

Business and Economic Development: Facilitated Session



Agenda

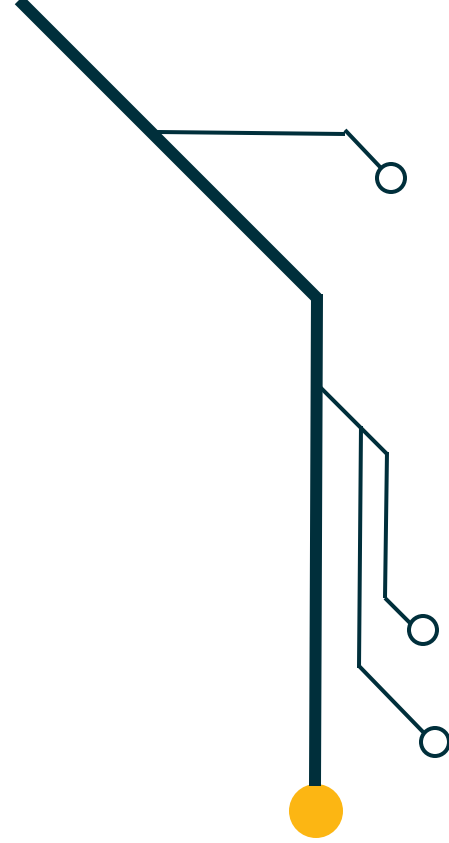
1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Broadband Technology Overview
3. Funding and Programmatic Overview

Introductions

- *Kelly Schlegel - Director of the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion*
- *Joaquin Alvarado – Community Engagement Facilitator*

Mission and Vision of Office of Broadband

- **Mission:** Passionate leadership to drive bold, equitable, and inclusive broadband solutions
- **Vision:** Achieve bold, affordable broadband solutions for New Mexicans that honor the state's rich heritage and elevate quality of life for all
- **Values:** Seven values defining OBAE's people, processes, planning, and programs: 1) bold; 2) honest; 3) curious; 4) innovative; 5) respectful; 6) collaborative; 7) analytically rigorous
- **Four major goals**
 - Universal Broadband Availability
 - Broadband Adoption and Meaningful Usage
 - Statewide Next Generation Networks
 - Program Stewardship
- **These goals are foundation of the 3-yr Plan submitted Jan 01, 2023 that describe strategic priorities, initiatives and actions to accomplish each goal**



Broadband Technology Overview

*An introduction to broadband infrastructure and technologies for
communities and local policymakers*

Federal and State Broadband Speed Thresholds

25/3
Mbps

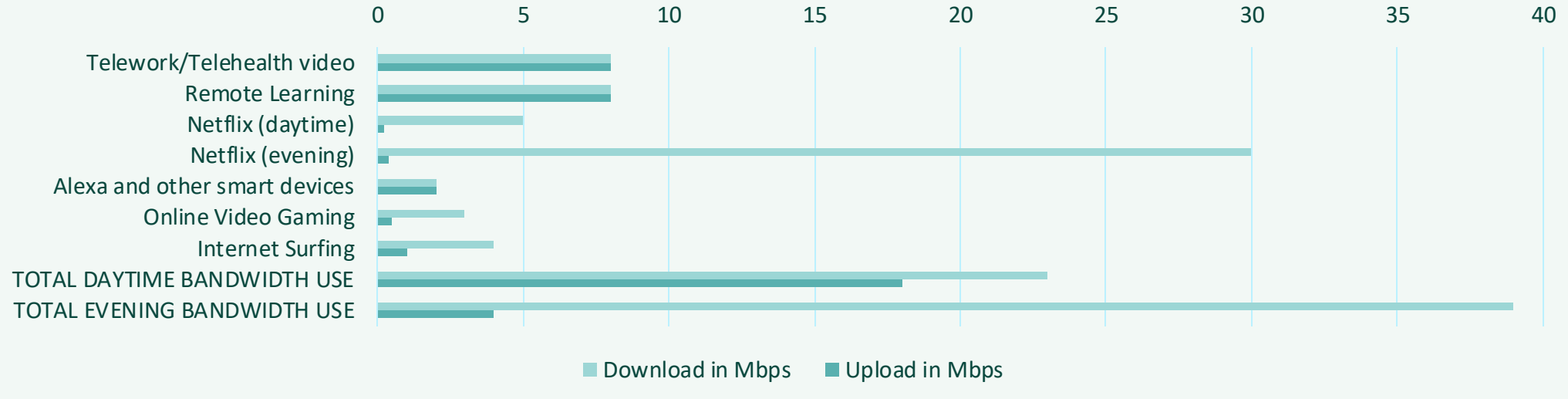
The FCC's definition is 25 megabits per second down and 3 megabits per second up (25/3 Mbps)

