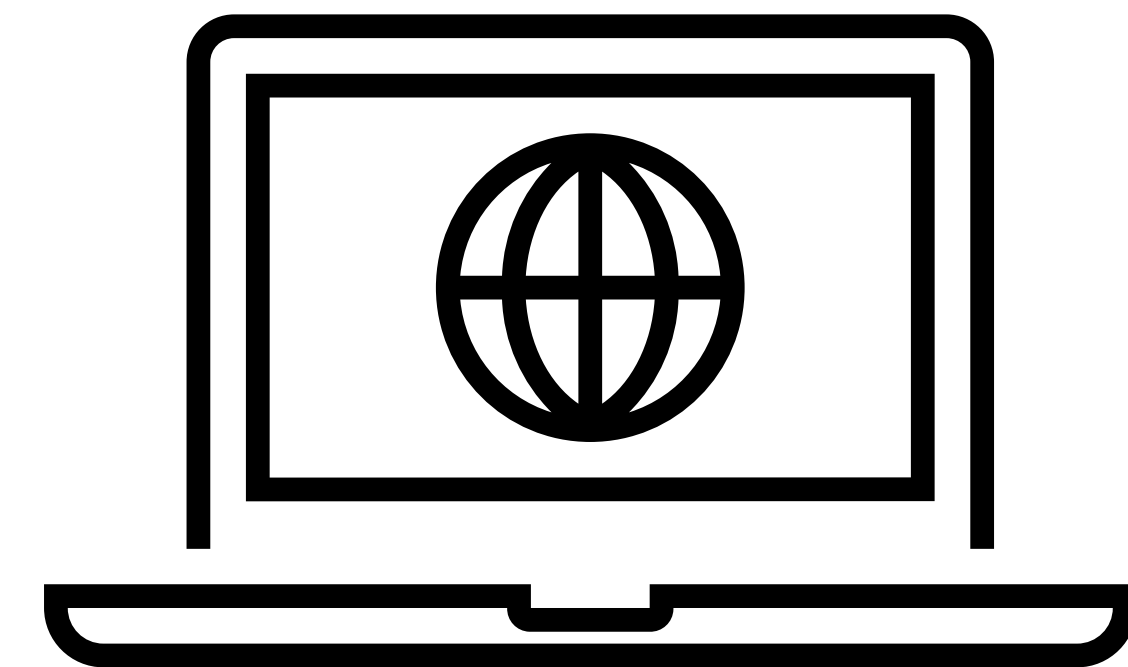
PROGRAMMING

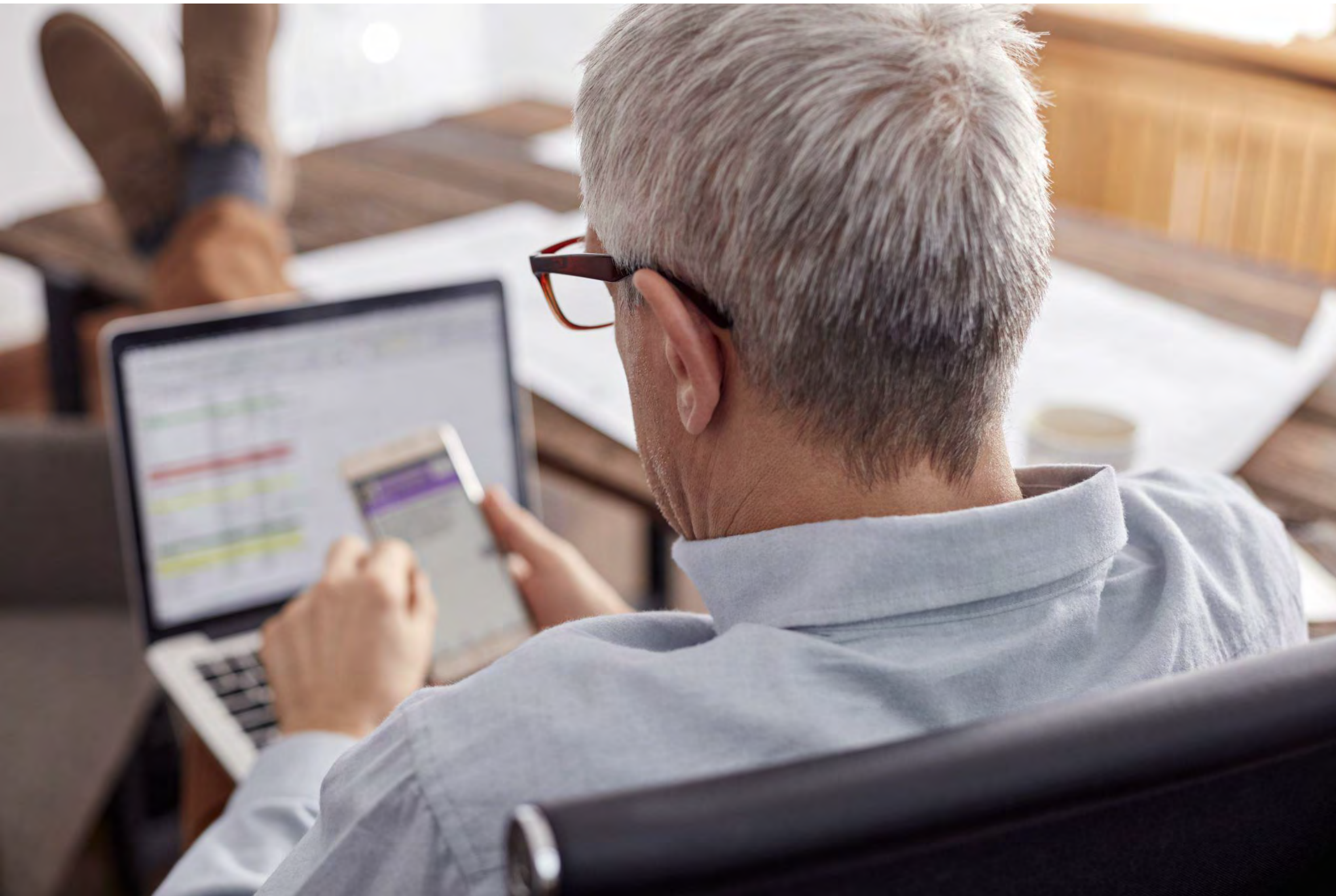
The Digital Economy Program provides learning opportunities focused on

Basic digital skills

Retraining for remote work

E-commerce training





DIGITAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

- Support local capacity building for delivering digital skills training and technical support
 - Broadband Action Team assistance
- 4-H Tech Changemakers, utilizing teens to teach digital skills and develop their leadership and skills



Apply Today

Invest With Us
In The Future
Of Idaho:

Become A
Digital Literacy
Coordinator



AMERICORPS PLACEMENT: DIGITAL LITERACY COORDINATORS

- Bonners Ferry, ID
- Cascade, ID
- Driggs, ID
- Fort Hall, ID with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- Gooding, ID
- Lapwai, ID with the Nez Perce Tribe
- Plummer, ID with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Salmon, ID

Position descriptions at Uidaho.edu/digital-economy/volunteer.

Applications due July 14.



REMOTE WORK COURSES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Remote Online Initiative
UtahStateUniversity.

