

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Tim Barnes
Blake Mulder
Terrance Augustine
Brandon Haskell
Jeanne Pearl-Wright
Jane Whitacre
Mark J. Mudry
Joseph Brehler



MEMBERS

Brian Droscha
Dairus Reynnet
Wayne Ridge
Brian Lautzenheiser
Jim Mott
Jeremy Whittum
Barbara Rogers

1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CHARLOTTE

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Additions and Changes.
4. Approval of the March 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes.
5. Limited Public Comment.
6. Connected Michigan Action Team Update.
7. FY 2022/2023 Computer Fund Budget Requests.
8. Miscellaneous.
9. Limited Public Comment.
10. Adjournment.

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners may be present at this meeting.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022
4:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Wayne Ridge, Dairus Reynnet, Brian Droscha, Brandon Haskell, Brian Lautzenheiser, Mark Mudry and Barbara Rogers.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Jeremy Whittum; Eric Daley, Nathan Nighbert, Claudine Williams and John Fuentes

The March 2, 2022 regular meeting of the Information Technology and Communication Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairperson Ridge.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rogers moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 and January 5, 2022 meetings, as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried.

An update was provided on the Board of Commissioners' Room technology improvements. The project will include the addition of audio-sensored cameras positioned to provide video of Commissioners as they speak and re-locate the video display monitor to be wall mounted. The project is scheduled to be completed by March 31. Discussion held.

It was also reported that one of the recommendations within the Community Broadband Assessment was the creation of a local Action Team to facilitate the discussion of the recommended action steps. Four individuals have expressed interest in participating in this initiative: Mike Gorishek (Eaton RESA), David Votta (Charlotte Community Library) and county staff, Claudine Williams and Eric Daley. Members discussed other possible representatives that may be interested in being added to participate. Further discussion held.

Commissioner Haskell moved to create the Community Broadband Action Team and appointed the four member slate to serve. Commissioner Lautzenheiser seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Member will continue to have discussions with other individuals that may be interested and encourage them to contact the Controller/Administrator.

It was reported that a proposal has been developed for the development of a software application to replace the internally-created application for the Prosecutor's Economic Crimes Unit. The development proposal of \$35,000 plus \$6,000 annual maintenance, has been reviewed by

Technology Services, Prosecuting Attorney and Controller/Administrator staff and is being recommended. This software development proposal does not have a current appropriation. Discussion held.

Commissioner Haskell moved to recommend the approval of the ECU software development proposal to the Ways and Means Committee. Commissioner Reynnet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Ridge adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Information Technology and Communication Committee will be held at 4:00pm on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 in the Board of Commissioners Room in the Eaton County Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte MI 48813.

Wayne Ridge, Chairperson

MICHIGAN BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE AUDIT AND VALIDATION PROJECT

Mapping our high-speed infrastructure to close the digital divide

Eric Frederick, AICP, LEED AP
Executive Director, Connected Nation Michigan
efrederick@connectmi.org



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AGENDA



Project Overview

Purpose

Methods

How to get involved



PROJECT OVERVIEW



This project seeks to identify the location of broadband-related infrastructure in the public right-of-way that can support the delivery of internet service with a speed of at least 100/20 Mbps.

Funded by the CARES Act through the Community Development Block Grant program at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development



