



Advancing Rural Broadband

Prepared For:

**Economic And Rural Development
Committee**

August 14, 2019

New Mexico Highlands University

Las Vegas, New Mexico

Presenters:

Secretary Vince Martinez - State CIO

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Rural Broadband Challenges in New Mexico

- NM is one of the **most rural states** in the nation
 - Unique landscape with Tribal communities
 - Small number of Internet Service Providers statewide
- Routinely **low national rankings** for Internet access services
 - Deterrent to potential newcomers/economic development
- State of New Mexico **funding constraints**
 - Estimated fix at hundreds of millions of dollars or more

What's New

- Analysis of **broadband support framework** needs
- Office of Broadband **expansion request**
- **Rural Broadband Project**

SOURCE	AMOUNT	ASSOCIATED RESTRICTIONS
Laws of 2019, SB 280, Section 32, Paragraph 4	\$10,000,000	FY 2020-2023 for broadband expansion, including assessments and contracts, in rural areas statewide
TOTAL	\$10,000,000	

Rural Broadband Project Purpose

- Maximize rural broadband **connectivity** statewide
- Develop and implement **strategy** for rural broadband
 - Use State funds to capitalize on Federal dollars & other sources
 - USDA grants & loans - \$500 million available next year
- Engage providers in pursuit of cost-effective & sustainable solutions – **Public/Private Partnerships (P3)**

Statewide Assessment Draft Tasks



ctc technology & energy

engineering & business consulting

Task		Month						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
-	Initiate project with strategic workshop							
1	Define unserved and underserved							
2	Develop recommendations for structuring the State's broadband program							
3	Develop strategies to maximize the potential for leveraging State funding to secure federal funding							
4	Develop strategies to maximize the potential for public-private collaboration at the local level							
5	Identify rural broadband coverage and service gaps in the State							
6	Benchmark New Mexico's broadband availability against other states and develop medium- and long-term target levels							
7	Develop high-level engineering and estimates of costs for deploying broadband infrastructure to unserved areas							
8	Develop financial modeling to determine viability							
9	Develop targeted strategy for libraries							
10	Prepare and present final deliverable				5			

Project Technology Considerations

About 5G trend:

- 20 times faster than 4G LTE
- Very low latency
- Requires a lot of infrastructure & **is not currently ideal for rural areas**
- Estimated 5 years away from being widespread
- Smart cities in pilot or development phase

Design & Cost Estimate

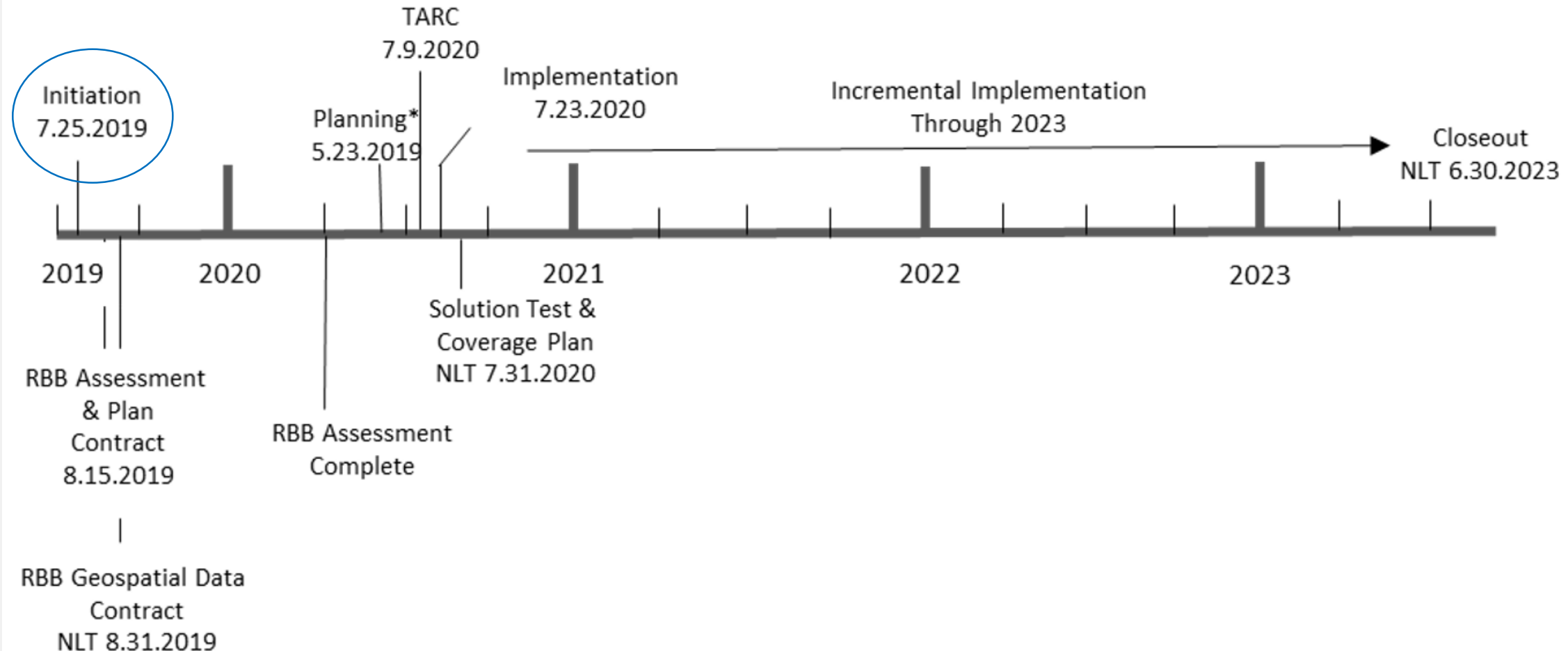
Engineers will consider full range of technology options

- Fiber
- Cable
- Fixed wireless
- 5G
- Potential impact of new satellite deployment

Focus on

- Long-term, future-proof infrastructure
- Emerging technologies
- Cost-effectiveness

Timeline: Rural Broadband Project



Project Initiation Phase Approved by Project Certification Committee July 25, 2019

NM Rural Broadband Workshops



- Promoting State & Federal rural broadband grant/loan programs
 - \$500 million via USDA Rural Development **Reconnect Program**
 - **State support** for USDA grant/loan application eligibility points
- Afternoon interactive session to sharpen local planning skills

**Tentatively Scheduled for
November 13 (Las Cruces), 14 - 15 (ABQ), 2019**

Questions?



Please contact:

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