Outreach & Education Sub-Committee

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Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority
Outreach & Education Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 12, 2023
8:30AM – 9:30AM

In-Person:
PA Department of Agriculture
Farm Show Complex & Expo Center
2300 North Cameron Street
Susquehanna Room
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Virtual Meeting
Dial-In: +1 267-332-8737
Phone Conference ID: 543 579 990#

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of December 22, 2022, Meeting Minutes

III. Funding Timeline Overview

IV. Listening Session

a. Presented by PBDA Staff and Penn State Extension

V. New Business

VI. Public Comment

VII. Adjournment

**We are recording this meeting and your participation is your consent to being recorded. Due to limited space, in-person general public participation may be limited.*

Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority
Outreach & Education Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday December 22, 2022
Virtual - Microsoft Teams Meeting

Sub-Committee members in attendance:

- Lisa Davis
- Carrie Nace
- Sarah Hammond
- Joseph Gerdes
- Bailey Thumm
- Kevin Sunday
- Amy Sturges
- Mark Critz, Board Liaison

Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) staff in attendance:

- Kalie Snyder

Guests in attendance:

- Harry Crissy, Penn State Extension
- Jeanne Shearer, Windstream
- Leanne Doran, Michael Baker International
- Brent Jaueneau-Siegel, Ichor Strategies
- Courtney Accurti, Michael Baker International
- Kate Rivera, Technology Learning Collaborative
- Jim Ladlee, Penn State Extension
- Sue McCrossin

I. Call to Order

Chair Hammond called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM, and asked Kalie Snyder to conduct roll call and housekeeping items.

II. **Approval of November 9, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Chair Hammond called for questions or comments on the minutes as presented to the committee. There were none.

Chair Hammond asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented to the committee. Bailey Thumm motioned the approval. Joseph Gerdes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Recurring Monthly Meeting Schedule

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Chair Sunday proposed convening virtually and/or with an in-person hybrid option as needed, the second Thursday of each month from 10 AM – 11 AM and asked for comments or questions regarding this cadence.

Lisa Davis and Amy Sturges expressed a conflict for this time and consideration of an alternative option. After short discussion, the second Thursday from 8:30-9:30 AM was presented as the new option, and Chair Sunday asked for a motion to convene the committee at this time.

Motion was made by Bailey Thumm. Motion was seconded by Amy Sturges. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Municipal Survey Update

Chair Sunday asked Kalie Snyder to provide an update on the Municipal Survey.

Kalie Snyder provided a brief background on the purpose of the survey and who the Authority shared the survey with. Additionally, she provided some of the metrics to date on responses received, over 300 respondents are interested in learning more about the Authority and how to be involved in broadband expansion. Kalie asked this committee to start to brainstorm ideas on how to do further outreach to the municipalities and ways we can coordinate between the counties.

Chair Sunday asked for questions or comments on the information provided.

Carrie Nace asked if there is a performance metric in place to review the challenge maps based on speeds. Kalie Snyder provided a broad review of the bulk challenges and offered to send Carrie resources on those Bulk Challenges. Harry Crissy also added that the bulk challenge we are submitting for availability will not include speed concerns and speed test data.

V. Listening Session Overview

Chair Hammond provided a brief overview of the recent Listening Sessions and asked Kalie Snyder to provide an overview of the Listening Sessions. Kalie ran down the locations and attendance, as well as highlighted the resources available on the website from these sessions. She also introduced Kyle Snyder, Broadband Planning Specialist. Kyle provided an introduction and a quick overview of the data that is being collected and reviewed for the challenge process.

Chair Hammond called for questions or comments from the committee, there were none.

VI. Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Outreach Grant Program Overview

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Chair Hammond provided a brief overview of the ACP and introduced Britte Earp to present on the outreach grant program.

Britte Earp provided a background on her role with the agency and efforts in place to promote the ACP. She provided some statistics on current enrollment, lack of enrollment across the commonwealth, and the process to apply for approval. She then provided a robust overview of the competitive outreach grant program and the two pilot programs, Your Home Your Internet and ACP Navigator Pilot Program. Britte asked the committee to reach out to her if they can think of entities that might benefit from one of these programs. She also shared those entities who have been communicated with to date.

Kalie Snyder shared that a lot of this information is on the website as well as a presentation on these programs.

Lisa Davis offered to include something in their magazine for the Spring addition on the ACP. She also mentioned some other organizations that send out bi-weekly/monthly newsletters.

VII. Penn State Extension Update

Chair Sunday asked for Kyle Snyder and Penn State Extension to provide an update on the work to date.

Kyle Snyder quickly ran down the data we're reviewing for the challenge process. He also mentioned our work with county and local governments to obtain any data they have and asked that they work with him to coordinate information and avoid duplication.

Harry Chrissy added that they are nearing completion of their statewide survey (spot testing) and they should be able to incorporate those results soon. Jim Ladlee confirmed that they are nearing the end and that they are working on the Digital Equity Innovation project and will evolve more post challenge period. Kyle closed that we are talking with other states to gain best practices in their challenge data collection efforts.

VIII. New Business

Chair Hammond presented the idea of hosting the next meeting, in January, at the Farm Show, and would have more details soon.

Chair Hammond asked for other new business or discussion among the committee members.

