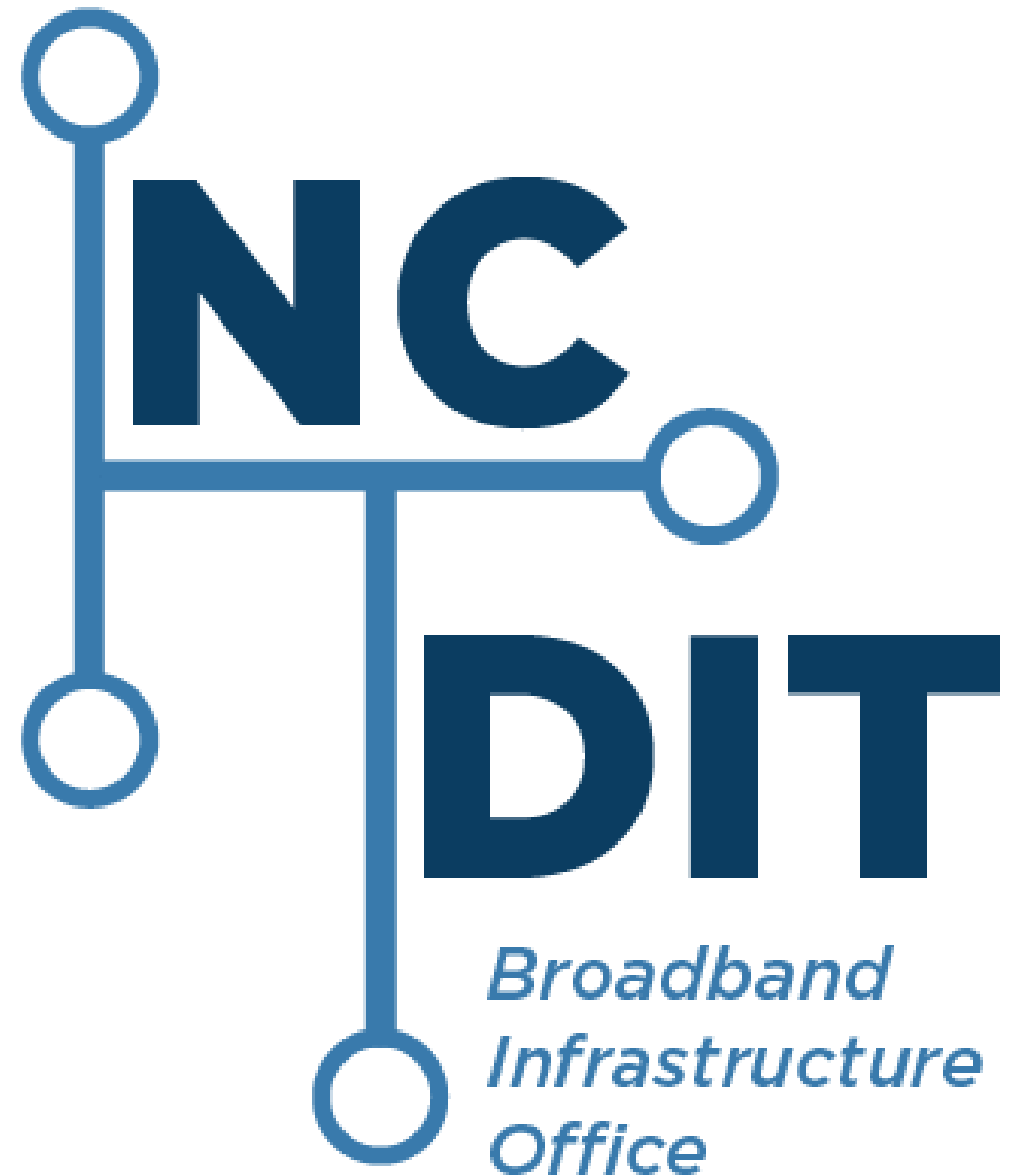# Jackson County

Board of Commissioners

Jeff Sural
Director
Broadband Infrastructure Office
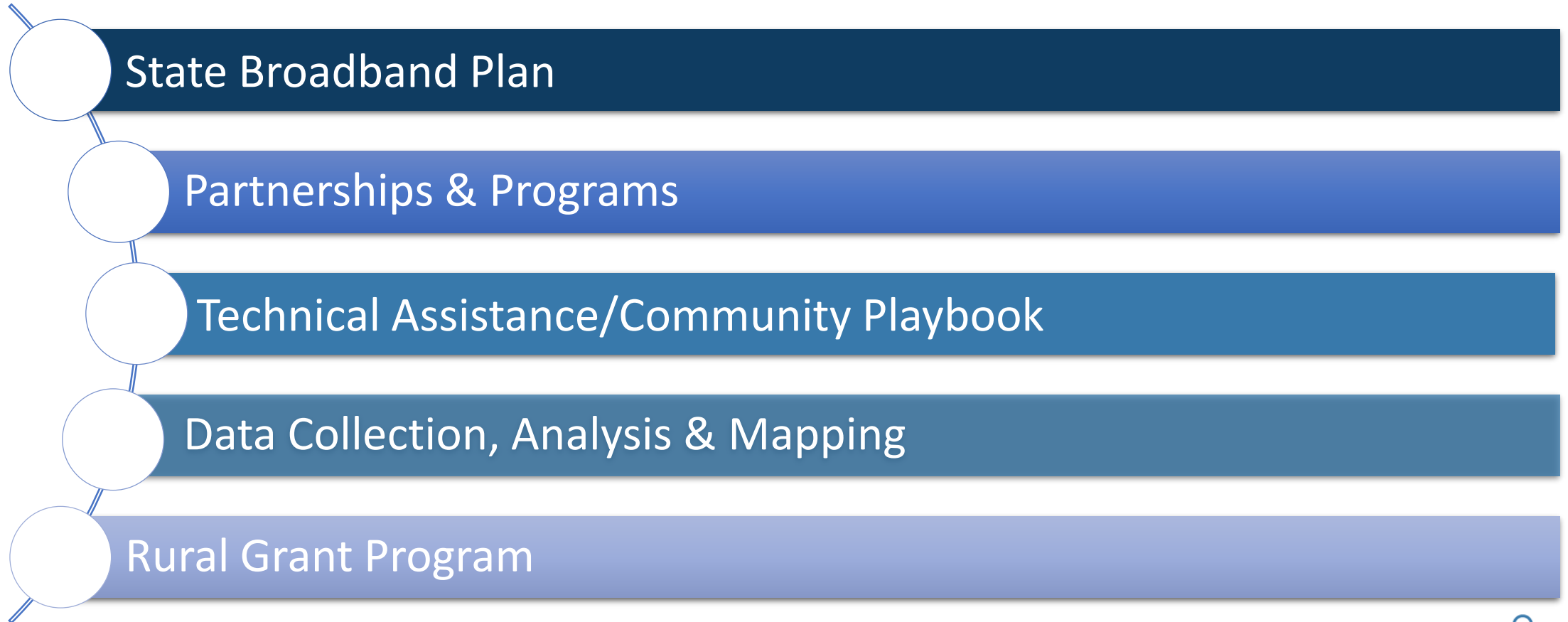
Oct. 13, 2020

Program Purpose

To facilitate economic development through the deployment of broadband to unserved areas of the State.

