Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Program

Aug. 25, 2023

N.C. Department of Information Technology
Division of Broadband and Digital Equity

NCDIT | NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AGENDA

1. Quick Updates from NCDIT
2. CAB Program Overview and Process
3. Importance of Mapping
4. NCACC President Johnson: Broadband Playbook
5. Q&A

IT'S TIME TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA

At least 1.1 million North Carolina households lack access to high-speed internet, cannot afford it or do not have the skills needed to take advantage of the digital economy. Gov. Roy Cooper has a plan to close the digital divide to achieve digital equity for all North Carolinians.

NCDIT UPDATES

- Contracting of GREAT grant projects
  (American Rescue Plan Act - ARPA)
- Funding of eligible unfunded GREAT grant projects under Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) program
  (ARPA)
- Launch of CAB program
  (ARPA)
- Draft guidance for Broadband Pole Replacement program
  (ARPA)
- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Five-Year Action Plan
  (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)
- BEAD initial proposal
  (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)

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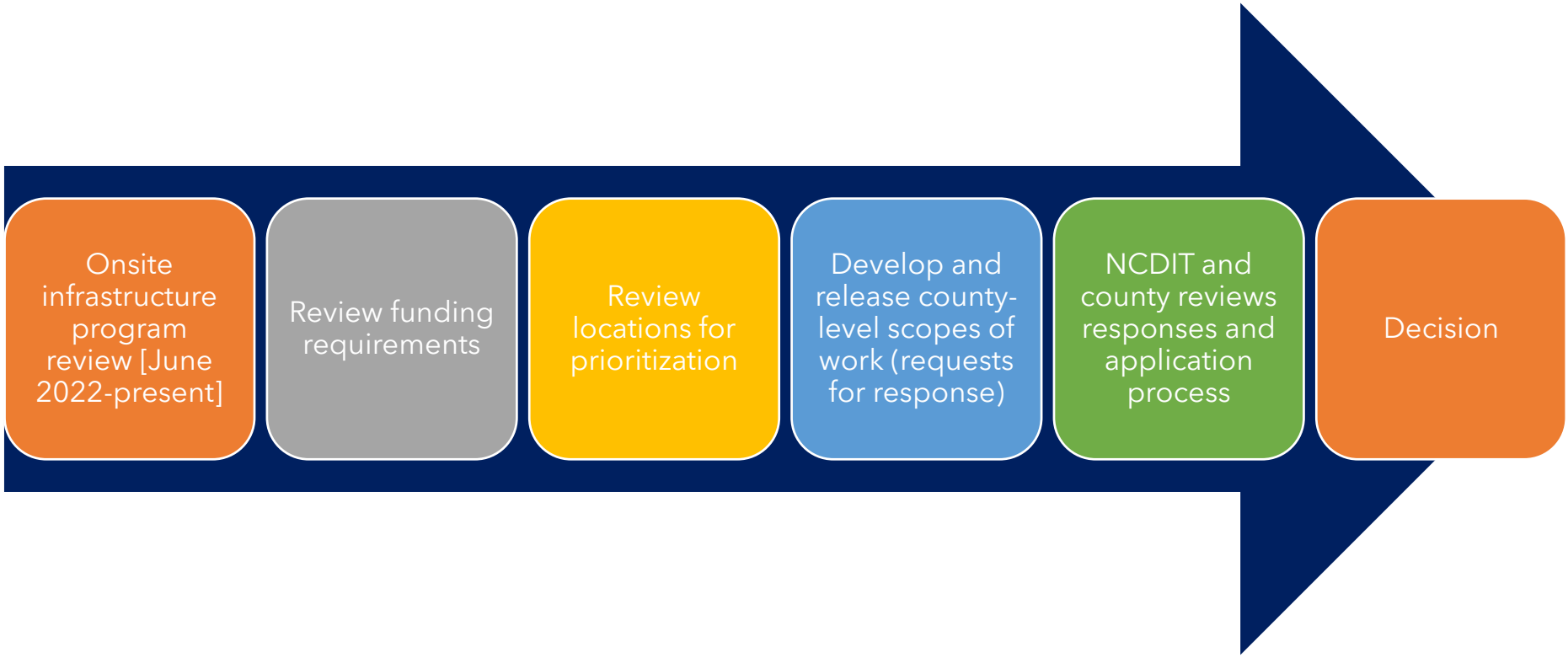
CAB PROGRAM GUIDANCE

