Washington State Broadband Office Update

House Community & Economic Development Committee

Dawn Eychaner

ACTING DIRECTOR

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Washington State Department of Commerce

Washington State Broadband Goals

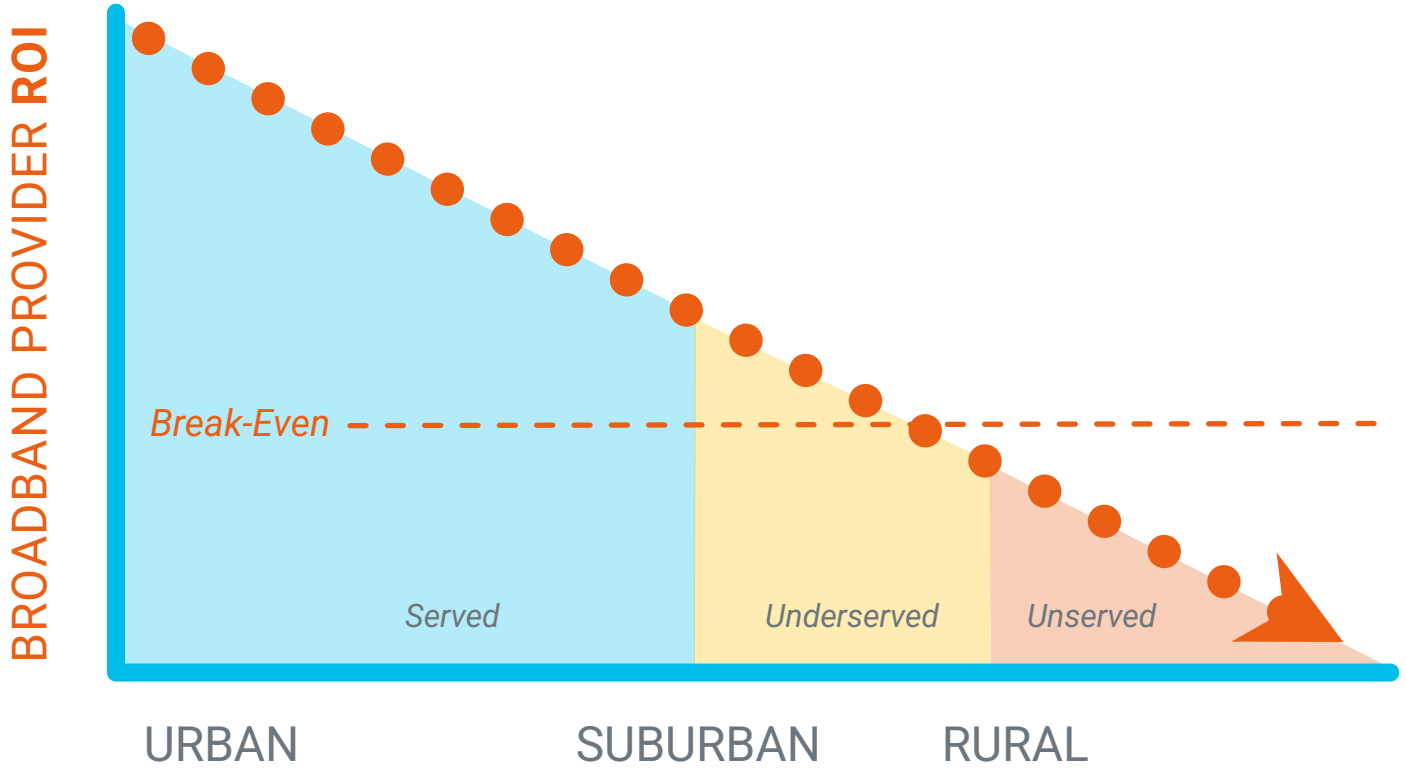
RCW 43.330.536

- **By 2024**, all businesses and residences have access to 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 3 Mbps upload (25/3)
- **By 2026**, all communities have access to 1 gigabit per second symmetrical service at anchor institutions (1G/1G)
- **By 2028**, all businesses and residents have access to 150 Mbps symmetrical service from at least one provider (150/150)

