



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE OFFICE OF BROADBAND

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NTIA— State Broadband Programs

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

\$42.5 B — Broadband Equity, Access, and Development Program (BEAD)

- Unserved locations – defined as no access to 25/3 Mbps³
- Underserved locations – defined as no access to 100/20 Mbps³
- Community anchor institutions – defined as lacking gigabit connections

\$2.75 B — Digital Equity Act (DEA) Programs - prioritizes individuals who are:

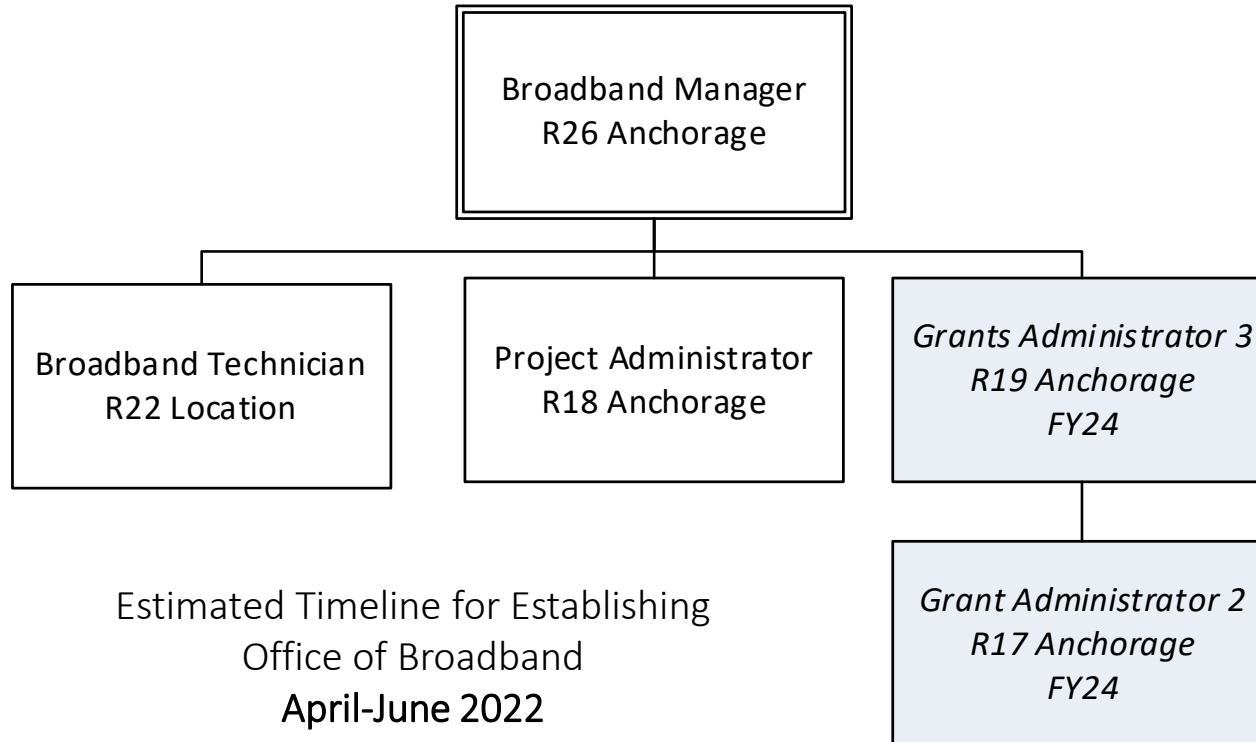
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| • Aging | • Veterans | • Individuals with |
| • Incarcerated | • Live in households | disabilities |
| • Have a language barrier | • earning at/below 150% of the poverty line | • Members of a racial or ethnic minority group |
| • Primarily reside in a rural area | | |

\$1 B — Enabling Middle Mile Infrastructure

- Competitive Grant with broad eligible entity list that includes Tribal governments, Utilities, Nonprofits



Office of Broadband



Initial Funding:

\$212 K: Economic Development Administration - Statewide Planning Grant

\$5 M: BEAD Five Percent for Administration and Planning Grant

\$1 M+: DEA Formula Funding Planning Grant



State Comments on BEAD and DEA

Allow BEAD funding to be used for middle-mile

*Assumed to be eligible, but not explicit in IIJA

Provide a small amount of funding for immediate deployment use

*Let's not make unserved areas of our state wait years for grants

Take Alaska into account when creating "high-cost" area definition

*10% of BEAD funding reserved for high-cost areas

*Alaska is an extreme outlier and should be prioritized

A "broadband parity adjustment" should be an eligible use of funds

*With significant federal funds coming to Alaska, some could be made available for this purpose

Allow BEAD funding to be used for State of Alaska Broadband Assistance Grant Program (DEED)

*Broadband Assistance Grants help schools get to 25/3 broadband speeds; BEAD funding could supplement

