

# ***Broadband Leaders Academy***

Monday, June 10, 2019



**Department of Economic Development**



# *Thank you to our sponsors!*



**Department of Economic Development**



***Special Message:***  
***Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)***

# ***Missouri Broadband Initiatives and Grant Overview***

***Tim Arbeiter***

***Director, Broadband Development Office  
Missouri Department of Economic Development***



Purdue University researchers recently published the revised Digital Divide Index (DDI) incorporating the FCC Form 477 data and places Missouri's DDI at 55.46, a score derived from broadband access and adoption, and coupled with the state's socioeconomic factors, a value of 100 denotes the highest digital divide.

Dr. Roberto Gallardo  
 Purdue Center for Regional  
 Development, 2019

National Ranking	State	DDI Score
2	Colorado	14.99
6	Minnesota	19.98
16	Illinois	36.72
18	Wisconsin	38.73
21	Nebraska	39.47
22	Iowa	39.99
23	Kansas	40.37
27	Georgia	45.32
32	Ohio	48.86
33	Michigan	51.10
35	North Carolina	52.52
38	Indiana	52.92
<b>40</b>	<b>Missouri</b>	<b>55.46</b>
41	Tennessee	66.88
43	Oklahoma	72.06
44	Kentucky	75.85
48	Arkansas	91.77

# *Next Steps*

- Promote the Broadband Plan and implement the strategies identified
  - Connectivity, Digital Literacy, Homework Gap, Training workers
- Launch the Broadband Grant Program in late summer 2019
- Publish tools and surveys that can be utilized in broadband planning efforts by communities, counties or regions

# *Next Steps (continued)*

- Establish a regional framework for planning efforts
- Phase I of the Missouri Precision Ag research project has started
- Missouri's application to IMLS for rural libraries and digital literacy campaigns

# *Broadband Planning Support*

- Endorse a broadband planning toolkit – encourage utilization by communities, counties, and regions
- Launch a community leaders survey and interviews being developed by a research team through Missouri S&T
- Endorse a survey assessment tool that can be utilized by broadband planning teams to gather data
- Mapping pilot project w/ CostQuest