PROJECT OVERVIEW



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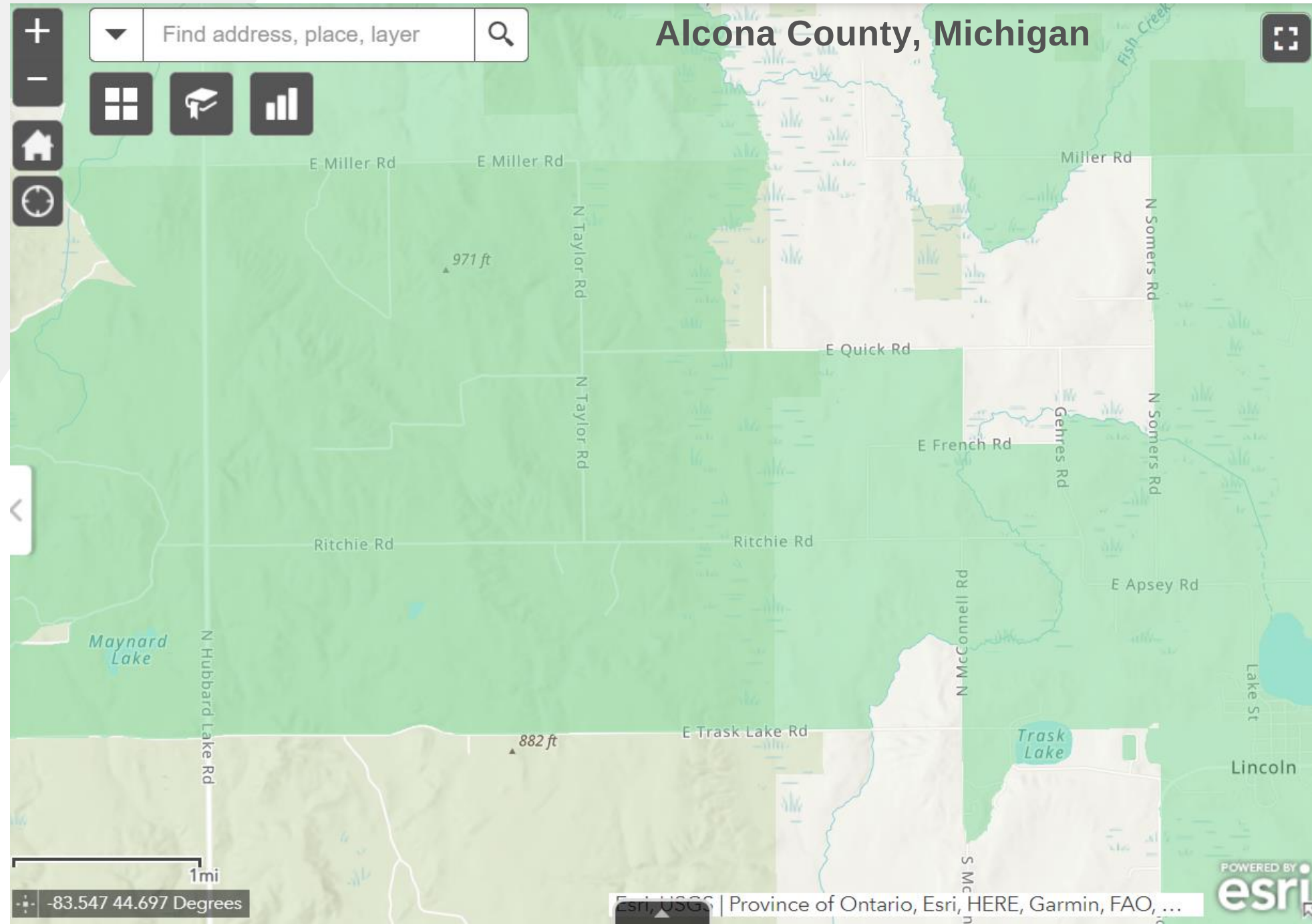


Broadband mapping has traditionally relied on census blocks as the geographic unit for displaying availability

This can lead to overstatement and inaccuracies as census blocks grow in area as household density decreases.

Mapping wireless availability on blocks can lead to additional overstatement.

Map shows an area of Alcona County NW of Harrisville where 100/10 Mbps service is reported in the green highlighted areas.



