

# Broadband

#### SNOHOMISH COUNTY

## Broadband Dollars:



2028

## Three pots of money: Snohomish County:

\$27.6 - \$16M Grant Funds and successful partnership with Ziply (\$11.6) for HWY 530
No project management component included, currently in IT 2023 Budget



- **\$5M** Broadband- ARPA Tranche 1
  - competitive projects are required due to restrictions
  - \$250,000 (?) is being spent for Broadband study
  - Currently no direction on spending
    - Partner with providers on underserved areas
    - Use monies for other allowable services/projects in underserved areas



- **\$5M** recommended for appropriation as part of ARPA Tranche 2
  - broadband/County Anchor projects/underserved areas
  - infrastructure and affordability underserved areas

## Possible outlier Pot: DOC

Department of Commerce has not yet put a call for projects this fall: (10/19/22)

**Broadband Infrastructure Funding** 

**Infrastructure Acceleration Grants Round Two** 

We'd like to provide an update on the timeline for the Infrastructure Acceleration Grant (IAG) 2022 / ARPA – Notification of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). While we originally targeted the NOFO for mid-June, we are pausing the release. Without having exact dates available, we anticipate the NOFO will be published in the fall, with award announcements expected in the first quarter of 2023.

Key Questions that need to be answered ASAP:

Could some public/private partnerships be ideal for this?

Where does the Council wish to direct our funding?



## State Goal:

It is the goal of the state of Washington under RCW 43.330.536:

•By 2024: ALL WA businesses and residences have access to high-speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) and minimum uploads speeds of at least 3 megabits per second

#### By 2026: 1/1 gigabit per second (Gbps) all anchor institutions

•By 2028: ALL WA businesses and residences have access to at least one provider of broadband with download speeds of at least 150/150 Mbps

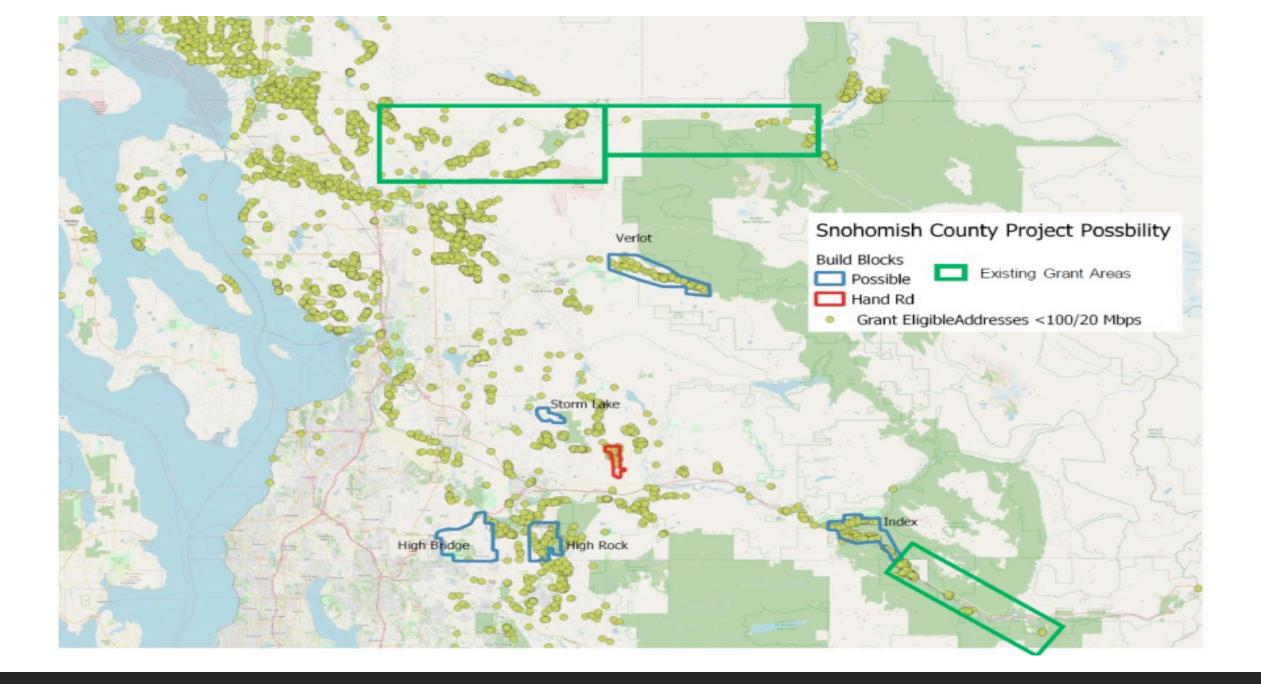
### Anchor institution?

•Public service entities—like hospitals, universities, or utilities (water or sewer)—which are tied to a location due to infrastructure or mission.

 Entities that provide critical services and vital assets to improve economy, health, environment and well-being in communities – like schools, libraries, courthouse or satellite county facilities.

•Organizations that provide active civic leadership and participate in and add to the public life and character of their community – YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Riding Clubs/Barns, Fairgrounds.

•In rural America it can mean a meeting hall, or community center, school gym or cafeteria, library, park, or fire hall, police depot, search and rescue, local feed store, etc.



# Option 1: The two \$5M ARPA Pots (maybe more w/ DOC):

#### **\$5M from Tranche 1:**

- -\$250K for broadband study
- -\$4.75M for competitive projects

**Underserved Geographic Areas:** 

- Apply with providers for DOC Tranche 2 (\$600K County portion)
- •\$1M Storm Lake
- •\$3.15M High Bridge E/W

#### **\$5M from Tranche 2:**

Snohomish County Site Wireless Coverage:

- All other identified underserved areas of County (High Bridge E/W)
- Anchor Institutions
- Broadband study areas identified

# Option 2: Wait for Broadband Study



Request for Proposal (Snohomish County Broadband Study) is currently being scored

The previous due date had been extended to September 15, 2022

Contract negotiated by November 24, 2022 (Update provided at next BAT meeting)

Completed study by July 1, 2023, with possible direction on how to spend the remaining \$<u>4.725M</u> and Tranche 2 of ARPA. Miss additional DOC grant applications and anchor opportunities

## Next Steps:

1. Meeting with Executive Team to discuss action plan and options.

2. Meeting with Council at Public Works and Infrastructure Committee to determine best option forward.

3. Putting that action plan into motion (working with providers on grant applications, providing partnership funding to viable projects (120 days to complete – finding that biggest bang for our buck), finding funding and being creative in solving our missing middle and last mile issues) before the deadlines expire.





