

A man with a beard, wearing a grey sweater, is shown in profile from the back, looking towards the right. He is standing in front of a city skyline at night, with several skyscrapers illuminated. A blue, glowing network of lines and nodes is overlaid on the scene, connecting various points across the man's back and the city. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greys.

ALLEGAN COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT

A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CONNECT THE COUNTY



WE HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN!

Existing Providers

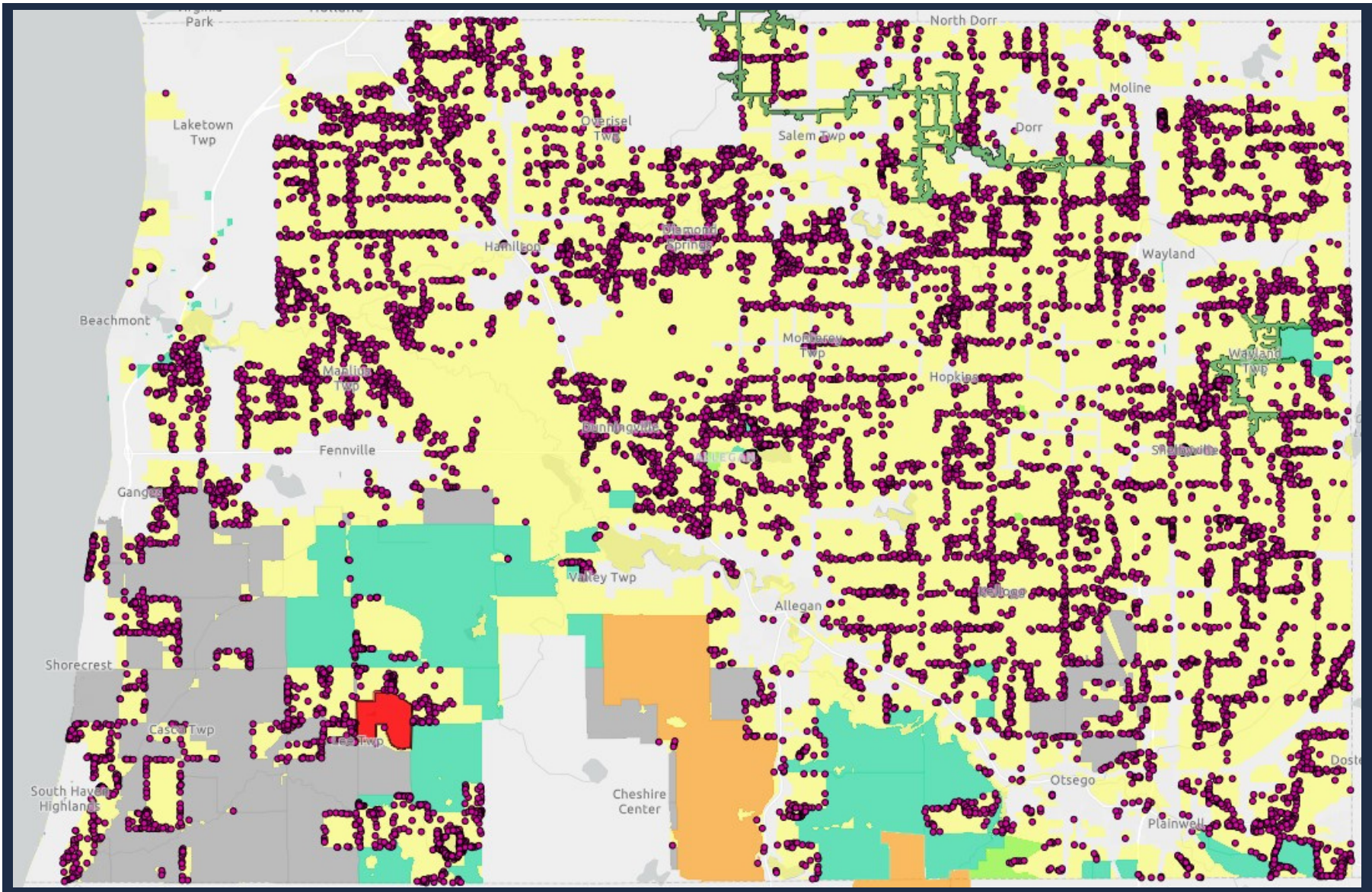
Acentek
AT&T
Barry County Telephone
Bloomingdale Communications
Comcast Xfinity
Spectrum Charter
Great Lakes Energy
Michwave
Surf Air/Broadband

New Providers

Mercury Broadband
Midwest Energy & Communications
123Net



THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



123Net (11,972)

Pullman (763)

Bloomingdale Comm (616)

Truststream (937)



Mercury Broadband (1,218)

Midwest Energy & Comm. (2,274)

Charter Spectrum (80)



Total Project Cost

\$70,860,858.02

\$17,715,215 - 123Net Investment

\$17,715,215 - AC ARPA Funds

\$35,430,429 - Add'l Funding

ROBIN & BEAD

ROBIN

Realizing Opportunities with Broadband Infrastructure Networks

State American Rescue Plan Act funding appropriated in March 2022 that is being administered by the Michigan High-Speed Internet office. Available funds - \$238 million.

Grant application submitted: March 12

Preliminary awards expected: June 9


Challenge Period (45 days): Late July

Final grant awards: By Labor Day (hopefully!)

BEAD

Broadband Equity Access & Deployment

Federal program funding from the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act. \$42.6 billion being administered by the NTIA (National Telecommunications & Information Administration.) Michigan is expected to receive \$1.6 to 1.8 billion.



PROJECT FUNDING



11,792 ADDRESSES



Funding

We expect to get the remaining funding through ROBIN and/or BEAD.



Detailed design

The county is divided into 8 zones. Decisions about where to start and construction schedule in June.



Permits and materials

123Net has an experienced permitting and procurement team to prepare for construction.



Construction

Trenching, boring or aerial placement of fiber, along with handholes to connect homes to the backbone.



123NET IMPLEMENTATION



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.

The benefit provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

ACP: WHO IS ELIGIBLE?



A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Participates in any of the following assistance programs: SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in any of the following Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based);
- Participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income internet program.

ACP: HOW DO I ENROLL?



STEP ONE

Go to **AffordableConnectivity.gov** to submit an application or print a mail-in application

STEP TWO

Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.



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www.allegancounty.org/broadband

I work on behalf of the residents and businesses of Allegan County to support everyone being connected. Email is preferred, but I am happy to have phone conversations!

