



Pennsylvania
Broadband Development Authority

Capital Projects Fund Performance Report

July 2026



Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority
Honorable, Zachary Reber, Chairman
Brandon Carson, Executive Director



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Pennsylvania
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Program Information

Approved Program Plan number: **CPFFN0210**

Program start date: **February 4, 2022**

Program end date: **December 31, 2026**

Actual CPF funds allocated to the Program: **\$278,793,641**

Executive Summary

In its third year of project implementation, the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) built upon its program success from previous years. All three of its Capital Projects Fund (CPF) programs have already achieved impactful results that are directly affecting the communities and individuals they were funded to serve. This report outlines the progress, status, and project highlights from the Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP), the Digital Connectivity Technology Program (DCTP) and the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (MPCF) program from the past year (July 2025 through June 2026).

PBDA is an independent agency of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), established through Pennsylvania Act 96 of 2021. PBDA is managed by an 11-member board of directors and is responsible for distributing federal and state funds for broadband expansion, particularly in underserved and unserved areas of Pennsylvania.

CPF Maps

To help visualize the impact of expanding access to high-speed internet in Pennsylvania, PBDA has a [public broadband map](#) that provides insight into current and projected future impact. Internet service providers (ISPs) and members of the public can access the Pennsylvania Broadband Map and can filter for details such as specific broadband serviceable locations (BSAs) and project addresses to determine if either are part of a CPF BIP-funded project. Users can focus on specific Pennsylvania counties, regions, and legislative districts.

As of June 2026, PBDA are in the process of updating the state's broadband map to make it more user-friendly and accessible. The updated map includes features that allow users to filter by grant program, project locations, technology type, county, and state legislative district. The map is updated regularly and will reflect changes to CPF projects and updates to the FCC map.

Use of Funds

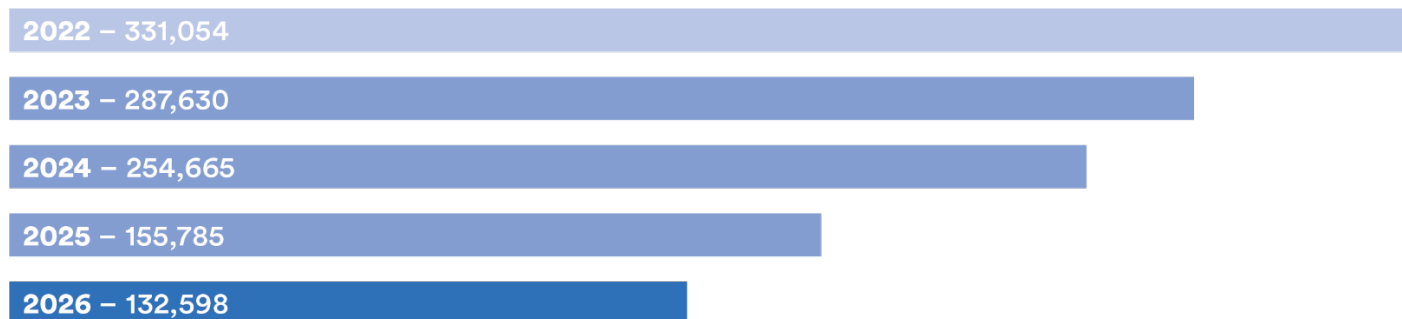


Program 1A: Broadband Infrastructure Program

As depicted in the graphic below, the number of locations in Pennsylvania that lack access to high-speed internet has declined significantly since the creation of PBDA in 2022 as a direct result of federal funding provided by the Capital Projects Fund Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP). CPF funds were combined with subsequent private funds invested to match the grant.

Unserved & Underserved Locations

The number of locations in Pennsylvania that lack access to high-speed internet.



PBDA's BIP program facilitates the deployment of high-speed broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas of the Commonwealth. The BIP program consists of \$204,132,006.30 in federal subsidy from PBDA's CPF grant, combined with \$248,552,187.27 from private match investment, totaling \$452,684,193.57 in funds for increasing high-speed internet access. Once complete, BIP will provide high-speed internet to locations across 45 counties in Pennsylvania.¹

In 2022, 53 grants were awarded to 13 internet service providers. Upon completion, projects will deliver service that meets or exceeds symmetrical upload and download speeds of 100 Megabits per second. To date, seven of PBDA's 53 BIP projects are complete,² establishing high-speed internet coverage at roughly 17,100 locations. That number includes projects constructed by Verizon Pennsylvania LLC, Claverack Communications LLC, and Frontier Communications of America Inc.