- Remote Work Professional
Certificate
- Certified Remote Work
Leader

*Remote work is a skill,
not merely a circumstance.*



CERTIFIED REMOTE WORK PROFESSIONAL COURSE

RETRAINING FOR REMOTE WORK, COURSES OFFERED MONTHLY

- Supports employees, freelancers and entrepreneurs who want to work remotely
- Combines independent online work with interactive workshops
- Requires approximately 30 hours to complete (6-8 hours per week over 4 weeks)
- Reduced cost due to support from State of Idaho
 - \$50 for individuals in rural counties and scholarship recipients
 - \$100 for individuals in urban counties
- Apply at uidaho.edu/digital-economy



CERTIFIED REMOTE WORK LEADER COURSE

GET QUALIFIED TO LEAD A REMOTE OR HYBRID TEAM, COURSES OFFERED BIMONTHLY

- Supports employers who wish to
 - Cast a broader net to find the best team member
 - Offer remote work as a perk to reliable workers
 - Ease issues of parking or office space limitations
- Combines independent online work with interactive workshops
- Requires approximately 3-5 hours per week over 4 weeks
- Cost is \$149 per participant
- Apply at uidaho.edu/digital-economy



Employers hiring remote workers can promote positions through DEP.

HELP SMALL BUSINESSES TAKE THEIR BUSINESSES ONLINE

E-COMMERCE

- Put businesses on the map
- Build social media presence
- Launch an online store
- Access new markets and expand sales using the internet





University of Idaho
Extension



**DIGITAL
ECONOMY
PROGRAM**

**uidaho.edu/digital-economy
dep@uidaho.edu**



BROADBAND COALITION

INFORMATION &
BACKGROUND

Moving the Connectivity Needle in North Idaho



FREE! All levels of broadband knowledge and experience welcome!

OCTOBER 8, 2020
9 -11 a.m.

Broadband 101 – Broadband as a Foundation to Rural Economic Development

- *Broadband 101*
- *Economic Development – Local Stories/Local Testimonials*

NOVEMBER 12, 2020
9-11 a.m.

Getting Started Broadband and Broadband Networks and Business Plan

- *Planning Framework: Getting Started*
- *Broadband Strategies for Rural Idaho*
- *Broadband Networks and Business Plans*

DECEMBER 10, 2020
9 -11 a.m.

Using Data as a Foundation for Your Plan

- *NTIA Internet use survey data trends*
- *American Community Survey data computer and Internet data*
- *Understanding the FCC's Form 477 broadband data*
- *National Broadband Availability Map (NBAM)*

JANUARY 14, 2020
9 -11 a.m.

Federal Resources and Local Support for Broadband

Detailed agenda and speakers available at a later date.

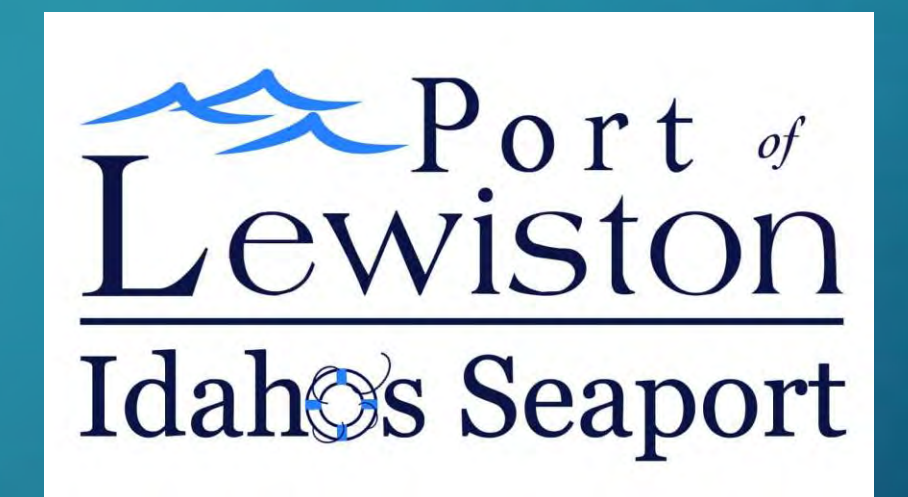
FEBRUARY 11, 2020
9 -11 a.m.

Broadband Adoption and Use - The Secret to Sustainable Networks

Detailed agenda and speakers available at a later date.

ACTION ITEMS

- Reach out to curated list of community stakeholders
- Develop broadband coalition pledge and presentation
- Embark on a “broadband roadshow” to these stakeholders
- Create the Latah County Broadband Coalition
- Establish a broadband planning committee
- Build and maintain relationships with ISPs and providers
- Execute agreement for a pre-engineering study
- Develop committee goals and benchmarks
- Set regular meetings with specific outcomes and purposes
- Curate experts and presenters
- Reach out to others not represented
- Develop subcommittees to tackle targeted issues
- Continue to gather information from communities
- Continue to touch base with ISPs and providers
- Keep on top of broadband funding landscape
- Apply for planning, buildout, and outreach grants

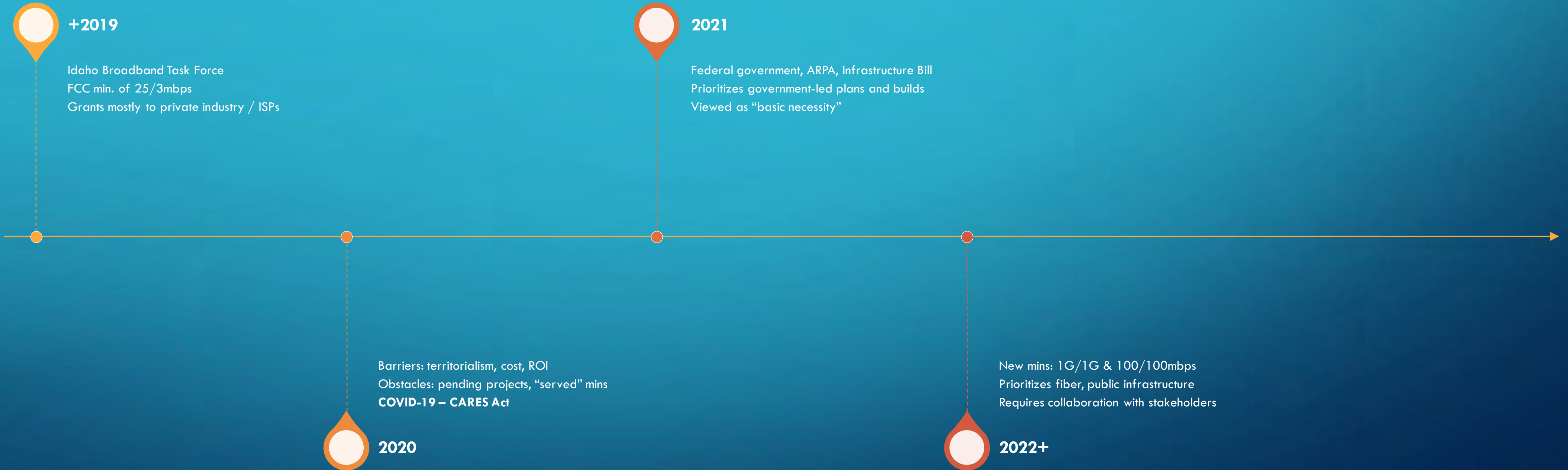




BROADBAND COALITION

INFORMATION &
BACKGROUND

THEN, NOW, AND BEYOND



BROADBAND TASK FORCE:

