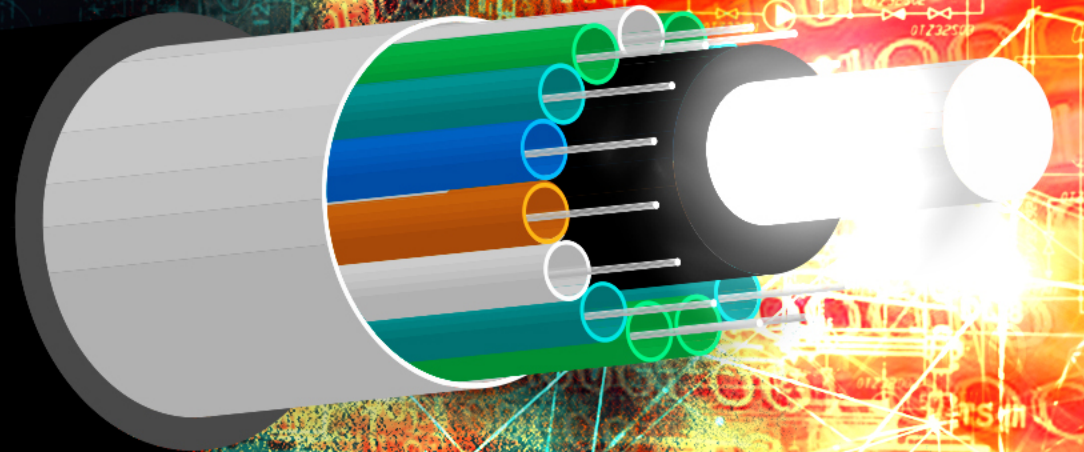


# MAXIMIZING PUBLIC & PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS:

## Communication Systems & Broadband Initiatives

January 7, 2021



# WEBINAR OVERVIEW

## Presenter & Panelist Introductions



**Dean Gustafson,**  
**PE, PTOE**

ITS/TSMO Practice  
Lead  
Lochner



**Anna Read**

Officer, Broadband  
Research Initiative  
Pew Research Center



**Lynne Yocom**

Fiber Optics Manager  
Utah DOT



**Ken Earnest, PE**

Assistant Division  
Administrator,  
Operations Division  
Virginia DOT



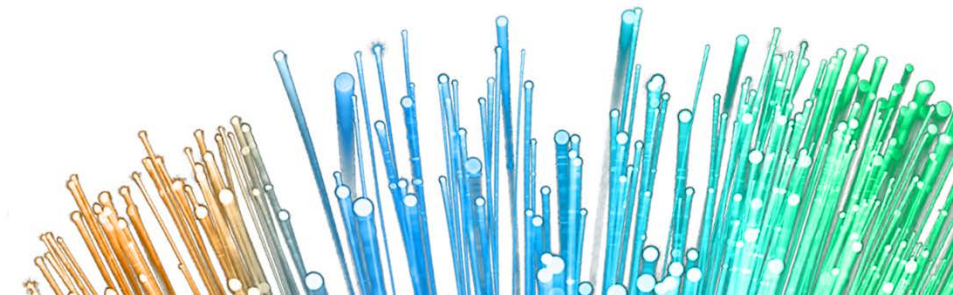
**John Hibbard, PE**

Operations Division  
Director  
Georgia DOT



**Rob Brock**

Senior Systems  
Engineer  
Lochner





# WEBINAR OVERVIEW

## Today's Agenda

**PART 1** Presentation overviews of panelists' current communication systems and broadband initiatives

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**PART 2** Moderated panel discussion

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**PART 3** Live Q&A  
*\* Add your questions to the chat throughout the presentation.*



# Why Fiber?



# Fiber offers...

- Highest bandwidth and lowest latency available
  - Easily supports State DOT ITS infrastructure, including connected and automated vehicle applications
  - Very reliable and secure
- More control over network management than leased services
- Low recurring costs compared to leased services

# Federal Code & Resource Sharing

- In 1988, CFR, Part 645, Subpart B was modified to allow States to expand their utility accommodation policies to include utility installation on Interstate ROW, provided the installation did not adversely affect traffic or highway safety, or impair the use and aesthetic quality of the highway.
- **23 CFR Part 645, Subpart B and 23 CFR Part 710, Subpart D** permits States to accommodate broadband conduit in highway ROW.
- **Telecommunications Act of 1996** requires telecommunications providers to allow competing vendors to have access to facilities for deploying broadband and mandates the removal of state and local barriers to telecommunications competition.
- **In 1996, FHWA and FCC** recognize mutual benefit of resource sharing to DOTs and telecom industry and issue guidance memorandums.
- **In 2002, AASHTO** issues resource sharing design guidelines.

# Federal Direction

**President Obama issued Executive Order on June 14, 2012** to facilitate broadband deployment on federal lands, buildings, rights of way, federally-assisted highways, and tribal lands; including dig-once emphasis.



# Federal Direction

**In August 2020, FHWA published NPRM to amend 23 CFR Part 645 to implement changes required by the MOBILE NOW Act (2018) with 4 main elements:**

- State DOT identify a broadband utility coordinator position within the State,
- Establish a registration process for broadband infrastructure entities,
- Establish a process to electronically notify broadband infrastructure entities annually about the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP),
- Coordinate MOBILE NOW initiatives with broadband initiatives, transportation plans, local transportation and land use plans, including strategies to minimize repeated excavations of broadband infrastructure within ROW.

# How States Are Expanding Broadband Access



# State Broadband Policy

- Broadband deployment policy as of Jan 1, 2020
- Related analyses
  - [2018](#), [2019](#) legislative policy trends
  - [How policy shapes deployment](#)

State

CATEGORIES

Broadband programs

Competition and regulation

Definitions

Funding and financing

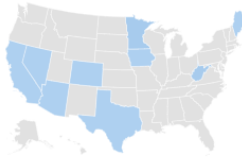
Infrastructure access

TOPICS:  
Right of way (11)  
-- Dig once (11)

Other

Year

States matching filter criteria



ARIZONA

NO DATE

**Ariz. Rev. Stat. 28-7382**

Broadband conduit installation; rural highway construction projects

Category: Infrastructure access

Topic: Right of way (Dig once)

Allows the director of transportation to authorize the installation of broadband conduit exclusive of road construction or as part of a rural highway transportation project if the department receives funding to cover the cost or if state entities with responsibility for broadband request the conduit and provide funding. Allows the conduit to be leased to broadband providers at a cost-based rate and allows the director to limit provider access to the right of way to initial installation and infrequent maintenance activities.

READ RELEVANT CODE →

CALIFORNIA

2016

**Calif. Gov. Code 14051**

Activities

Category: Infrastructure access

Topic: Right of way (Dig once)

Promotes collaboration among the Department of Transportation and companies and organizations working on broadband deployment by requiring the department to notify those entities during the planning phase of department-led highway construction projects suitable for broadband conduit installation. Requires the Department of Transportation to develop guidelines to facilitate broadband conduit installation on state highway right of way.

READ RELEVANT CODE →

COLORADO

2014

**Colo. Rev. Stat. 38-5.5-109**

Notice of trenching - permitted access

Category: Infrastructure access

Topic: Right of way (Dig once)

Requires state and local entities to provide broadband providers with notice of utility trenching projects on a competitively neutral basis at least 10 days before the start of the project to allow broadband providers to place facilities. Allows the state or local entity to share construction costs with the broadband provider. Does not pre-empt local requirements for joint trenching.

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/data-visualizations/2019/state-broadband-policy-explorer>



# State Broadband Policy

- State broadband policies primarily fall into five categories:
  - Establish broadband programs
  - Set broadband goals and define key terms (e.g., broadband, unserved and underserved areas)
  - Create funding and financing mechanisms
  - Determine service provision by non-traditional providers
  - Address infrastructure access (e.g., rights-of-way access, dig once)

# State Broadband Programs

- Broadband offices
- Broadband programs within agencies
- Task forces and councils



## Key Elements of State Broadband Programs

Programs take different forms, share common goals and activities

### Introduction

States play a crucial role in efforts to expand broadband to the millions of Americans who still lack access to this vital service. Nearly all states have responded to the growing demand for reliable, high-speed internet by creating broadband offices or designating responsibility for broadband to a state agency, task force, or council. While their structures might vary, state programs share many similarities, including working with local officials and other stakeholders to close gaps in service, managing data on broadband access, and administering grant programs.

### Who is in charge of broadband programs?

Nearly three quarters of states have created a dedicated broadband office within an agency or designated an existing agency—such as departments of economic development or information technology—with authority for expanding broadband. Others have formed broadband task forces or councils. In some cases, these entities are tasked with overseeing broadband efforts, while in other states, they serve as a first step toward establishing a broadband program.

