

Presentation to the June 2026 Meeting of the

Science Technology and Telecommunications Committee

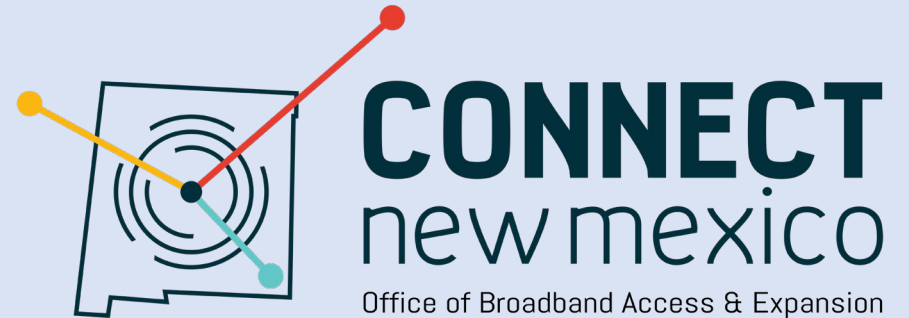
Office of Broadband Access & Expansion

Jeff Lopez, Director

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June 23, 2026

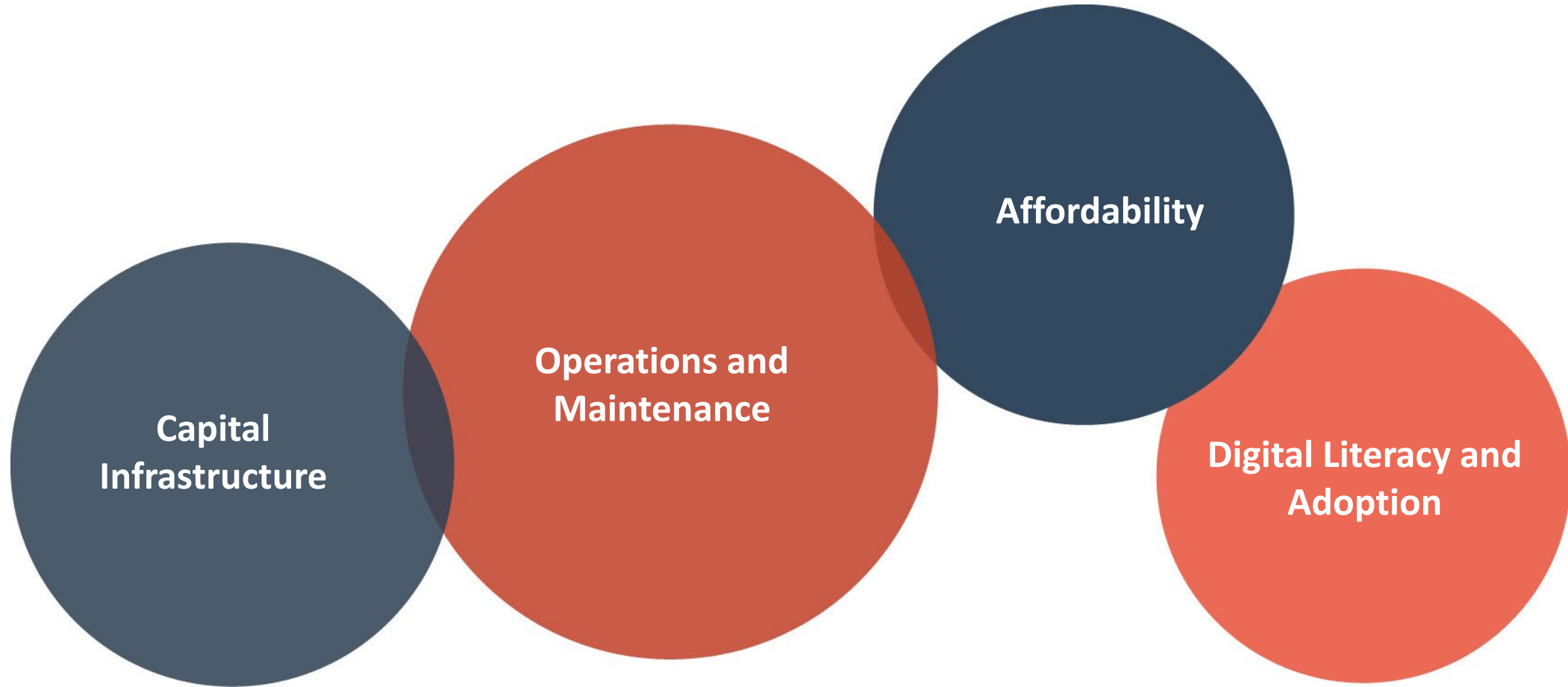
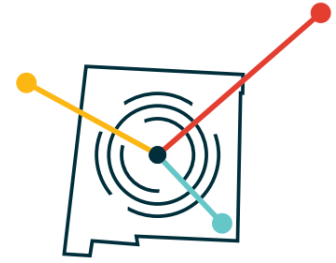


Content

- **Broadband Infrastructure Programs**
 - ARPA, Connect New Mexico Fund
 - BEAD
 - Permitting and Rights of Way
 - Mapping, Data, and Policy
- **Operations and Maintenance**
 - Statewide Education Network
- **Affordability**
 - SB 152 – LITAP and Broadband Affordability
- **Digital Literacy and Adoption**



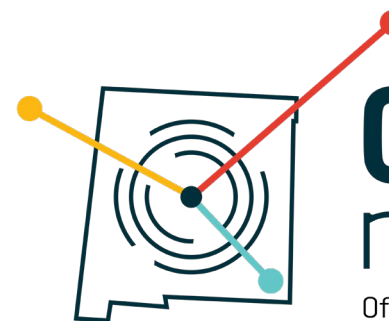
Broadband Connectivity





Capital Infrastructure

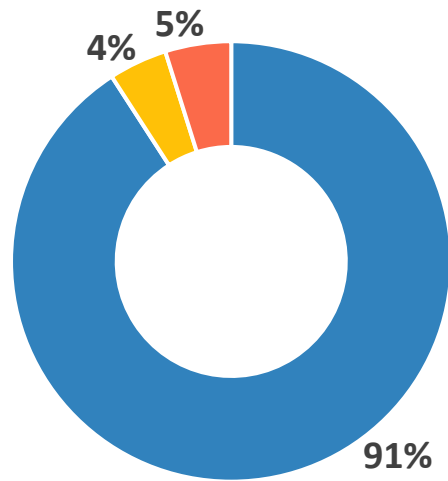
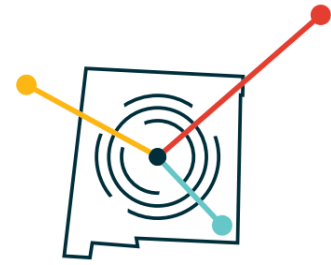
HB10/SB93-2021: OBAE Broadband Programs



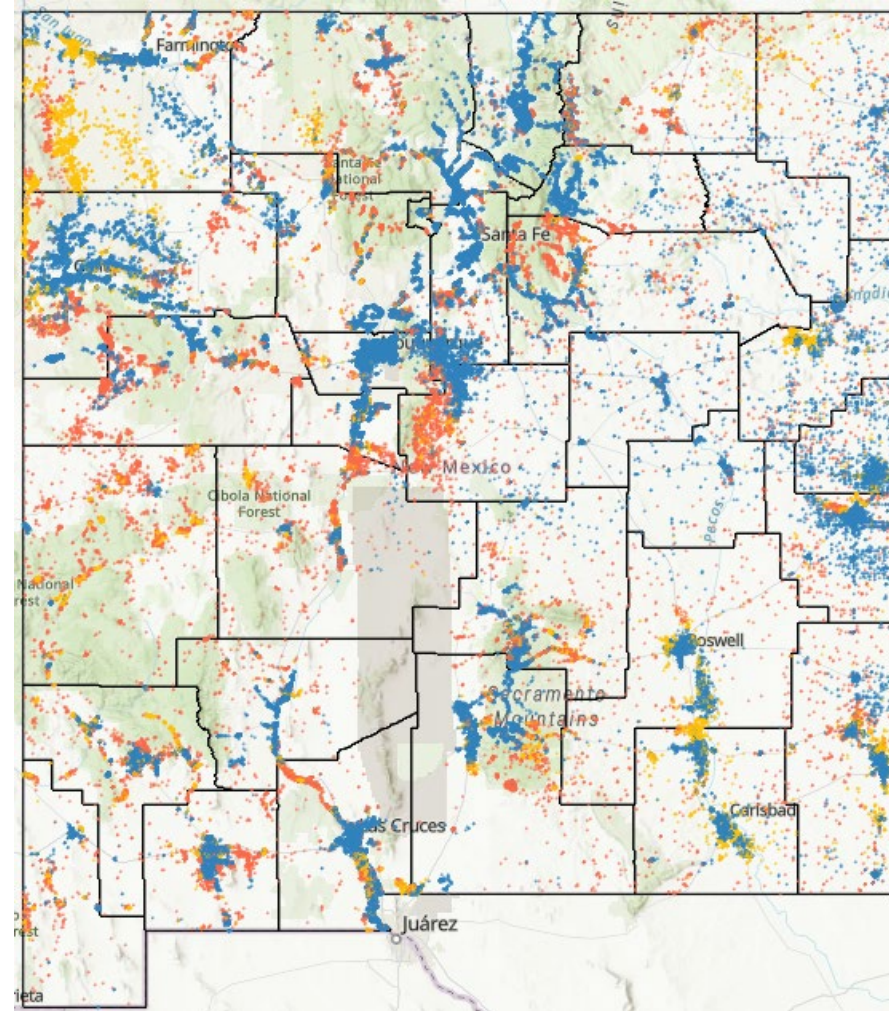
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Broadband Access in New Mexico

