



**BROADBAND
FOR ALL**

LOCAL JURISDICTION PERMITTING PLAYBOOK (2ND ROUNDTABLE)

January 31, 2023





AGENDA

- Broadband for All
- Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
- Q/A
- Role of Permitting in Deployment
- Acknowledgment: Playbook Process
- California Local Permitting Playbook
- Q/A
- Thank You

Scott Adams

Deputy Director

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy

Background: Broadband for All

Broadband for All is the state's overarching program to close the digital divide and foster digital equity in California. Existing efforts include:

- Broadband Council
- Executive Order N-73-20
- Broadband for All Action Plan
- Broadband for All Portal
- Senate Bill 156
 - Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative (CDT)
 - Last Mile Broadband Programs (CPUC)
- Other state efforts
 - CPUC Last-mile and Adoption Programs
 - Local and Regional Efforts

Background: Broadband for All Goals

Broadband for All acknowledges that broadband access, affordability adoption, and digital literacy are critical components of digital equity.

California's Broadband for All Action Plan focuses on three main long-term goals:

Goal 1

All Californians have **high-performance** broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses

Goal 2

All Californians have access to **affordable** broadband and necessary devices

Goal 3

All Californians can access **training and support** to enable digital inclusion

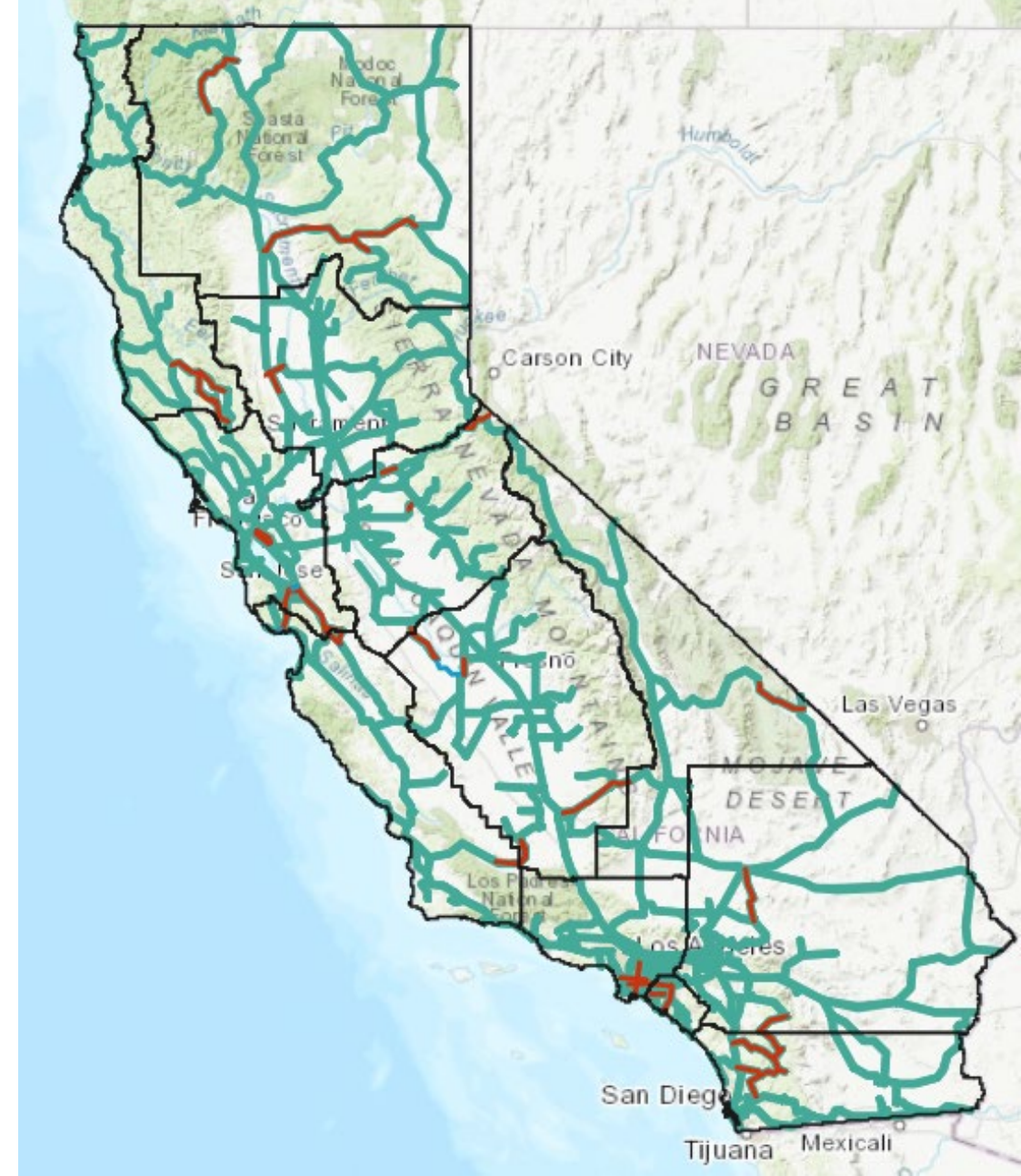
Mark Monroe

Deputy Director, Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
California Department of Technology

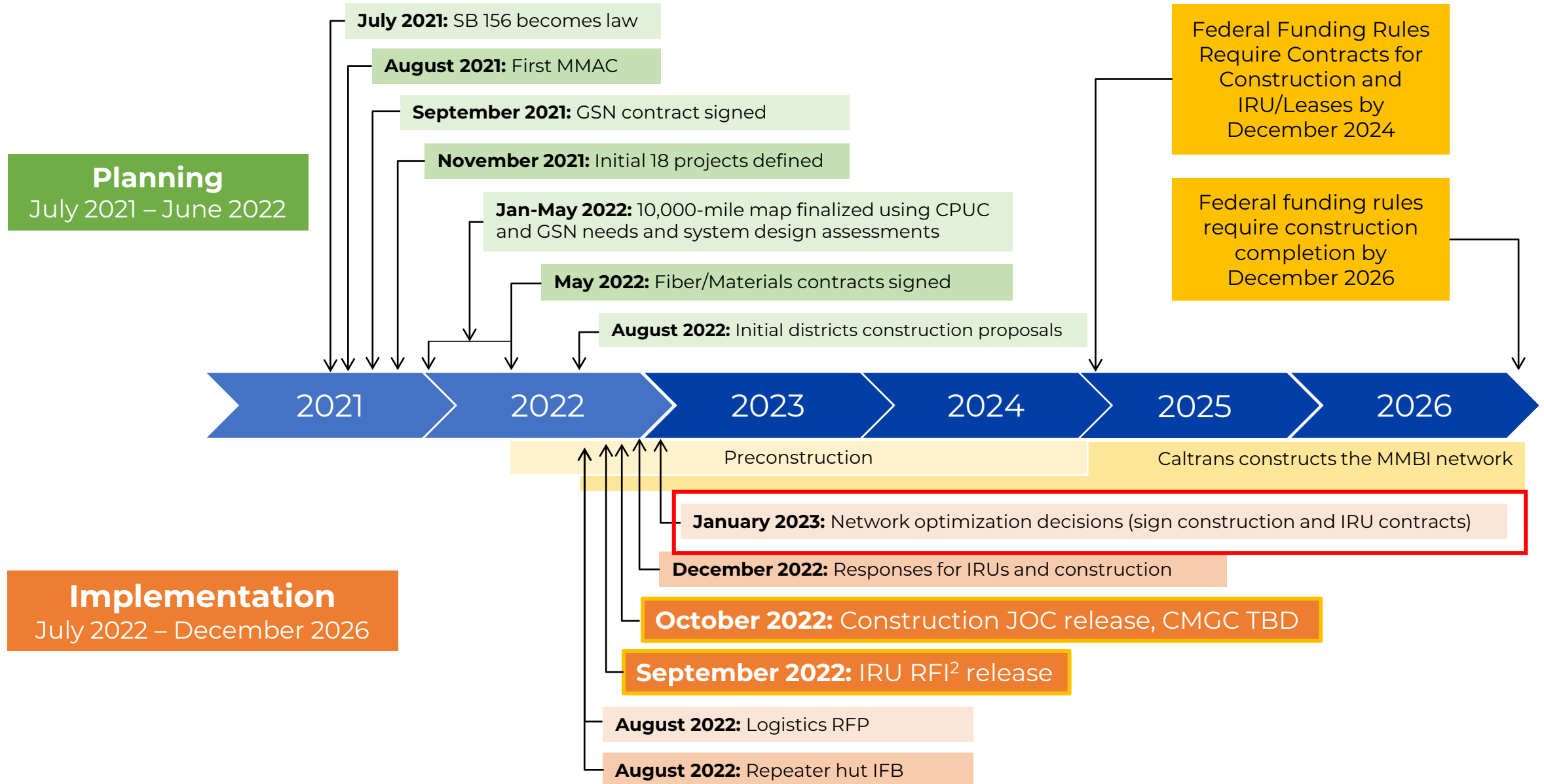
Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative

Statewide Approach

- Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative (MMBI) was created in the 2021 Budget Act and through SB 156.
- The MMBI is intended to use a combination of construction and IRU/leases along the State Highway System (SHS) to connect the state's unserved and underserved communities.
- CDT has identified a 10,000-mile network that will reach the state's almost 700,000 unserved households.
- The \$3.25B in federal ARPA funding must be under contract by 2024, and projects must be complete by 2026.



CDT Project Recap



Q/A

Kaina Pereira

Senior Advisor

Governor's Office of Business and Economic
Development

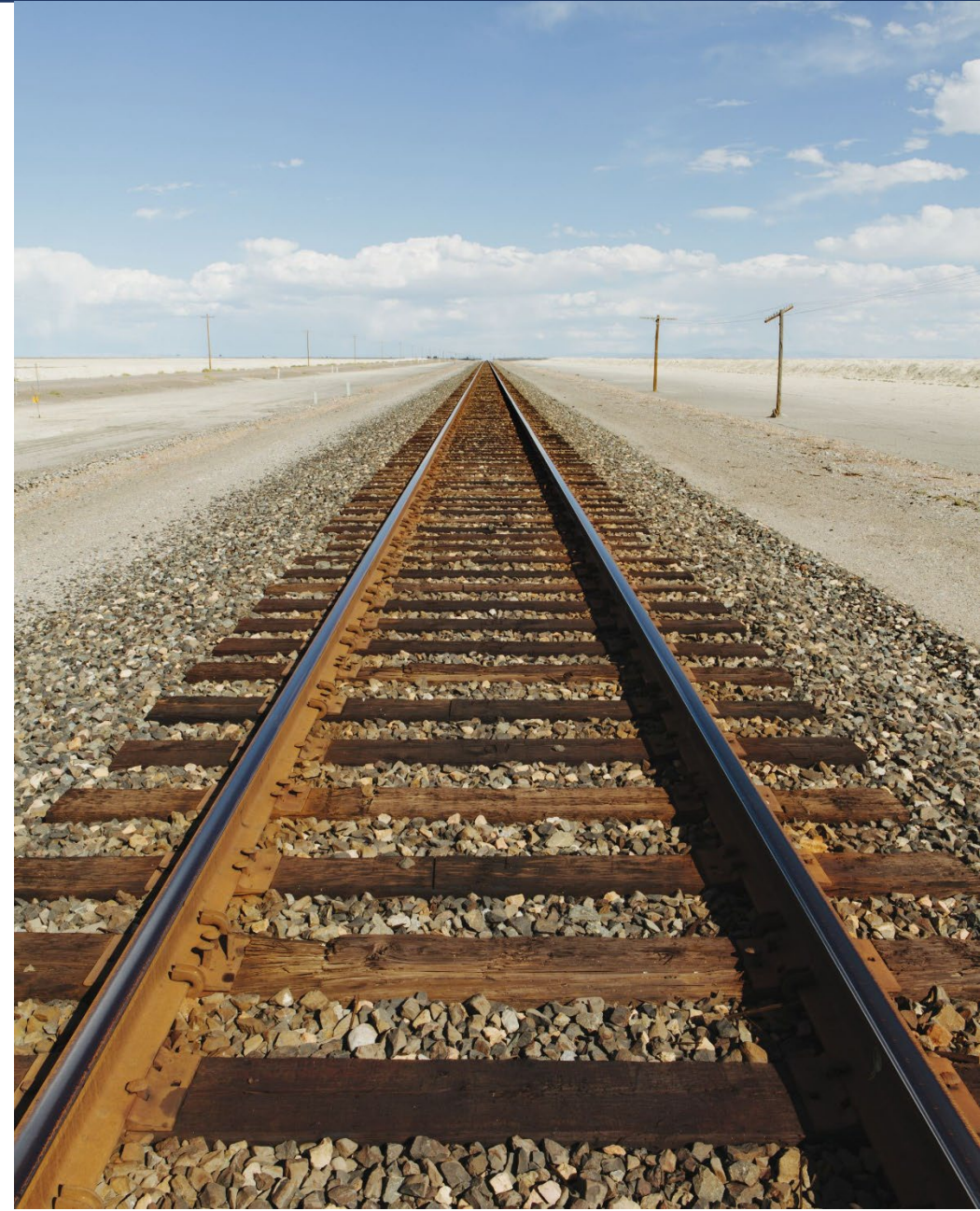
Role of Permitting in Deployment

- Community readiness and awareness for broadband deployment.
- Proactive actions on permitting polices now can reduce time to deployment when it matters



Permitting Stakeholders

- Broadband permitting can require collaboration of many stakeholders:
 - California Department of Transportation
 - Public Utilities
 - Federal Land Management
 - Railroad Companies
 - Local/Tribal Governments
- Each stakeholder has their own permitting policies and practices.