IX. Public Comment

Chair Sunday called for public comment.

Kate Rivera asked about the existing Request for Proposal (RFP) to procure a consultant for the 5-Year Action Plan and Digital Equity Statewide Plan and wants to ensure that local partners and communities are engaged in outreach efforts. Kalie Snyder confirmed that we

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will be pulling together an outreach strategy and that stakeholder input is paramount to our success.

X. Adjournment

Chair Sunday provided closing remarks.

Carrie Nace made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Bailey Thumm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:17 PM.

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PA BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: BROADBAND LISTENING SESSIONS

CO-HOSTED WITH PENN STATE EXTENSION

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PA BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mission: *To foster and create equitable, affordable, and robust high-speed broadband internet infrastructure and services connecting Pennsylvania for the 21st century and beyond.*

Established by Act 96 of 2021

- Governed by 11-member board
  - Four members of the General Assembly
  - Secretaries for the Department of Agriculture, Community and Economic Development (DCED), Education, General Services, and the Budget
  - Executive Director of the Center for Rural Pa
  - Chairperson of the PUC
- DCED provides administrative and staff support
  - Continue to build staff capacity

Purpose:

- Single point of contact for state broadband initiatives and efforts
- Identifying and coordinating federal and state funding opportunities
- Developing and approving a statewide broadband plan

FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) has three main programs to support broadband development

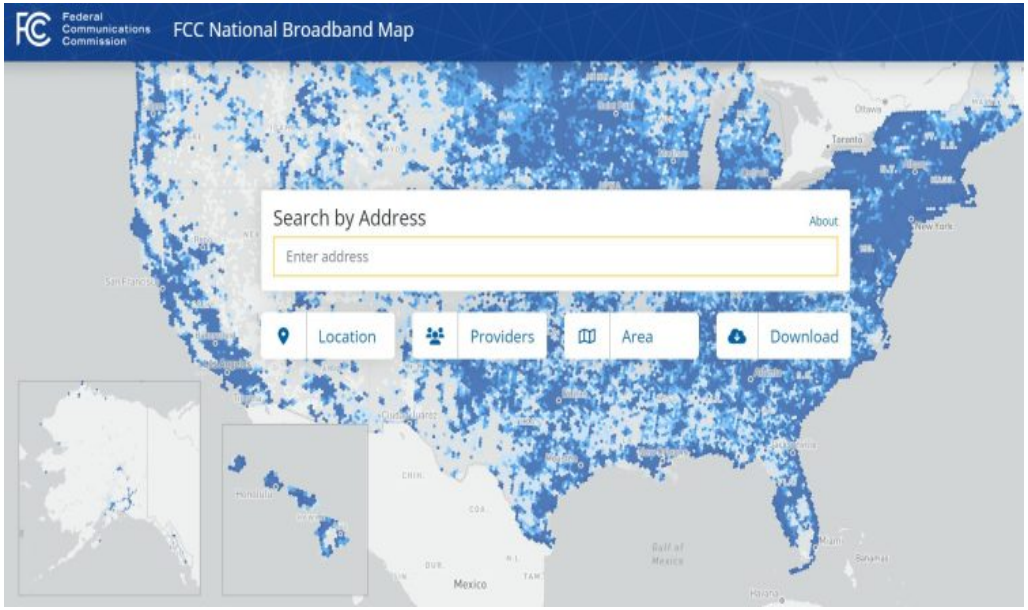
- **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)**
- **Digital Equity Act**
- **Middle Mile Infrastructure**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- **Capital Projects Funds (CPF)**
  - $279 million
  - Program plans under review

FCC NATIONAL BROADBAND MAP

MAP OVERVIEW



What is the Map?

- Implemented under Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technology Availability (DATA) Act of March 2020
- Publicly accessible map, data-based depicting where fixed and mobile broadband is available across the US
- NTIA will utilize this map to identify remaining BEAD funds to be allocated to states
- FCC National Broadband Map

What is the difference in the data?

- Previous Map:
  - Census block level only

- New Map: Two unique sets
  1) *Broadband Serviceable Location:* individual structures (i.e. homes, businesses) that can use broadband service
  2) *Provider Submitted Data:* Internet Service Provider *(*ISP) locations where broadband service is offered the FCC's Broadband Data Collection (BDC)

BDC Online Help Center provides a number of resources

IMPACT ON PENNSYLVANIA

- More accurately depict deficiencies
- Comprehensive vehicle that allows for a robust challenge process
- Ensure maximum BEAD allocation for the commonwealth
- Help local level governments and organizations to identify project areas
- Inform the Authority on areas of need when reviewing applications through future subgrant programs
- Allow for individual challenges, which means constituents may submit information directly to the FCC about the services received at their home/business