100/20
Mbps

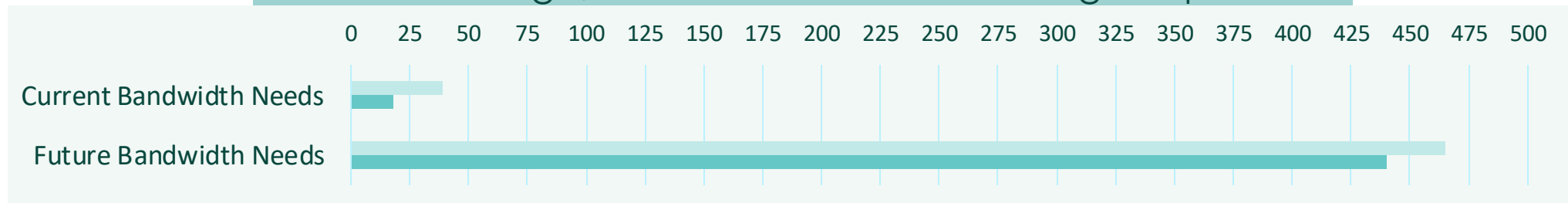
Congress set a new 100/20 Mbps standard in the American Rescue Plan Act and Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act

How much bandwidth do we need?

Today we need more bandwidth than minimum 25/3 Mbps broadband speeds defined by the FCC

