Broadband and Counties

HIGH SPEED NV

Brian Mitchell- Director

Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

NACO Conference 09/28/2022

OSIT Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Broadband Vision:

Universal Access to broadband that is

- ❑ Affordable
- ❑ Reliable
- ❑ Scalable

How we get there:

- ❑ Collaboration and Partnerships
- ❑ Efficient use of funds
- ❑ Long-term Investments

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Digital Equity

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

NTIA Digital Equity Act Programs

Funding pool
$2.75B

Three programs that provide funding to promote digital inclusion and advance equity for all. They aim to ensure that all communities can access and use affordable, reliable high-speed internet to meet their needs and improve their lives.

PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

The Digital Equity Act created three programs:

State Planning
- $60M formula funding program to develop digital equity plans

State Capacity
- $1.44B formula funding program to implement plans & promote digital inclusion

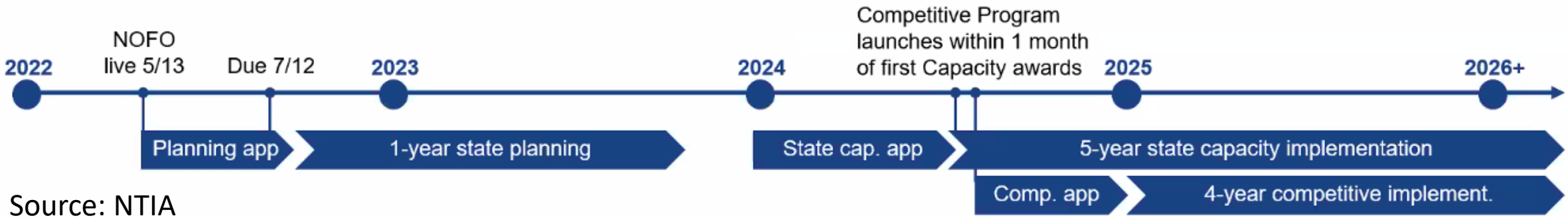
Competitive
- $1.25B to implement digital equity and inclusion activities

Example eligible uses of funds across three programs include:

- Developing digital equity plans; states must develop a plan to be eligible for state capacity grants
- Making awards to other entities to help make digital equity plans
- Improving accessibility and inclusivity of public resources
- Implementing digital equity plans and related activities
- Providing digital literacy and digital skills education
- Facilitating the adoption of high-speed Internet

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Timeline approximate unless exact date specified