FCC CHALLENGE PROCESSES

A. Individual Challenges
   a. Map
      - Location
      - Availability

   b. FCC Speed Test
      - Mobile

B. Bulk Challenges
   a. Broadband Data Collection (BDC) System
      - Location or “Fabric” Challenges
      - Availability Challenges

   b. Partnership with the Authority
      - Penn State Extension

MAP DEMONSTRATION

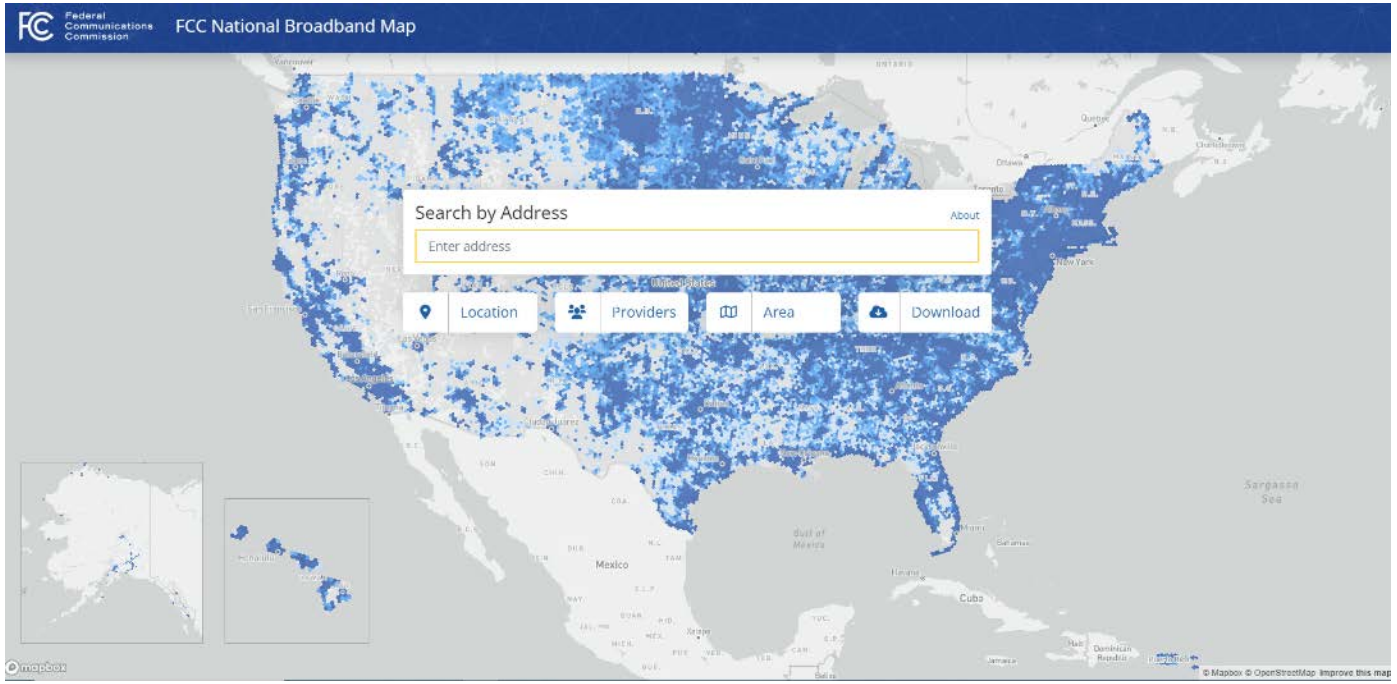
FCC BROADBAND CHALLENGE INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: These challenges are for a lack of available service

If you have an internet provider listed (Comcast, Verizon, Zito or other high-speed provider) as available BUT you are choosing not to pay for the service, please DO NOT submit a challenge!

CHECKING YOUR ADDRESS

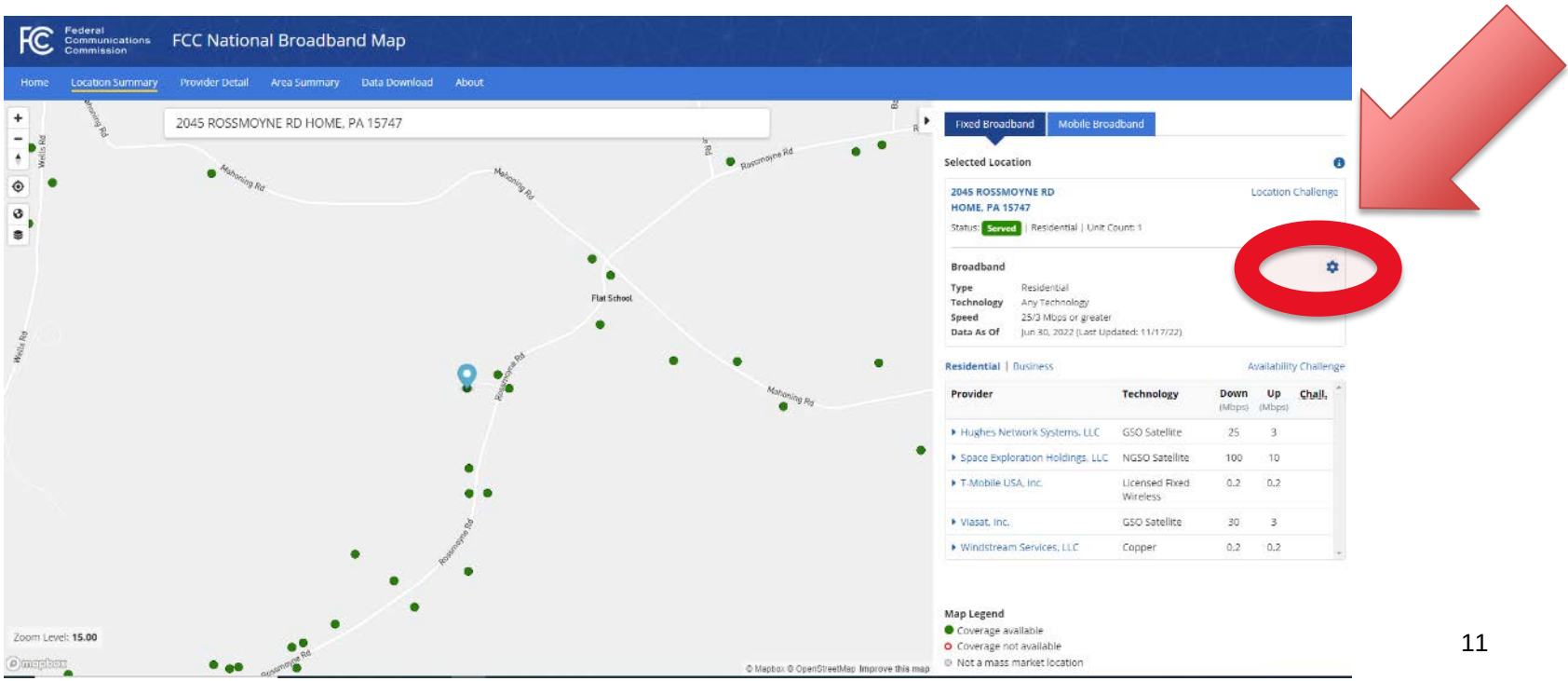
Navigate to broadbandmap.fcc.gov – or search for "FCC Broadband Map" in any search engine (such Google, Bing, Yahoo) using your computer or cell phone. You will see this page:



