



NEMCOG Rural Development Fund Update

WES KERR

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS: CONNECTED NATION



Topics

1. MDARD/NEMCOG Project
2. Michigan Broadband Roadmap
3. Connecting Michigan Communities Grant Program

Connect Michigan

Core competencies include:

- Network mapping, validation, and analysis
- Residential and business technology research
- Local, state, and national policy analysis and capacity building
- Community technology planning

Connect Michigan, part of Connected Nation, has been addressing broadband and technology since 2009

- Implemented the State Broadband Initiative from 2009 to 2014
- Have partnered and worked with MPSC, MDARD, MEDC, DTMB, MDE, and many others
- Collaborate and address broadband issues at all scales with a diverse group of stakeholders
- Have worked with 54 of Michigan's 83 counties to improve the education and capacity for broadband
- www.connectmi.org

Access

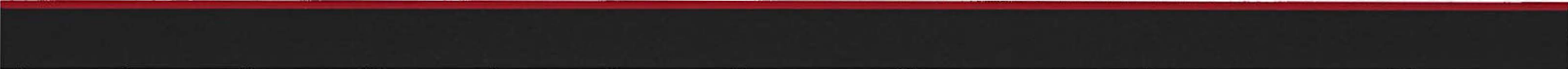
The physical connection to high-speed infrastructure

Adoption

Recognizing the value of broadband and subscribing either at home, work, or via public institutions

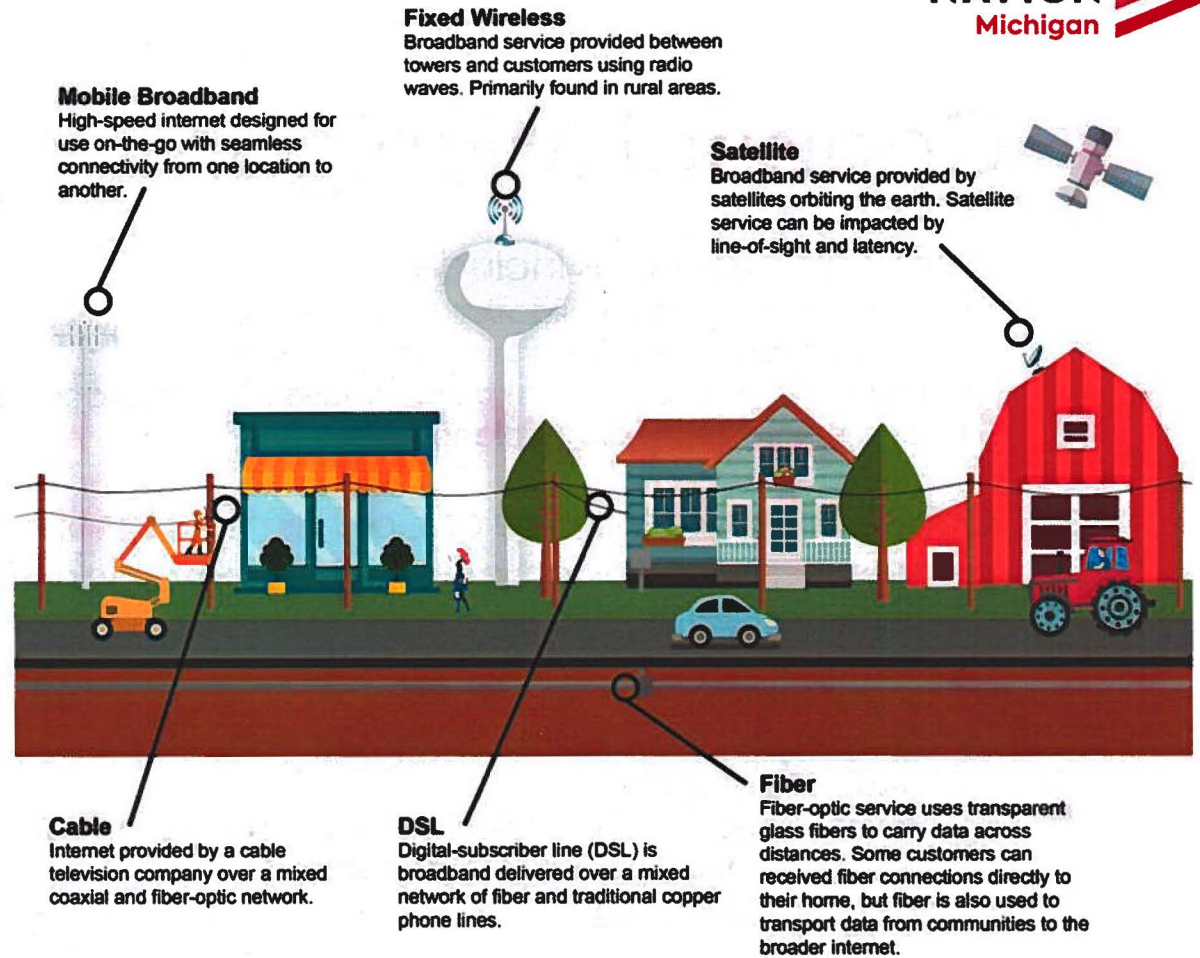
Use

Skills and applications to leverage technology to improve quality of life and community/economic development

