Thank you for joining us for this BEAD Challenge Process Meeting. We will begin shortly.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
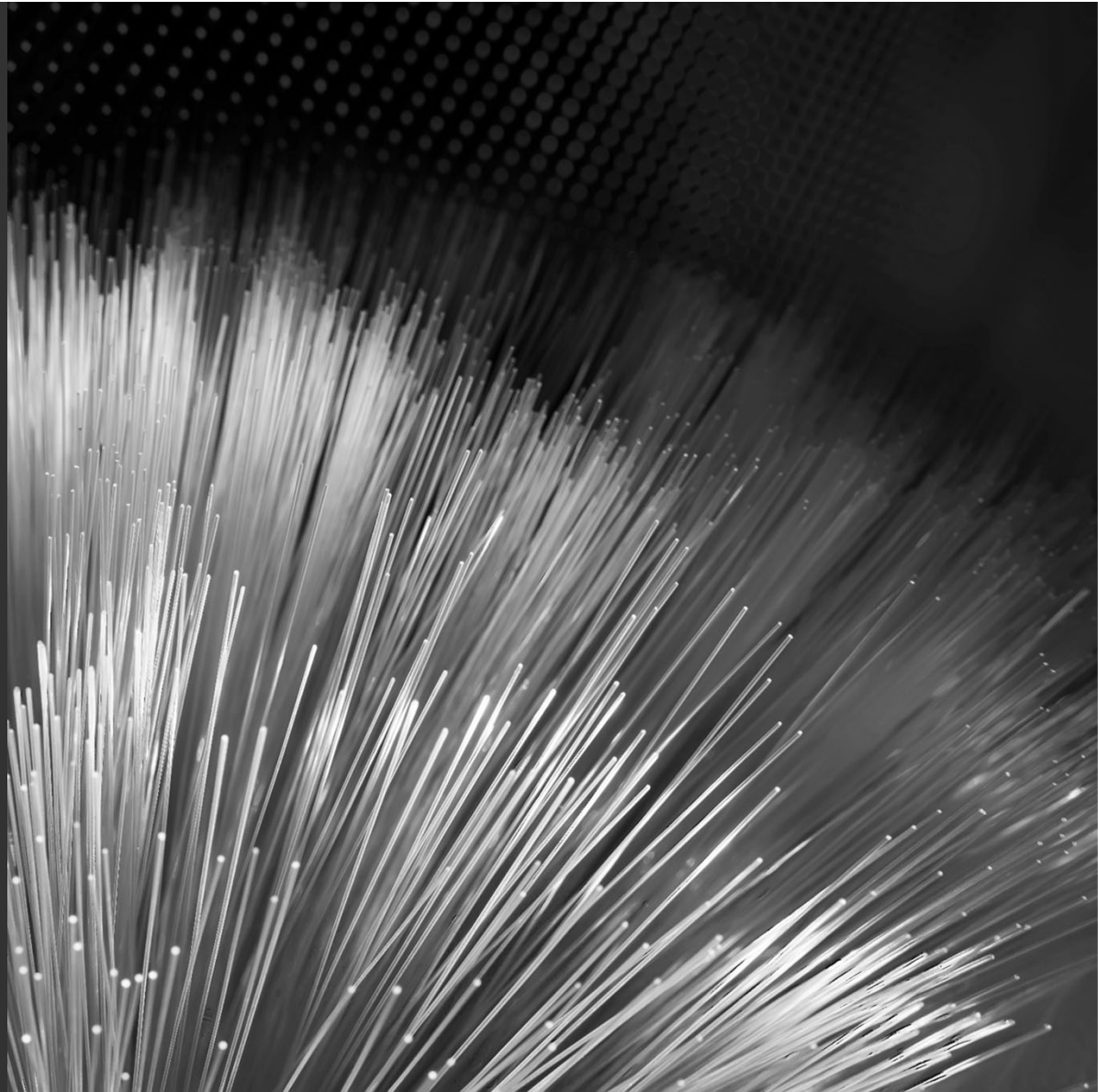
MICHIGAN HIGH-SPEED INTERNET OFFICE

