



Kansas Office of Broadband Development: Digital Equity + Broadband Equity Access and Deployment

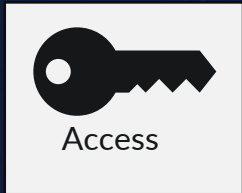
The Kansas Office of Broadband Development (KOBD) was established in 2020 to help ensure all Kansans have the opportunity to live, work, learn, and compete in a global economy and by improving universal access to quality, affordable, and reliable broadband.

Mission

Broadband 2022 Snapshot

- \$10,722,463.51 Investments (including match)
- \$4,620,762.22 Grant Awards
- 3241 Premises Connected:
- 361 Businesses
- 29 Fiber CAIs
- 286 Fiber Miles Built
- 2 Wireless New Tower Sites
- 14 Total Projects

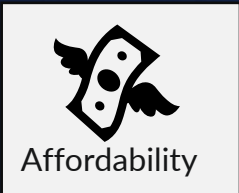
Keep in Mind: Broader Goals



Promotes the availability of reliable, broadband technology through stakeholder outreach and engagement



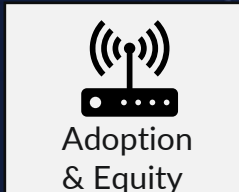
Advances the online accessibility of public resources and services



Promotes awareness of existing programs (e.g., Affordable Connectivity Program) that help low-income households afford broadband service



Offers Internet equipment and software at low or no cost



Narrows adoption disparities across covered populations by engaging with diverse stakeholders



Implements digital inclusion programs that include digital skills training, technical support and workforce development

Digital Equity defined by Kansas Office of Broadband

What does Digital Equity mean?

Digital equity is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy and economy.

-National Digital Inclusion Alliance

People also ask :

How long did it take to build the whole highway? ^

Today, the Interstate Highway System is comprised of 68,000 km (42,00-miles) of roadway. It was initially estimated to cost \$25 billion and take 12 years to complete. In actuality, it ended up costing \$114 billion (in 2006 dollars \$425 billion) and took **35 years** to complete.

Sep 15, 2019

Acknowledge the Tangle

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: (\$65B)

- DEA – Digital Equity Act Programs
 - State Digital Equity Planning: (\$60M) for states and territories to develop digital equity plans
 - *Approved funding for Kansas is \$692,000*
 - State Digital Equity Capacity: (\$1.44B) annual formula grant program for states and territories to implement digital equity projects and support local implementation plans
 - Digital Equity Competitive: (\$1.25B) annual competitive grant program to implement digital equity projects

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- BEAD - Broadband Equity Access and Deployment
 - Planning Grant
 - Provides **\$5M** to states to build capacity, conduct research and data collection, training, and other needs
 - Funds expected early 2023
- Competitive Grants Released- Fall 2023
 - Minimum of \$100 Million per state
 - Contingent upon mapping ***FCC Challenge process available now***

Language

BEAD + Digital Equity

Digital inclusion

Ensuring people have the access and skills to benefit from digital technologies in their lives

Access

Availability
Affordability
Inclusive design
Public access

Adoption

Uptake and
relevance
Digital literacy
Safety and privacy

Application

Education
Employment
Economic
development
Health
Social inclusion
Civic engagement
Public safety



**Digital Equity + BEAD
planning phases will be
congruent**

Timeline:

Digital Equity + BEAD Dual Planning

- Dec 2022 (\$690K) DE
- BEAD – incoming (millions)

Submit Plan (publish + distribute)