- Guidance document updated Aug. 11 at ncbroadband.gov/CAB
- Major updates include:
  - S.L. 2022-74, up to $8 million per year
  - Funding of eligible unfunded GREAT grant projects
  - Statewide IT convenience contract (Broadband Expansion and Access request for proposals)
  - FCC's Broadband Data Collection (BDC) system

CAB OVERVIEW

- $400 million in federal American Rescue Plan funds with a max award of $8 million per county; can have multiple projects in each county
  - Program creates a partnership between each participating county and the state to identify unserved/underserved locations and scopes of work
- Active engagement with county managers & elected officials in all 100 counties on programs, process, mapping; county input is crucial
- NCDIT issued request for proposals to prequalify internet providers for participation in CAB and other state funded programs – increased levels of due diligence
  - Received responses from 42 providers

CAB PROCESS



Multiple CAB Projects:

- Cannot exceed minimum / maximum limits in given fiscal year
- Follow-on projects require preceding project to be contracted

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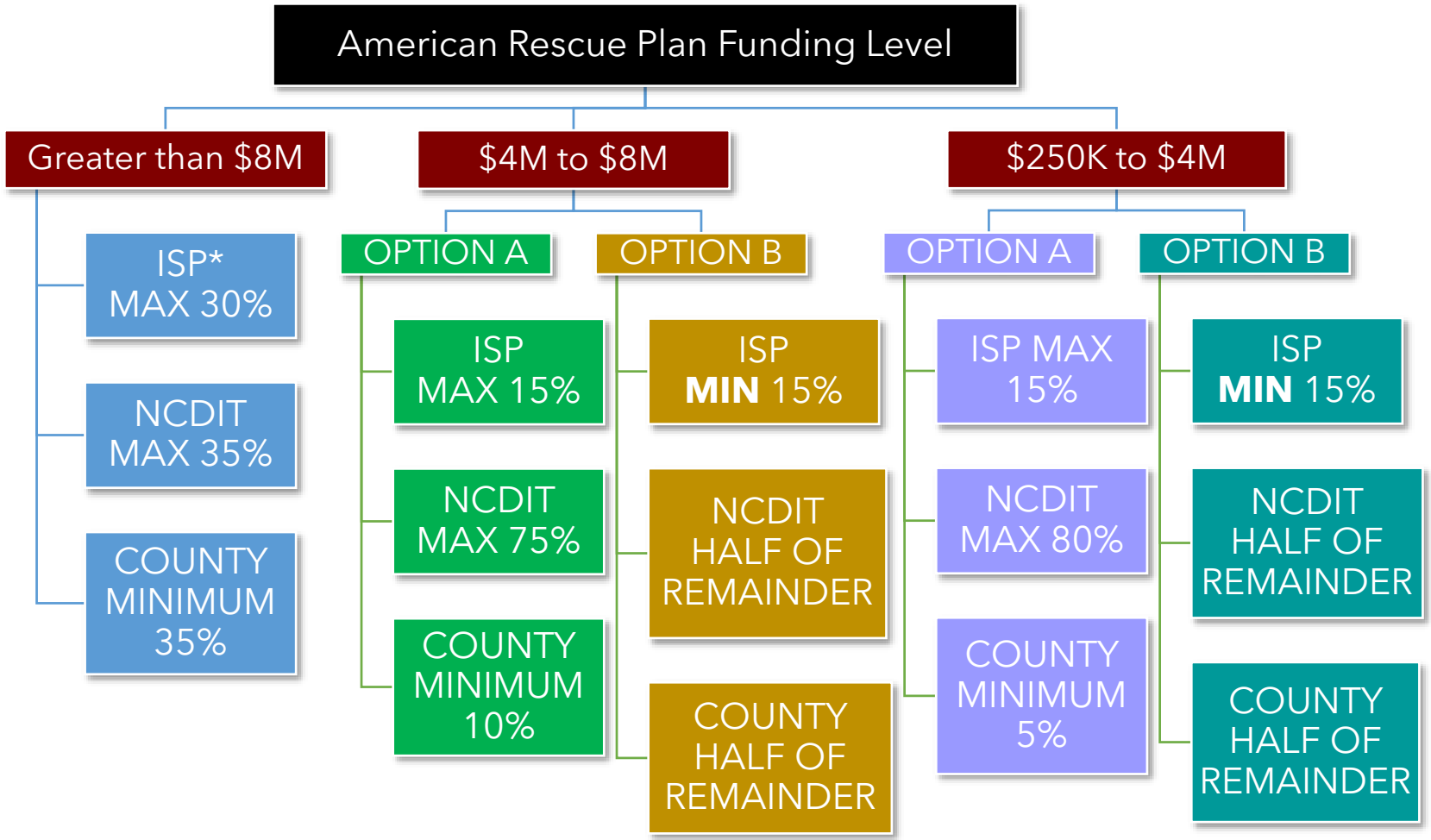
CAB REQUESTS FOR RESPONSE