¹ PBDA originally awarded projects in 46 counties. Two projects finished their contracted builds without utilizing CPF BIP funding and locations within those projects were confirmed as served at required speeds before the projects were cancelled.

² This number includes two projects originally contracted for and cancelled whose builds utilized private funding.

In accordance with US Treasury’s May 6, 2026 notification that it would consider requests to extend the period of performance for BIP projects, PBDA released guidance for extension request submissions that aligned with US Treasury requirements. In addition to those requirements, to help with the extension request evaluation process, PBDA asked subrecipients to submit details about project expenditures to date, an explanation of what led to project delays, and justification for how projects would reach substantial completion by June 30, 2027. PBDA allowed subrecipients approximately three weeks to submit extension requests.

As of June 30, 2026, PBDA received extension requests from eight providers.

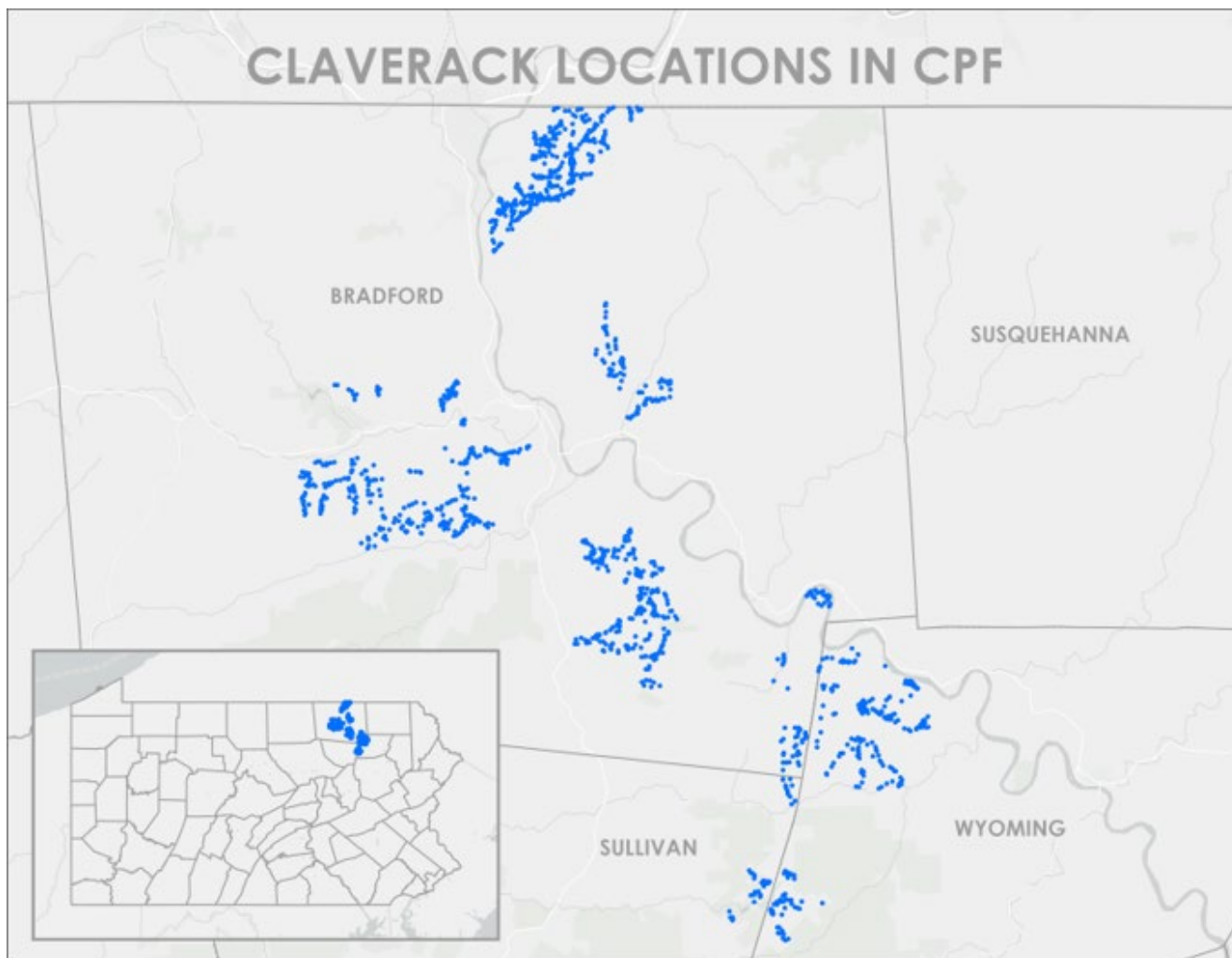
When asked how BIP projects will directly benefit the public, subrecipients emphasized network expansion and high-speed internet for previously unserved and underserved locations. This includes fresh access for individuals, households, community centers, farms, and local businesses. As a result of the program, subrecipients noted expanded capability to support remote work, online learning, telehealth services, and other online activities, all of which meet the intended Capital Projects Fund goals.

