

Columbia Gorge Broadband Consortium

1pm to 3pm

April 14, 2015

Columbia Gorge Community College, Lecture Hall
400 E Scenic Drive, The Dalles

Attendees: Chris Tamarin (OBDD), Monica Babine (WSUE), Commissioner Steve Kramer (Wasco County), Jeff King (Klickitat County Emergency Management), Todd Reeves (Mosier WiNet), Brian Wanless (CEKC), Linda Williams (CEKC), Carrie Pipinich (MCEDD), Ida Hardin (FirstNet of Oregon), Kathryn Greiner (City of Condon), Council Member Jan Stinchfield (City of Condon), Kari Fagerness (Skamania EDC), Erick Larson (Q-Life), Scott Hege (Wasco County, Q-Life), Dan Bubb (GorgeNet), Erik Lundby (GorgeNet), Tyler Stone (Wasco County, Q-Life), Stan Kelsay (South Wasco Alliance, Wasco County Economic Development Commission), Commissioner Rod Runyon (Wasco County), Mayor Mike Canon (City of Goldendale), Phil Chang (Sen. Merkley's Office), Commissioner Dave Sauter (Klickitat County), Barb Young (Century Link), Michael Kelly (Trout lake Community Counsel), Scott Anderson (RadComp), Scott See (J Hammock & Associates), Kyle Johnson (Snowden resident), Rachel Weinstein (Gilliam County), Larry Bellamy (City of Goldendale), Mike Canon (City of Goldendale), Tom Villani (NoaNet), Judge Steve Shaffer (Gilliam County).

Welcome and Introductions

Carrie Pipinich welcomed everyone and requested introductions around the room.

State of Oregon & Washington Broadband Updates

Chris Tamarin presented an update on broadband in the state of Oregon. Several highlights include:

- 2016 Oregon Legislative Session results related to additional funding for rural health care access and other opportunities. He noted there were several additional bills that were discussed in the 2016 short session related to broadband that could gain some traction in the 2017 long session.
- The Oregon Broadband Advisory Council is presenting its "Broadband in Oregon Report" to the legislature this fall.
- Chris reported on the 13 current and additional proposed undersea cable landings in the State of Oregon and the support provided by the State for these investments in Oregon telecommunications infrastructure.
- Chris also noted that the 2016 Oregon Connection Telecommunications Conference will be held October 20th and 21st in Hood River. He noted that this year's theme is Generation Mobility.

Monica Babine presented an update on broadband in the state of Washington. She highlighted the following:

- House Bill 2875 created an Office of Data Protection that will focus on Access and Equity. Will Saunders, formerly of the State's broadband office, will staff the office. The office will be required to report to the Washington State Legislature in December of 2016 as well as every four years moving forward. They will ramp back up data collection for the Washington State Broadband map to gather more up-to-date baseline information.

- Senate Bill 6237 would have expanded PUDs' ability to provide retail sales, but did not pass. However, the legislature did create a broadband access workgroup that will look at opportunities for pilot projects moving forward.
- Monica noted that Stevens County has reenergized its broadband efforts after the significant fires that took place there last summer. ATNI is also continuing to focus on tribal broadband access and creating a strong coalition for regional broadband work.

Federal Updates

Carrie Pipinich presented an update on the Making Rural Communities Better with Broadband workshop hosted by USDA and ORDC on February 2nd and 3rd in Bend. She reported that she presented about the regional efforts taking place and the opportunities to link into regional strategies. Carrie noted that Mike Smith presented about Sherman County's WIND Network, Chris Tamarin presented Oregon's broadband activities.

Monica Babine presented an update on Federal level activities including the following:

- NTIA/Next Century Cities Digital NW Summit hosted in Seattle. She noted that NTIA does not have funding for infrastructure projects at this point but is working to support communities through technical assistance and connecting them to resources. They hosted office hours after the conference to allow those with projects to discuss them with a variety of federal funding agencies.
- The Community Connectivity Initiative is a framework that the NTIA is working with to support communities in seeking additional connectivity through planning templates, technical assistance, and sharing of best practices. Information on the initiative can be found :
 - <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/community-connectivity-initiative>
- Broadband Communities Summit highlighting the following:
 - As part of the rural track the Rural Telecommunications Congress hosted a White House Broadband Opportunity Council (BOC) Town Hall where BOC representatives provided updates on activities that have occurred since the report was issued in September 2015. Agencies have focused on changing program funding regulations to allow broadband related items as pieces of a project for a variety of sources. They are also working to make Department of Interior towers easier for ISPs to access for collocation as well as seeking to incorporate Dig Once principles further into federal projects.
 - Broadband Opportunity Council Report: https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/broadband_opportunity_council_report_final.pdf

Carrie Pipinich noted that she had been working with Chris Tamarin and Monica Babine to update funding resource guide created during the region's LTPT work several years ago to incorporate updates to programs as well as Oregon specific resources. She noted that as soon as it was finalized, the guide would be up on the Gorge Broadband website.

Monica Babine presented an update on the USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development Priority set aside noting that incorporation in a regional strategy will create access to a set aside funding pool for USDA's programs. Carrie noted that this had already had an impact in our region, with the Parkdale community's waste water system upgrades receiving grant funds as part of this program because of their inclusion in the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Connect America Funds

Barb Young presented an overview and update on the Connect America Fund Phase II program. She noted that the program was shifting current high cost service support toward broadband. A few highlights from the presentation include:

- The program runs from 2015 to 2020, with benchmarks each year that CenturyLink needs to meet. She noted that 2021 could also be utilized if needed to finish their build out if challenges during construction required additional time.
- Barb noted that much of the middle mile infrastructure is already built, but this funding will help them reach areas with last mile service needs.
- Barb also noted that seeing additional focus on broadband at the Federal and State levels was positive but hoped that investments would relate to a planned approach to addressing rural issues.

Dave Sauter noted that many counties and cities would love to cohesively plan but it is difficult to get information on when and where CenturyLink is going to build with the CAF funds. Barb stated that CenturyLink is being very careful about sharing specifics until plans are in place and sure. She stated that they have finalized the planned builds for 2016, and would be happy to discuss activities in the region with individual entities. Monica Babine asked for clarification on the funding amount and asked about CenturyLink's investment. Barb Young noted the funding was not intended to cover the full cost of building out infrastructure to the eligible locations, but required significant investment on their part as well. Phil Chang asked for clarification on the release of information regarding when and which census blocks were moving forward. Barb noted that the models indicated eligible households but that as they developed the builds, they would determine how best to reach the number they had committed to. Kyle Johnson asked about potential to exceed the minimum required speed. Barb noted that it was possible.

