

2020-2021 GREAT Program

**Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology
Program**

Special Supplementary Round

Guidance Document

(Updated September 9, 2020)

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Summary of Key Changes and Major Updates to the Program

- Due to the time requirements established in Session Law 2020-97 and to ensure compliance with the law, the Office has implemented the following provisions:
 - Applicants will no longer self-score in the application portal
 - Applicants should plan their proposed projects based on providing the maximum match amount of 50% of the total project costs. The Office will provide the final score and notify the applicant. The applicant will then be able to access the application portal to allocate funds to the eligible activities and source (GREAT and Match)
 - All final scores will be available upon request
 - A checklist is provided in this guidance document of all the required documents. If an application is missing any of the required information or does not meet the requirements detailed in this guidance document, then the application will not be considered for review.
 - The Office requires unredacted information for the application. All application information is considered public records and will be posted as they are received with certain exceptions as defined by N.C.G.S. 132. It is the applicant's responsibility to identify documents or information that are not subject to public record. Please work with your legal counsel to identify portions of the application that are not subject to public record as defined in N.C.G.S. 132.
 - A deployment schedule demonstrating deployment progress and project milestones
- **Key Definitions for the following terms (pgs. 5-7)**
 - Agricultural
 - Business
 - Eligible Economically Distressed County (***for this round only 98 counties are eligible***)
 - Eligible Project
 - Broadband Service
 - Unserved Area
 - Unserved household or business
- Maximum Award Amount (pg. 7)
- Total Award to Projects in any One County (pg. 7)
- Public Posting and Protest Period (pgs. 12, 22-23)
- Eligible and Ineligible Areas (pgs. 9-12)
- Mapping Requirements (pgs. 10-12, 14-15)
- Eligible Project Costs (pgs. 18-19)
- Matching Requirements (pgs. 19-20)
- Proof of Financial Solvency (pg. 20)
- Proof of Match (pg. 20)
- Scoring Criteria (pgs. 24-27)

Eligibility Checklist

(If any of these provisions are not met, the application will be considered ineligible for review).

- Is the applicant a private provider of broadband service, including cooperatively organized entities, or any partnerships formed between cooperatively organized entities, private providers, or any combination thereof?
- Have the applicant's authorized representatives registered for an NCID? ([Register Here](#))
- Has the applicant's authorized representative submitted an authorization form to access the application portal? ([Download Authorization Form](#))
- Is your project located in an eligible area of an economically distressed county?

Application Requirements

(If any of these items are not included with the application or if the application is received after the due date then it will be not be considered for review.)

- Basic information identifying the applicant
- The proposed number of households with improved access on the application
- The proposed number of businesses with improved access on the application
- Upload a description of the projection area, identification of locations to be served, relevant maps, and mapping files **consistent with requirements of the program**
- The base speed that will be provided to all locations throughout the project area
- Provide the total project cost
- Upload an Excel spreadsheet that itemizes the eligible activities and cost estimates to include an explanation of how the costs were estimated
- Upload the methodology or explanation of how the cost per location was calculated
- Upload proof of financial solvency **consistent with the requirements of the program**
- Upload the technical report
- Upload evidence of support for the project from citizens, local governments, businesses, and institutions within the community
- Provide the State of Qualifications
- Provide an assessment of the current level of broadband access in the proposed deployment area
- Provide a description of proposed services and advertised speeds
- Provide a description of the adoption plan

SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Information Technology's Broadband Infrastructure Office (BIO), as authorized under S.L. 2018-5, and amended by S.L. 2019-230 and S.L. 2020-97, is providing grants to private providers of broadband services to facilitate the deployment of broadband service to unserved areas of the state. The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program Special Supplementary Round funds eligible projects in eligible economically distressed counties.

The enclosed application materials and program guidelines are for use when applying for this GREAT Round and have been developed based on the enabling legislation for the GREAT Program within S.L. 2018-5 and the amending legislation. Applicants will apply for funding through the Department of Information Technology's online grants management system.

KEY DEFINITIONS

Agriculture - Activities defined in G.S. 106-581.1.

Business – Any lawful trade, investment, or other purpose or activity, whether conducted or undertaken for profit. The term also includes community anchor points, agricultural operations, and agricultural processing facilities.

Eligible Recipient – Eligible grant recipients are private providers of broadband services, including cooperatively organized entities, or any partnerships formed between cooperatively organized entities, private providers, or any combination thereof.

Partnerships – A project for which an Internet service provider affirms that a formalized, written agreement exists between the provider and one or more unaffiliated partners where the partner is one of the following:

- a. A separate Internet service provider.
- b. A nonprofit or not-for-profit, or a for-profit subsidiary of either, and the internet service provider is:
 - i. being allowed access and use of the partner's infrastructure, on special terms and conditions designed to facilitate the provision of broadband services in unserved areas, or,
 - ii. utilizing a financial contribution provided by one or more partners where the total contribution is not less than ten percent (10%), but not more than forty-nine percent (49%), of the match required by this section.
- c. A county that is not engaged in providing consumer broadband service may qualify as a nonprofit for the purpose of this section.

Eligible Economically Distressed County – Counties designated as development tier one and tier two areas, and rural census tracts located in development tier three areas, as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "rural census tract" has the same meaning as contained in G.S. 143B-472.127(a)(2). Counties with total employment of 500,000 or more, as of January 1, 2020, as measured per to G.S. 143B-437.52(c)(3), are not eligible. Department of Commerce's 2020 Tier Designations can be found here:

https://files.nc.gov/nccommerce/documents/files/2020-Tiers-memo_asPublished_120219.pdf

Eligible Project - An eligible project is a discrete and specific project located in an unserved area of an economically distressed county seeking to provide broadband service to homes, businesses, and community anchor points not currently served. Eligible projects do not include middle mile, backhaul, and other similar projects not directed at broadband service to end users. If a contiguous project area crosses from one eligible county into one or more eligible adjacent counties, for the purposes of this section, the project shall be deemed to be located in the county where the greatest number of unserved households are proposed to be served. The exception is that an eligible project is limited to those project areas where no more than an incidental number of households or businesses, not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total households or businesses within the boundaries of the project area submitted by the applicant, may have terrestrially deployed Internet access service with transmission speeds greater than 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload.

Broadband Service - For the purposes of the GREAT Program, terrestrially deployed Internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 25 Mbps download and at least 3 Mbps upload (25:3).

Terrestrially deployed technologies are generally understood to include: wired infrastructure (such as fiber, coax, copper) and fixed wireless.

Infrastructure – Existing facilities, equipment, materials, and structures that an entity has installed either for its core business or public enterprise purposes. Examples include, but are not limited to, copper wire, coaxial cable, optical cable, loose tube cable, communication huts, conduits, vaults, patch panels, mounting hardware, poles, generators, battery and cabinet, network nodes, network routers, network switches, microwave relay, microwave receivers, site routers, outdoor cabinets, towers, easements, rights-of-way, and buildings or structures owned by the entity that are made available for location or collocation purposes.

Infrastructure costs – Costs directly related to the construction of broadband infrastructure for the extension of broadband service for an eligible project, including installation, acquiring or updating easements, backhaul infrastructure, and testing costs. The term also includes engineering and any other costs associated with securing a lease to locate or collocate infrastructure on public or private property or structures, but not including actual monthly lease payment. The term does not include overhead or administrative costs.

Unserved Area - A designated geographic area that is presently without access to broadband service, meaning terrestrially deployed Internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 25 Mbps download and at least 3 Mbps upload, offered by a wireline or fixed wireless provider. *See definition for ineligible areas. Areas where a private provider has been designated to receive funds through other State or federally funded programs designed specifically for broadband deployment shall be considered served if such funding is intended to result in construction of broadband in the area within 18 months.

Unserved household or business – A household or business that does not presently have access to broadband service, as defined in this subsection.

Prospective broadband recipient – A household, home, business, community anchor point, agricultural operation, or agricultural processing facility that is currently unserved and is identified in an application submitted in accordance with this section.

Ineligible Areas

Some areas where a private provider has been designated to receive funds for broadband deployment may be ineligible for GREAT funding and deployments. (*See further information in the section Eligible & Ineligible Project Areas.*)

Awards

- One application should be submitted for each primary county in which deployment is being proposed. An application should encompass any/all proposed services within that county (and within any eligible adjacent counties as a contiguous project). A broadband provider should submit multiple applications if applying to deploy in multiple counties (without contiguous projects). See *Eligible Project* definition for explanation of contiguous areas. The primary county here means the county, within the project area, where the greatest number of unserved households are proposed to be served.
- A single grant award shall not exceed \$2,800,000.
- No more than one grant may be awarded per fiscal year for a project in any one economically distressed county; except that if funds remain available after all top scoring projects have been awarded a grant, then the next highest scoring projects may be awarded a grant even if the project is located in a county where a grant has been awarded in that fiscal year provided the total award associated with that county does not exceed five million six hundred thousand dollars (\$5,600,000) in that fiscal year.
- Matching funds are required. (*See detail in the section Application Materials and Summary.*)
- Awarded projects require a five-year service agreement.

5-Year Service Agreement –For awarded projects, all executed agreements are required to have a 5-Year Service Agreement. This term is understood to mean a five-year grant agreement and consists of a Deployment Project Period (“Construction Period”) and Maintenance Period. The agreement will contain terms and conditions such as the required scope of work, progress reporting schedule, and payment schedule.

Session Law 2020-97 requires a lump sum grant disbursement subject to the grantee providing evidence of financial solvency and proof of match. Due to the lump sum grant disbursement, monthly progress reporting and financial reporting is required during the Construction Period in a format that will be detailed in the agreement. Annual progress reporting will begin during the Maintenance Period.

The agreement will contain specific project milestones or benchmarks related to activities during the Construction Period. If the project milestones or benchmarks are not met without a valid explanation or if there are periods of inactivity without a valid explanation will be considered a material breach of the project and subject to the repayment provision.

Deployment Project Period – For awarded projects, the Deployment Project Period is the time from execution of the Grant Agreement to the time that service is available to the prospective broadband recipient under the grant. The timeline for this construction period is two years from the effective date of the grant agreement, but no later than December 30, 2022. All funds related to the project are required to be expended during the Construction Period.

Maintenance Period - Begins on the end date of the Construction Period or two years from the contract effective date, whichever is earlier. Service must be continually available to the locations specified in Exhibit A through the Maintenance Period until the Termination Date of this Grant Agreement.

Repayment Provision - A grant recipient shall forfeit the amount of the grant received if it fails to perform, in material respect the obligations established in the agreement. Grant recipients that fail to provide the minimum advertised connection speed for which a reduction in matching funds was applied, shall forfeit the amount. A grant recipient that forfeits amounts disbursed through the GREAT program is liable for the amount disbursed plus interest at a rate established in the General Statutes, computed from the date of disbursement. The number of subscribers that subscribe to broadband services offered by the provider in the project area is not a measure of performance under the agreement.