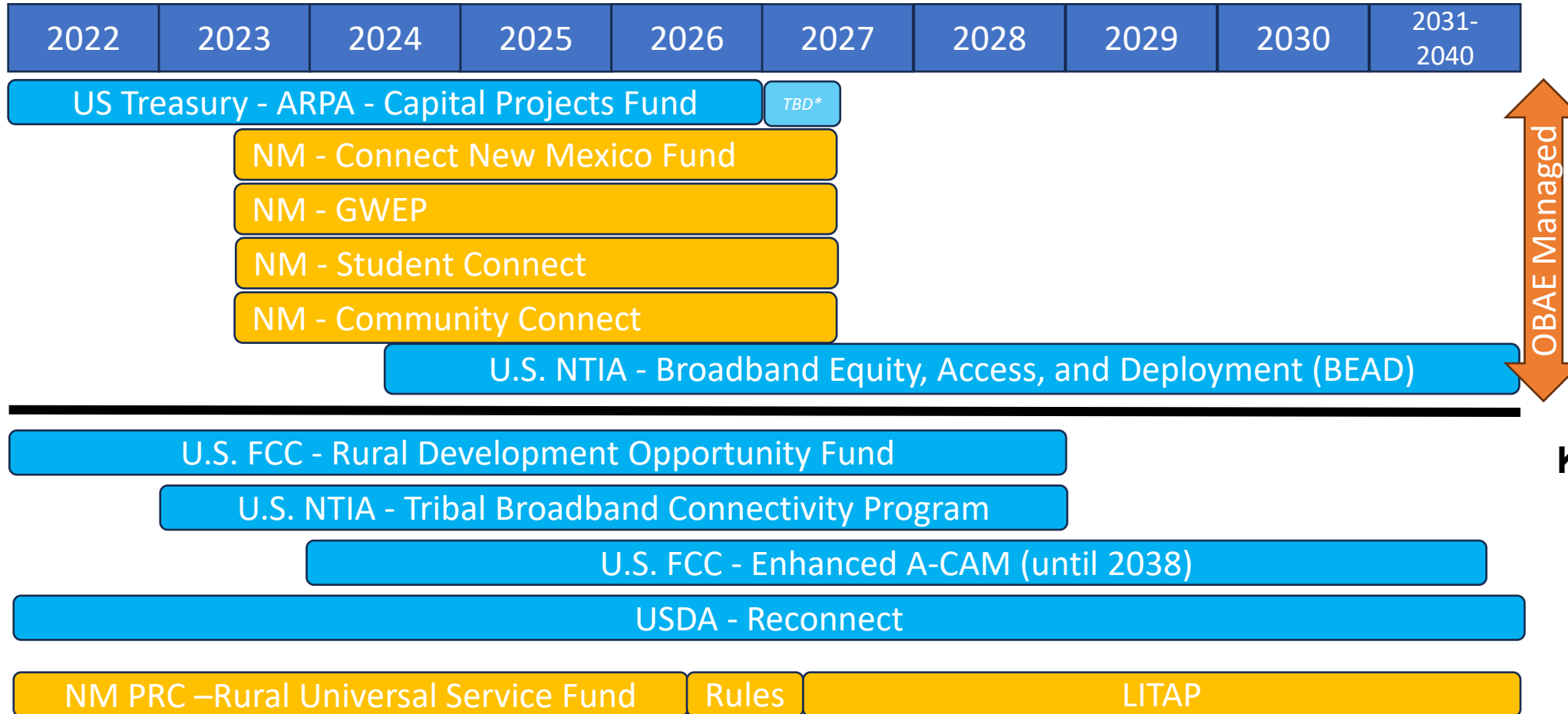
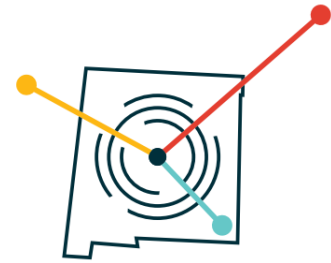


Key	Status	Locations
	Served	778,560
	Underserved	36,742
	Unserved	41,508



source: FCC National Broadband Map; data as of December 31, 2025

Broadband Programs in NM



**U.S. Treasury recently announced a six month extension for ARPA-CPF projects. OBAE is evaluating whether any ARPA-CPF projects are eligible for an extension.*

Public Funding for Broadband in New Mexico:

OBAE-Managed (CNMI, CCGP, ARPA, BEAD) \$560.7 M

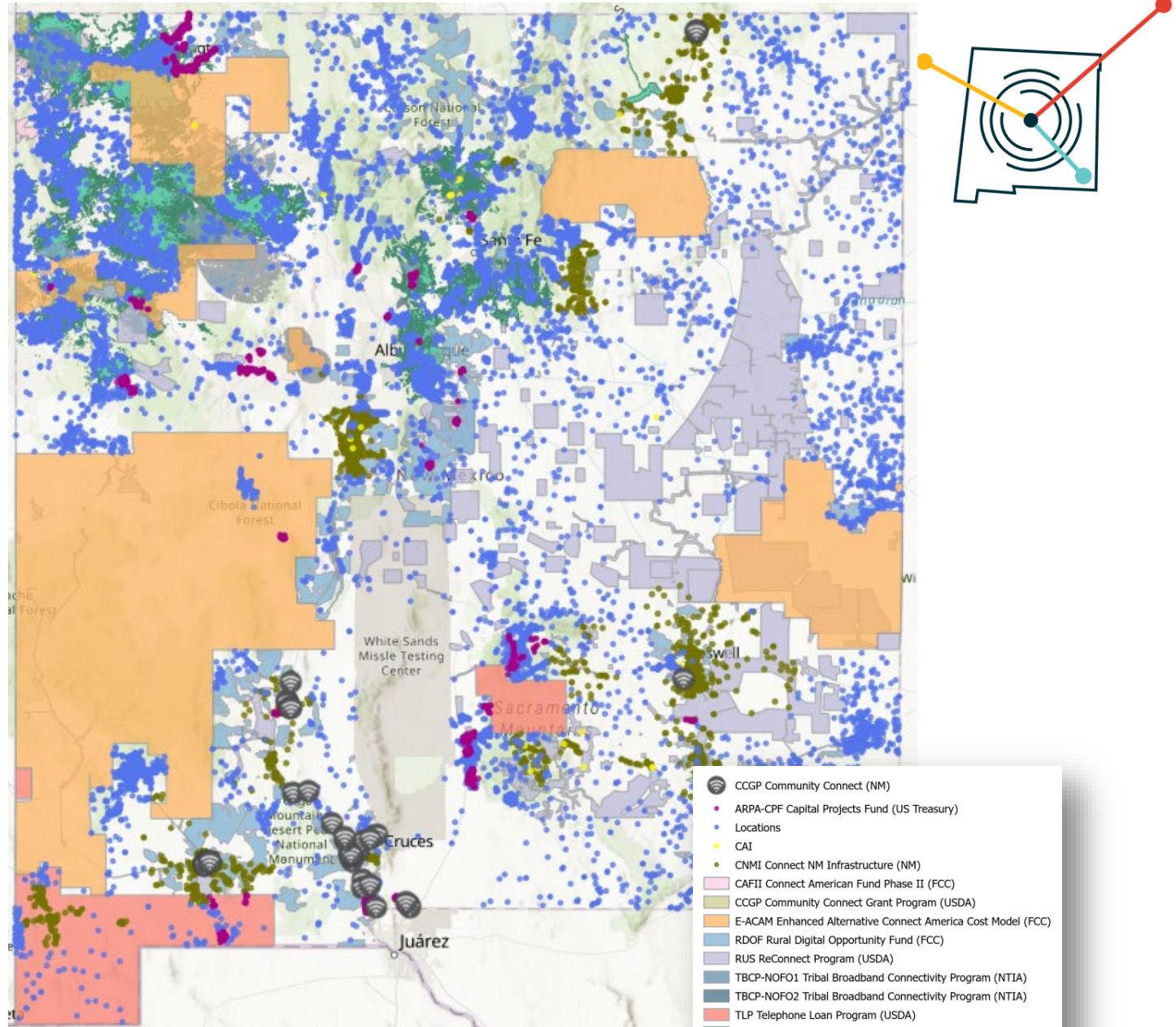
Other State (PRC, Los Alamos) \$49.7 M

Federal - FCC \$482.1 M

Federal - USDA \$744.7 M

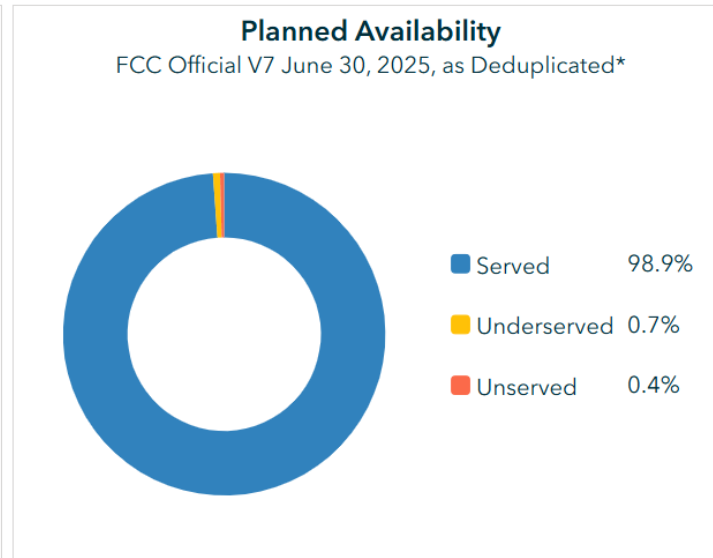
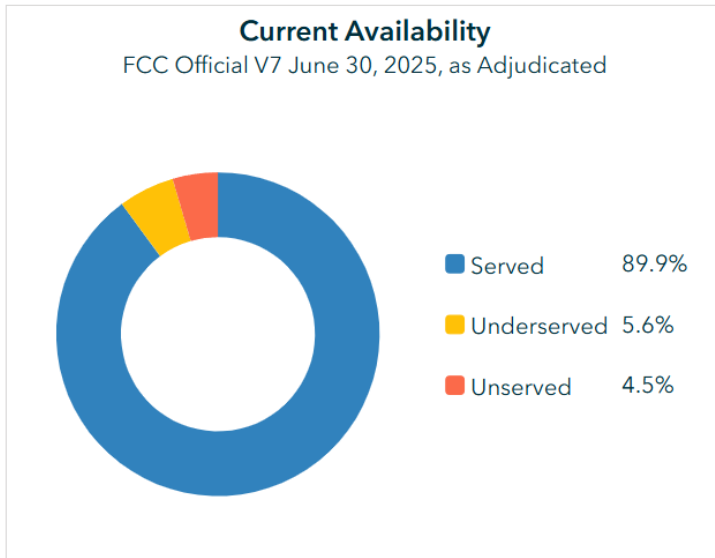
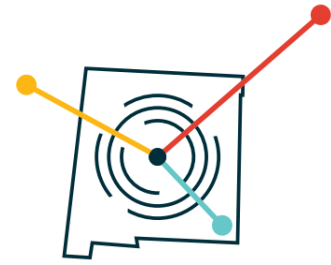
Federal - NTIA \$211.8 M