PROJECT OVERVIEW



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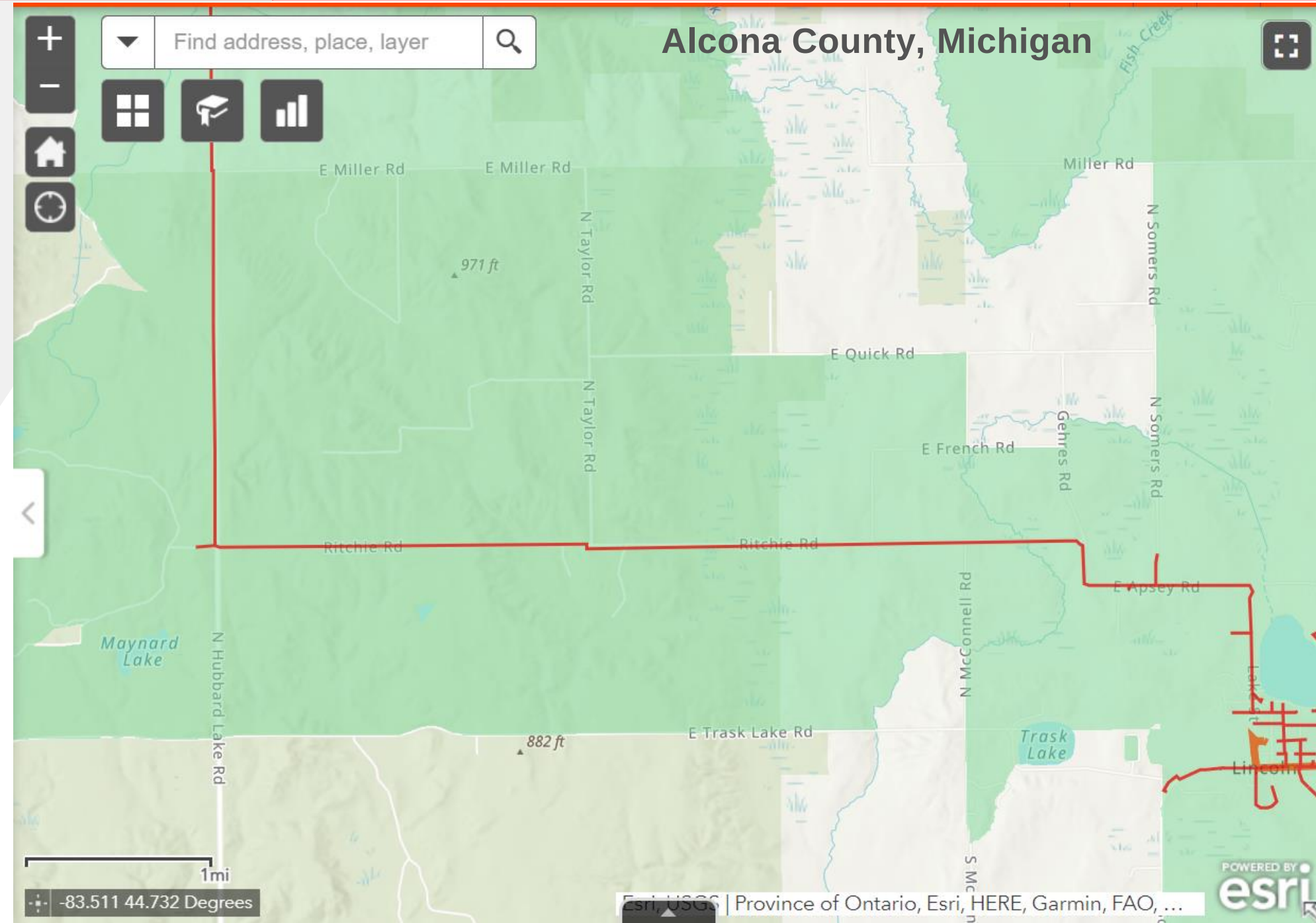


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When we identify the actual location of broadband-supportive infrastructure in the right-of-way, we get a more accurate portrayal of service availability.

The map shows coax cable routes along roads in the same area of Alcona County.