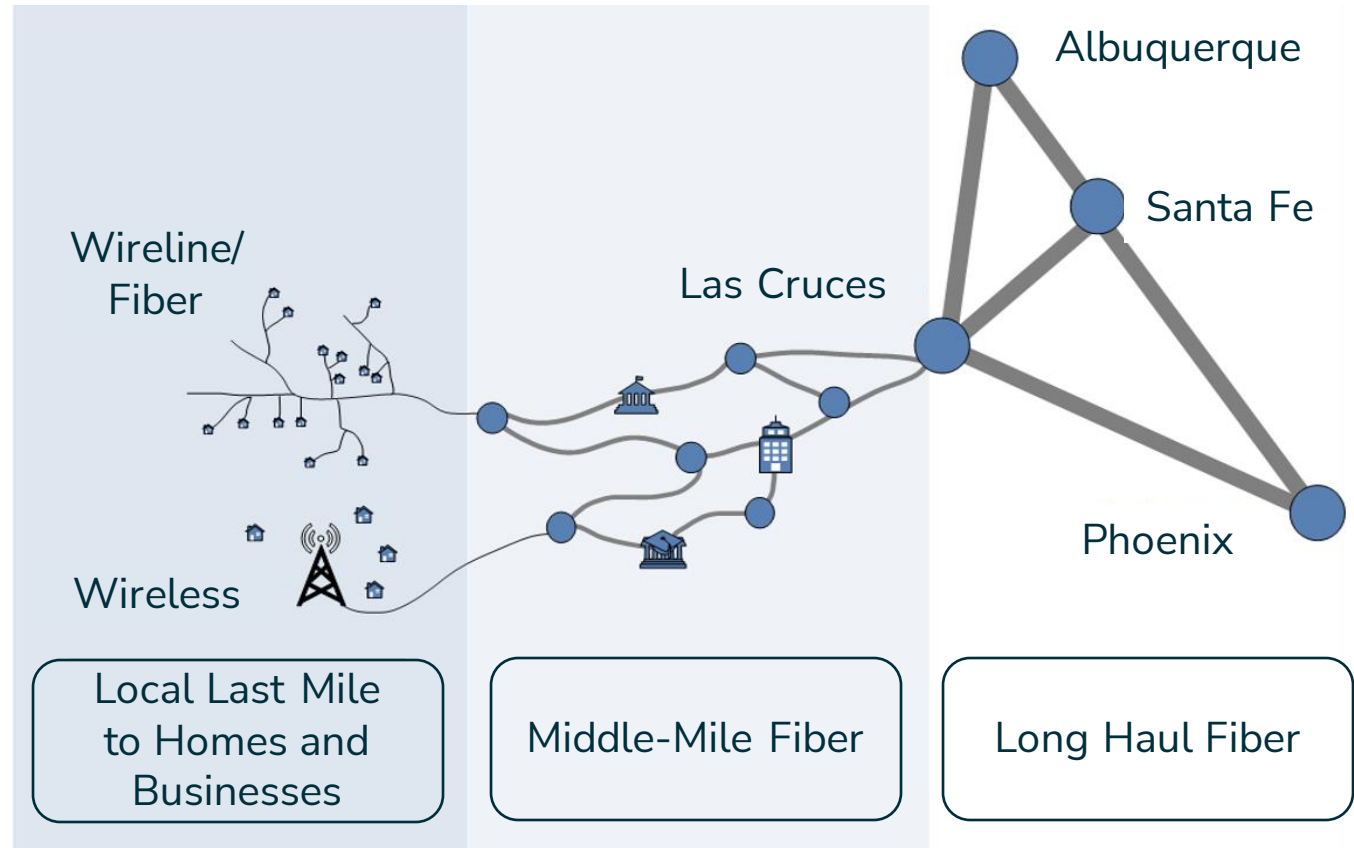


With augmented reality, other anticipated applications, and increased usage, we will soon need much higher speeds