= \$2 Billion for Infrastructure



source: FCC and NM OBAE Funding Maps, as of May 2026

Broadband Access Planned

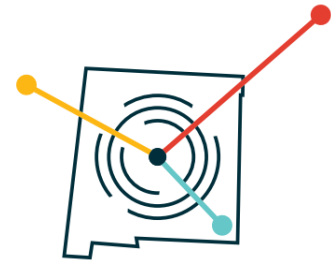


When all projects are built, NM will have
77,089
more BSL's served.

When all projects are built in NM,
1.12%
of all BSL's will remain left to serve.

Source: OBAE Deduplication of Enforceable Commitments as of April 2026, against June 2025 Service Claims

Broadband Project #1: Typical Fiber to the Home (Oso Internet)



Burying the Fiber	Handhole Connection	NID on the House	Inside Connection	Network Operations
				



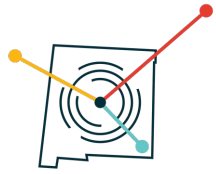
Broadband Project #2 – Plow and Laying Fiber
(OSO Internet - Ramah Navajo Chapter Project)



Broadband Project #3 – Trenching
(Penasco Valley Telecom – Artesia Project)



Broadband Project #4 - Trenching
(Tularosa Communications – Lincoln/Otero County Project)



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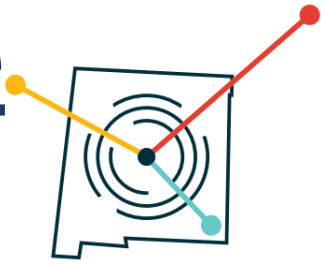
Broadband Project #5 – Licensed Fixed Wireless Tower (Oso Internet – Ramah Project)



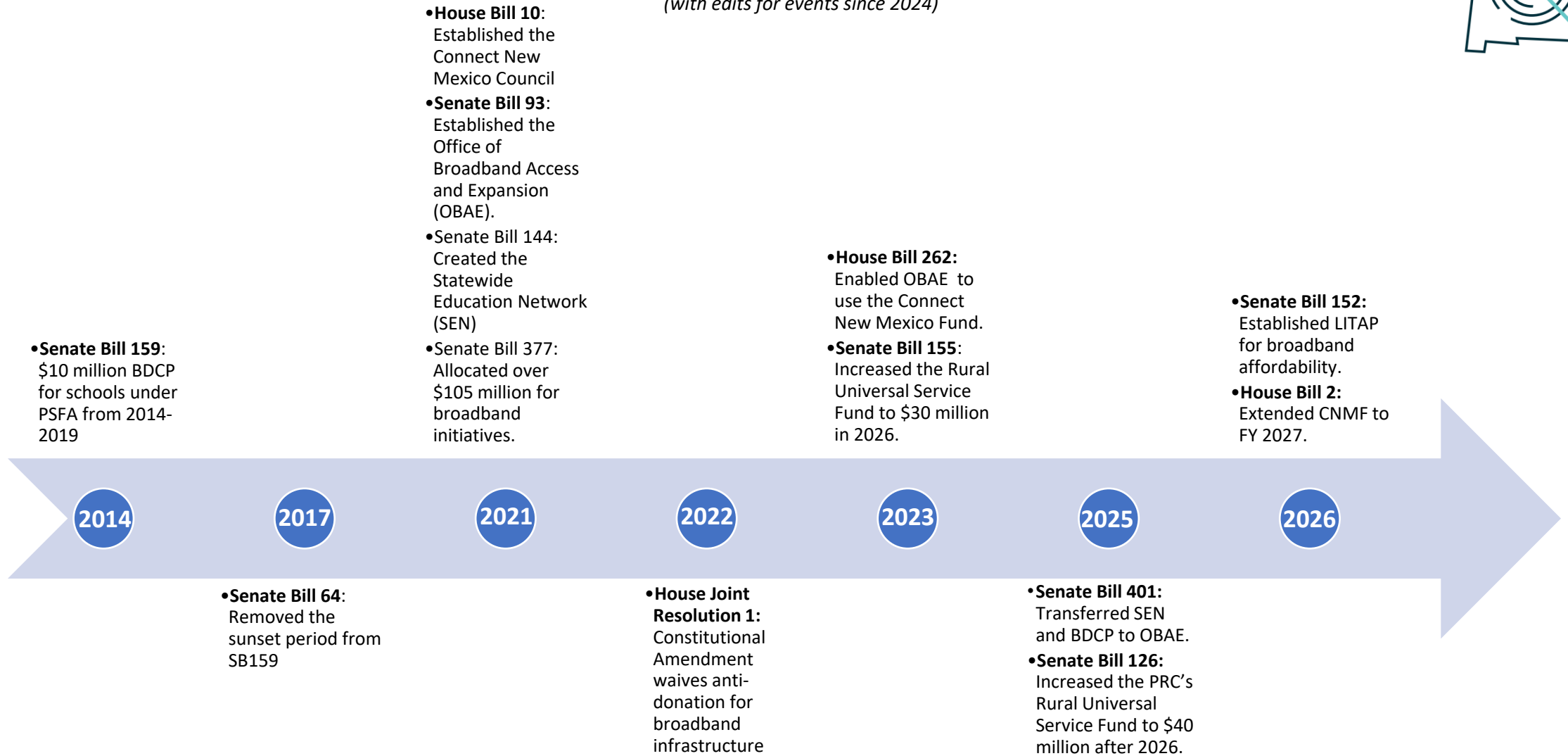


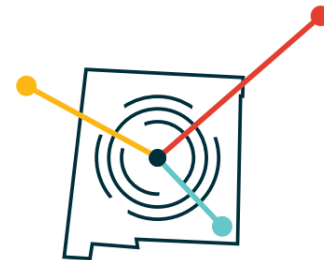
Broadband Project #6 – Low Earth Orbit Satellite (generated image)

NM Broadband Legislation and Timeline

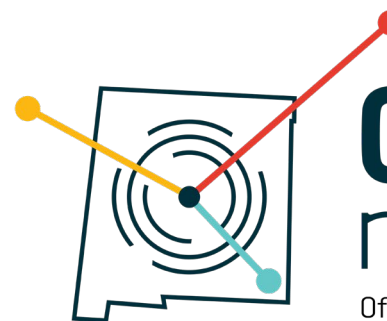


Source: Mark Montoya, Legislative Education Study Committee, November 2024
(with edits for events since 2024)





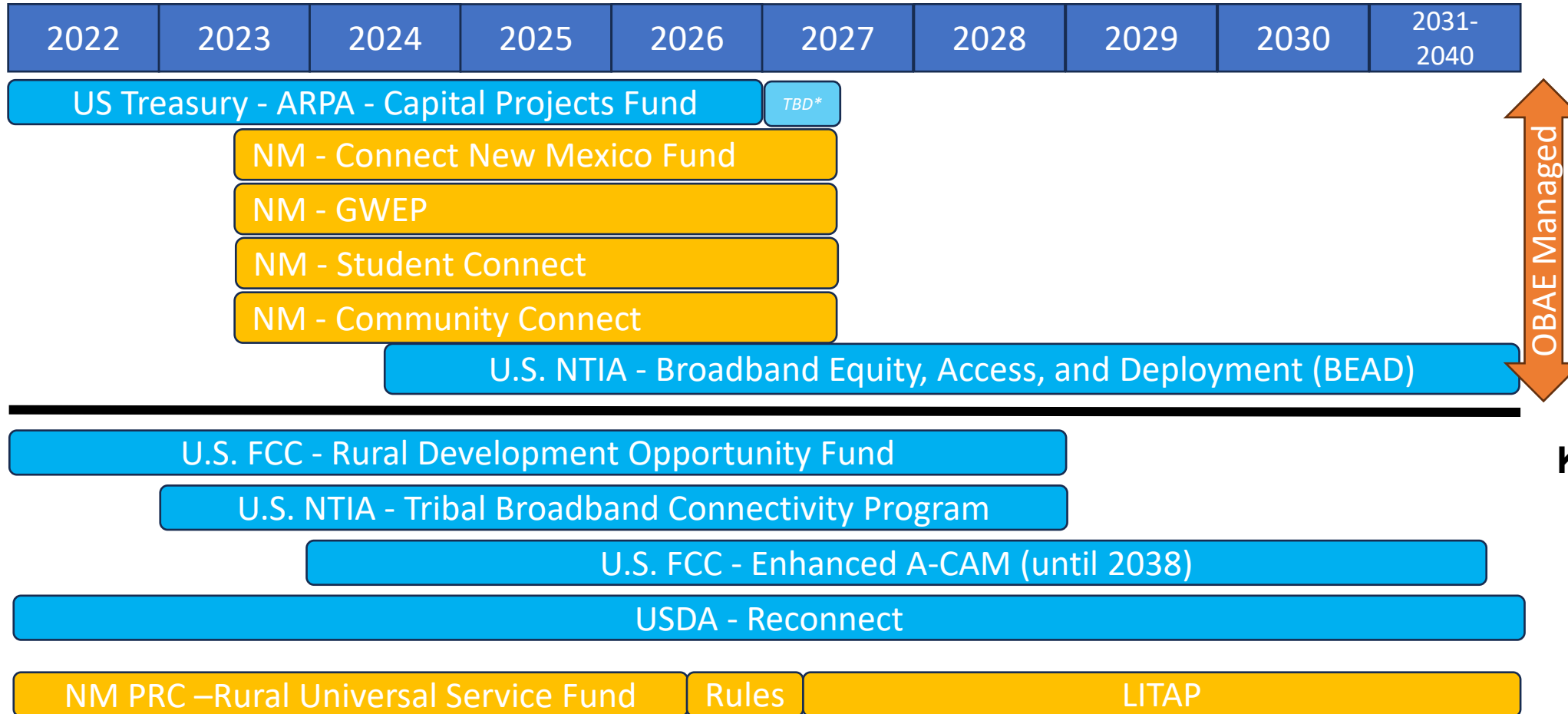
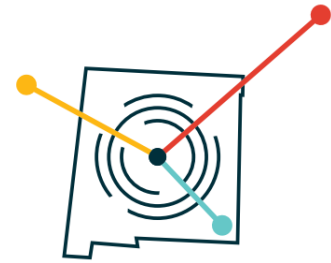
Programs Status