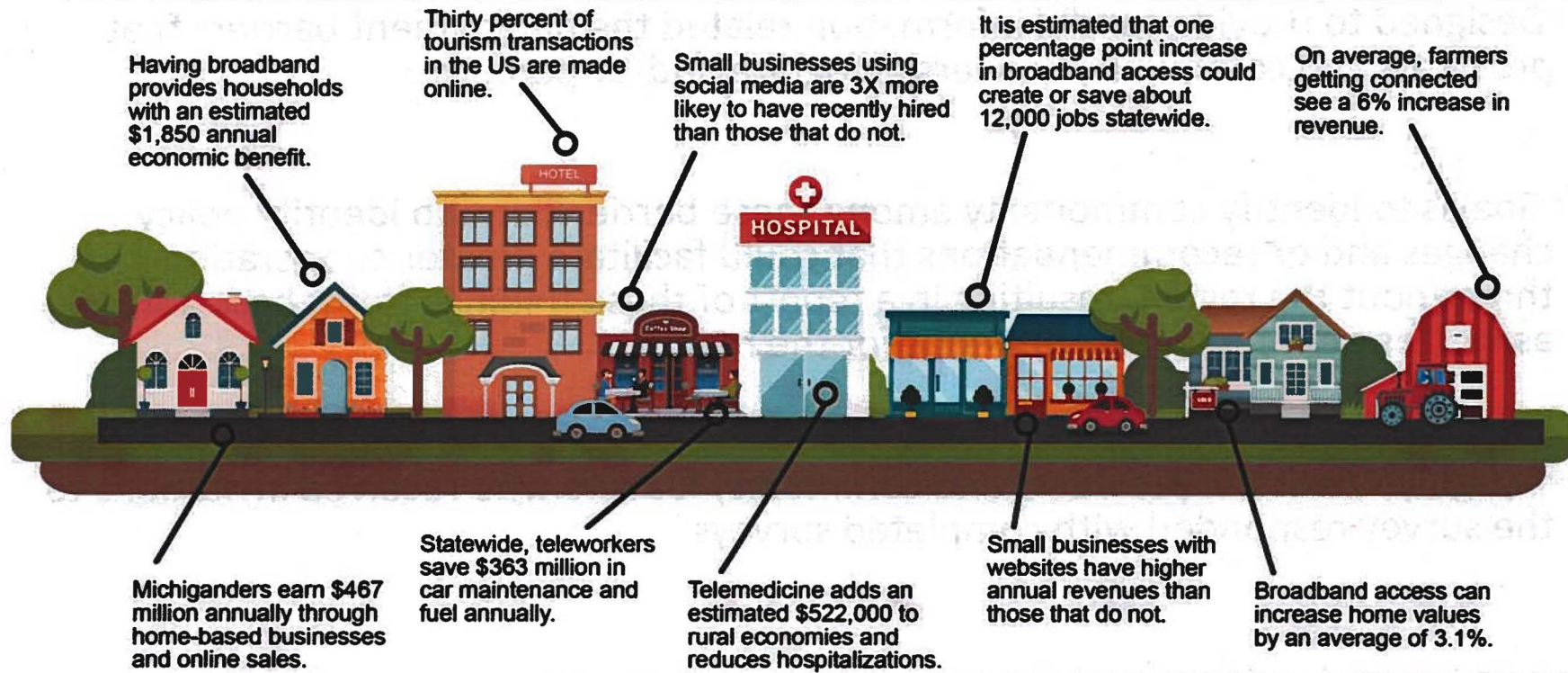


Broadband Defined


- More commonly referred to as high-speed internet access, technically, any kind of connection other than dial-up. Connection is always on.
- Fixed, terrestrial broadband: Service designed for permanent, stationary use at a home, business, or institution
- Mobile broadband: Wireless internet service designed for continuous use on a portable device
- Michigan Broadband Roadmap defined broadband service at 25/3 Mbps and unserved as areas without service at 10/1 Mbps