PROJECT OVERVIEW



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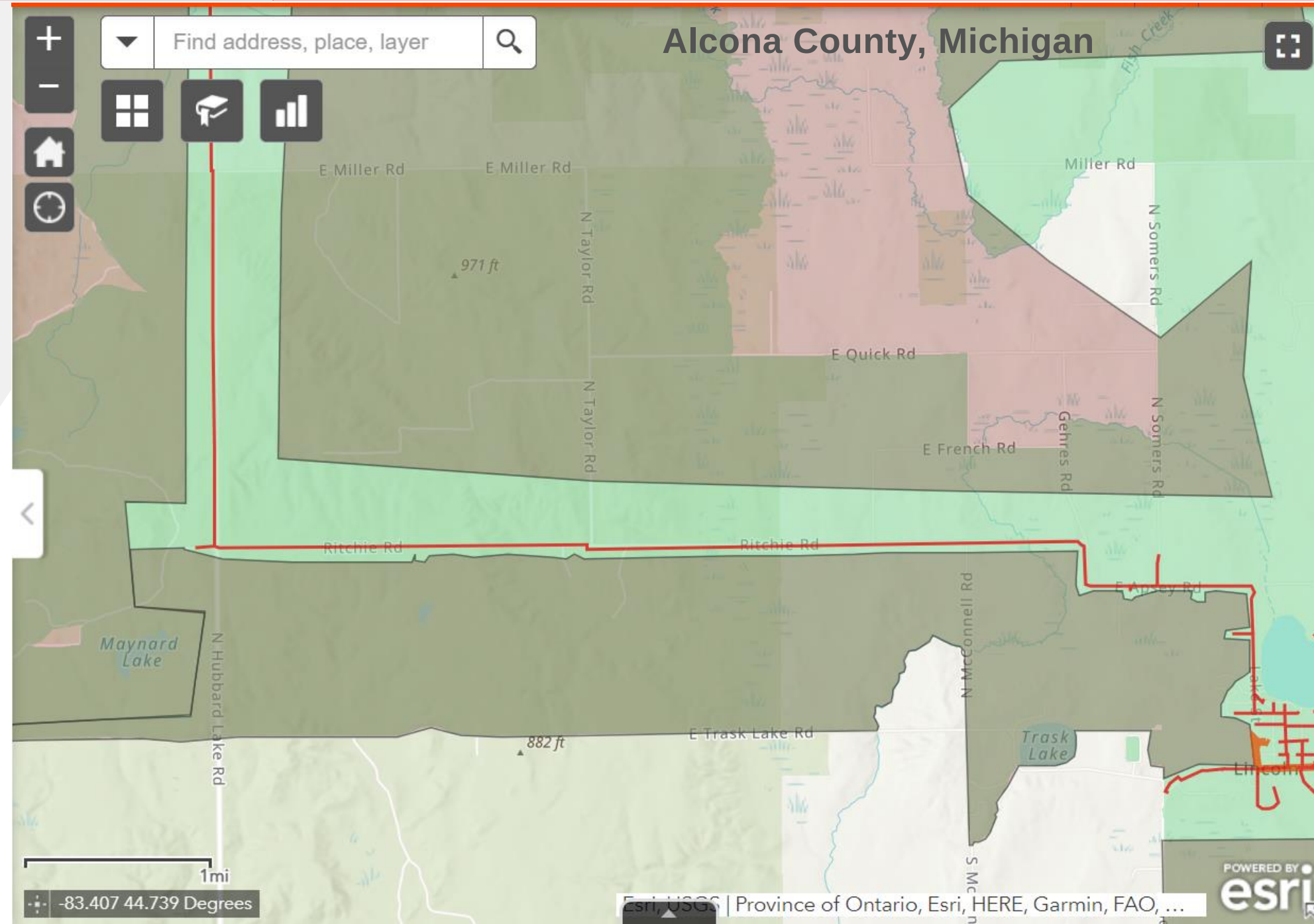


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This allows us to trim areas of overstatement and better understand the locations that are served and unserved by broadband.

This map shows coverage areas that need trimmed based on the location of broadband infrastructure in the right-of-way.



PURPOSE



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Beyond a better understanding of broadband availability, this project has two short-term and one long-term purposes.



1. Identify every location (address) unserved and underserved by broadband in Michigan for the forthcoming BEAD Program.
2. Gather data in anticipation of challenging the forthcoming FCC broadband map.
3. Provide the state with a foundation for tracking broadband build-out, grant progress and commitments, etc.

PURPOSE



The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) enables states to administer funds to address broadband availability gaps.

Purpose One

BEAD was appropriated \$42.5B for new infrastructure deployment.

The program specifically defines where and how the funds are to be invested.

- 1. Unserved locations (25/3 Mbps)**
- 2. Underserved locations (100/20 Mbps)**
- 3. Anchor institutions without 1 Gbps**

States will be the administrators of these funds and are responsible for identifying every eligible location within their borders that match the priority designations.

States also need to develop a five-year infrastructure action plan to serve these locations.

PURPOSE



The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) enables states to administer funds to address broadband availability gaps.

Purpose Two

The FCC is currently implementing the Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability Act (DATA).

This act tasks the FCC with creating a new, more granular map of broadband service across the country.

The deadline for data collection for this program is Sept. 1, 2022, after which the FCC will publish the new nationwide coverage map.

