

Connecticut Broadband Infrastructure Request for Information



Public Input Session

July 21, 2022

10:00 AM

Welcome



Katie Dykes

Commissioner
Department of Energy and
Environmental Protection (DEEP)



Vicki Hackett

Bureau Chief and Acting Deputy
Commissioner of the Bureau of
Energy and Technology Policy
DEEP



Kevin Pisacich

Director
Office of Telecommunications and Broadband
Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy
DEEP

Meeting Logistics

During the Meeting:

- This meeting will be recorded. The recording and corresponding slides will be posted on DEEP's Broadband RFI webpage at <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/energy/broadband-rfi>.
- Please remain muted during the presentation unless it is your turn to comment.
- Please update your online screen name to include your name and title or affiliation.

Public Comments:

- Comment period is expected to begin approximately at 11 AM. If you would like to comment then, use the "raise hand" function.
- DEEP will determine order of commentators based on the order of hands raised.
- Comments will be limited to three minutes. A 30-second warning will be provided.
- DEEP may, in its discretion and time permitting, verbally answer procedural or clarifying questions asked during comments or posted in the chat. The chat is not enabled, but DEEP staff will receive questions. The chat will be downloaded and posted on the Broadband RFI website as well.
- DEEP encourages submission of unanswered questions to deep.broadband@ct.gov.

Overview

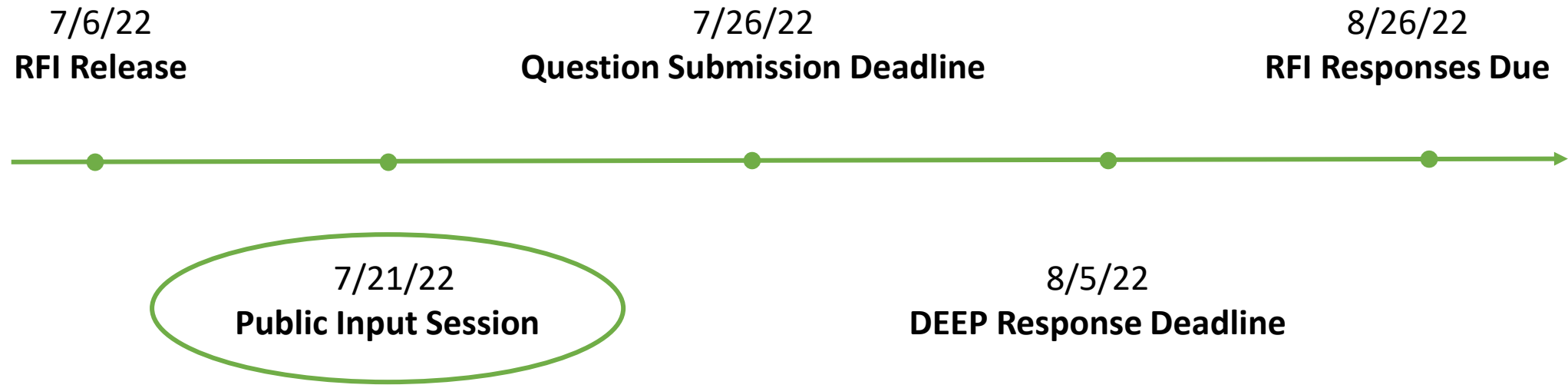
Broadband Infrastructure RFI Public Input Session

Presentation (45 minutes)

1. What is the state of broadband in Connecticut?
2. What are we asking in the Request for Information and how will the State use that information?
3. How much federal funding is coming into Connecticut and how will it be used?
4. What are our goals and program priorities?

Public Comment

RFI Timeline



Broadband

What is broadband?

