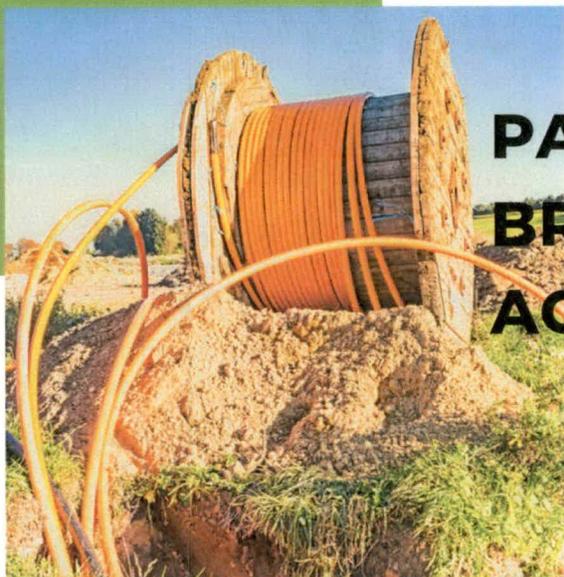


STRATEGIC PLAN FOR UNSERVED AND
UNDERSERVED RURAL AREAS OF EAST TEXAS



PANOLA COUNTY BROADBAND ACTION PLAN



East Texas Regional
Broadband Initiative

1

PANOLA COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT PHASES

- Panola County is addressing critical broadband connectivity needs through its partnership with the East Texas Regional Broadband Initiative with ETCOG.
- Completion of the two phases will address major broadband gaps in Panola County but not be a total solution to the broadband needs.

PHASE 1

Panola County's Projects
with ETCOG's Regional
Broadband Initiative

PHASE 2

Regional Middle Mile
Network with ETCOG's
Regional Broadband Initiative



2



PHASE 1 SUMMARY

- A broadband action plan for Panola County has been developed in partnership with the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG).
- County officials, stakeholders, and interested parties in Panola County have provided input, comments, and information to support the work.
- Grant funding from EDA: \$375,000
 - Local match: \$161,000 (shared by 14 counties & EDCs)
- No local funding is needed at this time for Phase 1 projects

3

LOCAL PROJECT IDENTIFICATION TEAM

- The Panola County project identification team has been led by former County Judge David Anderson.
- Each county's project identification team differs. Teams typically include county and city officials, Economic Development Corporation representatives, and Internet Service Providers.
- Teams meet as many times as needed to complete the identification of three to five most important broadband development projects for each county.
- One of the identified projects can address residential broadband as long as telework is enhanced.



4

LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PROJECTS

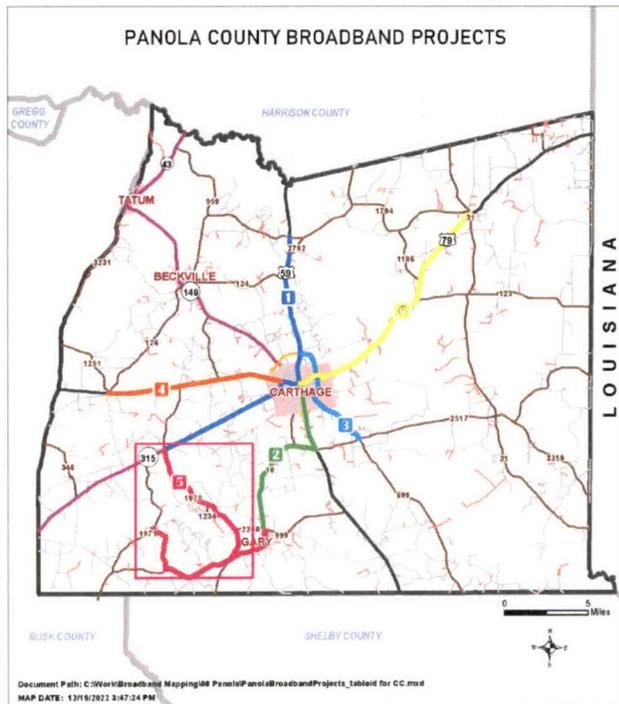
The team identified six projects for underserved businesses, with one project also serving residential telework.

