Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Regional Policy Advisory Committee

October 28, 2024

3 p.m.

Opening Agenda Items

- Welcome and Introductions

Overview Presentation on Broadband Initiatives

Lillie Gabreski, Director of Transportation
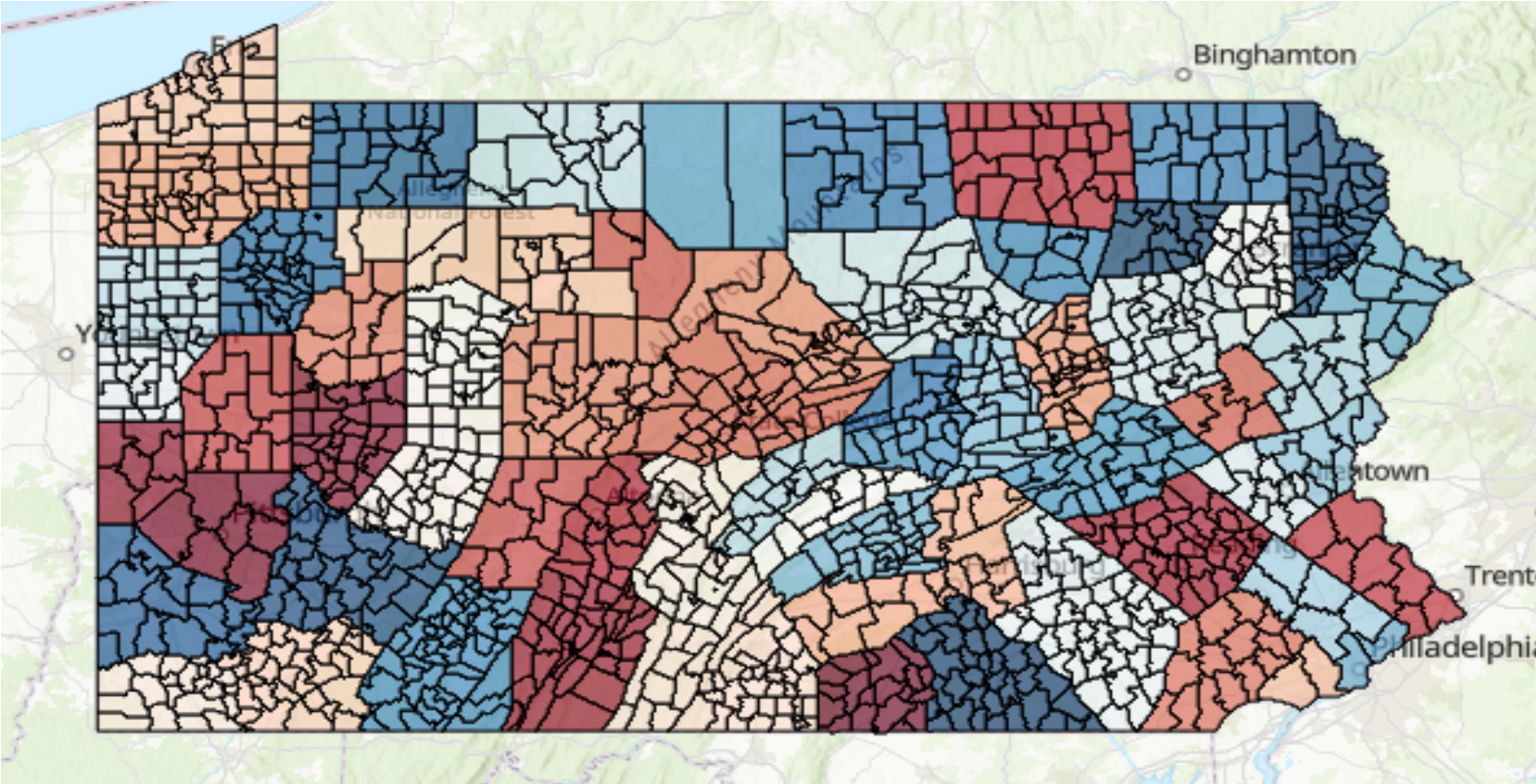*Ozzie Benhart, Development Associate*

Agenda Item 2

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) Updates from PBDA

- The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) is waiting for NTIA approval of location data as a result of the challenge process. Once that has been approved, PBDA can begin to solicit applications for the **$1.16 billion in funding** PA has been allocated.

- There will be **two 60-day rounds** of application solicitation. Anticipate **Fall '24 & Spring '25.**

- Awards will be subject to approval of final package by NTIA.

- Fiber is preferred technology – but encourage all to apply in first round. Can look at funding others in second round.

- Pennsylvania Broadband Map – BEAD page – identifies BSA's and estimated costs.

- PBDA will work with applicants to ensure all BSA's are served.

PBDA BEAD Process

- Prefers scalable technology and open access.
  - Requires at least 100 Mbps download speed and upload speeds of at least 20 Mbps.
  - Scalability important with download and upload asymmetry
- ISPs are encouraged to partner with county or local governments.
  - Requires a minimum 25% match for funds.
- Resources are available to assist in application process
  - Webinars for more specialized applications questions and concerns
    - November 12
    - December 11
  - Broadband glossary

PBDA BEAD Eligibility Map

Thank you! Questions?

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Next Meeting Date: December 16, 2024

Agenda Item 3

Adjourn

Agenda Item: 4