Broadband Matters

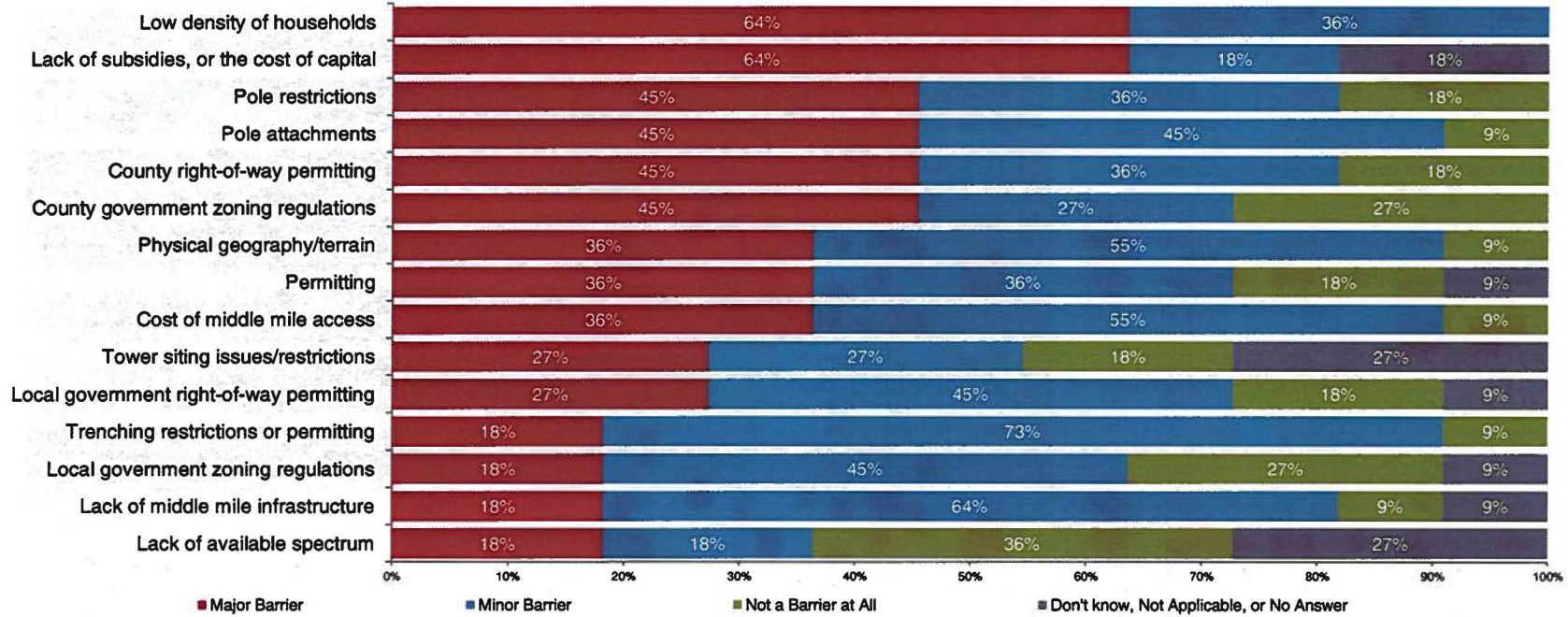


Provider and Community Leader Surveys

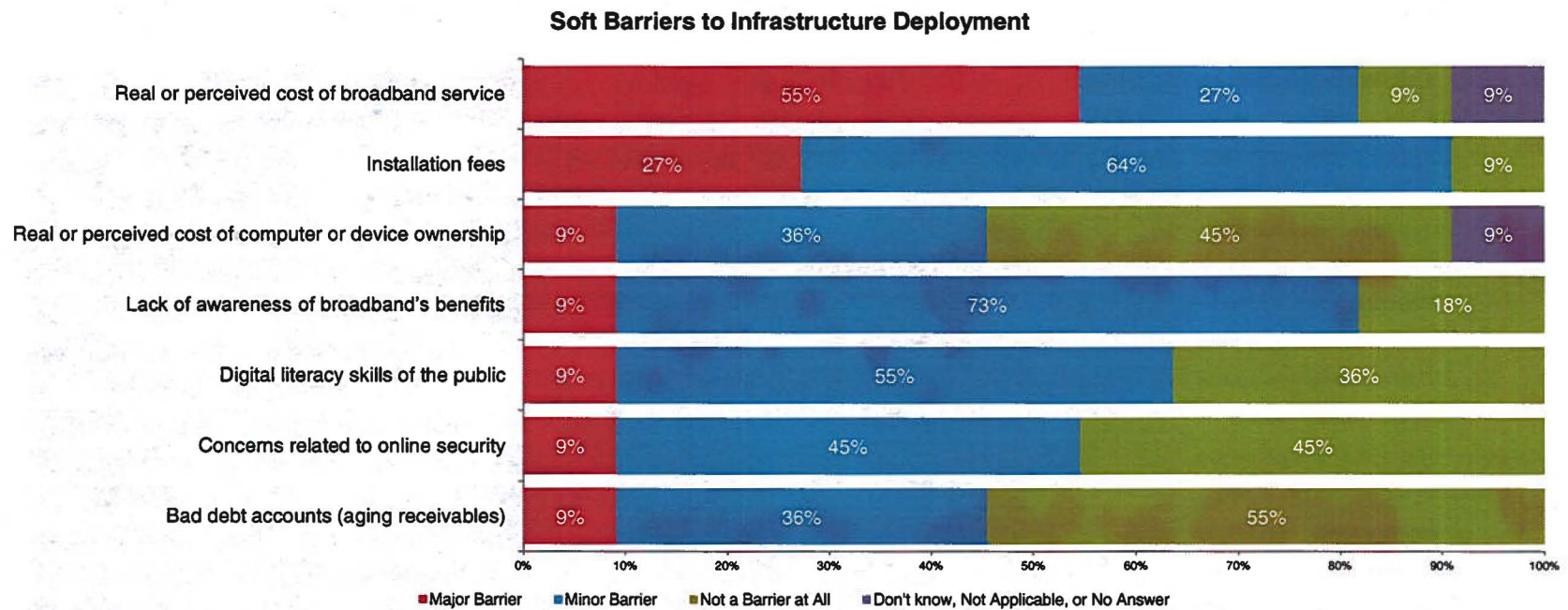
- Designed to provide candid information related the deployment barriers that providers and community leaders recognize and/or perceive.
 - Goal is to identify commonality among these barriers, and to identify policy changes and or recommendations that could facilitate greater cooperation throughout the region, resulting in a report of these findings from these surveys as well as policy recommendations for the region.
 - Roughly 1/3 of the providers and community leaders who received invitations to the survey responded with completed surveys.
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Providers: Barriers to Deployment


Hard Barriers to Infrastructure Deployment



Soft Barriers to Deployment