- 1 Carthage Infrastructure Update**
To provide high speed internet to existing businesses & attract new business to developing business park. (Middle Mile)
- 2 Gary Expansion**
To provide high speed fiber internet for new and underserved businesses and residences along this route towards Gary City. (Last Mile)
- 3 E. Panola County & Business Park Expansion**
To provide high speed internet to existing businesses & attract new business to developing business park. (Last Mile)
- 4 Fairplay Extension**
To provide high speed fiber internet for new and underserved businesses and residences along this route towards the Fairplay community. (Last Mile)
- 5 Murvaul Broadband Extension**
To provide high speed internet service to un/underserved new and existing home-based businesses and full-time and part-time telecommuters. (Last Mile)
- 6 DeBerry Expansion**
To provide high speed fiber internet for new and underserved businesses and residences along this route towards the residences along this route towards DeBerry. (Last Mile)

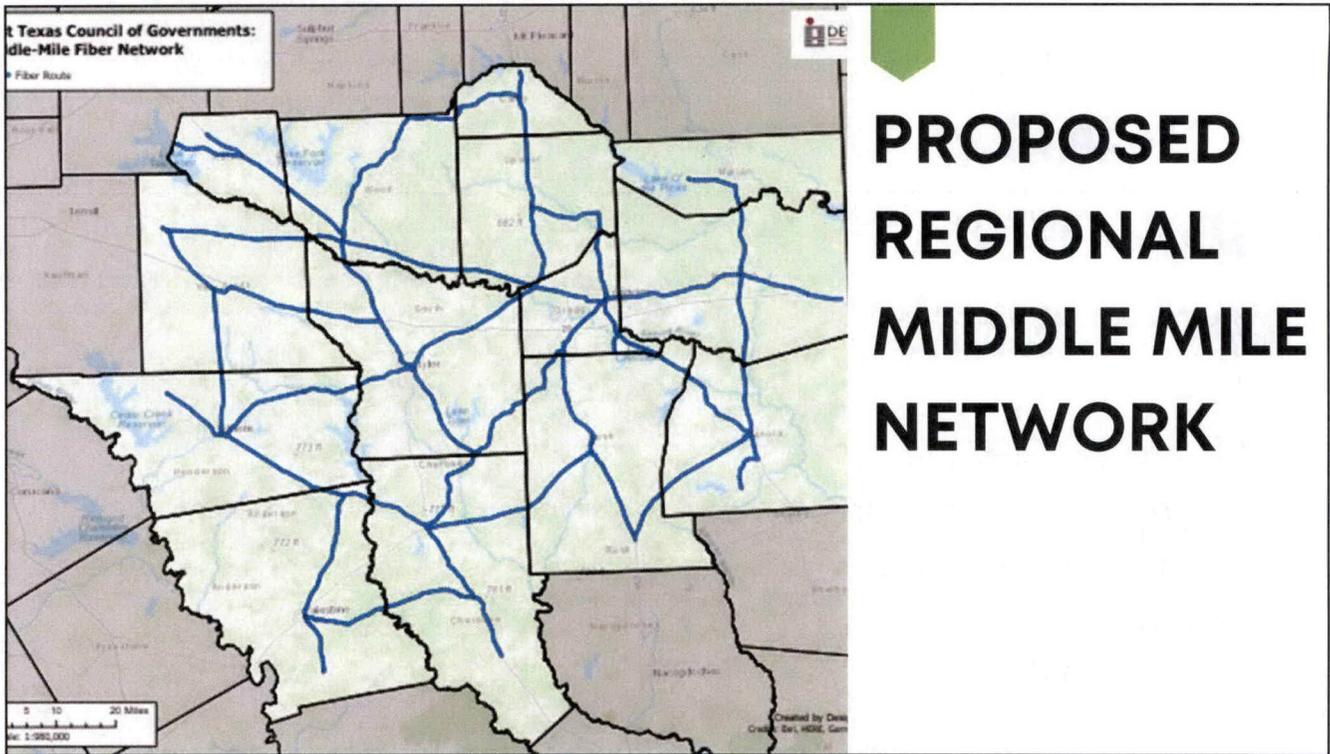