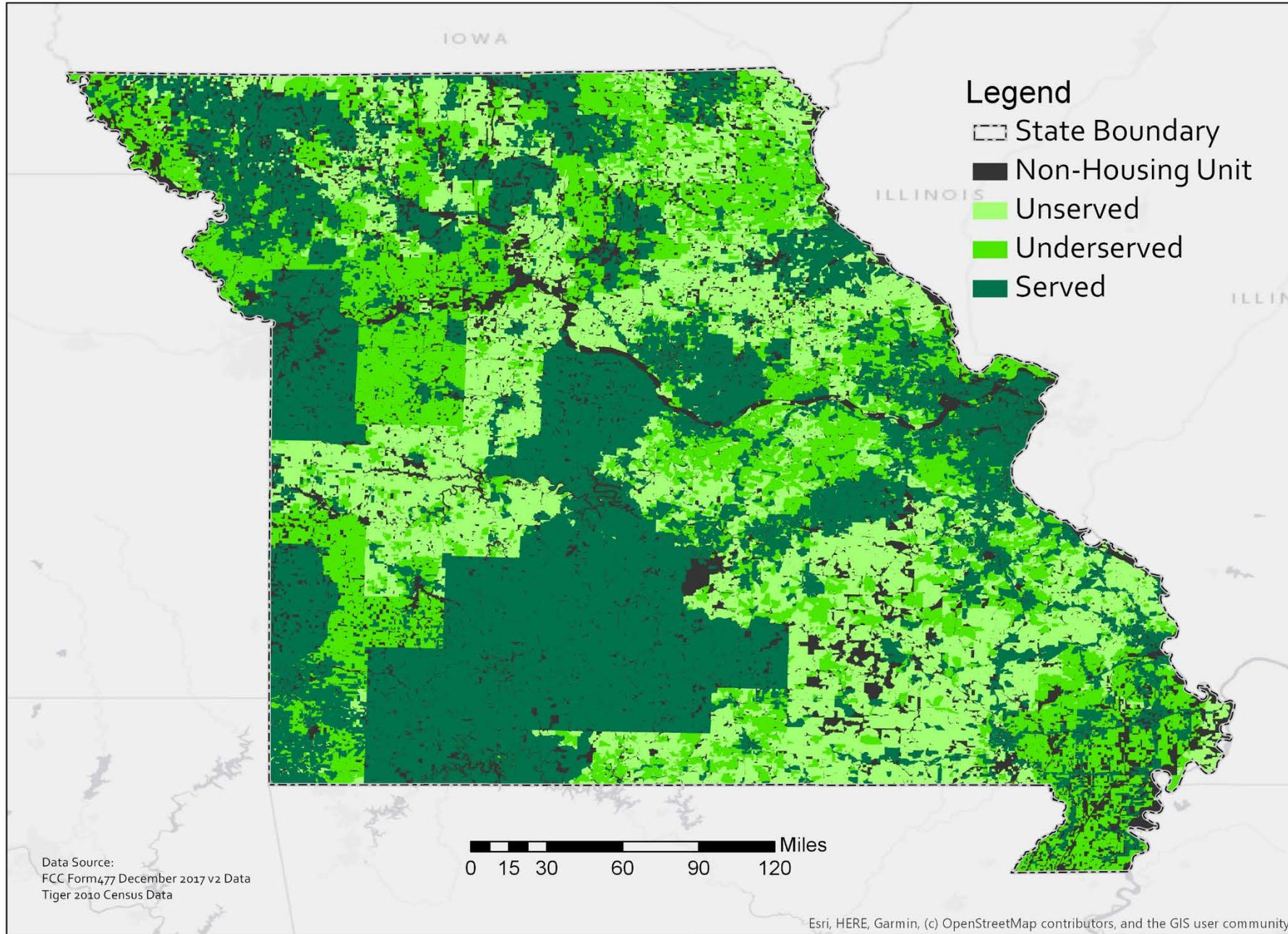
# *Broadband Grant Program*

- \$5M in the State Budget for FY20
- Sets a baseline speed for grant investment of 25/3
- High Priority will be unserved, then underserved area
- 50/50 Grant (all public sources cannot exceed 50%)

# *Broadband Grant Program*

- No federal programs can serve as match
- A variety of entities can apply, applicants will be posted
- A challenge process will be established
- The grant program to be released in later this summer

# Broadband Coverage Status in Missouri



\*2019  
CostQuest  
Mapping Tool

# ***USDA Broadband Funding Opportunities***

***Chris Collins  
General Field Representative  
for Missouri & Illinois  
Rural Development***

***15 Minute Break***

# ***Overview of Broadband Provider Survey***

***Tim Arbeiter***

***Director, Broadband Development Office  
Missouri Department of Economic  
Development***

# *Broadband Provider Survey Overview*

- Survey instrument developed to gather feedback
- Sent to providers early April 2019, closed on May 31
- 25 Companies Responded, approximately 10% response rate

# *Broadband Provider Survey Overview*

- What we asked, hard and soft barriers
- Hard barriers, early scan of the responses indicate:
  - Acquiring easements a major issue
  - Pole attachments is a major issue
  - Lack of subsidies is a major issue
  - Lack of middle mile is not and an issue or a barrier
  - Access to State ROW is a minor or not an issue

# *Broadband Provider Survey Overview*

- Soft barriers, early scan of the responses indicate all of these are minor or not an issue:
  - Digital Literacy
  - Understanding the benefits of broadband service
  - Real or perceived cost of broadband service
  - Real or perceived cost of owning a device
  - Online security is an issue

# *Broadband Provider Survey Overview*

- Next steps:
  - Results will be analyzed in depth by DED
  - Report created for review by stakeholders
  - Key recommendations for improvements identified
  - Convene providers in the fall to review the full report and seek counsel on recommendations for future action

# ***Mapping Missouri's Broadband***

***Jim Stegeman, CostQuest***

***Chris Barnett, All Things Missouri***

***Scott Woods, NTIA, U.S. Department of Commerce***

***Luncheon***  
***Hearth Room***

***Keynote: Chris Chinn, Director***  
***Missouri Department of Agriculture***

# ***Planning a Broadband Infrastructure Project***

***Scott Woods & Don Williams  
NTIA, U.S. Department of Commerce***

***15 Minute Break***

# ***Funding a Broadband Infrastructure Project***

***Scott Wood & Don Williams  
NTIA, U.S. Department of Commerce***

# ***Missouri Broadband Models Panel***

***Dan Cassidy, Moderator, MO Farm Bureau***

## ***Panelists:***

***Donna Bell, Chariton Valley Communications***

***Sean Vanslyke, GoSEMO***

***Travis Allen, Total Highspeed Solutions***

***Jason Peterson, Carthage Water & Electric Plant***

***Steve Bennett, Mediacom***

# ***Stakeholder Recommendations and Next Steps***

***Broadband Development  
is a Team Sport***

***Rob Dixon, Director  
Missouri Department of Economic Development***

# *Thank you to our sponsors!*



**Department of Economic Development**



***Thank you for attending!***

**M I S S O U R I**

**Department of Economic Development**