1A Project Spotlight – Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative (REC)



Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative (REC), a member-owned non-profit that brought electricity to rural Northeastern Pennsylvania in the 1930s, embarked on building a 1,500-mile fiber-to-the-home network and quickly identified more than 1,000 additional locations missed by previous infrastructure investments. In 2023, Claverack REC applied for funding through BIP funding. With more than \$4.7 million awarded, plus matching community funds, Claverack expanded its fiber network by an additional 100 miles. This extension enabled the co-op to bring high-speed internet to the remaining unserved and underserved locations in its territory.

On February 26, 2026, Claverack REC hosted an open house at its Wysox headquarters to celebrate the project’s completion. Three years after they applied for funding, more than 1,300 homes and businesses across rural Bradford and Wyoming counties now have access to high-speed internet for the first time. Residents throughout the extension area finally have the connectivity to pursue work, education, and healthcare goals.



Rural hospitals and medical professionals in the region can now rely on modern resources, software, and digital tools to improve patient care. In areas where hospitals may be over an hour away, telehealth appointments eliminate long drives and reduce the likelihood of future emergency care.

Reliable internet also expands opportunities for learners of all ages. Children and educators can participate in remote learning from home, while college students can save money by attending classes virtually. Adults seeking to continue their education can now balance coursework with work and family responsibilities.

Local businesses benefit as well. With increasing reliance on online logistics, sales platforms, and remote work, the improved network infrastructure helps job seekers stay local and gives rural entrepreneurs the ability to grow and reach wider markets. Farms in particular gain access to advanced agricultural technologies that were previously out of reach without a fast, dependable internet connection.

“Greater access, stronger infrastructure, and better service for the people we serve. We were honored to celebrate this milestone with our communities.”

Steve Allenbaugh, President & CEO
Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative (REC)

Program 1B: Digital Connectivity Technology Program

PBDA is working to achieve digital inclusiveness and community empowerment through its Digital Connectivity Technology (Technology) Program. In 2024, PBDA purchased 14,372 laptops with the \$20 million in available program funding from U.S. Treasury, which were made available through a competitive application process. Devices were awarded to qualifying public-facing institutions to enable participation in workforce development, education, and health-related initiatives. A major program requirement for all successful applicants was the incorporation of a digital literacy and awareness training within program goals and objectives. PBDA has provided awarded subgrantees with digital upskilling courses through the SkillUp PA job training platform.

167 awards were granted in 51 of Pennsylvania's counties (three of the projects serve a statewide audience). Awards were distributed between educational facilities, social service providers, and community development organizations. By the end of June 2026, 160 organizations have fully distributed devices and have initiated digital skills programs. A projected 53,702 individuals will be served through the CPF Technology program through its closing date of December 31, 2026.

Feedback from subrecipients shows that projects are reaching intended impact benchmarks by measuring user access to services that support education, employment, and community health resources, which in general has increased as a result of facility improvements. Laptops are reaching a wide variety of audiences, including seniors, adults, and children. One organization measured its program impact by higher average grade achievement from its digital literacy skills course. Another reported direct user testimonial that indicated higher comfort and confidence in using computers for basic but crucial purposes.

1B Project Spotlight – Reading Public Library



The Reading Public Library, located in Reading, PA, set out to address its community's digital skills and access challenges by offering targeted digital literacy training through the Northstar Digital Literacy program, with both online and in-person classes. To support this effort, the Library applied to PBDA's Digital Connectivity Technology Program. Through PBDA's first round of awards, the Library received 40 laptop devices. It now offers monthly workshops along with outreach sessions at partner locations including senior centers, community centers, and nonprofit organizations to make classes accessible for those who lack transportation. These trainings provide hands-on experience in basic computing, cybersecurity, navigating online tools, and applying for jobs.

The Reading Public Library's Digital Literacy Program continues to play a critical role in helping community members build the skills and confidence needed to navigate today's online environment. Through group classes, one-on-one instruction, and community outreach, the program helps residents of all ages to stay connected, access important information, and participate more fully in modern life.