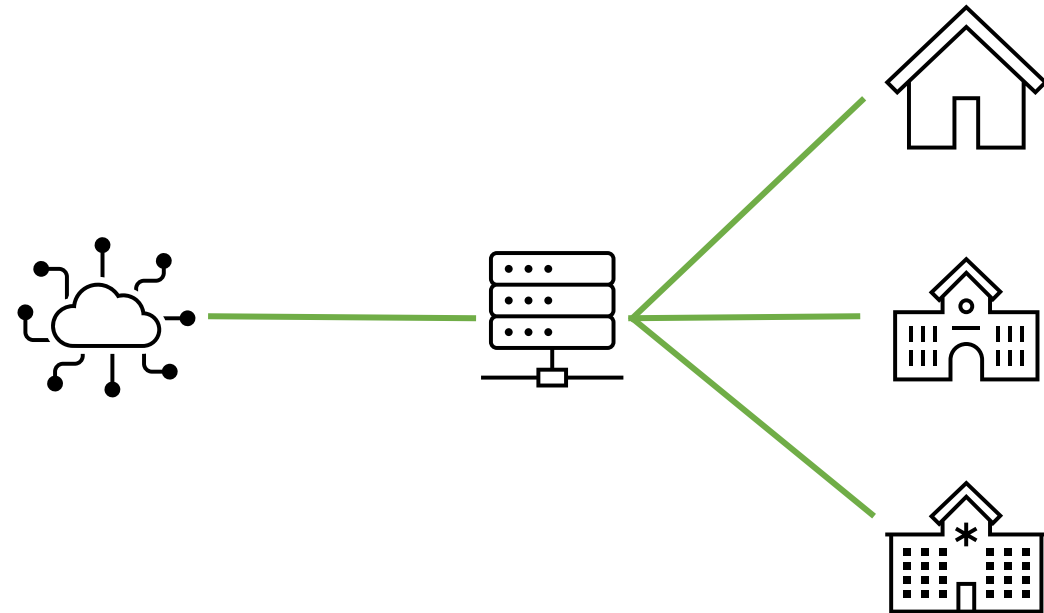
- Wireline (fiber, cable, DSL)
- Wireless (mobile, fixed, satellite)

How fast is fast enough?

- Underserved (<100 Mbps/20 Mbps)
- Unserved (<25 Mbps/3 Mbps)
- CT Goal Speed (1 Gbps/100 Mbps)

Why does speed matter?

- Current and future applications



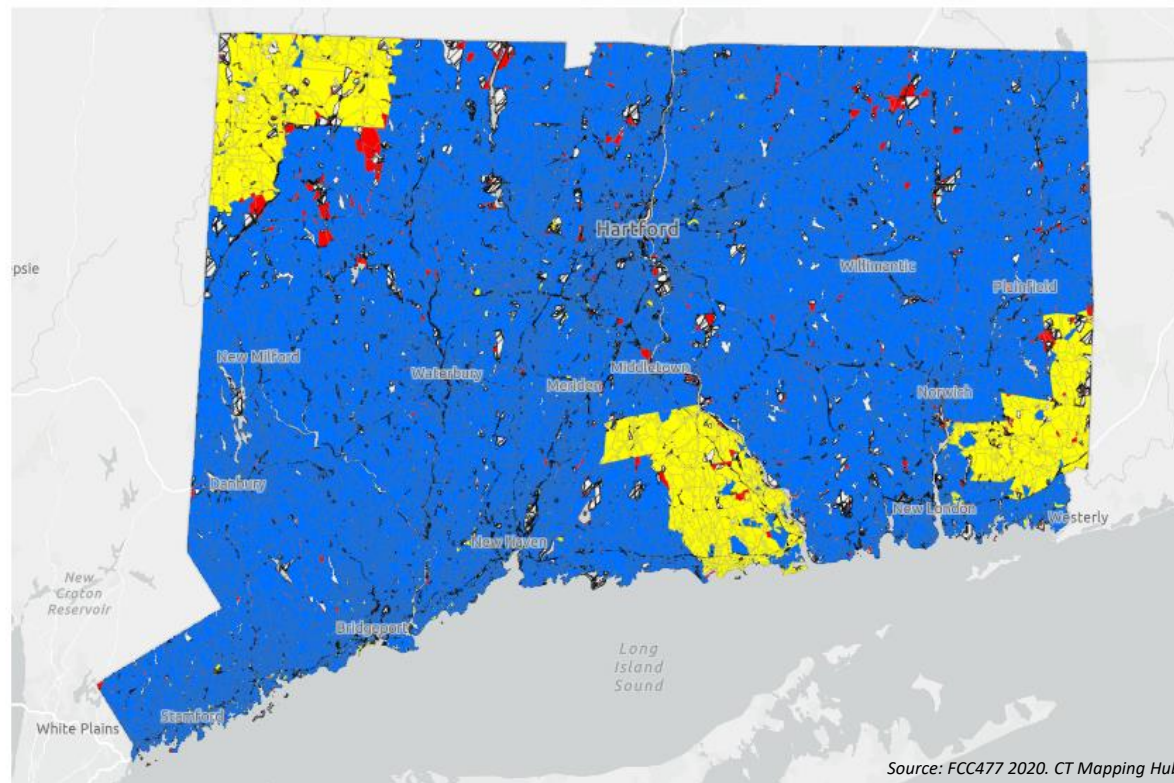
Digital Divide

Unserved, Underserved, and Served Blocks in Connecticut (FCC477 Dec2020)

Unserved, Underserved, and Served Blocks in Connecticut (FCC477 Dec2020)

Service

-  No households
-  Unserved
-  Underserved
-  Served



Source: FCC477 2020. CT Mapping Hub.

23% of households lack a high-speed internet subscription.*

36% of low-income households lack a high-speed internet subscription.*

*American Community Survey Data 2020

Connecticut Broadband Mapping Hub

broadbandmaps.ct.gov



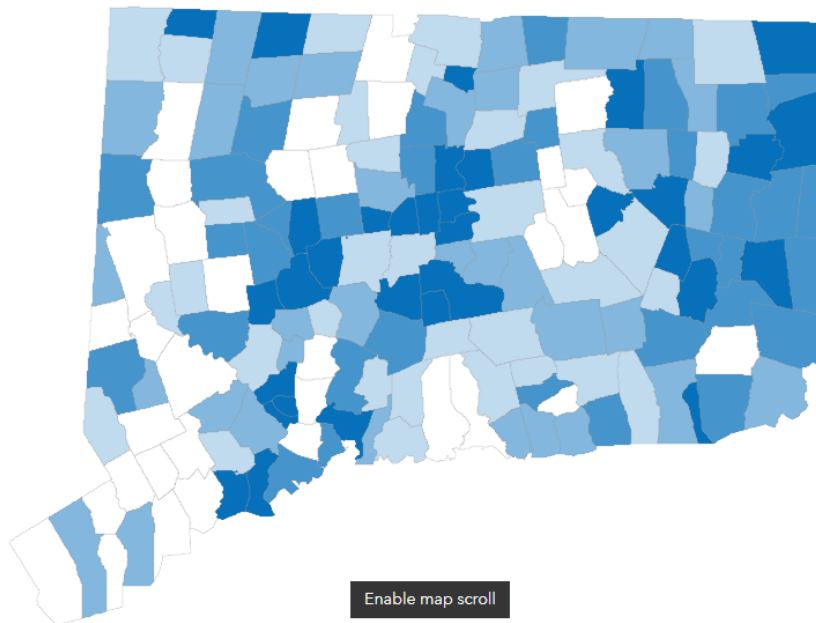
Search Sign In

Connecticut Broadband Mapping Hub About Our Partners Research Data Library CBAM

Over 300,000 households in Connecticut do not have a high-speed internet subscription*

Use the map to the right to check broadband subscription rates in your town to check [ACS 2020](#) estimates.

*Broadband through mediums such as DSL, cable or fiber rather than satellite or wireless



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Connecticut Broadband Mapping Hub

This website is maintained by the GIS Office in the Office of Policy and Management as a resource to provide transparency in the State of Connecticut's efforts to promote universal broadband access and provide access curated data sources on broadband access and adoption.



Internet for All Initiative

Biden-Harris Administration



Goal: High-Speed Internet for All

How: Planning
Infrastructure
Adoption

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

Digital Equity Act Programs

Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program

Affordable Connectivity Program

Capital Projects Fund

ReConnect Loan and Grant Program

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

Broadband Infrastructure Program

Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program

Capital Projects Fund

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Purpose:

To enable (especially remote) work, education, and health monitoring in response to COVID-19.

Total Funding:

Connecticut was allocated \$141,932,612 from the CPF and has set aside >\$100M for broadband-related initiatives.

Timeline:

A Program Plan has been submitted to Treasury and is in the review process.



Often confused with the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Program

Connecticut Broadband Infrastructure Program

Funded by the ARPA Capital Projects Fund

Total Funding: \$42.9M

Purpose: To fund construction and deployment of broadband infrastructure designed to deliver service that supports the goal of universal access to affordable, resilient, and reliable broadband.

Objective: To invest in low-income/multi-family curb-to-home and business broadband infrastructure buildout and underserved area broadband infrastructure grants.

Application period is estimated to open late 2022.

All funds must be expended by the end of 2026.

Grant Type: Competitive

Match: TBD

Program Priorities:

- 100 Mbps/100Mbps (preference for 1 Gbps/100 Mbps)
- Underserved areas, particularly in Distressed Municipalities
- Fiber-optic infrastructure
- Open infrastructure
- Affordability
- Alternate provider arrangements

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program

Funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (“Infrastructure Bill”)

Total Funding: \$100M+

Purpose: To provide federal funding for broadband planning, deployment, mapping, equity, and adoption activities.

Objective: BEAD prioritizes

1. Unserved locations (<25 Mbps/3 Mbps)
2. Underserved locations (<100 Mbps/20 Mbps)
3. Community anchor institutions (<1 Gbps/1 Gbps)

Grant Type: Competitive

Match: $\geq 25\%$

Program Priorities:

- End-to-end fiber
- Alternate service providers
- Open access
- Affordability
- Fair labor practices
- Speed to deployment
- Equitable workforce development and job quality
- Local coordination

Key Themes and Program Priorities

- Universal coverage
- Community engagement
- Affordability
- Open access networks
- Reliability and resiliency
- Preference for fiber
- Alternate provider arrangements
(broadband networks owned, operated by or affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and co-operatives)



Broadband Infrastructure RFI

Governor Lamont's Goal:

Serve all unserved and underserved locations in Connecticut with affordable, reliable, and resilient high-speed internet

Important Dates:

7/26 – RFI questions due

8/5 – DEEP posts responses

8/26 – RFI comments due

Send all comments and questions to deep.broadband@ct.gov



Acronyms

FCC	Federal Communications Commission
IJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
BEAD	Broadband, Equity, and Access Deployment (Program)
ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act
CPF	Capital Projects Fund
RFI	Request for Information

Resources

DEEP Broadband RFI

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/energy/broadband-rfi>

CT Mapping Hub

<https://broadbandmaps.ct.gov/>

Internet for All Initiative

<https://www.internetforall.gov/>

BroadbandUSA

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/>

Affordable Connectivity Program

<https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>

DEEP Grants and Financial Assistance

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Business-and-Financial-Assistance/Grants-Financial-Assistance/Grants-and-Financial-Assistance>

Public Act No. 21-159 "Broadband Bill"

<https://cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00159-R00HB-06442-PA.PDF>

Public Comments

A few notes:

- Please use the chat function or click the "raise hand" button in the "participants" tab.
- We will get to as many people as time allows. If we don't get to you, or are unable to respond today, email your questions and comments to deep.broadband@ct.gov.
- Please stay muted until called upon.
- All RFI questions must be submitted by 7/26. Summary responses will be posted by 8/5.

We ask that you limit your comments to 3 minutes and will provide a 30-second warning on screen. Commenters exceeding 3 minutes will receive a verbal reminder to wrap up and are encouraged to submit their comment in writing. DEEP reserves the right to mute commenters not respecting this limit.

30 Seconds