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/fact-sheets/2020/05/key-elements-of-state-broadband-programs>

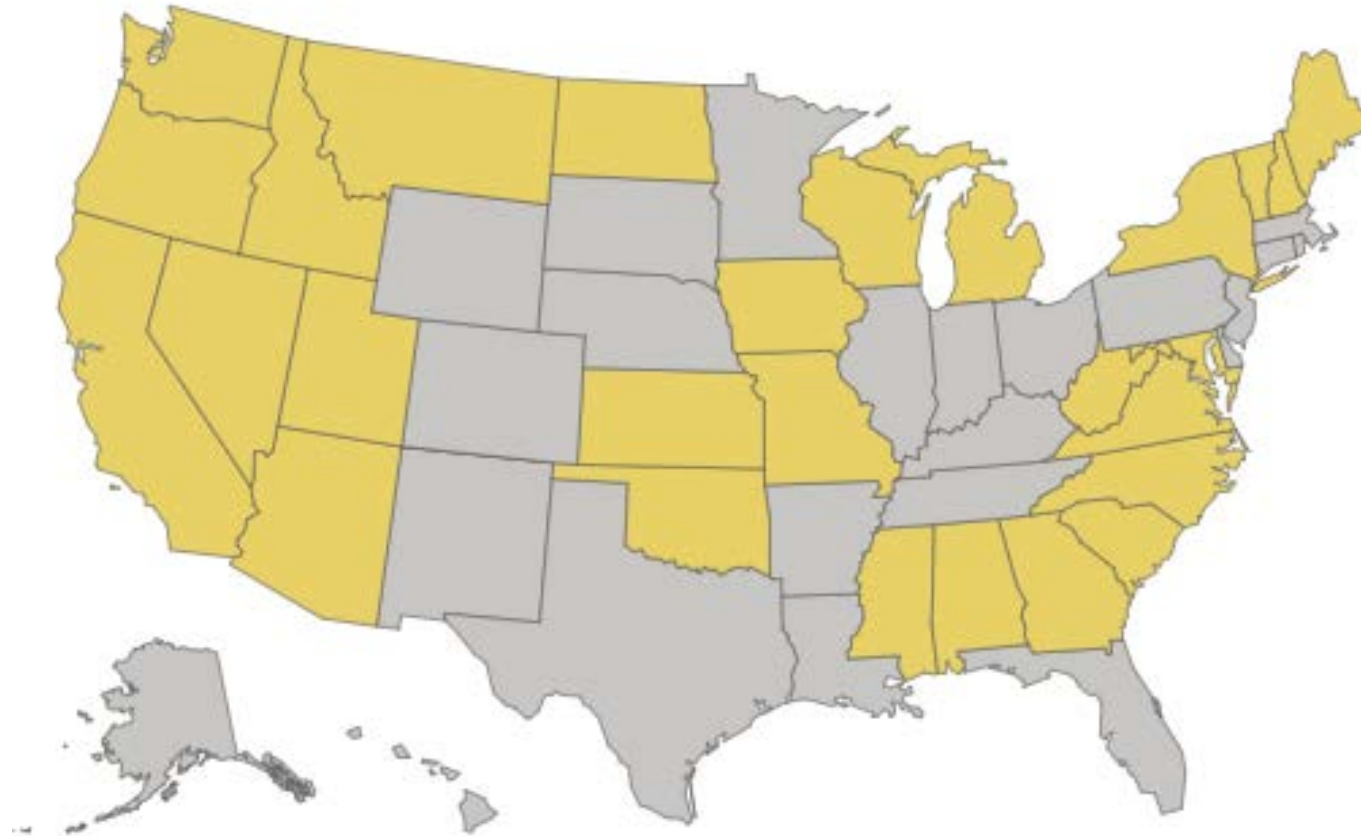
# State Broadband Programs

- Core activities of state broadband programs:
  - Stakeholder engagement (cross-agency collaboration)
  - Data management
  - Planning
  - Administering grant programs





# Coronavirus Relief Funds and Broadband



Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

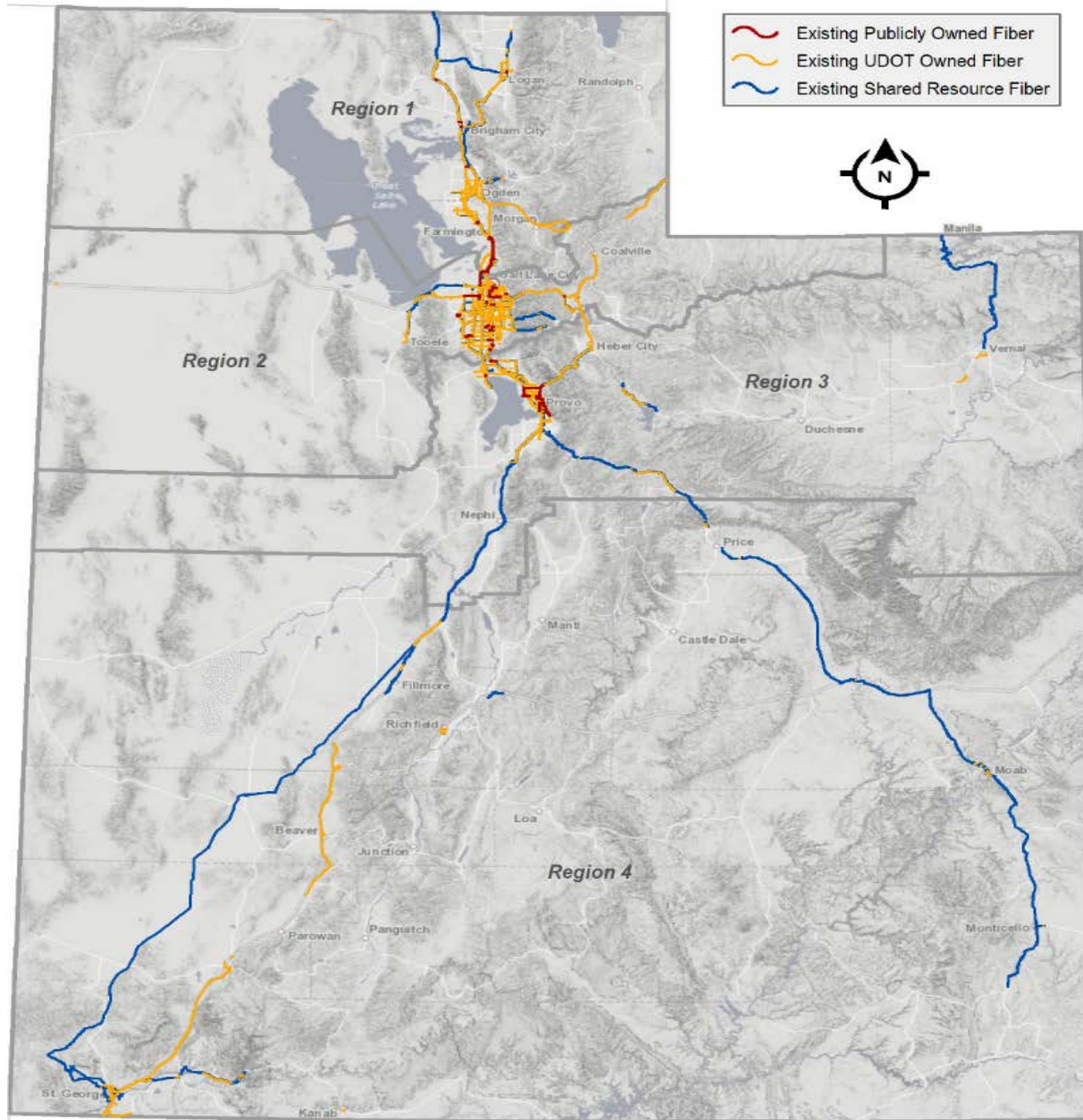
# NOCoE Webinar

## *Fiber Optic Resource Sharing*



**Lynne Yocom – UDOT Fiber Optics Manager**

[lyocom@Utah.gov](mailto:lyocom@Utah.gov)



