

Last Mile Programs Overview

April, 2023

Karen Eckersley, Communications Division

Questions and inquiries to statewidebroadband@cpuc.ca.gov



California Public
Utilities Commission

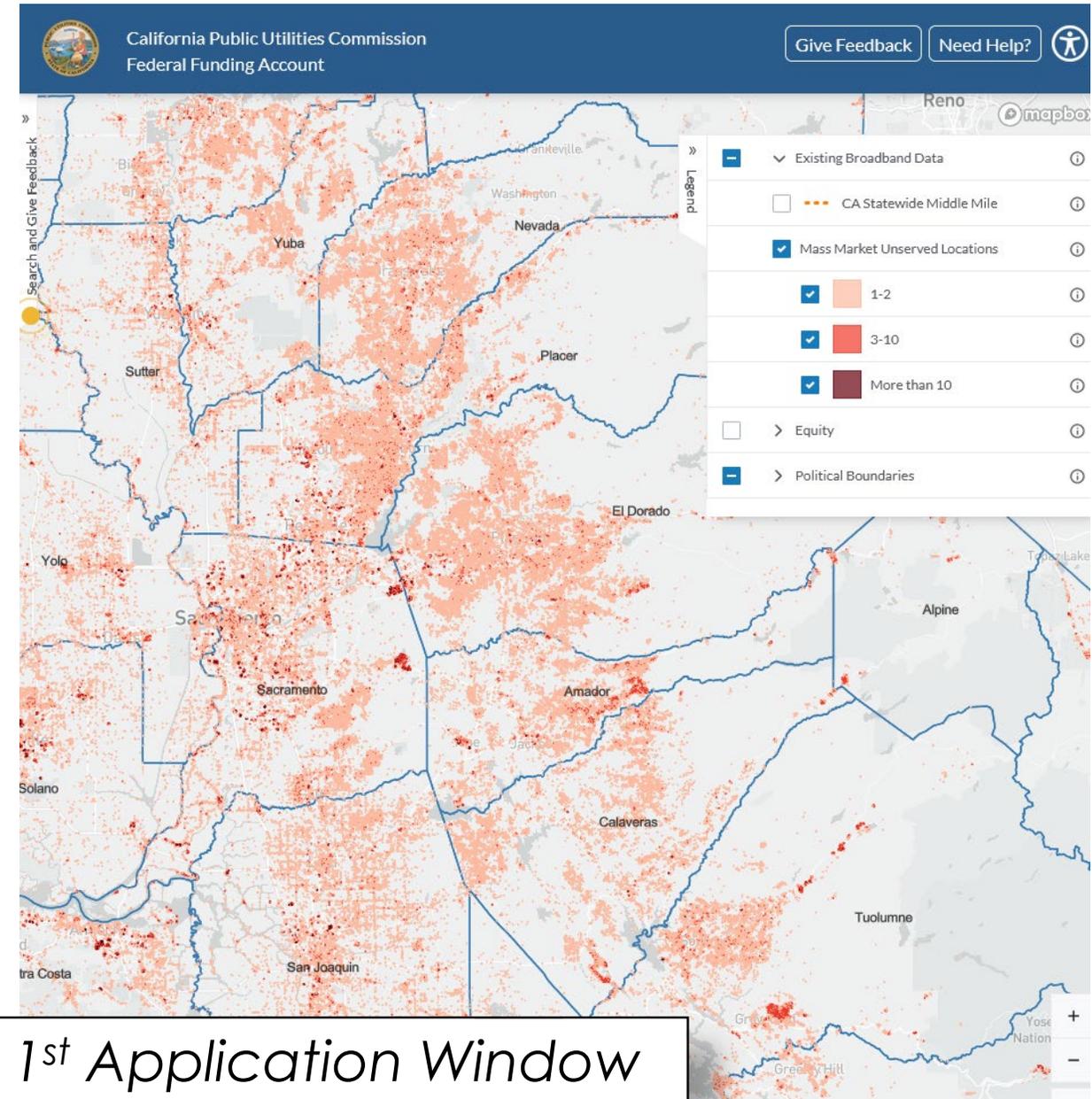
Last Mile Broadband Initiatives Snapshot

	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	LOAN LOSS RESERVE FUND	FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNT	CALIFORNIA ADVANCED SERVICES FUND
Amount	\$50 million	\$750 million	\$2 billion	\$150 million/year
Summary	Assist local governments & Tribes to prepare for broadband infrastructure investments	Enable local governments & nonprofits to secure financing for broadband infrastructure	Fund last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in every county	Assist with broadband infrastructure deployment & adoption in public housing, Tribes, & unserved areas
Target	<u>Only Tribal funding still available</u>	<u>Proposed Decision</u> in first half of 2023	See the map and prepare to apply June 2023	<u>Apply in the Next Cycle</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Infrastructure</u> May 2023 • <u>Adoption</u> July 1, 2023 • <u>Housing</u> July 1, 2023