High-Speed Internet Is Essential
For All Counties



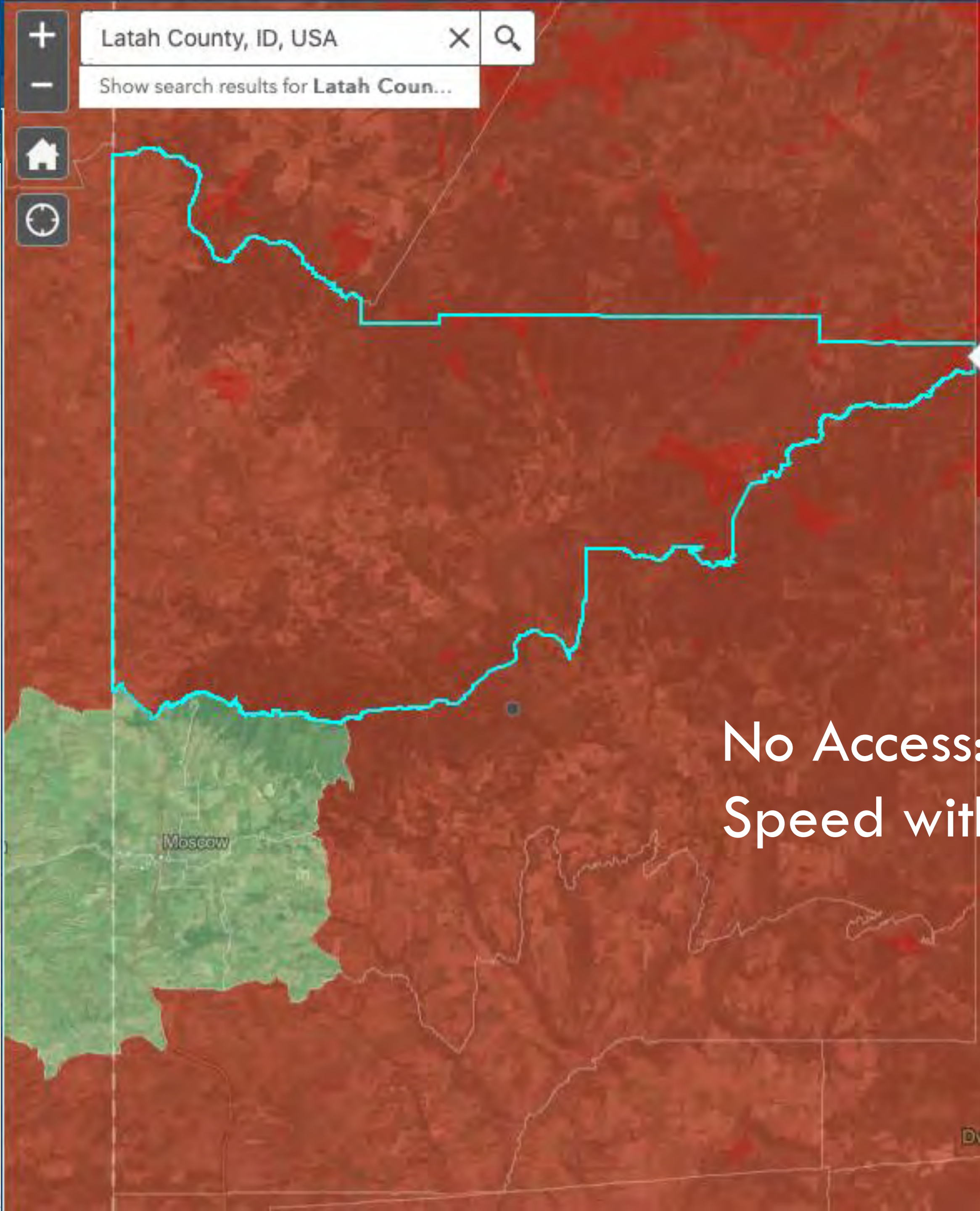
**Today, reliable, fast, and
affordable high-speed
internet is as fundamental
as acquiring electricity
in the first half of the
20th century.**



Legend

Level	Indicator of Broadband Need	Yes	No	No Data
County	Speed Tests - M-Lab Median Speeds Fixed Broadband Below 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
	Usage - 75% or More of Devices Connect to Microsoft Updates/Services via Fixed Broadband Download Speeds below 25 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
Census Tract	Speed Tests - Ookla Median Speeds Fixed Broadband Below 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
	American Community Survey - 25% or More of Households Report No Internet Access	Red	Green	Grey
	American Community Survey - 25% or More of Households Report No Computer, Smartphone or Tablet	Red	Green	Grey
Census Block	FCC Form 477 - No Provider Reports Consumer Fixed Broadband Services at 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	NA

- Minority Serving Institutions (NTIA MSIs)
- AA (AAPI) (Asian American and American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions)
 - ANISH (Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions)
 - HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities)
 - HSI (Hispanic Serving Institutions)
 - NANHSI (Native American Non-Tribal Serving Institutions)
 - TSI (Tribal Sovereignty Institutions)



+ Latah County, ID, USA X Q

- Show search results for Latah Coun...

Home Refresh

Census Tract Information

Census Tract: 16057005500
Latah County, Idaho

Population (FCC 2019 Estimate):	4,665
ACS Percentage Households without Internet Access:	16.10%
ACS Percentage Households without Computer, Smartphone or Tablet:	8.50%
Ookla Speedtest Median (Mbps):	8.38/2.20

Zoom to ...