Statewide IT Convenience Contract and County-Level Scopes of Work

- NCDIT provides response template
- Released to all eligible providers
- Response request is county focused
- Response review requires county manager engagement
  - Response
  - Application data
  - NCDIT resources
- No fixed application date(s)

- Evaluation criteria includes but is not limited to:
  - County locations
  - Technical
  - Financial
  - Marketing
  - Throughput
  - Overall scope

CAB FUNDING ALGORITHM



*Internet Service Provider

County contributions can be drawn from American Rescue Plan funds or from a county's General Fund

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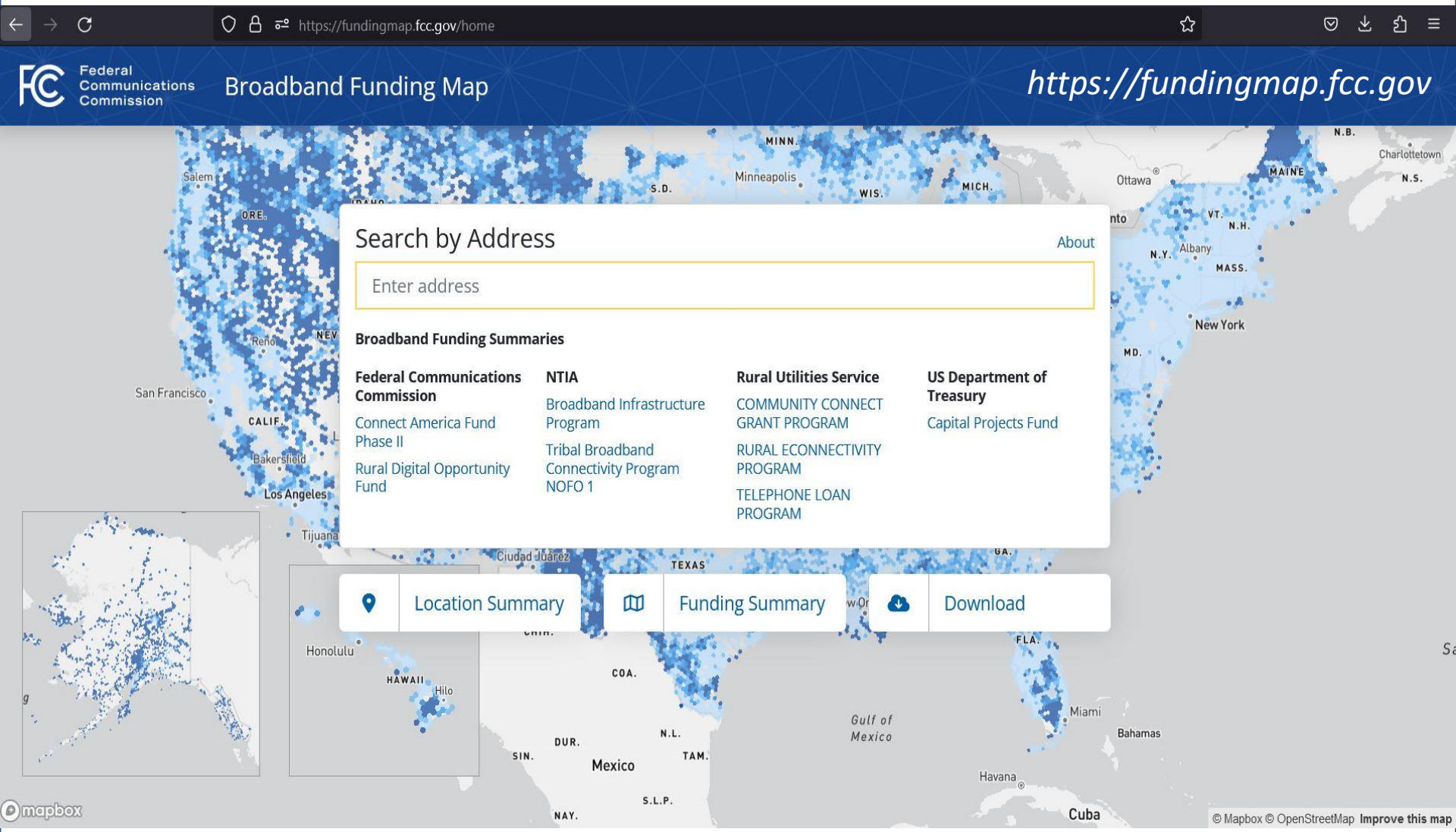
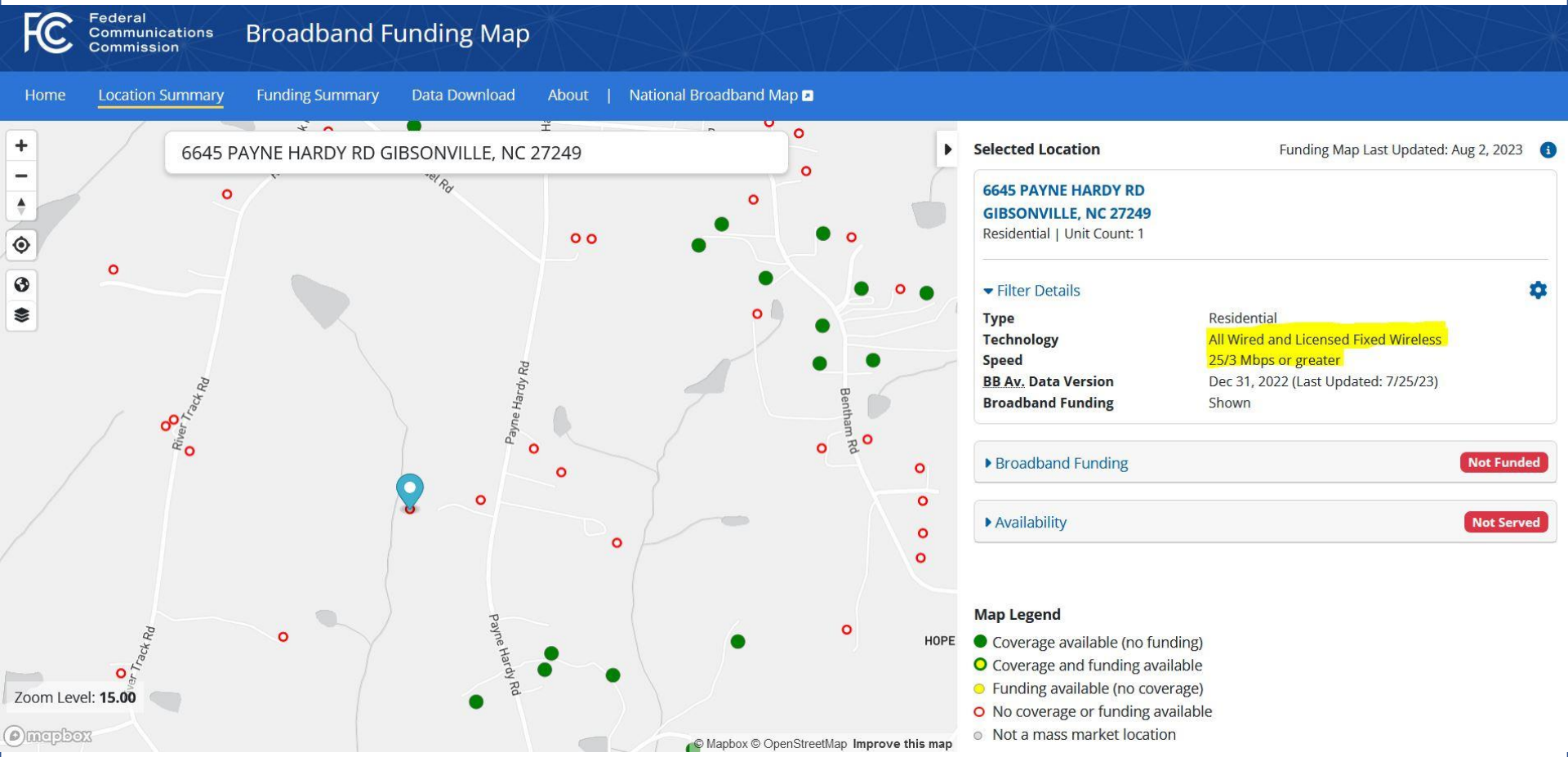
FCC MAP BULK FABRIC (LOCATION) CHALLENGES