FirstNet in Oregon and OneNet in Washington

Ida Hardin presented an update on FirstNet In Oregon. Several highlights are below:

- FirstNet is a dedicated public safety network that will have apps available for first responders. It will also have the ability for preemption when an event occurs.
- They have moved through the data collection phase and have provided information to the federal agency in charge of the project related to coverage requirements and priorities in Oregon. Monica noted that Washington had done the same.
- Ida noted that an RFP for network development, management, and deployment was issued in January of 2016, and proposals for build out are due in May. The contracts are to be awarded in November. This period will provide significantly more detailed information plans for the State, and

in 2017 the State will decide if they want to opt in or build their own network. By 2019 50% initial operational capacity is required, and by 2022 100% initial operational capacity

- Ida noted there are significant challenges related to funding, security, subscriber interest, and ensuring coverage is large enough for it to be of value.

Regional Roundtable

Carrie Pipinich presented a reminder on Dig Once noting the basic principles and benefits. She requested that the local government entities think about projects where Dig Once principles could be incorporated. She also shared the planned infrastructure projects she knows about coming up include Antelope Water system and Dallesport/Murdock Water/Sewer System.

MCEDD: Carrie noted MCEDD was able to host the USDA State Directors to highlight USDA investment in the Mid-Columbia and their impacts. She noted that Monica Babine and herself were able to share about success stories and continued challenges related to broadband in the region. She also noted that three WebWorks: Anywhere! forums were held since the last meeting. These provided an opportunity to talk about the importance of broadband to a variety of industries and community institutions as well as the need for additional bandwidth and reliability to support continued growth.

Carrie also reported on MCEDD staff's continued activities:

- engagement around CAF II funds and investment in our region
- Support for Q-Life with the Maupin fiber project
- Engage in next steps conversations with the broader South Wasco County area
- Working with the Snowden community and Klickitat County related to access challenges through the Klickitat County Broadband Working Group that held its initial meeting in February.

Q-Life: Erick Larsen (Board President) presented an update on QLife highlighting the following:

- Q-Life is starting to do the detailed engineering for the Maupin fiber project, and hopes to have all of the pieces together to start building soon.
- Tylor Stone, Wasco County Administrator, is assuming administrative duties for Q-Life with the end of Nolan Young's contract.

GorgeNet: Dan Bubb (CEO) noted that they are involved with the Maupin project. He noted that this would enable additional opportunities to provide wireless service in South Wasco County, so he anticipates this service improving and potentially expanding. He also noted that they have 13 miles of fiber in the Hood River area and are interested in increasing their fiber infrastructure in the region.

Frontier TelNet: Judge Steve Shaffer (Gilliam County) reported that the Sherman County fiber build is continuing to move forward in its construction. He noted that Gilliam County is still exploring opportunities to extend fiber into their communities. He also shared that the Frontier system is looking for additional ISPs to provide last mile service.

Klickitat County: Commissioner Dave Sauter noted the continued questions regarding CenturyLink's CAF investment and improving rural broadband access. He asked if we could work to clarify the flexibility in the program in terms of service. Phil Chang (Senator Merkley's Office) noted that the FCC had filtered out areas that already had internet at a certain speed, so more urban areas and other areas with existing service are not eligible. Carrie noted that she would work with Phil and others to seek out clarity on the flexibility granted in the program.

NoaNet: Tom Villani noted that they are continuing to work to build out to specific locations on or near their middle mile network. They are working closely with school districts to increase their access to fiber as well. These projects can have significant impact on additional access for communities as well.

Troutlake Community Council: Michael Kelly noted that Troutlake has some DSL service in town but it drops off quickly and has very limited bandwidth. They are working to learn more about opportunities and strategies for addressing this challenge.

Stevenson: Scott Anderson (RadComp) reported that in Stevenson they are in the process of forming a broadband advisory council in order to develop a broadband strategic plan to better formulate their broadband goals for connectivity but also adoption and utilization. He noted that they would like to have conversations with ISPs about their goals in the community as well.

Klickitat County Emergency Management: Jeff reported that they are finishing up small projects around their existing public safety radio towers and are looking ahead to finishing their build with two additional towers. He reiterated that Klickitat County is interested in collocation on the towers.

Wrap Up and Next Steps

Carrie noted the long history of collaboration in the region that has been revitalized over the last several years. She also noted that there has been a lot of work to leverage state, federal, foundation and local resources to move projects forward.

Carrie noted that she sees these activities as continuing to be the focus on the region's broadband efforts:

- Convening Gorge Broadband Regional meetings
- State and federal funding request
- Advocating for federal engagement
- Maintaining Gorgebroadband.org with hosting sponsorship from Groge.Net.
- Local host for Oregon Connection conference

She asked for feedback from the group. General consensus was that these are good activities to continue moving forward.

Carrie noted the move from broad planning efforts to working with partners to move specific projects forward as opportunities arise is making it harder to fit into funding buckets for continuation of this work. Carrie noted MCEDD's strong commitment to continue activity around broadband access and utilization through staff time and technical assistance. She requested that the other entities around the table think about their ability to commit staff or funding resources to continuing this focus for the region. Carrie also requested the group's consideration of additional resources and funding opportunities to support specific efforts and thoughts on moving forward effectively.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.



Broadband Update

Christopher Tamarin

Oregon Business Development Department

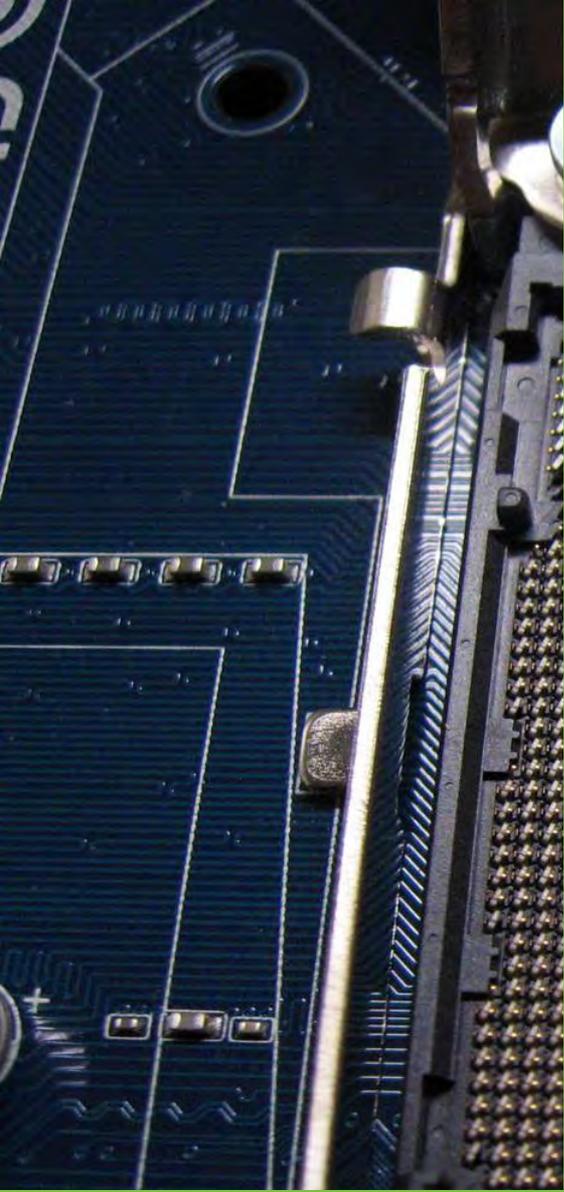
April 14, 2016



Report to the Governor

“Electronic highways in the 21st century will move information at an unprecedented pace.