FIND YOUR LOCATION

Type your address and hit enter.

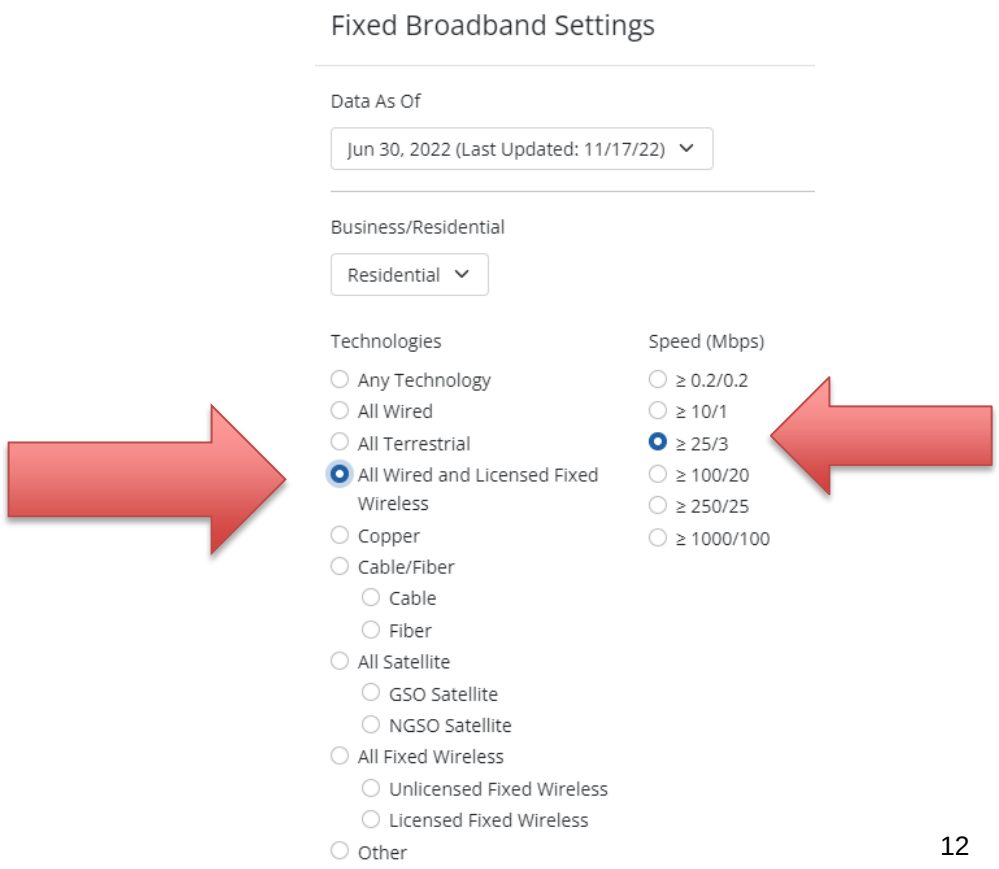
Now click the ‘gear’ icon (circled here)



SELECT TECHNOLOGY

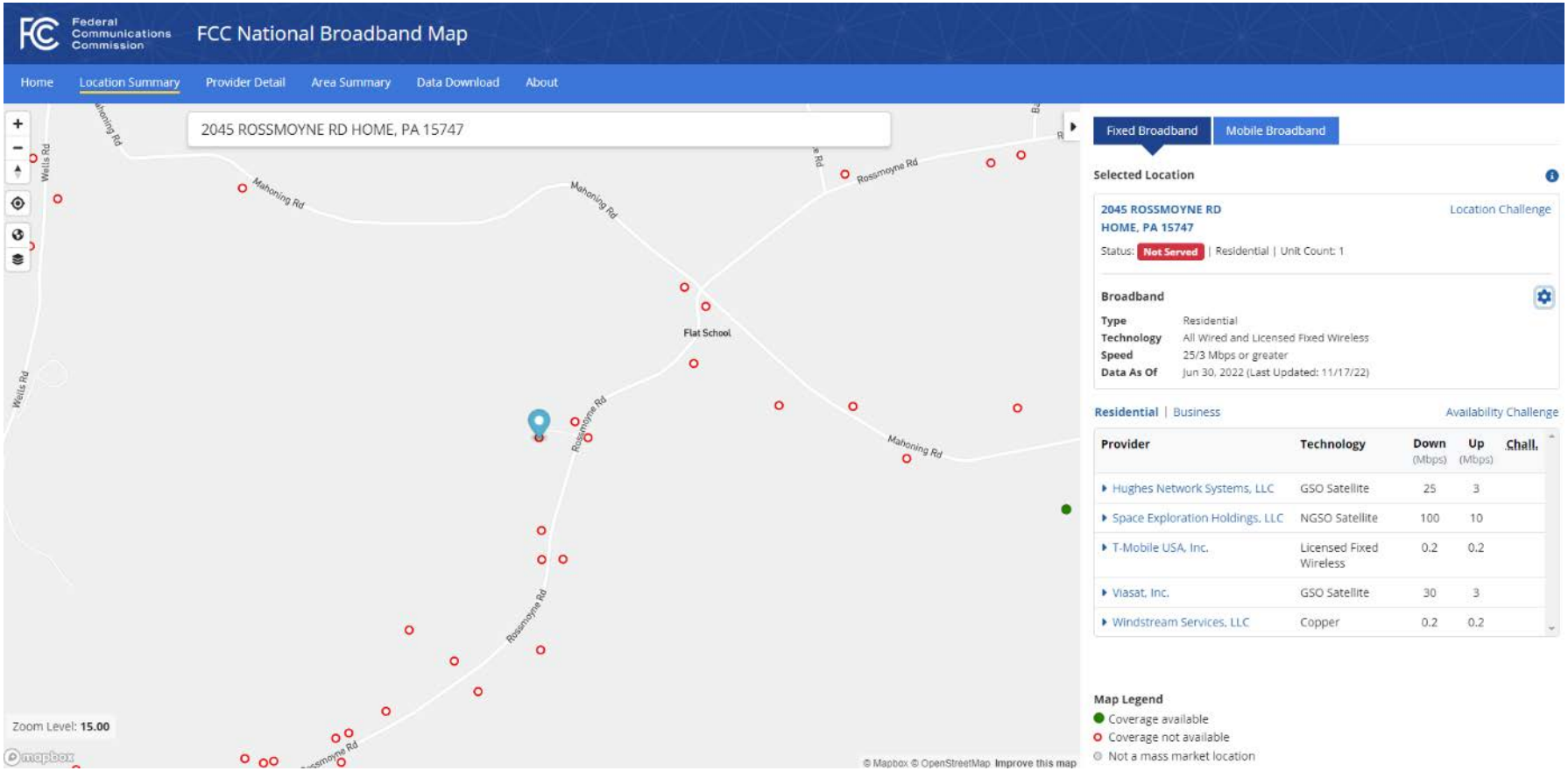
IMPORTANT!!!!

Make sure ‘All Wired and Licensed Fixed Wireless’ AND ‘≥ 25/3’ Are selected!!!