## UDOT Existing Fiber Optic Coverage (May 2020)





# Extent of the UDOT Network

**2,780 miles of fiber optics.**

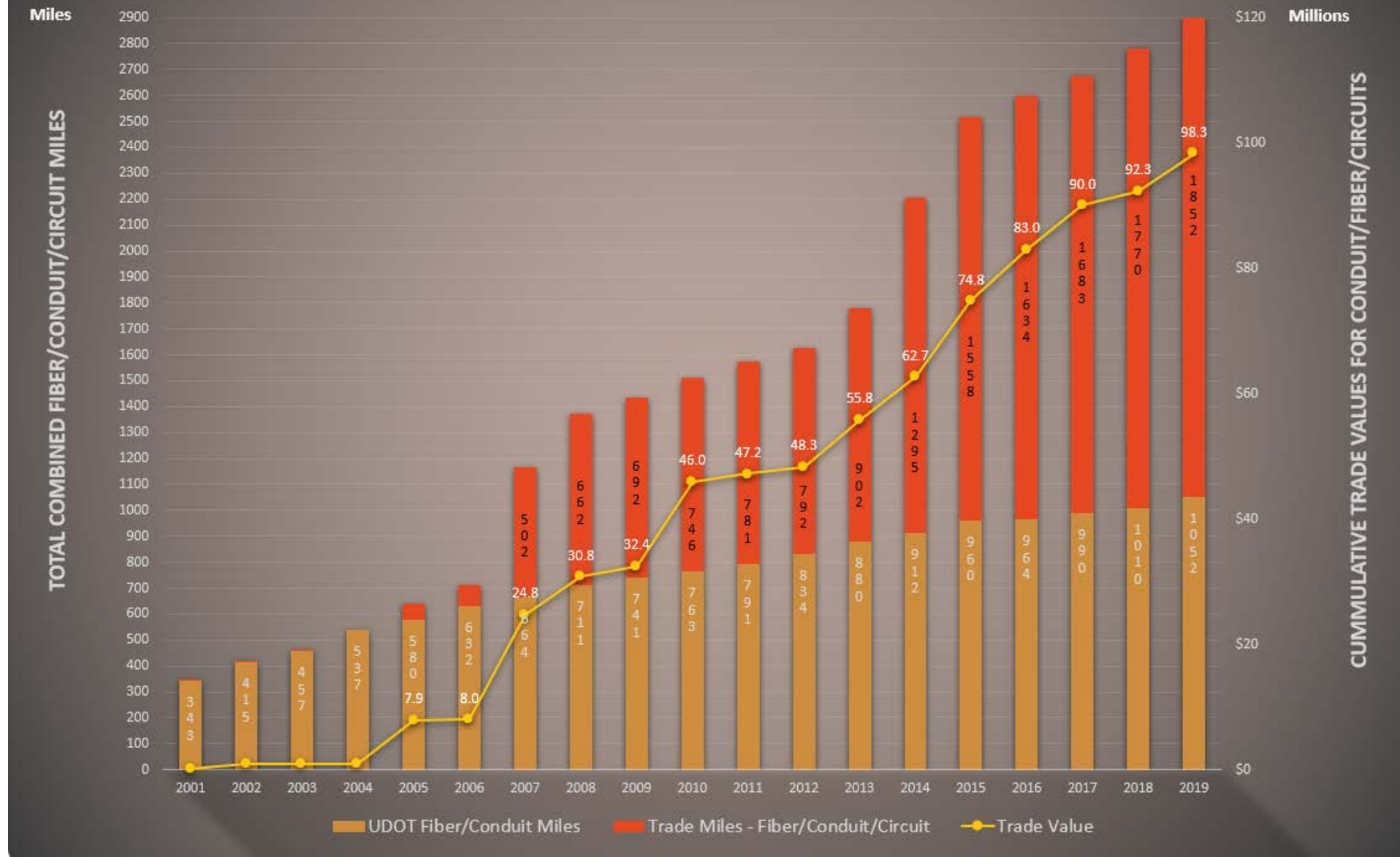
- **1150 miles UDOT**
- **PPP (Public, Private, Partnership) fiber 1852 miles**
  - **St. George connection is with a pipeline for 300 miles not a road. South Central Fiber Circuits 312 miles connect Cedar City, Bryce Canyon, Kanab, Parowan and Beaver.**

**Utah Interstate Miles 978 - Installed or currently under construction as of 10/29/2020.**

- **Interstate Fiber Miles 791 fiber miles 80%**
- **I-15 400 miles with 390 fiber miles 98%**
- **I-215 29 miles with 29 fiber miles 100%**
- **I-80 197 miles with 97 fiber miles 50%**
- **I-84 120 miles with 113 fiber miles 94%**
- **I-70 232 miles with 162 fiber miles 70%**

Note - Percentages calculated are for road miles and do not include the rural fiber circuit trades of 612 miles.

## UDOT's Fiber Optic Network 19 Years



# 19 Years

# Summary of UDOT Fiber Optic P3's

There are projects in every region that have great public private partnerships.

Region 1 Allwest I-84 from Morgan to Henefer.

Region 2 UTOPIA Hideout to US-40

Region 3 Strata and UETN Daggett Project Vernal to Manilla and Dutch

Region 4 First Digital I-15 MP 98 to Cedar City

Emery, White Mesa, and Navajo Nation San Juan Project

The project that I especially think should be highlighted is the Daggett Project because the \$6 million three-year project was completed last month. It took three years of joint efforts with UDOT, UETN, and STRATA to get this project built. Other stakeholders included Daggett County, Daggett School District, FCC, US Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service, and the Utah State Legislature. We were able to take advantage of Universal Service Funds for \$3 million, \$1million in State match, and \$2 million from STRATA. UDOT and UETN's contribution was \$500,000 each. This fiber connectivity to the Flaming George area will not only help UDOT with traffic needs it is servicing the schools, the medical facilities, and the citizens. This will greatly improve the quality of life and the economic development of that area. Cell service has already improved on existing towers and additional towers are being planned.

This project is what PPP's are all about.

<https://www.uen.org/news/article.php?id=996>





**Dagget PPP  
67 miles of  
FO installed**





# Fiber Optics Flaming George Dam





# Minimal Environmental Impact





# Rock and Weather Challenges



# Benefits to Health Care and Education





# Community





# Recreation

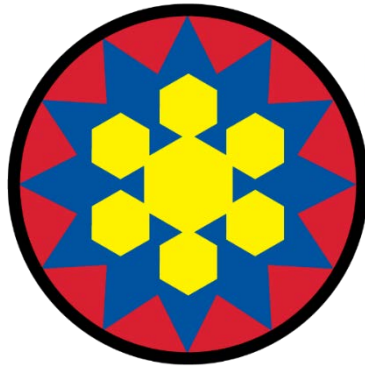




—Aerial photography by Dan Krauss for The Wall Street Journal

# Cottonwood Canyons





**Brighton**  
UTAH



**Solitude**  
MOUNTAIN RESORT

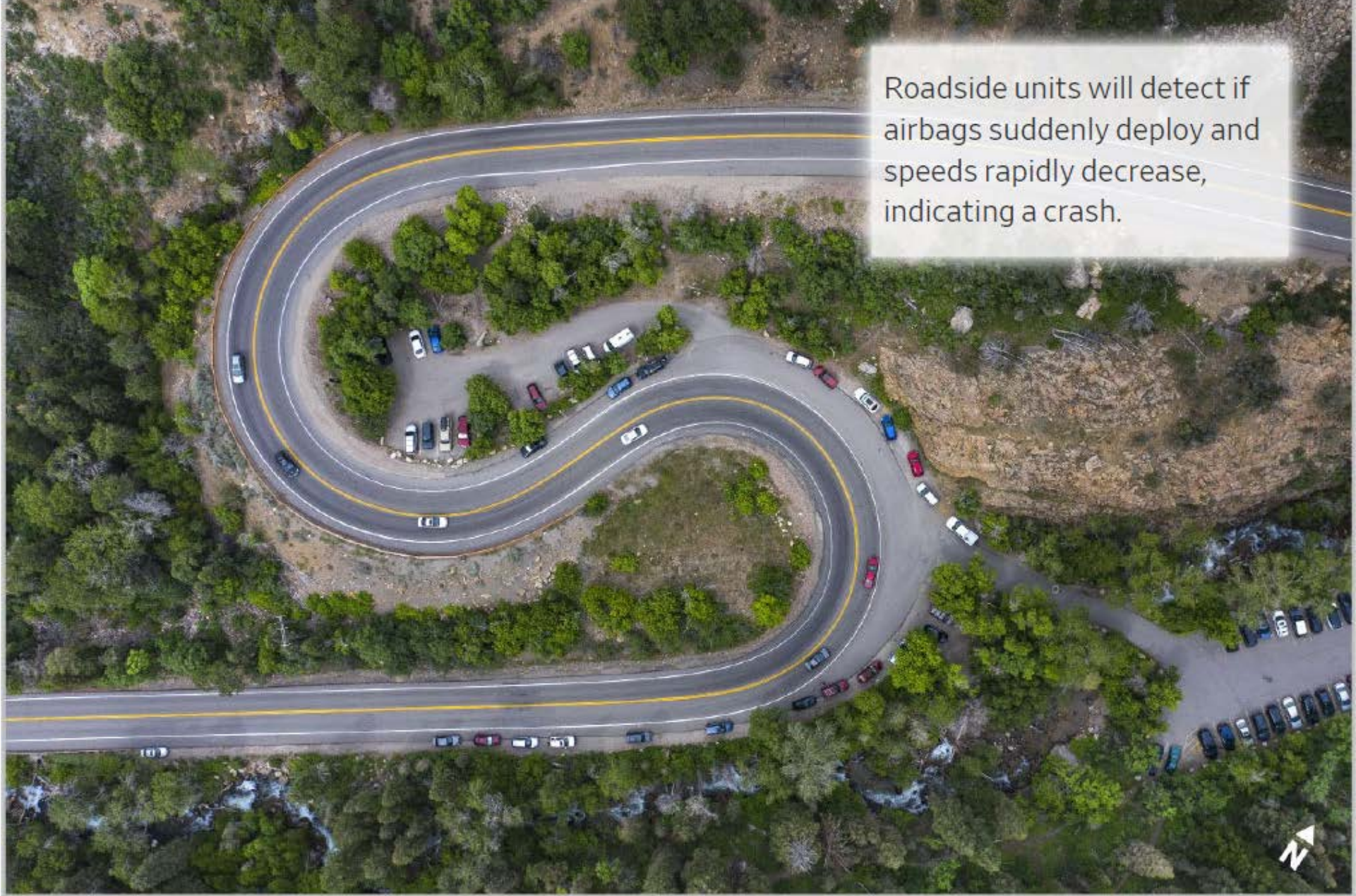


**Save Our Canyons**



# Stakeholders

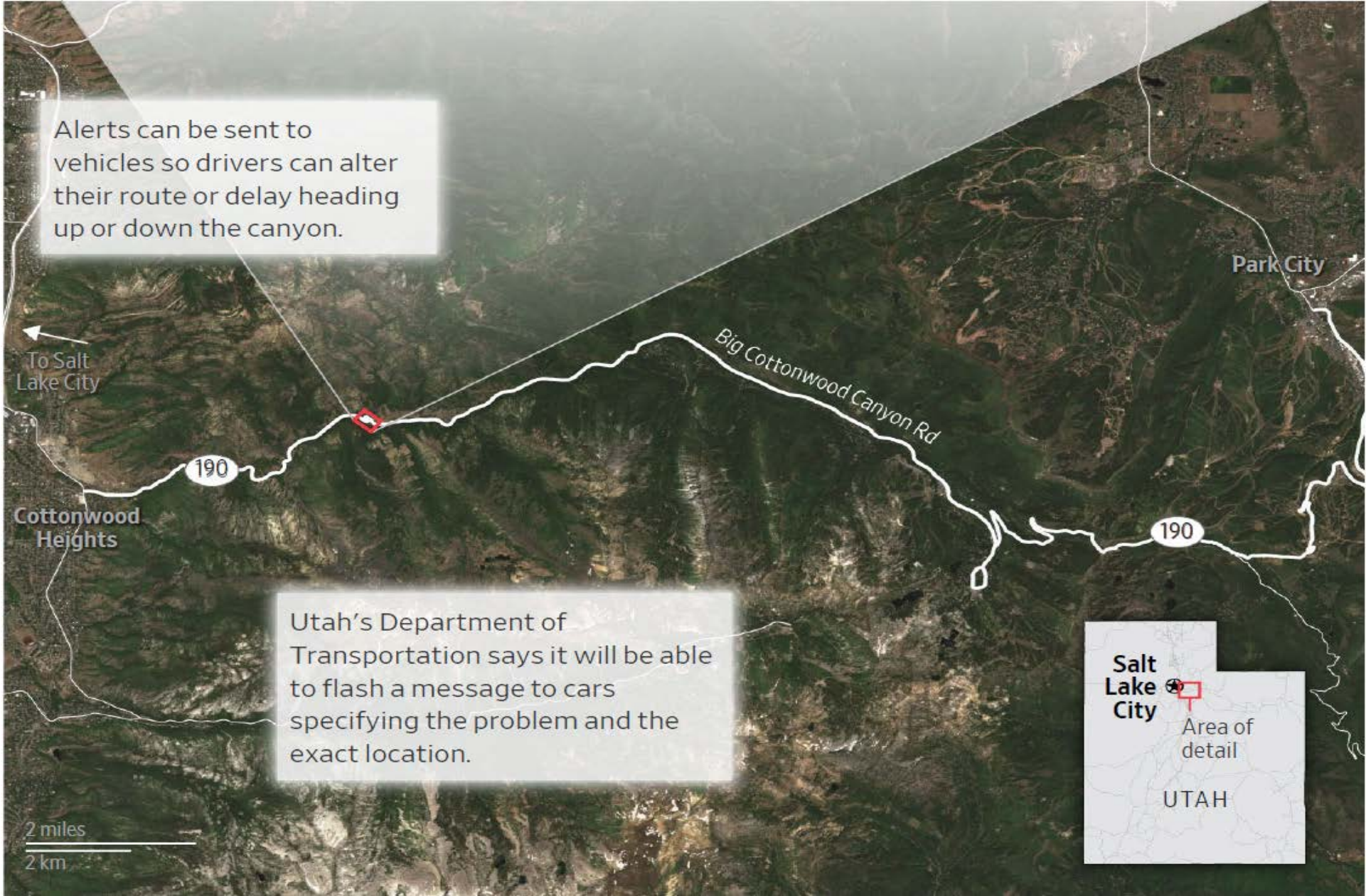




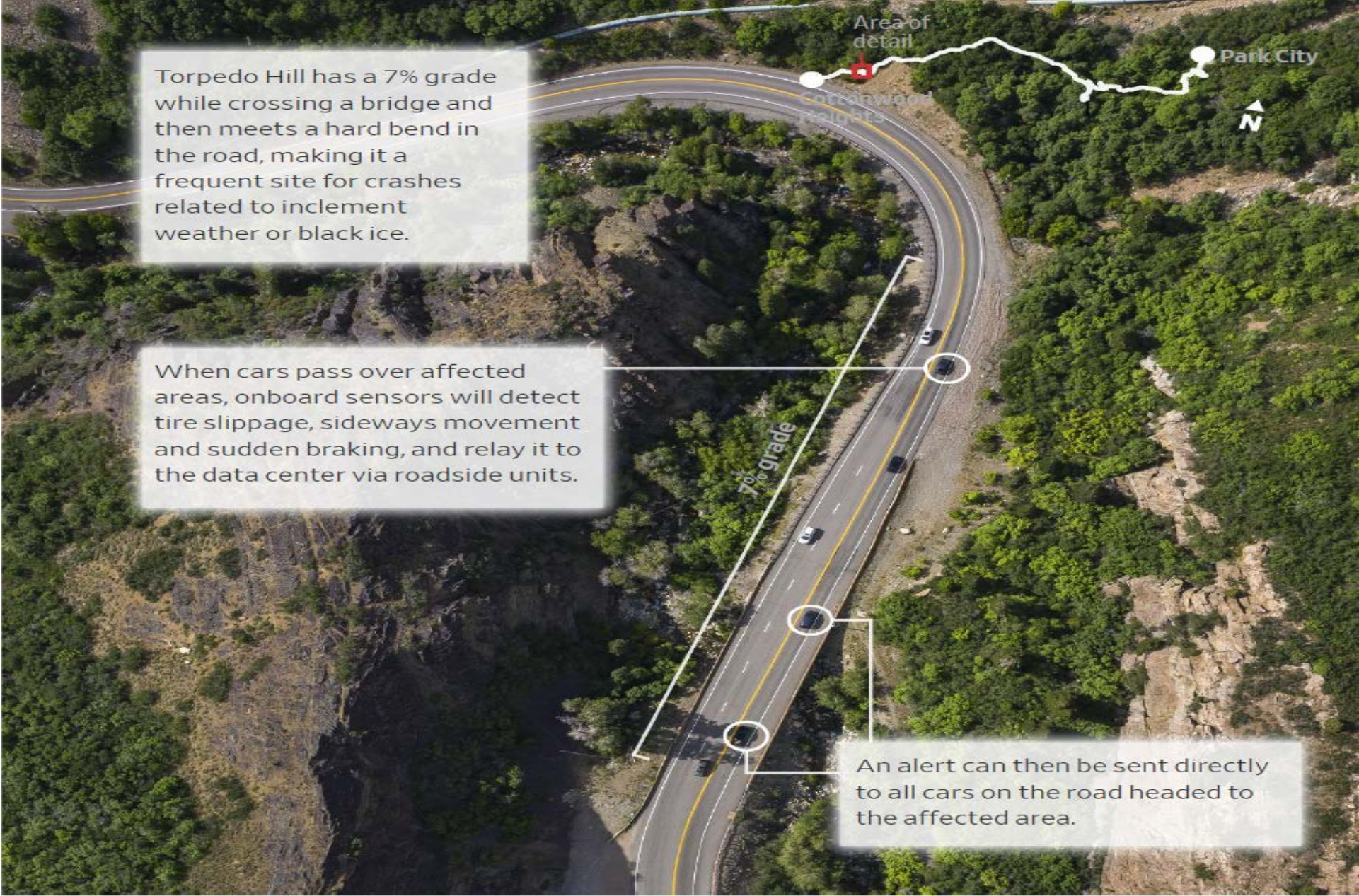
Roadside units will detect if airbags suddenly deploy and speeds rapidly decrease, indicating a crash.

—Aerial photography by Dan Krauss for The Wall Street Journal













In Big Cottonwood Canyon, UDOT spends about \$10,000 a year repairing potholes.

“Vertical acceleration” sensors in passing cars will be able to detect bumps in the road that can signal a pothole is emerging.

UDOT crews can be alerted to make repairs before the pothole gets too big.