Note: This guidance document is provided for general reference. Potential applicants should also consult the full legislation for additional details: S.L. 2018-5, S.L. 2019-230, S.L. 2020-97.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT AREAS

Eligible Areas:

While the definition of Broadband Service has been raised to 25:3 Mbps, S.L. 2020-97 funds areas with less than 10:1 Mbps to ensure that the least-connected areas across the state receive priority. However, additional locations, *not to exceed 10 percent of the project locations*, may provide upgrades to locations with greater than 10:1 Mbps and less than 25:3 Mbps. This means that 90 percent of a project area must include households/businesses with less than 10:1 Mbps. GREAT funds cannot be used to build service to locations with 25:3 Mbps or greater.

All projects must fall within an **Eligible Economically Distress County** – as outlined below. **For this round only 98 counties are eligible.** the Applicants should also refer to the definitions for **Broadband Service**, **Unserved Area** and **Eligible Project** (included below for emphasis), to determine their project areas.

Eligible Economically Distressed County – Counties designated as development tier one and tier two areas, and rural census tracts located in development tier three areas, as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "rural census tract" has the same meaning as contained in G.S. 143B-472.127(a)(2). Counties with total employment of 500,000 or more, as of January 1, 2020, as measured per to G.S. 143B-437.52(c)(3), are not eligible. Department of Commerce's 2020 Tier Designations can be found here: https://files.nc.gov/nccommerce/documents/files/2020-Tiers-memo_asPublished_120219.pdf

*Eligible Project - An eligible project is a discrete and specific project located in an unserved area of an economically distressed county seeking to provide broadband service to homes, businesses, and community anchor points not currently served. Eligible projects do not include middle mile, backhaul, and other similar projects not directed at broadband service to end users. If a contiguous project area crosses from one eligible county into one or more eligible adjacent counties, for the purposes of this section, the project shall be deemed to be located in the county where the greatest number of unserved households are proposed to be served. **The exception is that an eligible project is limited to those project areas where no more than an incidental number of households or businesses, not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total households or businesses within the boundaries of the project area submitted by the applicant, may have terrestrially deployed Internet access service with transmission speeds greater than 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload.***

Areas Ineligible due to Other Broadband Funding Awards:

Areas where a private provider has been designated to receive funds through other State or federally funded programs designed specifically for broadband deployment shall be considered “served” if such funding is intended to result in construction of broadband in the area within 18 months. The areas ineligible for GREAT due to other current/upcoming broadband deployments utilizing State or federal funds are mapped by BIO based on information provided by the grantor and are made available for download to denote ineligible areas.

BIO accepts the information available and may not verify the accuracy of information provided by other grant or funding programs or sources. Failure on the part of a provider to submit the relevant project areas results in those areas being eligible for funding for the current program year. The BIO also maps previous GREAT Grant Awards within this dataset. These ineligible areas are part of the ineligible data layer within the GREAT Grant Mapping Tool. **For this current GREAT Round, due to short turnaround time, provider data is due to BIO by September 16, with the map to be updated by September 18.**

Identifying Your Project Areas:

Applicants must apply for funding to serve specific locations (households or businesses). All locations are required to be mapped utilizing the NC Master Address Dataset referenced below. (See section *Application Materials Summary* for more detailed information on submission of locations where service is proposed to be made available.) While the BIO cannot provide a listing of all household or business locations within the state that are eligible for GREAT deployments, the BIO encourages applicants to utilize the GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool, and datasets available within this tool, as a starting point for identifying potential project areas and building strong projects.

GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool

The Broadband Infrastructure Office, with its partner the Center for Geographic Information & Analysis, has created the GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool to provide in one place, many datasets useful for planning purposes. This online map does not contain all eligible locations for GREAT but can be used as a foundation to begin planning potential service areas.

- The **GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool** can be found here:
<https://nconemap.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=72f01e944bde425ca07523d06a59c232>

Please reference Appendix B for instructions on how to use this mapping tool.

- **Downloadable Data Sets/Shapefiles**

The following data sets reflected within the mapping tool can be downloaded as shapefiles from NC One Map at : <https://www.nconemap.gov/datasets/great-2020-rnd2-eligibleareas>

- Census blocks with less than 10:1 Mbps, according to the FCC Form 477 Data (entire blocks)
- Census blocks with less than 25:3 Mbps, according to the FCC Form 477 Data (entire blocks)
- *GREAT Ineligible Areas
- NC Master Address Dataset - 2014

***Note that the GREAT Ineligible Areas layer will receive one additional update of data during the week of September 14 and will be updated by September 18. Please plan accordingly. (See Areas Ineligible due to other Broadband Funding Awards above, for further explanation.)**

The downloadable datasets are described further below:

- **Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Form 477 Data Census blocks with less than 10:1 Mbps (entire blocks) and Census blocks with less than 25:3 (entire blocks)**

Broadband availability data is collected twice per year by the Federal Communications Commission, from providers of facilities-based broadband services through their Form 477 data submissions. This data is granular to the census block level. If one household within a census block is shown as being served, the full census block is reflected as being a served block. Census blocks that are entirely unserved with advertised speeds of 10:1 Mbps, as well as those entirely unserved with 25:3 Mbps, can be identified through the FCC Form 477 data. These census blocks have been mapped by BIO using the latest FCC data (June 2019) and are available within the GREAT Grant Mapping Tool and for download for grant planning purposes.

- **GREAT Ineligible Areas**

This layer includes multiple data sources. It includes areas that are ineligible due to:

- All Eligible Economically Distressed County criteria
- Areas ineligible due to other broadband funding awards
- Previous GREAT Grant Awards

- **NC Master Address Dataset - 2014**

All applicants are **required** to utilize the *NC Master Address Dataset* in identifying and mapping the households and businesses for submission within the application. Using the online map, a potential applicant can select address locations in the map and export those locations to be included as the address-level data required or can download the full dataset for geo-coding purposes. (See *section Application Materials Summary for more detailed information on submission of locations.*)

Other Data

In determining eligible locations, applicants may choose to utilize other sources of data, including field data, as part of their planning and application development, to identify unserved households or business locations outside of the fully unserved census blocks provided.

To demonstrate that the proposed funding area is unserved and eligible for funding an applicant may submit the following information, including but not limited to:

1. Scrubbed data (no raw data) from citizen survey results or demand aggregation results with speed tests, if applicable. This data must identify the areas that have less than 10:1 Mbps service, or limited locations with 10:1 but less than 25:3 Mbps.
2. Affidavits from citizens or other individuals certifying one or more of the following:
 - they are not able to receive broadband service
 - the only available service is cellular or satellite
 - the only broadband service available by the existing providers is less than 10:1 service.

Any data submitted for consideration should be relevant to the proposed service area. Data points must be tied to specific locations and must be geo-coded utilizing the 2014 Master Address Dataset. Please refer to the section *Application Materials Summary* for detailed instructions on formatting of data for the Application.

Eligible Areas & Protest Process

Once all applications are received they will be publicly posted for 10 days. The Protest Process can provide an additional check to verify eligible locations by receiving feedback from additional service providers. In addition, the BIO will conduct its own review on eligible areas for relevant proposals, based on data available, and may perform field tests when necessary.

APPLICATION MATERIALS SUMMARY

The online application process will require the following materials to be submitted for consideration of each proposal. Additional explanation or details can be provided in the online form itself. The following items are a summary of what is required as part of the GREAT Grant Application process. The detailed instructions are included in this guidance document.

- A. Applicant Information, Statement of Qualification & Partnerships**
- B. Project Area & Locations to be Served**
- C. Technical Report**
- D. Project Costs, Budget and Match**
- E. Proposed Services, Marketing, Adoption & Community Support**

APPLICATION MATERIALS – DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

A. Applicant Information, Statement of Qualification & Partnerships must include the following:

- The identity of the applicant and its qualifications and experience with the deployment of broadband.
- The identity of any Partners or Affiliates, as defined at the beginning of these guidelines under Partnerships.

B. Project Area & Locations to be Served must include the following:

- A map and description of the area to be served, identifying the number of households and businesses that will have access to broadband as a result of the project, including any available addresses, geospatial location or other identifying information. In the event that the Broadband Infrastructure Office is unable to identify the proposed project area with specificity, the Office may exclude locations or areas from consideration for award. If construction of the proposed project would result in the provision of broadband service to areas that are not eligible for funding, those ineligible areas should be identified in the application along with the eligible areas.
- The description should note any businesses with 31 or more full-time employees

Map and Description of the Area to be Served

BIO requires granular data on household and business locations to be served to: confirm that the project is serving eligible locations, accurately score the application, and track progress and completion of the project if awarded. One of the scoring components for the grant program is the number of unserved households and unserved businesses to be served as a result of the project. In addition, for the proposed area to be served, the infrastructure cost *per location* (*households and businesses*) must be provided.

BIO is now **requiring** that all location data submitted for consideration within an application utilize the **2014 NC Master Address Dataset** provided through the **GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool**. Utilization of one dataset for geocoding purposes assures that locations can be accurately mapped and compared among data submissions from multiple applicants. Applicants can either identify and select address locations directly within the Mapping Tool or can download the full Master Address File for use in geocoding locations against an external set of addresses. In the case of any new households or locations that are not included within the 2014 dataset, those locations should be submitted as parcel data per the parameters below.

See data submission requirements below.

Applicants must submit data in the following ways, or in combination.

Address-Level Data

Data shall be submitted as address points of locations where service will be made available through the grant build. All addresses must use the 2014 North Carolina Master Address dataset. The GREAT Grant Online Mapping tool can be used to select address points and export the selected addresses to a .CSV file to be included with the application. The 2014 NC Master Address dataset is also available for download through [NC OneMap](#) if an applicant has mapping capabilities to select and export a subset of the dataset to be submitted with the application.

Parcel-Level Data

If a location proposed to be served is not represented in the 2014 Master Address dataset, data must be submitted that represents the parcel containing the location to be served. The GREAT Grant Online Mapping tool can be used to select the parcels and export them to a .CSV file to be included with the application. The latest NC statewide parcels dataset is also available for download through [NC OneMap](#) if an applicant has mapping capabilities to select and export a subset of the dataset to be submitted with the application. Parcel-data should only be submitted for locations that cannot be identified within the 2014 Master Address dataset. The expectation is that most Applicants will be able to submit Address-Level Data only.

Digital Format of Data

Locations of households and businesses projected to be served must be digitally submitted in a comma delimited (.csv) file exported from the GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool or as a GIS shapefile. The files must contain a subset of points from the NC 2014 Master Address dataset. If a location proposed to be served is not represented in the 2014 Master Address dataset, an applicant may submit the parcel data for the missing location in same digital formats listed above. **Please reference Appendix B for instructions on how to use this mapping tool.**

Project scoring will consider the number of households and businesses served by a project, and the cost-per-location (Households or Businesses). As part of the grant agreement, applicants awarded grants will be required to pass the number of prospective broadband recipients stated in their Application.

- **An assessment of the current level of broadband access in the proposed deployment area.**

The Application requires an assessment of the current level of broadband access in the proposed deployment area. Within this section of the Application, the applicant should describe what they believe to be the current level of service within the area and provide the data source or methodology used to capture this information. Raw data can be submitted as part of the assessment as well.