- Recent approval of 241+ new locations to FCC map as result of NC CGIA challenge (46% of 528 location sample set)
- Scaling up to statewide challenges by **Sept. 8**
- Mapping staff person contracted for full-time assistance
- Ongoing process, no longer locked in by a certain date
- Better county data = better 911 response AND better broadband
    - Addresses and parcels
    - Info on residential vs. business
    - Improved tax value on parcels

FCC BROADBAND FUNDING MAP



FCC BROADBAND FUNDING MAP



https://fundingmap.fcc.gov

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NC ONEMAP CAB PLANNING TOOL

NC OneMap | DATA PROJECTS | ANNOUNCEMENTS | TERMS | CONTACT US | HELP | ABOUT

Take the North Carolina Broadband Survey and get added to the map!

https://www.ncbroadband.gov/broadband-nc/north-carolina-broadband-survey .

NC GREAT Grant Awards

NC GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool

Online Mapping Tool to assist in identifying possible project areas for the GREAT Grant Program.

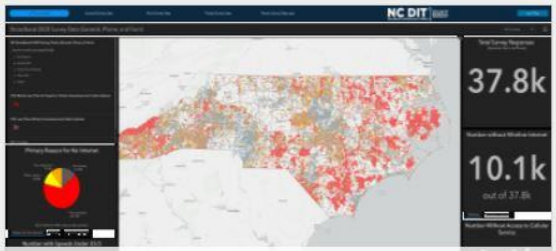
Data | View

Broadband Planning

CAB Planning Tool

Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) planning dashboard provides many datasets useful for project planning purposes.

Data | View



Survey Results Map

NC Broadband Survey

The NC Broadband Survey is designed to gather information on locations in the state without adequate internet access and speeds.

Data | View

https://www.nconemap.gov/pages/broadband

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NC ONEMAP CAB PLANNING TOOL

NC Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Planning Tool

County Filter:
ALL COUNTIES

NC GREAT Grant Award Locations (ARPA)