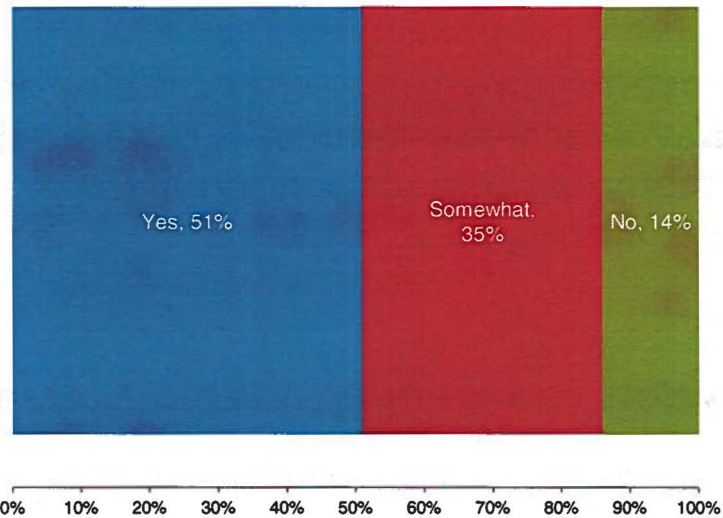


Provider Survey Results

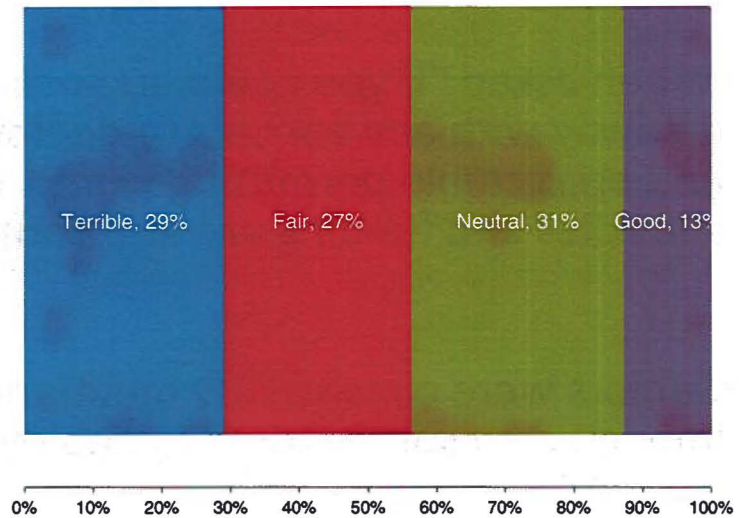
- Public-private partnerships, grant funding, and county-wide permitting were all mentioned as possible solutions to the identified barriers.
 - When asked “If you could ask local or state governments to enact any policy or do away with any barriers to deployment, what would you request?” Expedited and predictable permitting were a common theme among respondents. Cost subsidies and funding are also common desires among ISPs.
 - Seniors were consistently mentioned by providers as a group that is most often impacted by soft barriers to deployment.
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Community Leadership: Awareness and Relationships

Do you know which broadband providers offer service in your community?