GREAT Program

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- **An attestation to the Broadband Infrastructure Office that the proposed project area is eligible.**

The Attestation statement and required signature is included as part of the Application Form. Applicants are required to sign this statement to signify that the area(s) identified within the Application are eligible, to the best of their knowledge.

C. Technical Report

Applicants must provide a narrative report detailing the technology/technologies to be used to serve the prospective broadband recipient at the premises. Applicants must indicate the technology that will serve the prospective broadband recipient as terrestrial or fixed wireless.

- **For Wired Infrastructure Deployment the technical report must include the following:**
 - Description of the general design of this project and deployment plan,
 - Explanation of the existing networks and equipment to be used for this project,
 - If the applicant requires assets owned by another entity, the applicant should explain how the assets will be used for this project and, if applicable, provide a copy of the agreement between the applicant and the owner,
 - Detailed explanation of how the new or upgraded infrastructure will serve the prospective broadband recipients. In the case of the installation or upgrade of a specific site infrastructure, such as a point of presence or fiber hut (fiber), pedestal (cable) or a remote exchange/DSLAM (DSL), the applicant must include:
 - Number of prospective broadband recipients that will be served by that site infrastructure,
 - The distance from the specific site infrastructure such as a POP, pedestal, or DSLAM to the end user(s) and the expected broadband speed that will be effectively delivered, and,
 - Detailed description of the design work needed for deployment such as but not limited to pole work, acquiring or updating easements, or property acquisition.

- **For Fixed Wireless Deployment, the technical report must include the following:**
 - Description of the general design of this project and deployment plan,
 - Explanation of the existing networks and equipment to be used for this project,
 - If the applicant requires assets owned by another entity, the applicant should explain how the assets will be used for this project and, if applicable, provide a copy of the agreement between the applicant and the owner,
 - Detailed explanation of how the new or upgraded infrastructure will serve the prospective broadband recipients. In the case of the installation or upgrade of a specific site infrastructure, such as a vertical asset, the applicant must include:
 - Description and specific location of the vertical asset,
 - Owner of the vertical asset,
 - Number of prospective broadband recipients that will be served by that site infrastructure, and,
 - The distance from the vertical asset to the end user(s) and the expected broadband speed that will be effectively delivered,
 - Detailed description of the design work needed for deployment, such as, but not limited to acquiring access to existing vertical assets, acquiring or updating easements, or property acquisition,
 - Description and specific type of the equipment used for deployment and the capable speed of the equipment, and,

- Explanation of the frequency/frequencies to be utilized for the deployment, whether the deployment will use licensed or unlicensed technologies, as well as mitigation of line-of-sight challenges (which should tie to the number of households to be served).

For all applicants, the technical report must include the following:

- An explanation of the scalability of the broadband infrastructure to be deployed to meet future bandwidth needs.
- Clearly explain how your infrastructure can provide the speeds, claimed in the Base Speed Multiplier in the scoring matrix, to all of the proposed locations in this application.
- If the applicant is claiming points for Partnerships, the applicant must provide a brief narrative explaining how the partnership or affiliation will facilitate deployment and reduce cost per prospective broadband recipient. For applications where the nonprofit or not-for-profit partner provides only financial support that information can be documented in the Budget section of the application. The applicant must also meet the definition of a partnership and provide evidence of a formalized, written agreement.
- A general explanation of whether work will be performed in-house or through contractors.
- A proposed construction timeline and duration of the Deployment Project Period. The Deployment Project Period is the time from execution of the Grant Agreement to the time that service is available to the targeted prospective broadband recipients under the grant. If the project is to be completed in phases, please describe deployment roll out and include the number of end users to be served in each phase as well as an estimated timeframe for each phase.

D. Project Costs, Budget & Match

- Project Budget Applicants should plan their proposed projects based on providing the maximum match amount of 50% of the total project costs. The Office will provide the final score and if awarded allow the applicant to allocate funds to activities and source (GREAT and Match)
- The total cost of the project to include a summary of activities (See Table Below).
- Please provide an Excel spreadsheet that itemizes the eligible activities and cost estimates. Please provide an explanation of how you estimated the costs.
- For the proposed area to be served, the infrastructure cost per location for the project, and how this was calculated.

Eligible Project Costs

Costs directly related to the construction of broadband infrastructure, including installation, acquiring or updating easements, backhaul infrastructure, testing costs, engineering, and other costs associated with securing a lease to locate or collocate infrastructure on public or private property or structures, but not including the actual monthly lease. The term does not include overhead or administrative costs. Funding limitations for certain eligible activities are as follows:

1. Acquiring or updating easements are limited to 5% of the grant amount or \$25,000, whichever is less.
2. Testing costs are limited to 1% of the grant amount or \$5,000, whichever is less.

Project Funds (GREAT funds and match) should be utilized for the deployment phase of the project, not the subsequent years of service. Eligible costs do not include recurring operating costs or maintenance, or sales and marketing of services.

| Project Expense | Total (\$) |
|---|------------|
| Easements (one-time fees) 5% of grant amount or \$25,000, whichever is less | |
| Materials (fiber, equipment, etc) | |
| Construction/Installation | |
| Testing 1% of grant amount or \$5,000, whichever is less | |
| Engineering | |
| Lease/Collocation Fees (one-time fees) | |
| Other 1 | |
| Other 2 | |
| Other 3 | |
| TOTAL | |

Note regarding middle mile and backhaul:

Per the GREAT legislation, “eligible projects do not include middle mile, backhaul, and other similar projects not directed at broadband service to end users.” However, the eligible costs do allow for construction/equipment of “backhaul infrastructure.” While costs for building backhaul infrastructure can be included in the project budget, the build must facilitate last-mile service towards specific end-users and cannot include recurring operating costs.

Note regarding towers:

While costs for building towers are not expressly ineligible, applicants are encouraged to utilize vertical assets already in place or easily installed (poles, small monopoles, repeaters, etc.), as much as possible. Including new macro towers in a project may create lengthy construction timelines, especially around land purchase and environmental regulations.

Matching Funds

Grant recipients are required to provide matching funds as part of the GREAT program. The Office will determine the final score and match requirement for the applicant. **Initially, all applicants should plan to provide 50% of the total project costs.** Eligible Project Costs for matching funds are the same as Eligible Projects Costs for the GREAT State grant funds. **The match amount is determined by the application scoring.** A sample scoring sheet is provided as part of the application for a reference. After the review and scoring of all applications, the Broadband Infrastructure Office will notify and confirm match requirements with applicants as part of the application process.

Matching Requirements are as follows:

| Application Score | Matching Requirement |
|--|----------------------|
| 12.0 points or less | 50% |
| Greater than 12.0, but less than 17.5 points | 45% |
| 17.5, up to 22.0 points | 40% |
| Greater than 22.0 | 30% |

Up to fifty percent (50%) of matching funds paid by the grant recipient may be comprised of third-party funding and other grant programs. Funds from the Universal Service Fund shall not be used for any portion of the required matching funds. Any other current or future federal funds may be used, including any future phase of the Connect America Fund, for the required matching funds, within the parameters of the program. **A county may provide a portion of the match required by this section per to G.S. 153A-349.60.** The source of the matching funds should be included in the applicant’s budget narrative. **In-kind contributions are not eligible to satisfy the match requirement. All matching funds must be consistent with the terms and conditions of the GREAT Grant Program grant agreement. The match can only be used for the eligible activities in the program and within the timeframe of the grant agreement.**

Proof of Financial Solvency

Per the authorizing legislation, an applicant must show evidence of financial solvency and organizational strength to successfully meet the terms of the grant requirements and the ability to meet the potential repayment of grant funds. The Office will accept one or more of the following documents as evidence of financial solvency:

- a. 3 years of audited financial statements or if a publicly traded company, a link to the online statements
- b. 24 consecutive months of banking statements that show a positive cash flow
- c. Letter from a financial institution(s) indicating the amount of available funds
- d. Letter of Credit that states the available amount
- e. Proof of access to available personal lines of credit and the available amounts
- f. Commitment letters from investors, board of directors, or other funding sources that indicates a specific amount that could be committed towards the project. If an individual, please include the name, address, and phone number of the individual in the letter. If an organization, the letter must be on company letterhead and certified and signed by the authorized representative of the organization.

Proof of Match

Prior to or at the time of execution of the grant agreement, the grantee must submit commitment letters that total the required match amount. If loan or other grant funds are pledged, the Office requires a copy of the loan/grant commitment letter that specifies the amount of funding available from each source of funds. This includes any commitments from counties. In addition, all county funds must adhere to N.C.G.S 153A-349.60.

Per the authorizing legislation, up to fifty percent (50%) of matching funds paid by the grant recipient may be comprised of third-party funding including funds from other grant programs. Funds from the Universal Service Fund shall not be used for any portion of the required matching funds. Any other current or future federal funds may be used, including any future phase of the Connect America Fund, for the required matching funds within the parameters of this program. An awardee may also provide an attestation using the approved template by NC DIT, upon request.

E. Proposed Services, Marketing, Adoption & Community Support

- A description of services to be provided, including the proposed upstream and downstream broadband speeds to be delivered and any applicable data caps. Any applicant proposing a data cap below 150 Gigabytes of usage per month shall provide justification to the satisfaction of the BIO that the proposed cap is in the public interest and consistent with industry standards.
- The proposed advertised speed to be marketed to end users (broken out by households, businesses, and community anchor institutions).
- A plan to encourage users to connect that incorporates, at a minimum, community education forums, multimedia advertising, and marketing programs.
- Evidence of support for the project from citizens, local government, businesses, and institutions in the community. The applicant may provide letters or other correspondence from citizens, units of local government, businesses, and institutions in the community that supports this project.
- Any low-income household service offerings or digital equity or literacy support or programs or partnerships to provide these services. Whether the applicant plans to accept the federal Lifeline subsidy.

PROTESTS

The enacting legislation requires the Department of Information Technology (DIT) to make all applications publicly available by posting on the department's website for a period of 10 calendar-days prior to award. During the 10- calendar day period, any interested party may submit comments to the Secretary of DIT concerning any pending application. A provider of broadband services may submit a protest of any application on the grounds the proposed project covers an area where broadband service exists, as defined within the GREAT Program. ***This is the only criteria by which an application may be challenged.***

Protests shall be submitted in writing, accompanied by all relevant supporting documentation, and shall be considered by the BIO in connection with the review of the application. ***The protesting party bears the burden of proof.*** An applicant will be notified of a protest. BIO may request additional information from the applicant.

A protest may be denied, granted or granted in part. If a protest is granted in part the applicant will be notified and allowed 2 days to amend their application for the purposes of revising the proposed project area and budget. For applications with filed protests, the Secretary of DIT shall issue a written decision to the protesting party at least 15 days prior to the approval of that application.