Cole Przybyla

**Access & Deployment Advisor
Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy**

Broadband for All Action Plan – Action Item #6

BROADBAND ACTION PLAN
2020

CALIFORNIA BROADBAND FOR ALL

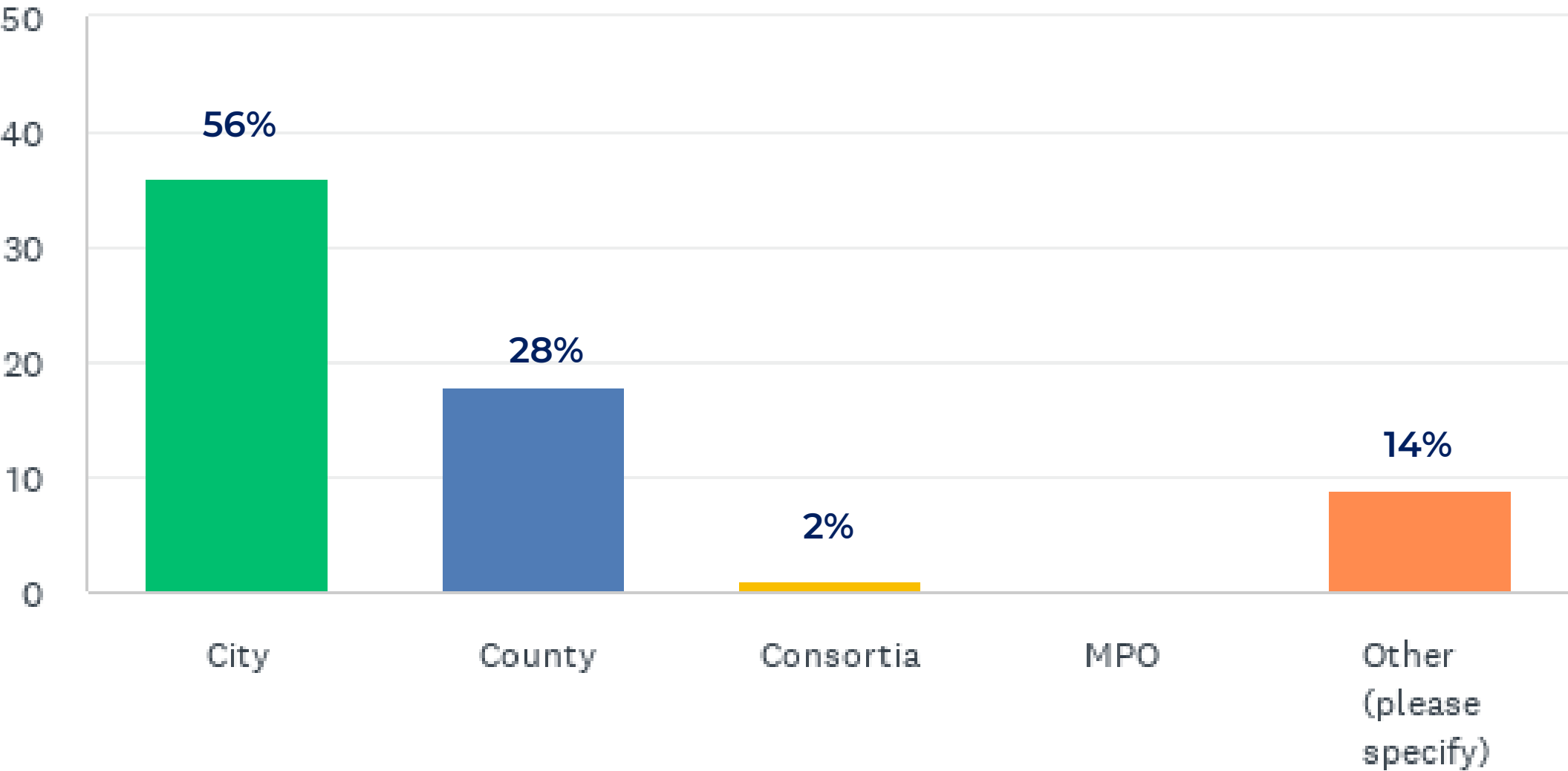


6. Explore various actions to enhance permitting processes at all levels of government through meaningful partnerships. Convene semi-annual meetings with broadband providers and local governments to enhance permitting processes that support the construction of broadband infrastructure and the needs of local governments. In addition, the office should launch a formal partnership with federal agencies to support prioritization of permits for broadband construction through federal land and when permit holders are experiencing delays.

Key Parties:

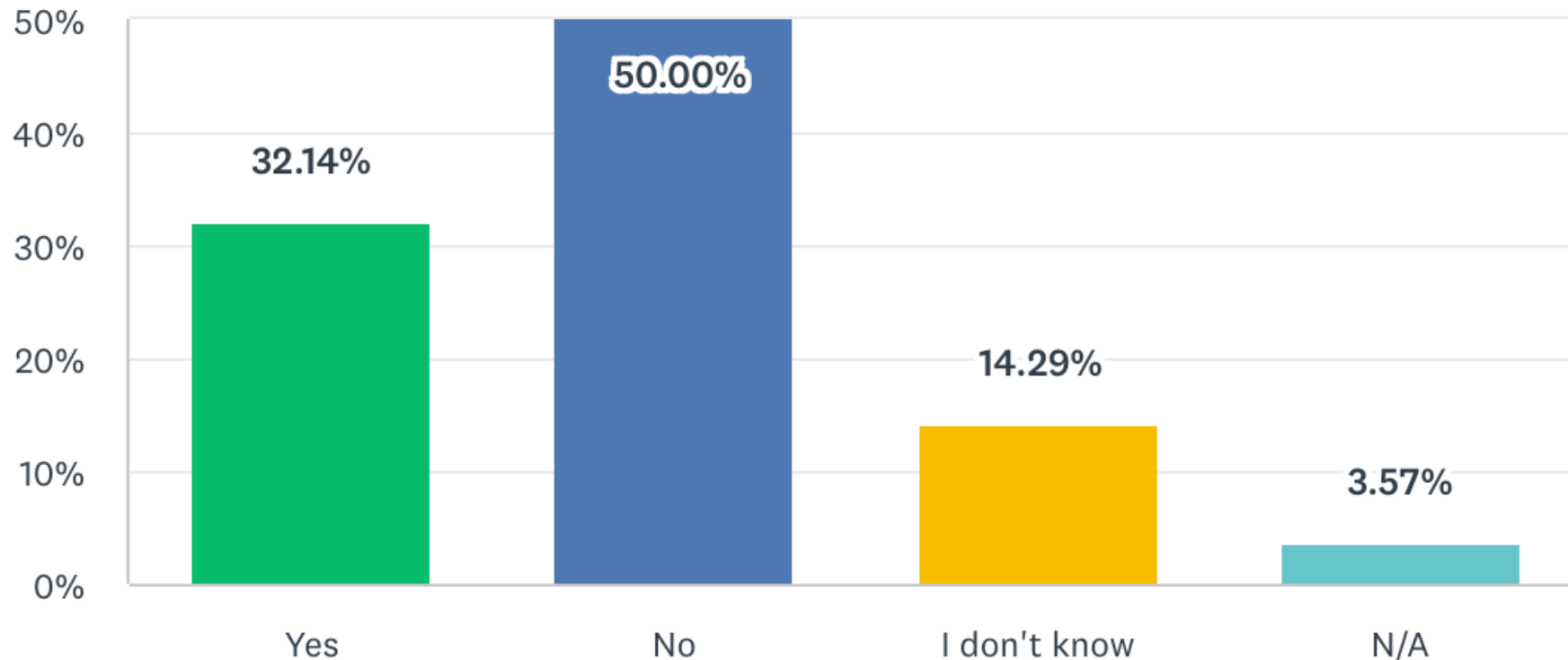
- California Department of Technology

Survey – Respondents



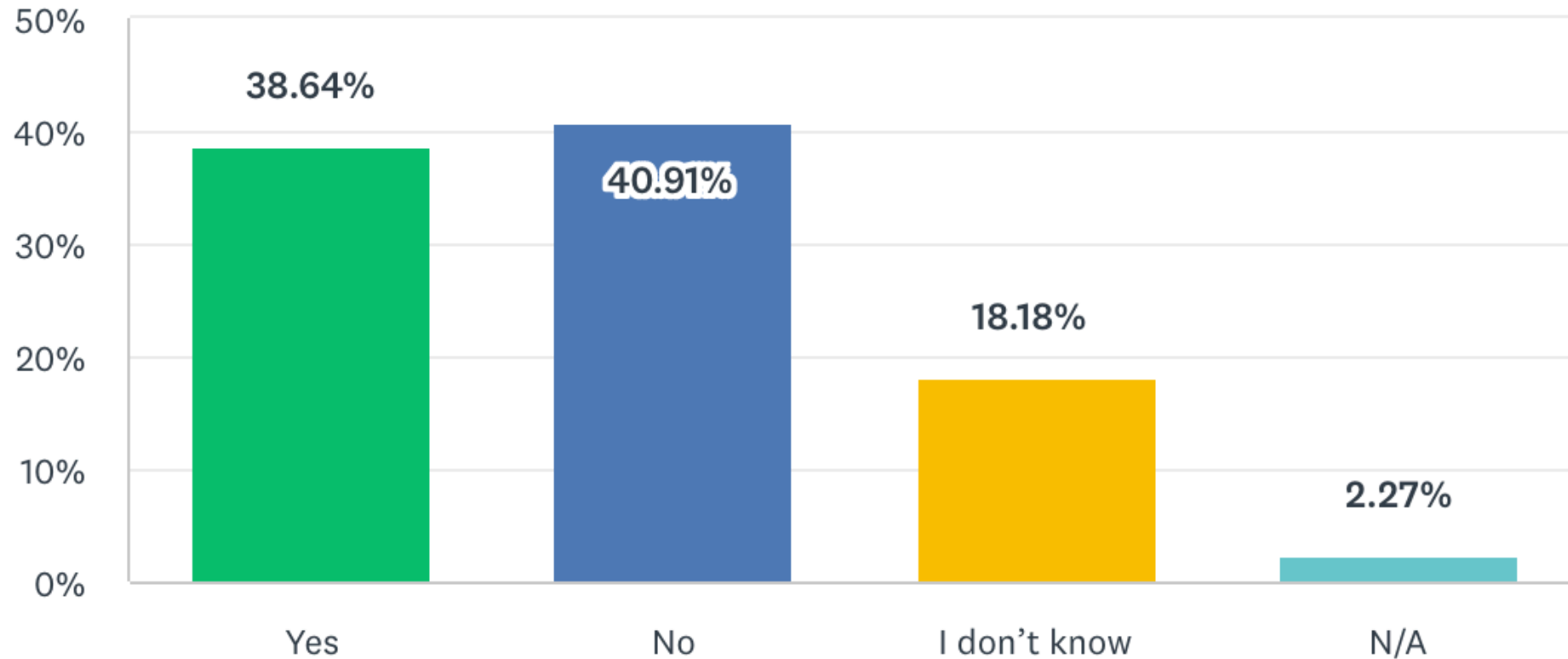
Survey – Broadband Planning

Does your jurisdiction have a broadband master/strategic plan or a digital equity plan?



Survey – Broadband Gap Analysis

Has your jurisdiction conducted a broadband access survey or gap analysis?





Broadband Equity Partnership

Rudy Welter

Principal Engineer
CTC Technology + Energy

Matt Lower

Principal Analyst
CTC Technology + Energy

Curtis Tyger

Senior Analyst
CTC Technology + Energy

California Local Jurisdiction Permitting Playbook

The permitting playbook is a toolkit for your use:

- Shares smart practices local jurisdictions can consider to facilitate broadband project development.
- Presents a set of options for public policy priorities, a community's unique circumstances, and its residents' needs.
- Provides actionable steps towards organizing and enhancing the permitting process.