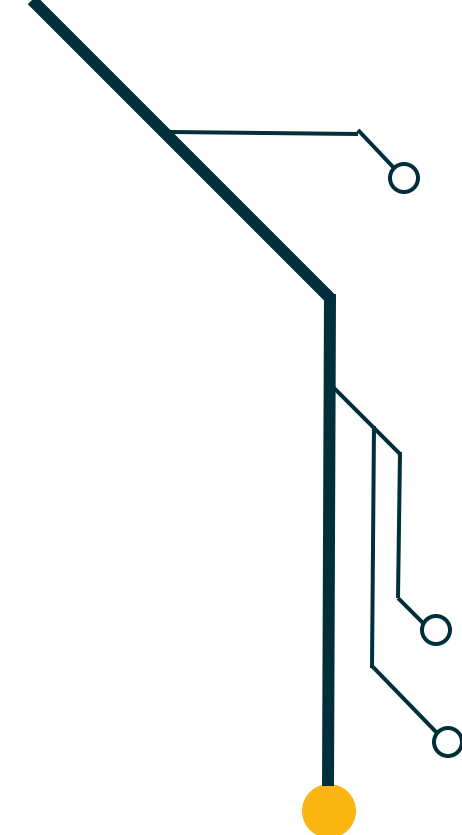
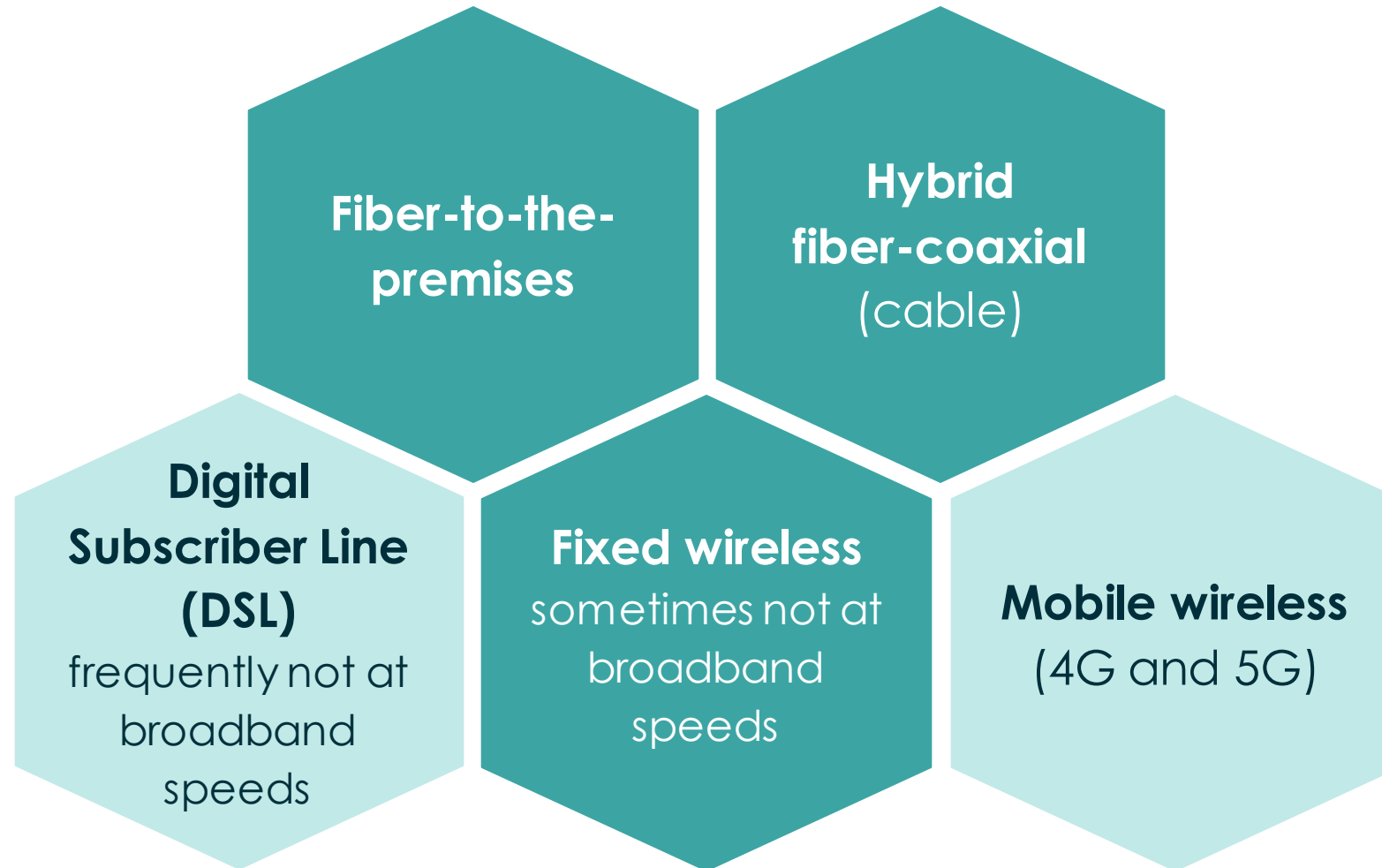