BIO requires granular data for any Protest submissions. **All protest submissions must contain address-level data or parcel-level data of disputed locations deemed by the protesters to have service currently available.**

BIO is now **requiring** that all location data submitted for consideration within an application, **or within a protest**, utilize the **2014 NC Master Address Dataset** provided through the **GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool**. Utilization of one dataset for geocoding purposes assures that locations can be accurately mapped and compared among data submissions from multiple applicants. Protesters can either identify and select address locations directly within the Mapping Tool or can download the full Master Address File for use in geocoding locations against an external set of addresses. In the case of any new households or locations that are not included within the 2014 dataset, those locations should be submitted as parcel data per the parameters below.

See data submission requirements below.

Protesters must submit data in the following ways, or in combination.

Address-Level Data

Data shall be submitted as address points of locations deemed by the protester to have service currently available. All addresses must use the 2014 North Carolina Master Address dataset. The GREAT Grant Online Mapping tool can be used to select address points and export the selected addresses to a .CSV file to be included with the application. The 2014 NC Master Address dataset is also available for download through [NC OneMap](#) if a protester has mapping capabilities to select and export a subset of the dataset to be submitted with the protest.

Parcel-Level Data

If a location deemed by the protester to have service currently available is not represented in the 2014 Master Address dataset, data must be submitted that represents the parcel containing the location to be served. The GREAT Grant Online Mapping tool can be used to select the parcels and export them to a .csv file to be included with the protest. The latest NC statewide parcels dataset is also available for download through [NC OneMap](#) if a protester has mapping capabilities to select and export a subset of the dataset to be submitted with the protest. Parcel-data should only be submitted for locations that cannot be identified within the 2014 Master Address dataset. The expectation is that most protesters will be able to submit Address-Level Data only.

Digital Format of Data

Protest data must be digitally submitted in a comma delimited (.csv) file exported from the GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool or as a GIS shapefile. The files must contain a subset of points from the NC 2014 Master Address dataset. If a location proposed to be served is not represented in the 2014 Master Address dataset, a protester may submit the parcel data for the missing location in same digital formats listed above.

If the received data does not meet the submittal requirements, all protests will be denied.

Details on timeline of the Protest window, where to view applications, how to submit comments, or for broadband providers to submit protests, will be available on the DIT/BIO's GREAT Grant Program Webpage <https://www.ncbroadband.gov/GreatGrant/>.

Applications will be posted as .pdfs with corresponding digital files posted as well.

SCORING

The GREAT Program is a competitive grant program. Applications shall be scored based upon a system that awards a single point for criteria considered to be the minimum level for the provision of broadband service with additional points awarded to criteria that exceed minimum levels. **Applications receiving the highest score shall receive priority status for the awarding of grants. As a means of breaking a tie for applications receiving the same score, BIO shall give priority to the application proposing to serve the highest number of new households at the lowest cost per household or business.**

Project Applications will be scored as follows:

- **Partnership** – All applicants must meet the definition of a partnership as defined in Session Law 2019-230 and provide the formalized, written agreement. For the purposes of scoring, a county that provides a portion of the match required by this section or that has entered into an agreement with the applicant to make available its infrastructure that has been installed for the county's enterprise, non-consumer broadband purposes, or any other property, buildings, or structures owned by the county, for a proposed project under this section shall be considered a partnership. A county may provide a portion of the match required by this section per to G.S. 153A-349.60

| Partnership | Points |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Documented Partnership per definition | 6 |

- **Unserved Households (HH)** – The BIO shall give additional points to projects based upon the estimated number of unserved households within the eligible economically distressed county, as determined by the most recent data published by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or any other information available to the BIO. Points shall be given to projects that will be located in counties with estimated unserved households as follows:

| Unserved HH | Points |
|-------------|--------|
| 500 or less | 1 |
| 501-1400 | 2 |
| Over 1400 | 3 |

For this section, the BIO is utilizing FCC data to estimate the number of unserved households per county. This data is available for use and can be found in Appendix A.

If applicable, the applicant must identify the county on record using the following standard: if a contiguous project area crosses from one eligible county into one or more eligible adjacent counties, for the purposes of this section, the project shall be deemed to be located in the county where the greatest number of unserved households are proposed to be served.

- Unserved Households (HH) To Be Served** – The BIO shall give additional points to projects that will provide broadband service based upon the percentage of the total unserved households within the eligible economically distressed county that the project will serve. The number of unserved households shall be determined using the most recent data of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or any other information available to the BIO. Points shall be given to projects that will serve a percentage of unserved households within the project area as follows:

| Unserved HH to be Served | Points |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Less than 15% | 1 |
| 15% to 25% | 2 |
| Over 25% | 3 |

The BIO has used FCC data to estimate the number of unserved households per county. This data is available for use and can be found in Appendix A.

The definition for households is as follows:

Household – A house, apartment, single room, or other group of rooms, if occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters, and where the occupants do not live with any other persons in the structure and there is direct access from the outside or through a common hall.

Applicants should ensure that their applications clearly outline the number of unserved households where service will be made available through an eligible project.

If applicable, the applicant must identify the county on record using the following standard: if a contiguous project area crosses from one eligible county into one or more eligible adjacent counties, for the purposes of this section, the project shall be deemed to be located in the county where the greatest number of unserved households are proposed to be served.

- **Unservd businesses** – The BIO shall give additional points to projects that will provide broadband service to unserved businesses located within the eligible economically distressed county, as determined by the most recent data published by the Federal Communications Commission or any other information available to the BIO. Points shall be given to projects that serve unserved businesses within the project area as follows:

| Unservd Business | Points |
|---|--------|
| Between 1 and 4 | 1 |
| 5 and 10 | 2 |
| a) more than 10 or c) Business w/31 or more f/t employees | 3 |

Applicants should ensure that their applications clearly outline the number of unserved businesses where service will be made available through an eligible project. Businesses with 31 or more full-time employees should be noted.

- **Cost Per Household or Business** – The BIO shall give additional points to projects that minimize the infrastructure cost of the proposed project per household or business, based upon information available to the BIO. Points shall be given to projects based upon the estimated cost per household or business as follows:

For projects proposed in the *Piedmont or *Coastal Plain Regions:

| Estimated Cost per Location | Partnership | Private Provider Only |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Up to \$1,700 | 4 | 9 |
| \$1701-2,200 | 3 | 8 |
| \$2,201-2,700 | 2 | 7 |
| \$2,701-3,200 | 1 | 6 |

**Piedmont Region* – The portion of the State lying west of and including Franklin, Lee, Moore, Richmond, Wake and Warren Counties, to the eastern boundaries of Alleghany, Burke, Caldwell, Rutherford and Wilkes Counties.

**Coastal Plain Region* – The portion of the State lying east of the eastern boundaries of Franklin, Lee, Moore, Wake and Warren Counties.

For projects located in the *Mountain Region:

| Estimated Cost per Location | Partnership | Private Provider Only |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Up to \$2,500 | 4 | 9 |
| \$2,501-3,300 | 3 | 8 |
| \$3,301-3,800 | 2 | 7 |
| \$3,801-4,300 | 1 | 6 |

**Mountain Region* – The portion of the State lying west of and including Alleghany, Burke, Caldwell, Rutherford, and Wilkes Counties.

Cost per location should be calculated using the total locations in a project area even in the case where a contiguous project area crosses from one eligible county into one or more eligible adjacent counties.

- **Base Speed Multiplier** - Projects that will provide* minimum download and minimum upload speeds shall have the aggregate points given under items 1-5, multiplied by a factor at the level indicated below:

| Minimum Speeds | Score Multiplier |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 25:3 Mbps up to 100:10 Mbps | 1.35 |
| 100:10 Mbps up to 200:20 Mbps | 1.75 |
| 200:20 Mbps or greater | 2.00 |

*Note: "Provide" a particular speed is understood to mean that this calculation should be based on the planned "typical speeds" to be provided, not the advertised speeds.

Community Broadband Planning – The BIO shall also award an additional point to projects where a county has a Community Broadband Planning Playbook that meets the guidelines established by the BIO. A county must meet (and be able to document) *at least one* of the following criteria to receive a point for the Community Broadband Planning Playbook scoring item:

- A county must have a current Broadband Planning Committee;
- A county must have undertaken some type of active broadband project or study within the past two years (since summer of 2018);
- A county official or county leader must have worked actively with the Broadband Infrastructure Office in the past year (since summer 2019) to begin developing a broadband planning committee or broadband goals; or have begun implementing strategies aligned with the Community Broadband Planning Playbook;
- To receive the Community Broadband Planning point, the BIO must be previously aware of the work being undertaken by the county, or it must be referenced within the application.

| Community Broadband Planning Playbook | Points |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Planning | 1 |

**Appendix A – Estimate of Unserved Households (HH) per County
Compiled for Scoring for GREAT Program**

These numbers are estimates based on the latest FCC Data available; and are being provided for informational purposes, for use by applicants in estimating their scoring to determine match requirements.

Number of households in census blocks less than 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload according to the June 2019 FCC form 477 data release

| County | Total Households | Estimated # of Unserved HH @ 25/3 | Percent Unserved HH @ 25/3 |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| ALAMANCE | 66576 | 693 | 1.04% |
| ALEXANDER | 16189 | 2010 | 12.42% |
| ALLEGHANY | 8094 | 589 | 7.28% |
| ANSON | 11576 | 1487 | 12.85% |
| ASHE | 17342 | 998 | 5.75% |
| AVERY | 13890 | 447 | 3.22% |
| BEAUFORT | 24688 | 3391 | 13.74% |
| BERTIE | 9822 | 1438 | 14.64% |
| BLADEN | 17718 | 4555 | 25.71% |
| BRUNSWICK | 77482 | 934 | 1.21% |
| BUNCOMBE | 113365 | 1241 | 1.09% |
| BURKE | 40879 | 960 | 2.35% |
| CABARRUS | 71937 | 321 | 0.45% |
| CALDWELL | 37659 | 1135 | 3.01% |
| CAMDEN | 4104 | 71 | 1.73% |
| CARTERET | 48179 | 36 | 0.07% |
| CASWELL | 10619 | 4694 | 44.20% |
| CATAWBA | 67886 | 479 | 0.71% |
| CHATHAM | 28753 | 4677 | 16.27% |
| CHEROKEE | 17515 | 4343 | 24.80% |
| CHOWAN | 7289 | 329 | 4.51% |
| CLAY | 7140 | 1938 | 27.14% |
| CLEVELAND | 43373 | 2115 | 4.88% |
| COLUMBUS | 26042 | 4091 | 15.71% |
| CRAVEN | 45002 | 2267 | 5.04% |
| CUMBERLAND | 135524 | 616 | 0.45% |
| CURRITUCK | 14453 | 465 | 3.22% |
| DARE | 33492 | 99 | 0.30% |
| DAVIDSON | 72655 | 302 | 0.42% |