... Oregon's changing economy is becoming more information-intensive and our success in the Information Age depends on providing services that allow efficient access to and distribution of information...



Quotation (continued)

- Rural economic development and educational opportunities will ultimately depend upon the quality of telecommunications systems
- Health care training, diagnosis, and analysis can be delivered and maximized statewide through telecommunications
- Educating our children and (re)training our work force will be enhanced by it

Quotation (continued)

- Full participation in an international [global] economic community requires a high quality telecommunications system
- Maintaining a quality environment and avoiding congestion depends in part on our ability to substitute information movement for people movement.”

Source

TELECOMMUNICATIONS: OREGON'S NEXT TRAIL

*Some Problems Today, Many
Prospects Tomorrow*

Report to Governor Roberts
prepared by
Task Force on Telecommunications
April 1991

<http://library.state.or.us/repository/2009/200907281111202/index.pdf>



2015 Oregon Legislative Session Results

Bills were passed into law relating to broadband telecommunications in the areas of

- 911 System enhancements [HB 2426]
- Study strategies for broadband deployment, adoption and utilization due in December [HB 3274]
- Taxation and central assessment [SB 611]
- Health Information Technology [HB 2294]
- Telemedicine reimbursement [SB 144]
- Enterprise Zone E-commerce expansion [HB 2643]
- K-12 School infrastructure funding [SB 447]
- Ports and telecommunications infrastructure [HB 3104]
- Oregon Broadband Advisory Council life extended to January 2020 [SB 140]

2016 Oregon Legislative Session Results

Short Session, held for 35 days, every other year, and is intended for resolving urgent budget issues and making minor adjustments to state law...

- Addressing cyber-security issues, State agencies are now required to report on information security incidents and report on information security assessments [SB 1538]
- Funds were allocated from the General Fund to the Emergency Board for allocations during the biennium including \$1.1 million for telemedicine delivery to rural areas [SB 5701]

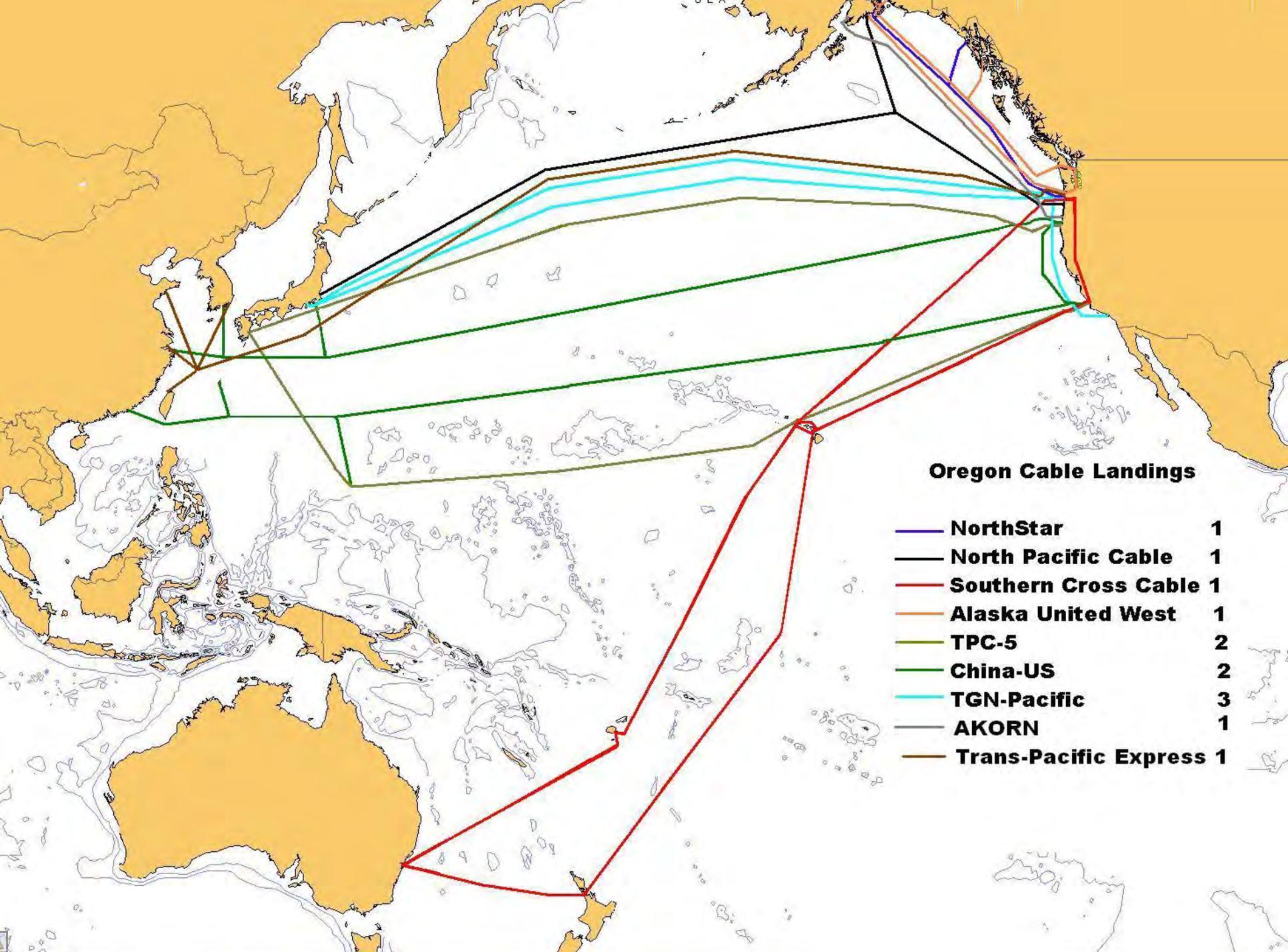
Oregon Broadband Advisory Council

- Encourage coordination and collaboration between organizations and economic sectors
- Leverage the development and utilization of broadband for education, workforce development and telehealth
- Promote broadband utilization by citizens and communities.
- Report on the status of *Broadband in Oregon*
- Next report due on November 1, 2016

www.broadband-oregon.org

2016 OBAC Agenda

- Community Broadband Strategic Planning
- Broadband Access K-12 Schools
- Public Safety – FirstNet
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- Federal Funding for Broadband
- Cyber Security





January 6, 2016

KATE BROWN
GOVERNOR

Delegates
Pacific Ocean Undersea Cable Projects
Pacific Telecommunications Conference
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We invite and encourage you to consider Oregon as your future site to come ashore on the west coast of North America, and as an excellent location for the placement of related on-shore operations. Oregon has a long record of successful submarine cable industry projects, a highly developed telecommunications infrastructure, a workforce of skilled professionals for marine and terrestrial telecommunications cable installation, and unparalleled cooperation between its undersea cable operators, fishing industry, and state government.