"I helped with an outreach visit to the Kutztown Library last year. One participant was excited to learn how to text, call, and email her friends, which I thought was significant in helping seniors stay connected to their communities as they age."

Jackie G., Reference Librarian
Reading Library

Program 1C: Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program

PBDA's Multi-Purpose Community Facilities (Facilities) Program has awarded \$45 million in subgrants to community anchor institutions and units of local government for public facing projects to construct, acquire, or improve facilities. Completed projects will directly enable work, education, and health monitoring at funded facilities. PBDA has awarded Facilities grants for 49 projects, including improvements to 25 community centers, 19 public libraries, three health service centers, and two school-sponsored community venues. Projects are located throughout 27 counties across Pennsylvania.

Through June 2026, five Facilities projects have been completed and 11 more have expended 90% of their award as they near completion. At least 37 projects are in an active phase of construction. An additional seven projects are in a pre-construction phase, which includes securing permits, making property bids, and other planning requirements. All projects will reach substantial completion by the end of 2026.

1C Project Spotlight – Murrysville Community Library



Located in Westmoreland County, PA, the Murrysville Community Library (MCL) serves Murrysville, Export, and Washington townships. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the need for online communication for education, remote work, and telehealth. Community members without home internet or devices were left searching for affordable ways to stay connected. The demand strained libraries' ability to serve their communities, as many facilities faced aging buildings and lacked modern technologies and services.

Murrysville Community Library received \$400,000 from the Facilities Program. After a year of finalizing plans and raising additional funds, the project broke ground on January 8, 2026. On April 21, 2026, the Library community gathered to celebrate the completed interior renovation with a standing-room-only ribbon-cutting event.

The focal point, three private study rooms enclosed in glass, will give patrons quiet spaces for work meetings and virtual appointments. Upgraded computers complete the new lab area, allowing patrons the tools needed to pursue education, health, and employment goals.

New tables with casters provide flexible and accessible workspaces and make it easy to clear the room for guest speakers or collaborative programs. Other upgrades include a redesigned layout, wheelchair-friendly flooring, and handicap-accessible automatic door systems at both the entrance and restroom areas.



The Murrysville Library has additional plans for outdoor seating and covered areas, though a final location is still being determined. MCL also plans to partner with veteran service organizations, using the new private study rooms to help local veterans connect with resources they need.

Success for each Multi-Purpose Community Facilities project looks different. One subrecipient reported achievement measured through project milestones, construction inspections, compliance with grant milestones, and ongoing facility performance monitoring. They also analyzed patron use, program attendance and community feedback to assess the long-term impact of the improvements made to the facility based on the CPF grant funding. Another

subrecipient tracked accessibility, energy efficiency, and overall experience for public patrons frequenting the organization's services. In reviewing annual performance report responses submitted by its subrecipients, PBDA has found that improvements made through project funds in Pennsylvania benefit children, families, and community members as they navigate digital learning opportunities and seek improved access to high-speed internet services.

“With the grant, we’ve started looking at serving different demographics in the community. That includes working more with veterans, and we’d also like to offer better programming for people with autism or other disabilities.”

Kat Neidig, Library Director
Murrysville Community Library

Addressing Critical Needs

PBDA's work is focused on building a resilient economy and investing in communities to create a stronger Pennsylvania. To do so, PBDA has identified the communities and individuals across the Commonwealth with the most critical needs related to workforce development, access to healthcare, and educational opportunity. Each of its three CPF programs were developed to address the critical needs of the communities impacted by the subawards:

- Locations served through the Broadband Infrastructure Program (1A) with critical need include those that are unserved and underserved (i.e., those that do not currently have access to 25/3 Mbps and 100/20 Mbps, respectively). A majority of these locations fall within Pennsylvania's 48 rural counties (out of 67 counties total). Communities without reliable broadband service are at an extreme disadvantage compared to those that are connected and residents in those communities cannot participate in the digital economy on a level playing field. CPF BIP subrecipients are monitored to assure that their projects will offer end users service at 100/100 Mbps.
- The Digital Connectivity Technology Program (1B) bases critical need on the lack of digital literacy and access to devices in economically distressed communities, based on stakeholder engagement and data gathering efforts. Per Treasury requirement, PBDA considered affordability as a major factor in determining critical need. It did so through the first and second round application processes, by determining the income level of each census tract-level location proposed to be served through submitted applications. County-level datasets were used to determine the high school graduation or equivalent rate, the driving time to acute-care hospitals (from each proposed site), and job growth of each proposed location included in an application. These indicators served as proxies for determining the highest need for improved education, health monitoring, and workforce development opportunities. Thus, Technology subrecipients must continuously show that the devices are used as tools to address these critical needs.
- Subrecipients managing Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Programs (1C) must reach populations with significant digital need, particularly those which have been historically marginalized and lack access to broadband internet. Projects were selected based on their commitment to addressing a community anchor institution's existing capacity, service quality, and the ability to meet the needs of communities served. This includes, in particular, historically disadvantaged communities that have experienced disproportionately poor work, education and health outcomes, in part due to lack of access to resources.