After publication, the FCC will open a challenge/objection window where states, communities, and ISPs can challenge the broadband availability stated on the map.

This challenge process will be critical as Congress has told NTIA to use the new FCC map to calculate each state's allocation of BEAD Program funding.

PURPOSE



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**The Broadband Equity,
Access, and
Deployment Program
(BEAD) enables states
to administer funds to
address broadband
availability gaps.**

Purpose Three

Michigan is estimated to receive and administer \$1.3B to \$1.5B in BEAD Program funds. With the 25% matching requirement, the total amount invested could be \$1.62B to \$1.87B.

States will be required to administer these funds as subgrants to a variety of eligible entities.

While we know some of the guardrails and rules for the BEAD Program, the Notice of Funding Opportunity with information on the program is expected in May 2022.

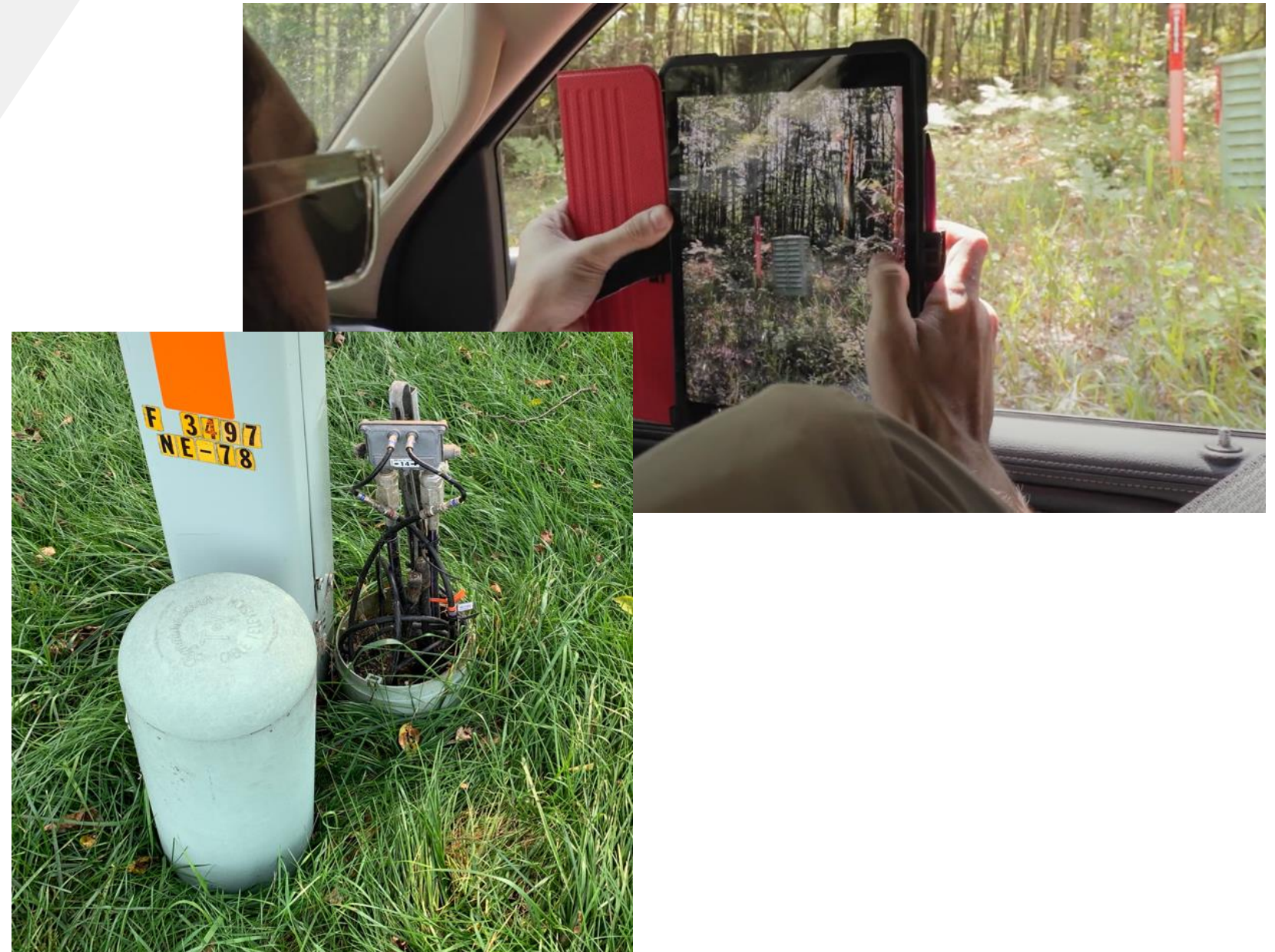
It will be critical to know precisely where our unserved and underserved residents, businesses, and institutions are located so that federal funds can be invested efficiently to close our availability digital divide.