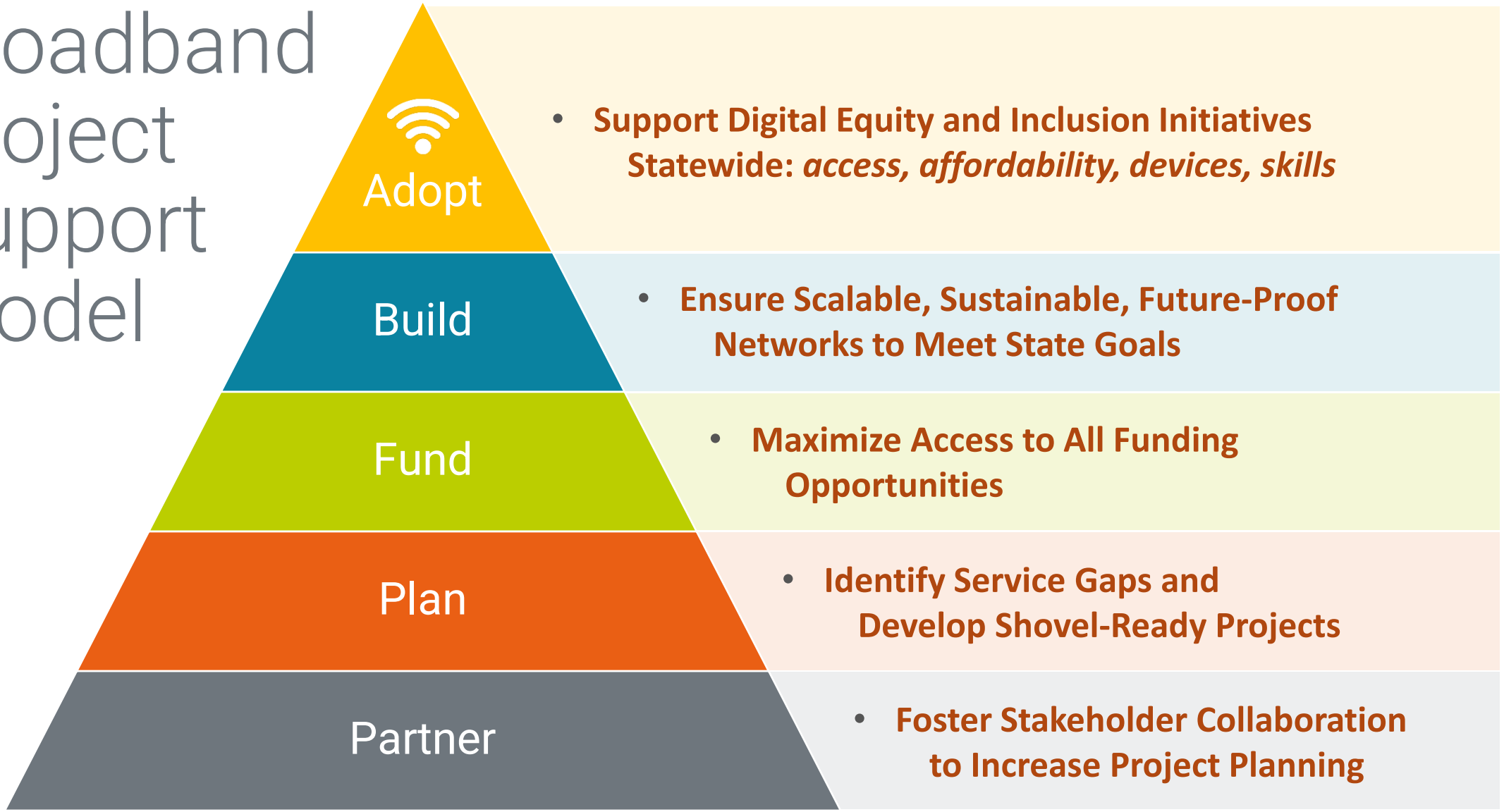
The Broadband Delivery GAP

Solutions

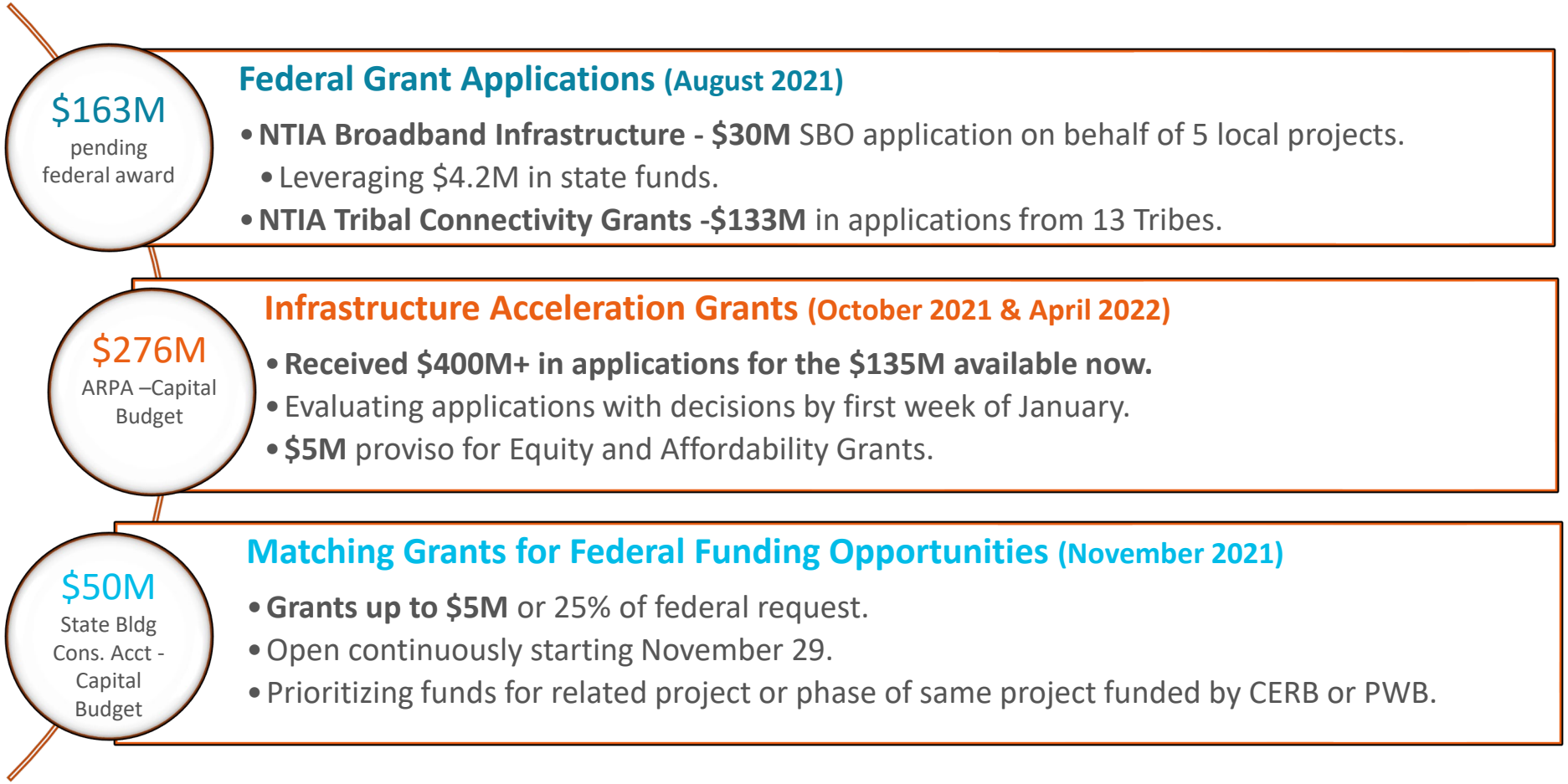
- State and federal grants to incentivize investment in difficult to serve areas
- Mapping to define unserved and underserved areas
- Rallying communities to engage in and advocate conversation for
  - Speed Tests
  - Broadband Action Teams
- Digital equity work to ensure affordability, access, and skills