—Aerial photography by Dan Krauss for The Wall Street Journal

# Project Summary

- Projects Estimate: \$5 Million
- 35 poles
- 24.5 Miles fiber optics
- 7200 Volt Electrical Systems
- 12 new cameras - 8 Road Weather Systems - 15 chain-up signs
- Improved communications for All Users
- Avalanche Operations Center
- Future ITS expansion (dms, etc.)





# CARES ACT Project I-84

## 8 Million 42 Miles





## I-84 Medium install Strata Boys





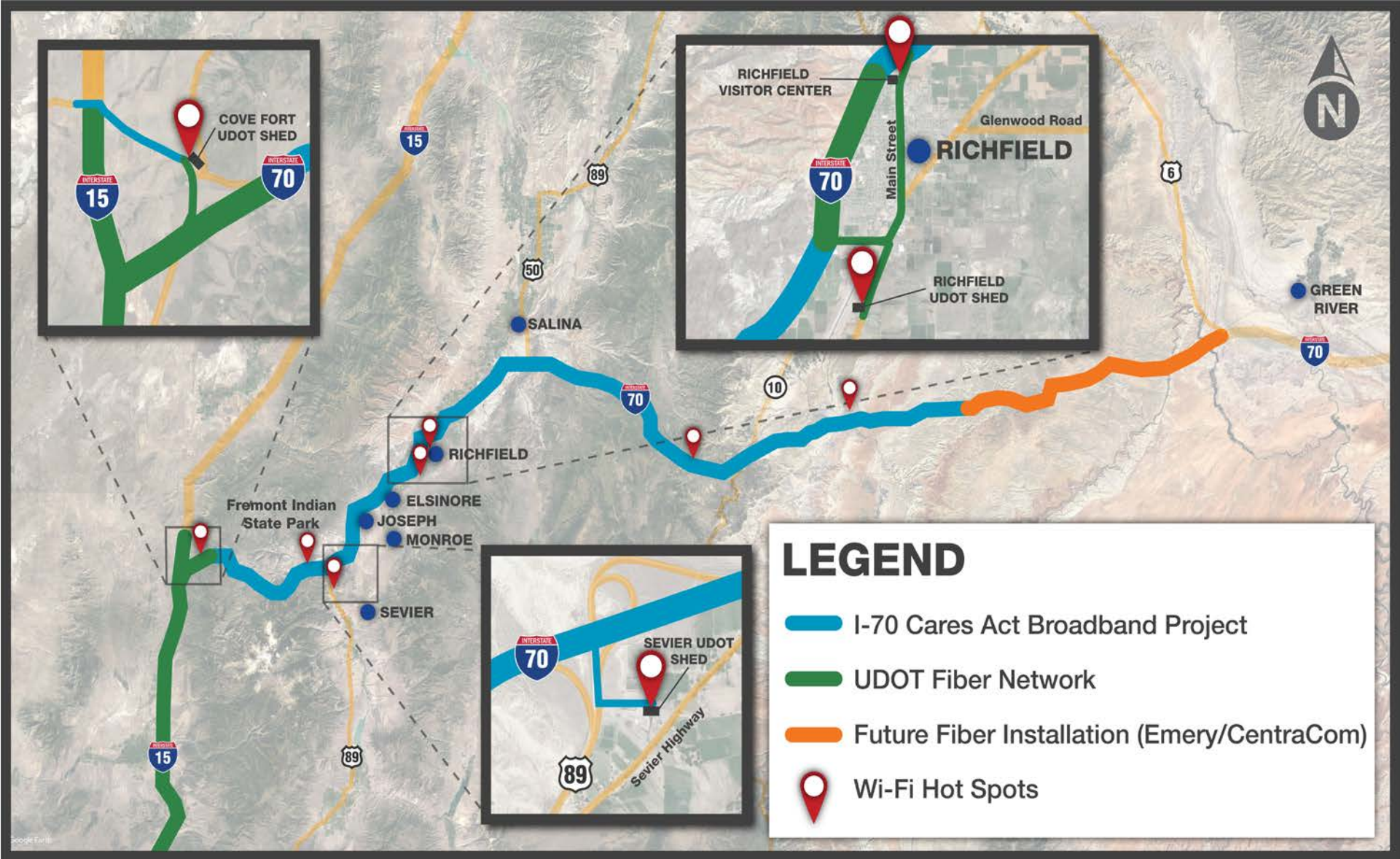
## Junction Boxes – I-84

### Lightweight Innovative New Design









# CARES ACT Project I-70

## 23 Million 117 Miles





## Spyder Plow Remote Control No Driver





## Strata D-8 Plow



## San Rafael Swell





## Bore Pit I-70



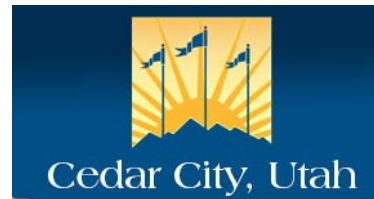




Special thanks to our project partners:

**CentraCom • Telecom • Fremont Tribal Government • Richfield City  
Richfield Data Center • Utah Education and Telehealth Network • Americom • Strata  
Beehive Broadband • Utah Department of Technology Services • Utah Communications Authority  
Utah Department of Public Safety • SCI Communications • Horrocks Engineers**

# Cities - Counties - Special Services





# Telecoms



# Trade Partners



# State Agencies



Utah Governor's Office *of*  
Economic Development

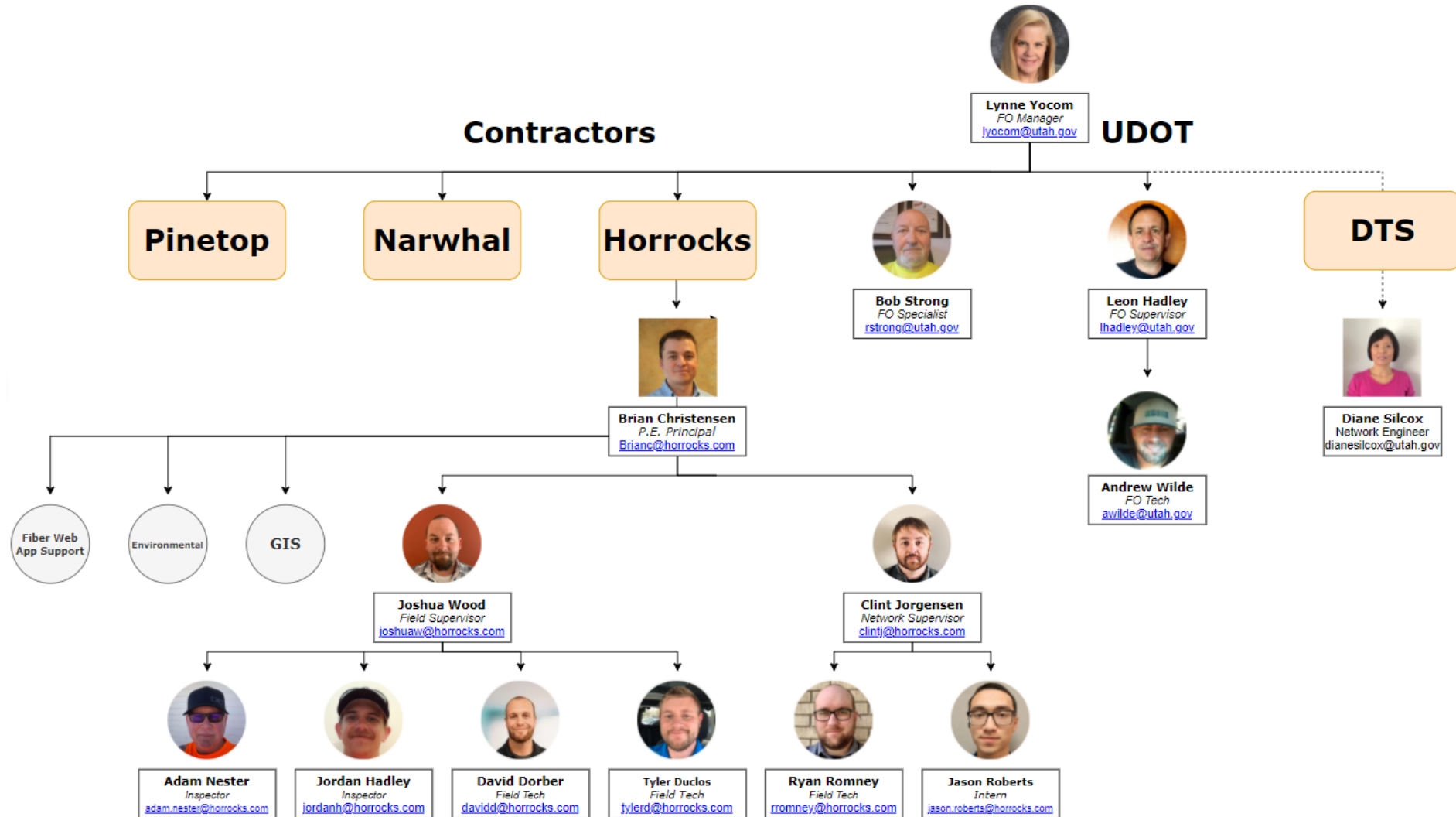
BUSINESS • TOURISM • FILM

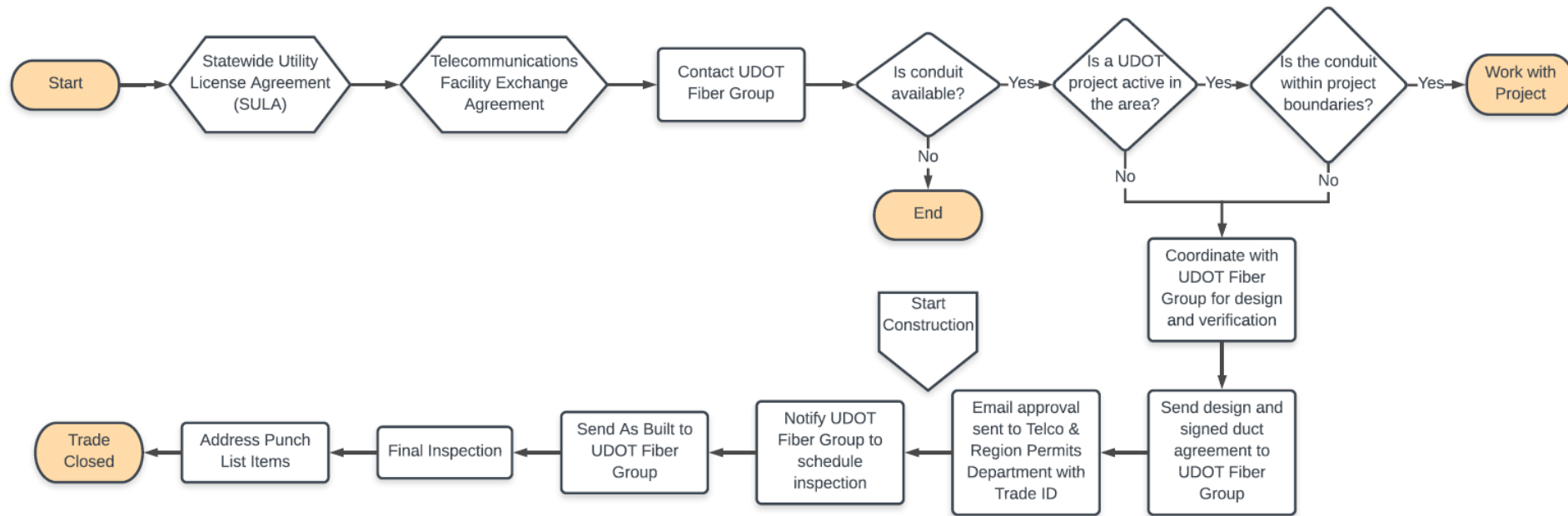
## Trade Partners





# UDOT Fiber Group Organization Chart





## Telecom Partnering Flowchart



# Links

- Utah Code 72-7-108 - <https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title72/Chapter7/72-7-S108.html>
- R907-64 – <https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r907/r907-064.htm>
- R907 – 65 – <https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r907/r907-065.htm>
- R930 – <https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r930/r930-007.htm>
- Fiber Map -  
<https://horrocks.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=096d0a7dd31a4be289b9623935308fc9>
- Agreements and Valuation - <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/x07914hkpiybfe1/AABaIN3XT4tQuL8QgweIXAOa?dl=0>
- Infrastructure and Broadband Coordination – Governor’s Office of Economic Development  
<https://law.justia.com/codes/utah/2019/title-63n/chapter-3/part-5/section-501/>
- Fun Video Links –
  - Americom - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxSaeDUhP2E>
  - Fox - <https://www.fox13now.com/news/local-news/win-win-fiber-optics-lines-make-utah-roads-safer-and-help-rural-utahns-connect>
  - Micro Trench - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8p4xHlwuMhI>



# **VDOT'S FIBER OPTIC RESOURCE SHARING PROGRAM**

 Ken Earnest, P.E., Assistant Division Administrator, Operations Division



# Fiber Resource Sharing – Reduced Costs for VDOT

- Installing comparable fiber infrastructure would cost VDOT \$150,000 – \$300,000/mile
- Resource Sharing partners maintain the shared fiber route which would otherwise cost VDOT \$1,800/mi/yr
- VDOT currently operates 1,621 miles of shared fiber that would cost \$243M – \$486M to build, and \$2.9M annually to maintain
- Each camera transitioned from leased broadband services onto fiber can save VDOT up to \$5,000 annually

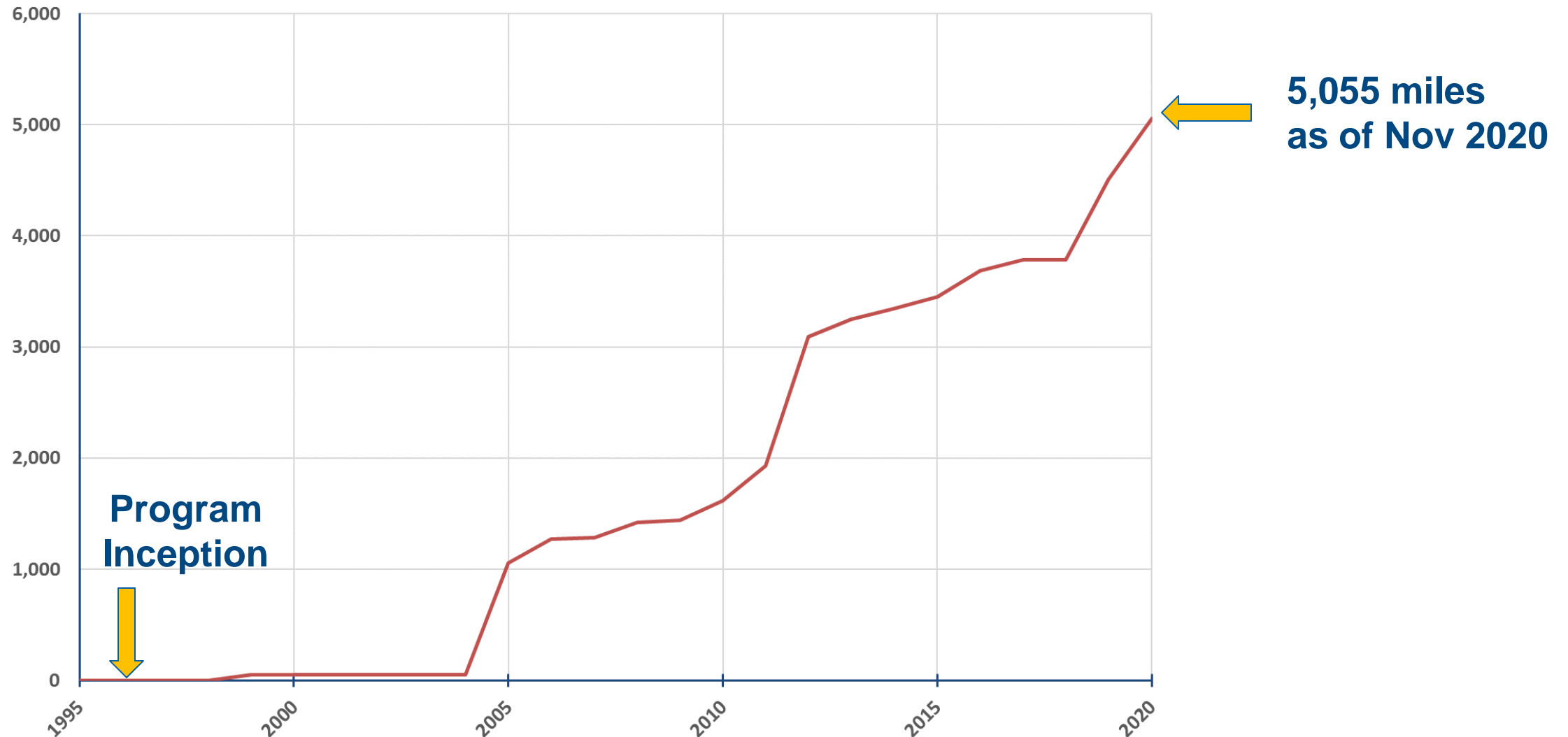
# Fiber Optic Resource Sharing (FORS) in Virginia

- Virginia's Administrative Code (24VAC30-151) allows fiber within Limited-Access ROW through resource sharing agreements
- VDOT can receive any combo of goods, services or cash
- VDOT FORS program began in 1996 and accelerated with tobacco settlement/broadband stimulus funding, and growth of internet, data centers and trans-oceanic cables
- Currently 23 active partners: including major telcos, wholesale providers, co-ops and public agencies
- All agreements are non-exclusive