NC DIT
Broadband
Infrastructure
Office

How We Do What We Do

- State Broadband Plan
- Partnerships & Programs
- Technical Assistance/Community Playbook
- Data Collection, Analysis & Mapping
- Rural Grant Program

NC DIT
Broadband Infrastructure Office

Activities/Models – Existing Infrastructure

WCU, Morris Broadband partnering to provide high-speed internet
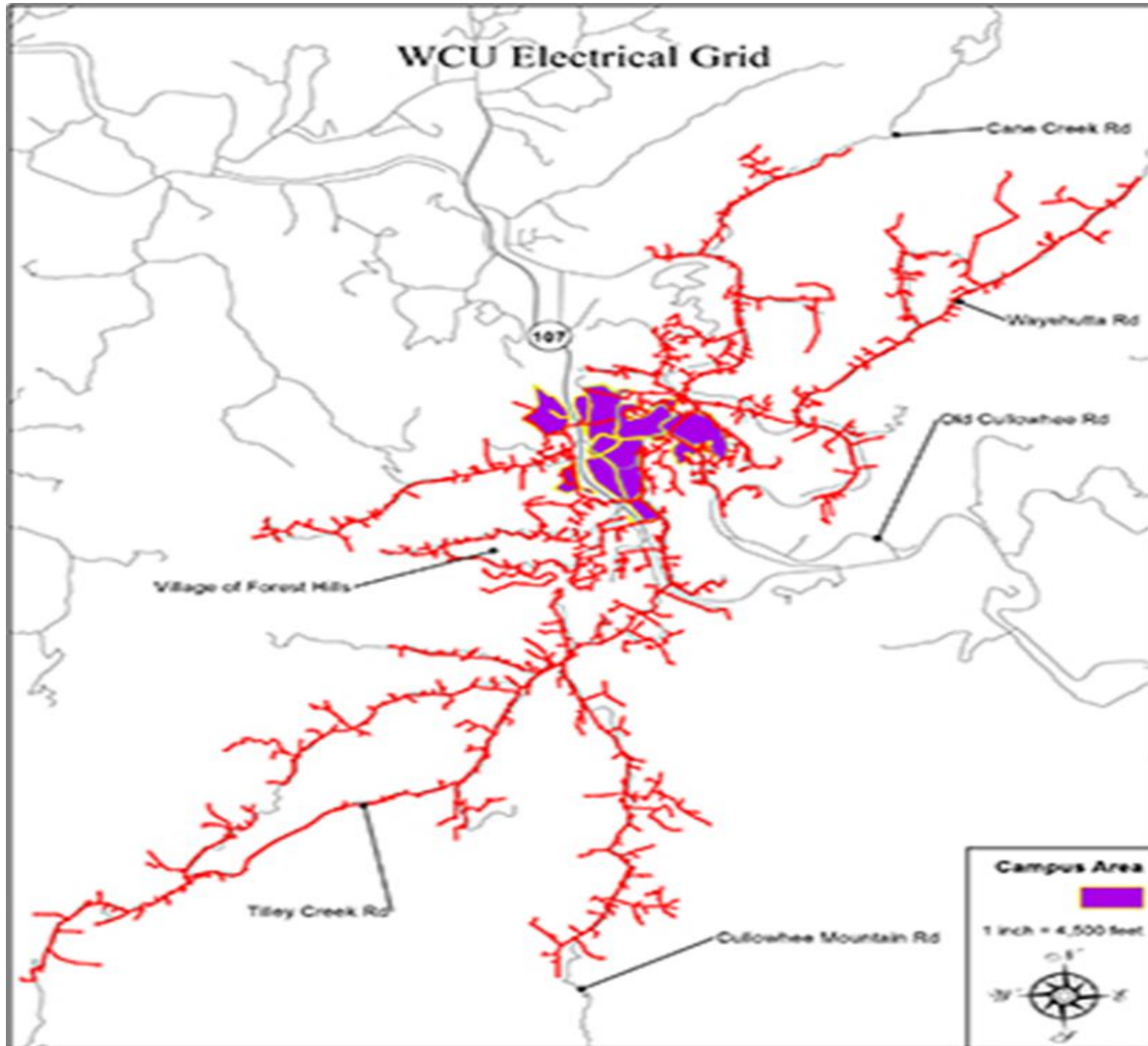
- Poles & Power

