



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA BROADBAND STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

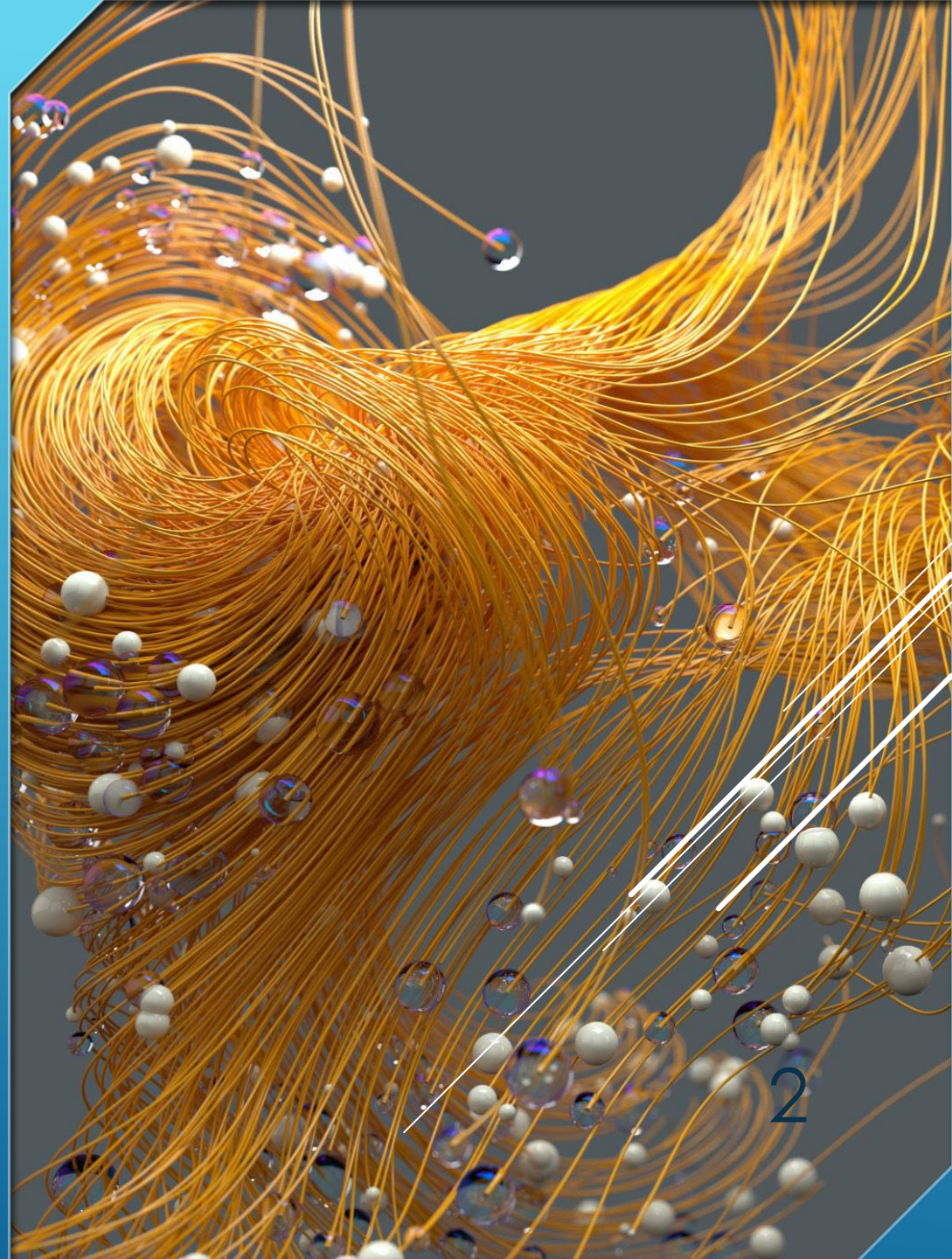
County Executive Office

September 12, 2023



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Strategic Plan Recommendations
- Funding Opportunities
- Partnerships
- Advocacy Efforts
- Next Steps