Federal funds come with federal reporting and compliance. This new asset mapping project will provide the state with a foundation for tracking new infrastructure deployments across this and other funding streams to ensure everyone in our state gets connected.

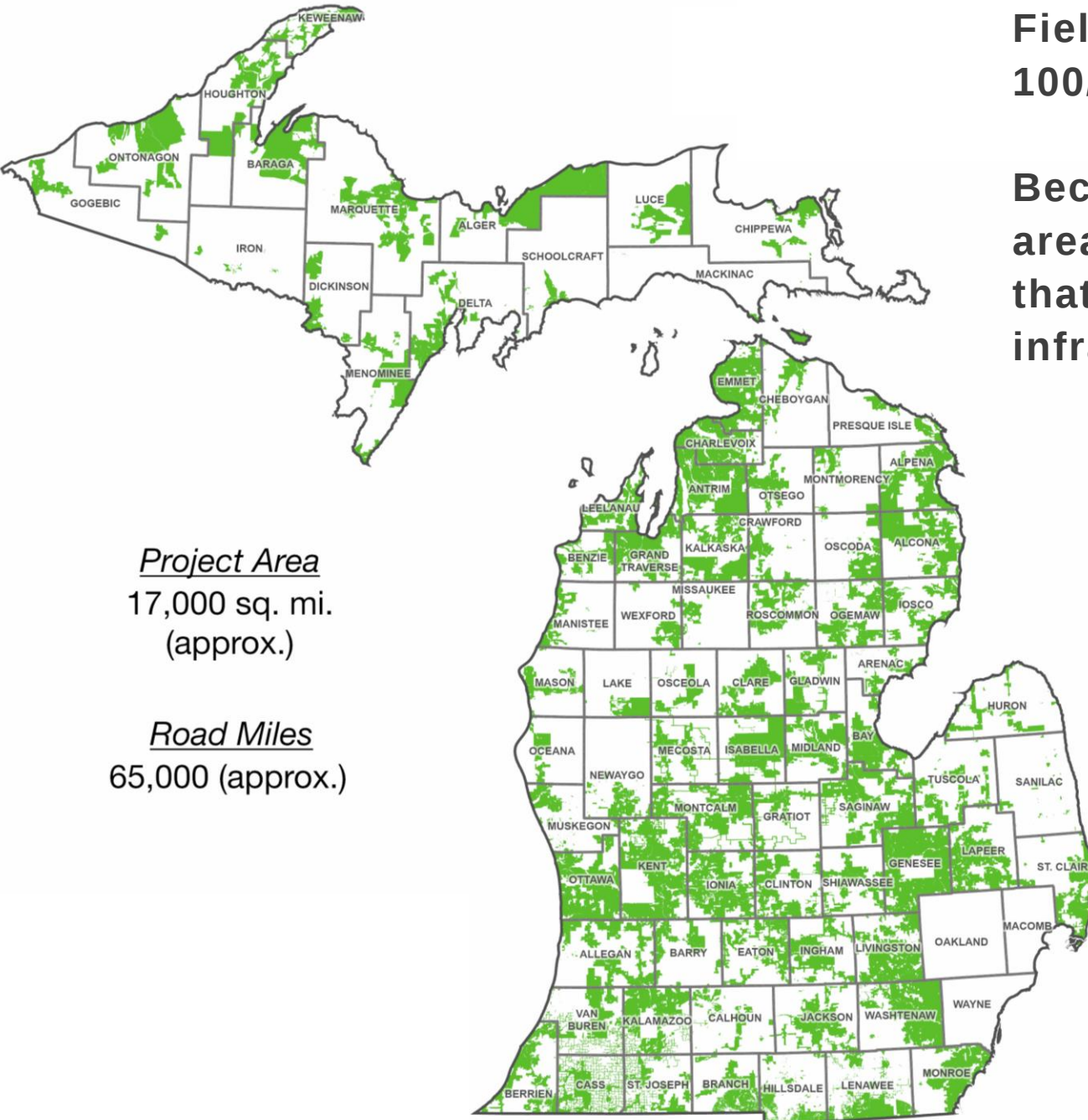
METHODS



Over the next six months, Connected Nation Michigan engineering staff will be driving more than 65,000 miles of public roadways to identify and document broadband infrastructure.