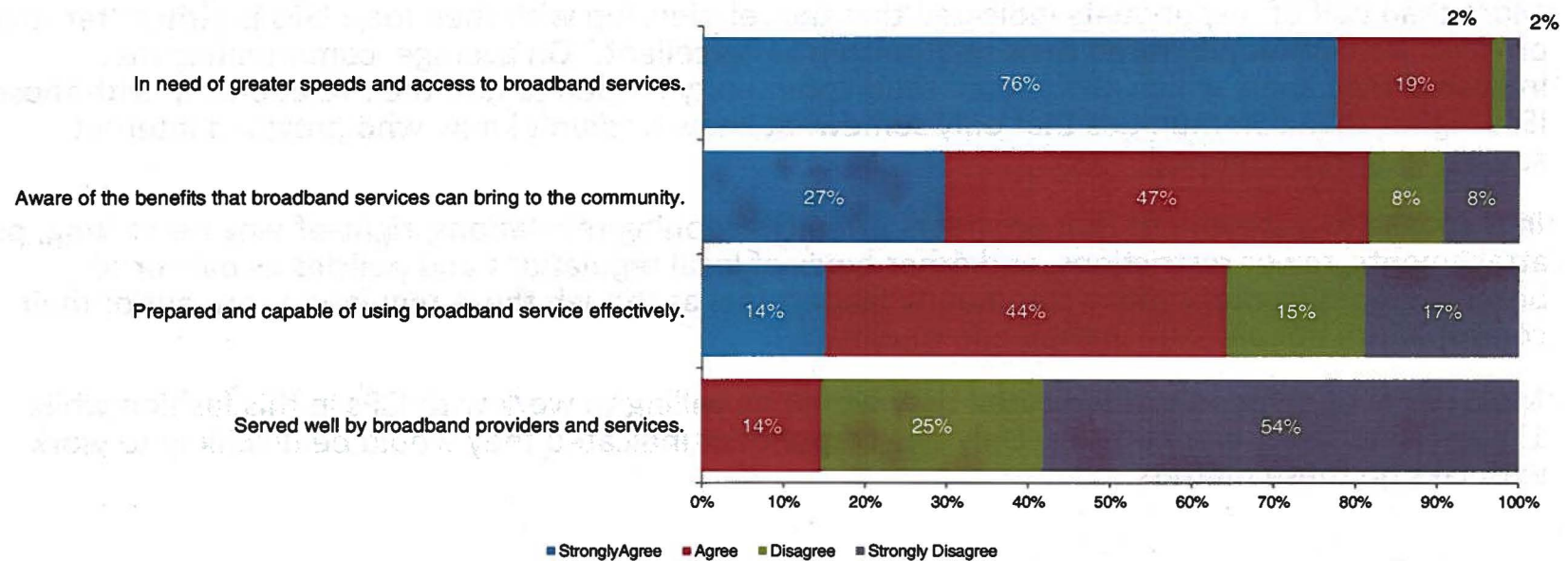


How would you rate the relationship between ISPs and your community?




Community Leader Perceptions

Community Leader Perceptions of Broadband: The public in my community is...