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Broadband Programs in NM

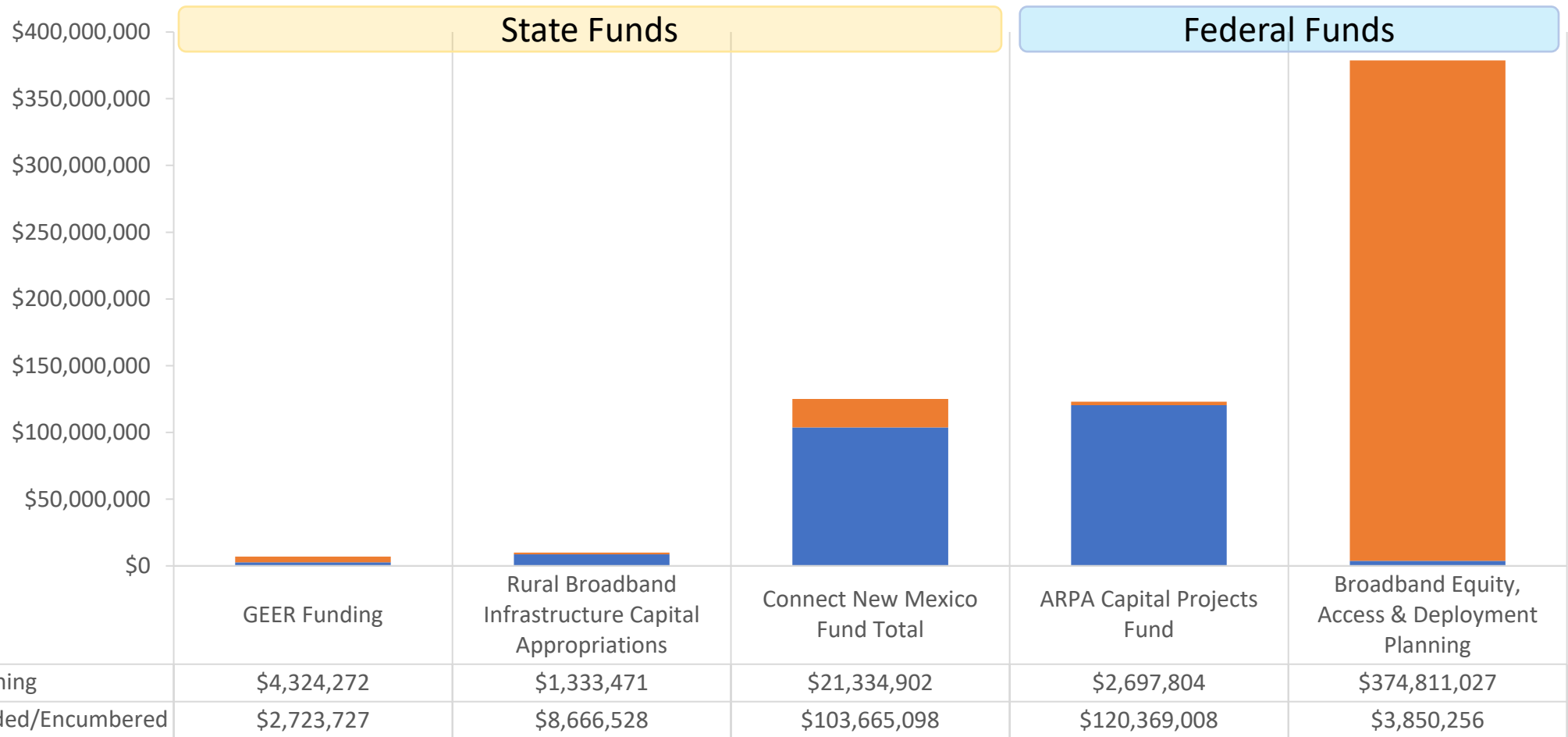
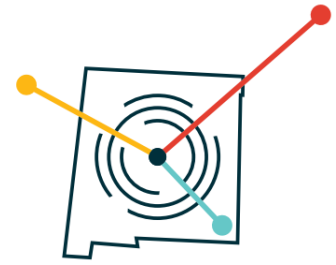


Key:

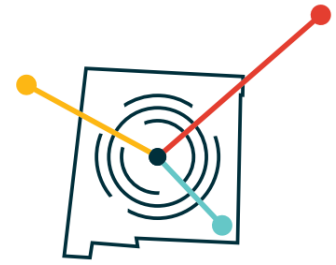
- State Funds
- Federal Funds

**U.S. Treasury recently announced a six month extension for ARPA-CPF projects. OBAE is evaluating whether any ARPA-CPF projects are eligible for an extension.*

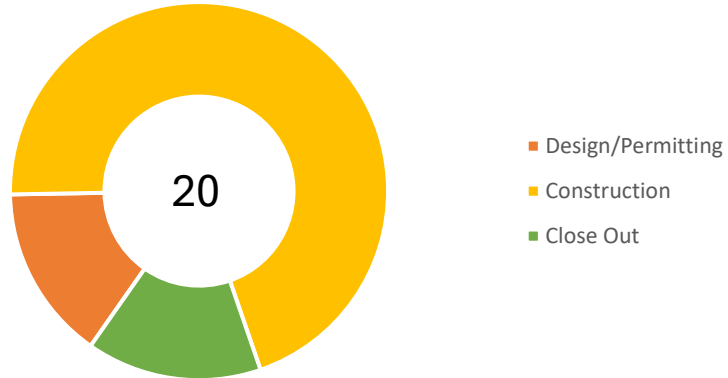
OBAE Administered Grants



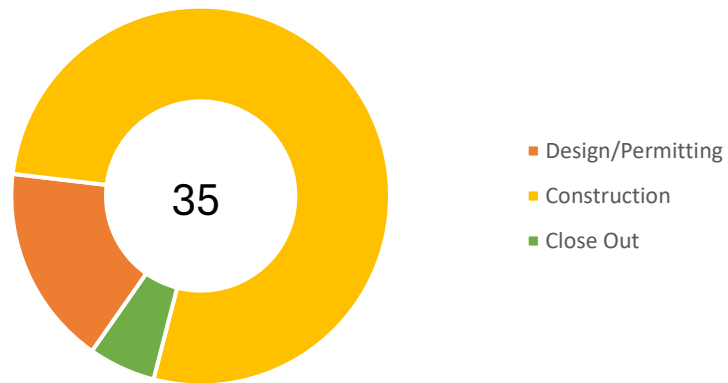
Projects Status



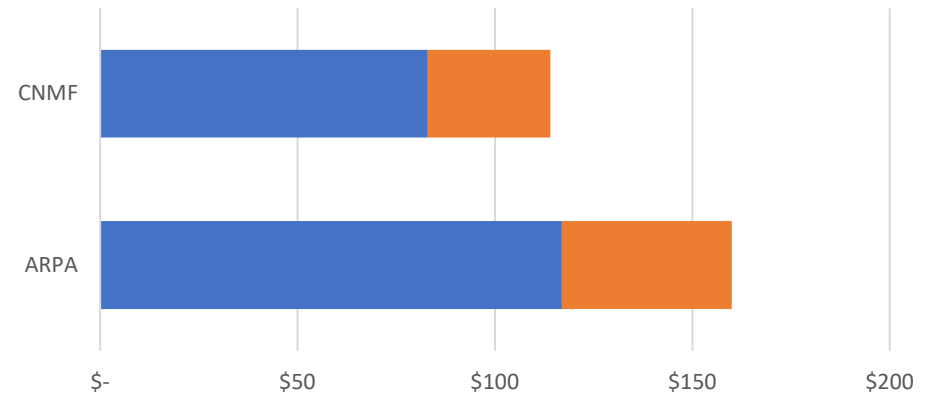
ARPA Project Phase (Federal)



CNMF Project Phase (State)



