

MENDOCINO COUNTY DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN: 2019-2025



Prepared for the County of Mendocino by



***DEVELOP THE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE
NECESSARY TO HAVE AVAILABLE AND
AFFORDABLE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS
FOR 98% OF HOUSEHOLDS IN MENDOCINO
COUNTY BY 2025.***

- High Speed is 100 mbps download speed and 20 mbps upload speed
- Affordable is approximately \$70/month

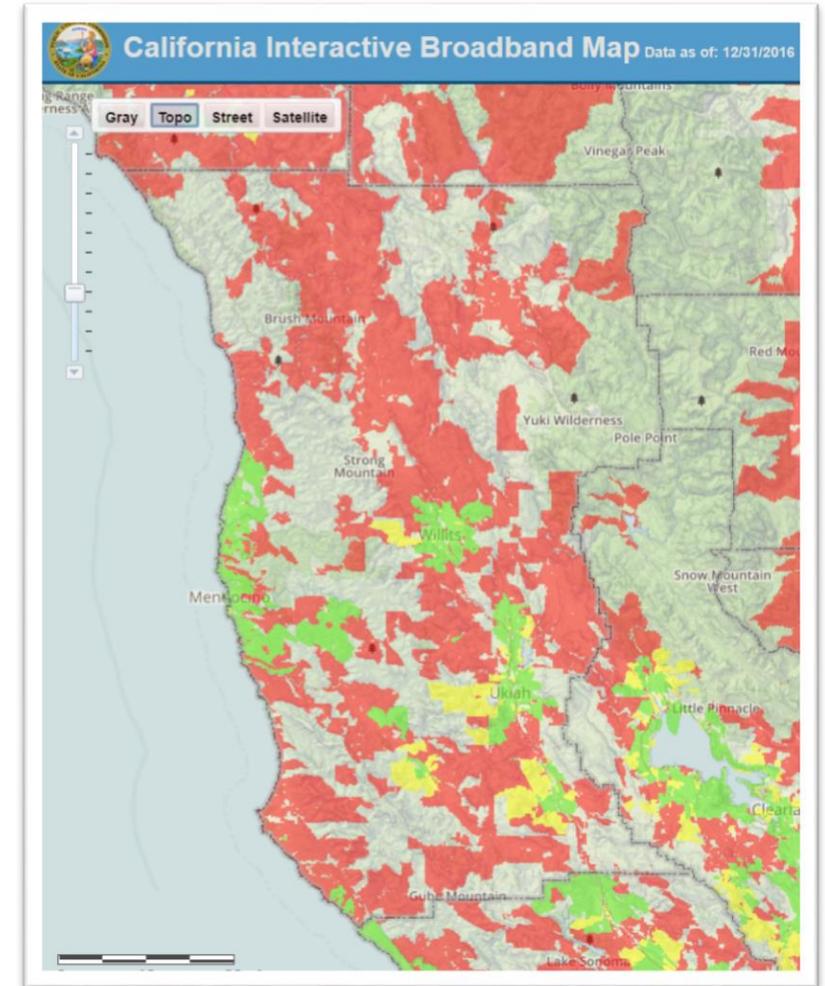
California Public Utilities Commission High Speed Availability Data 2015-2018 in Mendocino County



	% HH Served
2015	66%
2016	79%
2017	80%
2018	73%

Reality?

- # of households is based on 2010 Decennial Census
- By census block groups: 1 house served = whole block group
- WISPs are not reporting but serve an estimated 3,000 households in Mendocino County



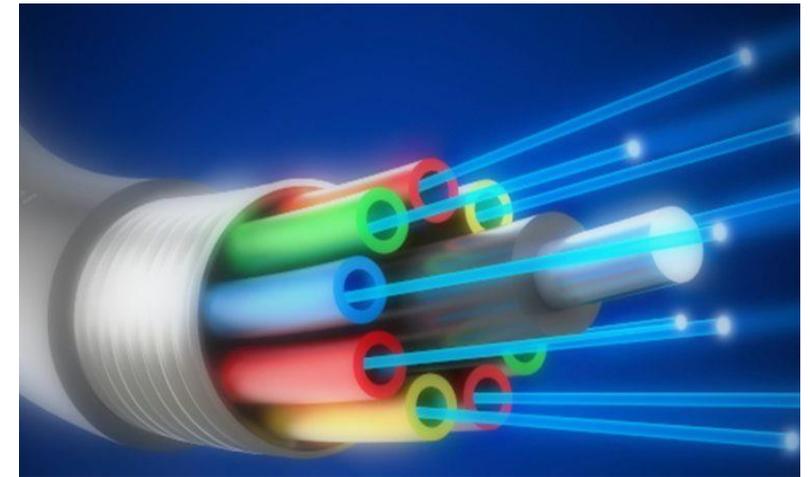
SWOT Analysis: Strengths & Weaknesses

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local government leadership• Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County• Wireless Internet Service (WISPS) & Local Providers• Existing partnerships and consortiums• CPUC grant support• Existing dark fiber	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Terrain and geology• Population density and market size• Economic capacity• Lack of equity in access• Socio-cultural context• Playing catch up• Lack of “lit” fiber and high cost of backhaul• Dead zones in the cellular network• Technology challenged households• Lack of resilience and outdated infrastructure