Program Monitoring and Evaluation

PBDA engages in regular monitoring activities for all CPF programs to track project progress, assess compliance standards, and ensure project milestones are met. This practice helps to identify and mitigate potential risks.

PBDA staff hold monthly virtual check-in meetings with each BIP subrecipient, since those projects involve a high level of monitoring and compliance standards. Additionally, PBDA requires providers to submit progress at the location level on a monthly basis. Monthly meetings provide an opportunity for PBDA staff and subrecipients to discuss challenges, progress, and opportunities for PBDA to provide additional support. BIP and Facilities subrecipients submit monthly progress reports that provide a record of the projects' status.

As a standard monitoring activity, PBDA requires on-site field inspections for all Facility and BIP projects before the final award payment is issued to subrecipients. PBDA worked with the consulting firm Michael Baker International (MBI) to develop a process to conduct and verify on-site field inspections. Once a project reaches least 90% complete, PBDA staff survey subrecipients, requesting project details and data. That information is reviewed through a desktop audit and once verified, an on-site visit is scheduled for full site and facility

inspection. PBDA staff and MBI consultants complete site visit reports which are evaluated in conjunction with the subrecipients final program reports.

PBDA is also making efforts to connect with and visit the community-facing organizations that are benefiting from the Digital Connectivity Technology Program. Staff are visiting facilities that manage public laptop programs deployed through funds from CPF and monitor progress through SkillUP PA. For all site visits, PBDA staff take photos to document facility and construction progress. GIS technology is used for BIP projects to access field maps and to collect data while on site.

Through the end of June 2026, PBDA's CPF staff had completed 12 site visits throughout the Commonwealth.

Labor

Through quarterly Project & Expenditure reports submitted to US Treasury, PBDA has not received responses about Labor Agreements for 1C Facilities projects, since this information is not required to be reported for projects less than \$5 million, and no PBDA Facilities project exceeded the \$5 million funding threshold and no subrecipient offered that information voluntarily. However, since all Facilities projects received awards exceeding \$25,000, subrecipients are required to follow Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act requirements. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) has final authority to make prevailing wage applicability determinations.

Community Engagement

PBDA is committed to maintaining a high level of engagement with the communities and individuals benefiting from Capital Project Fund programs. PBDA's CPF staff engage in regular communication with PBDA's large list of stakeholders and partners and regularly connect with constituents to answer questions and gather feedback on a variety of concerns (such as service availability). PBDA's Deputy Digital Director maintains PBDA's website and posts regular updates with supporting content, including press releases, social media highlights, and news articles.

To share major announcements and project milestones, PBDA maintains an email distribution list. The distribution list reaches nearly 4,500 contacts that include local government entities, not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations, internet service providers, and other stakeholders. PBDA continues to administer monthly e-newsletters, sent through the abovementioned email distribution list. PBDA works directly with DCED's Marketing and Communications team, which releases regular social media posts containing PBDA program news and updates. The team uses various platforms, including Facebook, LinkedIn, and X.

To streamline its coordination process with county and municipal governments across Pennsylvania, PBDA has developed a "Broadband Ready Communities" (BBRC) program. BBRC provides the designation of "Broadband Ready" to communities that undergo a series of actions that enable broadband infrastructure investment within their communities. BBRC also works to reduce procedural, policy, and permitting barriers to broadband deployment at the municipal level. To date, 146 local government entities have been designated "Broadband Champions" through BBRC. PBDA aims to expand this number as BIP progresses, to aid and assist the communities that will benefit from CPF funds.

Civil Rights Compliance

PBDA confirms that its CPF programs meet legal requirements relating to nondiscrimination and nondiscriminatory use of Federal funds. Those requirements include ensuring that Pennsylvania will not deny benefits or services, or otherwise discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), disability, age, or sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), in accordance with the following authorities: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. 2000d-1 et seq., and the Department's implementing regulations, 31 C.F.R. part 22; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), 29 U.S.C. 794; Title IX of the Education 16 Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq., and the Department's implementing regulations, 31 C.F.R. part 28; Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq., and the Department's implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. part 23.



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania