Impacts of Statewide GIS Data on NC Broadband Expansion

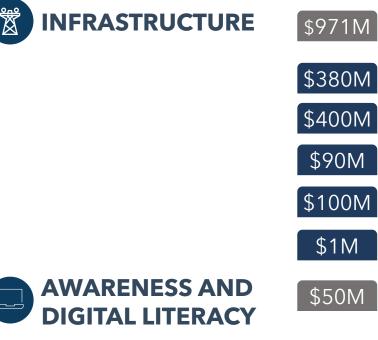
Ben Shelton NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis

February 14, 2024



North Carolina's Current Investment Plan

2022 - 2024: American Rescue Plan Act - Over \$1 billion total funding:



Ensure availability of internet service at speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps for more than 98% of North Carolina households

- GREAT Grant (\$350M American Rescue Plan Act; \$30M State CIF)
- Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)
- Stop-Gap Solutions
- Broadband Pole Replacement Fund
- Broadband Mapping



Improve awareness and enable North Carolinians to realize the benefits of high-speed internet through digital literacy and upskilling aimed at accessing the digital economy.

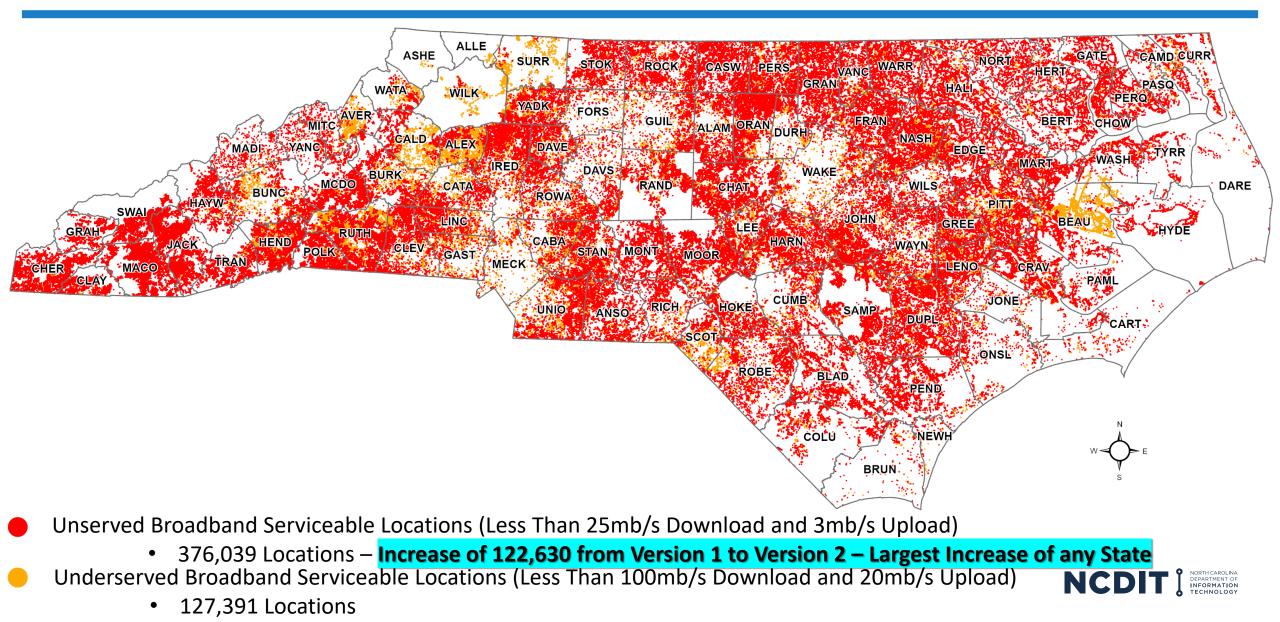
- Increase enrollment in the Affordable Connectivity Program
- Increase access to devices for households
- Increase access to high quality digital literacy and skills training
- Build local digital equity capacity ٠

Beginning late 2024: Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Allocation through BEAD to NC - \$1.5 Billion