Source: NTIA

Digital Equity Act Planning Program

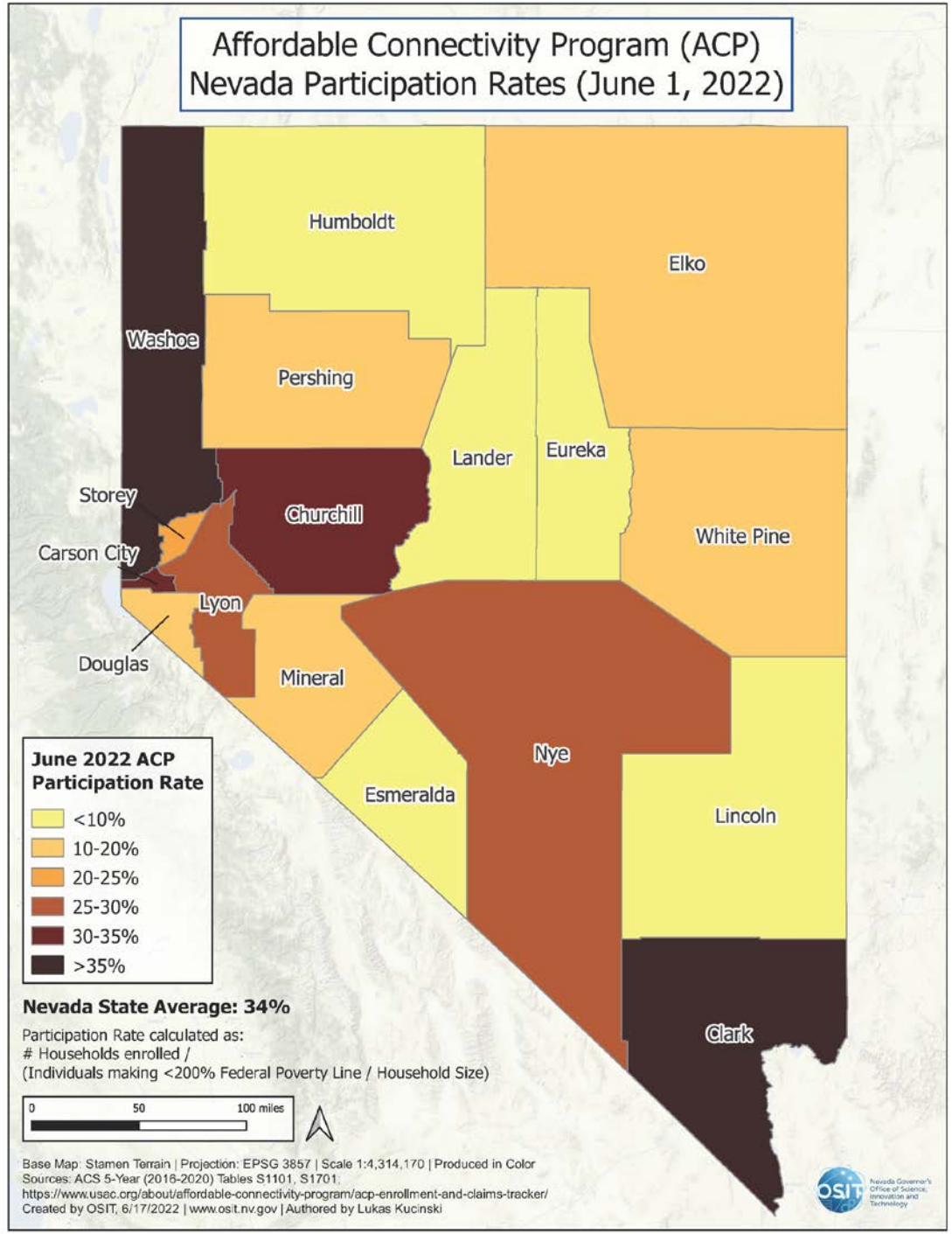
Statewide Digital Equity Plan - $754,459 – September

- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Data Collection and Analysis

State Capacity Grant Program - $ TBD

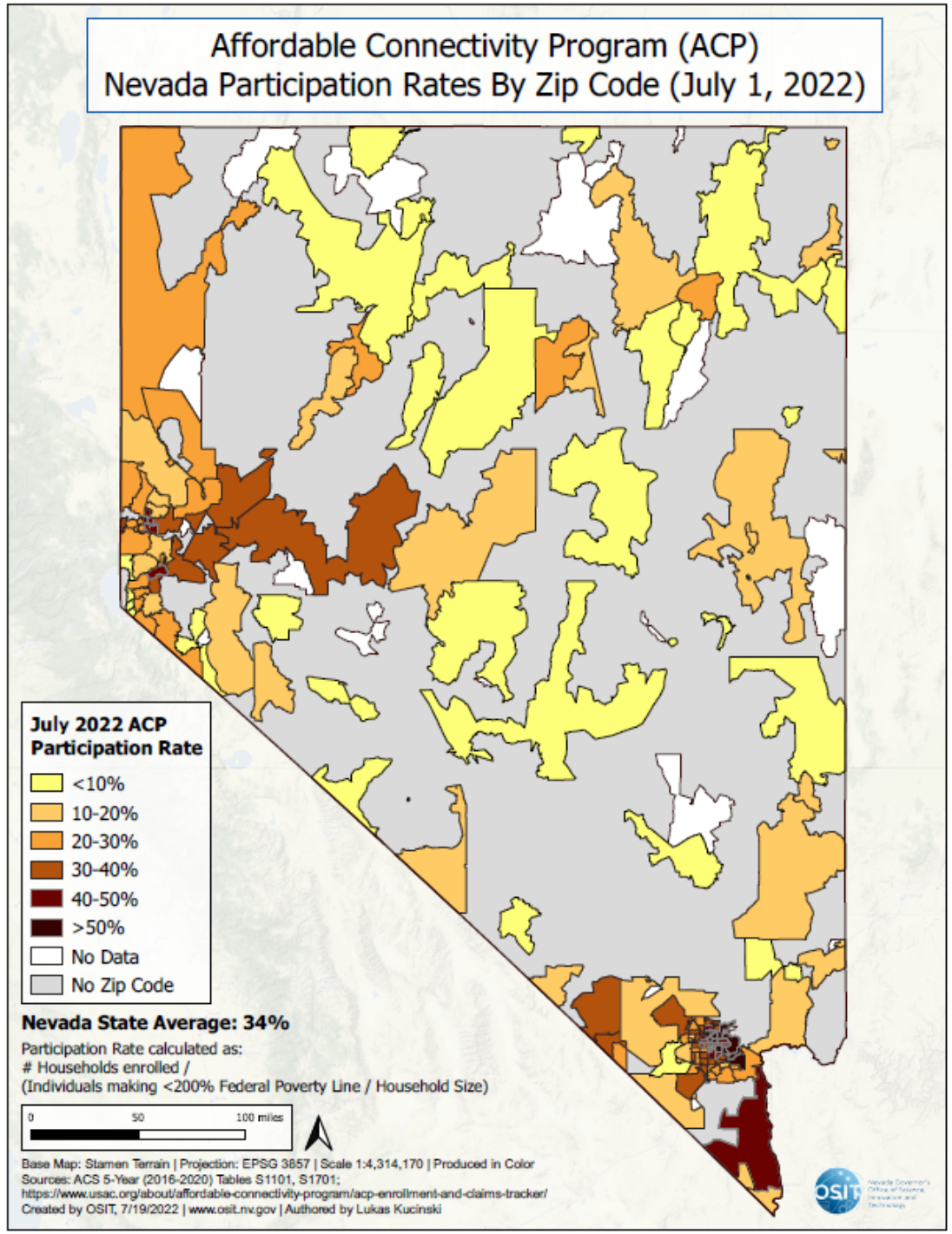
- Funding decisions must be based on the Statewide Digital Equity Plan
- Invest in Building Capacity of Local Programs
- Potential Examples: Libraries, Senior Centers, Community Centers, Non-Profits, Digital Navigators, etc.

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology



Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
Nevada Participation Rates By Zip Code (July 1, 2022)

