

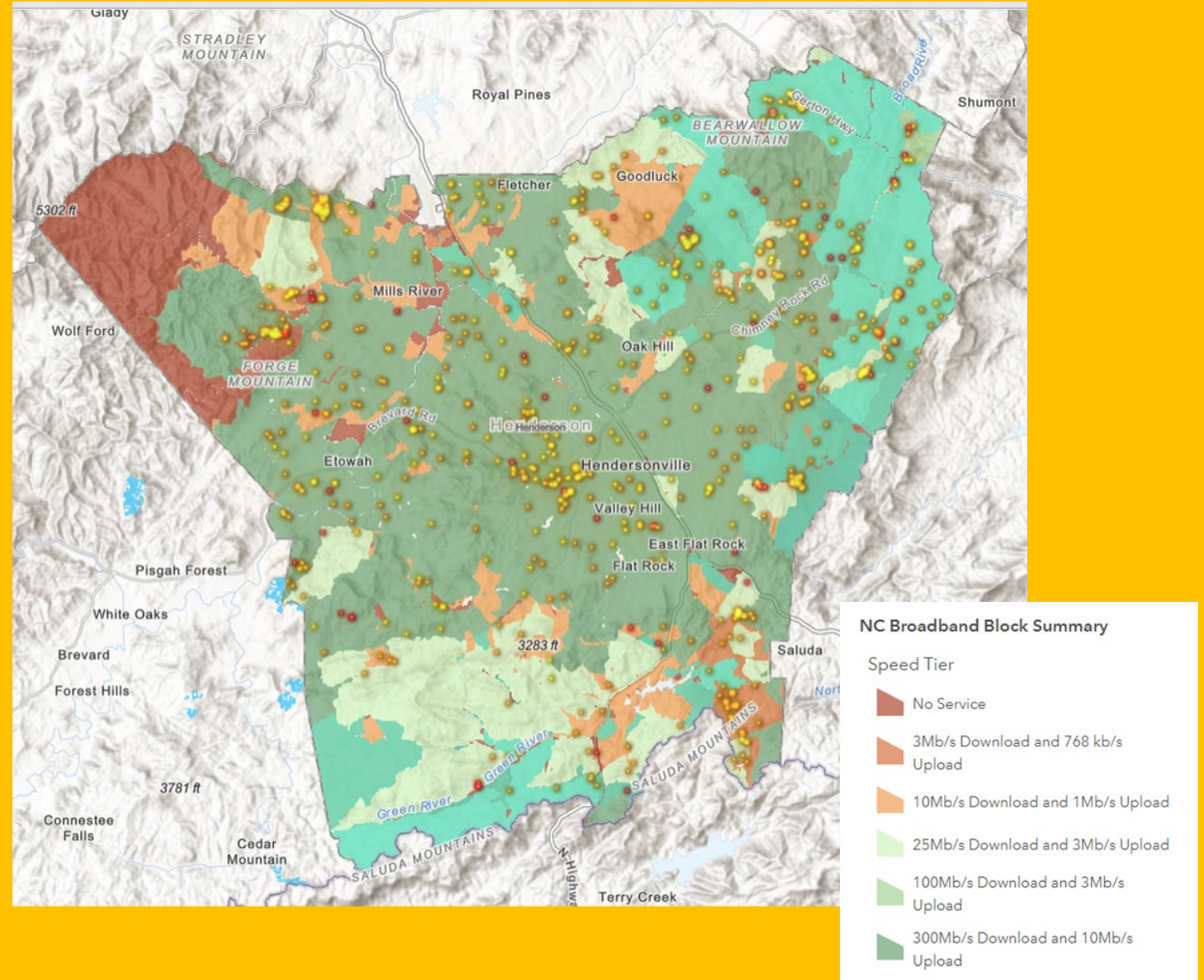
Henderson County- Broadband funding updates



Henderson County

Data in the North Carolina portal to represent unserved areas will become increasingly important

