



California
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

Middle-Mile Advisory Committee Meeting

February 18, 2022

AGENDA

Item	Topic	Presenter(s)	Time
1	Welcome / Opening Comments	Russ Nichols, Chair	5 minutes
2	Executive Report Out	Mark Monroe, Deputy Director, MMBI	5 minutes
3	Project Approach Update	• California Department of Technology - Update • Third Party Administrator – Update • California Public Utilities Commission – Update • California Department of Transportation – Update	45 minutes
4	Public Comment	• Public	30 minutes

Executive Report Out

Executive Report Out

Program Update

- CDT is moving forward with a competitive procurement of 3,000 miles of fiber and related materials by the first week in March.
- CDT has begun meeting with CPUC and CASF grant recipients on conditional grant approvals to evaluate consistency with the State's middle-mile network.

CDT

CDT Update

- CDT has asked Caltrans to add broadband infrastructure to more than a dozen existing transportation projects that will be in construction by June of this year.
- CDT has asked Caltrans to assess the addition of fiber to another 80+ transportation projects that are currently in the preconstruction phase.
- CDT has asked Caltrans to begin identifying and planning for mitigation of the segments of the project with the greatest environmental and utility complexities.
- CDT will deliver the SB 156 status report to the Legislature due in March.

The Power of Engagement

Broadband for All, including the **Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative**, is marshalling government, community and industry to close the digital divide. Coordinated engagement of external stakeholders supports this by:

- **Streamlining knowledge-sharing and communication** across key partners;
- **Ensuring Last Mile connectivity** to catalyze opportunities in health, education, economic development, and more for unserved and underserved communities;
- **Expanding and deepening relationships** through bi-directional engagement with partners across the state, especially those rooted in unserved and underserved communities; and
- **Demonstrating to Californians** that the state is meeting their communities' needs.

External Stakeholder Categories

- ❑ Advisory/Governing Bodies
- ❑ State Legislative Actors
- ❑ Potential Network Customers
- ❑ Regional Planning Organizations
- ❑ Tribal Governments
- ❑ Local Governments
- ❑ Educational Institutions
- ❑ Libraries and other Civic Institutions
- ❑ Non-Governmental Organizations
- ❑ Labor Organizations
- ❑ Workforce Development Boards
- ❑ Business Organizations
- ❑ Other Industry Partners

External Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Key Principles	Five Core Elements
1. Equity, access, inclusion, and ease of engagement.	1. Ongoing engagement with governing and advisory bodies through pre-existing mechanisms.
2. Meaningful and bi-directional .	2. Regular briefing of state legislators , staff and other state legislative actors as appropriate.
3. Broaden Californians' awareness and understanding of state broadband equity efforts.	3. Quarterly Broadband for All Summits and other convenings to engage the public (local and community stakeholders) on Broadband for All and Middle Mile developments.
	4. Coordinated engagement with Last Mile stakeholders' to support planning and implementation, funding and technical assistance.
	5. Aligned public communications on progress on MMBI and Broadband for All.
	Final plan by March 11 .

Third Party Administrator

Third Party Administrator Update

- Specific route designs for 18 Initial Projects recommended to CDT on January 31st :
 - Submitted Decision Packages with thorough narratives, technical analysis, mapping, and mode of development for each project (new build, DF, joint build)
 - These comprise about 1/4 of total mileage and 1/4 of total budget projected for this statewide Middle Mile program.
 - Majority are new-build construction for CPUC-recommended locations; 2 are joint builds with other open access networks; 2 are dark fiber only.
- Continued progress on Dark Fiber IRU negotiations where DF is feasible and recommended, for both the first 18 projects and long-haul core routes of MM network.
- Advancing discussions for several Regional Exchange Points to be colocated in existing provider facilities for Last Mile access into Middle Mile.
- Selection-Recommendation process for remaining middle-mile locations is advancing. Recommendations for these will be made to CDT in approximately one month.

CPUC

2021 Broadband Investments – *Background CPUC Responsibilities*

Middle-Mile Locations

- Identify routes and priority areas using public process.
- Report mapping and analysis to the California Department of Technology for use in program implementation and project development.

Last-Mile Initiative

- \$2 billion total
- Implemented through the California Advanced Service Fund (CASF) Federal Funding Account.
- Funding available for awards to applicants with broadband last-mile infrastructure projects.

Supporting Programs

- **California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)**
 - ~\$66 million current authorized amount*
 - Purpose: assist with broadband infrastructure deployment and adoption in public housing, tribes, and unserved areas.
- **Loan Loss Reserve**
 - \$750 million total
 - Purpose: enable local governments and nonprofits to secure financing for broadband infrastructure.
- **Technical Assistance**
 - \$50 million total**
 - Purpose: Help prepare local governments and tribes for broadband infrastructure investments.

* May be increased pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 281(d)(4)

** Included in \$2 billion Last-Mile Initiative

CPUC Role — *Middle-Mile Mapping: Public Input*

- Over 100 organizations commented
- ~60 formal, 30+ informal public comments received
- 30+ comments for local entities (cities, counties, council of governments, local consortia and school districts)
- ~20 telecommunications providers (ISPs, middle-middle only providers, trade organizations representing cable and wireless industries)
- 20+ community-based organizations and non-profits

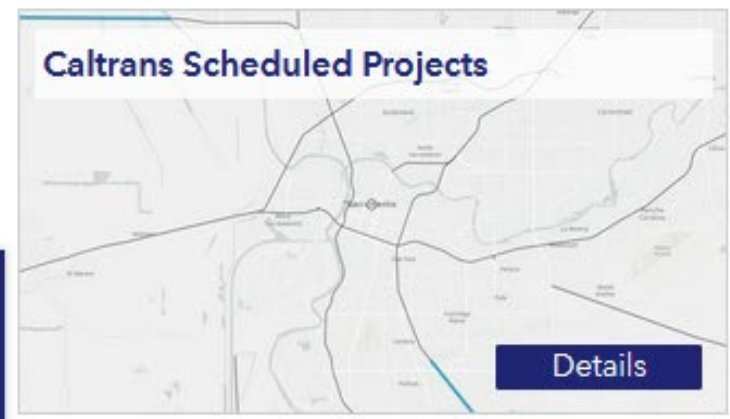
Interactive Middle-Mile Map – *Example: Nevada County*

About Data & Analysis Resources MMAC Meetings Public Comment



Details

Caltrans Scheduled Projects



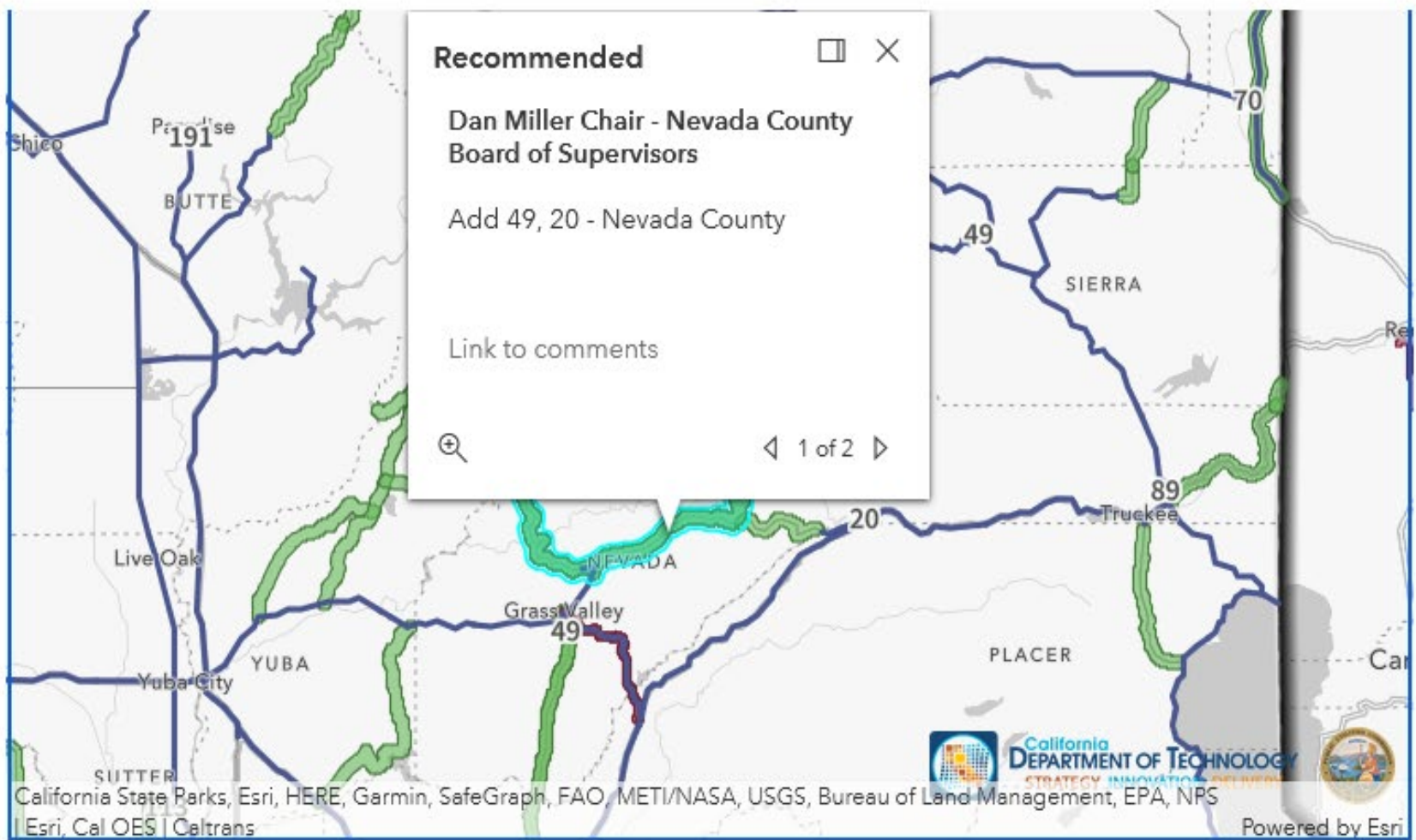
Details

Public Comments

Public Comments on Preliminary Middle-Mile Map



Details



Recommended

Dan Miller Chair - Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Add 49, 20 - Nevada County

[Link to comments](#)

1 of 2

California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS
Esri, Cal OES | Caltrans

California DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY
STRATEGY INNOVATION & IMPROVEMENT

Powered by Esri

CPUC Role – *Middle-Mile Data & Analysis*

Statutory Mapping Criteria – Analysis & Prioritization

Analysis Govt Code 11549.54(b)

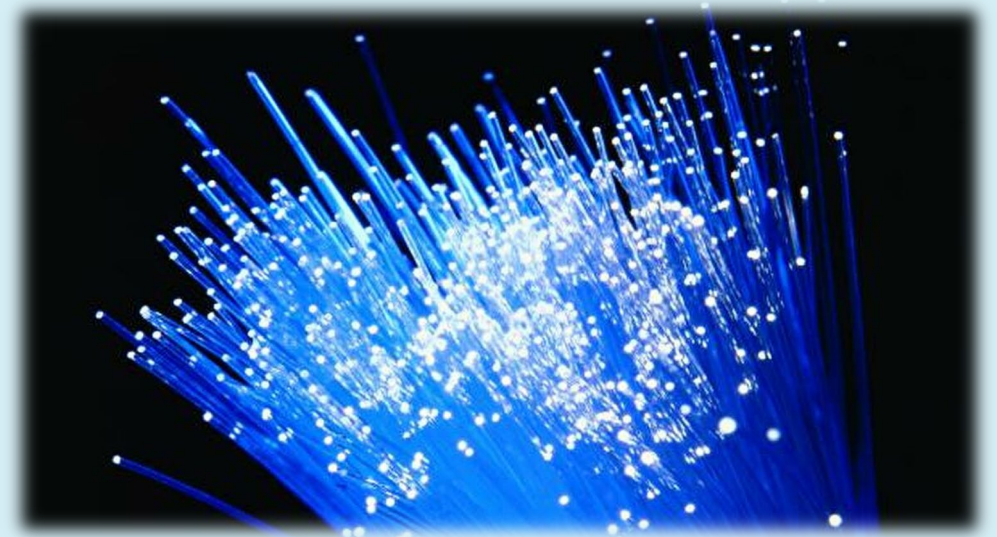
1. “identify statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network locations that will enable last-mile service connections” *and*
2. “in communities where there is no known middle-mile infrastructure that is open access” *and*
3. “with sufficient capacity” *and*
4. “at affordable rates”

Prioritization Govt Code 11549.54(c) and (d)

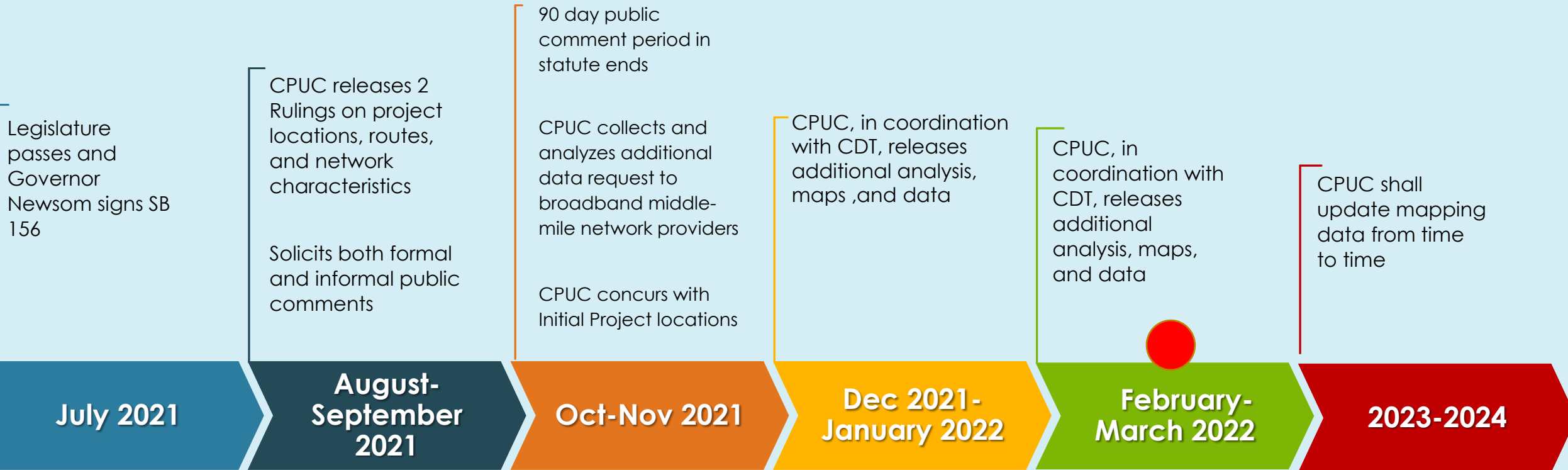
“The commission shall identify priority statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network locations, including”:

1. “areas that can be built expeditiously”
2. “areas with no known middle-mile network access”
3. “regions underserved by middle-mile networks”
4. “regions without sufficient capacity to meet future middle-mile needs”
5. “locations that enable last-mile connections to residences unserved by 25 mbps downstream and 3 mbps upstream”
6. “may also include entities that lack sufficient high-bandwidth connections, including, but not limited to” anchor institutions, fairgrounds, and Tribal lands

Note Govt Code 11549.54(e), prioritized highways, is separate from the CPUC staff report to CDT



CPUC Role – *Middle-Mile Location Development Timeline*



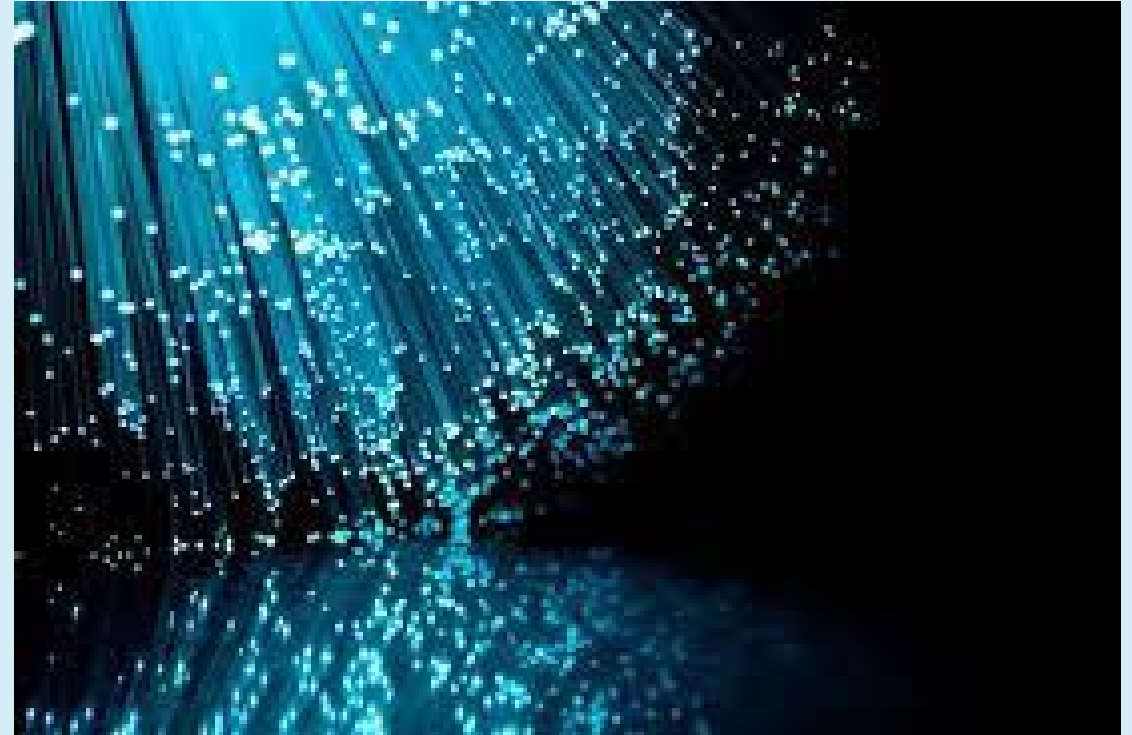
CPUC Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Proceeding (R. 20-09-001)

- Formal public process and venue for developing and updating middle-mile mapping analysis and data
- Also serves as the public forum for developing rules for the last-mile program.

Caltrans

Caltrans Update

- **Preconstruction Work:**
 - Environmental clearance
 - Biological and cultural surveys
 - Subsurface utilities investigations
 - Utility location
 - Project design
 - Placement of conduit and vaults
 - Installation method
 - Field Reviews



Caltrans Update

Engagement with Resource Agencies



- Strategic Meeting with Environmental Resource Agencies
- Collaboration meetings with each resource agency to streamline and find opportunities for “programmatic” permitting
- Shared understanding of MMBI and prepare resource agencies for increase in permit requests

Thank You