Broadband Momentum

December 7, 2022
Alaska Municipal League
Momentum 2017-2021

- 78,000+ locations upgraded/deployed
- 115,000 Alaskans improved wireless service
- $1.4B capex
Governor’s Task Force on Broadband

- Administrative Order 322
- Multi-stakeholder
- 8 Tasks
- 2 Subgroups
- 32 Public Meetings
- 36 Recommendations
- Notable Document Award
- gov.alaska.gov/broadband
Define Gaps

- **Speeds:**
  - 25/3Mbps = unserved
  - 100/20Mbps = underserved

- **Latency:** less than 100 milliseconds, sufficient for real-time applications like 2-way video

- **Data usage:** comparable to urban markets

- **Reliability:** 24/7 service with minimal downtime and resistant to single points of failure
Target the Unserved & Underserved

Robust broadband services should be available to all Alaskans. Policymakers should expand buildout objectives to deploy infrastructure to meet the needs of unserved and underserved locations across Alaska.
Identify Middle Mile Needs

Broadband policy and program analyses should include data gathering and research to **identify where additional middle-mile capacity is needed** to meet established or potential last-mile service availability speed targets, recognizing that any established **standards will need to evolve** with the growing demands of technology and consumer usage over time.
Due to its unparalleled bandwidth, latency, upgradeability, and reliability, fiber-optic cables should be deployed wherever feasible and practical to facilitate middle-mile connections.
HB363 – 32nd Legislature

- Establishes
  - Office of Broadband
  - Broadband Parity Adjustment
  - Statewide Advisory Board
    - Technical Working Group

- Prioritizes
  - Unserved
  - Underserved
  - Anchor Institutions
ReConnect Grant Program

- Loans and grants to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas.
- 14 awards, more likely
- $305M grant, $53M matching
- 5,000+ households in rural Alaska
- Fiber and microwave technologies
- Round 4 applications under review
NICEY - Yakutak

- “New Internet Connection for Everyone in Yakutat”
- Cordova Telecom $18.9M grant to connect Yakutat
- Microwave network
Aleutian Fiber - GCI

Unalaska
Population: 4,333
Unalaska will look familiar to anyone who is a fan of the TV series “The Deadliest Catch.” Dutch Harbor, located in Unalaska is the filming location for the show.

King Cove
Population: 820
This tiny community is big on sports. King Cove is home of the T-Jacks, the 2019 MA boys basketball state champions.

Chignik Bay
Population: 16
Chignik is the only port of call between Sand Point and Kodiak. Chignik is the Aleut word for “big wind.”

Akutan
Population: 94
Akutan has no roads, only boardwalks as most of the town is walkable. It’s also home to the active Akutan Volcano, about seven miles west of the village.

Sand Point
Population: 111
Sand Point may be most well-known for being home to a large fishing fleet, but it also boasts uncharacteristically sandy beaches and a lot of wildlife, including a herd of bison.

Larsen Bay
Population: 82
Located deep in a fjord, Larsen Bay is situated next to some of the best fishing grounds in the Kodiak Archipelago.

Alaska Telecom Association
Atqasuk Fiber Build - ASTAC
SEALink - Alaska Power & Telephone

A $21M Round 2 @usdaRD ReConnect grant helps Alaska Power & Telephone lay the submarine cable that will bring high speed internet to Kasaan and Coffman Cove! #FiberToTheHome #ConnectAlaska #RainbowConnection #KermitToEndingTheDigitalDivide
Mukluk Telephone dba Fastwyre Broadband - Teller

- $4.1M for fiber to the home network
  - Brevig Mission
  - Teller
- 70 miles fiber
- Microwave
Tanana Chiefs Conference

- Huslia, Alatna, and Allakaket Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas as well as the socially vulnerable communities of Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area.
- $30.3M
- Fiber network
Alaska Power & Telephone

- Alaska Power & Telephone
  - #1
    - $33M grant, $11M match
    - Fiber project to serve Klukwan and Skagway
  - #2
    - $29M grant, $9.8M match
    - Fiber project to serve Klawock, Craig, and Hyder
$31M for fiber project to Anaktuvuk Pass and Point Lay
Replace satellite backhaul with fiber
Cordova Telephone Cooperative

- $21M grant, $7M match
- Fiber project to Eyak and the Valdez-Cordova census area.
- Subsea fiber Cordova-Seward
- Village of Chenega
ASTAC – Atqasuk Fiber Build
SEALink - Alaska Power & Telephone