North Carolina Broadband Service Inventory

Underserved Census Blocks
Reporting only DSL, Satellite, or
Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload Service

Data derived from U.S. Federal Communications Commission Form 477 Data Release June 2019.
Note: A provider that reports deployment of a particular technology and bandwidth
in a census block may not necessarily offer that service everywhere in the block.
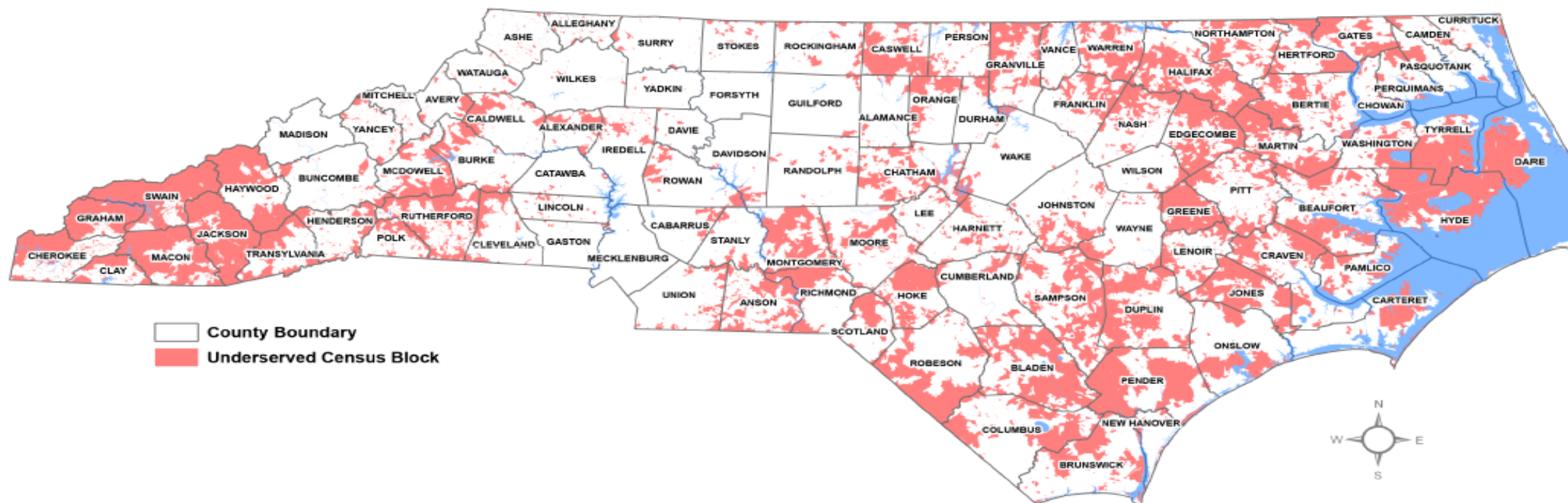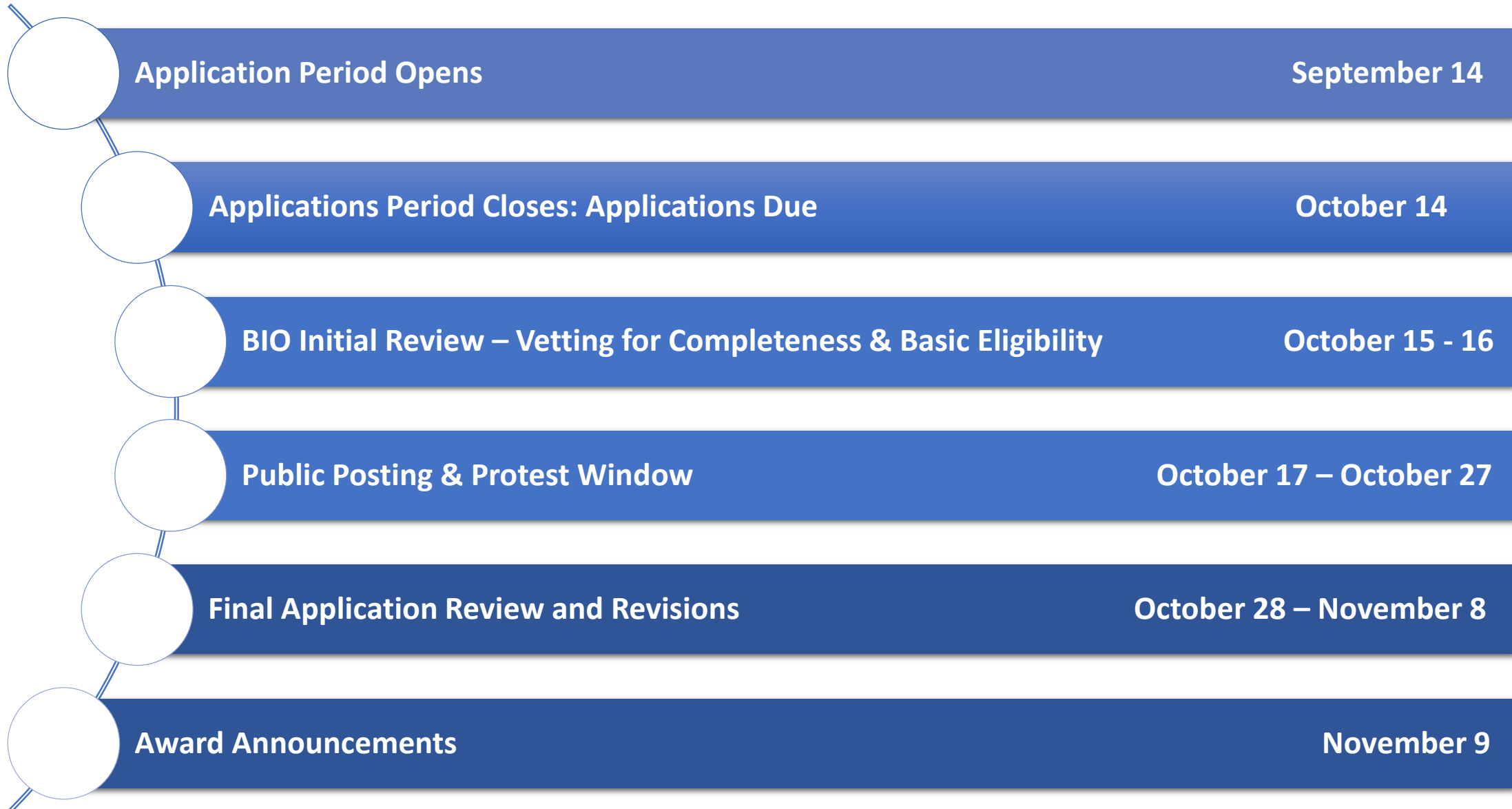
GREAT Grants Impact to Date