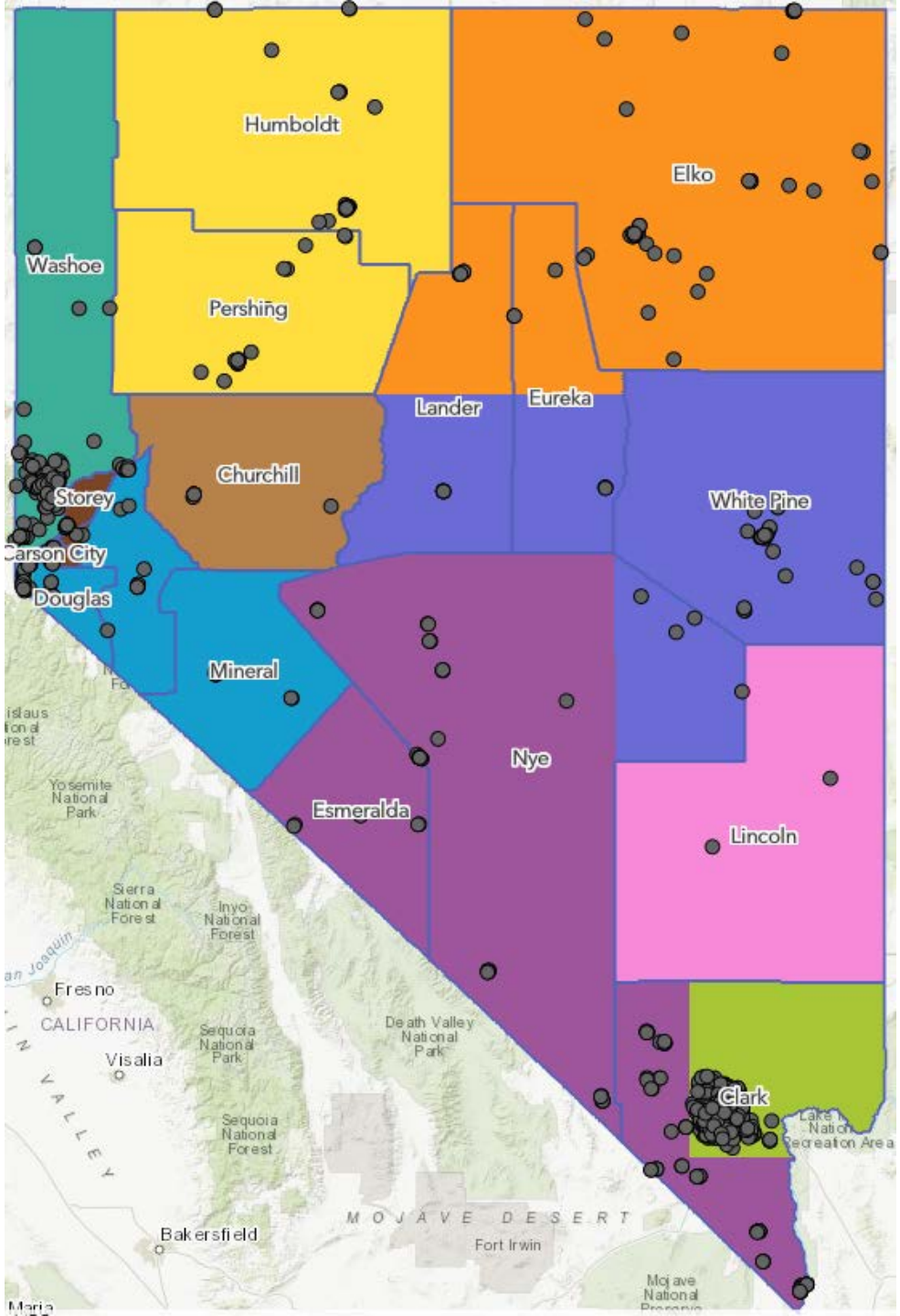


Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Phase I

Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Broadband

Map of State/Local Facility Locations



Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Phase II