RED CIRCLE

The FCC already lists this as unserved, no challenge needed



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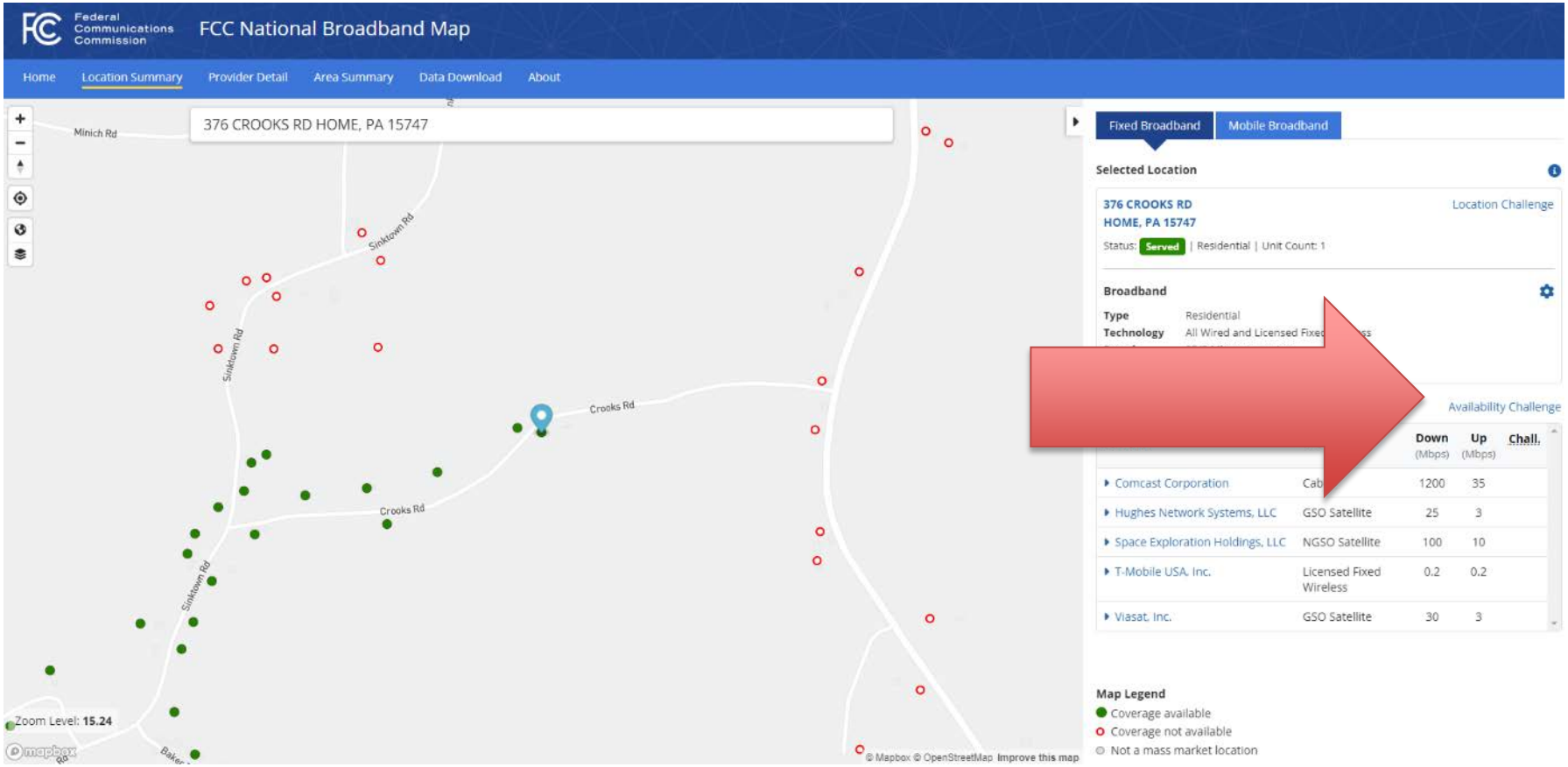
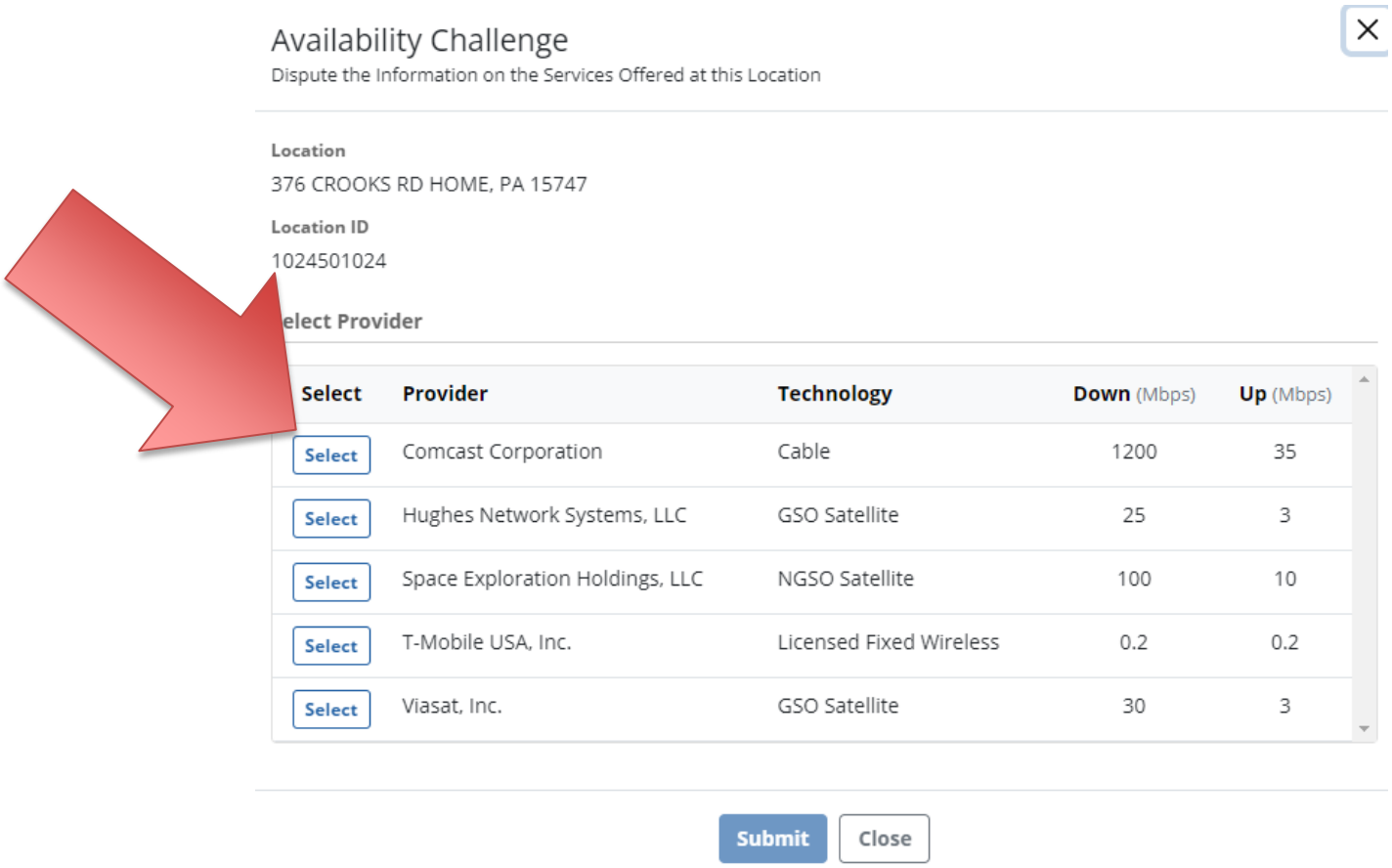
GREEN CIRCLE