As chair of the State Land Board, which approves easements for cable landings on the Oregon coast, I can assure you that we will welcome and give full and timely consideration to all landing requests. Please know that the Department of State Lands and the Oregon Business Development Department along with other involved state agencies will work in partnership with you, as an undersea cable operator, and Oregon's fishing fleet to ensure the success of your project once approved.

Please contact Chris Castelli, Oregon Department of State Lands, 775 Summer St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-1279 USA, phone: 503 508-4312, e-mail: chris.castelli@state.or.us, for more information.

We stand ready to assist you and to provide you with the information you need to come ashore in Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Brown".

Governor Kate Brown
State Land Board Chair

KB:vpct



Oregon Connections: Generation Mobility



2016 Conference

The Oregon Connections Telecommunications Conference draws attendees from all regions of the state to share ideas, experiences and knowledge about telecommunications.

The 2016 conference presenters and attendees will explore aspects of **Generation Mobility** as broadband enabled mobile devices increasingly serve users as a telephone, computer, camera, entertainment center, map, compass, calculator, library, wallet, personal trainer, health monitor, and more.

[Sponsors](#) | [2016 Sponsors](#)



Conference Program

This year's conference theme is **Oregon Connections: Generation Mobility**.

We will have speakers, panels, group discussions, breakfast - luncheon - refreshments, receptions and a keynote speaker

See program details.

[Agenda](#) | [Last Year's Presentations](#)



Where? Hood River

The 21st annual Oregon Connections Telecommunications Conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, Oct 20-21, 2016 at the Best Western Hood River Inn, Hood River, OR.

Ask for special conference rates.

[Register Today!](#) | [Contact](#)

www.oregonconnections.info



Thank you.

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Welcome to the Columbia Gorge Broadband Consortium

Our goal is to ensure that residents and businesses have the broadband access, and skills, to take advantage of the resources, services, and markets available on the internet today.

April 14, 2016

Columbia Gorge Community College,

The Dalles, Oregon

Welcome & Agenda

1. Gorge Broadband Consortium Overview
2. State Updates-Oregon & Washington
3. Federal Program Updates
4. Regional Updates Roundtable
5. Next Steps: Keeping the Momentum Going

Gorge Consortium Overview



Our goal is to ensure that residents and businesses have the broadband access, and skills, to take advantage of the resources, services, and markets available on the internet today.



State Updates

Washington State Updates

1. Legislation
2. Local efforts

Making Rural Communities Better with Broadband

Hosted by USDA & ORDC Feb. 2nd and 3rd,
in Bend area



Making Rural Communities Better with Broadband Workshop – Presentation & Links

The Oregon Rural Development Council in partnership with USDA Rural Development's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) held a rural broadband workshop on Feb. 2-3, 2016, in Bend, Oregon. The event offered information on how to build strong rural economies use broadband for educational opportunities; improve healthcare; job creation, retention, and growth; and other efforts. Updates included current initiatives and information on planning and deployment strategies, technical assistance, and funding opportunities for rural broadband projects. Presentations and links from the workshop are archived below.



Federal Updates



Century**Link**™

GORGE REGIONAL BROADBAND MEETING
CONNECT AMERICA FUND PHASE II

April 14, 2015

Presented by Barb Young

Director – State Legislative Affairs

Connect America Fund Phase II (CAF II) Overview

- CAF II is the FCC's long-term program to support sustainable and scalable broadband capable networks in high-cost areas.
- CAF II recipients will deliver broadband service with download speeds of at least 10 Mbps by the end of 2021.
- Six Year Program (2015-2020)
 - Annual funding over six years starting in 2015.
 - Obligations must be fulfilled by end of 2020, but shortfalls can be cured in 2021.
 - Annual build-out milestones starting in 2017.
- Total FCC CAF II annual budget is \$1.8 billion.

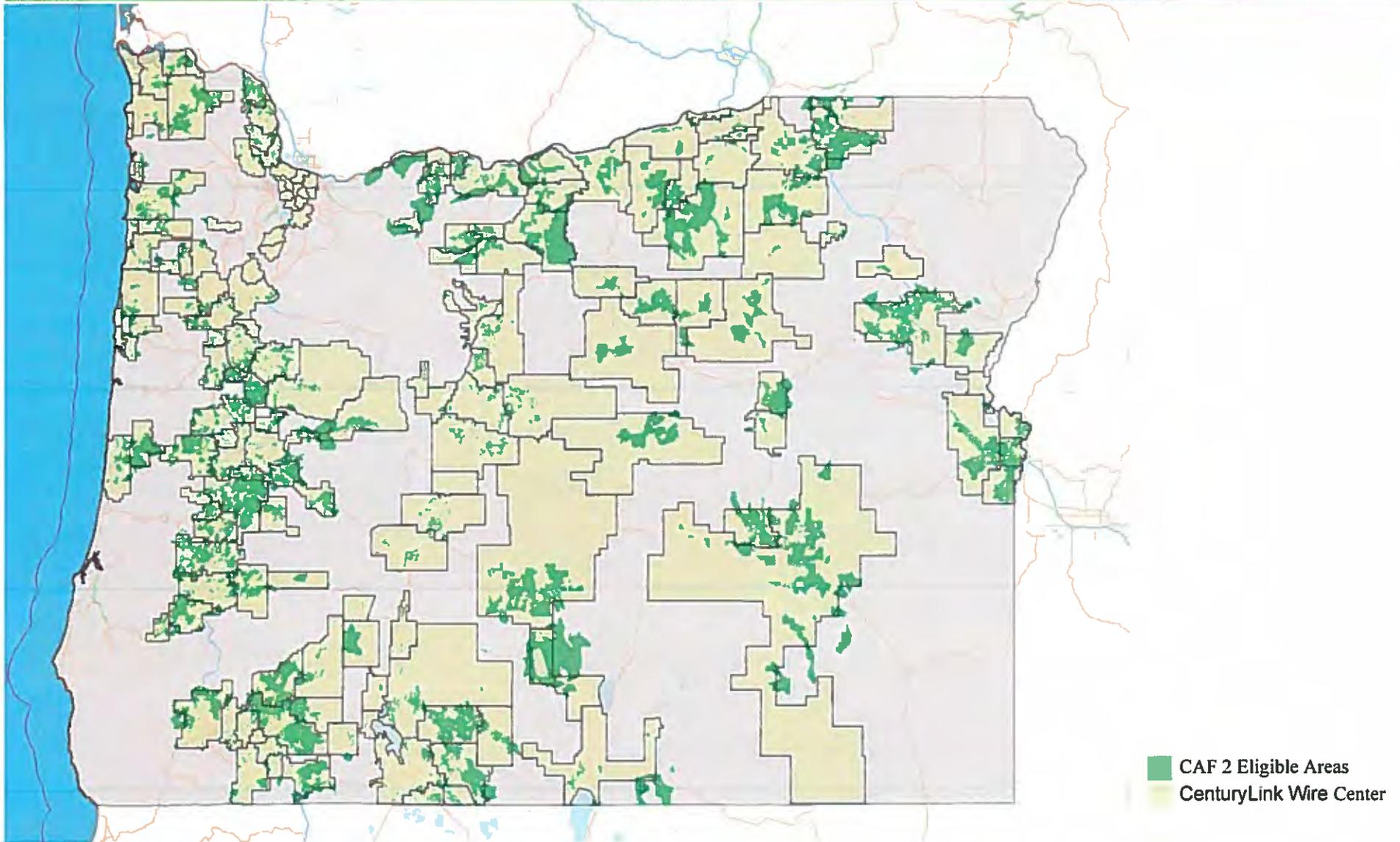
Connect America Fund Phase II (CAF II) Overview

