

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2022

SUBJECT: Broadband Update

PRESENTER: Christopher Todd, Business and Community Development Director

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1. Broadband Overview PowerPoint

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Christopher Todd will provide the Board of Commissioners with an update on the status of the GREAT Grant in Henderson County as well as future broadband grants.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

No specific Board Action is requested, this item is for informational purposes only.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

No motion suggested.

GREAT Grant Update

Broadband Taskforce

October 27, 2022



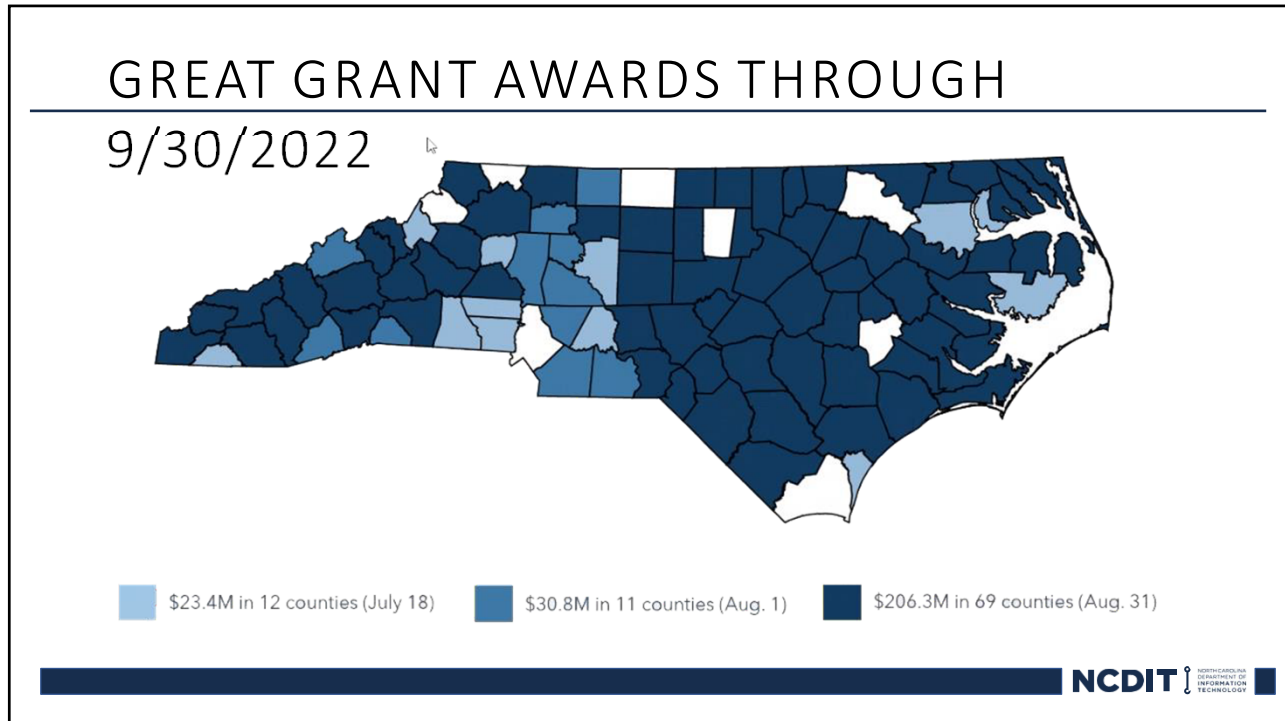
1

NORTH CAROLINA MAJOR PROGRAMS

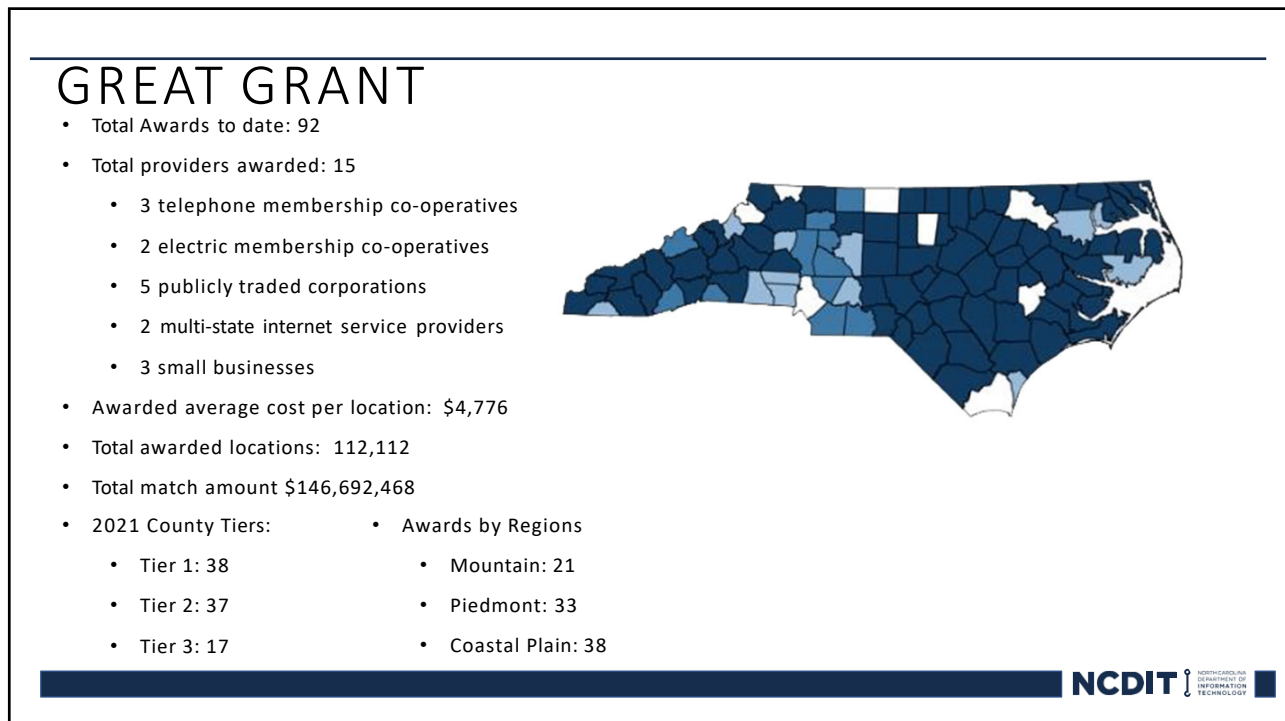
- GREAT
 - Total of 305 applications received
 - Requested \$1.77B in total project costs
 - Three rounds completed – fourth round in process
- Infrastructure Solutions
 - Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)
 - Stop Gap Solutions
 - Pole Replace
- Digital Equity & Literacy Programs
- [Future] BEAD Program participation