METHODS



Field teams are concentrating on areas where we currently estimate 100/20 Mbps service to be available, (marked in green on the map).

Because the BEAD Program is focused on unserved and underserved areas first, we are concentrating on areas where we are less confident that relevant infrastructure exists and working to find where infrastructure stops in more rural, less dense areas.

Excludes:

City of Grand Rapids
City of East Grand Rapids
City of Kentwood
City of Wyoming
City of Grandville
City of Walker
City of Muskegon
City of Roosevelt Park
City of Muskegon Heights
City of Kalamazoo
City of Portage
City of Battle Creek
City of Lansing
City of East Lansing
City of Bay City
City of Essexville

Macomb County
Oakland County
Wayne County
Meridian Township (Ingham County)
Lansing Township (Ingham County)
City of Flint
Burton Township
Burton City
Flint Charter Township
City of Saginaw
Saginaw Township (Saginaw County)
Bridgeport Township (Saginaw County)
City of Midland

METHODS

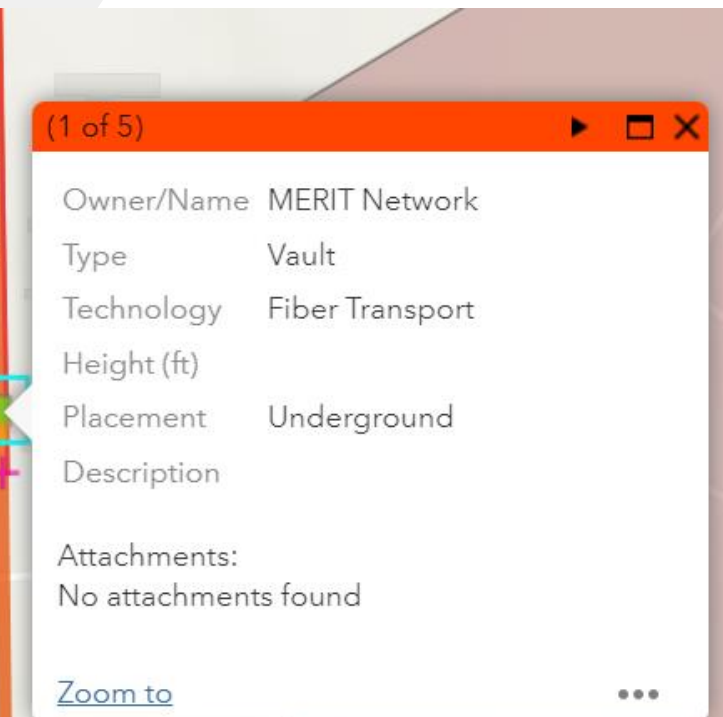
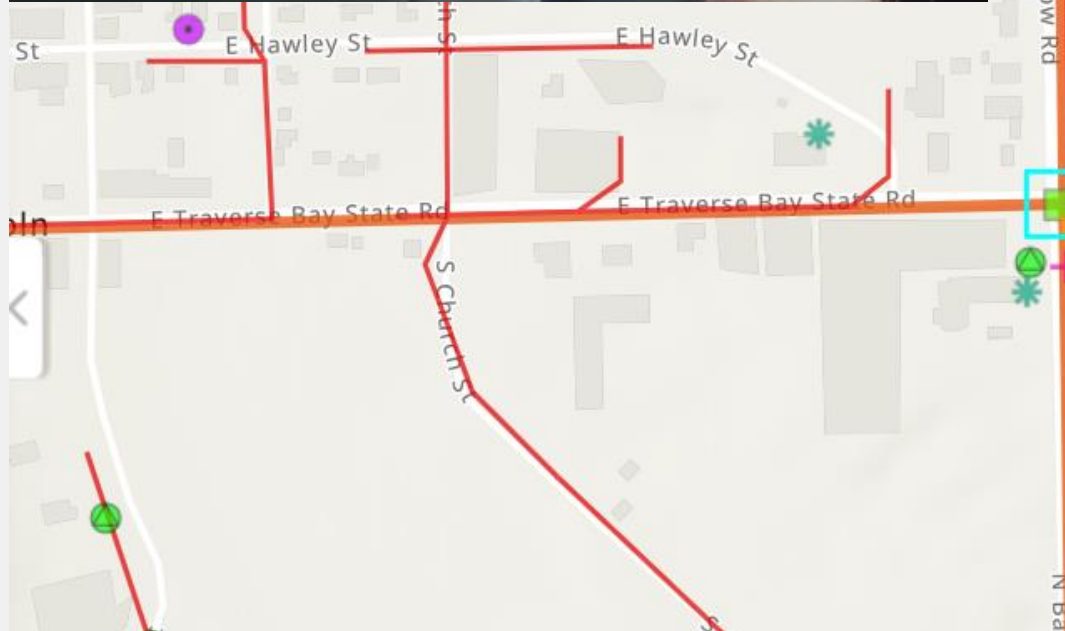
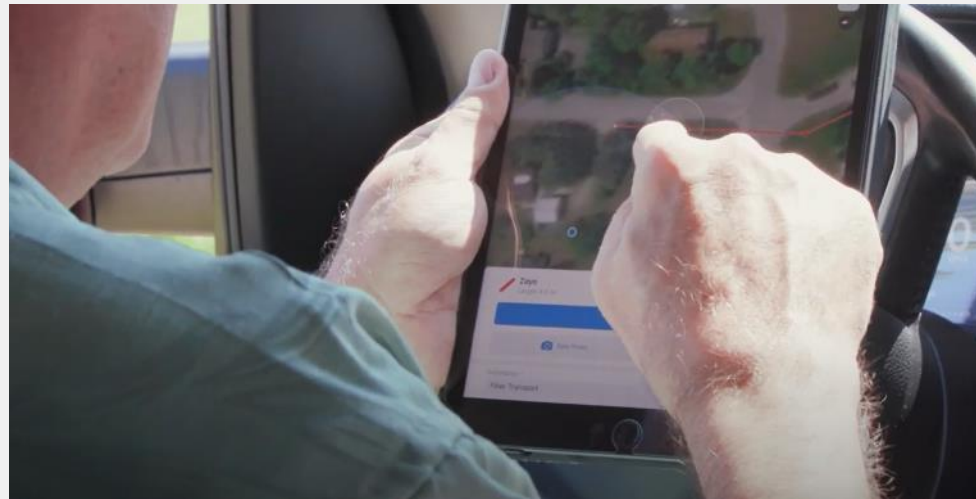


Focused on infrastructure that can support at least 100/20 Mbps.

Assets include:

- Hybrid fiber coaxial routes, fiber to the home networks, and middle mile and transport fiber routes
- Network nodes
- Vaults
- Splice points
- Remote terminals
- Pedestals
- Colocation facilities

Won't be gathering fixed wireless or DSL-related assets. A simultaneous coverage data collection with ISPs is underway to collect additional availability information, including DSL and fixed wireless and lower speed data.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



Michigan Infrastructure Council

Working with the Michigan Infrastructure Council's Dig Once Project Planning Portal to host the data once collected.

Provides credentialed access for communities.

Technical capabilities and requirements are still being worked out, but communities will be able to access the collected data.

Implementing this project in full coordination with the Michigan Office of High-Speed Internet.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



If you have data to share, please contact:

Chip Spann

VP, Engineering and Technical Services

cspann@connectednation.org

<https://www.hightail.com/u/ahitt>



Some communities have collected this type of data in the recent past.

Here is what we're looking for if you would like to contribute your data to this effort:

- Broadband infrastructure assets as described previously, (cable, fiber, vaults, etc.)
- Line and point data should have at least infrastructure type and owner name as attributes
- Prefer shapefile format or KMZ files

Maps are a snapshot in time. There are many network construction projects going on throughout the state. This map is expected to evolve as new infrastructure is built and providers and communities continue to inform us of completed builds, new projects, and federally funded areas are completed.

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