Broadband Project Support Model

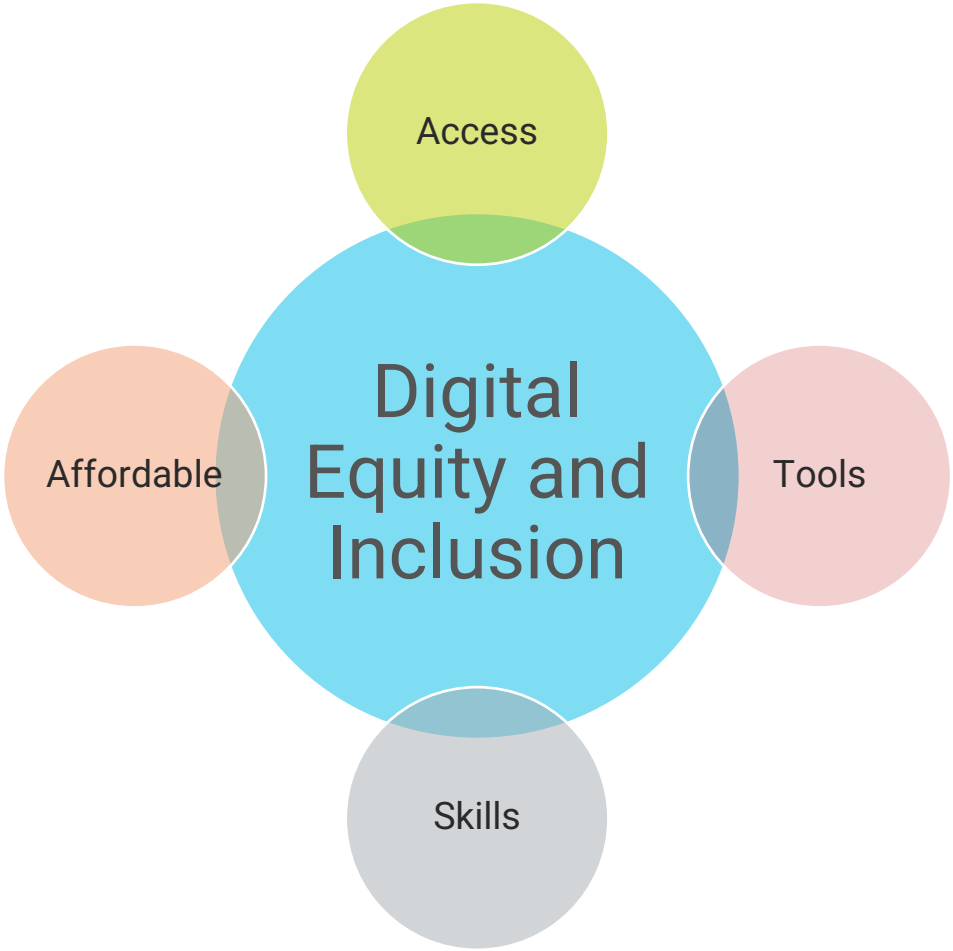


State Broadband Office Infrastructure Connectivity Funding



Digital Equity and Inclusion at Work

- **Policy guidance and coordination with statewide DEI initiatives and local Broadband Action Teams**
- **Broadband Access & Affordability Grants – $5M**
- **Digital Equity Forum – planning with Office of Equity**
- **Digital Navigator Grants – $7.5M**
- **Support access to federal resources for Washington State**
  - **Emergency Broadband Benefit 123,337 households enrolled**
  - **Emergency Connectivity Fund $129M+ requested**



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
Digital Equity ~ $2.75 Billion

I. State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program ($1.5 billion)

1. Grants to develop state digital equity plans ($60M).
2. State Capacity Grants ($1.44B)

   Formula grants based on overall population, “covered” population, and relative lack of broadband availability and adoption.

II. Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program ($1.25B)

- Competitive grants to complement the state digital equity capacity grant program.
- 5% of available funds each year reserved for Tribes.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
Broadband Deployment ~ $62+ Billion

I. Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment State Grants ($42.45B)

1. Minimum initial allocations of $100M per state.
2. $4.245B (10%) by share of unserved locations in high-cost areas.
3. Remaining $32B by share of unserved locations.

Formula grants. High-cost and unserved areas to be determined using broadband data maps currently under development by the Federal Communications Commission.