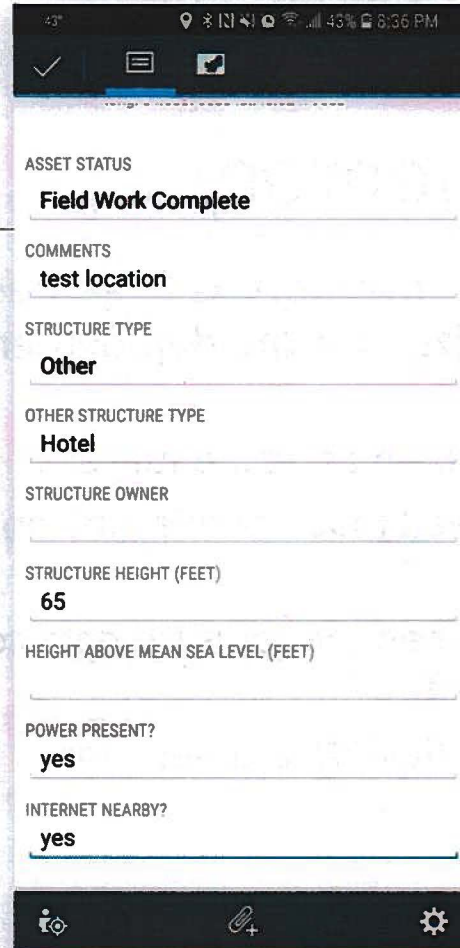
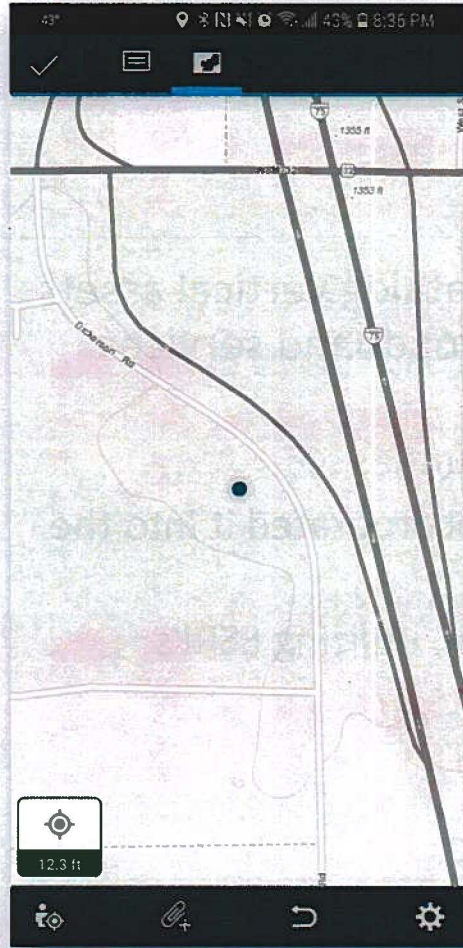


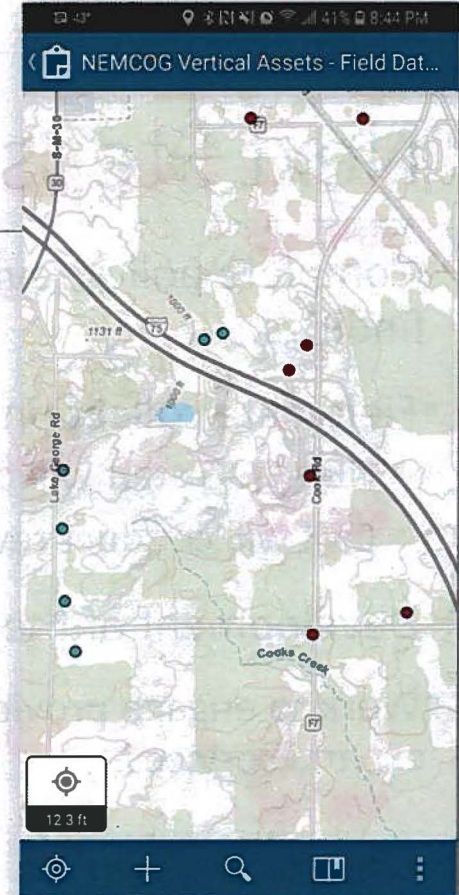
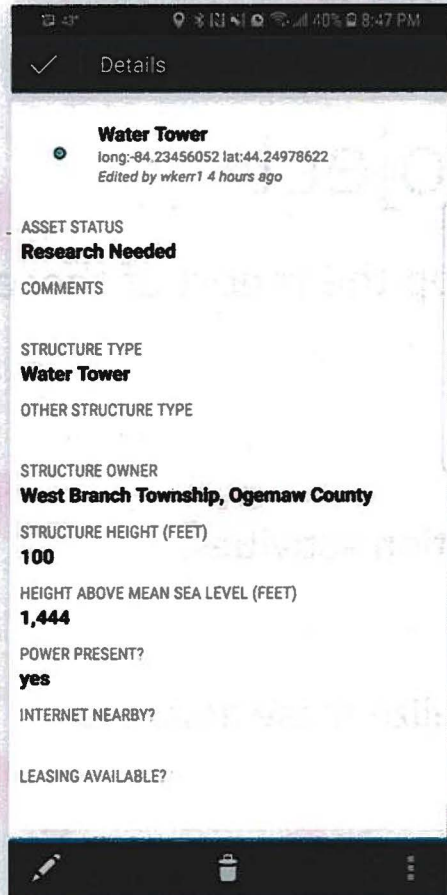
Community Leader Survey