State of California Local Permitting Playbook

January 2023



Permitting Playbook – Checklist Strategies



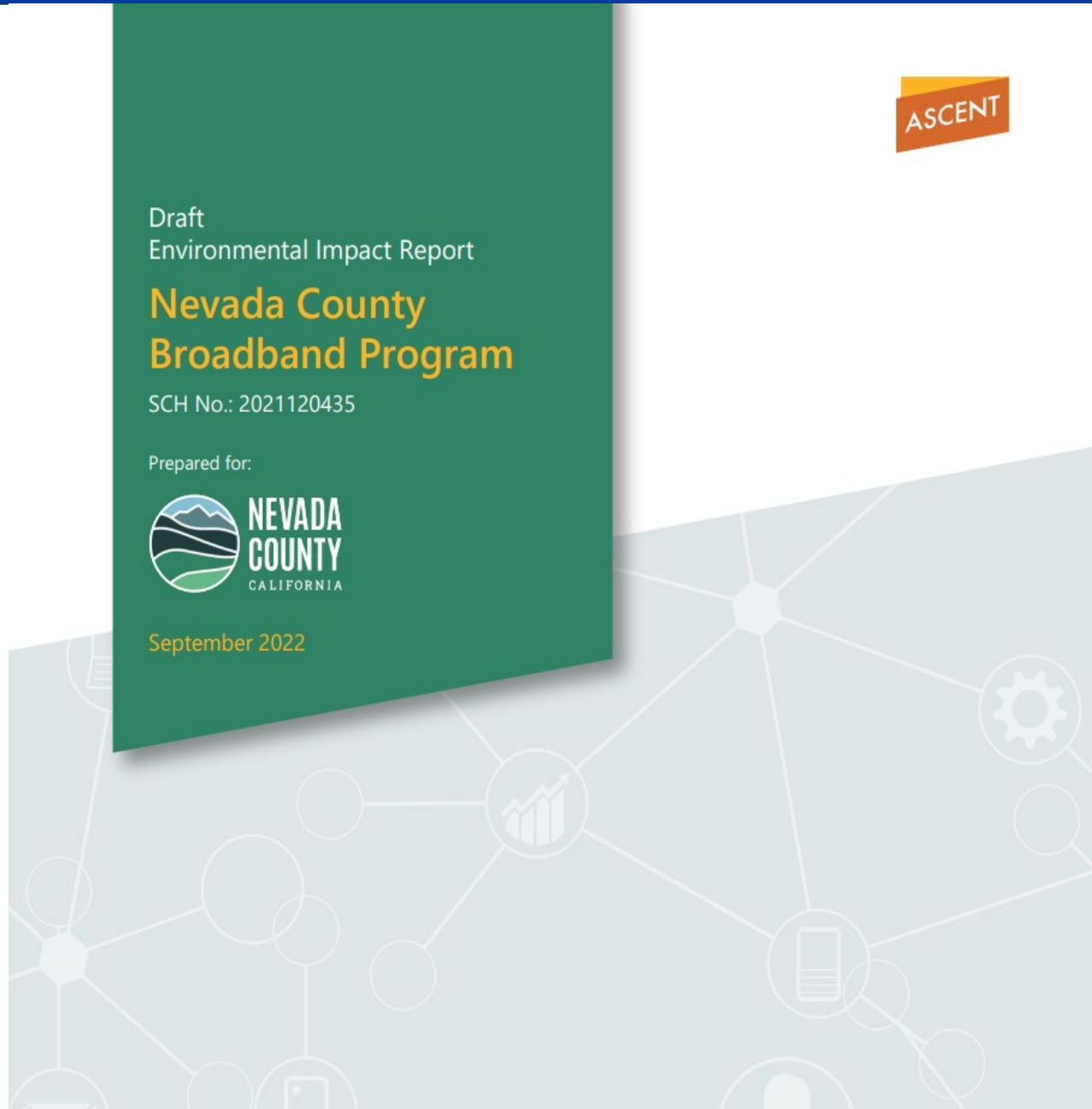
Environmental Impact Report Overview



- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) sets requirements that govern how a state agency must assess/inform the public of the environmental impacts of state actions.
- Three levels of documentation:
 - 1) Exemption
 - 2) Initial Study
 - 3) Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Developing an EIR can a lengthy process
 - Timeline can be risk when working with federal funds
- Solution = a **Program Environmental Impact Report.**

Program Environmental Impact Report

- **Program EIR**
 - Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14, § 15168
 - Can cover a series of actions characterized as one large project, related by
 - Geography,
 - Contemplated actions,
 - Governance,
 - Same authority, and
 - Similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways.
- Individual projects within the program can be evaluated against the Program EIR
 - In-scope = Program EIR can be applied
- Examples for local broadband programs:
 - Nevada County
 - Tuolumne County RFP



Microtrenching

- *Senate Bill 378* definition:
 - Excavation of a trench for fiber installation up to 4 inches in width and a depth of 12 to 26 inches below grade
- A low-cost and efficient method of underground facility construction
 - 3x faster than traditional trenching methods
 - Minimal environmental disturbance
 - Enhanced avoidance of existing utilities
 - Can be optimal for urban settings and paved surfaces.
- SB 378 requires local agencies to allow for microtrenching, with exceptions, but leave the “how” up to you
- Examples of ordinances/policies in playbook:
 - Culver City
 - Fullerton
 - Loma Linda





On this page:

- [California Local Jurisdiction Permitting Playbook](#)
- [Resources and toolkits](#)
- [Broadband planning and implementation](#)
- [Digital inclusion](#)
- [Digital skills training tools](#)

Broadband planning resources

We face complex and deep-rooted challenges to delivering Broadband for All. It will require partnerships with and support from the broadband industry and federal, local, and tribal governments. You may be developing a plan, carrying out that plan, or in the many stages in between. To help, we've gathered some tools as you work to expand broadband access and narrow the digital divide in your community.

Included here are:

Q/A

Broadband for All Portal Planning Resources

[Planning resources \(ca.gov\)](#)

Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Nevada County Broadband Program

<https://www.nevadacountyca.gov/994/Environmental-Documents>

THANK YOU!



**BROADBAND
FOR ALL**