

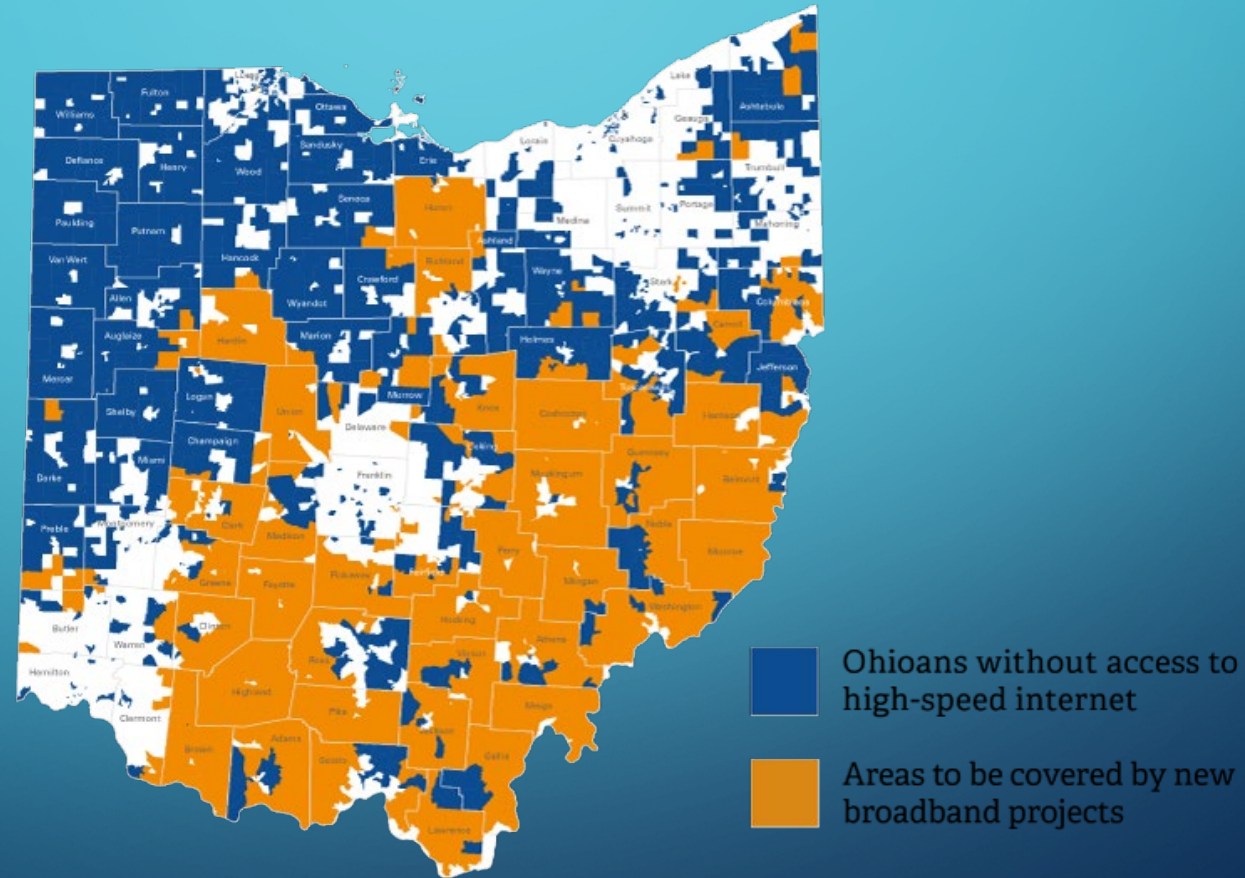
A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a network of light blue lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a stylized tree structure, set against a blue gradient background.

OHIO BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY

WHERE WE STARTED

- December 2019- InnovateOhio releases a comprehensive plan to expand broadband access across the state of Ohio called the Ohio Broadband Strategy.
- March 2020- Governor DeWine announces the creation of BroadbandOhio.

OHIO RESIDENTIAL BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT



BROADBAND EQUITY ACCESS AND DEPLOYMENT

- The Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program was created as part of the IIJA in November of 2021
- The program was allocated 42.3 billion dollars for broadband expansion and digital equity across the country.
- Each state has now been allocated a portion of this funding based on a formula allocation using unserved and underserved locations in each state.