- Roughly 1/3 of Community Leaders who were invited to respond to the survey, completed the Survey.
 - More than half of respondents indicated that the relationship with their local ISPs is either “terrible” or “fair.” No community rated their relationship as “excellent.” On average, communities that indicated they knew which ISPs served their community tended to rate their relationship with those ISPs higher than communities that only somewhat knew or didn’t know who provided internet service to the community.
 - In response to a statement that providers often cite zoning regulations, right-of-way permitting, pole attachments, tower restrictions, and other types of local regulations and policies as barrier to broadband deployment many community leaders feel as though these regulations are out of their control or are not an issue in their community.
 - Most (80%) of respondents indicated they would be willing to work with ISPs in this fashion while 17% indicated they were unsure. Only one respondent indicated they would be unwilling to work with ISPs on these matters.
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Vertical Asset Inventory

- The goal of the vertical asset inventory, is to gather and catalog vertical assets that could potentially be utilized for the deployment of broadband services throughout the region.
 - NEMCOG has completed desktop asset identification in 5 counties
 - Connect Michigan has reviewed much of this data and has incorporated it into the data collection database
 - Connect Michigan has developed the tools for data collection, utilizing ESRI's Collector app, has trained staff.
 - Connect Michigan has begun field data collection.





Next Steps to Complete the Project

- Complete policy review and recommendations, and develop the report of those findings.
 - Field data collection and verification.
 - NEMCOG staff will continue data collection.
 - CMI will conduct review of data and participate in field validation activities.
 - Development of the Portal.
 - Work to engage providers in the region who might be able to utilize these assets to expand services.
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Michigan Consortium of Advanced Networks

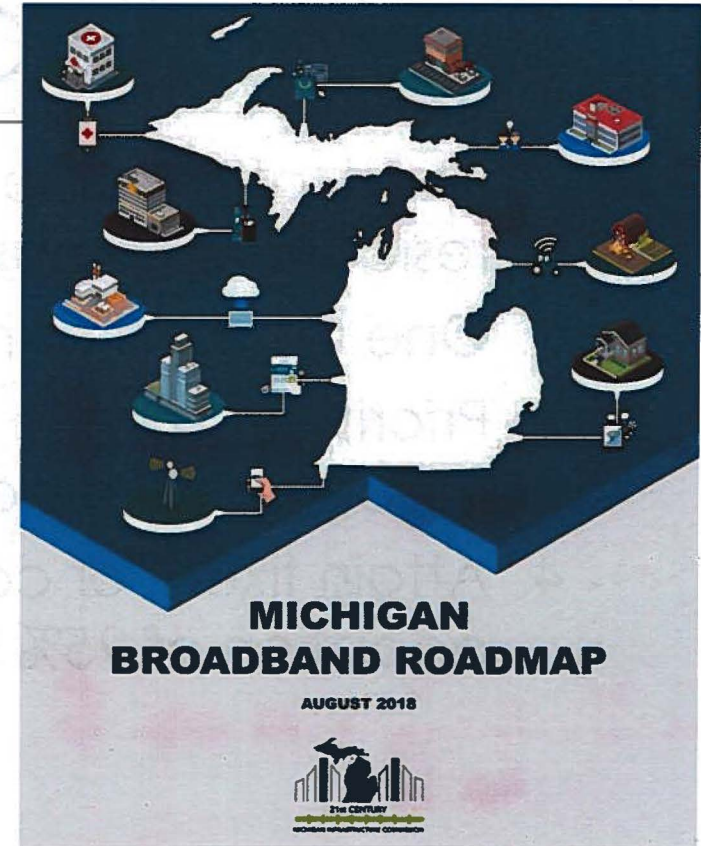
Created by Gov. Snyder in January 2018

Seven appointed members representing business, agriculture, education, and others. Six state agency appointees

Convened two subgroups of experts

Held five listening tour events across Michigan

Create the “Michigan Broadband Roadmap” to provide recommendations and actions for improving broadband access and adoption



Roadmap Goals

1. Fixed, affordable broadband service at 25/3 Mbps to all residents and businesses by 2022
2. One Gbps to all residents and businesses by 2026.
3. Priority and state funding focused on areas currently unserved by broadband at 10/1 Mbps
4. Attain fixed, or comparable, household broadband adoption of 95% by 2024.

Roadmap Actions

Three recommendation areas:

- 1. Improve Access to Unserved Areas**
- 2. Increase Broadband Adoption**
- 3. Progress Michigan's Broadband Ecosystem**

Roadmap Actions:

Improve Access to Unserved Areas

- Facilitate the creation of successful partnerships for broadband expansion.
- Connect communities and institutions.
- Improve broadband coverage data collection and validation.
- Increase backhaul capacity in rural areas.
- Improve the workforce pool for the telecommunications industry.

Roadmap Actions: Increase Broadband Adoption

- Promote and build awareness for low-cost broadband subscription programs.
- Support residents to become more digitally literate through coordinated training.
- Create partnerships to promote innovative uses of technology.