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Lynn Canal Fiber – Alaska Power & Telephone
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

- NTIA
- $1B first round, $2B added from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- 2 categories, adoption & deployment
- Applications under review and curing, awards rolling basis
- Alaska – 10 projects - $341M
- More coming
TBCP – Doyon & Alaska Communications

- $50.7M to Doyon in collaboration with Alaska Communications to bring fiber to Fort Yukon, Beaver, Stevens Village, Rampart, and Tanana
- 1GB service
- Anchorage rates
TBCP – Calista & Alaska Communications

- $52.5M to Calista in collaboration with Alaska Communications to bring fiber to Lower Kalskag, Upper Kalskag, Tuluksak, Akiak, Akiachak, Kwethluk, and Napakiak.
- 1GB service
- Anchorage rates
TBCP – Bethel Native Corporation & GCI

- $42M to BNC in collaboration with GCI to bring fiber to Bethel, Platinum, Eek, Napaskiak, and Oscarville
- Connects with $31M ReConnect grant to bring fiber to Atmautluak, Kasigluk, Nunapitchuk, Quinhagak, and Tuntutuliak
- 2GB service
- Affordable rates
TBCP – Native Village of Port Lions & GCI

- $29.3M to NVPL in collaboration with GCI to bring fiber to Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Cold Bay, False Pass, Ouzinkie and Port Lions.
- 2GB service
- Affordable rates
TBCP – NANA Regional Corporation

- $68.5M to NANA to bring fiber to the NW Arctic Borough
- 4 year, 680 miles submarine cable
- 1GB service
TBCP – Tlingit & Haida

- $49.9M to deploy fixed wireless and LEO service
- Minimum speed 25/3
TBCP – Metlakatla Power & Light

- $10.5M to deploy fiber to the home
- 2 mile undersea cable
- 1GB service
TBCP – Choggiung, Limited

- $29.5M to deploy fiber to the home
- 100Mbps service
- Middle mile fiber
$7M to deploy fiber to the home
Minimum 336Mbps service
OTZ Telephone Cooperative

OTZ TELEPHONE BROADBAND BUILDOUT PROJECT
High Speed Internet in Each Community
Alcan ONE – Matanuska Telecom Association
Ketchikan Public Utilities
Infrastructure, Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA)

- $42.45B - Broadband Equity, Access, & Deployment (BEAD)
- $14.2B - Affordable Connectivity Program
- $2.75B - Digital Equity Planning, Capacity & Competitive Grants
- $2B - Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program
- $2B – ReConnect
- $1B – Enabling Middle Mile

Broadband Infrastructure
Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment (BEAD)

- $42.5B Nationwide
- NTIA funds directly to Alaska Office of Broadband
  - Allocation depends on new FCC maps
  - Grants for broadband deployment
    - Priority 1 = Unserved <25/3Mbps
    - Priority 2 = Underserved <100/20Mbps
    - Priority 3 = Anchor institutions
    - Adoption & access
- Requires 5-year plan
  - Delivers 100/20Mbps minimum service, scalable
  - Collaboration with local and statewide entities
FCC Broadband Fabric Maps

- First-ever national dataset capturing individual locations that should have fixed broadband service availability.
- “Input from state, local, and Tribal governments is essential to the success of the BDC. We invite these entities to actively engage with this effort.”
- NTIA will use maps to calculate BEAD allocation first half 2023
- Challenge process underway
- Evolving, Alaska data improving
Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure

- NTIA
- "Encourage the expansion and extension of middle mile infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas … and to promote broadband connection resiliency“
Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure

- Competitive grant program
- $1B Nationwide
- 235/$5.5B applications
- Awards March 2023
Digital Equity Act

- Ensure that all people and communities have the skills, technology, and capacity needed to reap the full benefits of our digital economy.
- Planning funds for States and Native entities.
- Rasmuson Foundation State Administering Entity
- 306 Native entities
- $2.75B Nationwide
Affordable Connectivity Program

- FCC
- Subsidy of $75/month for low-income families
- $100 towards device
- Rigorous enrollment process
- $14.2B Nationwide

https://www.fcc.gov/acp
What’s Next?

- Grant opportunities
  - Collaboration
- State Office of Broadband
  - Engagement
  - Planning
- Implementation
  - Permitting, supply chain, workforce
- Sustainability
Contact

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