- FCC determined eligible census blocks and number of eligible locations based on the National Broadband Map and results of the Connect America Cost Model. Eligible census blocks are those that:
 - The CACM estimates per location costs between \$52.50 and \$198.60 per month to serve: AND
 - Have no competitor providing broadband of at least 4/1 Mbps.
- The FCC made the initial offers of CAF II support to price cap carriers on a state-by-state basis on April 29, 2015.
 - All providers accepted or rejected their offers by August 27, 2015.
 - Offers could only be accepted on a state-level basis to enable broadband to the required number of eligible locations in that state.

CAF II Support Offer from FCC

- CenturyLink accepted its CAF II offer in 33 states on August 27, 2015.
 - \$505 million annually for 6 years.
 - 1.19 million locations in eligible census blocks nationally.
- CenturyLink CAFII in Oregon
 - \$17.8 million annual funding.
 - 41,785 locations in eligible census blocks to be served.

CenturyLink CAF 2 Eligible Areas Oregon



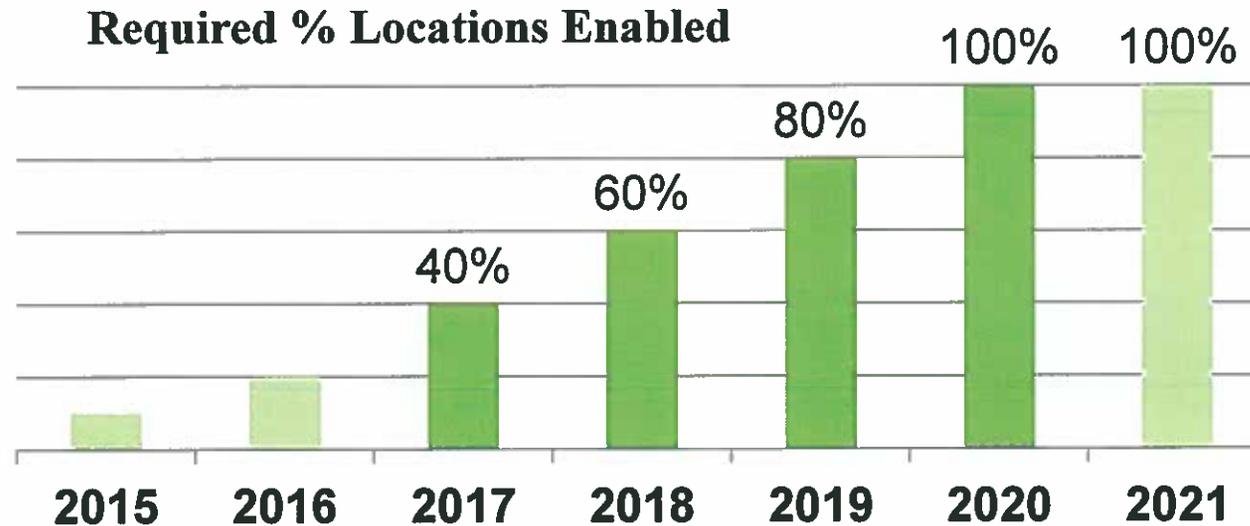
Eligible census blocks and FCC build target locations as determined by the Federal Communications Commission. Under the CAF program CenturyLink has the flexibility to deploy to CAF 2 Eligible census blocks identified by the FCC. The identification of an area as CAF 2 Eligible does not indicate a commitment to deploy high speed internet to the area.

CAF II Service Criteria

- Service Requirements: In order to qualify as a CAF II-served location, the broadband service must meet the following standards:
 - **Speed:** Network must support at least 10 Mbps / 1 Mbps.
 - **Pricing:** Must be comparable to price of service in urban areas (currently standalone broadband priced below ~\$65).
 - **Voice:** Must offer voice service.
 - **Usage:** Any established usage allowance may be no less than 100 gigabytes (GB).
 - **Latency:** Below 100 milliseconds (ms).
- Annual reporting requirements to FCC and State Commissions:
 - Progress at a state level toward meeting location milestones.
 - Certifications that service requirements are being met.

CAF II Build-out Requirements

- Price-Cap Carriers accepting the state-level offer have 6+ years to build-out with the following year end milestones:



No required milestone for 2015 & 2016, shortfalls in 2020 can be cured in 2021. By the end of 2017, at least 5% of reported locations must have previously lacked 4/1 or less.

- Build-out milestones are applied at the state level.
- CAF II program allows flexibility within eligible census blocks in order to meet state level deployment milestones.
- Provision for waiver requests in the case of extreme circumstances – adverse weather events, etc.

Connect America Fund Phase II Implementation

- CenturyLink continues to develop and refine their build-out plans for the six years with an unprecedented level of effort required to plan, manage and complete the necessary construction efforts to meet the CAF II requirements. Challenges include:
 - Remote rural nature and geographic challenges of constructing to eligible locations.
 - Limited construction windows due to weather conditions.
 - Evaluating current plant facilities to determine requirements and best timing to accomplish the required build.
 - Coordinating availability of equipment and contractor resources.

Digital NW Summit

1. NTIA/New Century Cities hosted regional summit in Seattle
2. 250 participants
3. Sessions, office hours and NTIA Community Connectivity Initiative (CCI) workshop

Broadband Communities Summit

1. HUGE conference in Austin, TX
2. Rural Telecommunications Congress (RTC) delivered rural track
3. Highpoint: White House Broadband Opportunity Council Town Hall

Broadband Opportunity Council

1. Broadband and existing funding sources
2. Public asset use
3. NTIA CCI launch

Funding Sources Update

1. Updated Resource Guide!
2. USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development Priority



FIRSTNET IN OREGON

Gorge Broadband

April 2016

Ida Hardin
FirstNet in Oregon

David Soloos
Oregon FirstNet Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

SPOC-FNIO-15-04

Additional information, references, and permissions can be found in
Oregon Planning For FirstNet Network Technical Report, SPOC-FNIO-14-01.

The Promise of FirstNet



**Dedicated to
Public Safety**



**Public Safety
Apps / Services**

**QoS, Priority &
Preemption
(QPP)**



**Situational
Awareness**

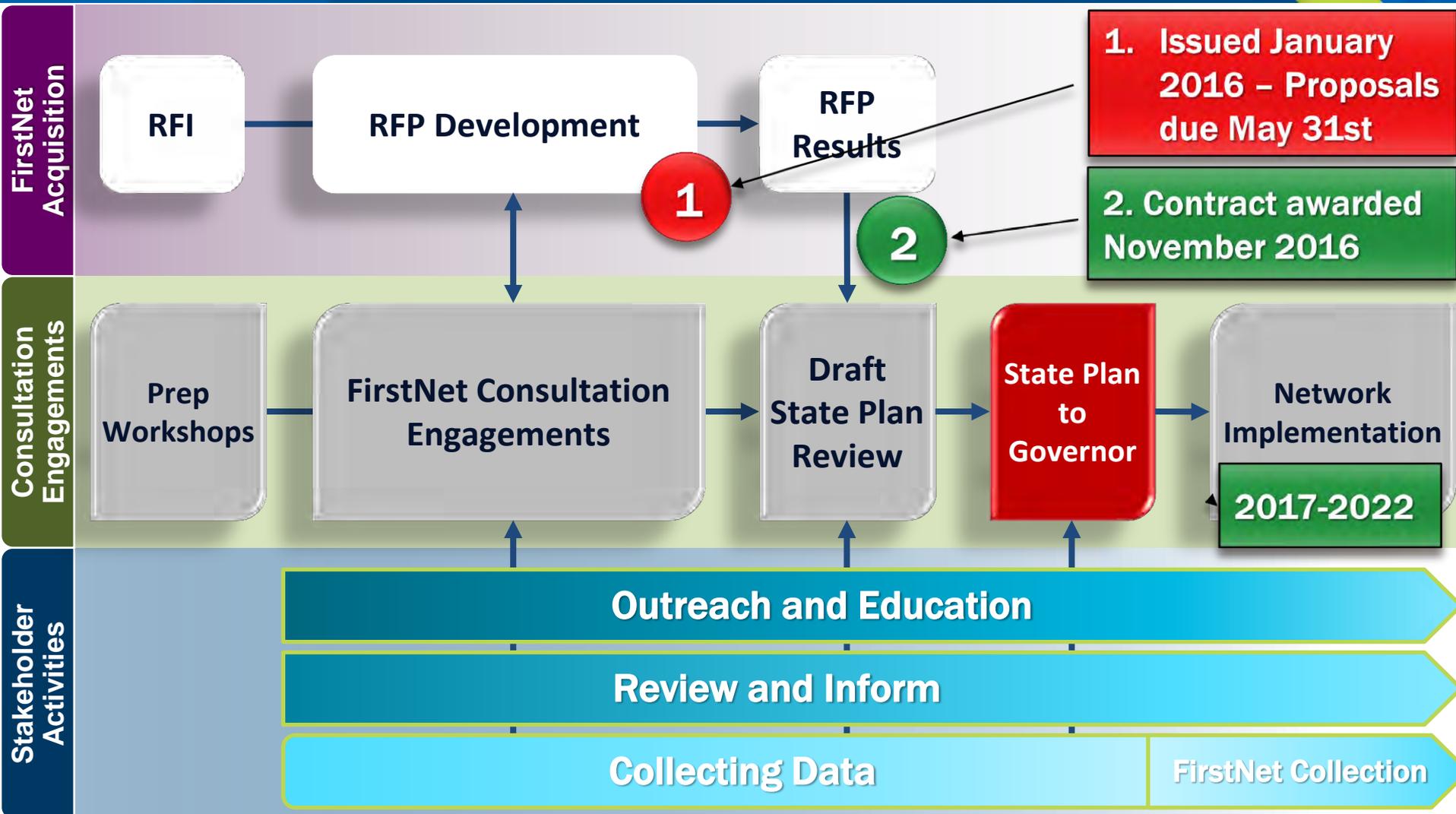


Local Control



**Public Safety
Grade**

Road to FirstNet



Key Dates

May 31, 2016

- Proposals Due

November, 2016

- Contract awarded

2017

- State plans released, reviewed, and negotiated
- Begin buildout

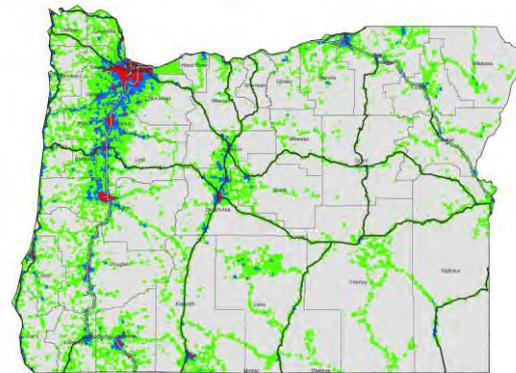
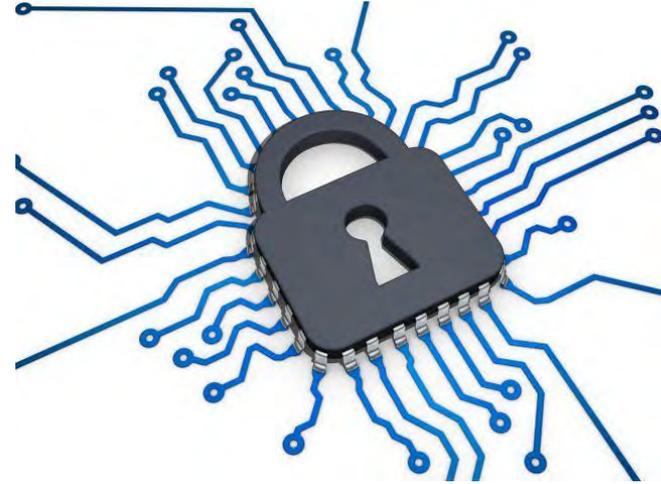
2019

- 50% Initial Operational Capacity

2022

- 100% Initial Operating Capacity

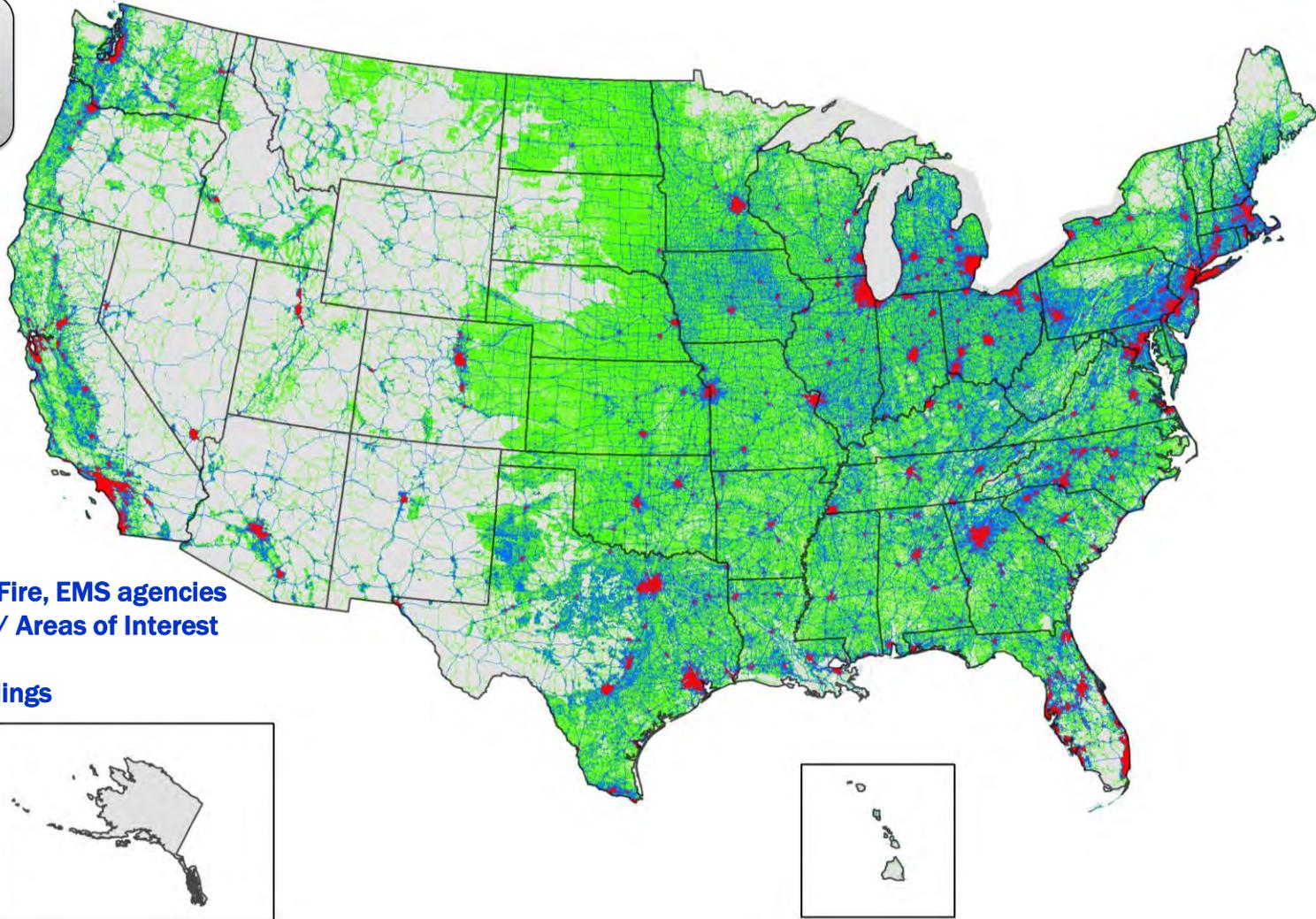
Hurdles



Initial Nationwide Coverage Objective

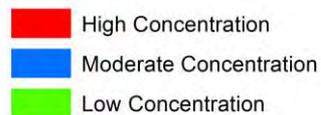
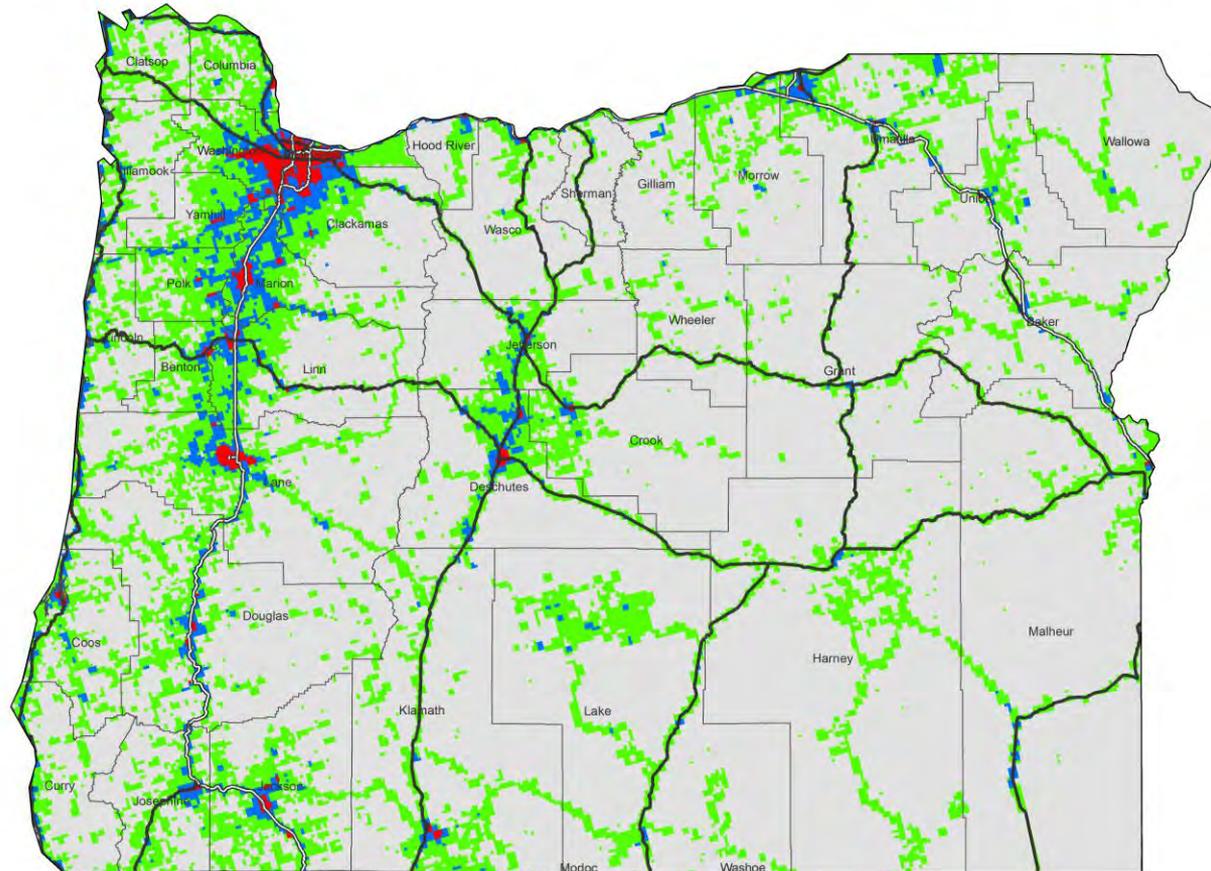
Legend:

- High Concentration
- Moderate Concentration
- Low Concentration



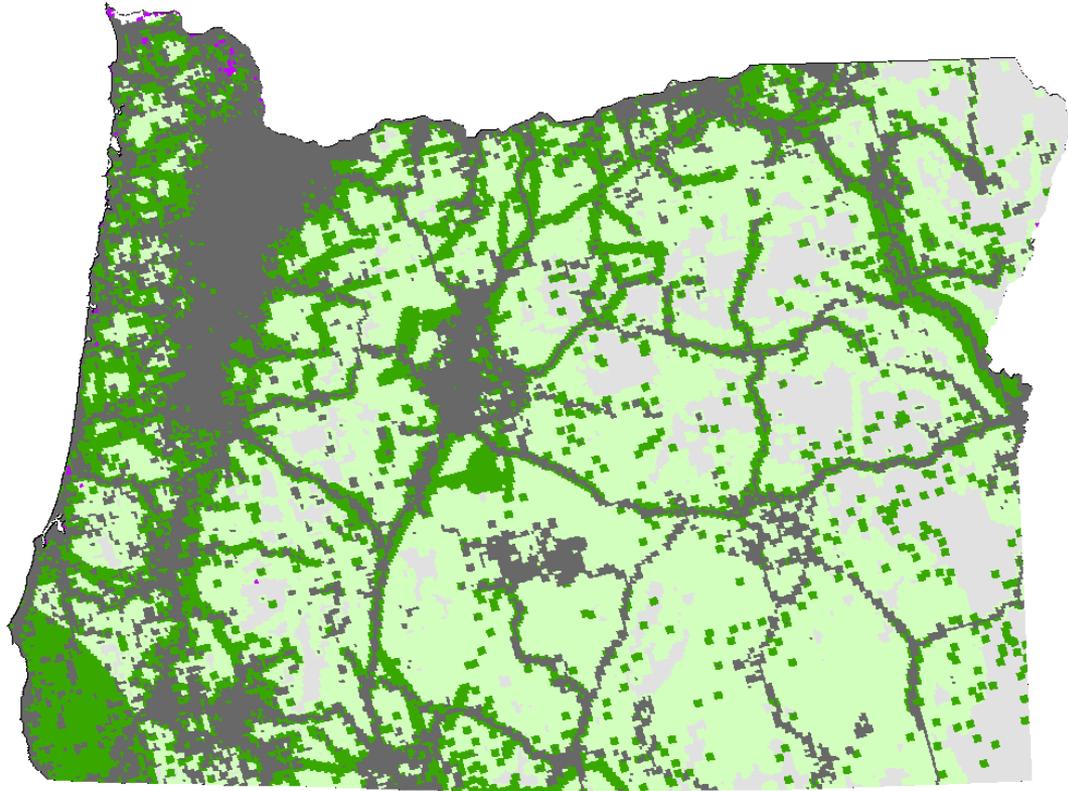
1. Employee count of L.E., Fire, EMS agencies
2. Public Safety High Risk / Areas of Interest
3. US Population
4. Developed Areas / Buildings
5. Roadways

Initial Oregon Coverage Objectives



RFP Coverage Objectives

61,866 sq mile increase



As of Sept. 30, 2015 Data Collection v1.0

Coverage Objectives

-  FirstNet Baseline
-  State Input
 -  Unique State/Tribal Datasets
 -  Commercial/LMR Coverage
-  Federal Input
-  On Demand Temporary

What can we do now?

- **Start planning for priority and preemption**
 - Who needs highest priority during different types of incidents
 - What other agencies do you need to coordinate priority with for larger incidents
 - This should be very similar to your current LMR priority plans
- **Review security policies**
 - If your security policy requires 14 character passwords with multiple special characters, that won't support the ease of access that field personnel will require
- **Budget**
 - If you decide to subscribe, devices will cost money
 - May require replacing all LTE devices at once instead of rolling replacement
 - Plan ahead
- **Talk to us**
 - We want to hear about what you want and need
 - Increased outreach this year – let us know about meetings/groups that would be interested

Contact Information

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Adam Lake – Project Lead

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Ida Hardin – Program Analyst

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Regional Roundtable

Reminder: Dig Once!

Basic Principle: minimize the number of digs needed to put infrastructure in place



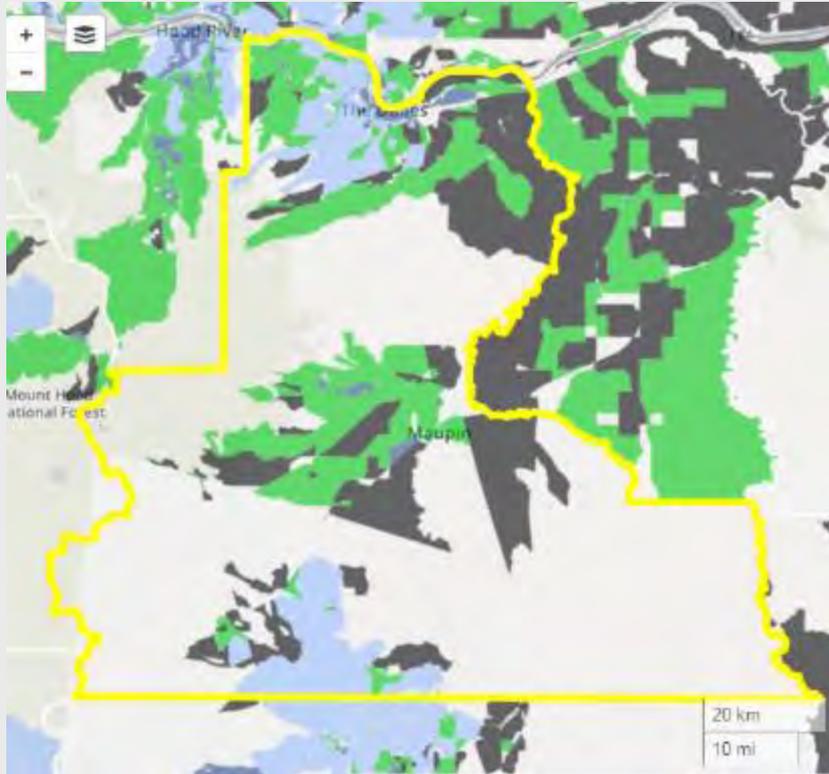
USDA State Directors Visit



WebWorks: Anywhere!



Access Gaps: Wasco County



- Engagement around CAF II funds
- Support for Q-Life with the Maupin Fiber project
- Circling back to broader South County next steps conversation

Access Gaps: Infrastructure

Snowden and Klickitat Counties



- Working with Klickitat County & Snowden Community, brought together initial Klickitat County Broadband Workgroup meeting in February



Keeping the Momentum: Next Steps

Recent Planning Efforts, Funding Sources

Washington State Broadband Office Local Technology Planning Team Grant Program Investment (2012-2014)

Oregon Broadband Planning Process –Q-Life & Wasco County (2012)

Google Community Grant (2014-2015)

EDA Planning Grant (Annually)

- Gaps in service clearly identified
- Over 100 broadband adoption training attendees
- Templates created for other communities to research demand & assets
- Gorgebroadband.org
- Gorge Broadband Consortium established

Activities & Role

Overarching Goal: Improve community access.

1. Convening Gorge Broadband Regional Meetings
2. State & Federal funding requests
3. Advocating for Federal engagement
4. Maintaining Gorgebroadband.org with hosting sponsorship from GorgeNet
5. Local Host for Oregon Connections Conference

Sustainable Funding

- Strong commitment from MCEDD to continue activity around broadband access and utilization
- Request consideration of additional resources to bring to the table to support specific efforts



**Questions?
Carrie Pipinich
Carrie@mcedd.org**