ncbroadband.gov

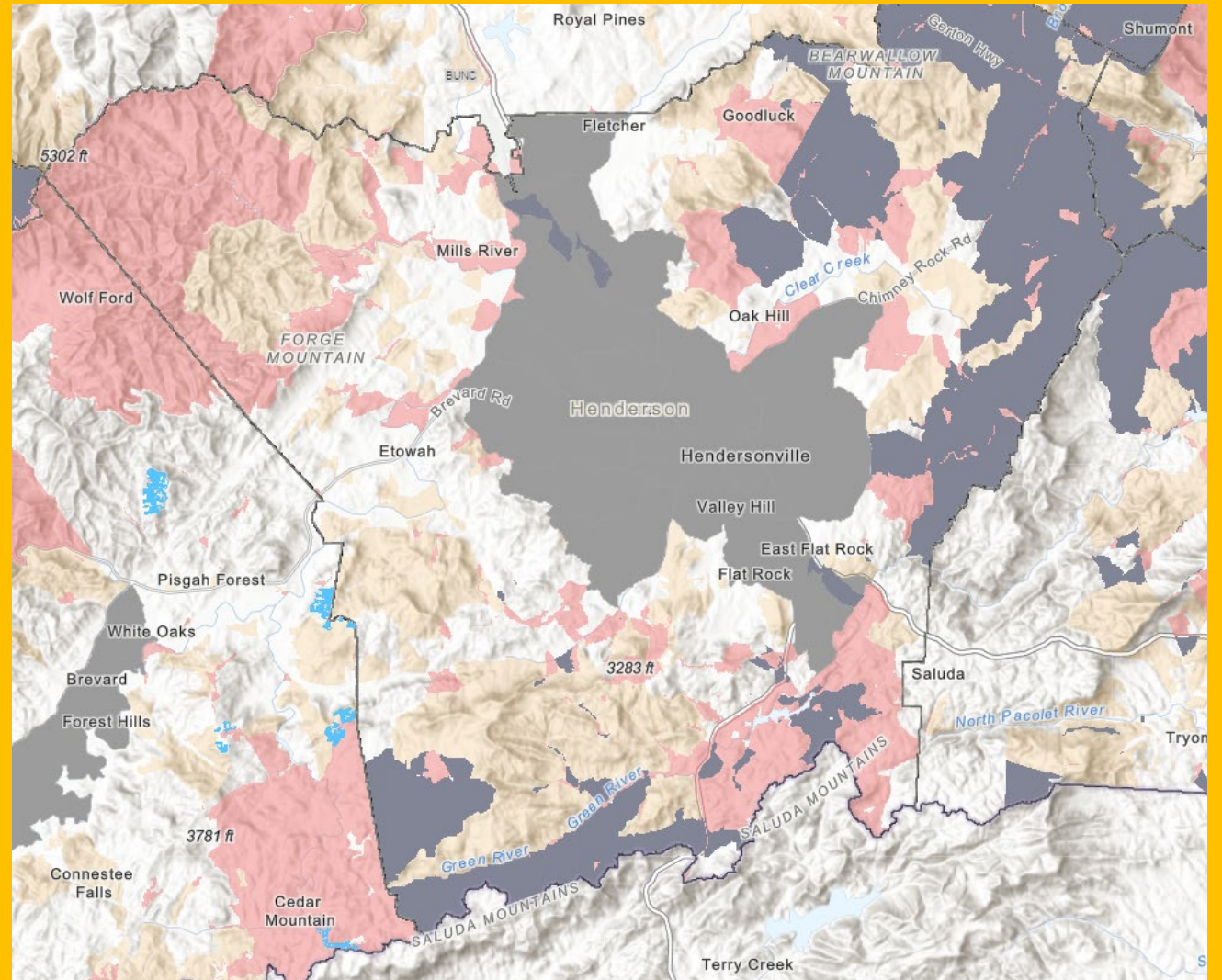


GREAT Eligibility

Grey areas ineligible

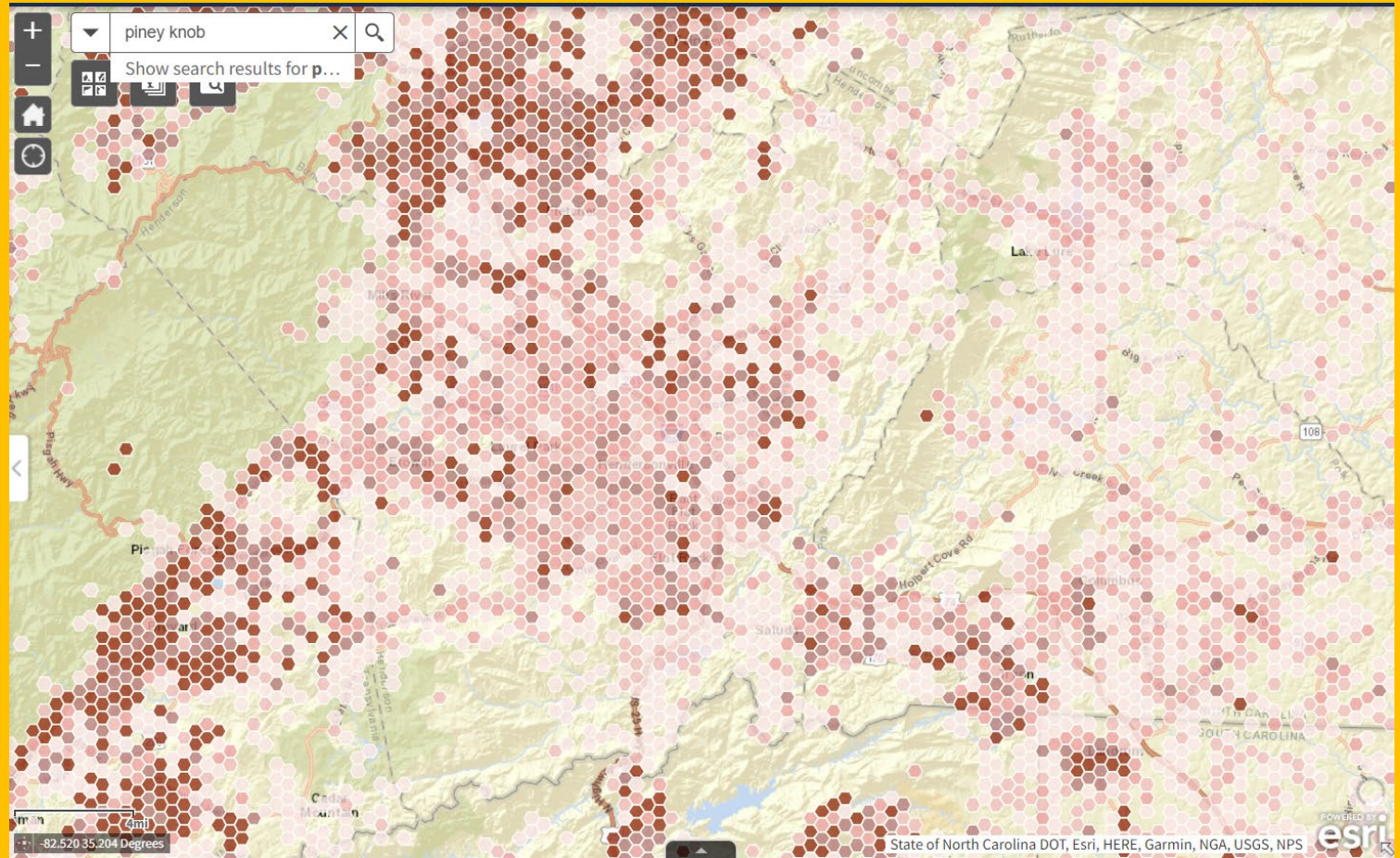
Red areas high priority

Tan areas- potentially eligible by address



Future of Mapping

Darker areas represented higher speed coverage, lighter areas lower speeds



North Carolina is putting ~\$1 billion of ARPA funds (and \$30 million of state funds) towards broadband and digital inclusion. Goals of these programs will be to get 98% of North Carolina at least 100/20 Mbps

- Infrastructure

- GREAT Grant- \$350M
- Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)- \$400M
- Stop Gap Solutions- \$90M
- Make Ready Accelerator (Pole Replacement)- \$100M

GREAT GRANT- Federal

- [N.C. Session Law 2021-180](#) appropriates \$350 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the GREAT Grant program. The current 2021-2022 funding round may award up to \$350 million in federal ARPA funding. The application window opens Jan. 31, and applications are due April 4.
- Awards can be made within eligible economically-distressed counties in areas unserved with broadband at speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Project deployments must provide minimum speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload, scalable to 100 Mbps symmetrical. The program encourages partnerships with counties, nonprofits or other internet service providers. Grants require matching investments from private broadband provider grantees, leveraging funding to deploy infrastructure to N.C. households, businesses and farms in the most rural and remote areas of the state.
- A single grant award shall not exceed \$4 million. No combination of grant awards involving any single county may exceed \$8 million in a fiscal year. The maximum matching requirement is 50 percent.

CAB (Completing Access to Broadband)