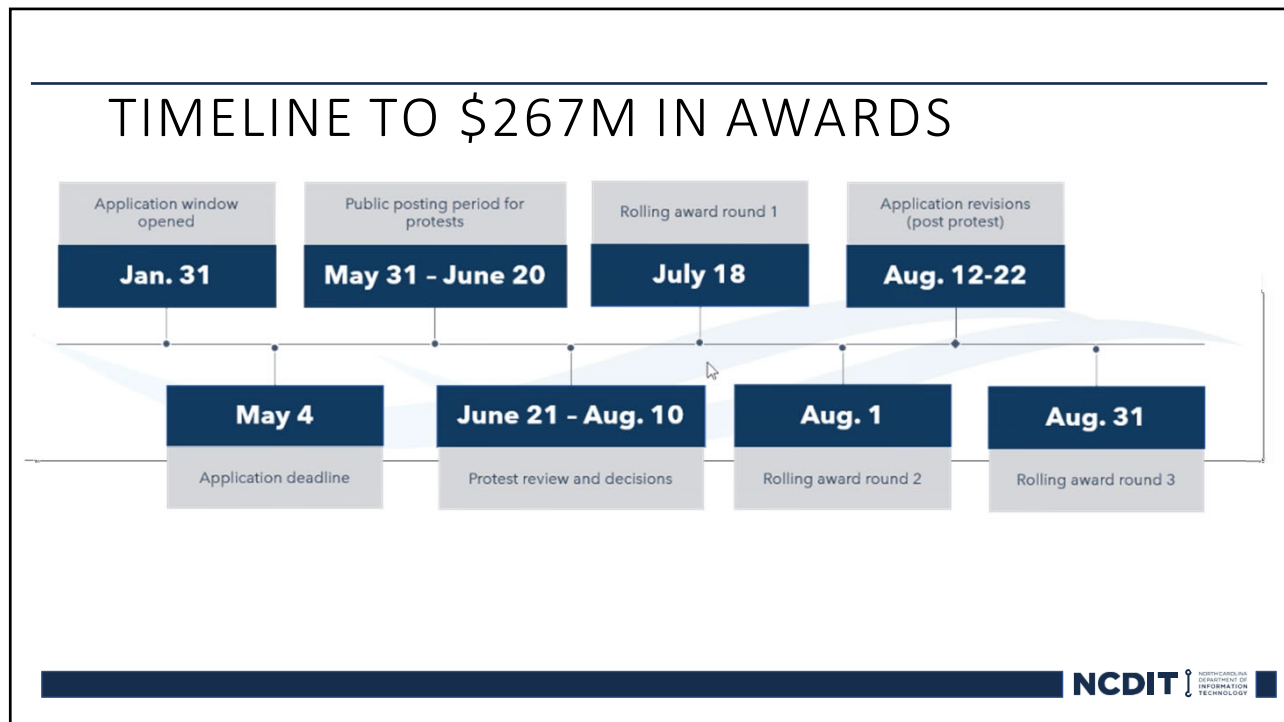
2



3



4



5

GREAT GRANT PROTESTS

- 216 protests received
- More than 200,000 location points
- Protesting ISP can only submit a protest if the:
 - Proposed project area covers an areas that is a protected area as defined in our Guidance, OR
 - Proposed project area contains 10% or more of total households with access to broadband services

NCDIT NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

6

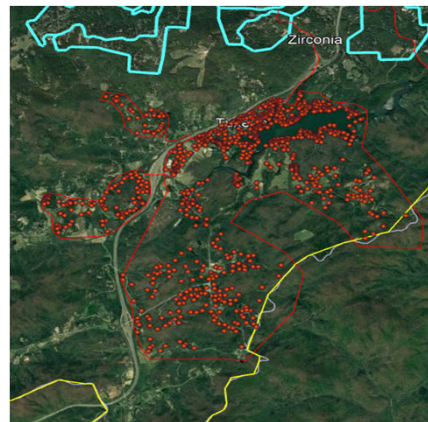
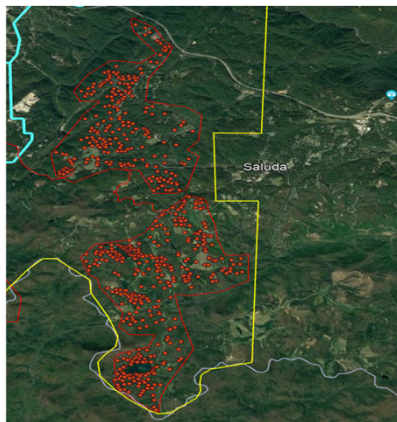
GREAT GRANT PROTESTS OF ELIGIBLE LOCATIONS

- Each protest is reviewed individually
- Data submitted by protester is analyzed for the following:
 - Granularity of information submitted by the protester
 - Protested area
 - 10% threshold
 - "Self-protests"
 - Comparison with FCC Form 477 data
 - Comparison with Speed Test data (N.C. Broadband Survey)
- Protest decisions are exempt for the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act
- Some protest information is deemed confidential per statute



7

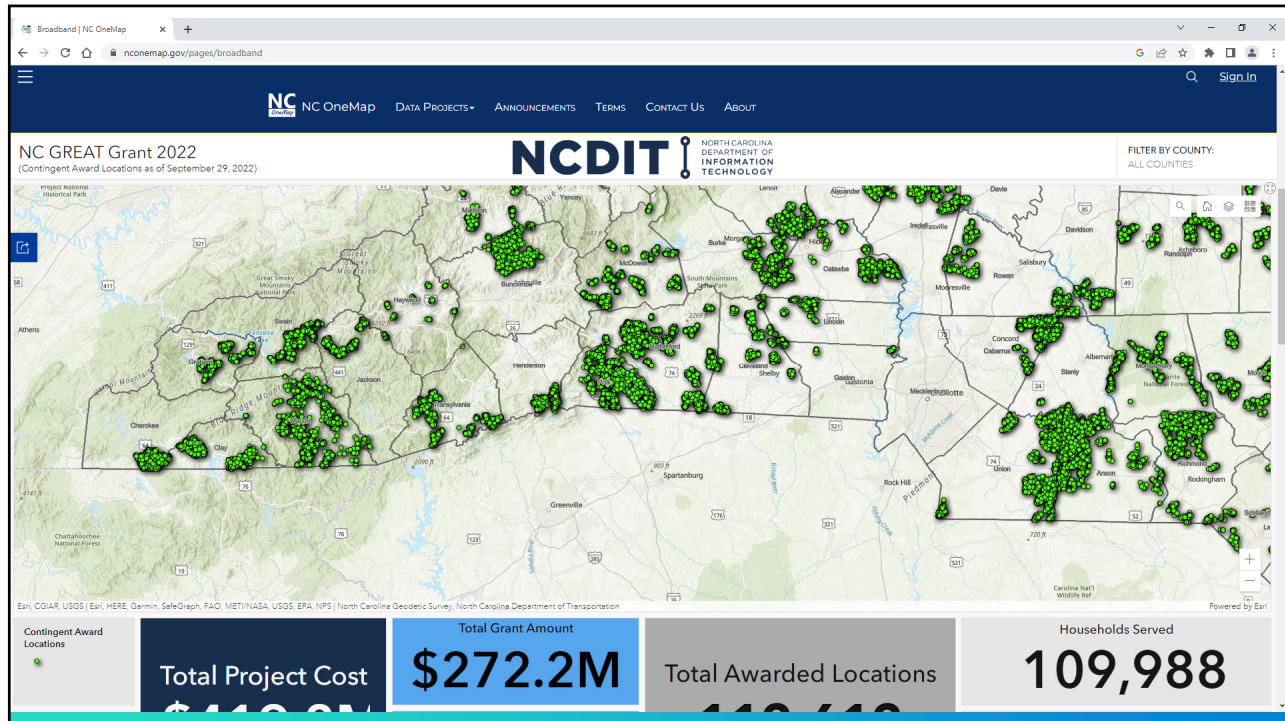
Henderson County – Optimum Grant



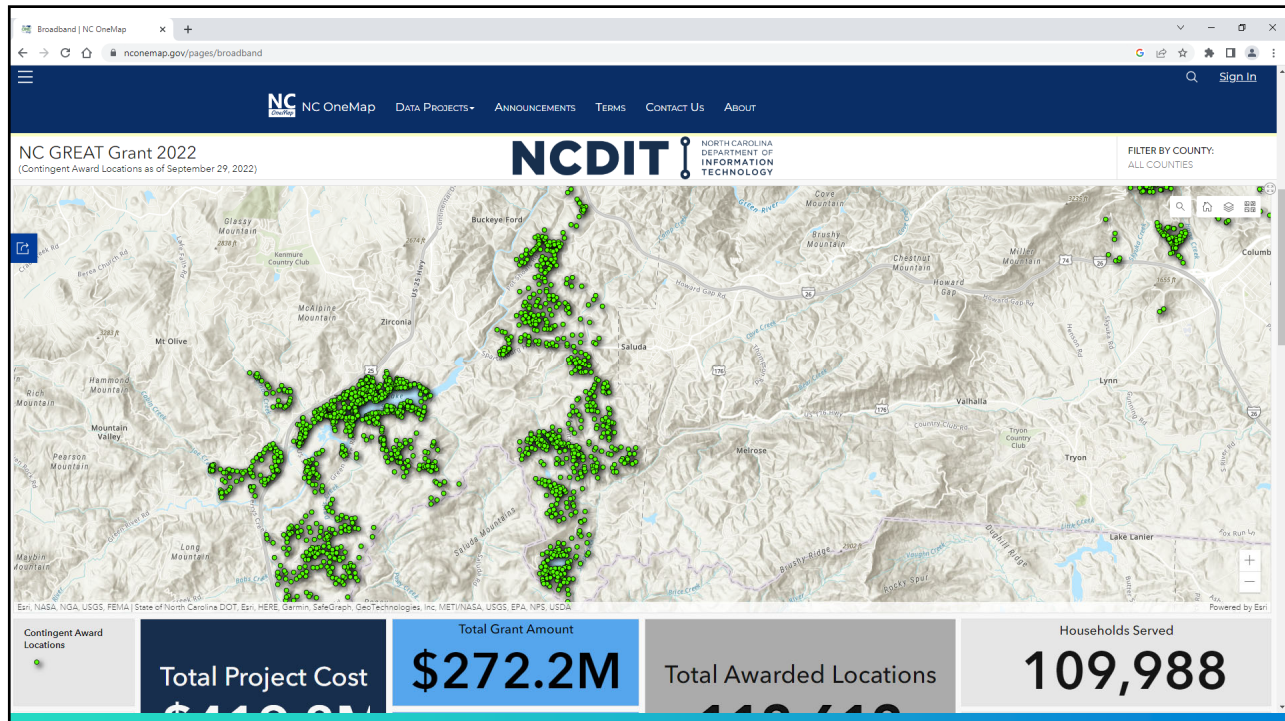
Project Area 1		
Total Locations	Total Homes	Total Businesses
1,495	1,427	68
Total Cost	Total Cost per Location	Backhaul Cost
\$5,635,712	\$3,770	\$82,997
Anticipated Altice Match	Anticipated Grant Request	Anticipated Score
30%	\$3,944,998.40	55
Highest Possible Match Requirement	Lowest Possible Grant Request	Anticipated Score –W/County
50%	\$2,817,856	64

8

8



9



10

CAB PROJECT FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY

- Designed as three-way partnership between service provider, counties and the State
- Required reviews of financial, operational & technical viability
- A county is considered ineligible to participate in either the North Carolina GREAT or CAB programs:
 - If a county has entered into a contract with an ISP on or after May 1 2021, and,
 - has used federal funds for a broadband infrastructure project unsupported by a State program
- CAB represents a potential opportunity to advance locally focused projects not funded in the current round of GREAT grants

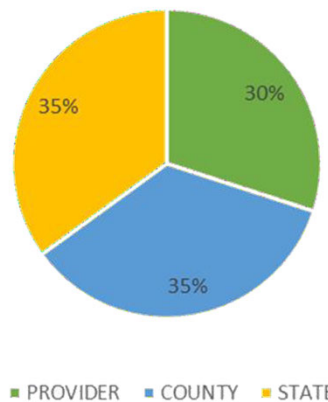


11

CAB EXAMPLE PROJECT FUNDING

Funding Sources - Example Project

- Maximum State contribution is \$4M
- Example graph is for a county which received more than \$8M in ARPA funding
- Funding Sources
 - Provider –up to 30% of the total project cost
 - County –At least 35% of the total project cost
 - NC BIO –Up to 35% of the total project cost
- Differing percentages for ARPA funding received
 - More than \$8M in ARPA funding, or
 - Less than \$8M in ARPA funding
 - \$4M to \$8M
 - \$250K to \$4M



12