THE ELEMENTS OF A BROADBAND NETWORK

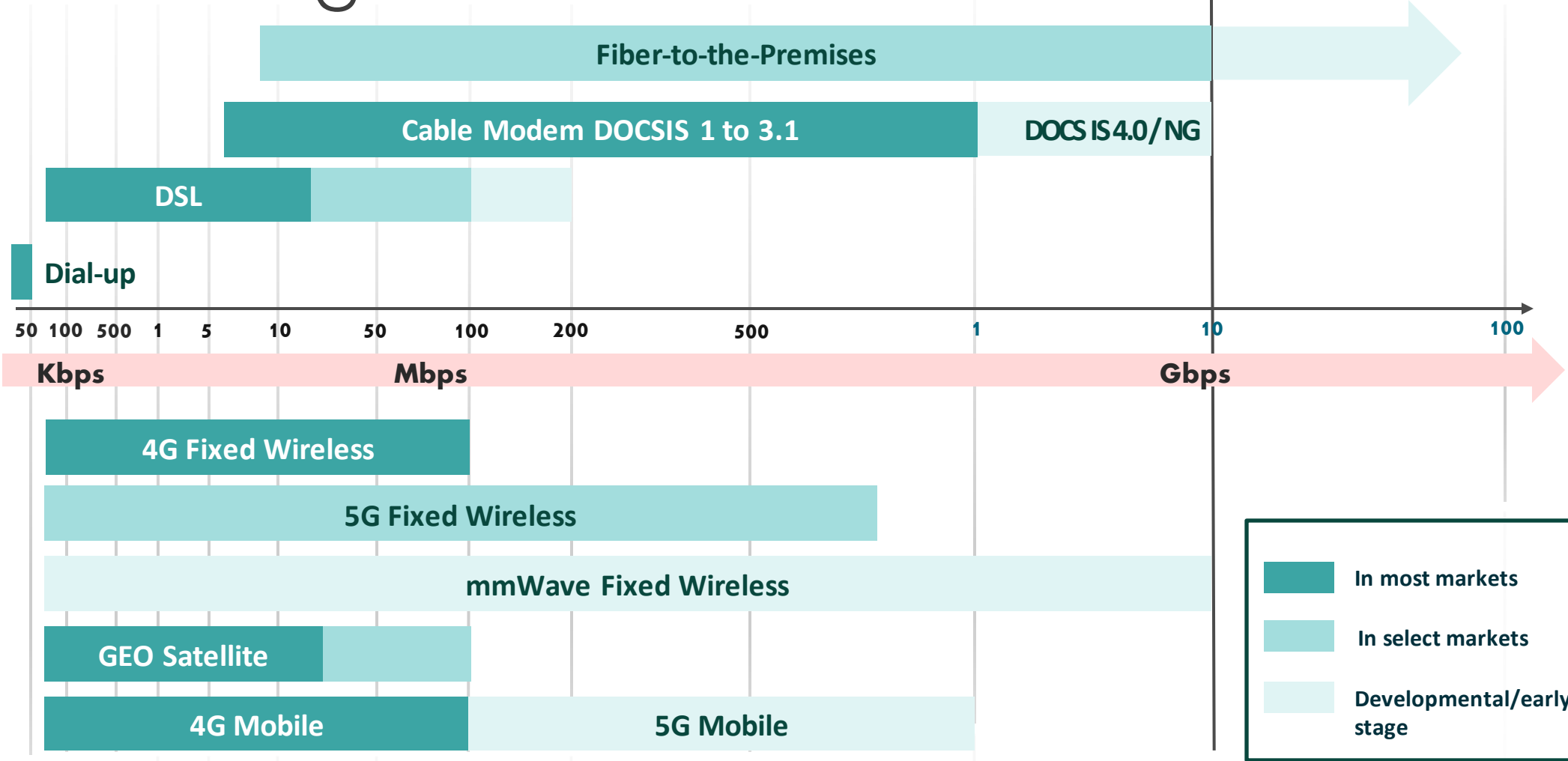
- Long haul fiber
- Middle mile fiber
- Last mile (wireline or wireless)



Types of Broadband Infrastructure



Typical Speeds: Wireline and Wireless Technologies



What is “Digital Equity”?