- Contingent
- Contracted

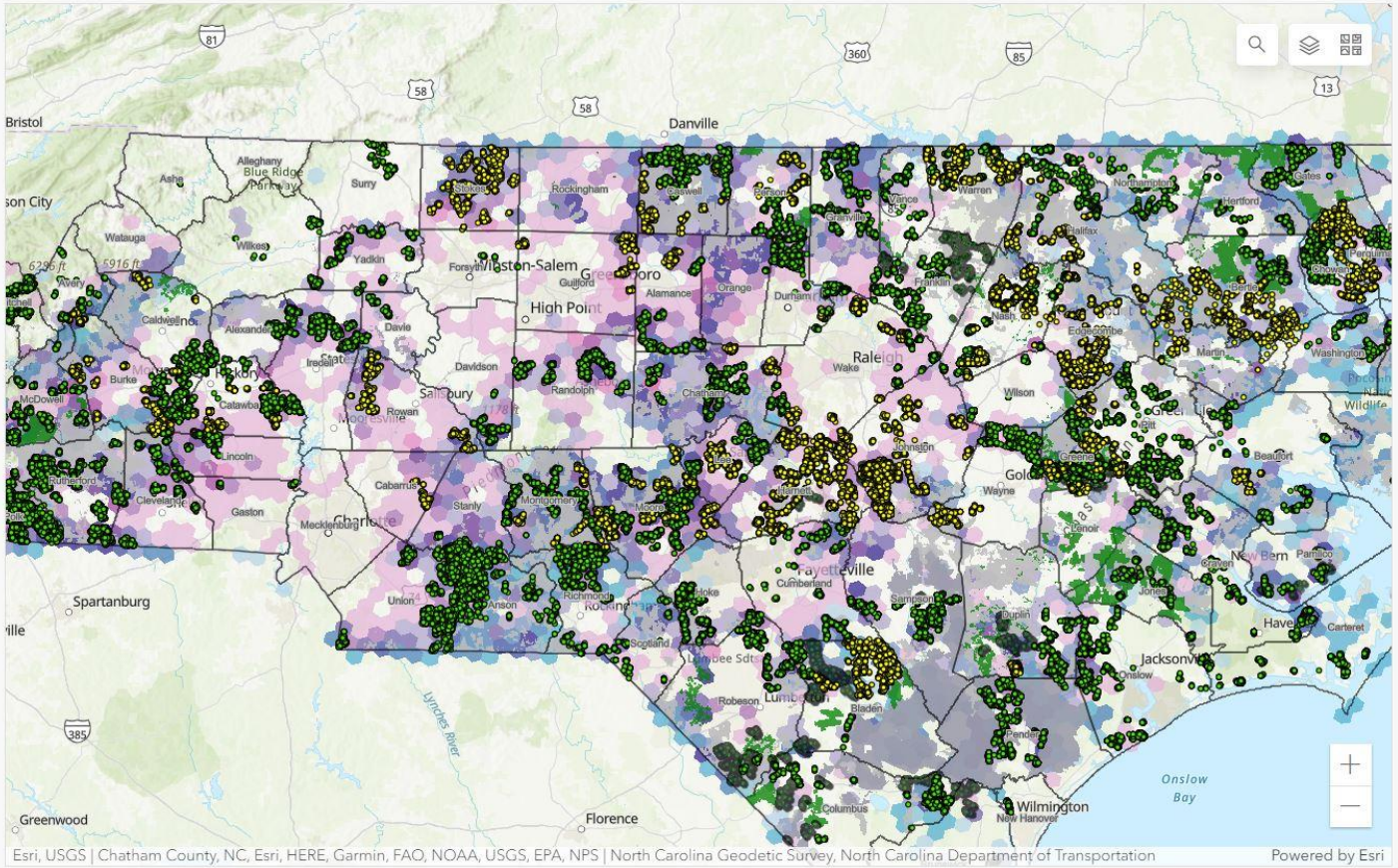
GREAT Grant Awarded Areas and Address Locations 2018-20220

Great Grant Award Addresses

Great Grant Award Polygons

For detailed instructions for this tool and additional information on the data included in this map, use the NC CAB Planning Tool Help.

Filter by county using the dropdown in the upper right corner of this dashboard. Once a county filter has been



Filter by County and then Select list item to see Broadband Provider Reported Service Area*

Selection required on one or more elements

*Locations reported as served at any speed level in latest FCC Broadband Data Collection.

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NC ONEMAP CAB PLANNING TOOL

NC Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Planning Tool

County Filter:
MOORE

PercentServed
- > 75
- 50
- < 25

NC Broadband Surveys - NO SERVICE

NC Broadband Surveys - Unserved (Less Than 25/3)

RDOF Terrestrial (Non-Satellite) Award Areas

For detailed instructions for this tool and additional information on the data included in this map, use the NC CAB Planning Tool Help.