Use of IIJA BEAD Funds for Broadband

HIGH SPEED NV

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)- BEAD Fund

$42.5 Billion

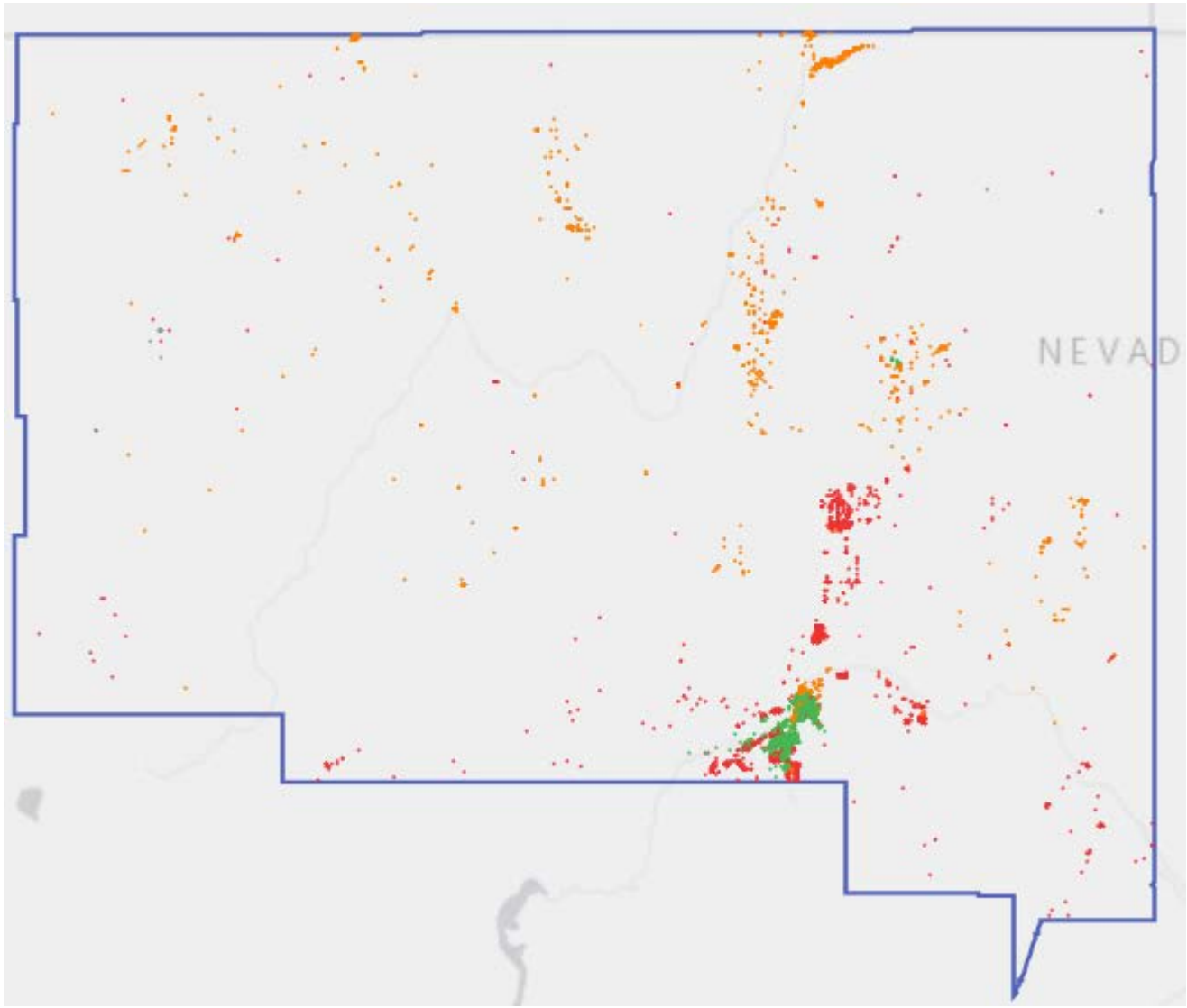
Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Humboldt County