No Access: 16%
Speed with Access: <10/3

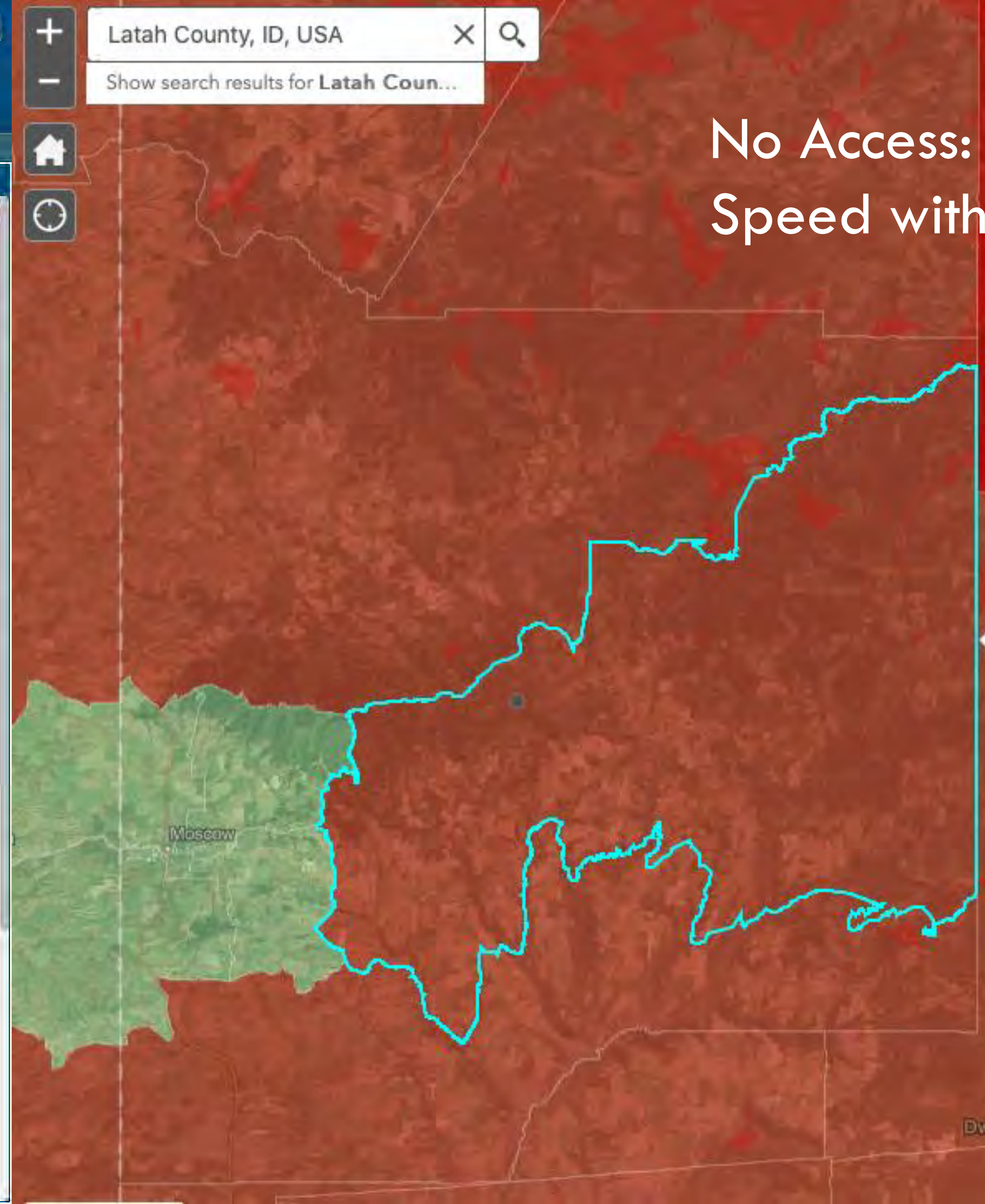
+ Latah County, ID, USA × 🔍
- Show search results for Latah Coun...
🏠
🔄

No Access: 19%
Speed with Access: <10/3

Legend

Level	Indicator of Broadband Need	Yes	No	No Data
County	Speed Tests - M-Lab Median Speeds Fixed Broadband Below 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
	Usage - 75% or More of Devices Connect to Microsoft Updates/Services via Fixed Broadband Download Speeds below 25 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
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Census Block	FCC Form 477 - No Provider Reports Consumer Fixed Broadband Services at 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	NA

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 - NANHSI (Native American Non-Tribal Serving Institutions)
 - TSB (Tribal Sovereignty Black Institutions)



(1 of 2) ▶ 🗄 ×

Census Tract Information

Census Tract: 16057005600
Latah County, Idaho

Population (FCC 2019 Estimate):	4,518
ACS Percentage Households without Internet Access:	19.00%
ACS Percentage Households without Computer, Smartphone or Tablet:	11.80%
Ookla Speedtest Median (Mbps):	7.79/2.43

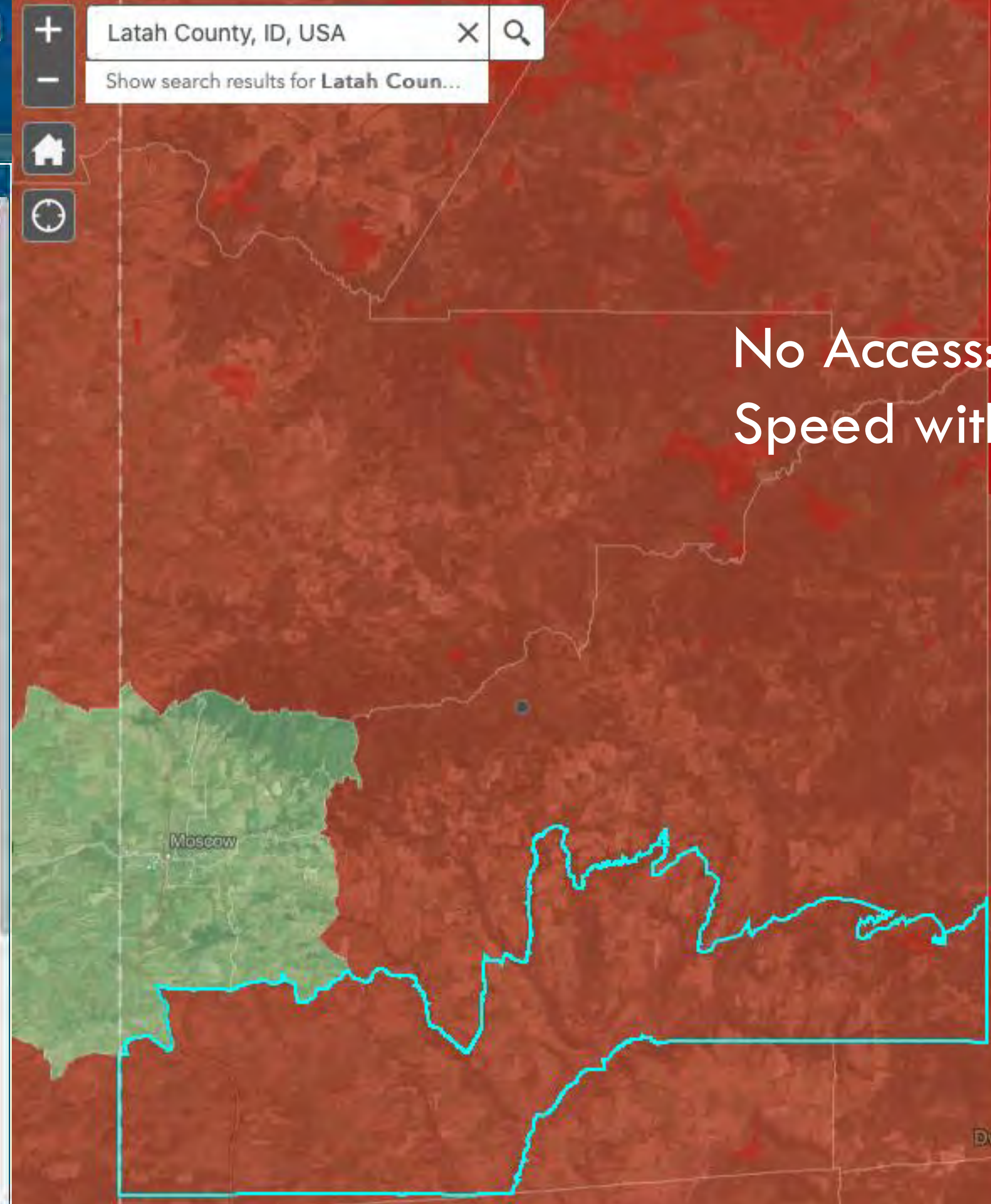
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Dworshak State Park