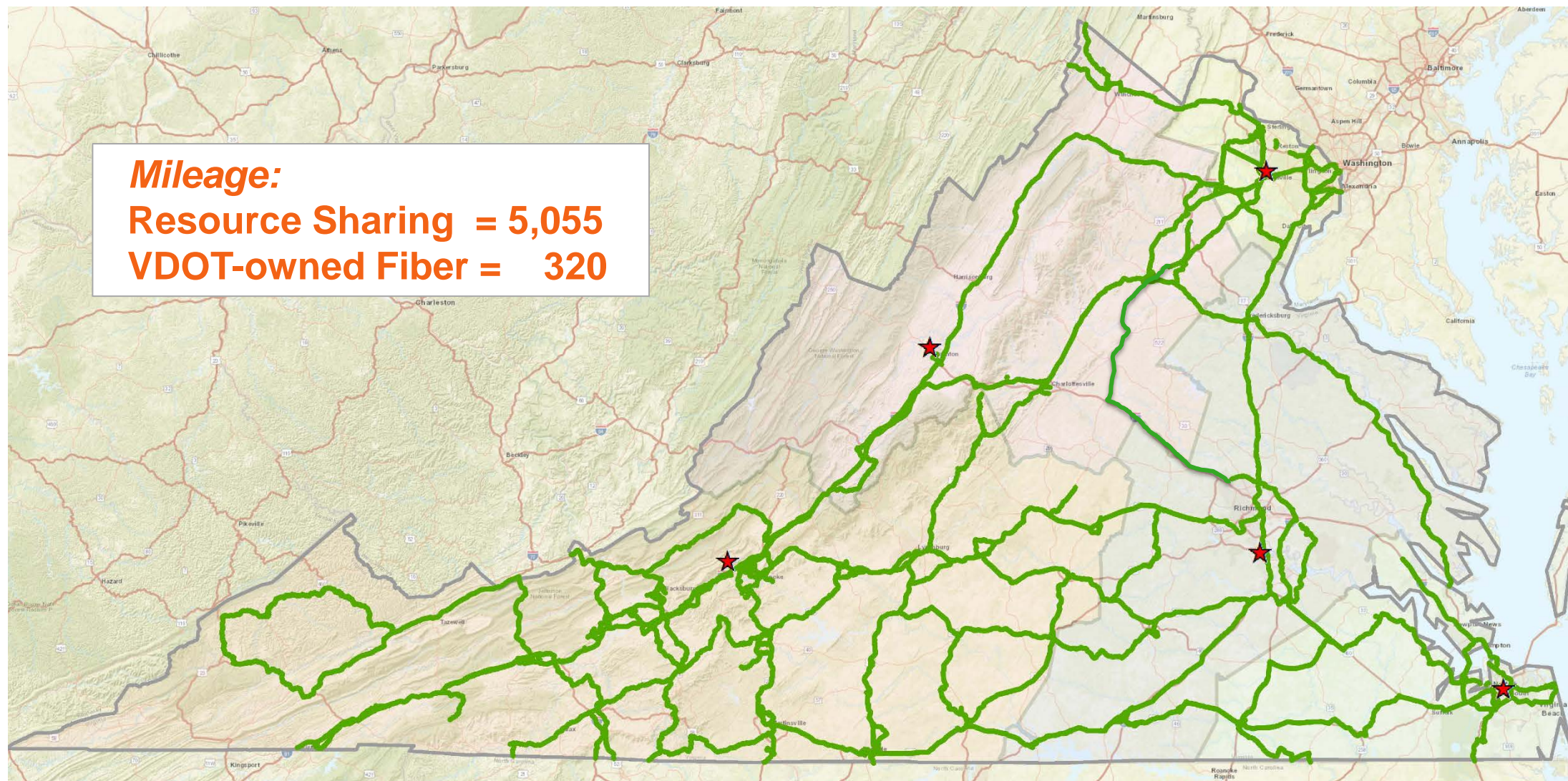




# Cumulative Resource Sharing Fiber Miles



# Fiber Routes Available to VDOT





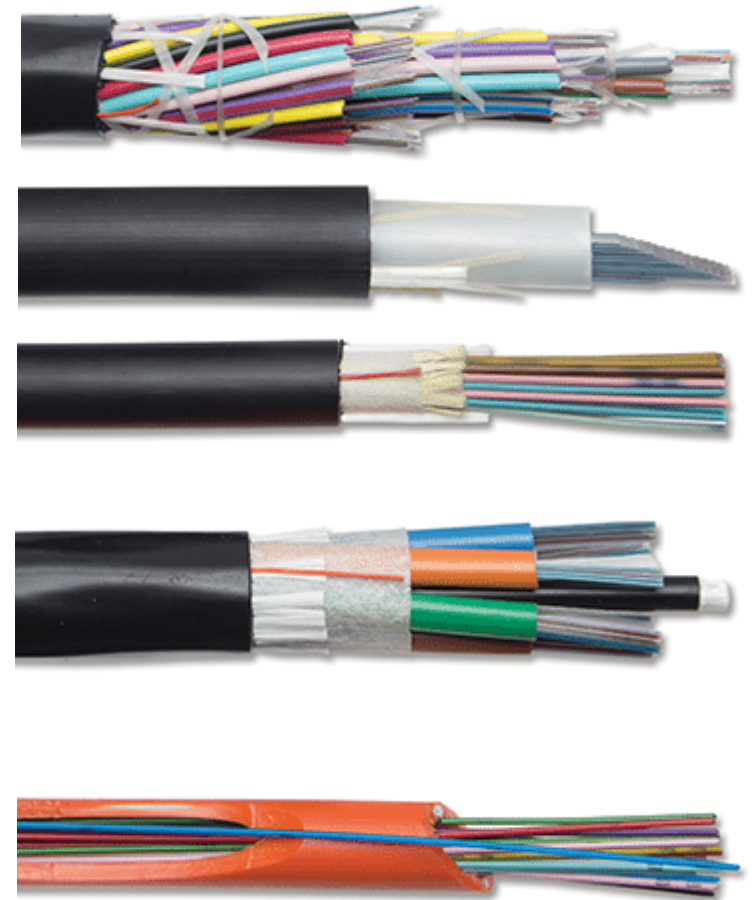
# Maximizing the Value of VDOT's Fiber Assets

- **Connect directly to major data centers**
- **Eliminate costly TOC leased circuits**
- **Eliminate costly leased circuits to devices**
- **Extend high-speed communications to signalized corridors**



# Recent Programmatic Updates

- Pursuing cash compensation in addition to infrastructure
- Value based on quantity and location of requested Limited-Access ROW
- Agreements now include terms for broader public use
- Deploying comprehensive fiber asset management tool