II. Middle Mile Grants ($1B)

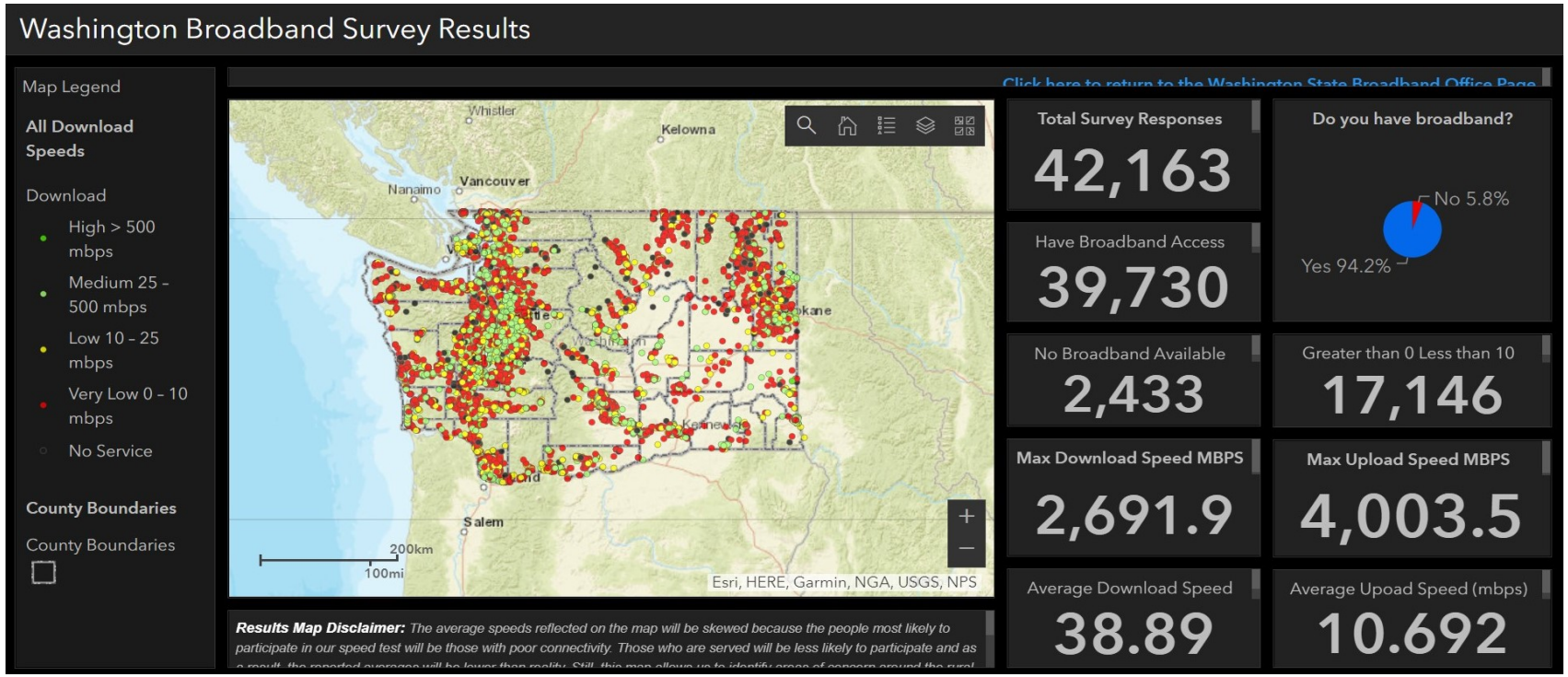
Competitive grants to extend broadband infrastructure that does not connect directly to end user locations.

III. Broadband Affordability and ReConnect ($16.2B)

1. Affordable Connectivity Benefit – renames, extends, modifies EBB program for $30 mo. benefit ($14.2B).
2. Rural area support – support for existing programs at USDA including ReConnect ($2B).

IV. Tribal Connectivity Program (additional $2B appropriated)

Crowd Sourced Speed Test Survey



https://www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/washington-statewide-broadband-act/speedtestsurvey/

Thank you.

Washington State Department of Commerce

www.commerce.wa.gov

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Appendix: Broadband Action Teams (BATS)

- Adams County BAT
- Asotin County BAT
- Clallam County BAT (*Coordination with City and Port of Port Angeles and City of Sequim BATs*)
- Clallam – City of Sequim BAT
- Clallam – City of Port Angeles BAT
- Columbia Gorge Broadband Consortium (Klickitat and Skamania counties in WA)
- Cowlitz/Wahkiakum
- Ferry County/Colville Confederated Tribes BAT
- Garfield County – Pomeroy Broadband Team
- Grays Harbor County
- Island County
- Jefferson County BAT
- King County BAT
- Kittitas County
- Klickitat County Broadband meeting
- Lewis County "Lewis County Broadband Champions"
- Lincoln County BAT
- Okanogan - Methow Valley BAT
- Pacific County Broadband Working Group
- Pend Oreille County - TRUE Convergence BAT
- Skagit County BAT
- Snohomish County BAT
- Stevens County/ Spokane Tribe BAT
- Thurston County BAT
- Wahkiakum Broadband Committee
- Whitman County BAT
- Yakima County BAT