SWOT Analysis – Opportunities & Threats

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● “Dig Once” policies● Collaboration between WISPS● Statewide partnerships and initiatives● Telecommuters and overpopulation in nearby urban areas● Government and private grant funding● Public-Private-Partnerships● Employment training programs and rural technology education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Outside control of Mendocino County’s digital infrastructure● Power and influence of big telecommunication companies on national and state policies● Fires and natural disasters● Aging Infrastructure and deferred maintenance

Objective: Develop Projects To Deploy Fiber-based And Fixed Wireless Technology To Remote And Rural Areas Of Mendocino County.



Objective: Create Policies At The Local Government Level That Support Improving The Network



Objective: Develop Programs To Improve Equity And Inclusiveness



Photo by Further Reach



Photo by Further Reach

Objective: Develop Projects That Improve Resiliency And Redundancy In Digital Infrastructure Systems



Photo by Mendocino Sports Plus, Paul McCarthy



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Implementation

- Priority Areas
- Low Hanging Fruit & short-term projects
- Long-range project development



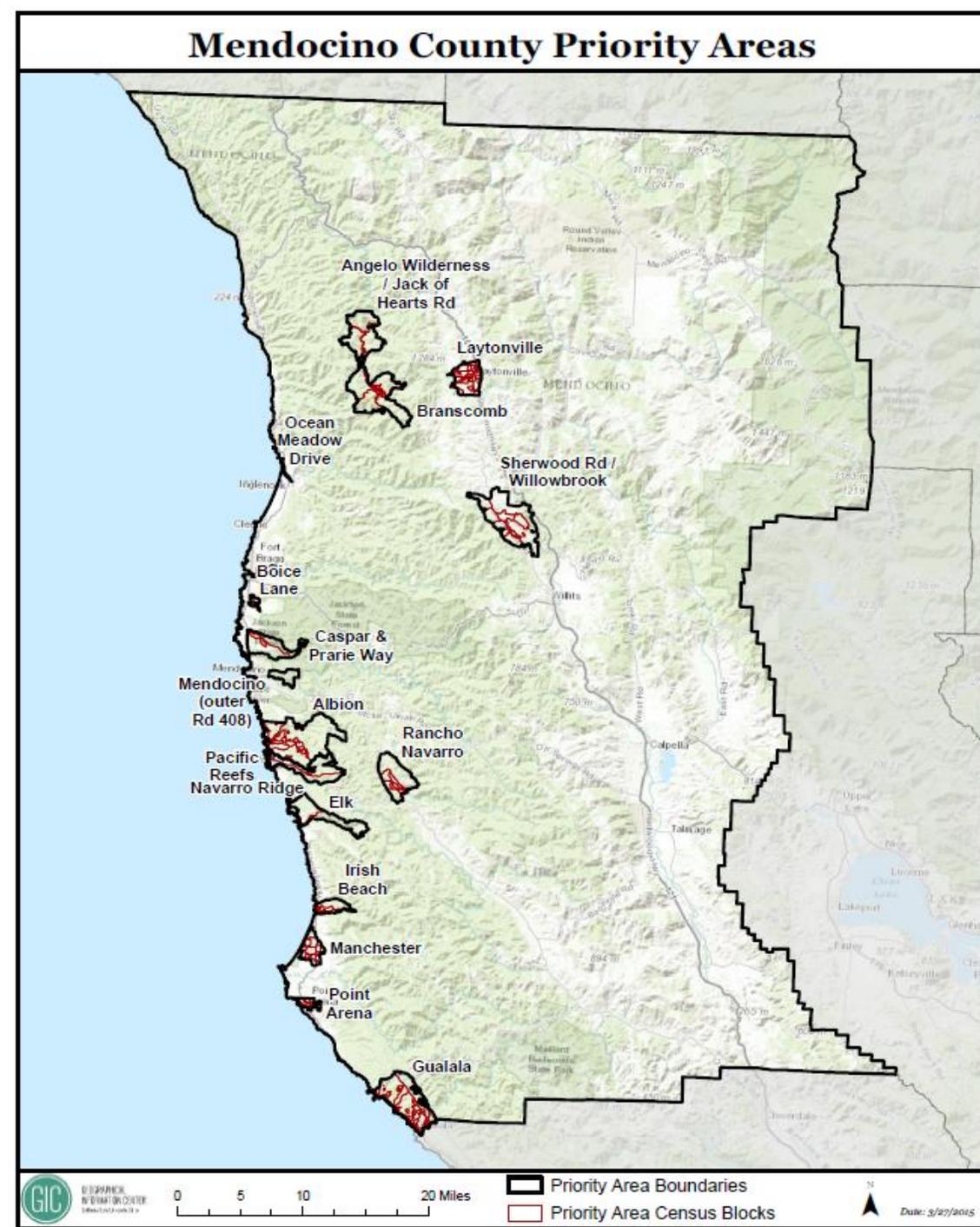
Photo by Further Reach, Denovo



Photo by Further Reach, Denovo

2015 Priority Areas

- Angelo Wilderness/Jack of Hearts Road and Branscomb Road west of Laytonville
- Laytonville
- Ocean Meadow Drive (north of Inglenook)
- Brooktrails: Sherwood Road and Willow Brook (north of Willits)
- Boice Lane (south of Fort Bragg)
- Caspar and Prairie Way
- Road 408 in Mendocino
- Pacific Reefs and Navarro Ridge Road
- ✓ Rancho Navarro
- ✓ Elk
- ✓ Irish Beach
- ✓ Manchester
- ✓ Point Arena
- ✓ Gualala



Added priority areas for 2019

- Covelo/ Round Valley and Dos Rios
- Fort Bragg (outlying areas both east and south)
- Little River Airport Road
- Comptche Ukiah Road
- Road 409 (Mendocino/Caspar)
- Tomki Road area of Redwood Valley
- Ukiah Valley



Low Hanging Fruit

- Coordination with WISPs
- Increasing capacity and access to wireless based networks
- Improving backhaul access for local providers
- Developing programs for equity in access to High Speed Internet