# Broadband Public-Private-Partnership

**John L. Hibbard**  
Operations Division  
Director







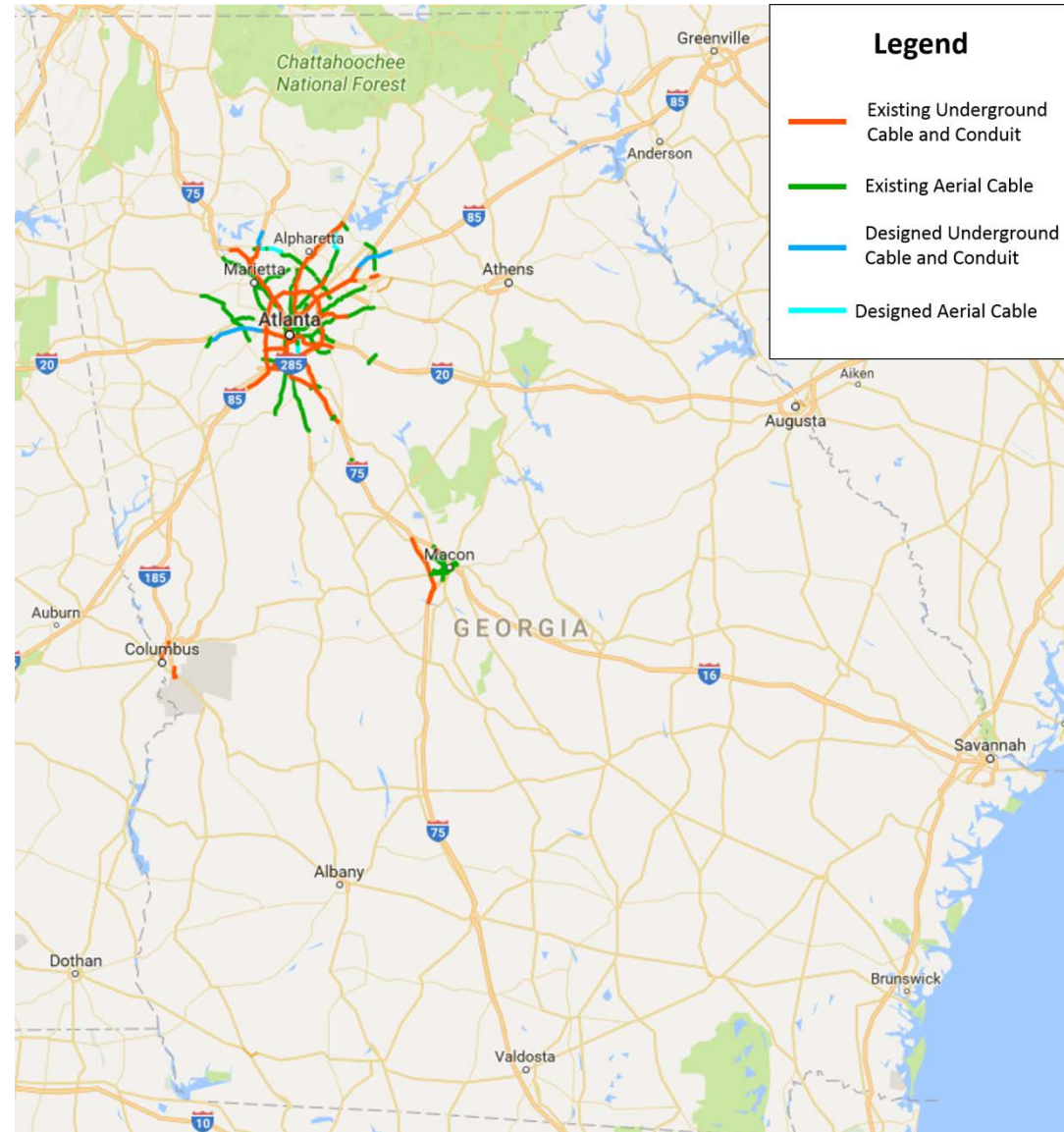
# Project Goals

Expand Navigator System  
statewide for GDOT  
operations

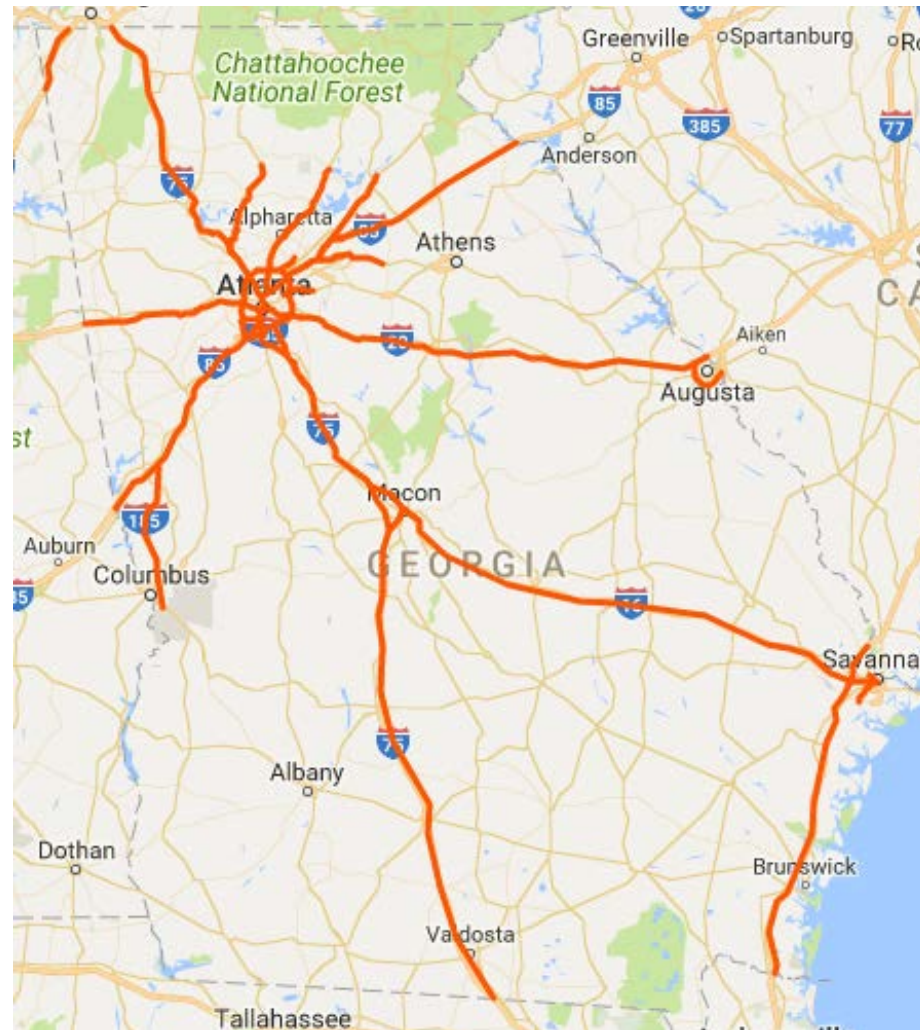
Establish a fiber backbone  
to help meet rural  
Georgia's needs

Encourage 4G/5G wireless  
deployment across state

Revenue Neutral



# Statewide Broadband/Wireless P3





# Broadband Considerations



U.S. broadband networks are built primarily using non-interstate right-of-way and private property.



# 5G Carrier Deployments

- Obstructions can impact connectivity.
- Initial costs for rollout are high.
- Limitations of rural access.
- Battery drain on devices.
- Upload speeds don't match download speeds.
- Detracting from the aesthetics.
- The range of 5G connectivity is not great as the frequency waves are only able to travel a short distance.
- 6G is running in development labs

# Satellite Broadband

- Satellite broadband to complete the last-mile connectivity problem
- New providers SpaceX Starlink and Amazon Project Kuiper will provide high-speed, low latency broadband
- Broadband speeds up to 1Gbs are advertised
- Providers are competing for a \$16B Federal rural broadband contract to provide broadband nationwide. \$10B awarded in NOV 2020
- Would allow DOT agencies to encumber funds for their ATMS, TSMO and ITS programs



# WEBINAR PART 2:

## Moderated Panel Discussion

### Moderator



**Dean Gustafson,  
PE, PTOE**  
ITS/TSMO Practice  
Lead  
Lochner

### Panelist



**Anna Read**  
Officer, Broadband  
Research Initiative  
Pew Research Center

### Panelist



**Lynne Yocom**  
Fiber Optics Manager  
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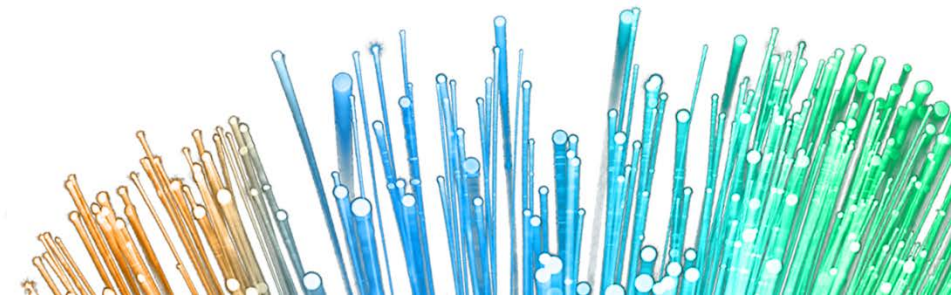


**John Hibbard, PE**  
Operations Division  
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Georgia DOT

### Panelist



**Rob Brock**  
Senior Systems  
Engineer  
Lochner

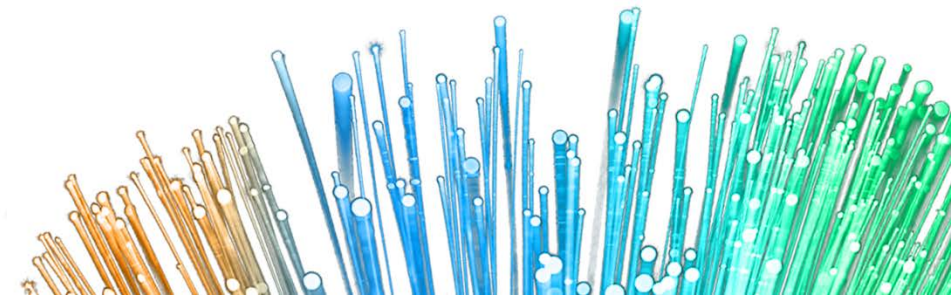


# WEBINAR: PART 3

## Live Q&A

*Have a question you would like to ask? Type it into the chat window for consideration.*

*Questions will be reviewed and presented by the webinar host.*





# THANK YOU!

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## Presenters

Dean Gustafson	<a href="mailto:dgustafson@hwlochner.com">dgustafson@hwlochner.com</a>
Anna Read	<a href="mailto:aread@pewtrusts.org">aread@pewtrusts.org</a>
Lynne Yocom	<a href="mailto:lyocom@utah.gov">lyocom@utah.gov</a>
Ken Earnest	<a href="mailto:ken.earnest@vdot.virginia.gov">ken.earnest@vdot.virginia.gov</a>
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Rob Brock	<a href="mailto:rbrock@hwlochner.com">rbrock@hwlochner.com</a>

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