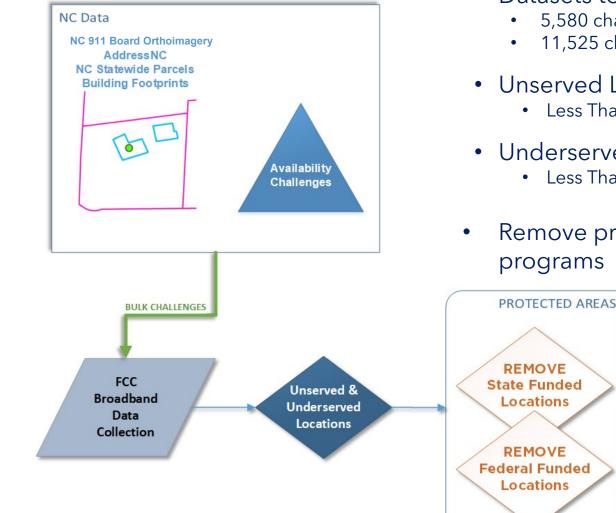


NC Broadband Profile

FCC Broadband Data Collection - Version 2 - Unserved/Underserved - Service as of Dec 2022



NC BROADBAND GIS DATA WORKFLOW



- Location challenge process relies on NC Statewide GIS Datasets to ensure FCC location data is accurate
 - 5,580 challenges in 27 counties submitted in Sep '23
 - 11,525 challenges in 12 counties so far for Mar '24 submission

Unserved Locations:

• Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload Speeds

Eligible

Locations

- Underserved Locations:
 - Less Than 100mb/s Download and 20mb/s Upload Speeds
- Remove previously funded locations from State and Federal programs

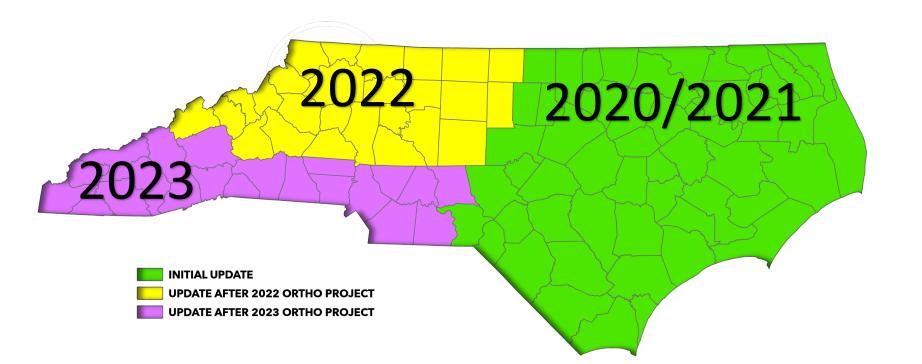


FCC BROADBAND SERVICEABLE LOCATION FABRIC

- FCC Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric
- AddressNC
 - **NCEM Statewide Building Footprints**
 - NC Statewide Parcels
 - AWS ML/AI Footprint Extraction

Working Group for Building Footprints Summary of Recommendations

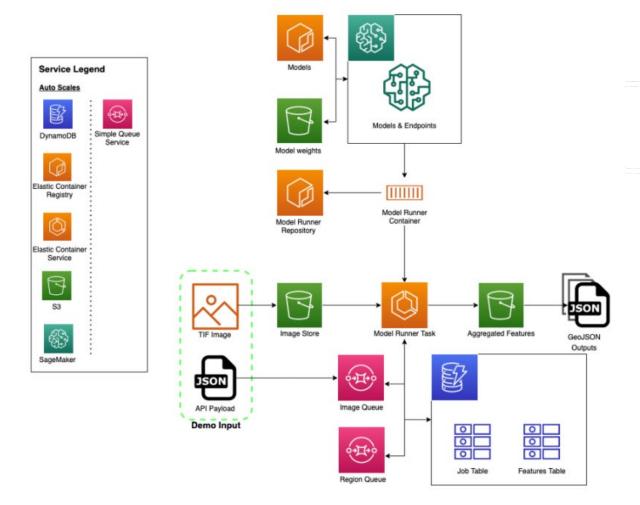
- 1. <u>Align</u> schedule with and <u>derive</u> data from the 911 Board statewide orthoimagery annual phase
 - A quarter of the state is updated each year that maximizes pace with growth
 - Establishes a maintenance schedule for keeping this valuable dataset current
 - Orthoimagery is high resolution directly related to precision and accuracy