If your location is GREEN and you cannot access high-speed internet, click ‘Availability Challenge’



AVAILABILITY CHALLENGE

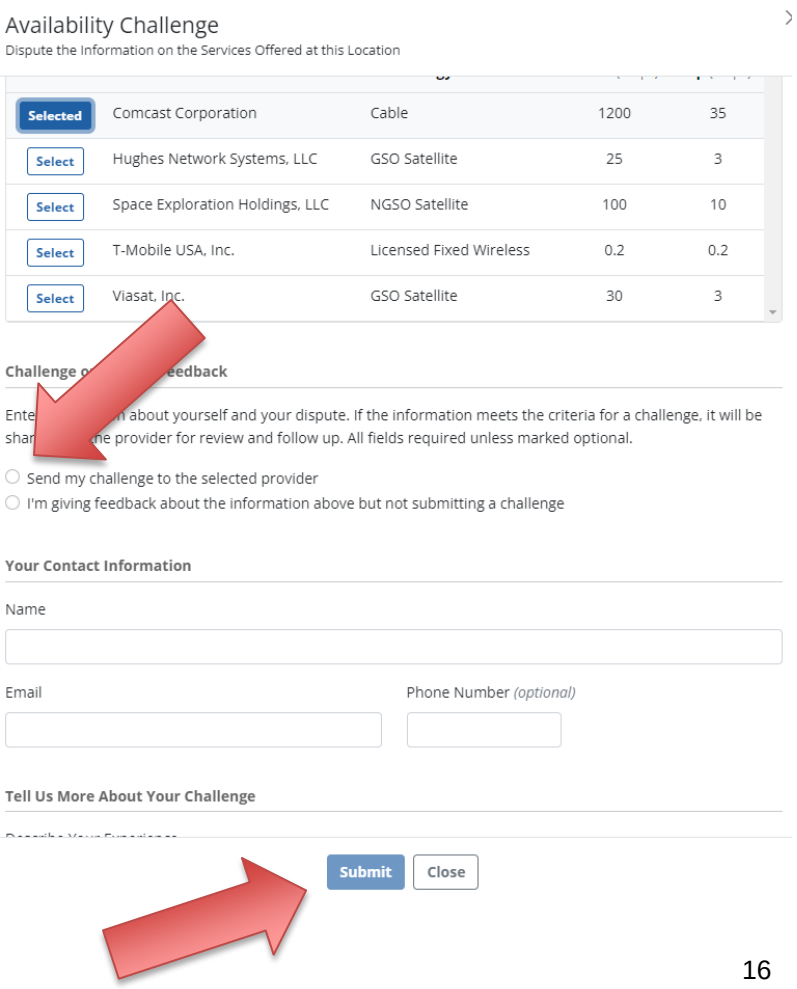
Select a provider to challenge (ignore satellite and low-speed providers) – hit the ‘Submit’ button