Legend

Level	Indicator of Broadband Need	Yes	No	No Data
County	Speed Tests - M-Lab Median Speeds Fixed Broadband Below 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
	Usage - 75% or More of Devices Connect to Microsoft Updates/Services via Fixed Broadband Download Speeds below 25 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
Census Tract	Speed Tests - Ookla Median Speeds Fixed Broadband Below 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	Grey
	American Community Survey - 25% or More of Households Report No Internet Access	Red	Green	Grey
	American Community Survey - 25% or More of Households Report No Computer, Smartphone or Tablet	Red	Green	Grey
Census Block	FCC Form 477 - No Provider Reports Consumer Fixed Broadband Services at 25/3 Mbps	Red	Green	NA

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 - HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities)
 - HSI (Hispanic Serving Institutions)
 - NANHSI (Native American Non-Tribal Serving Institutions)
 - TSB (Tribal Sovereign Black Institutions)



No Access: 20%
Speed with Access: <10/3

(1 of 2)

Census Tract Information

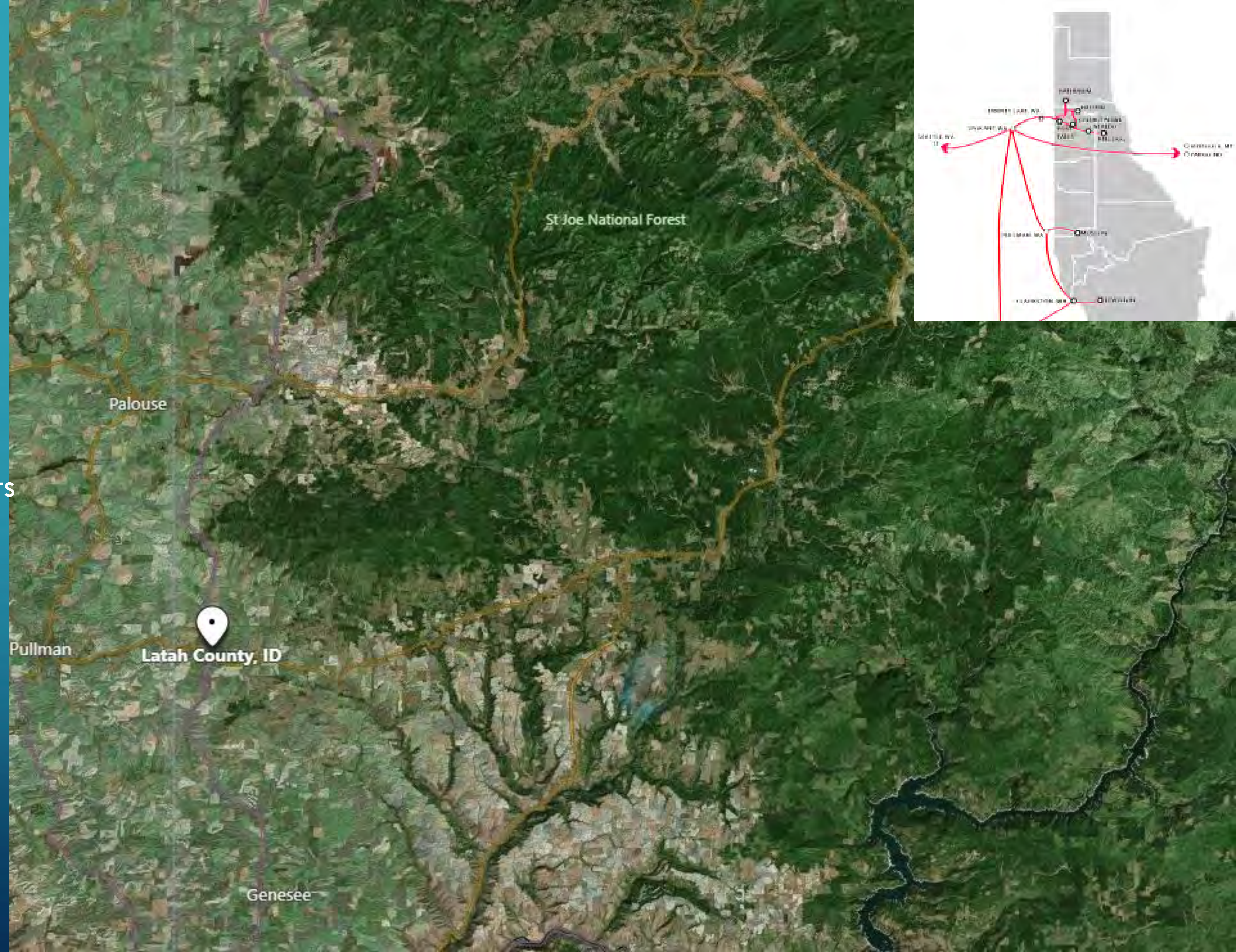
Census Tract: 16057005700
Latah County, Idaho

Population (FCC 2019 Estimate):	3,477
ACS Percentage Households without Internet Access	19.80%
ACS Percentage Households without Computer, Smartphone or Tablet:	12.20%
Ookla Speedtest Median (Mbps)	7.63/1.72

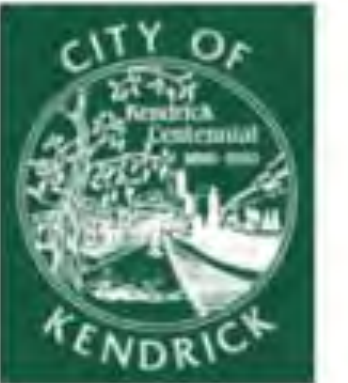
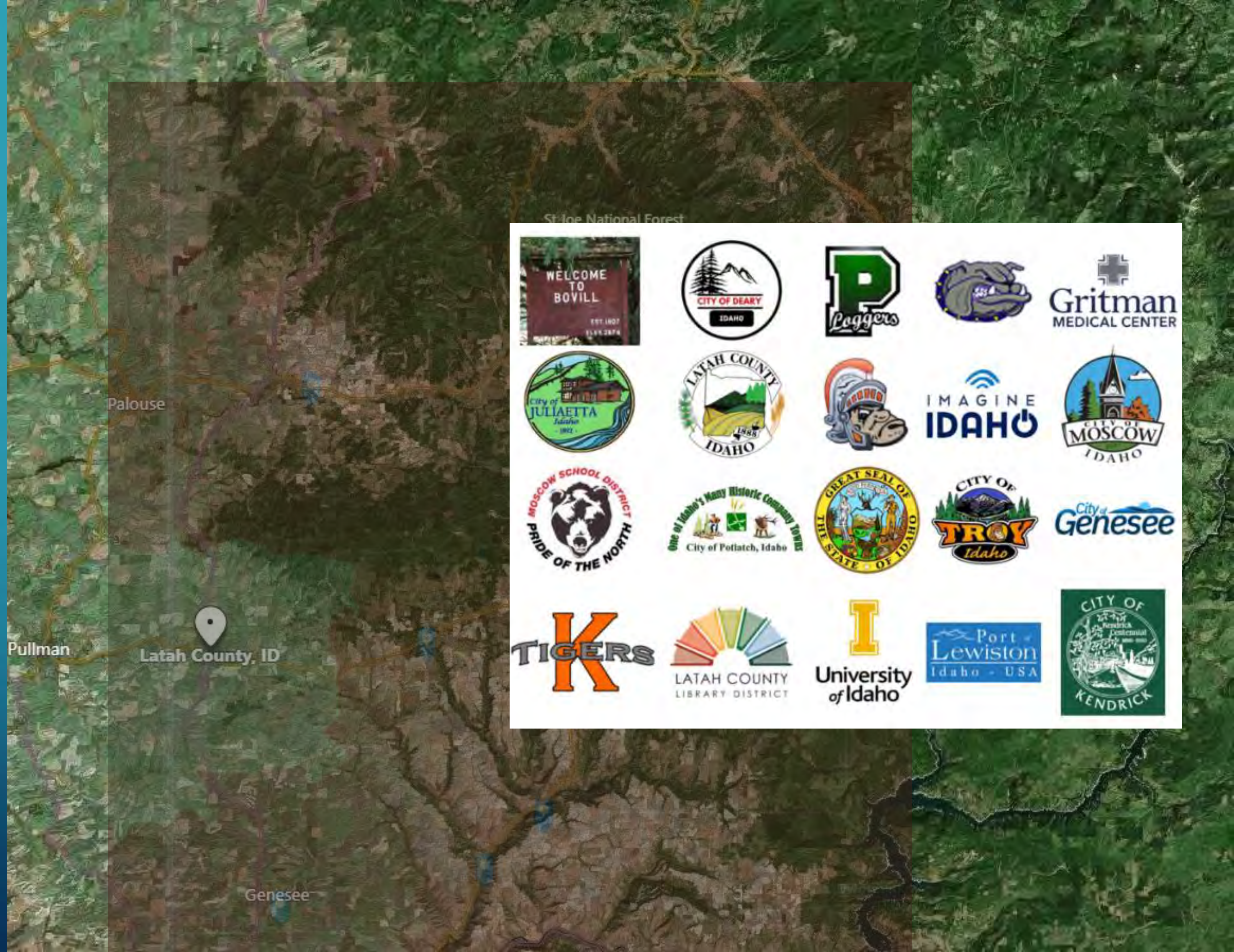
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CHARACTERISTICS