BEAD Challenge Process

COMMUNITY ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS (CAI)

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
**LABOR & ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY**

AGENDA

BEAD Overview

This past June, Michigan received a historic $1.559 billion funding allocation, the fourth highest among recipients, for its BEAD program. The Program will enable universal availability of high-speed internet to every location within the state

MIHI objectives from BEAD program

01 Unserved Locations

02 Underserved Locations

03 Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs)

BEAD activities Completed to date

☑ **Five - Year Action Plan Approved.**

☑ **Stakeholder and community outreach**

☑ **Initial Proposal Volume I approved including Challenge Process.**

☐ **Initial Proposal Volume II under review by NTIA.**

BEAD Challenge Process

The State Challenge Process is the way that MIHI will identify all of the unserved and underserved homes, businesses and institutions in the state to ensure they can get connected to high-speed internet through the BEAD program.

Current Focus ▶ **Challenge process will begin in March ahead of the deployment subprogram which is expected to be launched in the second half of 2024.**
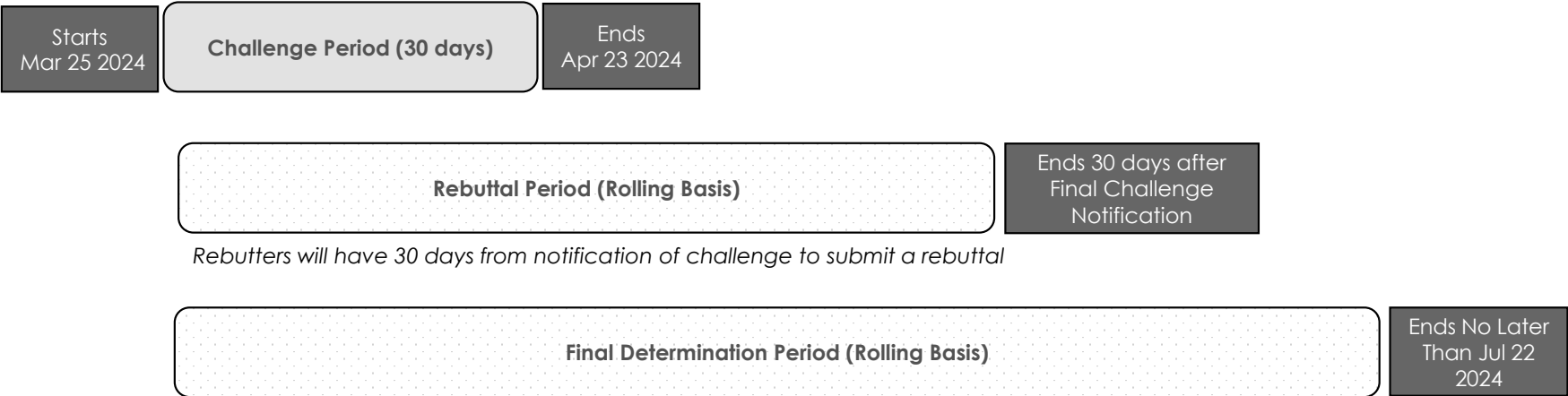
Challenge Process Overview

It is critical for MIHI to have a map and data that accurately reflect locations that require reliable broadband infrastructure and service.

The BEAD Challenge Process is the way in which the MIHI Office will determine the unserved, underserved, and served status of every home, business, and community anchor institution in the state. Unserved and underserved locations will be eligible to be connected through the BEAD funded projects. CAIs will also be eligible for qualifying broadband which is defined as speed of not less than 1 Gbps for downloads and uploads alike.