STRATEGIC PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Goal 1: Achieving Access through Improved Broadband Infrastructure

- Participate in middle mile conversations
- Prioritize last mile deployment

Goal 2: Achieving Affordability and Adoption

- Partner with Digital Equity Coalition (DEC)

Goal 3: Achieving Resiliency and Redundancy

- Review/ Consider/ Adopt: Asset inventory, develop a dig once policy, determine conduit feasibility
- Identify Grant funding opportunities

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION: BROADBAND INTERNAL WORKGROUP

- **Created to formalize Plan implementation at a broad County level**
- **Meets monthly to share information and strategize broadband efforts**
- **County Executive Office, Information Technology Department, Public Works, Planning and Development, General Services, and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments**
- **Contract with BCPC to assist workgroup on strategizing efforts**

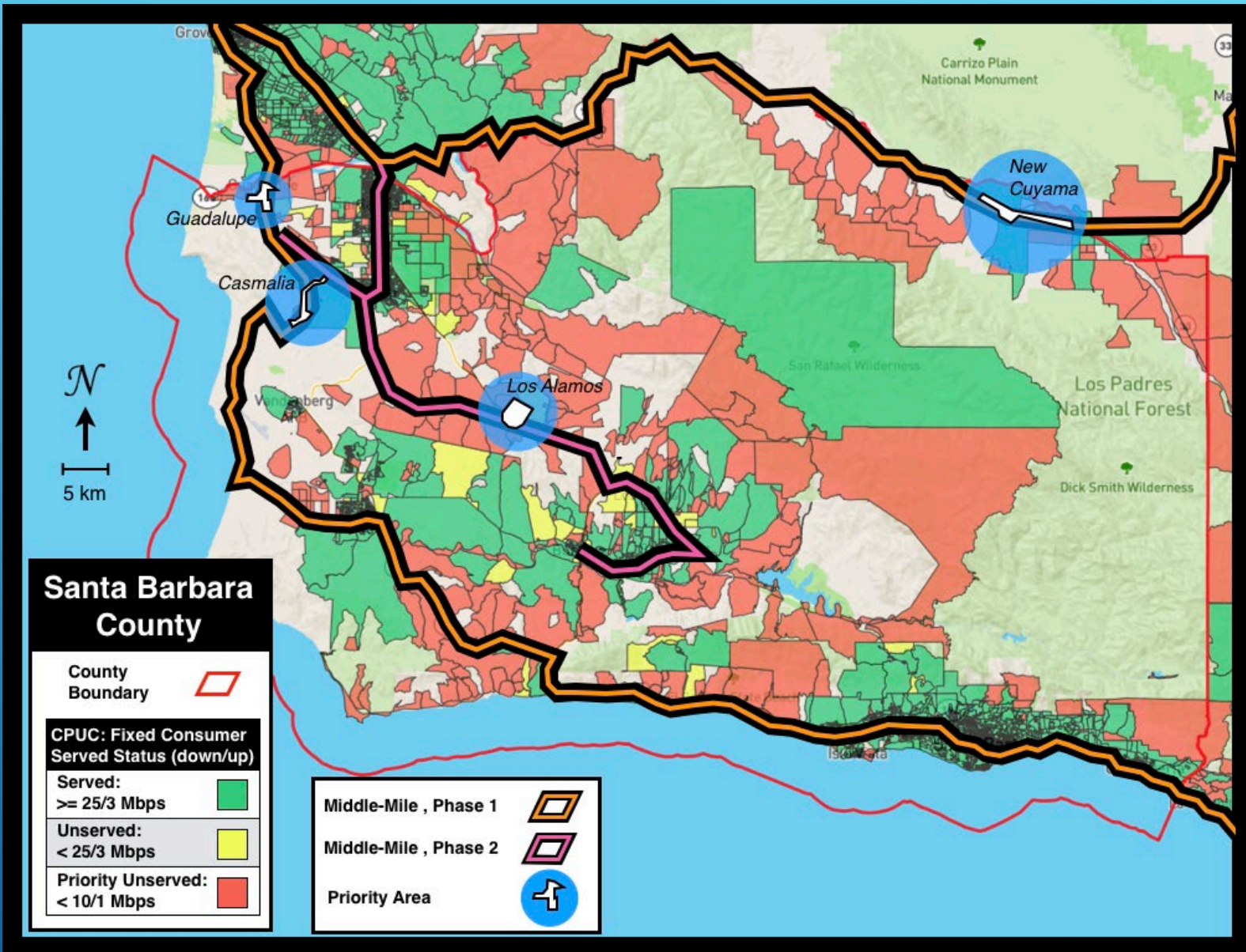
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