AWS BUILDING FOOTPRINT INFERENCE PIPELINE

Architecture Diagram – Inference Pipeline

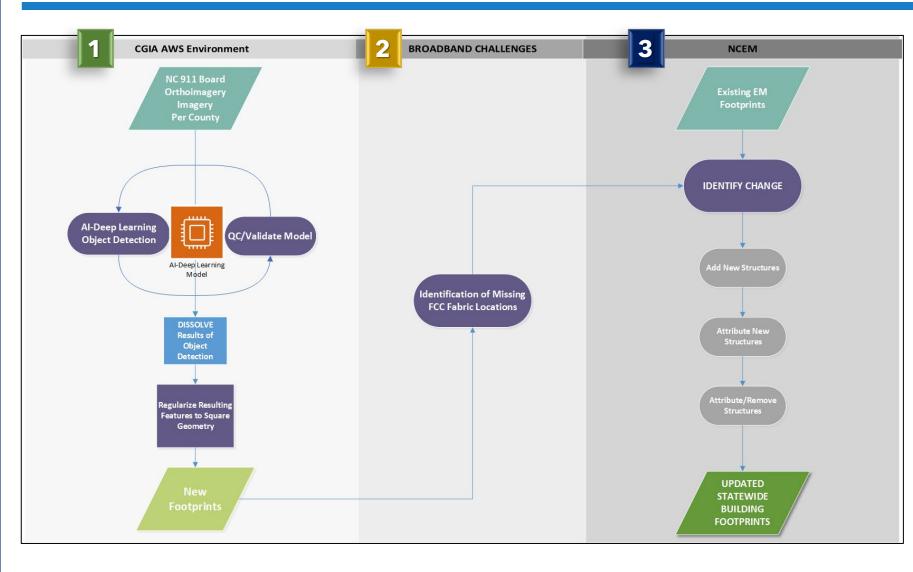


3 Pipelines:

- Labeling
 Training
 - 3. Inference
- Imagery Stored in S3
- Models run from AWS SageMaker Notebook using python libraries for machine learning



BUILDING FOOTPRINT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



- Step 1 complete
- Step 2 in progress
- Step 3 initiation Q1 2024 for the 2022 and 2023 project areas
- Continue feature extraction routines after 2024 Coastal Orthoimagery Project