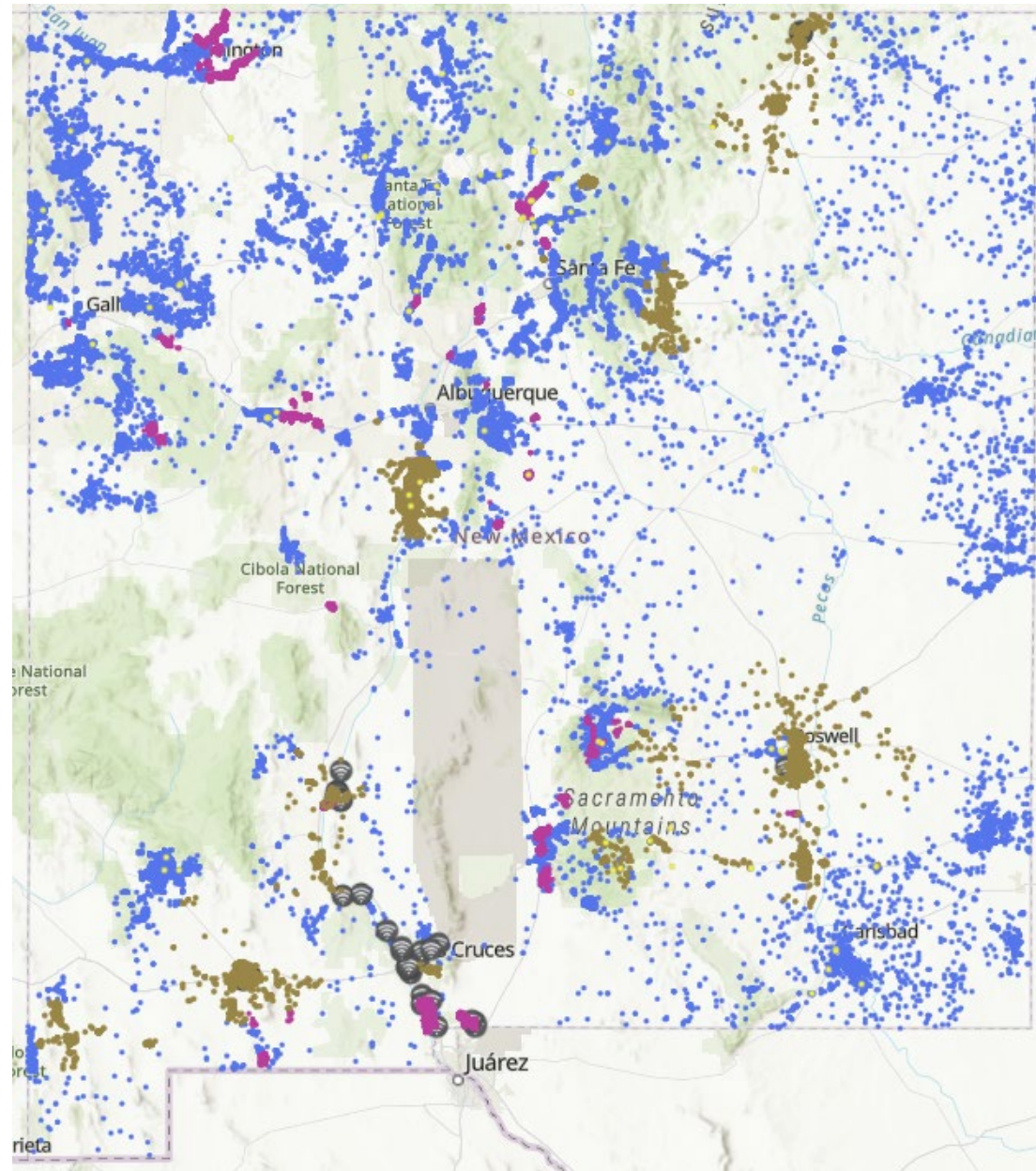
Expenditures

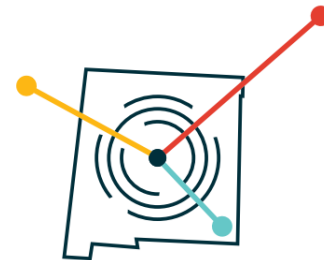


	ARPA	CNMF
Budget	\$116,999,999.66	\$83,000,818.04
Expended	\$42,980,249.46	\$31,059,851.14

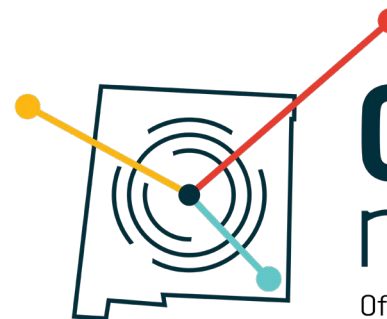
Funded/Completed OBAE Projects

- Connect NM Infrastructure (State)
- ARPA Capital Projects Fund (Federal)
- NM Community Connect (State)
- BEAD (Federal)





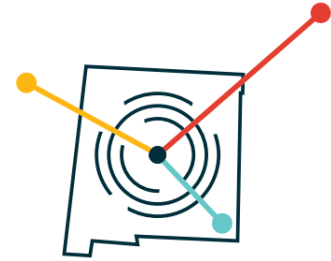
Tribal Broadband Project Support



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Strengthening Government-to-Government Relationships



- **Consistent Communication**

- Tribal Leadership and Broadband/IT teams
- Personalized Outreach
- Participating in Key Meetings
 - APCG
 - 19 Pueblos District
 - Navajo Northern Agency Council

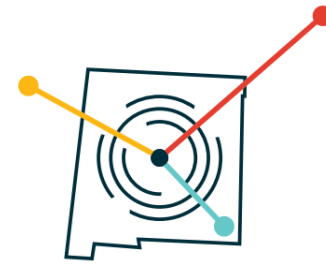
- **Tribal Broadband Convening**

- Co-hosted with DoIT & IAD

- **State & Federal Funding to NPTs**

- OBAE has awarded over \$64M
- BEAD provides nearly \$150M in additional funds (once agreements are signed)

Tribal Broadband Awards



Nation, Pueblo or Tribe Broadband Awards (state & federal)

Pueblo of Acoma	NTIA TBCP, USDA Reconnect, GWEP, BEAD
Pueblo of Cochiti	GWEP
Pueblo of Isleta	Connect NM, GWEP, NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Jemez	ARPA, GWEP, NTIA TBCP, BEAD
Pueblo of Laguna	ARPA, Connect NM, GWEP
Pueblo of Nambe	ARPA, NTIA TBCP
Okay Owingeh	NTIA TBCP, Student Connect
Pueblo of Picuris	Connect NM, GWEP, NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Pojoaque	NTIA TBCP, GWEP,
Pueblo of San Felipe	GWEP, NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Connect NM, GWEP, NTIA TBCP

Nation, Pueblo or Tribe Broadband Awards (state & federal)

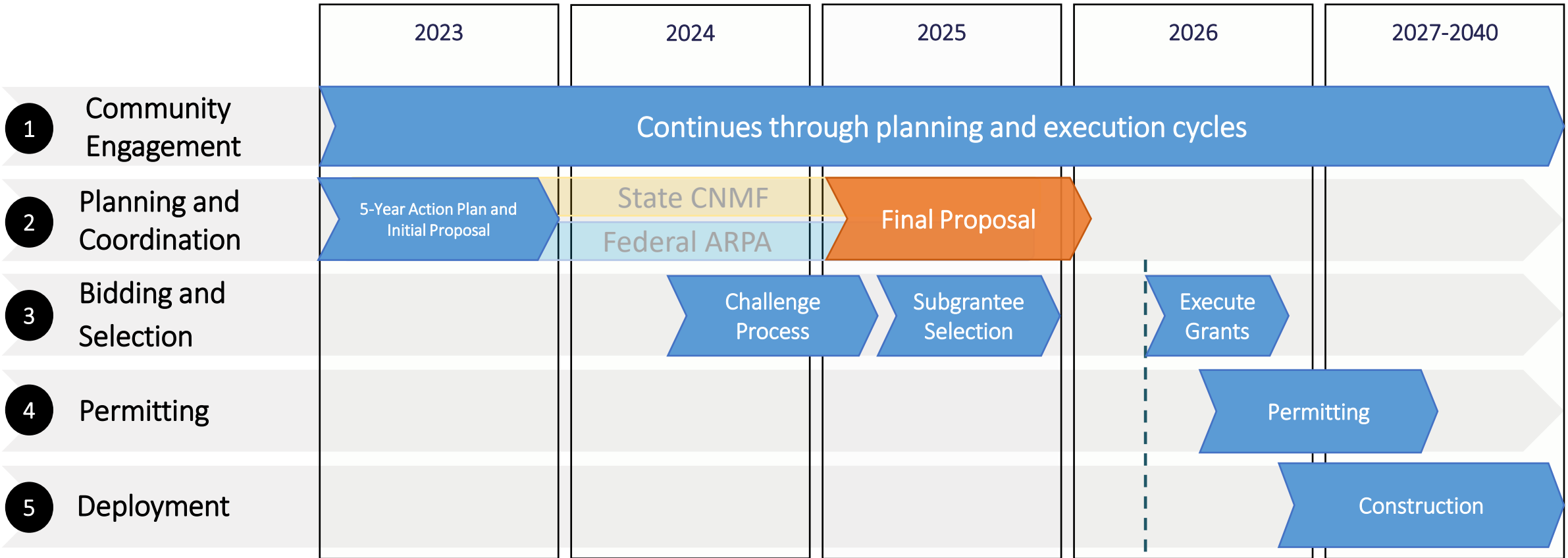
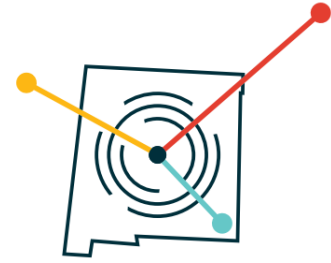
Pueblo of Santa Ana	ARPA
Pueblo of Santa Clara	NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Santo Domingo	ARPA, NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Taos	NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Tesuque	Connect NM, GWEP, NTIA TBCP
Pueblo of Zia	NTIA TBCP
Fort Sill Apache Tribe	GWEP
Jicarilla Apache Nation	NTIA TBCP
Mescalero Apache Tribe	NTIA TBCP
Navajo Nation, Chapters & Affiliates	ARPA, GWEP, NTIA TBCP, BEAD



