

stakeholder and provider input. The team will evaluate a wide range of opportunities to promote increased broadband infrastructure investment throughout rural Georgia.

Public-Private Partnerships

Public-private partnerships (P3) could play a critical role in bringing sufficient broadband to unserved areas. The legislation currently includes the use of P3 models on GDOT Interstate rights-of-way along Georgia interstates. These partnerships could take a variety of forms and could include coapplying for funding, working with providers to create carrier neutral locations and facilities, providing greater access to rights-of-way, providing incentives to providers to lower costs, or creating efficiencies to accelerate broadband deployment. There are examples in other states where governments and providers have partnered to increase broadband availability, and they will also be evaluated.

Increased Access to Funding

The capital cost to provide broadband services to all unserved areas in Georgia is estimated at over one billion dollars. The deployment of broadband to unserved areas statewide will require significant access to funding. While a statewide grant program will make an impact to some unserved areas, widescale change could require a broad spectrum of funding incentives and mechanisms.

Contact Information

For any questions or comments, please contact the Department of Community Affairs.

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