

New Mexico Rural Broadband Program Update

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Cabinet Secretary & State Chief Information Officer

Prepared For:

Legislative Health & Human Services Committee Meeting

University of New Mexico

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Presented By:

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Key Challenges

- One of the Most Rural States
- Unique Landscape
- Slower Economic Development
- Less Internet Service Provider Competition
- Fiber Optics Are Costly
- Right Of Way, e.g. Tribal Lands, DOT
- Resources, e.g. Accurate Geospatial Data

Key Solutions

- State Rural Broadband Gap Analysis
- Proposed Solutions & Cost Estimates
- Use State Funds as Seed \$ for Federal Dollars
- Leverage Public Private Partnerships (P3s)
- Use Study Results to Plan Investments
- Maintain Current Geospatial Data & Analysis
- Work Collaboratively with Stakeholders

Federal Funding To Leverage

US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- **\$550 Million** via [Reconnect Program](#)
 - Grants and/or Loans for Rural Broadband Infrastructure
 - DOIT & USDA Partner on NM Workshops
 - Secretary Martinez Keynote Speaker
 - State Application Eligibility Support Letters
 - 2019 November 13 (T or C), 14 - 15 (ABQ)

Universal Service Administration Company (USAC)

- **\$594 Million** via [Rural Healthcare Connect \(RHC\) Program](#) Supporting Telehealth
- **\$4.15 Billion** via [E-rate Program](#) for Schools & Libraries

Existing State Programs

NM Public Regulation Commission (PRC)

- **\$5 Million** per Year for Internet Service Provider Grants for Rural Broadband Infrastructure
 - Rural Universal Service Fund Supplements Cost of Communications Infrastructure in Low-Income & Rural Areas

NM Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA)

- **\$10 Million** per Year for E-rate State Matching Funds for Public Schools

2019 Legislative Session DOIT Broadband Funding



NM Department of Information Technology

\$11.3 Million - Broadband Appropriations via Senate Bill (SB) 280 - Capital Outlay

Agency: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF	
DOIT LIBRARY BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND	\$1,000,000
NORTHERN NM RURAL BROADBAND SERVICES	\$259,684
RIO METRO RTD NEW MEXICO RAIL RUNNER WIFI	\$50,000
DOIT BROADBAND RURAL INFRA DEVELOPMENT STATEWIDE	\$10,000,000

Tribal Broadband Funding

\$845K NM Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Appropriation - 2019 Legislative Session

- Senate Bill 280: “...to plan, construct, purchase, equip and install a communications tower and broadband systems for the [Jicarilla Apache Nation](#) in Rio Arriba county”

\$TBD NM Public Education Department (PED)

- Anticipate 2020 Legislative Ask to Fund E-rate Projects for Bureau of Indian Education/Affairs (BIE/BIA) [Tribal Schools](#)

Broadband for Public Libraries

\$1 Million – NM Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) NM State Library (NMSL) Grant Program

- 2017 Library Broadband Infrastructure Fund (LBIF)
- 2019 DOIT Appropriation & Program Advisement
- NMSL Lead for E-rate & Project Support
 - Pilot Completion Expected October 2019

Rural Broadband Project

\$10 Million DOIT Appropriation

- Statewide Rural Broadband Assessment **In-The-Works**
 - Contract Signed with CTC Technology & Energy
 - Following Project Certification Process
 - Leveraging Prior DOIT Assessments & Work
 - Using Machine Learning to Offset Federal Broadband Coverage Inaccuracies
 - Performing Gap Analysis To Identify Broadband Deficiencies
 - Delivers Viable Technical Solutions & Cost Projections
 - Provides Grant Program Advisement for DOIT, NMSL & PED
 - Supports Future Planning & Sound Decision Making

Rural Broadband Project

Geospatial Data Collection & Analysis **In-The-Works**

- **Contract Signed** w/Earth, Data & Analysis Center (EDAC-UNM)
- Issued **2 Waves of Data Request Letters** Reaching All Internet Service Providers (ISPs) Statewide
 - Included All Providers Without Restriction on Technology Type of Services, e.g. Fiber, Satellite, DSL, etc.
 - **Engaged ISP Leaders** to Promote Data Sharing and Ongoing Initiative Collaboration
 - Follow-up **Outreach by EDAC** for Data Collection & Analysis Purposes

Rural Broadband Project

Cabinet Level Workgroup Established

- Led by Dominic Gabello – Governor’s Senior Policy Advisor for Communication & Strategy
 - Collaborative Meetings Started
 - Participating Secretaries are with the Department of:
 - Transportation
 - Economic Development
 - Indian Affairs
 - General Services
 - Information Technology



Rural Broadband Project

Kick-Off Meetings Scheduled Week of October 28th

Advisory Committee

- **Membership Established**
 - Advisory Roles & Responsibilities Defined by Executive Steering Committee
- **Grant-Style Program Approach** Starts with Working Meeting
 - Present Rural Broadband Approach
 - Review Current Geospatial Findings
 - Identify & Validate Immediate Target Areas
 - Determine Grant Process
 - Request Grant Proposals for Identified Target Areas

Rural Broadband Project Strategy

- **Public, Private Partnership (P3)**
 - Major Industry Leaders
 - Major Cloud Providers
- **Tribal Government**
 - Collaboration with Santa Fe Indian School
 - Leverage successful E-rate consortia model
- **Right Of Way (ROW)**
 - Collaborate with the Department of Transportation, General Services and Tribal Government

In Summary

- **Rural Broadband is a Top Priority for Dept. of IT**
 - Project Progressing Well
 - On-Schedule and Within Budget
 - Reliable Support Contracts In-Place
 - Advisory Committee Underway
 - Support Structure Sound for Success
- **Reminder: USDA Workshops in November**

Questions?

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