- Invested nearly $26 million for projects in 26 Tier 1 counties

- Connected more than 21,000 households, businesses and agricultural operations to high-speed internet

- State funding matched by more than $20 million in private investment.

NC DIT

2020 Special Supplementary Round Dates

Application Period Opens	**September 14**
Applications Period Closes: Applications Due	**October 14**
BIO Initial Review – Vetting for Completeness & Basic Eligibility	**October 15 - 16**
Public Posting & Protest Window	**October 17 – October 27**
Final Application Review and Revisions	**October 28 – November 8**
Award Announcements	**November 9**

NC DIT

Potential Broadband Funding Opportunities

USDA-Rural Utilities Service	USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program
• Community Connect • Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants • Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee • Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Guarantees • Shannon Legree 803-354-3168	• Grant only • Grant/Loan Combo • Loan only • Shannon Legree 803-354-3168

NC DIT
Broadband Infrastructure Office

USDA Broadband Funding in North Carolina

USDA Community Connect Awards (2018 and 2019)

- Camden   Eastern Shore Communications $ 1.8m
- Cherokee   Blue Ridge Mountain EMC $ 3m
- Madison   French Broad EMC $ 3m
- Columbus   Wilkes TMC $ 1.9m

USDA ReConnect Awards (2019 and 2020)

- Bladen & Sampson   Star Communications $23.7m
- Columbus   ATMC $ 7.9m
- Madison   French Broad EMC $ 3.2m

NC DIT
Broadband
Infrastructure
Office

Potential Broadband Funding Opportunities

ARC
• Match required
• $300K construction
• $100K non-construction
• Eligible Applicants: Local governments and non-profits
• Olivia A. Collier   919-218-3623

ARC POWER
• Match required
• Funding limits will be detailed in the RFP
• Eligible Applicants: Local governments and non-profits
• Olivia A. Collier   919-218-3623

NC DIT
Broadband Infrastructure Office
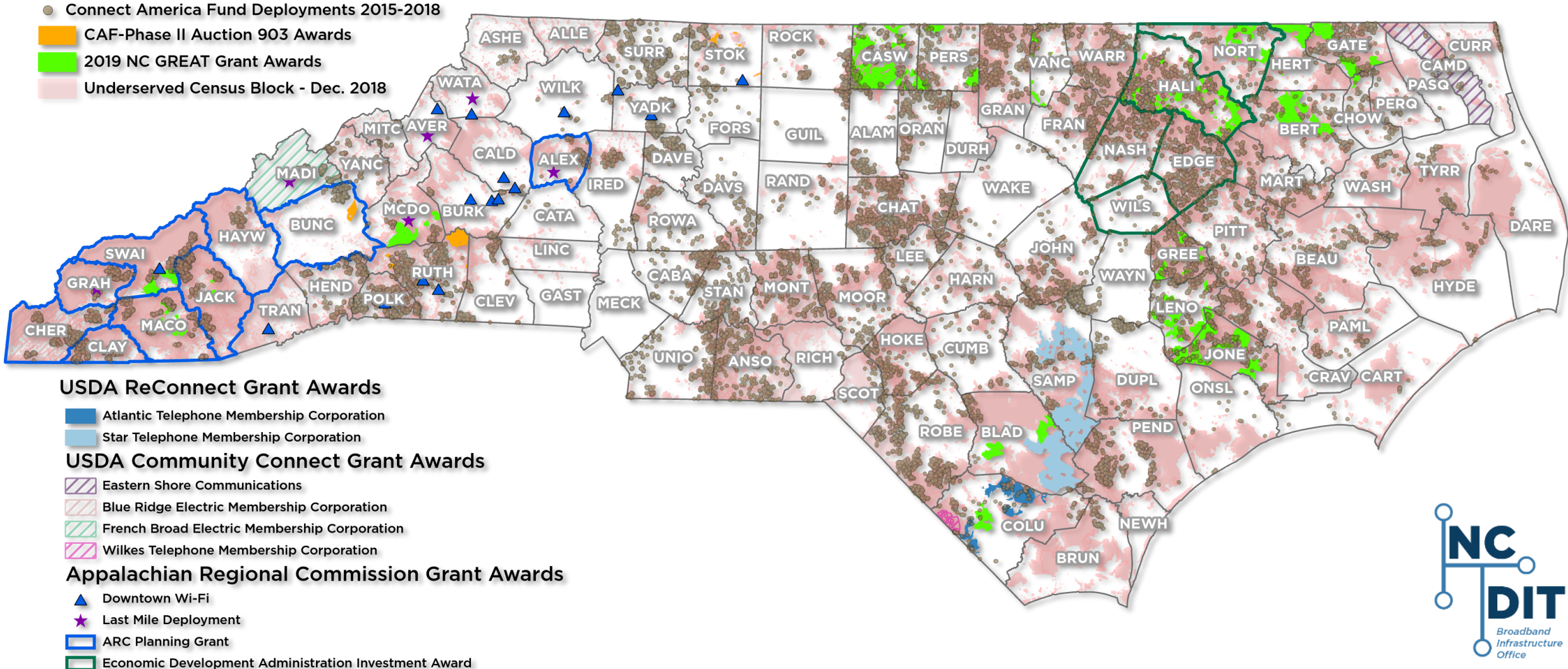
Potential Broadband Funding Opportunities
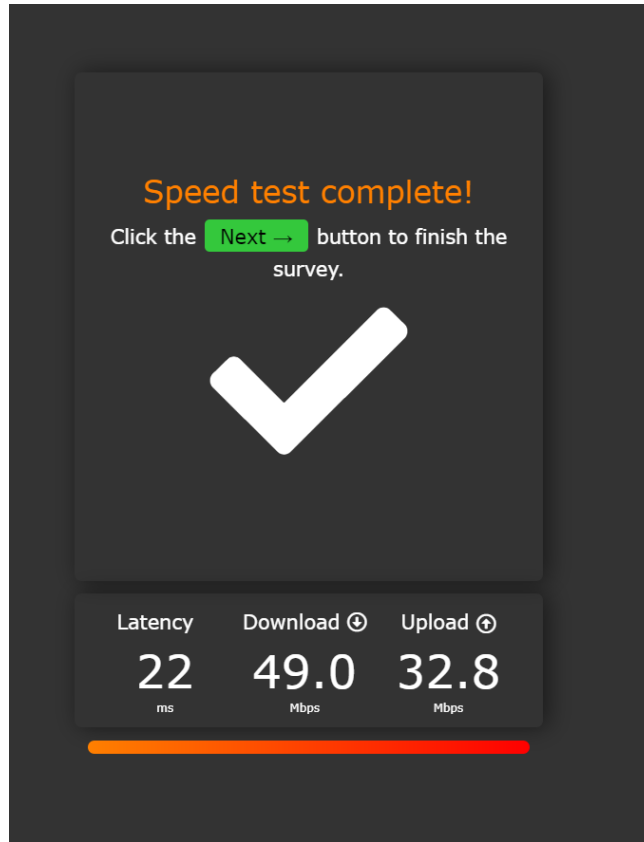
FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund

- FCC Vote January 30

- Scheduled Auction Date: October 2020 (Exact Date TBD)

- Proposal for $20.4 Billion

- Distribution: Reverse Auction

- Priority funding areas: CAF II (169k HH) and <25/3Mbps

NC DIT
Broadband
Infrastructure
Office

Federal and State Broadband Deployment Grant Awards

2015 to 2019

Underserved Census Blocks Reporting DSL Only, Satellite, or
Less Than 25 mb/s Download and 3 mb/s Upload Service
Data derived from U.S. Federal Communications Commission Form 477 Data Release Dec. 2018.

Legend:
- Connect America Fund Deployments 2015-2018
- CAF-Phase II Auction 903 Awards
- 2019 NC GREAT Grant Awards
- Underserved Census Block - Dec. 2018

USDA ReConnect Grant Awards
- Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation
- Star Telephone Membership Corporation

USDA Community Connect Grant Awards
- Eastern Shore Communications
- Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation
- French Broad Electric Membership Corporation
- Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation

Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Awards
- ▲ Downtown Wi-Fi
- ★ Last Mile Deployment
- ☐ ARC Planning Grant
- ☐ Economic Development Administration Investment Award

NC DIT
Broadband
Infrastructure
Office

Speed test complete!

Click the **Next →** button to finish the survey.

✓

Latency	Download ⊕	Upload ⊕
22	49.0	32.8
ms	Mbps	Mbps

NC DIT | NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Broadband Infrastructure Office

Internet Connectivity Survey for NC Farmers

The **North Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Office**, with the **Friday Institute at NC State University**, is conducting a five-minute survey* to gather data on internet connectivity from North Carolina farmers. The data will be used to inform research, policy and funding recommendations to assist communities where internet access is inadequate.