Unify the BEAD and Digital Equity Act deliverables

*Reduce duplicative work and improve efficiency by combining State planning for NTIA BEAD & Digital Equity Act (DEA) programs



BEAD Initial & Near Term Work

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)

- \$100 Million Minimum State Allocation
- 5% = \$5 Million Planning (and Administration) Grant
- NOFO Release Mid-May 2022
- Notice of Intent Letter (No guidance yet on turn-around time)
- Approval of NOI by NTIA
- Access to \$5 Million Planning Grant
- Development of 5-Year Action Plan

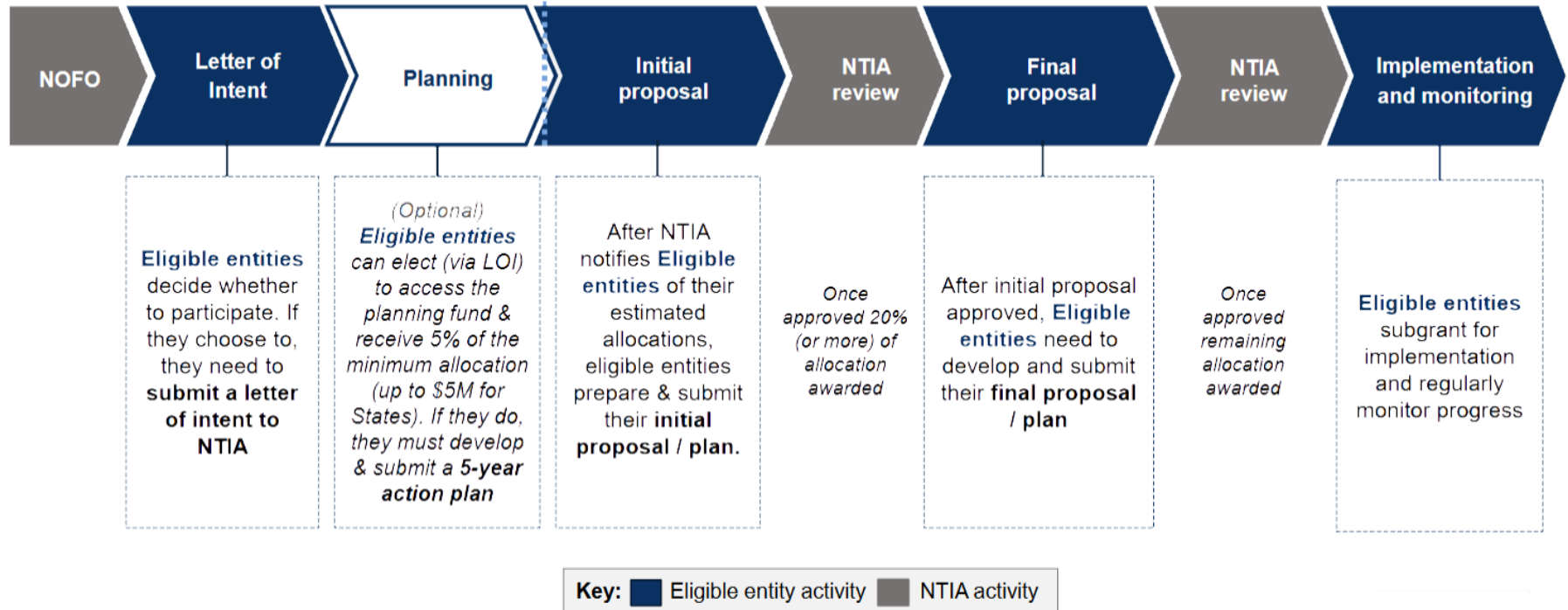
Deployment Funding (under BEAD)

- \$100 Million Minimum Allocation
 - High Cost Formula Funding
- Unserved and Underserved Formula Funding



Funding Process (source: NTIA)

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
(FCC) DATA MAPS RELEASED





DEA Initial & Near Term Work

Digital Equity Act (DEA)

- Three Components
 - Planning Grants (\$64 Million Nationwide)
 - Capacity Grants
 - Competitive Grants
- Formula Based Funding Allocation
- Planning Grant NOFO Estimated Release Mid-June 2022
- NOI due within 60 days of NOFO
- Planning Grant Awarded (estimated \$1 Million+)
- Digital Equity Plan due within 1 year of award

Additional Funding (under DEA)

- Capacity Grants
- Competitive Grants



Implement Taskforce Recommendations

Taskforce recommendations include:

- Prioritize Accurate Data; Efficiently Obtained
- Create Broadband Development Planning Areas
- Establish State Broadband Advisory Board
- Ensure and Strengthen Tribal Partnerships
- Partner with Alaskans
- Establish a Vision for State Broadband Policy
- Streamline State Permitting
- Advocate for Improved Federal Permitting



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