- Aug 2023

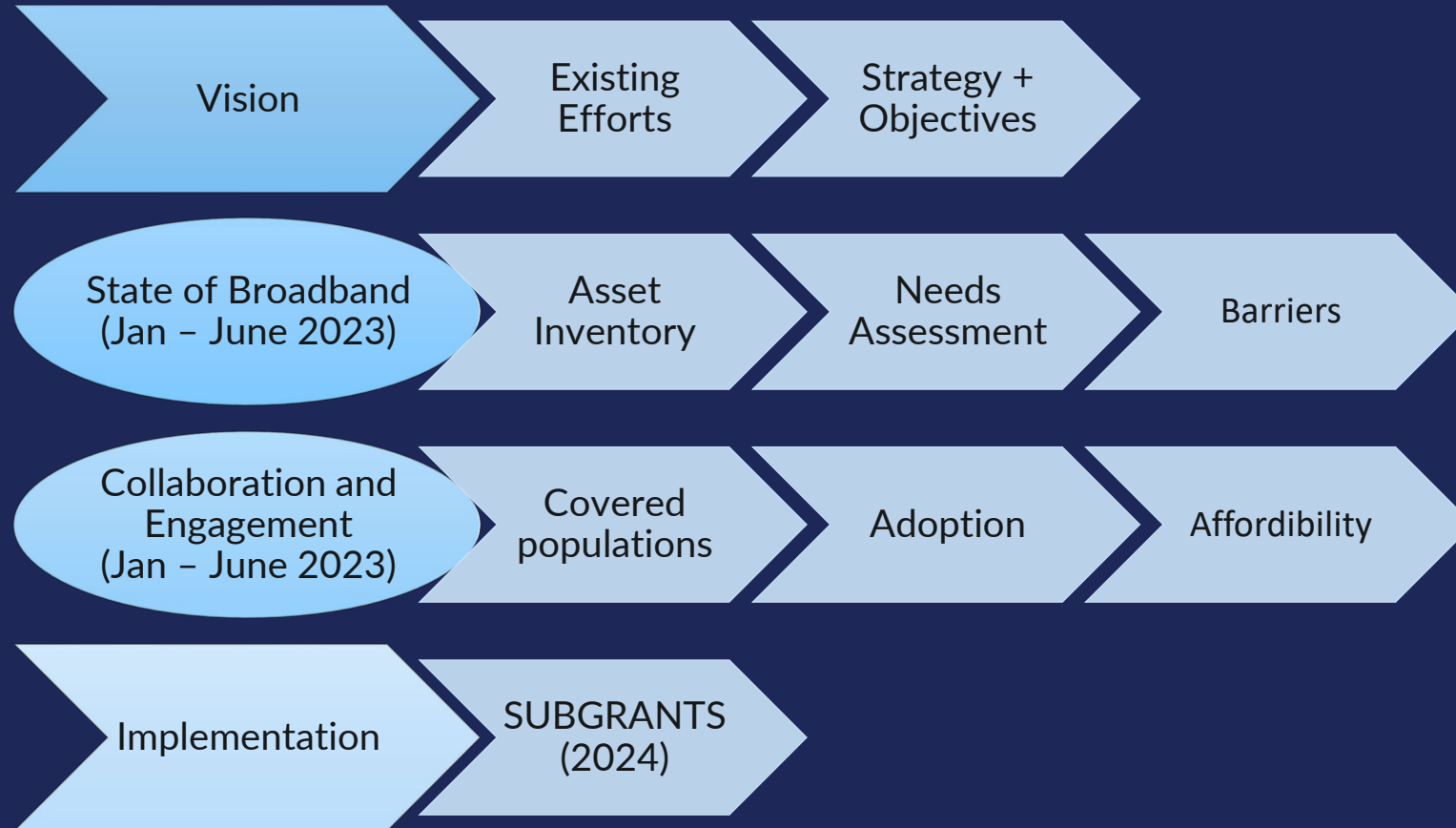
Intentional Engagement

- Dec 2022 – June 2023
- Multiple engagement opportunities throughout the state to connect with covered populations.

Receive funds to implement plan + provide subgrants

- 2024

State Digital Equity Plan



Covered Populations

The Digital Equity Act focuses on addressing the needs of "covered populations" as defined by the statute

Covered Populations

Identity groups and communities disproportionately impacted by digital inequity



Low-income households



People with disabilities



Aging populations



People with language barriers



Incarcerated individuals



Racial and ethnic minorities



Veterans



Rural inhabitants



Our ask to you:

Commit to Connect:

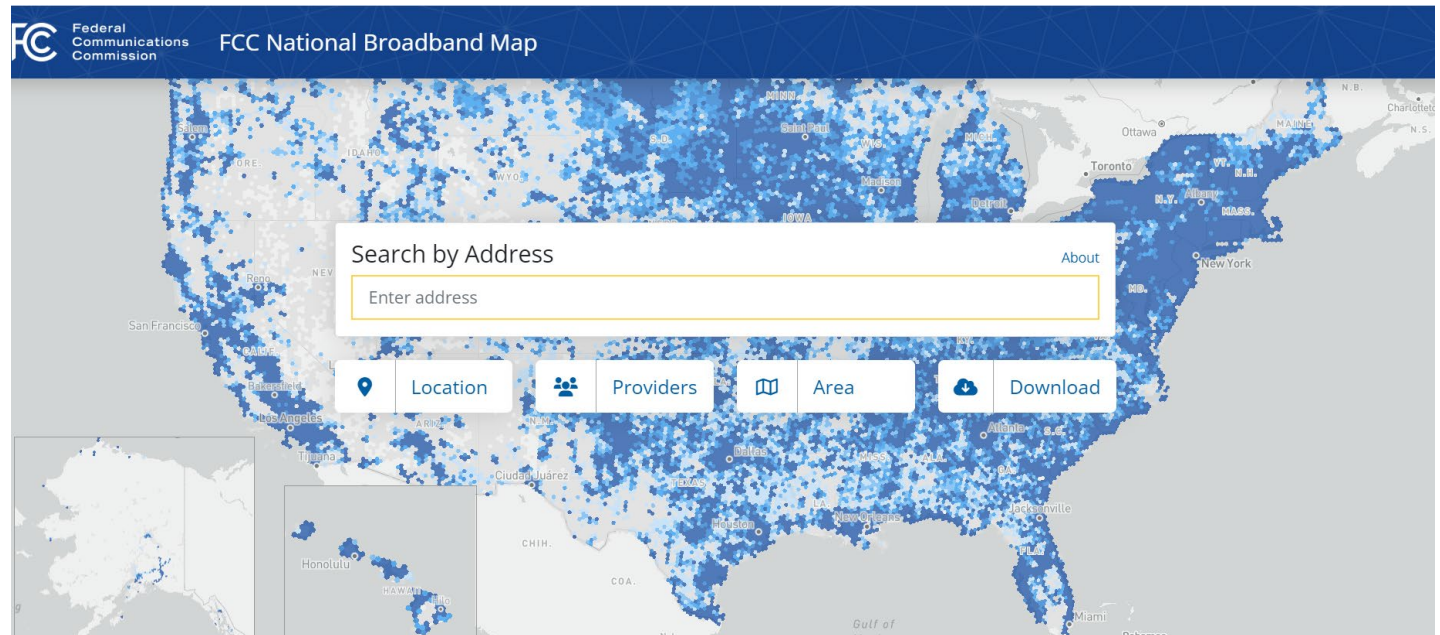
Digital Equity Plans

- Community Champions
 - Listening Sessions
 - Meeting Spaces
 - Assets
 - Barriers

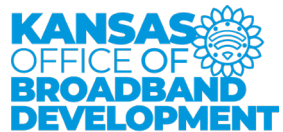
FCC Mapping Challenge

- Review Map
- Challenge (bulk/individual)
 - Location
 - Service

Kansas
Funding
received
directly tied
to this map.



We need your support to challenge the map.



2 ways to challenge | <https://bit.ly/KSMapFCC>

Location & Service Availability | Jan 13, 2024

1. **LOCATION:** Check the dots on the map. Should be center of the space where wireless is provided. Should not be the on other buildings or locations where broadband is not provided.
2. **SERVICE AVAILABILITY:** Check the Provider, Technology, and Speeds available at this address.
 - a. You may want to upload an image of a speed test here.
 - b. Review service described and then challenge if you are not served or if you are not served at the level reported. Narratives and additional information here is KEY.

Location Challenge Example

Location listed as served 2 times.



FCC Service Challenge

Fixed Availability Challenges

Challengers of fixed (e.g. fiber, cable, satellite) broadband availability data will select from the following categories of challenges:

1. Provider failed to schedule a service installation within 10 business days of a request.
2. Provider did not install the service at the agreed-upon time.
3. Provider requested more than the standard installation fee to connect this location.
4. Provider denied the request for service
5. Provider does not offer the technology, or service type, at this location.
6. Reported speed not available for purchase.
7. Subscribed speed not achievable.
[Individuals only can select this option (on the map), but it won't create a challenge.]
8. No wireless or satellite signal is available at this location.
9. New, non-standard equipment is required to connect this location (satellite/fixed wireless only).

What to Include With a Fixed Availability Challenge?

Evidence and details of a request or attempted request for service, including the date, method, and content of the request and details of the response from the provider, or evidence – such as a screen shot or emails – showing no availability at the disputed location.

Bulk challenges must include evidence and details about the dispute, including the challenger's methodology, the basis for determinations underlying the challenge, and any communications with the provider.