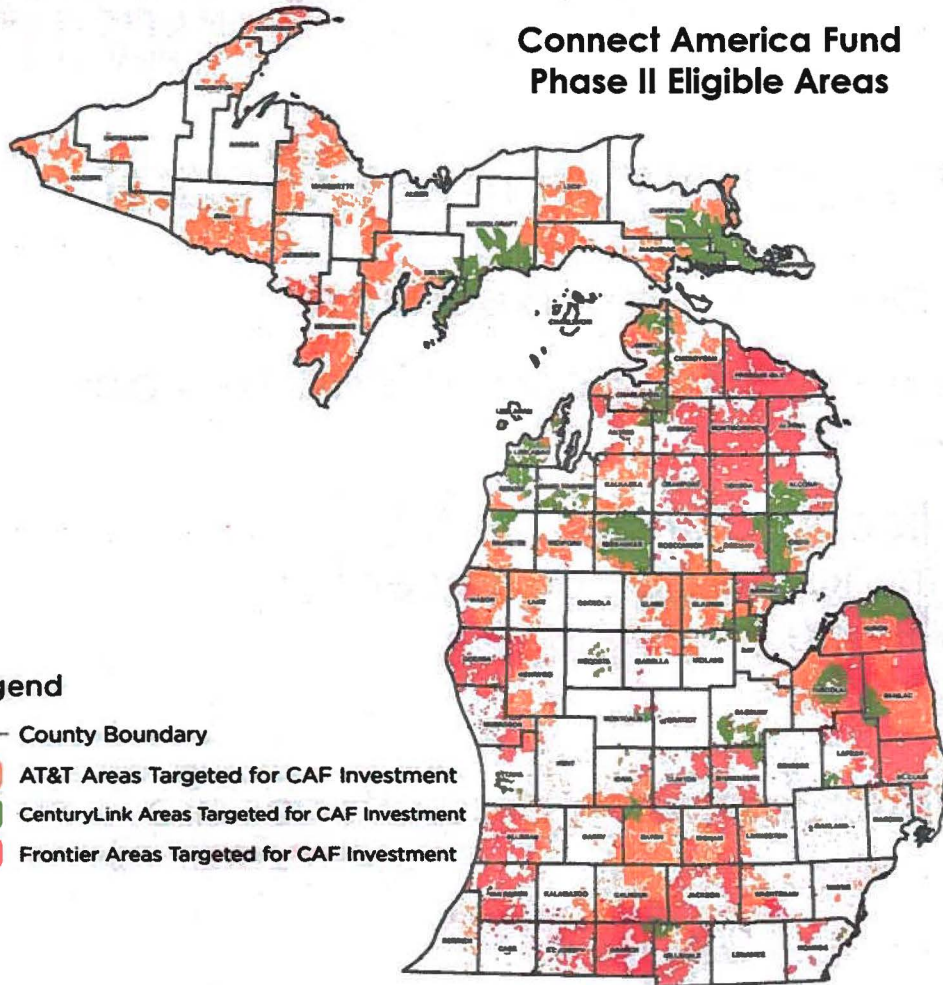
Roadmap Actions: Progress Michigan's Broadband Ecosystem

- State investment in broadband and technology to connect the unserved
- Create a single point of contact within state government
- Provide comprehensive broadband technical assistance, best practices, and guidance to communities
- Encourage "dig once" best practices
- Improve the pole-attachment process
- Streamline access to the right-of-way for all technology types
- Leverage the experience of telecommunications providers, and others to shape a better policy and regulatory ecosystem to connect unserved areas.
- Create a permanent long-term broadband commission

Connecting Michigan Communities Grant

- Grant designed to extend broadband into unserved areas
- Broadband defined as a connection with a speed at least 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload
- Eligible applicants include those licensed under the MI Telecommunications Act, video franchise act, or any entity currently providing broadband service
- Max. request is \$5 million
- Grant includes a comment/objection period to ensure funds are used in truly unserved areas
- Funds expected to be awarded in April 2020

Connect America Fund Phase II Eligible Areas



Legend

- County Boundary
- AT&T Areas Targeted for CAF Investment
- CenturyLink Areas Targeted for CAF Investment
- Frontier Areas Targeted for CAF Investment

Federal Subsidies

Three programs of the FCC's Connect American Fund are supplying ISPs in Michigan with funding to expand broadband into unserved areas.

	Locations to be Served	Subsidy	Participating ISPs
CAF Phase 2	180,377	\$363,075,405	4
A-CAM	26,855	\$188,447,573	6
CAF Auction	21,451	\$33,892,020	5
Total	228,683	\$585,414,998	15



Connect Michigan

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