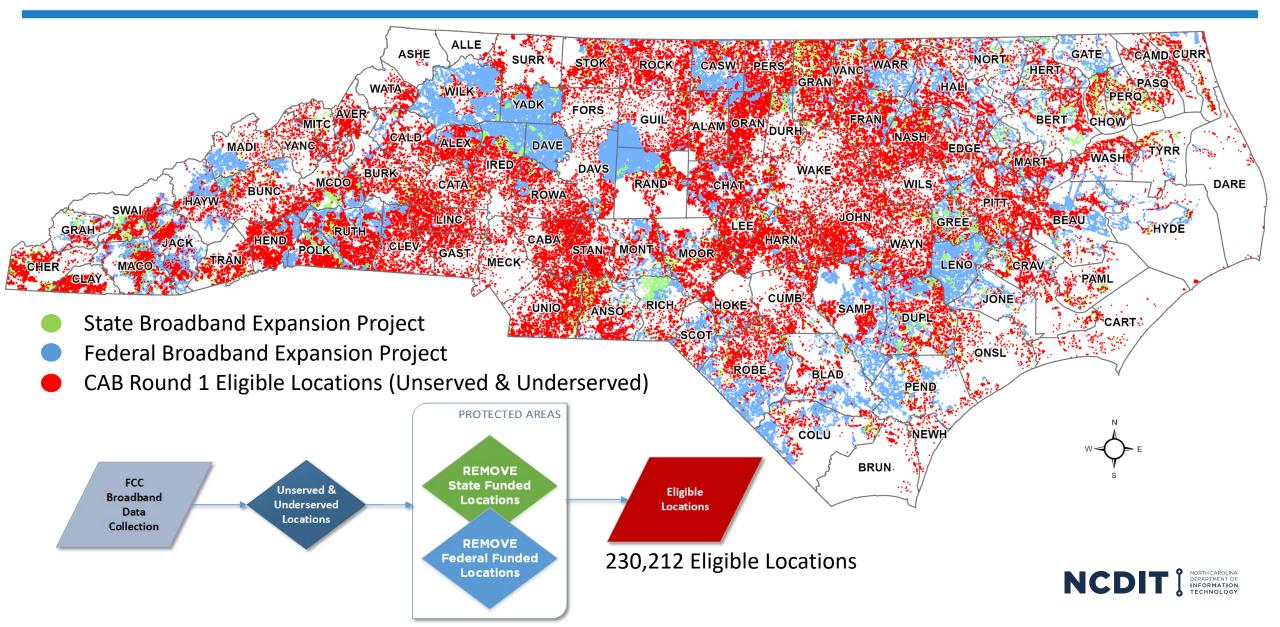


AWS BUILDING FOOTPRINT INFERENCE PIPELINE



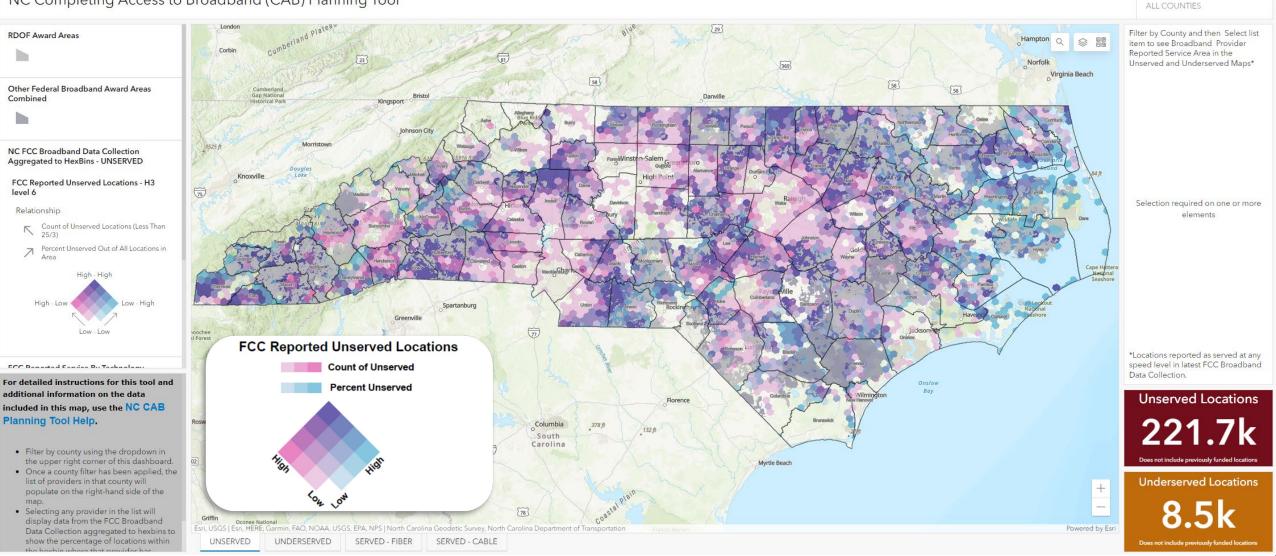
NC Broadband Profile

FCC Broadband Data Collection - Version 3 - Unserved/Underserved - Service as of June 2023



CAB PLANNING TOOL

NC Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Planning Tool



County Filter:

NC ONEMAP BROADBAND PAGE

NC OneMap Data Projects - Announcements Terms Contact Us Help- About

North Carolina Broadband

Discover Geographic Data Related to Broadband Availability, Adoption, and Related To

The NC Broadband Infrastructure Office serves as statewide resource for broadband access, first resp communications and classroom connectivity initiatives led by the State of North Carolina. Mapping an integral role in identifying current broadband access and adoption in an effort to identify the poc unserved or underserved areas around the state.

Questions or comments about Broadband in NC? Please visit http://www.ncbroadband.gov/co

For broadband-specific mapping questions, please email: <u>Broadbandmapping@nc.gov</u>.

County Profiles Download maps of broadband service and funding for each county in North Carolina.

Maps have been updated to reflect current grant funding from the GREAT Grant and CAB Grant Programs. Last update: 11/28/23 (version 7).

nconemap.gov/pages/broadband

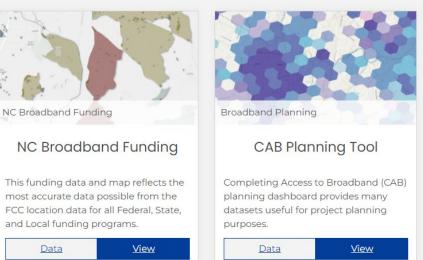


Planning

Data and applications related to Broadband Project Planning for grant efforts by Federal and State government organizations aimed at expanding broadband access across North Carolina.

Take the North Carolina Broadband Survey and get added to the map!

https://www.ncbroadband.gov/broadband-nc/north-carolina-broadband-survey.