LOCAL AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (LATA) GRANT

Awarded \$1M from CPUC on May 1, 2023

- **High Level Network Design – completed for 4 priority areas**
 - **Guadalupe**
 - **Casmalia**
 - **New Cuyama/ Cuyama**
 - **Los Alamos**
- **Broadband JPA – process initiated with SBCAG**
- **Programmatic EIR – not yet started**

LATA HIGH LEVEL NETWORK DESIGN PRIORITY AREAS



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: *LAST MILE FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNT (FFA)*

Allocation to SBC:

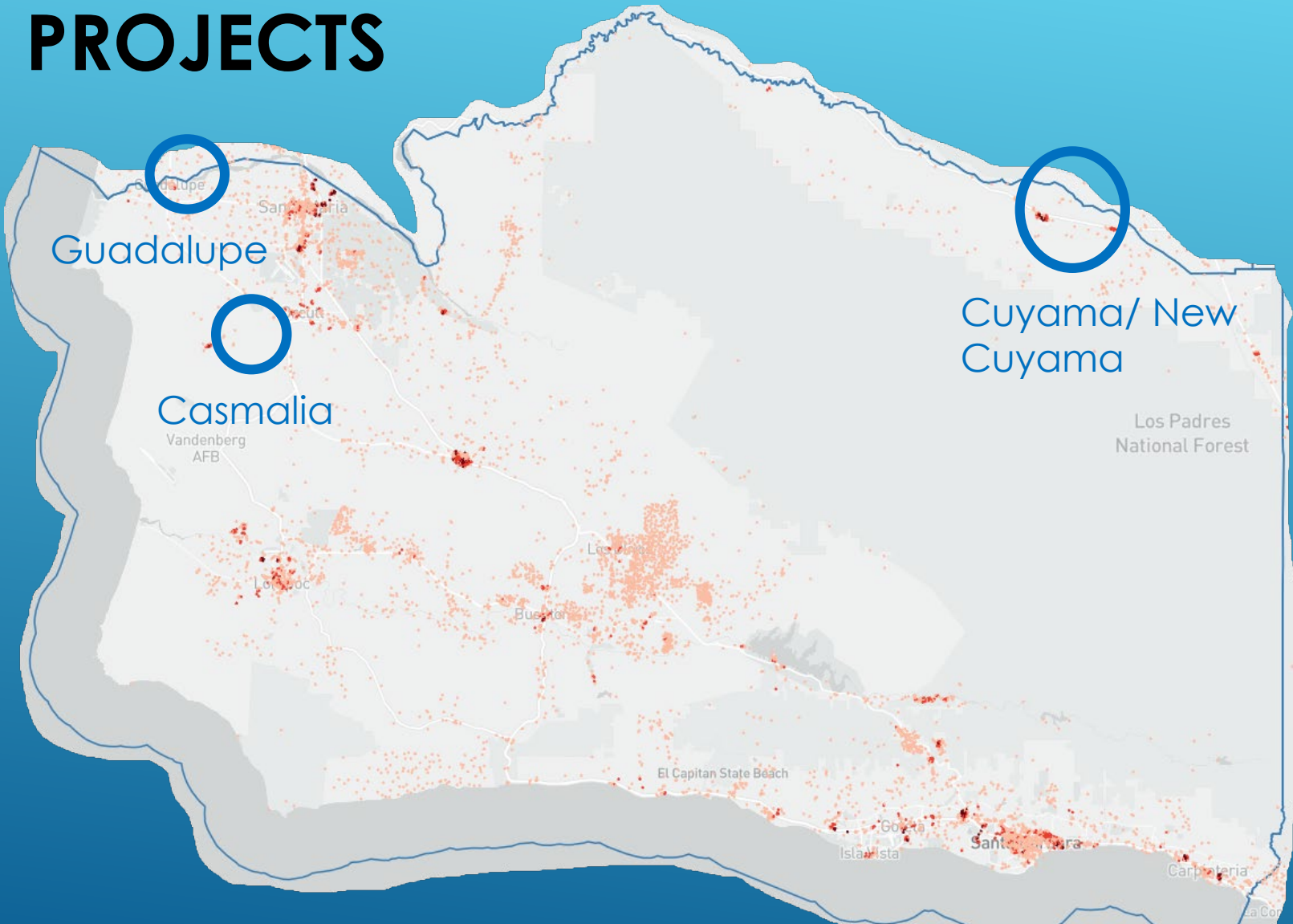
Population Unserved	County	Allocation = \$5 million + \$1,640.37218/unserved resident
6,627	Santa Barbara	\$15,870,746.44