The Challenge Process will occur over a 120-day period based on the below timeline:

| Starts Mar 25 2024 | Challenge Period (30 days) | Ends Apr 23 2024 |

| Rebuttal Period (Rolling Basis) | Ends 30 days after Final Challenge Notification |

Rebutters will have 30 days from notification of challenge to submit a rebuttal

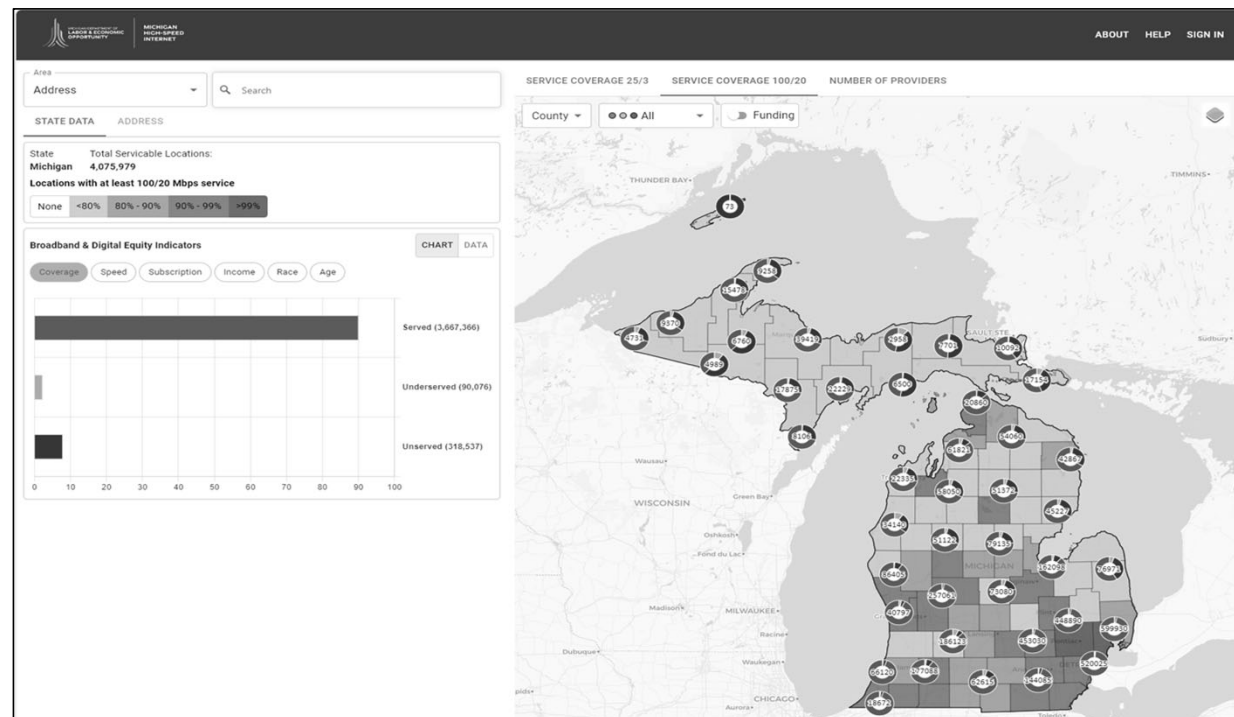| Final Determination Period (Rolling Basis) | Ends No Later Than Jul 22 2024 |

Challenge Types

Challenge types that impact CAI eligibility in terms of classification and availability of qualifying broadband

Code	Challenge Type	Description
C	Location is a CAI	The location should be classified as a CAI.
R	Location is not a CAI	The location is labeled as a CAI but is: - A residence - A non-CAI business or - Is no longer in operation.
G	CAI qualifying broadband available	The CAI can obtain qualifying broadband (not less than 1 Gbps/ 1Gbps and latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds)
Q	CAI qualifying broadband unavailable	The CAI cannot obtain qualifying broadband (not less than 1 Gbps/ 1Gbps and latency less than or equal to 100 milliseconds)

Challenge Portal

All challenges must be submitted through the MIHI portal (Link). While CAI's cannot submit challenges, they are able to track and rebut challenges made to their addresses.