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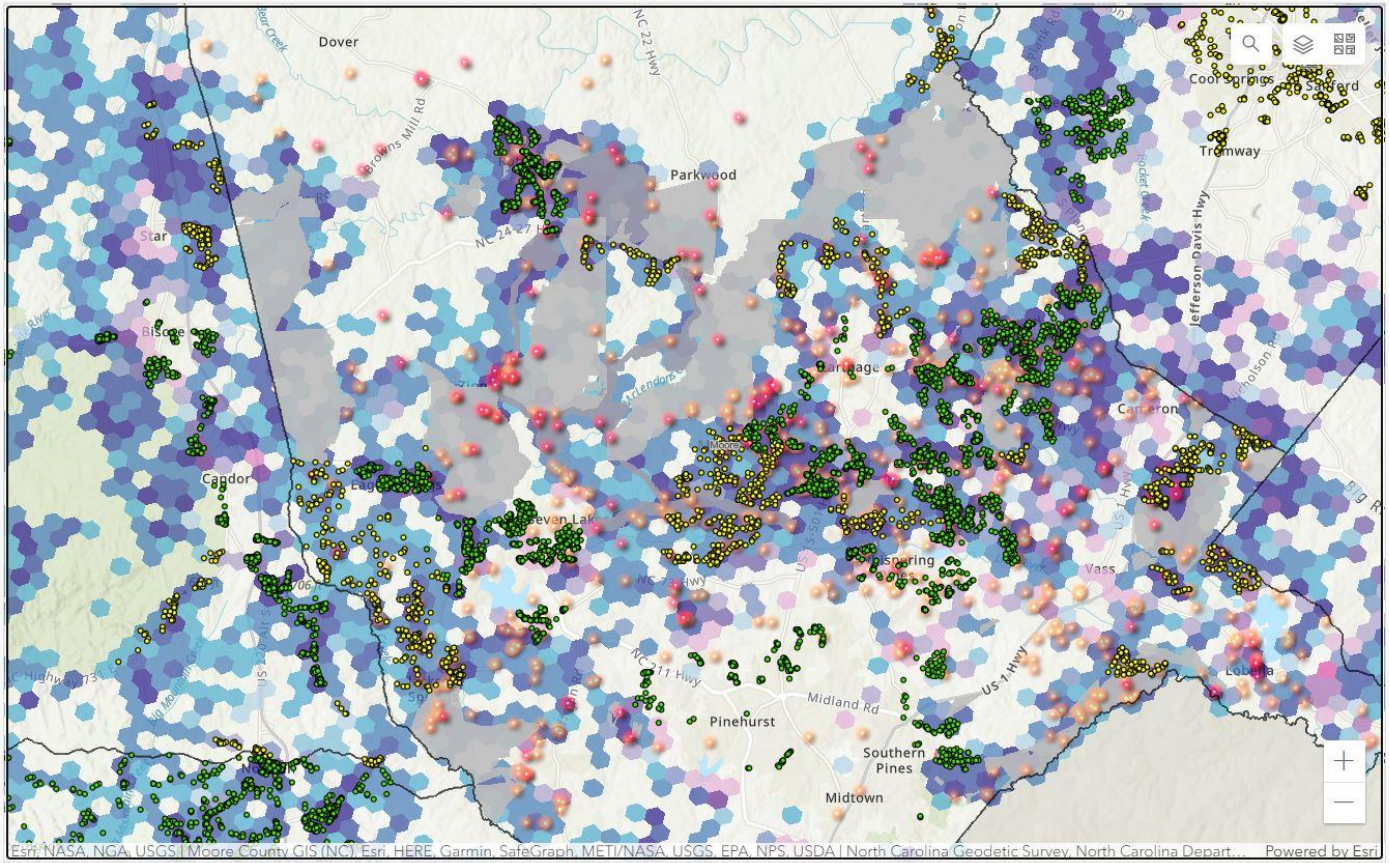

Filter by County and then Select list item to see Broadband Provider Reported Service Area*

- Brightspeed - Copper
- Brightspeed - Fiber
- Charter Communications Inc - Cable
- Charter Communications Inc - Fiber
- Randolph Telephone Membership Corp - Copper
- Randolph Telephone Membership Corp - Fiber
- Randolph Telephone Telecommunications Inc. - Fiber
- RiverStreet Networks - Licensed Fixed Wireless
- T-Mobile US

*Locations reported as served at any speed level in latest FCC Broadband Data Collection.

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QUESTIONS?

Visit the division's website to learn more:

www.ncbroadband.gov/CAB

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