- Applications open through September 29, 2023
- *Applicant Tool Open: FFA Applicant Tool Registration*
- Open to public, private, tribal, and non-profit entities
- Competitive application process

LAST MILE FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNT (FFA)

- **Rural County Representatives of CA (RCRC) leading a multi-county, multi-stage broadband deployment project.**
 - Phase 1: Broadband Strategic Plans
 - Phase 2: High-level design (funded by RCRC's LATA program) in partnership with Utopia and Tilson
 - Phase 3: Deployment and support implementing 40 miles of priority projects (FFA applications)
- **Memorandum of Understanding with SBCAG for high-level design in Santa Barbara County with County LATA funds**

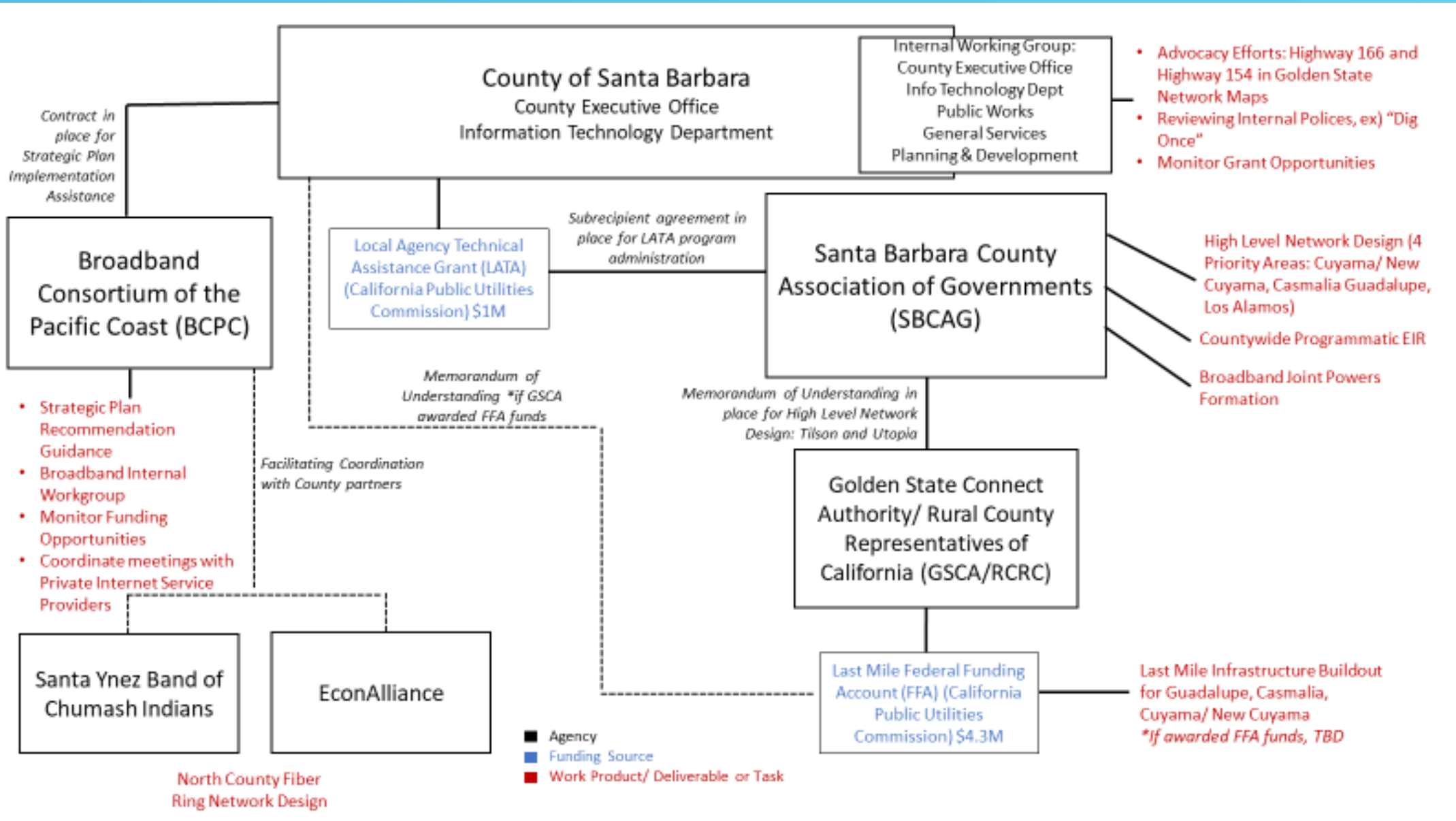
LAST MILE FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNT PRIORITY PROJECTS



RCRC/ Golden State Connect Authority to apply for FFA funding for last mile infrastructure in priority areas:

- Cuyama/New Cuyama
- Guadalupe
- Casmalia

PARTNERSHIPS



CALIFORNIA BROADBAND FOR ALL – GOLDEN STATE NETWORK

Phase 1 Architecture

PHASE 1

The current \$3.87 billion in funding is sufficient to develop **8,300-miles** in Phase 1.

- **4,500 miles** of Indefeasible Rights of Use (IRUs) / leases.
- **3,300 miles** of construction.
 - 1,800 miles of Caltrans standalone construction.
 - 1,500 miles of joint-build industry partnerships.
- **500 miles** of purchases.
- Includes **\$73 million in NTIA grant funding** to build out spurs to rural communities.



CALIFORNIA BROADBAND FOR ALL – GOLDEN STATE NETWORK

PROJECT RECAP

Phased Approach

Phase 2 (approximately 1,700 miles)

Alternative funding opportunities being explored:

- ✔ **Savings** from design changes and efficiencies from existing Caltrans construction directed to Phase 2 segments.
- ✔ **Last-mile funding** allocated by the CPUC may be used to build or connect to essential middle mile such as the MMBI network when part of a project providing end-user service to unserved locations.
- ✔ **Future funding** sources may be examined to build remaining miles.



ADVOCACY EFFORTS

- Advocated for inclusion of Highway 166 in Phase I – GSN maps
- Advocated to keep Highway 135 (Los Alamos) in proposed Phase II of GSN maps
- Advocated for inclusion of Highway 154 in Phase II – GSN Maps
- Including Highway 154 prioritization for middle mile buildout in 2024 Legislative Platform for advocacy at State and Federal level

Map as of July 21, 2023



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- **Receive and file update on County broadband efforts and Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan implementation;**
- **Provide other direction to staff as necessary; and**
- **Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines the actions consist of organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.**

Q&A

Thank You!