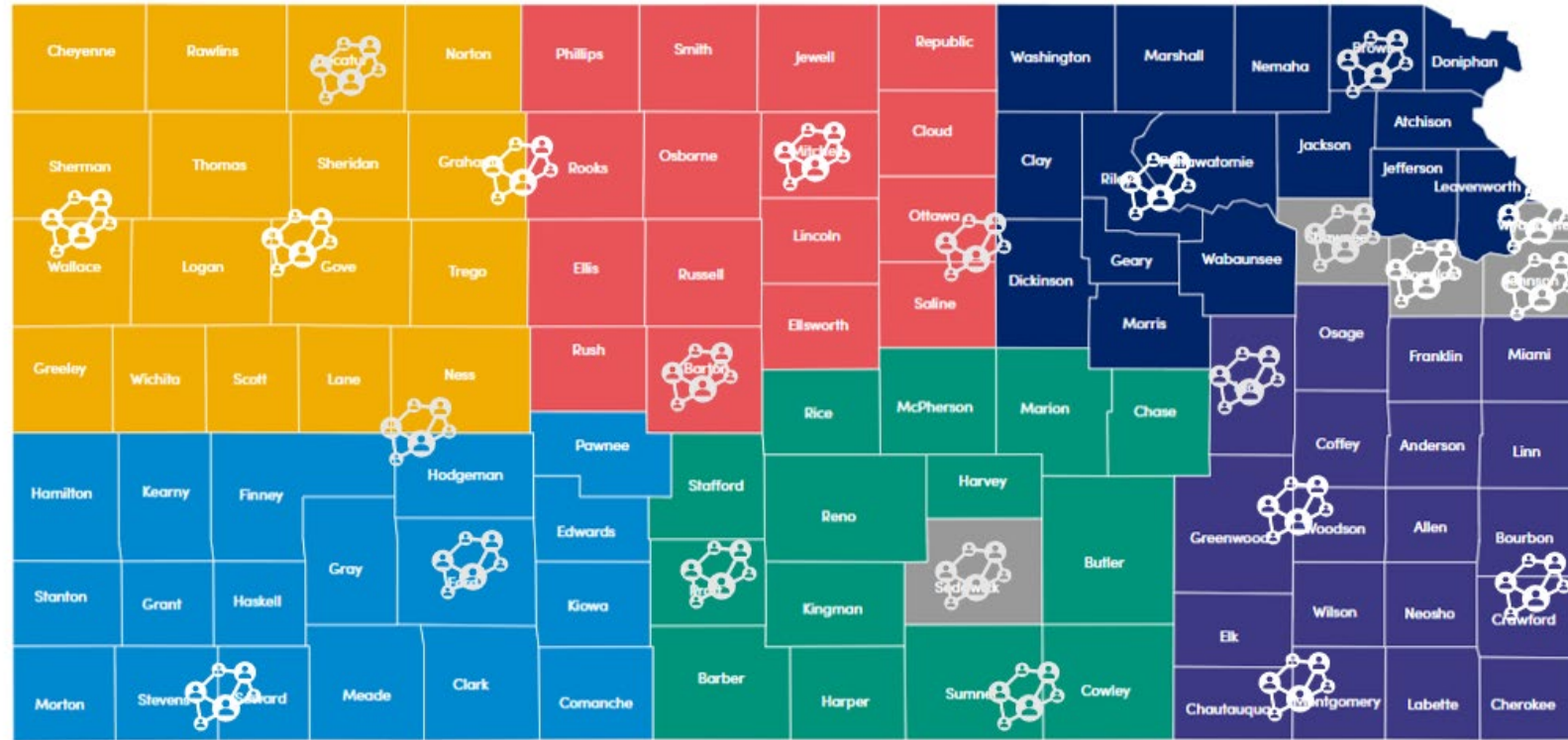
***Note:** Challenges to map data based on requests or information collected prior to the June 30, 2022 "as of date" cannot be considered.*

Mobile Availability Challenges

Challengers may dispute the availability of mobile broadband service using on-the-ground speed test data. An updated version of the FCC's Speed Test app will collect mobile availability challenge data submitted by users.

Broadband #KSConnect Tour

Intended Tour Destinations



#gigabits on the Great Plains

Looking for a Team Approach:

- Broadband Community Champions
- Economic Development/Workforce
- Library/Museum
- Local Governments
- School/Education Sectors
- Housing Authorities
- Organizations Serving Covered Populations

Register Now



Register by scanning
this QR Code



Questions?

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