Tribal Technical Assistance

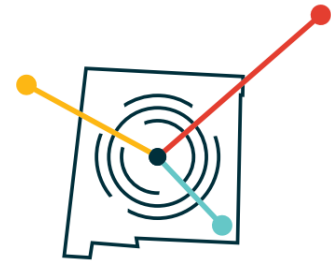
- June 4, 2026 – OBAE hosted a Tribal ISP & ETC Information Session and Workshop in preparation for LITAP enrollment
- Multi-agency presence
 - Public Regulation Commission Staff
 - Dept. of Information & Technology Deputy Secretary Habedank
- 74% participation from Nations, Pueblos and Tribes (17)
 - Including two Pueblo Governors and two Pueblo Lt. Governors
- NPTs discussed:
 - Becoming their own Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
 - Participating in PRC's ETC Rulemaking – Public Comment
 - Applying for ETC status

BEAD



We Are Here

BEAD

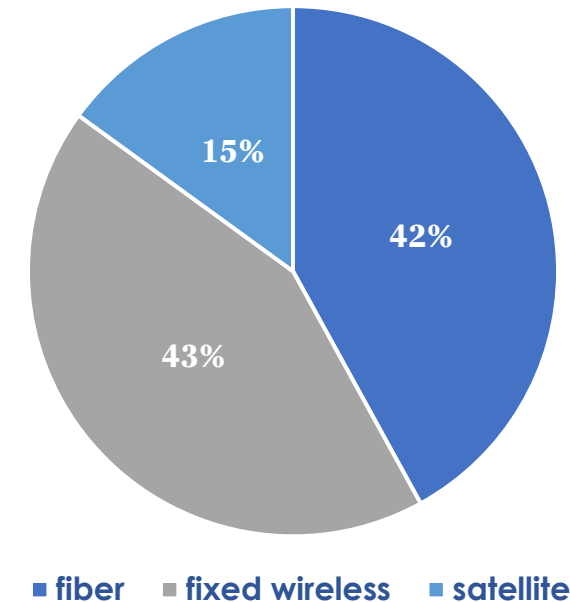


OBAE completed the Subgrantee Selection Process and submitted the Final Proposal to NTIA on September 4, 2025.

NTIA approved the Final Proposal on January 27, 2026.

- **31 Provisional Awards** made to **17 entities**:
 - 9 internet service providers and LEO satellite companies
 - 5 rural electric or telephone cooperatives
 - 3 Tribal entities (Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Acoma, and Pueblo of Jemez)

\$382 million
42,851 locations

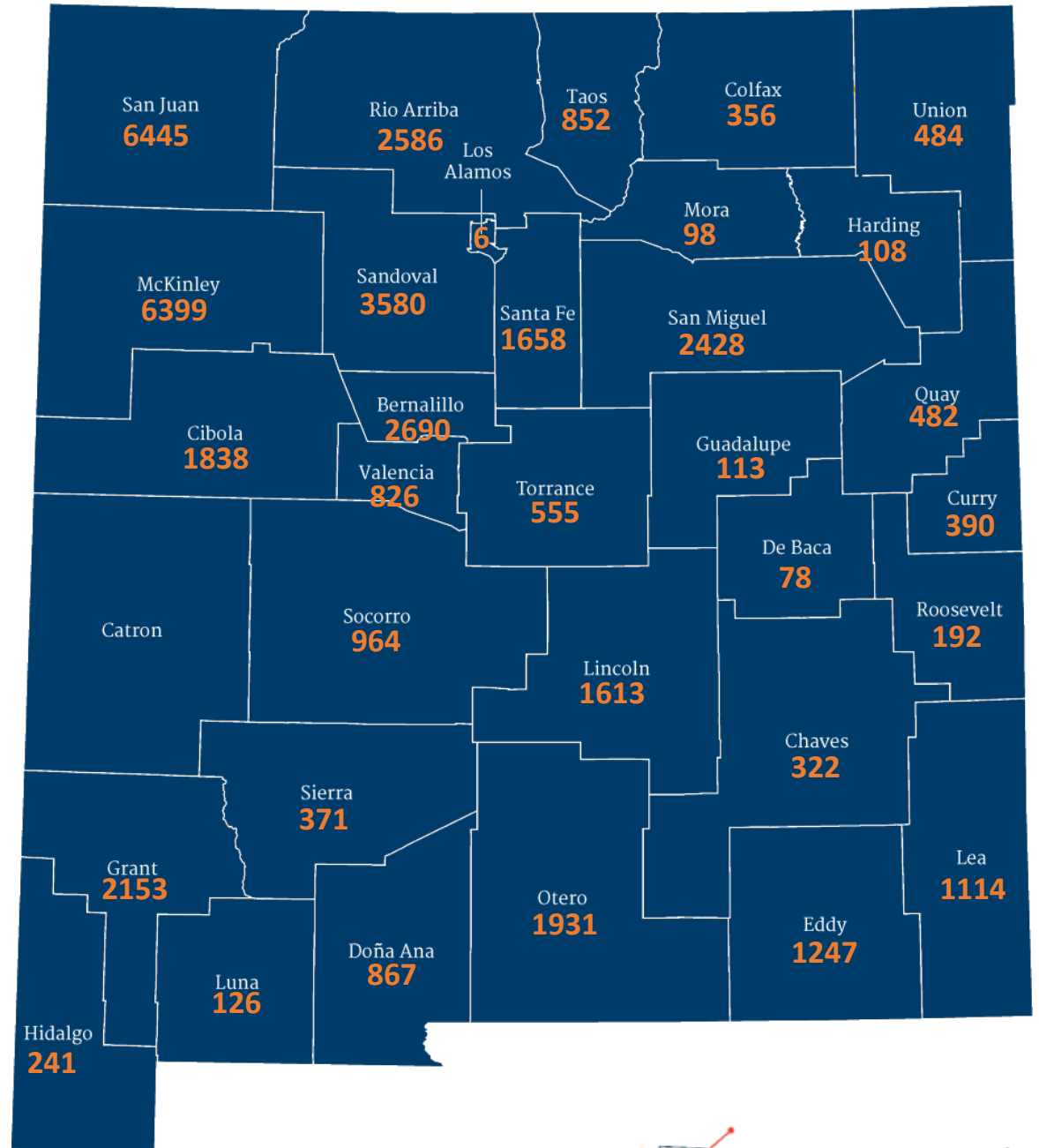


BEAD Preliminary Award Locations

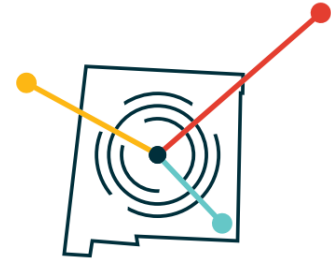
TOTAL:

- 42,851 locations
- 32 of 33 Counties*
- Mix of Technologies:
 - 44% Fiber
 - 40% Fixed Wireless
 - 16% LEO

**Catron County had no BEAD-eligible locations; all were covered by other grant programs.*



BEAD

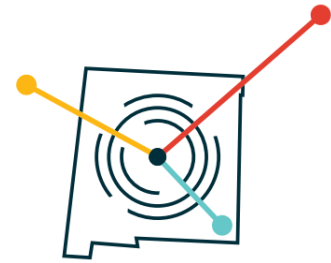


- June 6, 2025 BEAD Restructuring Policy Notice
 - Extended timeline by 6 months
 - Decreased support for fiber
 - Increased support for satellite and wireless
 - Effectively capped per-location amount
- Remaining Funding: **\$293 million**
 - NTIA has paused "non-deployment" uses of BEAD funding.
- More information at: connect.nm.gov/bead

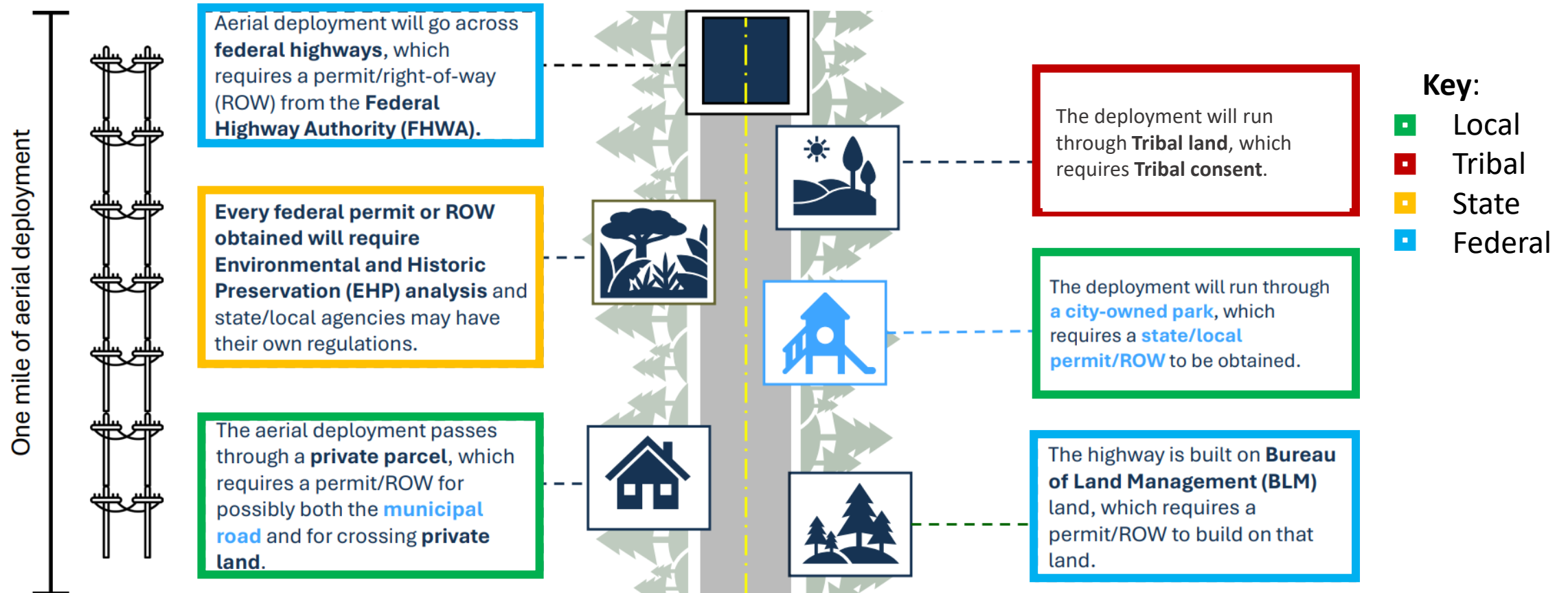
CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE USES OF **\$293 million**
NON-DEPLOYMENT FUNDS