SUBMITTING A CHALLENGE

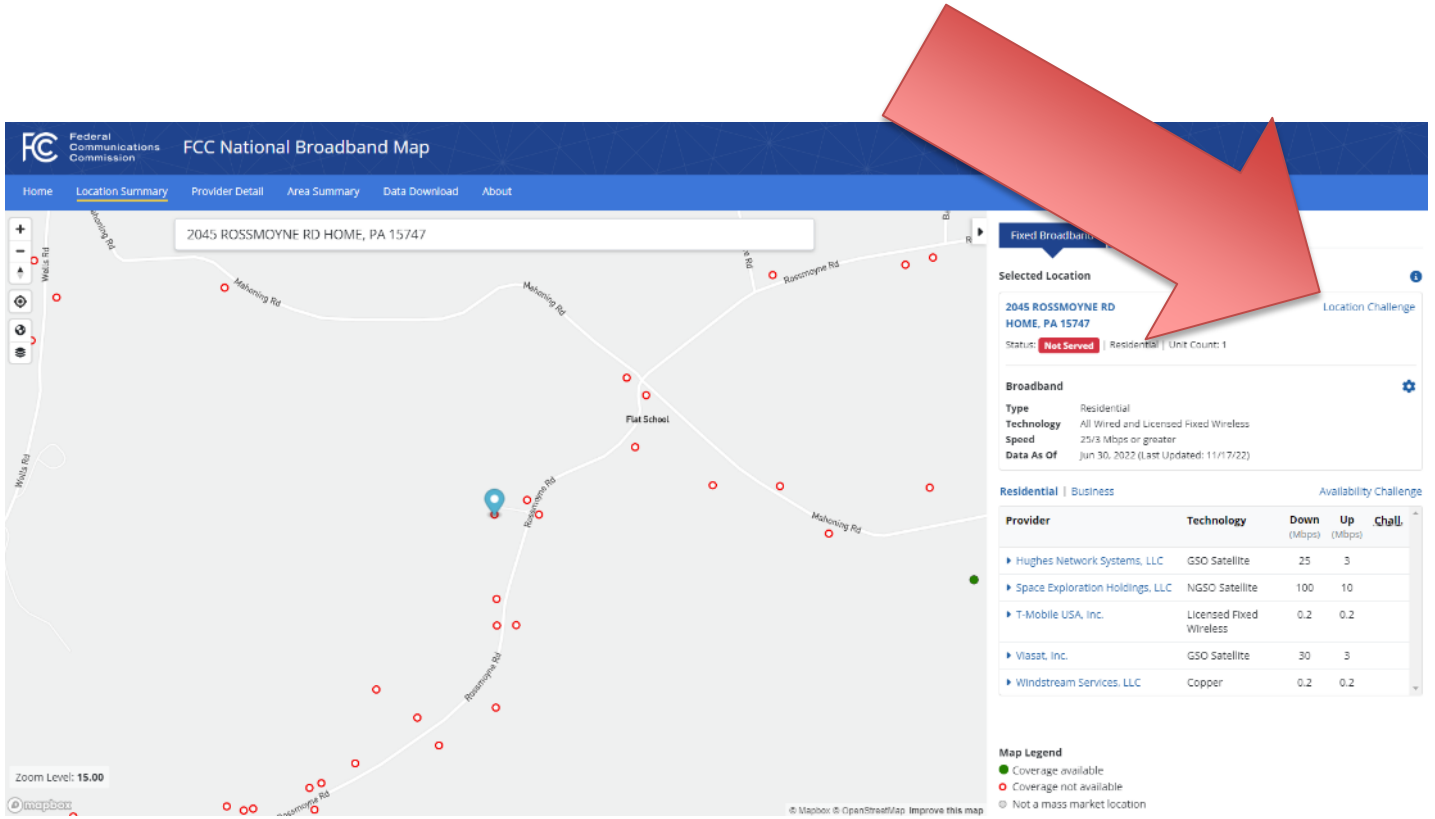
1. Select ‘Send my challenge to the selected provider’
2. Enter name, email, phone (optional) and why you are challenging
3. Click ‘Submit’

Congratulations! You’ve completed the challenge process!



INCORRECT ADDRESS?

NOTE: If your address is incorrect, you may submit a location challenge by selecting the option



HOW TO SUBMIT BULK AVAILABILITY DATA TO THE AUTHORITY

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Key and Example Challenge Data – Tab 1

Name:	This contact should be whomever the Authority/Penn State can contact with questions. Not necessarily the indivdiual submitting the data.
Email:	
Phone:	
County/Municipality:	

SERVICE ADDRESS	LOCATION ID	PROVIDER NAME	TECHNOLOGY TYPE	DOWNLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED	UPLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED
Physical address of challenge location (i.e. home,business)	This is accessible through the Map. Once an address has been searched this information will be displayed by clicking the "Availability Challenge" option.	Internet Service Provider to be challenged	What is the means of technology used for service (i.e. cable/satellite/fixed wireless, etc.) This will be found on the same page as the Location ID	The speed at which the challenged provider claims to offer service. This can be found on the same page as the Location ID	The speed at which the challenged provider claims to offer service. This can be found on the same page as the Location ID

Example of Challenge Data:

SERVICE ADDRESS	LOCATION ID	PROVIDER NAME	TECHNOLOGY TYPE	DOWNLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED	UPLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED
Jane Williams	*1234567899*	*Smith's Internet*	*Cable*	*1000*	*50*
Scott Johnson	*1234567890*	*ABC Provider*	*Satellite*	*25*	*3*
Eric Thomas	*2345678901*	*Wireless World Internet*	*Licensed Fixed Wireless*	*0.2*	*0.2*
David Green	*3456789012*	*Wired For You*	*Copper*	*0.2*	*0.2*

Bulk Challenge Data – Tab 2

Name:	
Email:	
Phone:	
County/Municipality:	

SERVICE ADDRESS	LOCATION ID	PROVIDER NAME	TECHNOLOGY TYPE	DOWNLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED	UPLOAD SPEED ADVERTISED

NEXT STEPS

- Review the map data and prepare challenges
- Submit challenge data to the Authority **1/9/23**
- Identify potential project areas

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Q&A

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HOW CAN YOU REACH US?

GENERAL QUESTIONS:
KALIE SNYDER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT, KALSNYDER@PA.GOV

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:
KYLE SNYDER, BROADBAND PLANNING SPECIALIST, KYSNYDER@PA.GOV