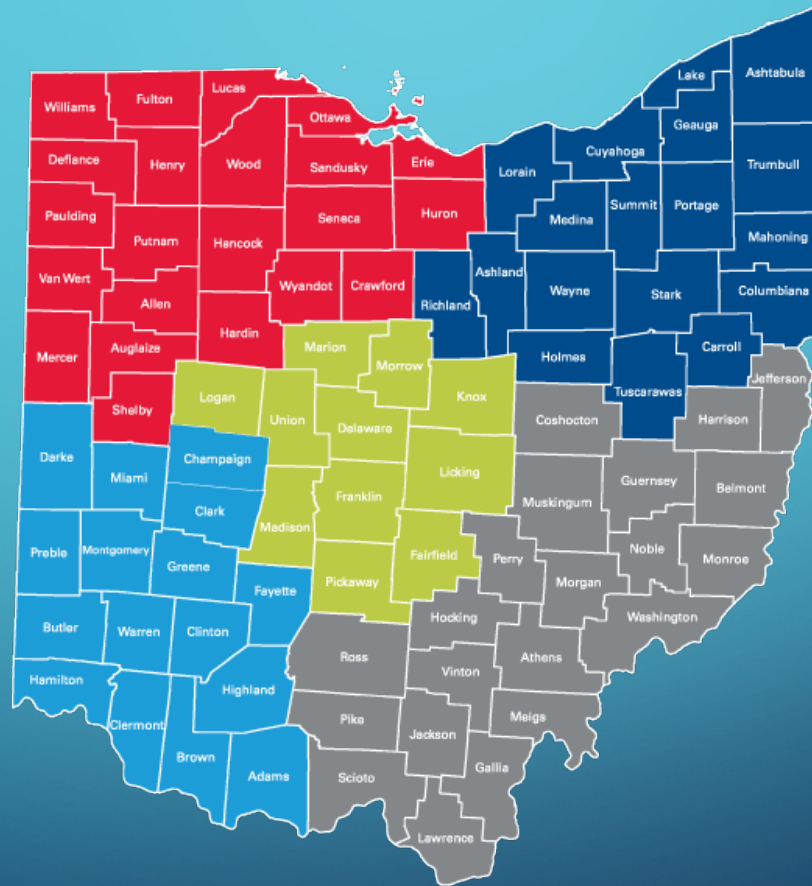
OHIO'S BEAD PROCESS

- The state of Ohio was allocated 793 million dollars this past June.
- Funds released through the BEAD program will be disbursed to “unserved” and “underserved” communities using the Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant process.

PREPARING FOR BEAD

- Changes to eligible locations
- BEAD Initial Proposal Volume I and II
- High Cost Area Designations

DIGITAL EQUITY EFFORTS



HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

- Advocate
- Organize a local coalition
- Educate stakeholders
- Establish relationships
- Stay Informed

The background is a blue gradient. In the corners, there are white line-art illustrations of circuit boards or neural networks, with lines and small circles representing components.

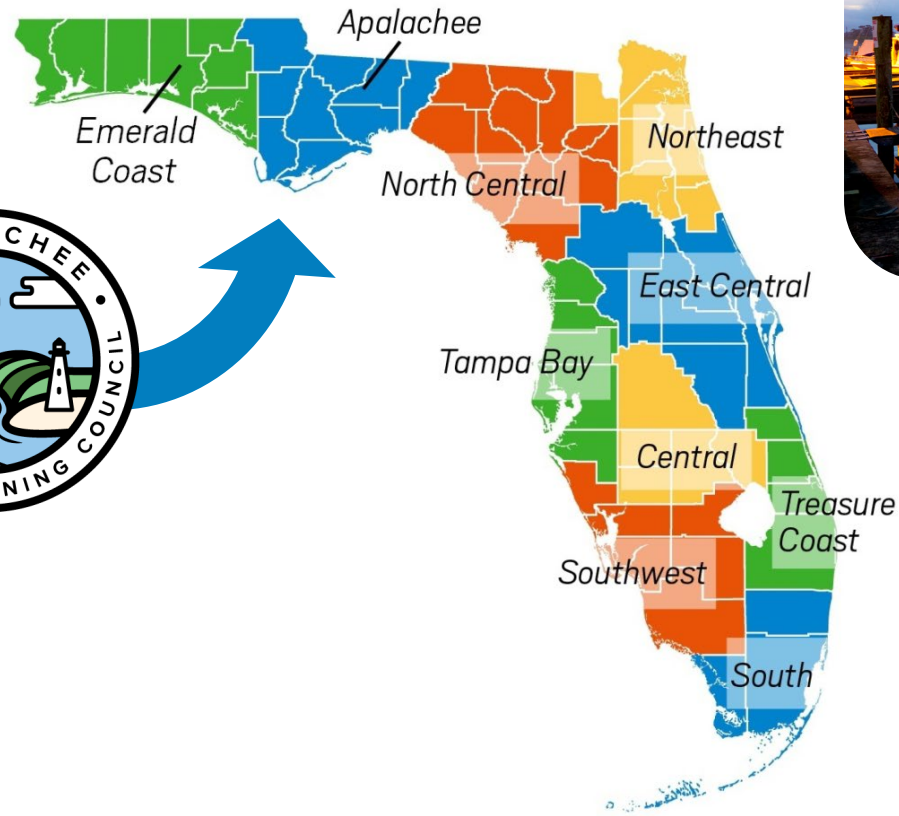
QUESTIONS?

BROADBAND IN RURAL FLORIDA



Apalachee Regional
Planning Council
NADO ATC 2023

WHERE WE WORK





RECENT PROJECTS & KEY EFFORTS

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

- Broadband feasibility studies
- Regional broadband plan and dashboard
- Regional / local technology planning team support
- ISP conversations
- State Office of Broadband
- Applications for grants and state appropriation



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024 (AND BEYOND)





OUR NEXT STEPS

**DASHBOARD
ADOPTION AS TOOL**

**SATELLITE STATE
APPROPRIATION**

**BROADBAND STAFF
EXPANSION VIA GRANTS**

KEEPING AN EYE ON ACP

Q&A / THANK YOU