- community institutions (CAI)
- apartment buildings (MDU)
- digital opportunity
- workforce training
- fiber infrastructure to support deployment

Permitting and Rights of Way

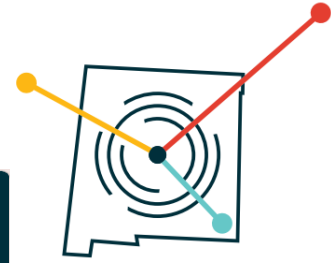


Construction of a simple one-mile broadband deployment can require various local, Tribal, state, and/or federal permits. Deployment that runs through local land will require coordination with state/local governments to obtain permits.



Source: NTIA, Local Permitting Importance, Challenges, and Strategies; August 2024

Broadband Construction Permitting



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PERMIT FINDER

The data are updated as user feedback is received, and were last updated on 15 Jun 2026.

Artesia 01; Belen 02 Search

Choose an option below to query permits associated with a BEAD PAU, a feature you draw on the map, or your own GIS data.

BEAD PAU Draw Upload

Clear selection

- Vaughn 01 (VAU 01)
- Alamogordo 04 HC (ALA 04)
- Animas 01 (ANI 01)
- Aztec 01 (AZT 01)
- Cochiti 01 TL (COC 01)
- Capitan 01 (CAP 01)
- Carlsbad 03 (CBD 03)
- Carrizozo 01 (CZO 01)
- Chama Valley 03 (CHV 03)
- Cimarron 02 (CIM 02)
- Clayton 02 (CLY 02)
- Clovis 01 (CLO 01)
- Cobre 02 (COB 02)
- Corona 01 (COR 01)
- Deming 02 (DEM 02)
- Des Moines 01 (DES 01)

PERMIT FINDER v2.0 IS IN FINAL BETA TESTING. RESULTS SHOWN HERE MAY NOT BE ACCURATE

0 10 mi

Esri, CGIAR, USGS | Texas Parks & Wildlife, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Safe... Powered by Esri

Permits - Socorro 02 HC

- New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (SHPO) State →
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Federal →
- NM811 Quasi-Gov →
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Federal →
- US Department of Defense (DOD) Federal →
- NM Department of Transportation (DOT) District 1 State →
- US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Socorro Field Office Federal →
- NM State Land Office (SLO) State →
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Federal →

Download Report (12 Permits)

Land Ownership by Acreage - Socorro 02 HC

33.678% (427,984.000 acres)

Legend

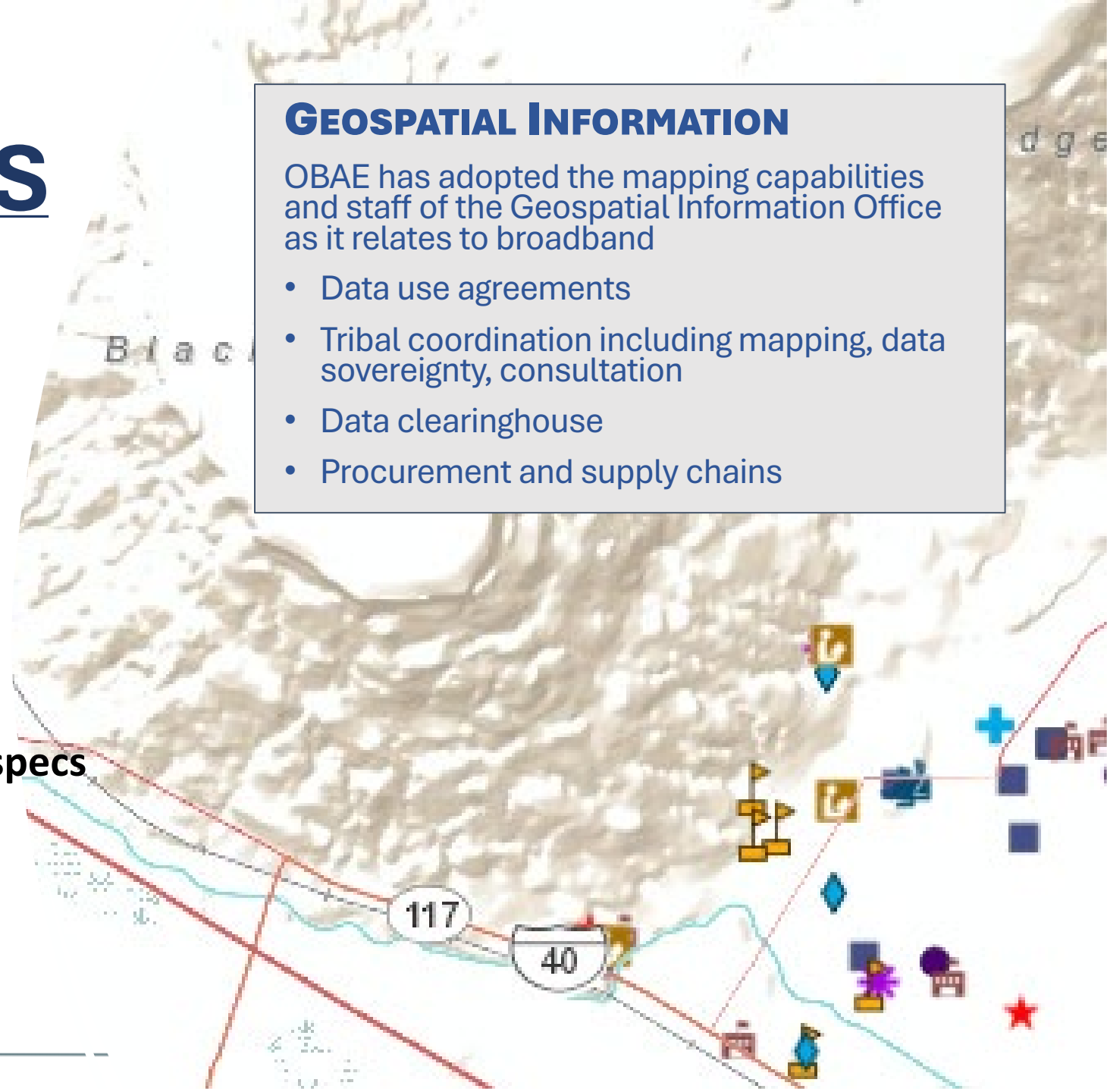
Mapping Data/GIS Benefitting NM

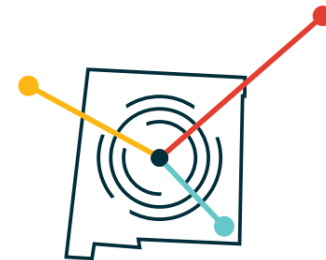
1. **Community WiFi Hotspots**
2. **Community Anchor Institutions**
3. **Building Footprints as BSLs**
4. **Infrastructure (secure)**
 - planned, permitted, as-builts
5. **Statewide Education Network nodes/specs**
6. **Soon: project build statuses**

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION

OBAE has adopted the mapping capabilities and staff of the Geospatial Information Office as it relates to broadband

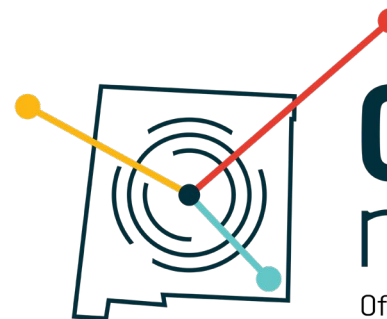
- Data use agreements
- Tribal coordination including mapping, data sovereignty, consultation
- Data clearinghouse
- Procurement and supply chains