| County | Total Households | Estimated # of Unserved HH @ 25/3 | Percent Unserved HH @ 25/3 |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| DAVIE | 18238 | 86 | 0.47% |
| DUPLIN | 25728 | 7637 | 29.68% |
| DURHAM | 120217 | 792 | 0.66% |
| EDGEcombe | 24838 | 2862 | 11.52% |
| FORSYTH | 156872 | 40 | 0.03% |
| FRANKLIN | 26577 | 3498 | 13.16% |
| GASTON | 88686 | 141 | 0.16% |
| GATES | 5208 | 1663 | 31.93% |
| GRAHAM | 5930 | 3329 | 56.14% |
| GRANVILLE | 22827 | 3757 | 16.46% |
| GREENE | 8213 | 5139 | 62.57% |
| GUILFORD | 218017 | 433 | 0.20% |
| HALIFAX | 25781 | 3733 | 14.48% |
| HARNETT | 46731 | 2224 | 4.76% |
| HAYWOOD | 34954 | 6892 | 19.72% |
| HENDERSON | 54710 | 4994 | 9.13% |
| HERTFORD | 10635 | 1495 | 14.06% |
| HOKE | 18211 | 1353 | 7.43% |
| HYDE | 3347 | 2375 | 70.96% |
| IREDELL | 69013 | 1321 | 1.91% |
| JACKSON | 25948 | 18826 | 72.55% |
| JOHNSTON | 67682 | 3617 | 5.34% |
| JONES | 4838 | 1849 | 38.22% |
| LEE | 24136 | 472 | 1.96% |
| LENOIR | 27437 | 2845 | 10.37% |
| LINCOLN | 33641 | 418 | 1.24% |
| MCDOWELL | 20808 | 4669 | 22.44% |
| MACON | 25245 | 11999 | 47.53% |
| MADISON | 10608 | 0 | 0.00% |
| MARTIN | 11704 | 2501 | 21.37% |
| MITCHELL | 8713 | 900 | 10.33% |
| MONTGOMERY | 15914 | 5455 | 34.28% |
| MOORE | 43940 | 3617 | 8.23% |
| NASH | 42286 | 2895 | 6.85% |
| NEW HANOVER | 101436 | 55 | 0.05% |
| NORTHAMPTON | 11674 | 1733 | 14.84% |
| ONslow | 68226 | 398 | 0.58% |

| County | Total Households | Estimated # of Unserved HH @ 25/3 | Percent Unserved HH @ 25/3 |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| ORANGE | 55597 | 3027 | 5.44% |
| PAMLICO | 7534 | 1254 | 16.64% |
| PASQUOTANK | 16833 | 15 | 0.09% |
| PENDER | 26724 | 4993 | 18.68% |
| PERQUIMANS | 6986 | 536 | 7.67% |
| PERSON | 18193 | 1325 | 7.28% |
| PITT | 74990 | 2794 | 3.73% |
| POLK | 11432 | 1969 | 17.22% |
| RANDOLPH | 61041 | 1486 | 2.43% |
| RICHMOND | 20738 | 1383 | 6.67% |
| ROBESON | 52751 | 8324 | 15.78% |
| ROCKINGHAM | 43696 | 1274 | 2.92% |
| ROWAN | 60211 | 1123 | 1.87% |
| RUTHERFORD | 33878 | 7010 | 20.69% |
| SAMPSON | 27234 | 10104 | 37.10% |
| SCOTLAND | 15193 | 1102 | 7.25% |
| STANLY | 27110 | 461 | 1.70% |
| STOKES | 21924 | 773 | 3.53% |
| SURRY | 33667 | 369 | 1.10% |
| SWAIN | 8723 | 4340 | 49.75% |
| TRANSYLVANIA | 19163 | 1909 | 9.96% |
| TYRRELL | 2068 | 600 | 29.01% |
| UNION | 72870 | 785 | 1.08% |
| VANCE | 20082 | 920 | 4.58% |
| WARREN | 11806 | 3503 | 29.67% |
| WASHINGTON | 6491 | 598 | 9.21% |
| WATAUGA | 32137 | 814 | 2.53% |
| WAYNE | 52949 | 1745 | 3.30% |
| WILKES | 33065 | 217 | 0.66% |
| WILSON | 35511 | 580 | 1.63% |
| YADKIN | 17341 | 154 | 0.89% |
| YANCEY | 11032 | 1240 | 11.24% |

Appendix B - NC GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool Instructions

NC GREAT Grant Online Mapping Tool:

<https://nconemap.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=72f01e944bde425ca07523d06a59c232>

About

Zoom in on the map to display the North Carolina 2014 Master Address Data.

In the Select tool, check the box next to the NC Master Address Layer and click to create a polygon around Address Points to select locations. Double-click to finish drawing your selection area. Holding Shift and drawing a subsequent polygon will allow you to add to the selection without losing your previous selection.

Once all locations to be served are selected, using the "..." button next to the number of selected locations will give options for exporting the selection. Select "Export to CSV" to download the selected points as a comma delimited excel file.

The Pie Chart in this map will change based on the user selection to display what percentage of the selected addresses are within each of the speed tiers represented in the map. These speed tiers are based on the FCC Form 477 provider reported data, June 2019 release.

Legend

GREAT Ineligible Areas

GREAT Ineligible Areas

FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload

FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload

FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload

FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload

NC County Boundary

NC County Boundary

Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers

| Speed Tier | Percentage |
|--|------------|
| Greater Than 25/3 | ~95% |
| FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload | ~4% |
| FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload | ~1% |

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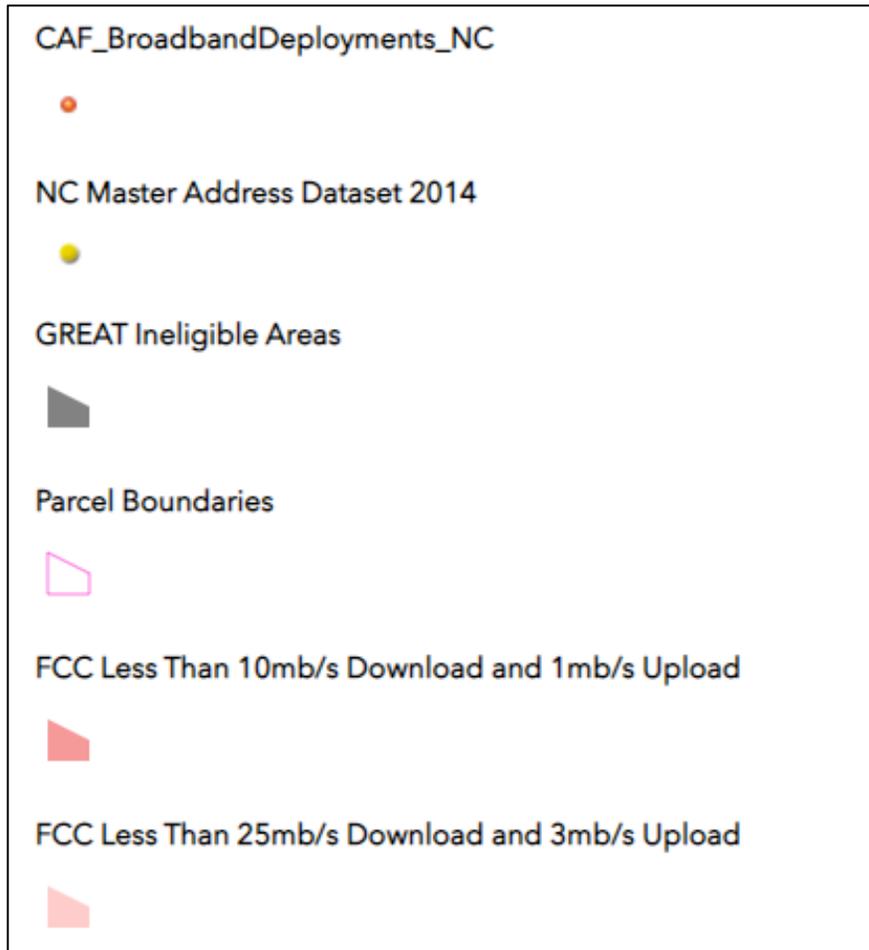
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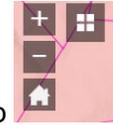
Important Layers:



- Connect America Fund Deployments
 - *Will only be visible in map when zoomed in to street level*
- NC Master Address Dataset – 2014 – dataset to use when submitting proposed locations for GREAT Grant applications.
 - *Will only be visible in map when zoomed in to street level*
- GREAT Ineligible Areas – Areas not meeting criteria outlined in the enabling legislation for the GREAT Program within S.L. 2018-5 and the amending legislation.
- NC Statewide Parcel Dataset – dataset to use when submitting proposed locations if a location is not represented by the NC Master Address Dataset
 - *Will only be visible in map when zoomed in to street level*
- FCC Form 477 Data representing census blocks with less than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload
- FCC Form 477 Data representing census blocks with less than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload

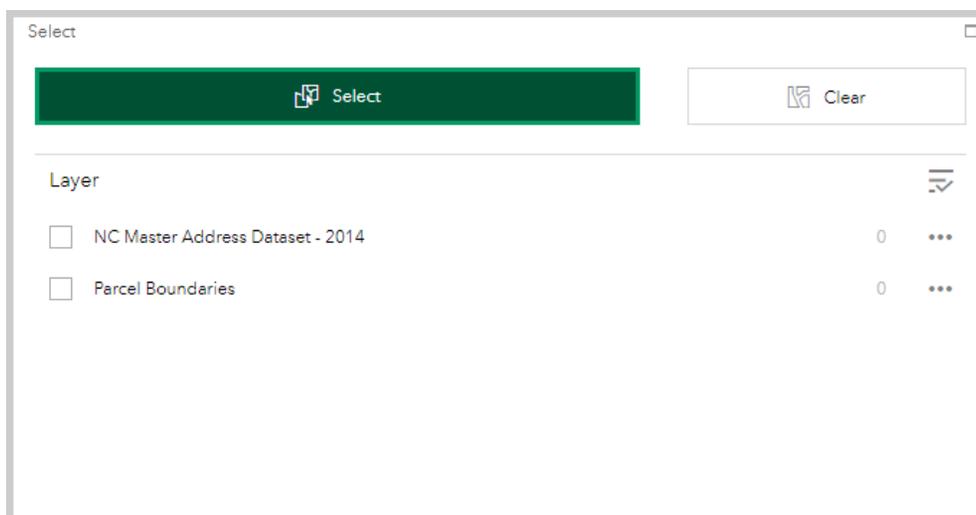
- The layers in the map can be turned on/off using the 'Layer List' (Red Rectangle in screenshot below) on the left of the map:

The screenshot displays a web-based GIS application interface. On the left side, there is a 'Layer List' panel with a red rectangle highlighting the 'Layer List' header. Below the header, several layers are listed with checkboxes: 'CAF_BroadbandDeployments_NC', 'NC Master Address Dataset 2014', 'GREAT Ineligible Areas', 'Parcel Boundaries', 'FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload', and 'FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload'. Below the layer list is a pie chart titled 'Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers'. The pie chart shows two segments: a large green segment labeled 'Greater Than 25/3' and a small dark green segment labeled 'Less Than 25/3' and 'Less Than 10/1'. The main map area shows a map of North Carolina with various colored overlays representing different data layers. At the bottom, there is a 'Select' tool with a green bar and a 'Clear' button. The bottom right corner of the map area shows the Esri logo and other metadata.