Generally, experts have identified five elements of digital equity:



Broadband Access:

Affordable, accessible, and reliable high-speed home internet service is available for all individuals



Accessible and Inclusive Content:

Public online content is inclusive and accessible by all individuals



Devices and Tech Support:

Individuals have access to a computer or tablet and technical support



Privacy and Security:

Individuals can protect their data privacy and online security



Digital Literacy and Skills:

Individuals have digital skills to support their ability to meaningfully use the internet in their daily lives

Digital Equity Ecosystem

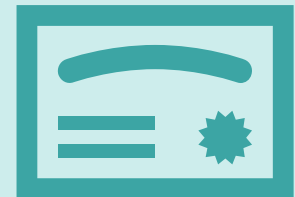
A Digital Equity Ecosystem coordinates entities' work together to address all aspects of the digital divide, including affordable broadband, devices, and skills.

Indicators of a strong Digital Equity Ecosystem:

- Existence of programs and policies **addressing all aspects of the digital divide:**
 - Affordable and subsidized broadband service options that meet the community's needs
 - Affordable and subsidized device ownership programs that meet the community's needs
 - Multilingual digital literacy and digital skill trainings that meet the community's needs
 - Hardware and software technical support
 - Digital navigation services to guide residents to the above services
- **Collaboration:** Entities providing local digital inclusion services, policymakers, advocates, social service providers and community leaders co-create solutions in partnership with the community.

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE CONSIDERATIONS

- Does your business have sufficient broadband connectivity? If not, what are some barriers towards achieving that?
- What are the types of challenges that your business may experience with respect to connectivity?
- Do your employees have access to high-speed broadband outside of the workplace to allow for business related activities such as remote work?

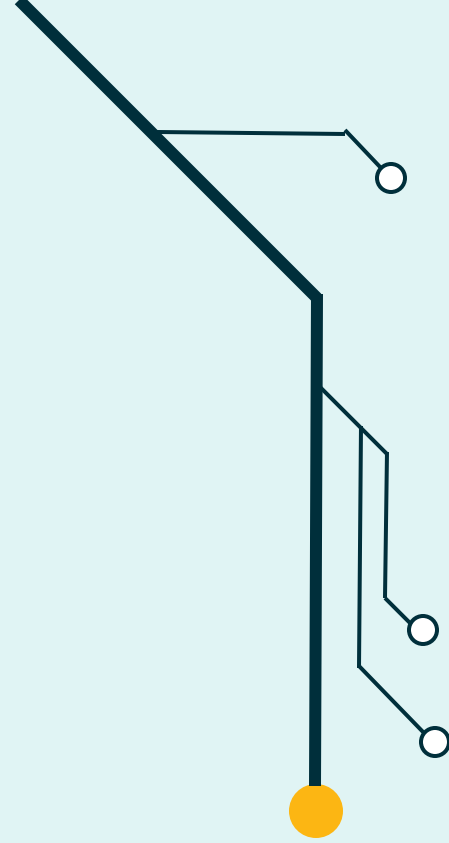


Discussion

- With an increase in remote work, have you noticed a gap in digital skills in your workforce? Have you offered any programs to ensure employees have the tools to do telework?

Funding and Programmatic Opportunities

Funding Overview and Timeline



Broadband Funding Priorities and Timeline

New Mexico will develop a statewide plan for expanding broadband to all in-state addresses

Funding priorities for fiber-to-the-premises deployment

1. **Unserved locations:** those that cannot get Internet service at least 25/3 Mbps
2. **Underserved locations:** those that get internet service between 25/3 and 100/20 Mbps
3. **Community Anchor Institutions** (schools, libraries, hospitals, public safety): locations that cannot get 1Gbps internet
4. Low income and affordable housing

Planning

2023

Provisional grant program

2024

New infrastructure

2025

Broadband Service Deployment Under BEAD

State issues subgrants and requires matching funds to deploy broadband infrastructure and deliver service

Projects comply with fair labor standards and cybersecurity practices

State workforce development plan ensures readiness and new jobs to underrepresented groups

Low-cost service options available to households qualifying for ACP and low-cost service parameters based on provider participation in ACP, cost to subscribers after subsidies, and plan speed

Compliance with state and federal environmental laws, climate threat assessment

Broadband service project areas prioritize unserved address locations



Digital Equity Funding Priorities

New Mexico is developing a statewide plan for advancing digital equity, including how to utilize upcoming federal funds

Program areas:

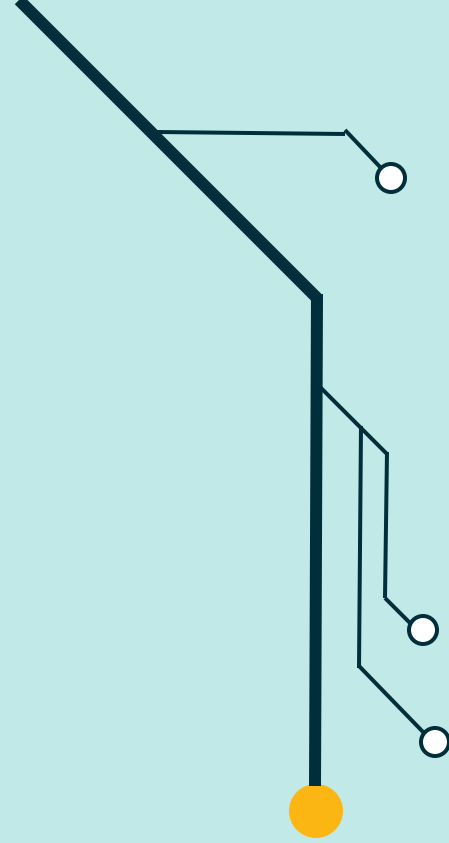
- **Broadband Access:** Individuals have more affordable, accessible, and reliable high-speed home internet service
- **Devices and Tech Support:** Individuals have access to a computer or tablet and technical support
- **Digital Literacy and Skills:** Individuals have digital skills to support their ability to meaningfully use the internet in their daily lives
- **Accessible and Inclusive Content:** Public online content is inclusive and accessible by all individuals
- **Privacy and Security:** Individuals can protect their data privacy and online security

Covered Populations:

- Rural residents
- Low-income individuals
- Veterans
- Seniors
- Individuals with disabilities
- English learners
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Incarcerated individuals

Discussion

- With the expected deployment of broadband and increased broadband adoption, what aspirations do you have for your community's economic development?



Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

FCC subsidy program
helps households better
afford internet services
and devices

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

Benefits for eligible households:

- Up to \$30/month internet service discount
- Up to \$75/month internet service discount of qualifying Tribal lands
- One-time discount up to \$100 for a device
- Some low-cost service plans can be entirely subsidized

Household income and federal assistance programs determine eligibility*

Apply for ACP: affordableconnectivity.gov

Stakeholder Surveys



State & Local Government Asset Inventory

Infrastructure-related assets that may help facilitate or reduce the cost of broadband deployment in the state



Community Anchor Connectivity

Barriers and obstacles to clients, facility access, criticality of internet to mission and program capacity



ISP Workforce Preparedness

Sources for hiring, workforce programs, ACP, internet skills and adoption, collaboration in community, deployment approaches, disaster recovery plans



Workforce Programs Inventory

Workforce programs profile, barriers to developing diverse & skilled workforce, ISP workforce-related questions



Digital Equity Program Inventory

Program details, planned program types & areas of focus, broadband impacts on programmatic outcomes



Barriers & Obstacles for Covered Populations

Internet, computer & content access, digital skills, data security, barriers & obstacles, broadband impacts on programmatic outcomes

Next steps and Questions