- [N.C. Session Law 2021-180](#) appropriates \$400 million from the American Rescue Plan Act for this new program. NCDIT and the Broadband Infrastructure Office, in partnership with counties, will develop a competitive process for broadband providers to bid on broadband infrastructure deployments. Participating counties will work with the Broadband Infrastructure Office to mutually identify eligible project areas and develop the scope of work for the procurement of construction, installation and operation of broadband infrastructure in the targeted project areas. NCDIT will provide customizable procurement templates and processes for use with each county. Projects require matching investments from counties and the selected broadband service providers. No county may receive more than \$4 million in aggregate funding from the CAB Grant fund in a single year.
- The CAB Grant program complements the GREAT Grant program to provide solutions to areas not served by the GREAT Grant. Per legislation, projects applied for and not funded under the GREAT Grant can be considered for funding under the CAB Grant program.

Stop Gap Grant

- [N.C. Session Law 2021-180](#) appropriates \$90 million of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Stop Gap Program.
- Requirements for the Broadband Stop Gap Program are currently under development. The program will be launched in late 2022 following the GREAT Grant and CAB Grant programs.

Broadband Make Ready Accelerator Grant

- [N.C. Session Law 2021-180](#) appropriates \$100 million of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Broadband Make Ready Accelerator Program. Program requirements for the pole replacement program are currently under development. The program will be launched in fall 2022.

Awareness and Digital Literacy

- [N.C. Session Law 2021-180](#) appropriates \$50 million of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds for awareness and digital literacy efforts, including a statewide awareness campaign with targeted community-based efforts and digital literacy offerings. The funding is allocated as \$12.5 million per year over four years.

Questions

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