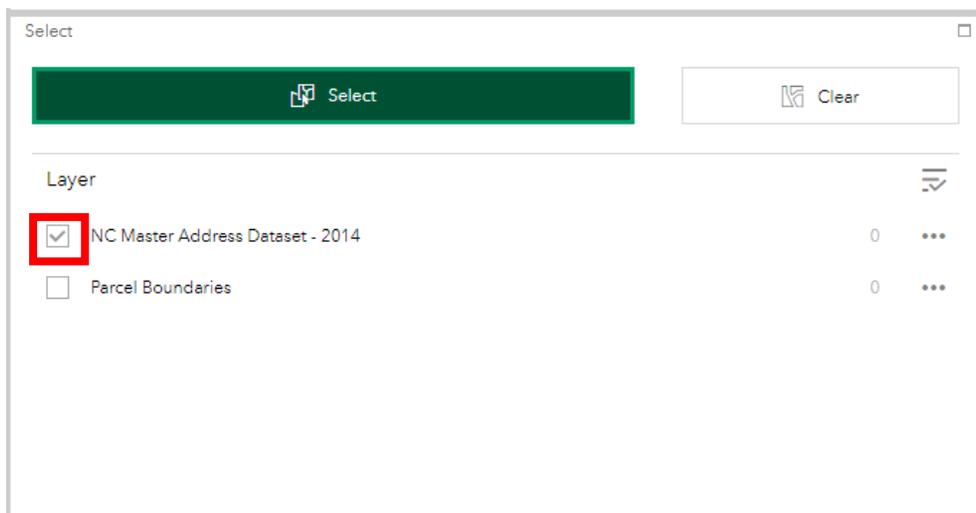


- Zoom in to the area of interest by using your mouse wheel or the +/- buttons in the upper left of the map
 - Zooming in to a neighborhood level will turn on layers for Address Points, Parcel Boundaries, and imagery
- To select address data, use the Select widget at the bottom of the map:

The screenshot displays an ArcGIS web application interface. On the left, there is an 'About' panel with text explaining the map's data and a 'Legend' panel listing layers: CAF_BroadbandDeployments_NC, NC Master Address Dataset 2014, GREAT Ineligible Areas, Parcel Boundaries, FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload, and FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload. Below the legend is a pie chart titled 'Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers' with two categories: 'Less Than 25/3' (Less Than 10/1) and 'Greater Than 25/3'. The main map area shows a satellite view with a red overlay representing FCC speed tiers, yellow dots for address points, and pink outlines for parcel boundaries. A search bar at the top right contains the text 'Find address or place'. At the bottom, there is a 'Select' widget with a 'Select' button and a 'Clear' button, and a 'Layer' panel with checkboxes for 'NC Master Address Dataset 2014' and 'Parcel Boundaries'. The ESRI logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the map area.



- First, check the box for the NC Master Address Dataset – 2014 to set this layer as the selectable dataset:

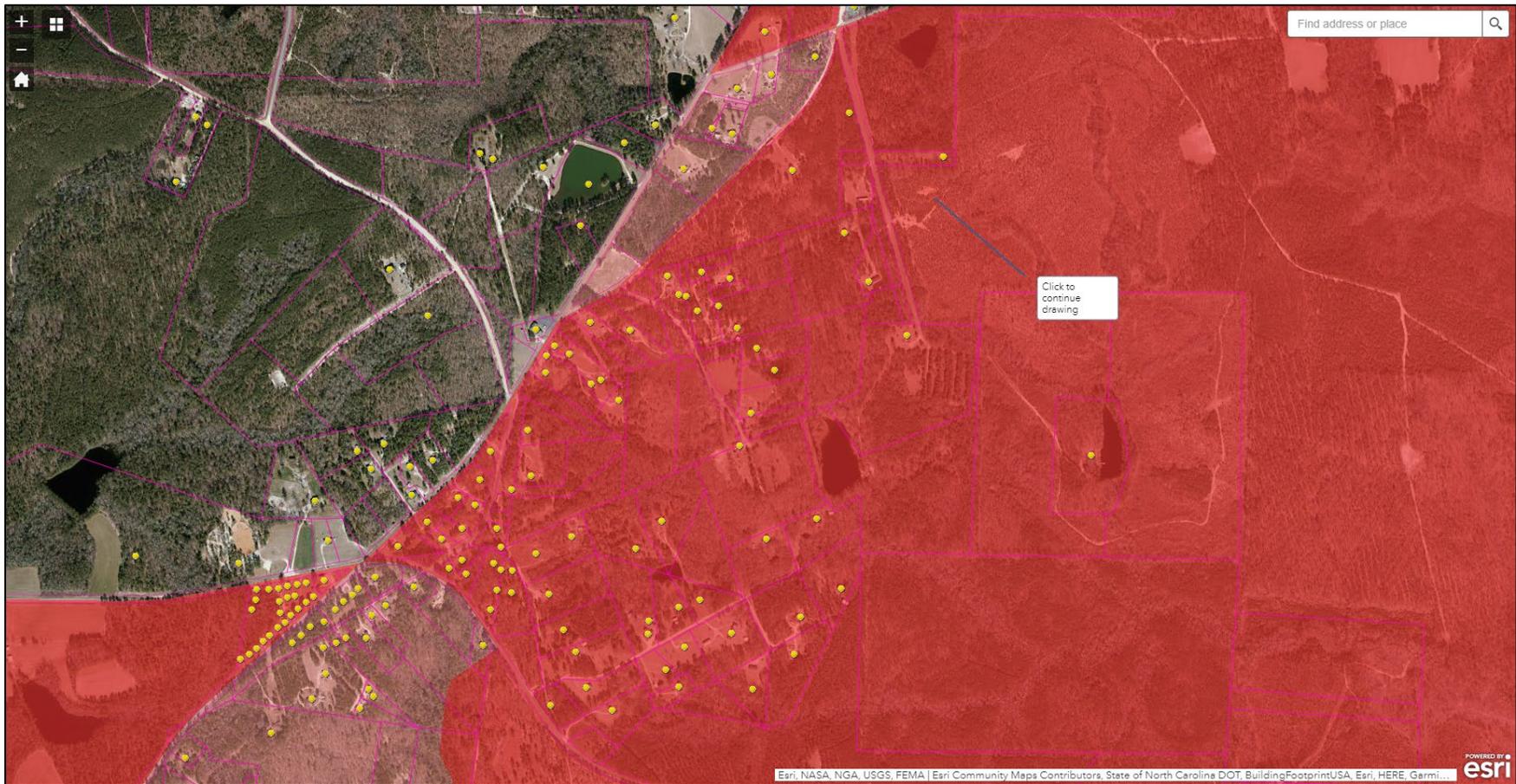


- The Select Tool should be active by default, but if it is not active, click the green Select button.

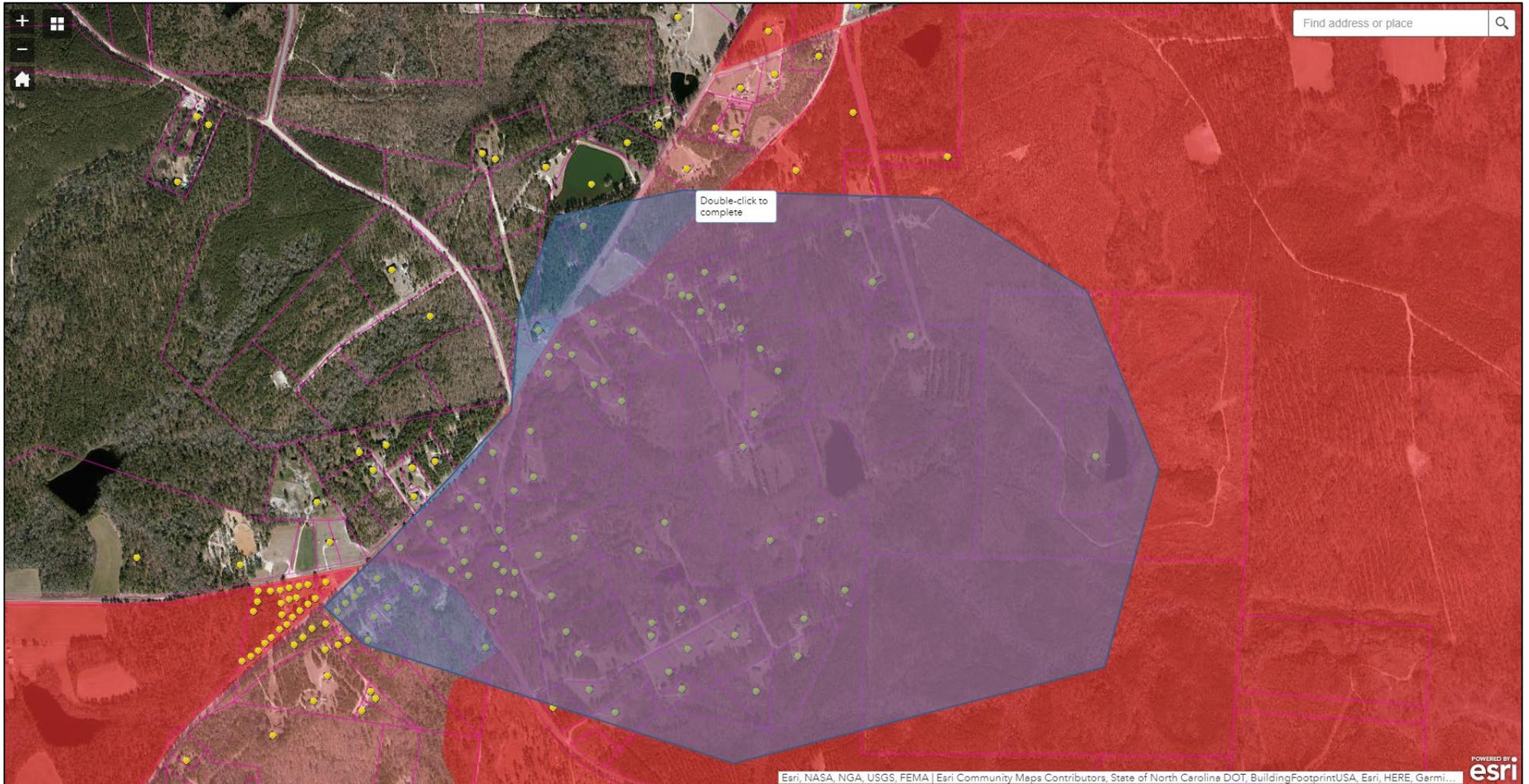
- Active:

- Inactive:

- With the Select Tool active, click once on the map to start drawing on the map:



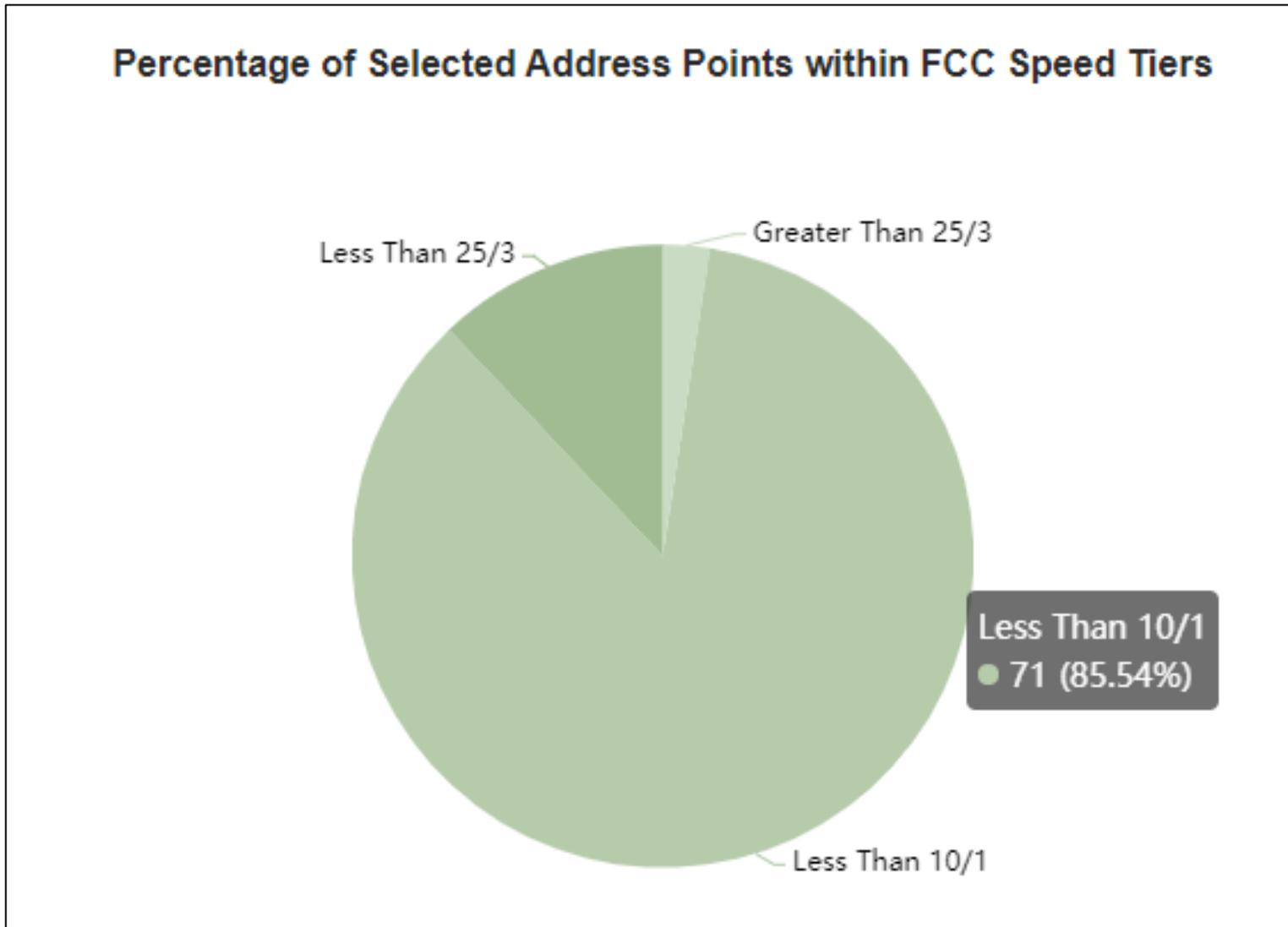
- Continue clicking on the map to draw a blue/purple polygon around the points you want to select (all points within the polygon will be selected):



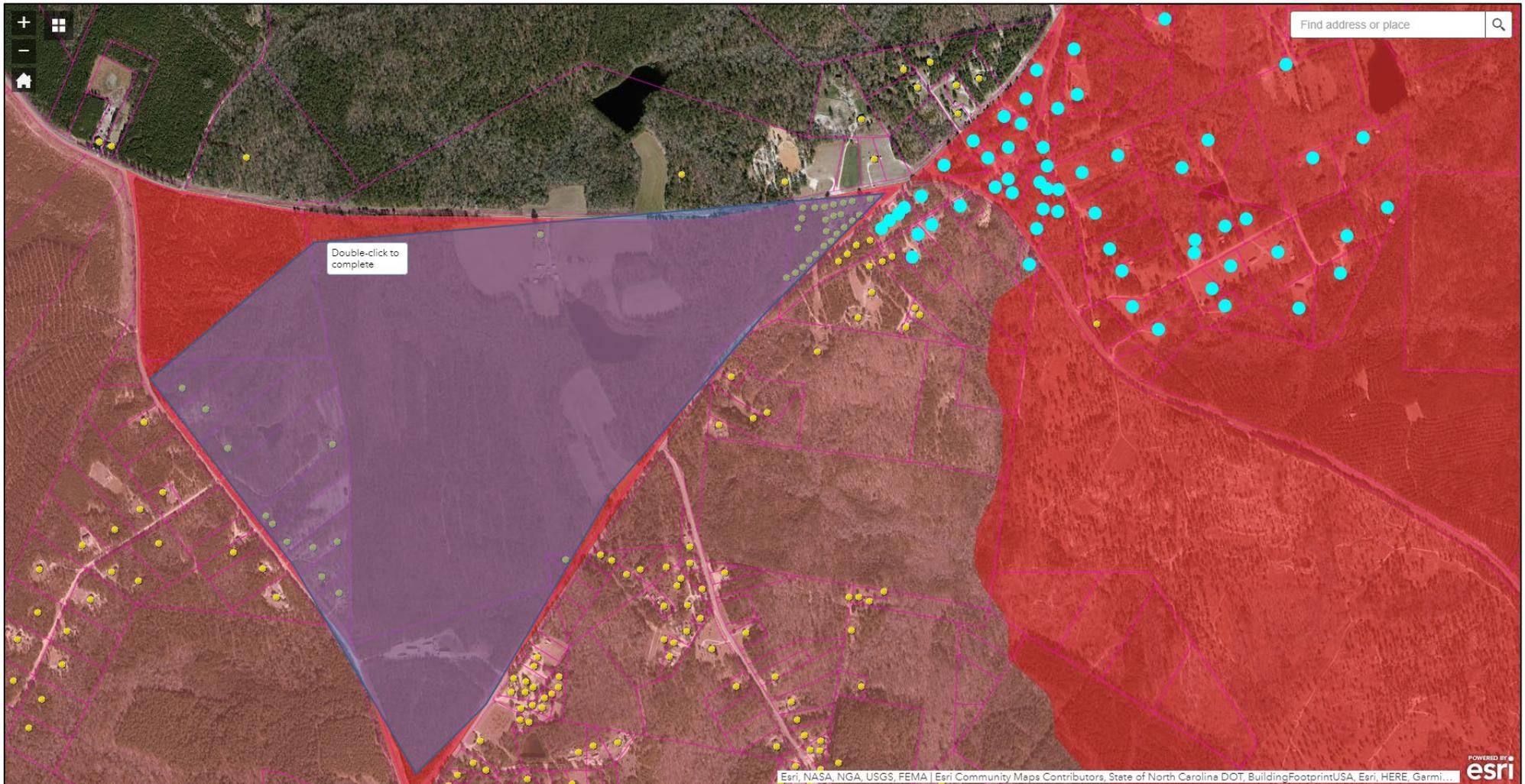
- Double-click to complete drawing the polygon and select all points within the polygon. Selected points will now show in light blue/cyan and the total number of selected addresses will be displayed in the Select Tool next to the address dataset (Red Rectangle in screenshot below):

The screenshot displays an ArcGIS web application interface. On the left, there is a legend and a pie chart. The legend includes layers for CAF_BroadbandDeployments_NC, NC Master Address Dataset 2014, GREAT Ineligible Areas, Parcel Boundaries, and FCC speed tiers. The pie chart is titled "Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers" and shows three categories: "Less Than 25/3", "Greater Than 25/3", and "Less Than 10/1". The main map area shows a satellite view with a red-shaded region and a cyan polygon. Address points are shown as yellow dots, with those inside the cyan polygon highlighted in light blue. At the bottom, a "Select" tool is visible, showing a green bar and a "Select" button. The "NC Master Address Dataset 2014" layer is checked, and the number "82" is displayed in a red box next to it.

- Once a selection is made, the Pie Chart in the bottom left of the map will update to reflect how the selection compares with the FCC reported speeds of the selected addresses. Hovering the cursor over each of the pie segments will show the percentage of points that fall within the specific speed tier.



- To add more address points to the current selection, draw another polygon while holding down the **Shift** key on your keyboard (hold the Shift key until you double-click to complete the polygon):



- The selection now contains the additional address points (Count is shown in Red Rectangle below):

About

Zoom in on the map to display the North Carolina 2014 Master Address Data.

In the Select tool, check the box next to the NC Master Address Layer and click to create a polygon around Address Points to select locations. Double-click to finish drawing your selection area. Holding Shift and drawing a subsequent polygon will allow you to add to the selection without losing your previous selection.

Once all locations to be served are selected, using the "..." button next to the number of selected locations will give options for exporting the selection. Select "Export to CSV" to download the selected points as a comma delimited excel file.

The Pie Chart in this map will change based on the user selection to display what percentage of the selected addresses are within each of the speed tiers represented in the map. These speed tiers are based on the FCC Form 477 provider reported data, June 2019 release.