Phase II

Broadband Serviceable Locations

https://osit.nv.gov/Broadband/Maps/

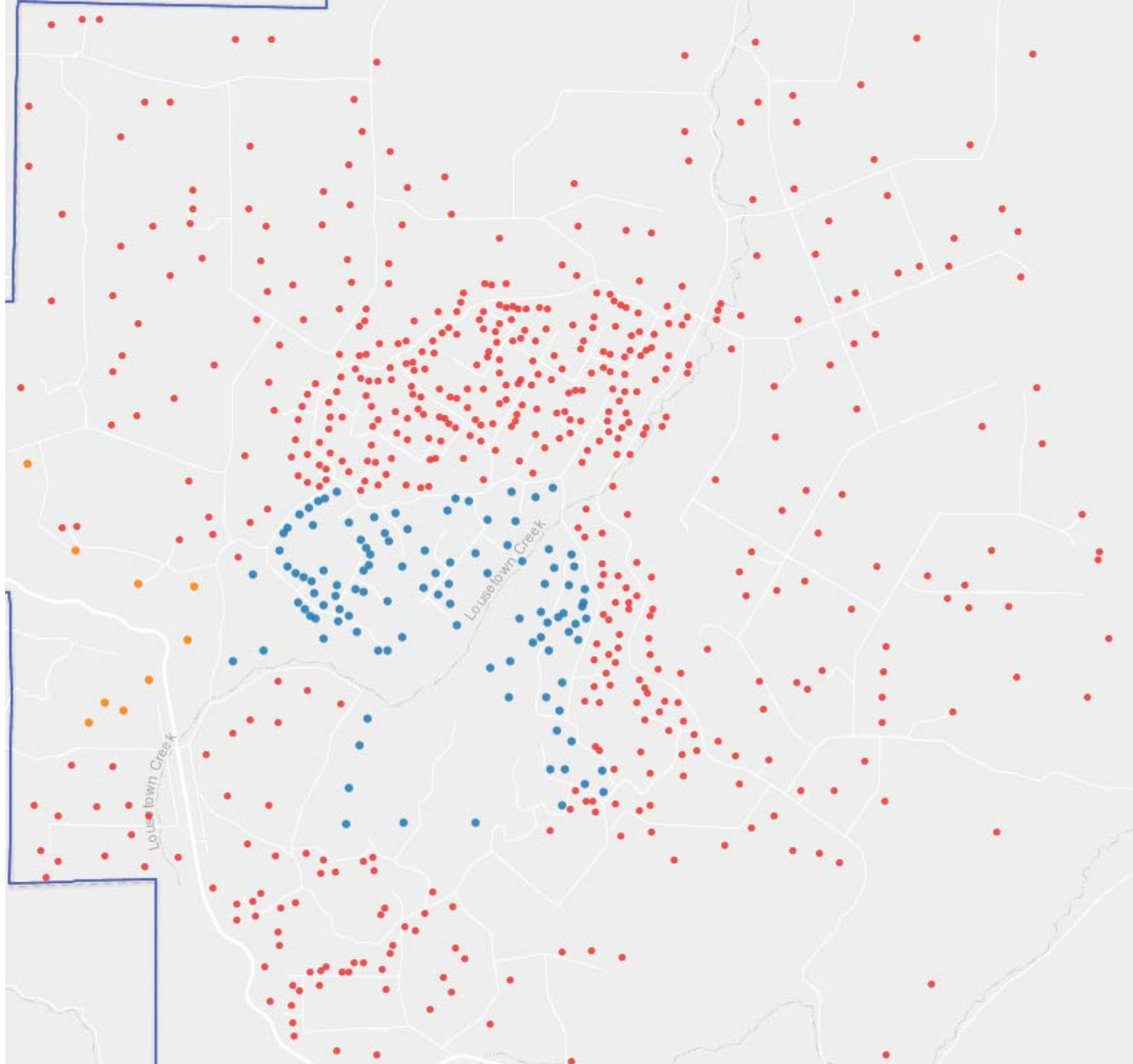


Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology



Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology

BEAD Application and Award Process

- Eligible Applicants:
  - A "Covered Partnership" defined as a local government/private provider partnership.
  - Local Government could submit multiple applications with multiple different provider partners
- Local Government Takes Lead and Defines Priority Areas, Selects Service Provider Partner, Submits Application to OSIT
  - 25% match required

County Broadband Action Team Role

1. **Identify Needs:** Identify community needs for broadband infrastructure and affordability programming with an eye towards Universal Access, validate the map and ensure accuracy

2. **Prioritize:** Create a list of priorities based on the needs identified

3. **Identify Provider Partner:** Solicit partnerships to meet priorities from service providers in a fair, open, competitive, neutral manner

4. **Jointly Respond to OSIT's BEAD RFP:** Develop infrastructure and digital equity proposals together with service provider partner(s) that align to the State Connectivity Strategy and the federal funding requirements

State Role

1. Engage communities throughout the state
2. Build local capacity and provide tools
3. Define a State grant plan with objective priorities, specifically identified projects, and an awards process, based on federal rules
4. Seek federal approval for local projects
5. Distribute funds and assist with project implementation

Areas for Collaboration

- Digital Equity
  - State Digital Equity Plan- Point of Contact
  - Affordable Connectivity Program Awareness

- Infrastructure
  - Help us Validate the Map
  - Identify Priorities
  - Competitively Identify Provider Partner
  - Submit Application to OSIT

Brian Mitchell
Director- OSIT
blmitchell@gov.nv.gov