Federal Funding Account

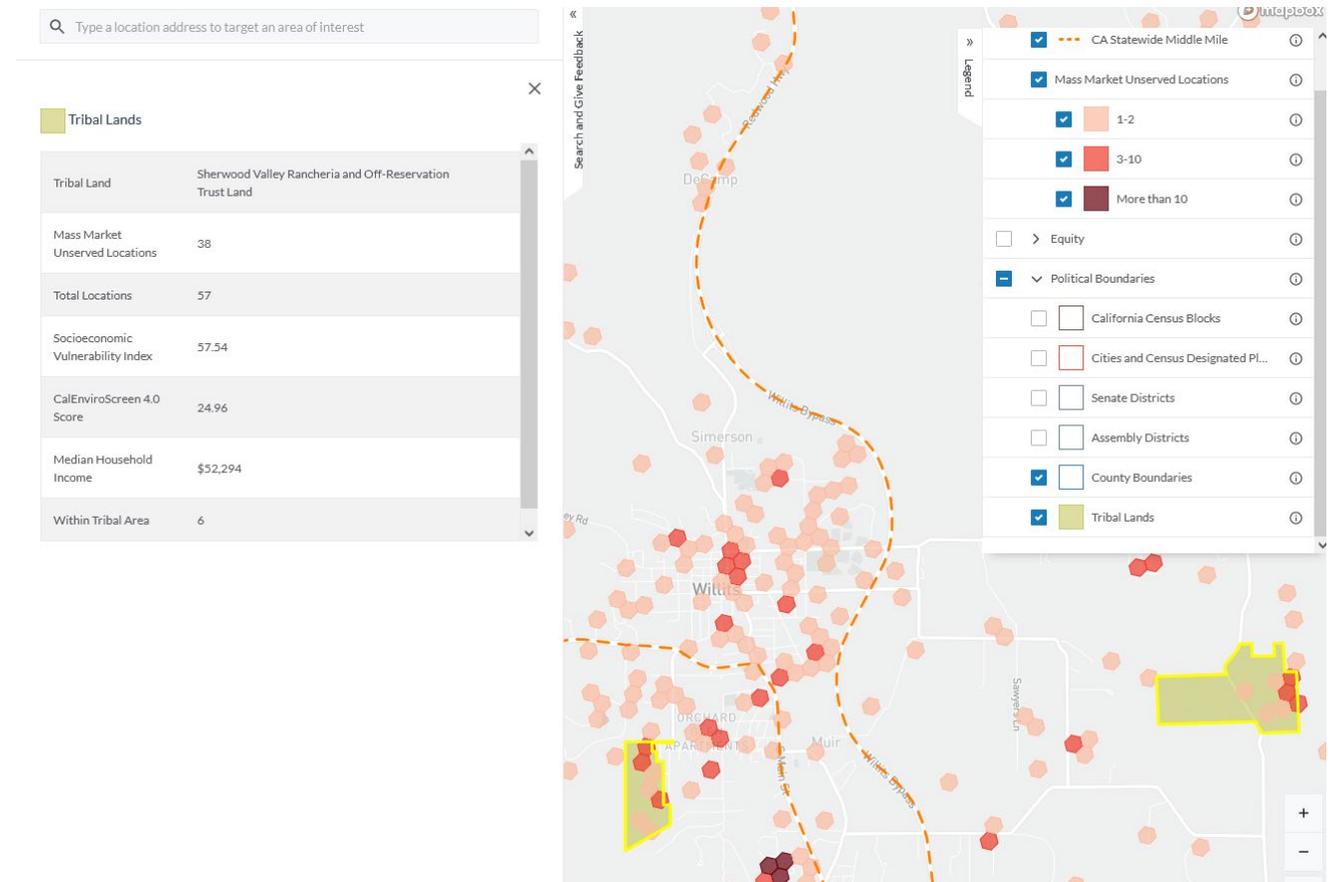
- The \$2 billion Federal Funding Account is for last-mile broadband infrastructure.
 - All unserved locations are eligible.
 - Entities eligible to apply include Tribes, service providers, public entities, and non-profits.
 - CPUC will evaluate applications based on points-based program rules available here.
 - Map: www.cpuc.ca.gov/ffapublicmap
 - Archived materials are available on the website

Targeting June 2023 for 1st Application Window



How to View an Area

- Download the data
 - Give it to your IT/GIS analysts
- Turn on these layers to see where are unserved locations
 - Tribal Layer
 - Unserved households
 - Statewide middle mile
- Zoom into the area
- Data on the left



Registered Users Tool will Indicate Subsidy

CPUC Loan Loss Reserve Program

- The Broadband [Loan Loss Reserve Program](#) helps public entities to finance broadband infrastructure deployment.
- Proposed program rules
 - [Proposed Rules](#)
 - [Program Fact Sheet](#)
 - [Proposal Comments Fact Sheet](#)

CALIFORNIA BROADBAND LOAN LOSS RESERVE FUND

Supporting Public Broadband Networks in California

WHAT IS THE CALIFORNIA BROADBAND LOAN LOSS RESERVE FUND?

The California Broadband Loan Loss Program is a new \$750 million fund. It will support local governments and nonprofits with the financing for building broadband infrastructure. Specifically, it will provide credit enhancements that will enable more favorable terms when they borrow money from bond markets and financial institutions.

HOW DOES THE LOAN LOSS PROGRAM WORK?

The Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund Program enables public broadband investment by encouraging lenders or investors to invest in the California broadband market by providing protection against a certain percentage of the lender's risk of loss in a given financial transaction.

By guaranteeing local agency bonds, pooling risks, and negotiating on behalf of all local agencies, the Loan Loss Program lowers borrowing costs for local agencies and provides investors with the certainty they need to invest in public broadband.

Requirements are being developed through California Public Utilities Commission Rulemaking (R.) 20-08-021 and a staff proposal will be released in the third quarter of 2022.

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES PER PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE 281.2

Non-Profits and Local Government Agencies, which includes:

- Counties
- County Service Areas
- Community Service Districts
- Public Utility Districts
- Municipal Utility Districts
- Joint Powers Authorities
- Local Educational Agencies
- Sovereign Tribal Governments
- Electrical Cooperatives

California Advanced Services Fund Grants

Broadband Infrastructure

- Provides subsidies to build broadband infrastructure in unserved parts of California, particularly in areas with barriers to access.

Broadband Adoption and Digital Equity Grants

- Supporting digital literacy and broadband access projects for public entities and CBOs

Consortia and Contact Information

- Regional collection of public entities and CBOs assisting with broadband grant application development and deployment

Public Housing and Low-Income Communities

- Grants to build broadband offering free service for low-income communities.



CASF Adoption Account Center for Elders' Independence, digital literacy project grantee

Useful Links

- CPUC Broadband Resources for California Tribal Nations
 - <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/v2-tribal-broadband-resources>
- CPUC Federal Funding Account
 - <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account>
- Federal Funding Account Map
 - <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account/ffa-public-map>
- Statewide Middle Mile
 - <https://site-cammbi.hub.arcgis.com/pages/statewide-construction-evaluation-map-of-10000-miles-of-proposed-build>
- Email us for further information
 - statewidebroadband@cpuc.ca.gov

BEAD Broadband Equity Access Deployment Program Overview

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Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program Overview

- BEAD Website, Events, Newsletter and other information
- Funding from the federal government to expand high-speed internet
 - Can include **planning, infrastructure deployment** and **adoption**
- California will be allocated **money to subgrantees** based on how many households lack broadband access
 - According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) map
- The California Department of Technology (CDT) is the administering agent for the related **Digital Equity Plan** (coordinated with BEAD)

BEAD Outreach is Happening Now, see webpage for schedule

BEAD Rulemaking

- California will provide funds to subgrantees based on rules to be determined in the new **Rulemaking on BEAD**
 - Rulemaking **(R.) 23-02-016**
 - <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/bead-program>
- Sample Eligible Uses of Funding

Planning for deployment of Internet

Deploying or **upgrading** Internet

Installing Internet in **multi-tenant buildings**

Implementing **adoption and digital equity** programs

Workforce and job training

CPUC's BEAD Rulemaking – Areas of Inquiry

Extremely High-Cost Threshold

- Geographic Level
- Overlapping Project Areas
- Selection Among Priority Broadband Projects
- Selection Among Other Last-Mile Broadband Deployment Projects

Challenge Process

- Match Requirement

Workforce Considerations

- Statewide Middle Mile
- Ministerial Review

Grant Conditions

- Grant Applications. How many application cycles should there be in a calendar year?
- Payments

Impacts on Environmental and Social Justice Communities

- How should the Commission implement other issues for which it has discretion under the BEAD NOFO?

BEAD Outreach is Happening Now, see CPUC webpage for schedule



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