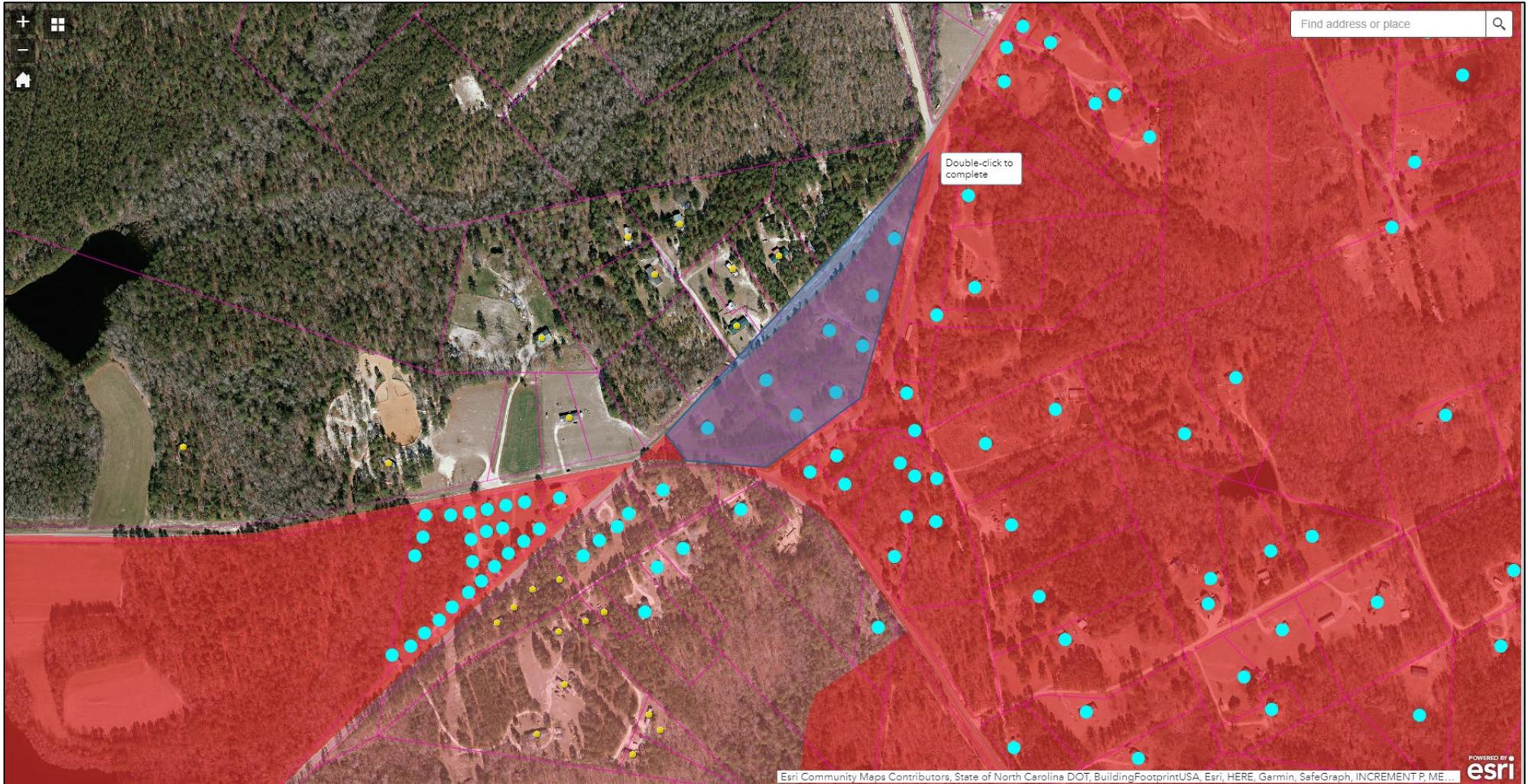
Legend Layer List

- CAF_BroadbandDeployments_NC
- NC Master Address Dataset 2014
- GREAT Ineligible Areas
- Parcel Boundaries
- FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload
- FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload

Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers

| Speed Tier | Count | Percentage |
|-------------------|-------|------------|
| Less Than 10/1 | 108 | 90.00% |
| Less Than 25/3 | - | - |
| Greater Than 25/3 | - | - |

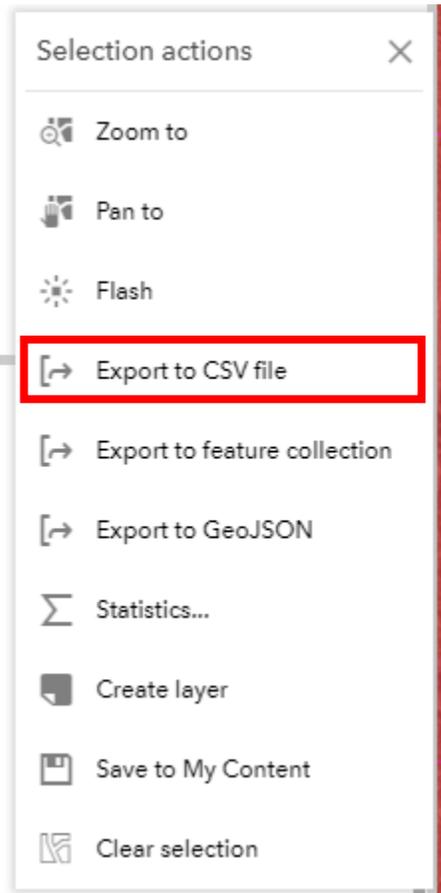
- To remove locations from the selection, hold the **Ctrl** key on your keyboard and click on the map to draw a polygon around the locations to be removed (hold the Ctrl key until you double-click to complete the polygon):



- Once all the address points are selected, using the '...' button (Red Rectangle in screenshot below) next to the number of selected locations within the Select Tool will provide tools for exporting the selection:

The screenshot displays an ArcGIS web application interface. On the left, there is an 'About' section with instructions on using the Select tool and a 'Legend' section listing layers: CAF_BroadbandDeployments_NC, NC Master Address Dataset 2014, GREAT Ineligible Areas, Parcel Boundaries, FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload, and FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload. Below the legend is a pie chart titled 'Percentage of Selected Address Points within FCC Speed Tiers'. The pie chart shows a large green segment for 'Less Than 10/1' with a value of 100 (89.29%). Other segments are labeled 'Less Than 25/3', 'Greater Than 25/3', and 'Less Than 10/1'. The main map area shows a satellite view with a red overlay and numerous cyan address points. A search bar at the top right contains the text 'Find address or place'. At the bottom, a 'Select' tool is active, showing a green bar and a 'Select' button. Below the tool, a layer list shows 'NC Master Address Dataset 2014' checked and 'Parcel Boundaries' unchecked. A red rectangle highlights the '...' button next to the number '100' in the layer list.

- Choose the option to 'Export to CSV file' and the address data will be downloaded to your computer. This .csv file should be submitted with your grant application.



- All data in the GREAT Online Mapping Tool can be downloaded locally through NC OneMap here: <https://www.nconemap.gov/datasets/great-2020-rnd2-eligibleareas>

NC OneMap DATA PROJECTS ANNOUNCEMENTS TERMS CONTACT US ABOUT

GREAT 2020 Rnd2 EligibleAreas

Last updated 7 seconds ago

9/10/2020 Feature Service No license specified 4 Layers Download

The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program Special Supplementary Round within FY20-21 funds eligible projects in economically distressed counties. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, this Special Supplementary GREAT Act Grant Process was developed under SL 2020-97 utilizing Coronavirus Relief Funds. Data for assistina broadband providers that are applying for grant funding as part of the NC GREAT grant proogram Special

About
 NC OneMap Open Data: Utilities
 Shared By: bdsheilton
 Data Source: services5.arcgis.com
 View Metadata
 Create Webmap
 Create a Story Map

Related Data

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Data</p> <p>NC Master Address Dataset 2014 - GREAT Eligible NC OneMap bdsheilton</p> <p>The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program Special Supplementary Round within FY20- ...</p> <p>Type: Feature Layer Last Updated: September 10, 2020 Rows: 3,361,741 Tags: North Carolina, NC, NCDIT, NC ...</p> | <p>Data</p> <p>GREAT Ineligible Areas NC OneMap bdsheilton</p> <p>The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program Special Supplementary Round within FY20- ...</p> <p>Type: Feature Layer Last Updated: September 10, 2020 Rows: 7,504 Tags: North Carolina, NC, NCDIT, NC ...</p> |
| <p>Data</p> <p>FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload NC OneMap bdsheilton</p> | <p>Data</p> <p>FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload NC OneMap bdsheilton</p> |

- To Download the layers, first select an individual layer from the layer dropdown list (Red Rectangle below):

The screenshot displays the NC OneMap interface for the 'GREAT 2020 Rnd2 Eligible Areas' layer. The map shows the state of North Carolina with several counties highlighted in light blue, indicating they are eligible areas. The interface includes a navigation bar at the top with the NC OneMap logo and links for DATA PROJECTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, TERMS, CONTACT US, and ABOUT. Below the navigation bar, the title 'GREAT 2020 Rnd2 Eligible Areas' is displayed, along with the text 'Last updated 7 seconds ago'. The map shows various cities and counties, including Knoxville, Asheville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Durham, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Greenville, Fayetteville, Jacksonville, and Wilmington. Below the map, there is a section for metadata, including the date '9/10/2020', 'Feature Service', and 'No license specified'. A description of the GREAT program is provided, stating that it is a Special Supplementary Round within FY20-21 funds eligible projects in economically distressed counties. A 'More' link is also present. On the right side, there is a layer dropdown menu with a red rectangle around it, showing '4 Layers' and a 'Download' button. The dropdown menu lists several layers, including 'NC Master Address Dataset 2014 - GREAT_Eligible', 'GREAT Ineligible Areas', 'FCC Less Than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload', and 'FCC Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload'. A search bar is also visible in the dropdown menu.

- After selecting an individual layer, it will redirect you to a new page for that layer. Select the Download dropdown and select the option to download as a Shapefile: (The Address Dataset is very large, so the download may take a while to initiate)

NC OneMap DATA PROJECTS ▾ ANNOUNCEMENTS TERMS CONTACT Us ABOUT

NC Master Address Dataset 2014 - GREAT_Eligible

Last updated 1 hour ago | 3,361,741 Records

Overview **Data** API Explorer

9/10/2020 Feature Service No license specified

4 Layers **Download ▾** APIs ▾

Full Dataset

Spreadsheet

KML

Shapefile

Filtered Dataset

Spreadsheet

KML

Shapefile

About

NC OneMap O
Shared By: bdi
Data Source: s

View Metadata
Create Webmap
Create a Story

The Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program Special Supplementary Round within FY20-21 funds eligible projects in economically distressed counties. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, this Special Supplementary GREAT Act Grant Process was developed under SL 2020-97 utilizing Coronavirus Relief Funds. Data for assisting broadband providers that are applying for grant funding as part of the NC GREAT grant program Special Supplementary Round is contained in this service. Data layers include FCC Form 477 data (June 2019 release) on fixed broadband service at a census block level. The FCC broadband service data displays census blocks that have less than 10mb/s Download and 1mb/s Upload speeds reported or less than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload speeds reported. A subset of the NC Master Address Dataset 2014 is provided to allow potential applicants to select locations that are being proposed for particular funding requests.

Attributes

Chart Map Visualization

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|
| ADDR_HN | ADDR_PD | ADDR_PT | ADDR_SD | ADDR_SN | ADDR_ST | APT_UNIT | COMMUNITY |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|

- If there are issues downloading the 2014 Address Dataset for GREAT, an alternative would be to download the full NC Master Address Dataset – 2014 from: <https://www.nconemap.gov/datasets/nc-master-address-dataset-2014?showData=true> . Click 'Download as shapefile' under Additional Resources.

The screenshot displays the NC OneMap interface for the 'NC Master Address Dataset - 2014'. The header features the NC OneMap logo and navigation links: DATA PROJECTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, TERMS, CONTACT US, and ABOUT. The main content area shows a map of North Carolina with various cities labeled, including Asheville, Knoxville, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Winston-Salem. Below the map are tabs for Overview, Data, and API Explorer. A 'Download' dropdown menu is open, showing options like Full Dataset, Spreadsheet, KML, and Shapefile, with 'Download as shapefile' highlighted in a red box. The page also includes a search bar, a date indicator (10/10/2019), and a description of the dataset.