MIHI Challenge Portal

Challenge Portal

The MIHI portal classifies locations as either served, unserved, or underserved. Additionally, it differentiates between CAIs and residential or business locations by using a triangle-shaped indicator at the BSL level. The left-hand side of the screen also includes a description indicating whether a location is a CAI.

CAIs are encouraged to:

- Review the map and associated locations

- Work with non-profit organizations or units of local government to submit a "Location is a CAI" challenge type in case their location is not classified as CAI.

- Work with non-profit organizations or units of local government to submit a "Qualifying Broadband unavailable" challenge type in case they have been unsuccessful in acquiring qualifying broadband service.

- Track approved challenges for rebuttals

- Rebut challenges if needed

Select the CAI, represented by a triangle, to view the status of the location.

Note: If your address is not included in the map, please email MIHI at the following address: MIHighSpeedInternet@michigan.gov with the following subject line "CAI – BSL Addition"

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Registration

For CAIs to be active participants in the challenge process, they will need to be registered in the MIHI challenge portal.

As challenges are submitted, MIHI will conduct best faith efforts to locate contact information for all challenged CAIs. Identified CAIs will be notified through email and invited to register for the challenge portal

1   **Navigate to the MIHI portal**

2   **Select "Sign In" at the top right corner of the home page.**

3   **Select "Request a new account".**

4   **Enter in the necessary information.**

5   **Click "Request" to submit a request for an account.**

6   **Review your email inbox to verify that your request was approved. If the request is rejected, resolve any discrepancies and resubmit a request for a new account.**

Request a new account

Enter the information below to request a new account. We will let you know via email whether your request was accepted or rejected.

Please enter your email address

Full Name

> Full Name

Email Address

> Email Address

Phone Number Format: 123-456-7890

> Phone Number

Organization Category

> Choose Category

Webpage

> Webpage

REQUEST

Back to Map
Log in

When selecting the "Organization Category", select "Nonprofit Organization". This will prompt an "Organization" drop-down, where the name of the organization can be selected. If the name of the organization is not in the drop-down list, please select "Other".

Rebuttal Types

Once challenges are submitted and determined valid by MIHI's evaluators, the challenged CAIs have an opportunity to provide a rebuttal within 30 days. A challenge will be upheld if there is no rebuttal filed within the allotted time.

CAIs may rebut the following challenges:

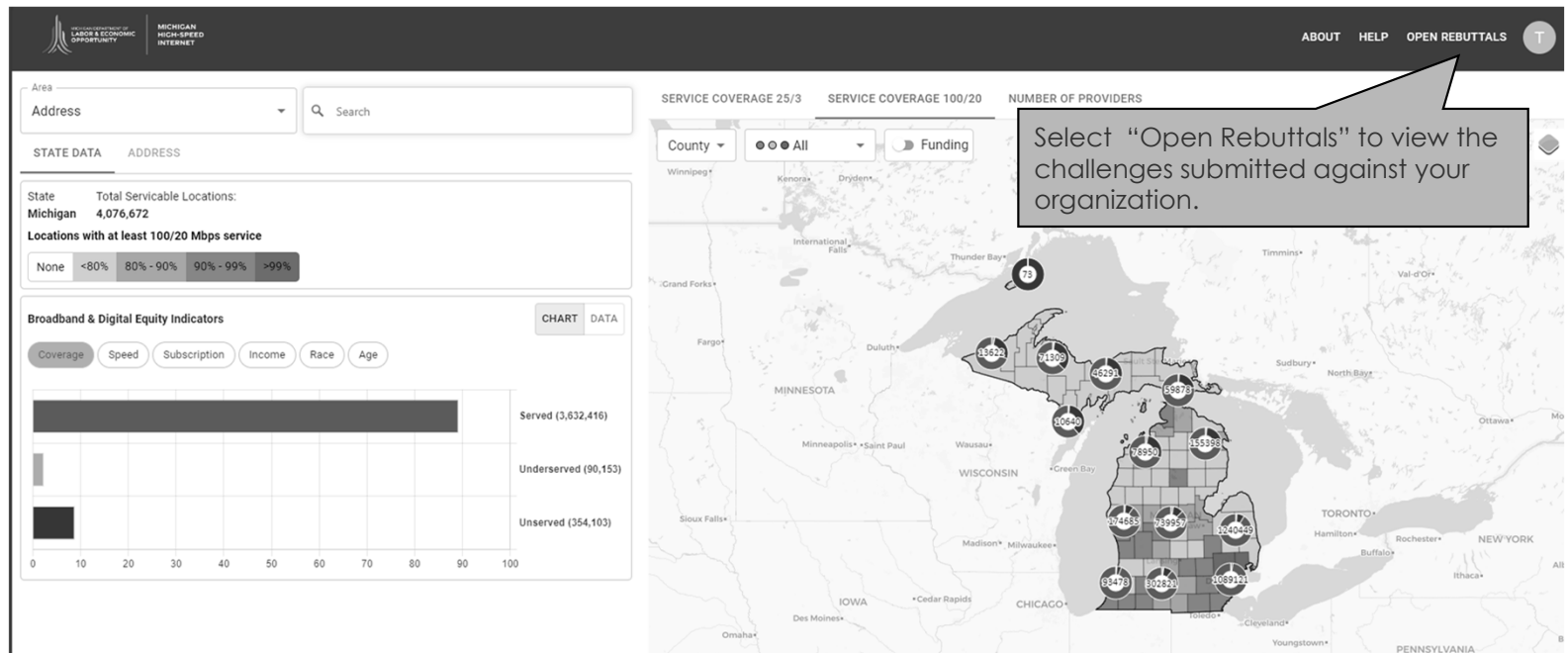| Location is not a CAI	Qualifying Broadband **Unavailable**	Qualifying Broadband Available	Location is **not** a CAI
▪ Submit documentation that demonstrates the location is a CAI, as defined in Initial Proposal Volume I.	▪ Submit documentation that demonstrates qualifying broadband service (1 Gbps/1Gbps, less than 100ms latency) is **not** available to the CAI.	▪ Submit documentation that demonstrates qualifying broadband service (1 Gbps/1Gbps, less than 100ms latency) is not available to the CAI.	▪ Submit documentation that demonstrates the location is **not** a CAI, as defined in Initial Proposal Volume I.

Accessing Challenges

Once a CAI registers and logs in, submitted and validated challenges can be viewed in the Open Rebuttals Dashboard. Please refer to the following steps.

Challenges against CAIs will be posted on a rolling basis throughout the challenge period. Posted challenges will remain open for 30 days following issuance of MIHI's notification email to the challenged CAI.

Submitting Rebuttals

Validated Challenges that are ready for rebuttal will appear in the Open Rebuttals section as a list giving the authorized CAI the ability to rebut.

Respond to each rebuttal by completing the required fields and providing acceptable evidence.

Rebuttal Outcomes

The MIHI Office will review the submitted evidence by the Rebutter to arrive at a final determination of the challenge.

There are two outcomes from the evidence review

Rebuttal is considered "Valid"	**Rebuttal is Rejected**
The evidence submitted is valid based on the allowable evidence guidance and supports the submitted rebuttal.	The evidence submitted is not valid based on the allowable evidence guidance OR the document submitted is illegible. Rejected rebuttals can be resubmitted within the allowable window.

Once the challenge has gone through the validation and rebuttal phases and the rebuttal window has closed, MIHI will announce whether a challenge is "Sustained" or "Rejected" 60 days following the end of the rebuttal phase.

MIHI will publish an initial list of the eligible locations on the LEO website at the end of the final determination phase followed by a final list once approved by NTIA

Additional Resources

Challenge Process resources can be found at MIHI's website: <u>LEO - Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program (michigan.gov)</u>

For portal or challenge related questions email us at: <u>MIHighSpeedInternet@michigan.gov</u>

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