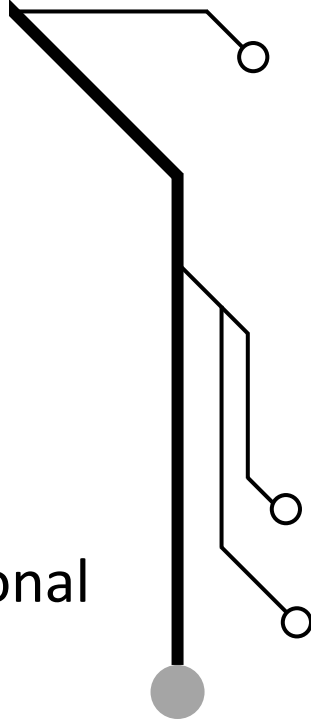
Operations and Maintenance

SB 401-2025: Education Technology Infrastructure Fund



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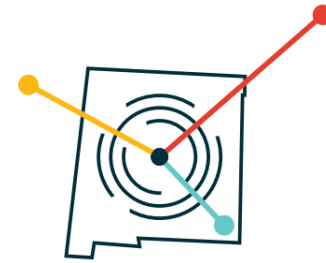
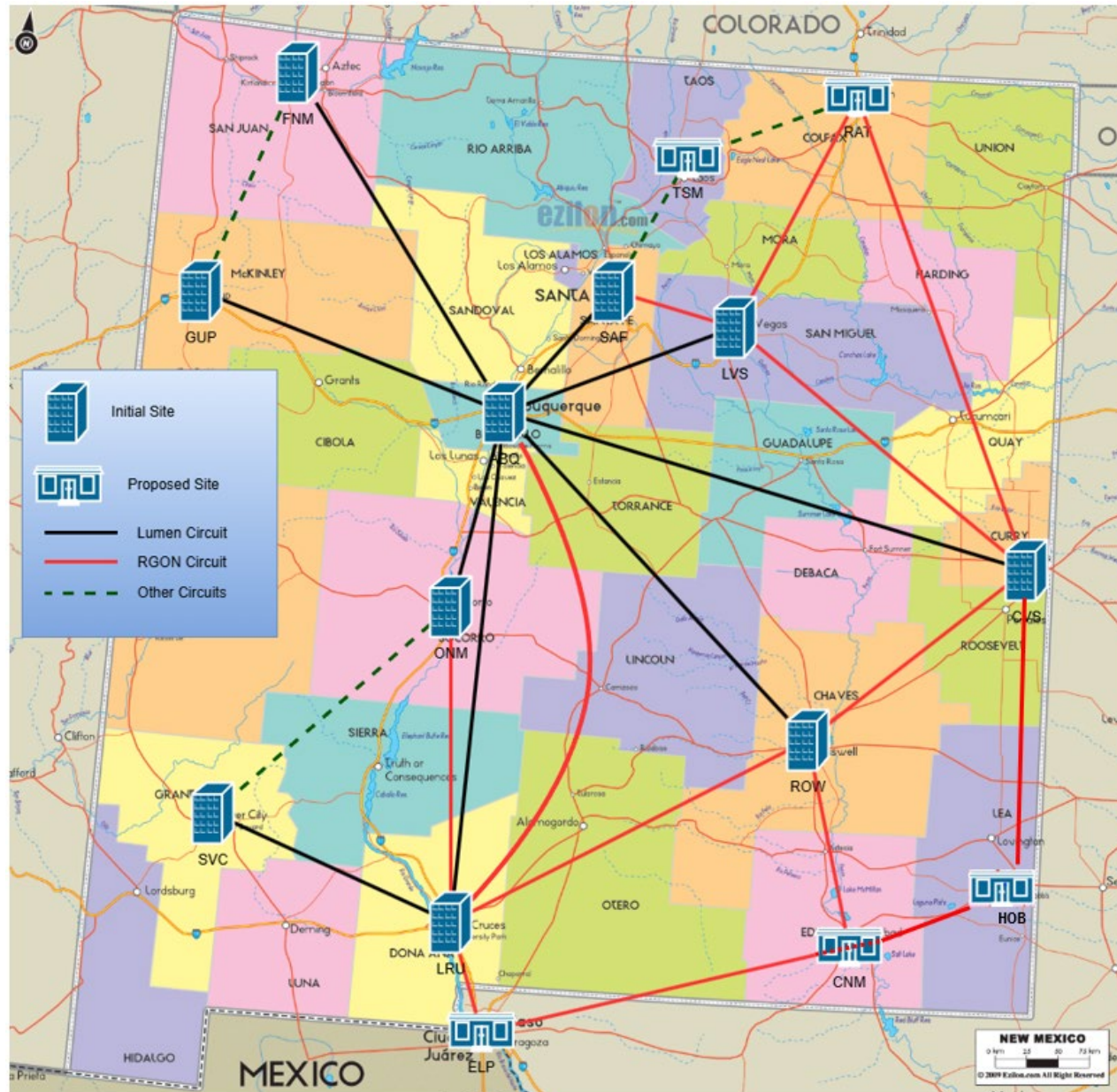


Statewide Education Network (SEN)

\$10,000,000 annual bonding authority

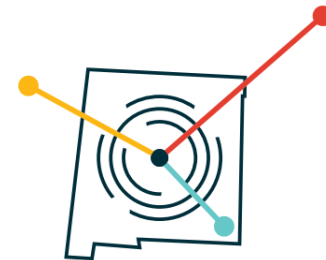
223 schools and 96,000 students connected

- **Cybersecurity:** Risk reduction.
- **Educational:** Supports EdTech to allow sharing of instructional and professional resources between all the participants.
- **Administrative:** Reduce burden of planning, procurement, contracting, E-rate paperwork, billing.
- **Cost reduction:** Reduction or elimination of schools' share (after E-rate). Economies of scale and scope.
- **Technical support:** Provide specialized resources to small districts.



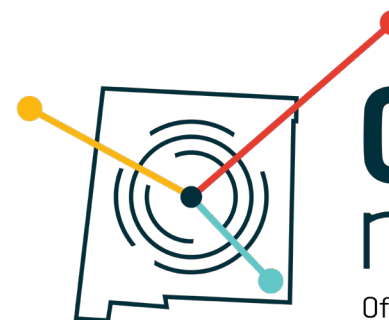
SEN integrates regional hubs and supports the installation and maintenance of critical education technology infrastructure.

The SEN went live in July 2024.



Affordability

SB 152-2026: Low Income Telecommunications Assistance Program (LITAP)



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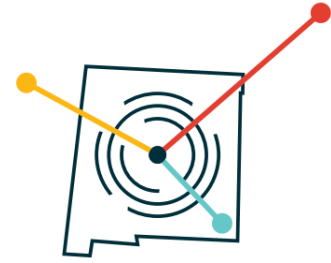
Office of Broadband Access & Expansion

SB152 Signed into Law

- Establishes a new Low-income Telecommunications Assistance Program (LITAP) at the PRC.
- Replaces the lapsed federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) which provided \$30 a month to low-income households and up to \$75 a month for households on Tribal lands for broadband service.
- Caps LITAP funding at \$10 million in the first year, and \$45 million in subsequent years.
- Works in conjunction with FCC Lifeline of \$9.25 per month and up to \$34.25 per month on Tribal lands.



Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC)

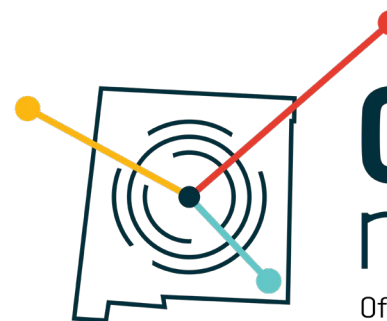


NEW MEXICO
**PUBLIC REGULATION
COMMISSION**

- **NMAC 17.11.10.24**
PETITIONS FOR ETC DESIGNATION
AND AMOUNT OF SUPPORT must
demonstrate:
 - In the public interest
 - Financially and technically
competent
 - Remain functional in emergency
situations
 - Result in more customer choice
 - Annual verification to meet
requirements



Digital Literacy and Adoption: Workforce Training, Digital Navigators, Devices



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Broadband Workforce Training Program

- In 2025, OBAE secured a \$1.99 million U.S. Department of Labor grant to expand New Mexico's broadband workforce.
- OBAE is partnering with the NM Department of Workforce Solutions (NM DWS) and Building Industry Consulting Service International (BICSI) to offer free, internationally-recognized broadband installation training regionally across the state.
- The program:
 - Provides multiple levels of certification: Installer 1, Installer 2 (Copper/Fiber), and Technician
 - Builds a skilled local workforce to support broadband deployment and long-term network maintenance
 - Strengthens workforce capacity in rural and Tribal communities
- Information on upcoming classes and how to host a class at your facility can be found on our website: <https://connect.nm.gov/workforce-training-opportunities.html>

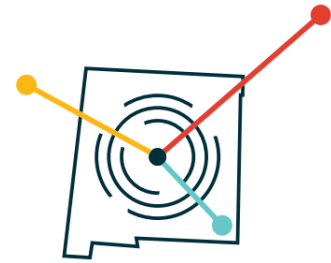


Digital Navigators and Devices

- In 2026, OBAE partnered with the NM Department of Workforce Solutions (NM DWS) to deploy Digital Navigators around New Mexico. The program will:
 - Builds a skilled local workforce to support broadband deployment and long-term network maintenance.
 - Develop, facilitate, and manage the Digital Navigator teaching curriculum.
 - Provide one-on-one mentoring and coordinate group trainings and workshops.
 - Distribute education materials.
 - Strengthen workforce capacity in rural and Tribal communities.
- OBAE also partnered with Horizons, Adelante and DiverseIT to establish “TechUp” distributing device and focuses on more than just giving out computers. It also helps people learn how to use them.



Additional Resources



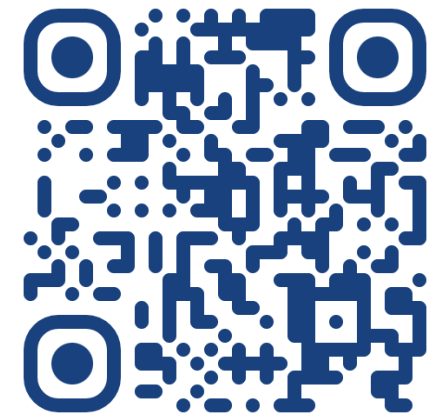
[OBAE Three Year Broadband Plan](#)

[OBAE Homepage](#)

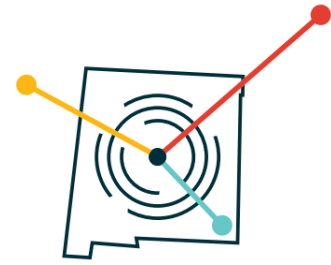
<https://connect.nm.gov/>

[Mapping](#)

<https://maps.connect.nm.gov/>



Questions?



Jeffrey Lopez is Director of the New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion. He brings over 12 years of federal experience in support of New Mexicans. Prior to this appointment, Lopez served as senior policy advisor and state staff to U.S. Senator Ben Ray Luján. Lopez managed the Senator's role as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband and worked directly on legislation that created the federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program, through which New Mexico is receiving \$675 million to connect unserved and underserved households across the state.