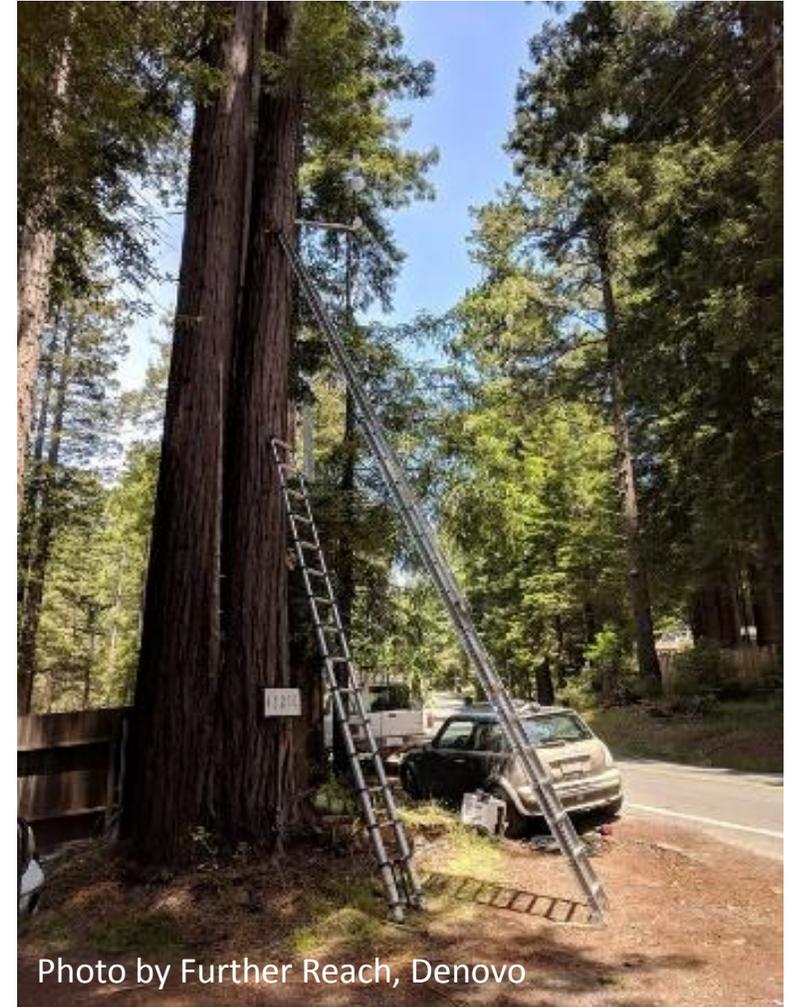
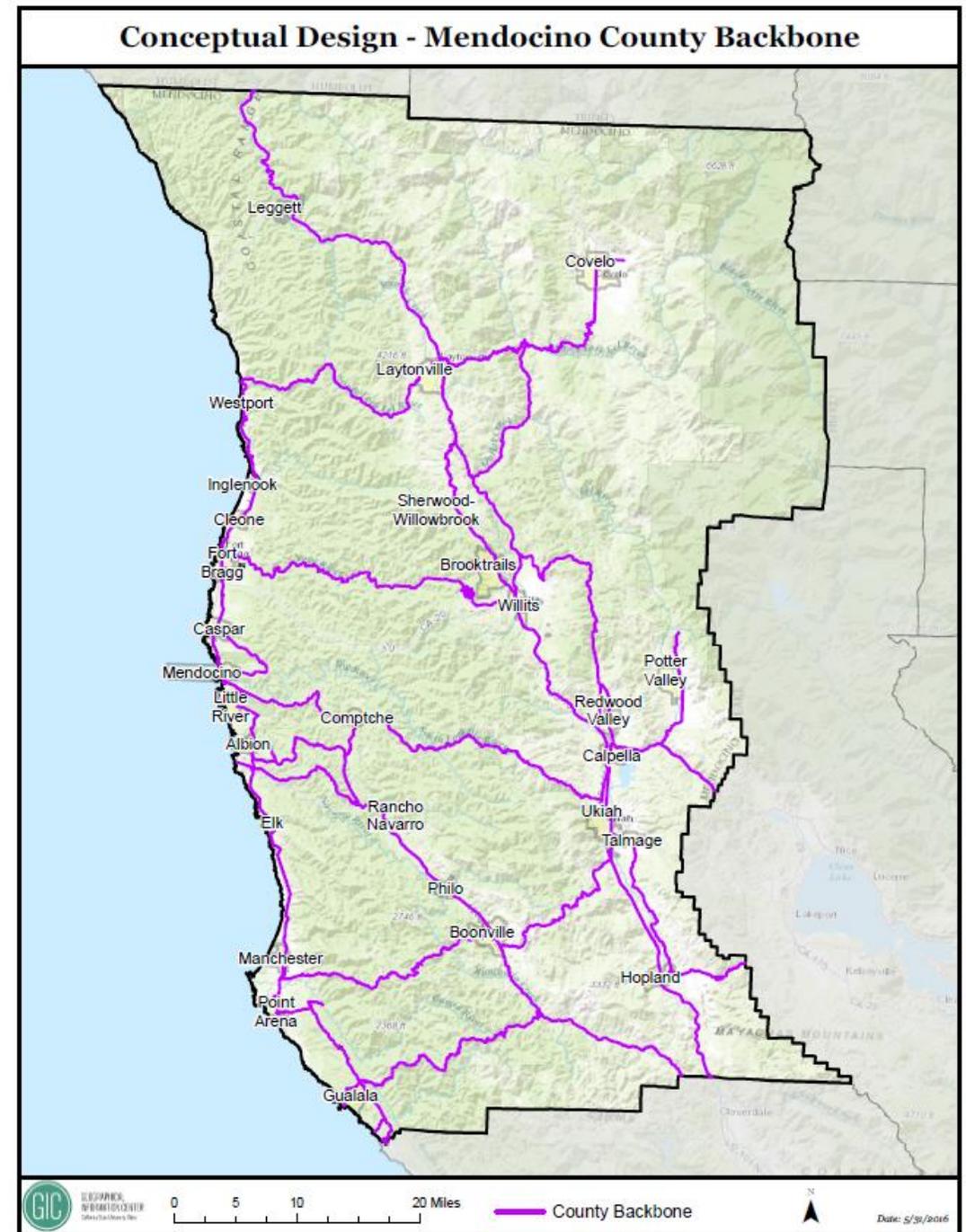


Photo by Further Reach, Denovo

The Long-Term

- Hardline infrastructure that supports the current and increasing demand for service
 - Public-Private-Partnership
 - Collaboration
 - Grant Funding
 - Rural Utility Cooperative



Final Notes

- 4 months left on the county contract to begin implementation
- Buy-In from Cities
- NBNCBC plans to re-apply for CPUC funding to support continued broadband coordination
- Work with CENIC
- CDBG grant application to do a feasibility study for equitable distribution
- Review other countywide plans for other infrastructure development and start working on plans to include fiber deployment

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