Q Sign In



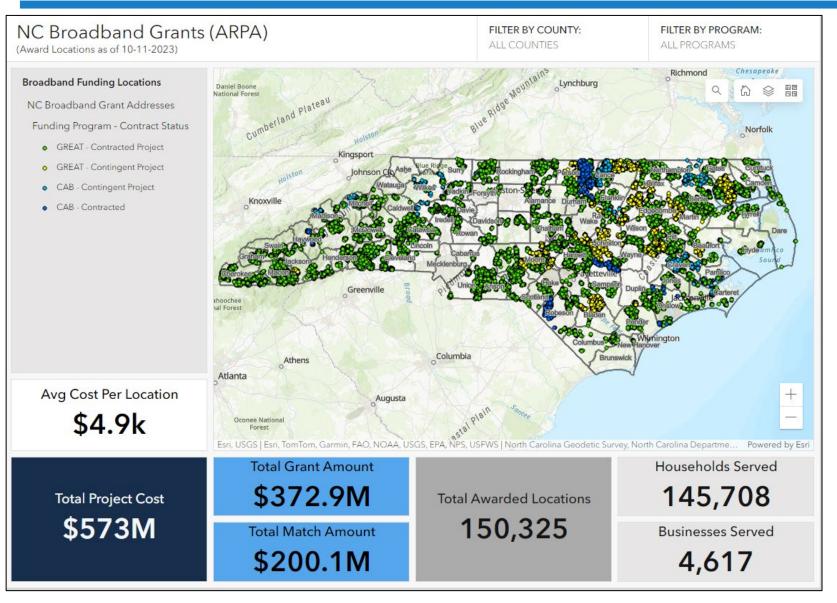
NC Broadband Survey

The NC Broadband Survey is designed to gather information on locations in the state without adequate internet access and speeds.





Accountability & Transparency Broadband Project Tracking and Reporting

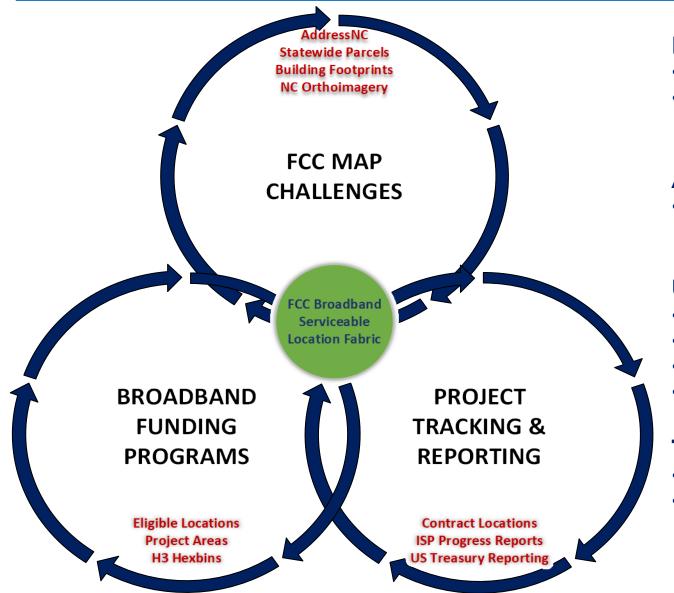


Post Award Tracking

- 124 GREAT Grant Projects in 92 Counties
- 16 CAB Projects in 16 Counties
- Provider progress reports
- Location Build Status
- US Treasury Reporting
- Protected Locations for future programs



GIS AT THE CENTER



Location Challenges

- 5,580 challenges in 27 counties submitted in Sep '23
- 11,525 challenges in 12 counties so far for Mar '24 submission

Availability Challenges

 Bulk crowdsourced challenges using NC Broadband Survey

Upcoming Funding Programs

- Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)
- Stop-gap Program
- Pole Replacement Program
- Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)

Tracking & Reporting Past Funding Projects

- 124 GREAT Grant Projects in 92 Counties
- 16 CAB Projects in 16 Counties



NEXT STEPS AND QUESTIONS

- Finalizing CAB Scopes of Work per County
- Complete CAB, Stopgap, Pole Replacement, and Digital Equity grants in 2024
- Begin BEAD Challenge Process by End of 2024
- Community Anchor Institutions Data Compilation
 - Schools, Libraries, Health Care, Community Colleges, other Higher Education institutions, Public Safety and other community support organizations

Please submit mapping questions to <u>broadbandmapping@nc.gov</u> and program questions to <u>CABprogram@nc.gov</u>