- 98% rural by geography
- 32% rural by population
- 12,660 rural residents
- Fiber corridor along WA/ID state line
- No easy access from any other direction

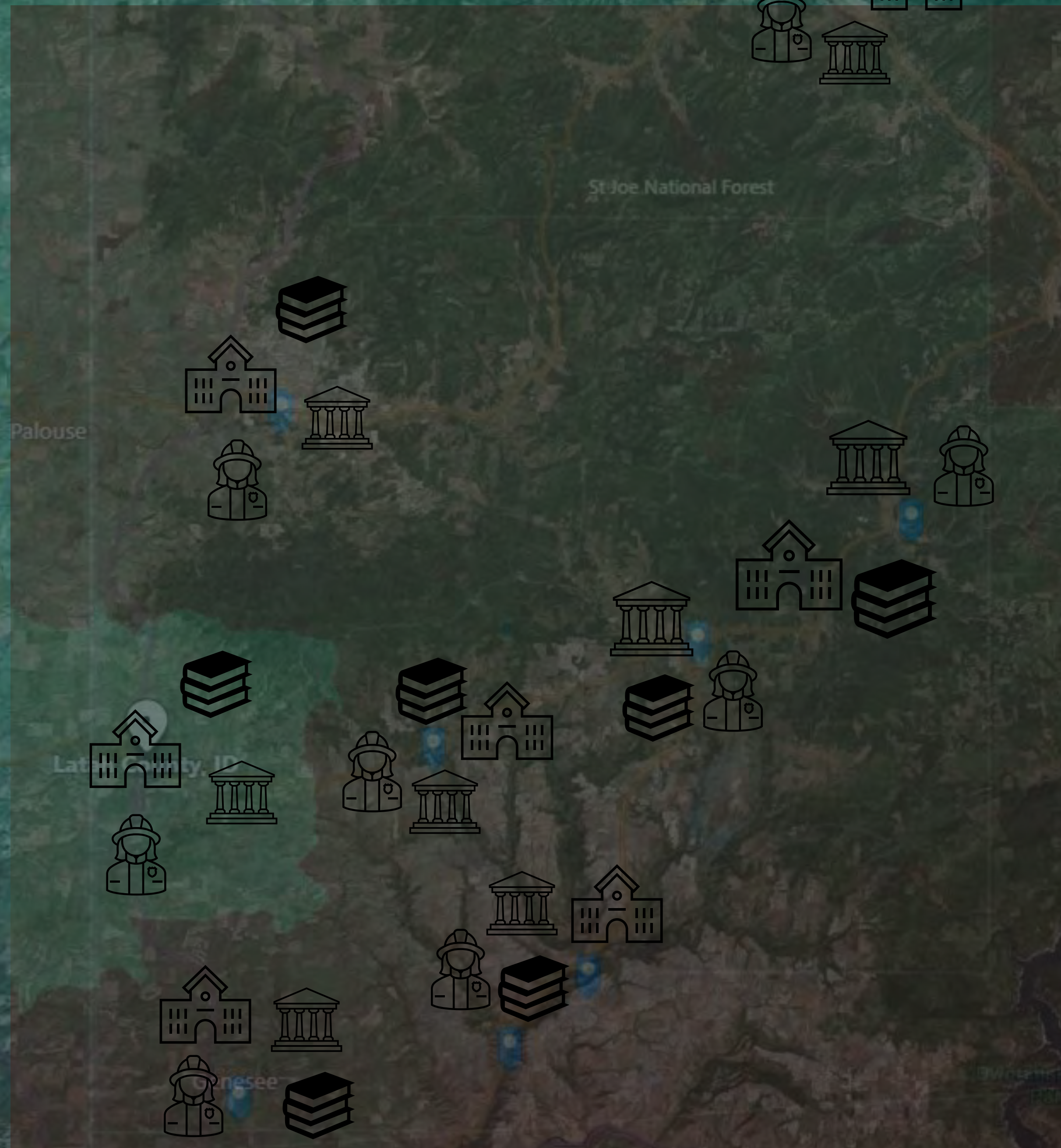


SO...
NOW
WHAT?



ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS

- School Districts
- Library District
- City Halls
- Police Departments
- Fire Departments
- Community Centers
- Other Counties' anchors



**“Future-proof”
Broadband
Infrastructure**



BROADBAND RELATED FUNDING

\$77,300,000,000

\$28.3B = Broadband Equity & Access

\$1B = Middle-Mile Broadband Deployment

\$1.3B = USDA-RD ReConnect Program

\$14.2B = Affordable Connectivity Program

\$10B = Capital Projects Fund (ARPA)

\$1B = Build Back Better Challenge

\$7.2B = Emergency Connectivity Fund

\$20.4B = Rural Digital Opportunity Fund

\$500M = Emergency Rural Healthcare

\$300M = Broadband Deployment (NTIA)

\$15M = Museum & Library Services

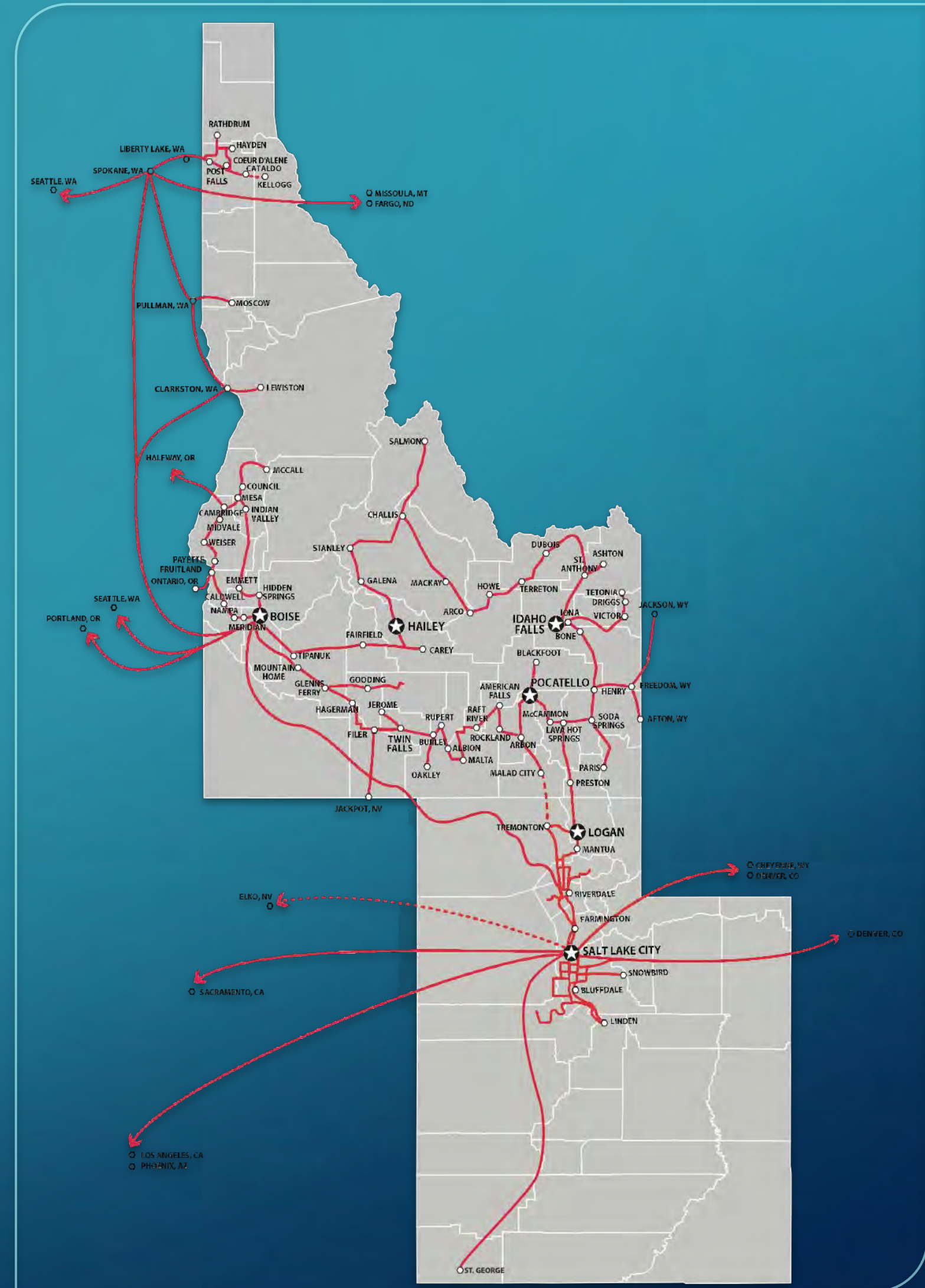
\$571M = Rural Healthcare Program

\$44.5M = Distance Learning & Telemedicine

\$35M = Idaho Broadband Advisory Board

COALITION = GRANT READINESS

- General broadband education / knowledge / information
- Asset mapping / current infrastructure identification
- Needs assessment / community surveys / data gathering
- Network purpose, function, design
- Cost estimates, funding opportunities, partnership possibilities
- Business plan development / Construction





Latah County
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. Box 8068 ♦ 522 South Adams ♦ Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 883-7208 ♦ fax (208) 883-2280 ♦ e-mail bocc@latah.id.us
Kathie LaFortune ♦ Thomas C. Lamar ♦ David McGraw

Latah County Broadband Coalition Pledge

The goal of the Latah County Broadband Coalition is to engage stakeholders across the County in order to communicate broadband needs and offer support in developing projects to address those needs. We aim to find local, state, and federal funding to build future-proof broadband infrastructure throughout Latah County. We are not interested in prescribed pathways to achieving this goal — rather, we're committed to working together to find the best solutions for our communities. Working together will only make pursuing partnerships and funding opportunities more possible and more potent.

In establishing this coalition, we recognize the unmatched importance of broadband access and affordability for education, health, commerce, and community. Ensuring that every community member has access to reliable and affordable broadband is not only a key component to modern life but also to future development.

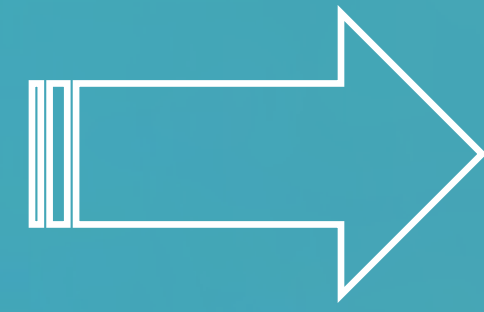
We undertake this work knowing that a robust broadband connection allows students greater access to educational opportunities, patients greater access to healthcare professionals, businesses access to customers around the world, and farmers the ability to increase productivity and profitability.

We are committed to providing the support our community and citizens need to enable us to build sound, future-proof broadband infrastructure and last mile connectivity to homes. To demonstrate that commitment, we sign on to join the Latah County Broadband Coalition with a pledge to participate in the following ways:

- Assign a representative to serve on the Latah County Broadband Coalition committee
- Participate in information sharing and gathering for broadband planning and projects
- Agree to leverage available funding to pursue future-proof broadband projects

EXPECTATIONS FOR MEMBERS

BE A
LIAISON



SHARE
INFO



REPORT
BACK



GATHER
INFO

EXPECTATIONS
FOR
MEMBERS



EXPECTATIONS FOR MEMBERS



LATAH COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOVILL DEARY GENESEE JULIAETA MOSCOW POTLATCH TROY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022
VOL. 4, NO. 3

Book Club Kid Kits (Youth)

BOOK CLUB KID KITS

featured books

EDGEWATER UTILITIES STATEMENT
101 North Riverside Drive
Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday (Excluding Holidays)
Email: customerservice@cityofedgewater.org

CURRENT SERVICE DETAILS

BILLING DATE: 09/14/19
CUSTOMER NAME: JANE DOE
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0000-0000
SERVICE ADDRESS: 100 SPRUCE WAY 01-11
CYCLE/ROUTE:
SERVICE PERIOD: 08/01/19 - 09/01/19
SERVICE DAYS: 31
METER # RM XXXXX/XXX WA XXXXXXXX
USAGE COMPARISON: CURRENT MTH 580.00 PREVIOUS MTH 270.00 LAST YEAR 100.00 (USAGE LISTED IN THE THOUSANDS OF GALLONS)

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

LAST BILLED AMOUNT	\$84.12
- LAST PAYMENT RECEIVED	\$84.12
PAST DUE BALANCE	\$0.00
NEW CHARGES	\$89.88
TOTAL BALANCE DUE >>>	\$89.88

NEW CHARGES DUE DATE 12/04/18

Thank you for last month's timely payment!