5

MAPPED ROUTES

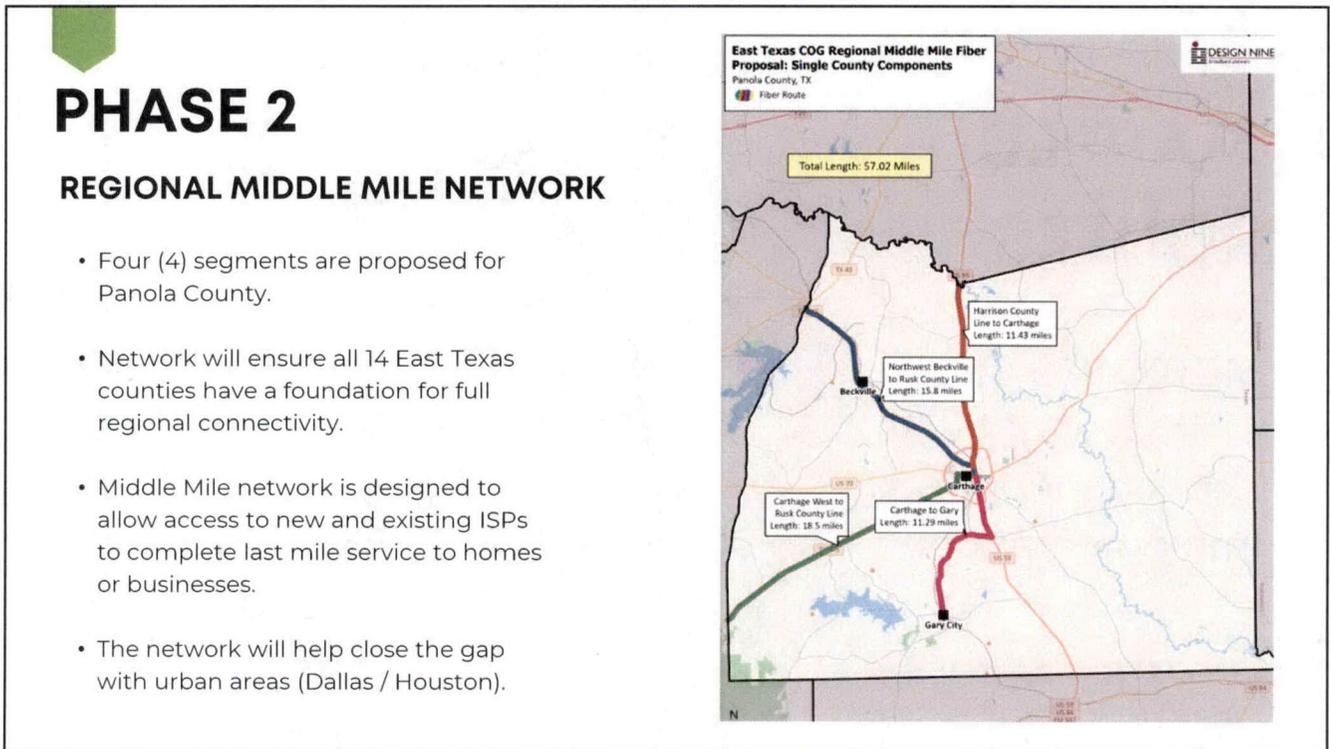
\$16,639,889 is estimated to be needed for project implementation.



6



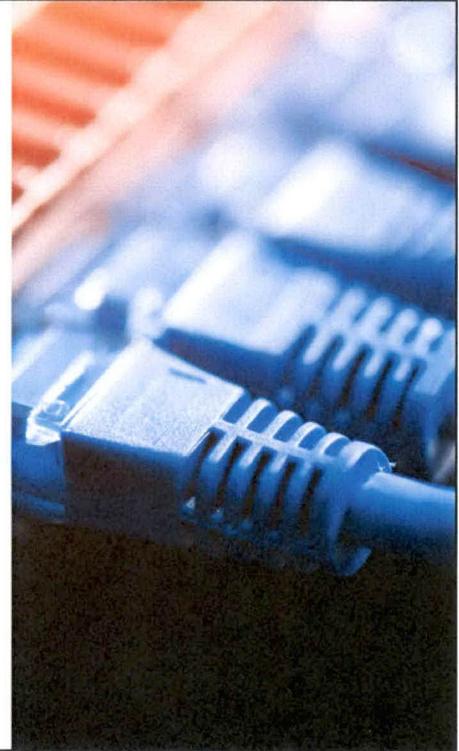
7



8

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

With your approval, Panola County will have the tenth adopted plan in the ETCOG Regional Broadband Strategic Plan. ETCOG staff will immediately begin seeking funding for the identified projects.



9

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



TDC2



WORKING TOGETHER TO EXPAND BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY

This plan has been made possible by a \$375,000 grant from the [U.S. Economic Development Administration](#) and \$161,000 in matching funds invested by ETCOG member communities and EDCs

Our specialized consulting firms TDC2 and Design 9

The leadership of the ETCOG Executive Committee and East Texas Economic Development District Boards

Local Project Team Lead former Panola County Judge David Anderson

The regional Internet Service Providers

10