NEW CHARGES

WATER BASE CHARGE	\$12.77
WATER CONSUMPTION	\$1.25
UTILITY TAX	\$1.40
SEWER BASE CHARGE	\$18.58
SEWER CONSUMPTION	\$4.23
RECYCLING	\$3.34
REFUSE	\$27.66
RECLAIMED WATER	\$9.50
STORMWATER	\$11.00
TOTAL CURRENT CHARGES	\$89.88

Effective 10/01/2019, there will be an increase to Water, Sewer, and Stormwater fees.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PAY YOUR BILLS ONLINE
Visit www.cityofedgewater.org, available 24 hours / 7 days a week.

SIGN UP FOR PAPERLESS BILLING!
(See details on the back of your statement)

ENROLL FOR AUTOMATIC BANK DRAFT
Ensure your bill will always be paid on time!





Affordable Connectivity Program

Helping Households Connect

Latah County Community	Eligible Households	Number Enrolled	Percentage with Benefit
Moscow	4,408	497	11%
Viola	30	3	10%
Potlatch & Onaway	368	13	3.5%
Princeton	73	2	2.7%
Harvard	14	2	14%
Deary & Bovill	136	3	2.2%
Troy	129	7	5.4%
Genesee	114	10	8.8%
Juliaetta	95	9	9.5%
Kendrick	112	4	3.6%

Service Discount
= \$30/month

Tech Purchase =
\$100



Affordable Connectivity Program

Helping Households Connect

11.5+ MILLION HOUSEHOLDS CONNECTED

10 WAYS TO SPREAD THE WORD

- 01 HELP YOUR COMMUNITY ENROLL**
Sign up as an enrollment partner today at fcc.gov/ACP.
- 02 SPREAD THE WORD**
Are you organizing school packet pick-ups or a local food drive? Download and print ACP flyers to include in pick-up materials: fcc.gov/acc-toolkit.
- 03 REQUEST PRINTED MATERIALS**
Printed versions of FCC ACP Outreach Toolkit materials are available. Send an email to ACPInfo@fcc.gov and provide details on what you need.
- 04 CONNECT WITH LOCAL INSTITUTIONS**
Ensure schools, libraries, health clinics, and community centers know about the ACP and have info to help eligible students and patrons enroll.
- 05 INVOLVE YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**
Does your local employment assistance or social services office have ACP information? Put Outreach Toolkit materials in helping hands.
- 06 SHARE ACP INFO ON YOUR WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA**
The FCC has ready-to-post graphics, videos, and PSAs available for you to share with your network in the ACP Outreach Toolkit.
- 07 REQUEST A SPEAKER FOR AN EVENT**
Have a local event coming up? Want to train your members to serve as ACP ambassadors? Send a speaker request to ACPSpeakers@fcc.gov.
- 08 HELP CONNECT THE UNCONNECTED**
Download and print application forms, worksheets and instructions in English or Spanish at AffordableConnectivity.gov.
- 09 FIND LOCAL PROVIDERS**
Browse listings by state or territory at fcc.gov/acc-providers-by-state.
- 10 LET EVERYONE KNOW**
Spread the word about ACP on community bulletin boards, both online and around town!



Affordable Connectivity Program

Are you getting your \$30/month internet discount?



If you participate in any of the following programs, you automatically qualify for the ACP:

- SNAP
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- WIC
- Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits
- or Lifeline

Apply Now at AffordableConnectivity.gov



Affordable Connectivity Program
Helping Households Get Access to Broadband

Find out if you qualify and how to participate. Visit: fcc.gov/ACP

Who Is Eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program?

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines
- Participates in one of these assistance programs: Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision; SNAP; Medicaid; Federal Public Housing Assistance; SSI; WIC; Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits; or Lifeline
- Participates in Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based)
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income program

Find out if you qualify and how to participate. Visit: fcc.gov/ACP



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.

The benefit provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Participates in any of the following assistance programs: SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in any of the following Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based);
- Participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income internet program.

TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

1

Go to AffordableConnectivity.gov to submit an application or print a mail-in application

2

Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

LEARN MORE

Call 877-384-2575, or
Visit fcc.gov/accp



<https://www.fcc.gov/accp-consumer-outreach-toolkit>

RESOURCES

- Pledge
- Email Invitation
- PPT Presentation (with spiel)
- Overview of our coalition, background, and goals
- Press Releases
- Website
- Cost Estimates and Action Items
- Local Resources Matrix
- LINKS to other materials

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/local-government-resources>

Q&A COMMENTS





ACCESSIBLE, RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE
BROADBAND FOR IDAHO

Who we are

Business, community, philanthropic and policy leaders working to address Idaho's rural broadband infrastructure.

Imagine Idaho Foundation 501(c)(3)

Imagine Idaho Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit created to “light up” rural Idaho with broadband infrastructure leading to Idahoans securing accessible, reliable, and affordable internet access, that is future-proof and high-speed for all Idahoans spurring community and economic prosperity.

We are a non-biased, grant funded, private entity that serves as an educational resource for Idaho and its unserved and underserved communities.



Our Critical Services to Communities

- No cost community consulting and support
- One time grants for planning
- Community engagement plan
- Needs assessment and speed testing
- Pre-engineering study
- Cost analysis for budgeting
- Determining well-designed plan for coverage
- Preparing grant applications
- Referrals to service partners for technical support
- Interface with the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB)



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BROADBAND RESOURCES

(LIST AVAILABLE AT UIDAHO.EDU/DIGITAL-ECONOMY/DATA)

Affordable Access

[Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program](#) is a benefit program that provides grant subsidies to eligible households to pay monthly internet service costs.

Internet Enabled Devices

[PCs for People](#) and [TechSoup](#) provide refurbished computers to eligible customers at affordable prices.

Digital Literacy Skills

[Idaho Digital Skills](#), provided by the Idaho Commission for Libraries offers Idahoans free access to online learning tools.

[Google for Education Applied Digital Skills](#) courses are free learning modules that teach practical digital skills.

[University of Idaho Extension's Digital Economy Program](#) will provide digital skill development resources in Idaho's rural communities.



BROADBAND RESOURCES, CONTINUED

Quality Technical Support

[University of Idaho Extension's Digital Economy Program](#) is exploring ways to partner in bringing resources to rural communities.

Online Content Encouraging Self Sufficiency, Participation, and Collaboration

[Idaho Digital E-Book Alliance \(IDEA\)](#) and [Libraries Linking Idaho \(LiLI\)](#) foster connection and access statewide.

Funding and Data Resources

Idaho Department of Commerce – Idaho Broadband Advisory Board's [Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan](#)

[BroadbandUSA Fixed Broadband Community Report](#) and National Telecommunications and Information Administration [Local Government Resources Page](#) provide broadband resources and data statewide and by county.

[United States Department of Agriculture Broadband Program](#) provides Broadband funding opportunities, and e-connectivity Toolkit, and telecom grant resources.

NEXT STEPS

Form Local
Broadband
Action
Teams

Engage your
community in
identifying local gaps
and creative
solutions in
preparation for
applying for funding

Connect
with &
share
current
resources



University of Idaho
Extension

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

