



**Governor's Office of
Planning & Budget**

State of Utah Performance Report: Capital Project Funds

2026 Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
USES OF FUNDS	3
Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program	4
Box Elder Community Campus	9
Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects	19
Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project	21
PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES	23
Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program	23
Box Elder Community Campus	27
Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects	29
Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project	35
LABOR	37
Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program	37
Box Elder Community Campus	39
Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects	39
Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project	39
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	40
Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program	40
Box Elder Community Campus	45
Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects	46
Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project	55
PROJECT INVENTORY	57

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of Utah is strategically deploying \$137.9 million in Capital Projects Fund (CPF) resources to address critical infrastructure gaps and expand reliable, high-speed broadband connectivity for disproportionately impacted, rural, and underserved communities. These investments support remote work, education, telehealth, and other essential services, helping to close the digital divide highlighted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Governor's Office and the Utah Legislature have worked closely with state agencies, local governments, broadband providers, and other stakeholders to identify critical infrastructure needs and ensure CPF-funded capital assets maximize long-term public benefit. Utah's CPF investments are concentrated across three broadband initiatives and one multi-purpose community facility project, each designed to improve digital connectivity and strengthen community resilience throughout the state.

During the reporting period, Utah continued to make substantial progress toward completing its CPF investments. Several broadband projects have been completed and are now providing high-speed internet service to previously unserved and underserved households, businesses, and community anchor institutions. Construction also continued on major middle-mile broadband infrastructure and community facility projects that will further expand access to reliable broadband and essential community services.

While most CPF-funded projects remain on track for completion by December 31, 2026, the State of Utah intends to request Treasury approval to extend the period of performance for three projects through June 30, 2027. These projects have experienced delays primarily related to right-of-way acquisition, environmental and permitting requirements, utility coordination, and other factors outside the recipients' control. Despite these challenges, significant progress has been achieved, and each project has established a clear path toward substantial completion within the requested extension period. The requested extensions will ensure these investments are completed successfully while preserving the long-term public benefits envisioned under the Capital Projects Fund.

Utah remains committed to responsible stewardship of CPF funding and continues to work closely with recipients, subrecipients, and federal partners to monitor project performance, address implementation challenges, and ensure all investments achieve their intended outcomes for communities across the state.

USES OF FUNDS

Utah utilizes the CPF to invest in critical capital projects that directly enable remote work, education, and health monitoring, in direct response to the needs highlighted by the public health emergency.

The state maintains a commitment to effectively managing taxpayer funds, ensuring these federal resources are applied to their highest and best uses. The COVID-19 pandemic clearly demonstrated that communities and individuals lacking access to high-quality, affordable internet are at a marked disadvantage. Therefore, the CPF is strategically deployed to address this digital inequity, primarily through investments in:

- **Broadband Infrastructure:** Funding last-mile deployment to unserved and underserved households and businesses and constructing non-discriminatory middle-mile fiber networks.
- **Digital Connectivity for Anchor Institutions:** Upgrading network infrastructure for schools, libraries, and key telehealth institutions that serve as critical community access points.
- **Community Infrastructure:** Supporting multi-purpose community facilities in disadvantaged areas to provide resources for workforce development, health, and education.

During the reporting period, Utah continued to make substantial progress across all CPF-funded initiatives. Multiple last-mile broadband projects reached completion and are now providing reliable high-speed internet service to rural households, businesses, and community anchor institutions. Construction also advanced on major middle-mile broadband corridors and the Box Elder Community Campus, expanding digital connectivity and increasing access to critical community resources throughout the state.

While the majority of CPF-funded projects remain on schedule for completion by December 31, 2026, the State of Utah intends to request Treasury approval to extend the period of performance for three projects through June 30, 2027. These projects have experienced delays related to right-of-way acquisition, environmental review, utility coordination, and other permitting requirements that were outside the recipients' control. Despite these challenges, significant construction progress has been achieved, and each project has developed a clear implementation schedule demonstrating its ability to achieve substantial completion within the requested extension period. Grant recipients will continue to work closely with the State and Treasury to complete these projects and ensure they deliver the intended long-term benefits to Utah communities.

Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program

Program Plan Number: CPF_GP-000193

Status: Approved

Funding Amount: \$15,000,000

Expenditures as of June 30, 2026: \$12,421,130

Program Start Date: July 2023

Program End Date: December 31, 2026

The Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program, administered by the Utah Broadband Center, expands access to reliable, high-speed broadband service for underserved households and businesses located in rural and economically distressed communities throughout Utah. The program funds the deployment of fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) infrastructure where private investment alone would not be economically feasible, ensuring residents have access to the connectivity needed for remote work, education, telehealth, and other essential services.

The COVID-19 public health emergency underscored the importance of affordable, high-speed internet and highlighted the significant challenges faced by communities lacking reliable broadband access. Consistent with the objectives outlined in Utah's approved Capital Projects Fund Program Plan, the program continues to prioritize investments that expand broadband infrastructure to areas where existing service is unavailable or does not meet minimum broadband performance standards.

During the reporting period, grant funding continued to support labor, materials, engineering, permitting, fiber installation, and coordination with utility providers and local governments. All participating providers complied with applicable prevailing wage requirements, and several projects prioritized local hiring, creating economic opportunities while supporting efficient project delivery. Broadband providers also continued community outreach through public meetings, direct customer engagement, and coordination with local leaders to increase awareness of broadband availability and encourage service adoption.

As of the close of the reporting period, five of the seven Broadband Access Grant projects have been completed. During this reporting period, two additional projects reached completion: the HiCountryNet Salt Lake County Project and the CentraCom Millard County Project. Combined with the previously completed Croydon (All West Communications), Box Elder County (Beehive Broadband), and White Hills (Direct Communications) projects, these investments have expanded reliable, high-speed broadband service to more than 2,500 homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions across rural Utah. Upon completion of the remaining projects, the program is expected to provide broadband access to more than 1,000 additional locations, further reducing the digital divide in underserved communities.

Two projects remain under construction:

1. The South Utah Valley Electric Service District (SESD)/Utah Broadband West Mountain Project continues to make substantial progress despite challenges associated with make-ready work and construction timelines and remains on schedule for completion by December 31, 2026.
2. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) Montezuma Creek Project has experienced significant delays associated with securing right-of-way approvals from the Navajo Nation General Land Development Department (GLDD). Although the right-of-way process was originally expected to take approximately six weeks, approvals have required more than six months and remain ongoing. In addition, the project has been delayed while finalizing an agreement with the Utah Department of Transportation to colocate fiber within existing UDOT conduit. Because these delays were outside the recipient's control, NTUA has requested an extension of the project period. Make-ready work has been completed, utility poles are prepared for aerial fiber deployment, and construction of the fiber network is expected to begin once the remaining agreements are finalized.

During the next reporting period, Utah anticipates completing the remaining two Broadband Access Grant projects. The SESD/Utah Broadband project is expected to reach completion by the end of 2026, while NTUA expects to begin full-scale fiber deployment immediately following approval of the remaining right-of-way and conduit agreements.

The State will continue to monitor project progress closely and work collaboratively with recipients to ensure these investments achieve their intended objectives of expanding broadband access, increasing digital connectivity, and supporting long-term economic opportunity throughout Utah's rural and tribal communities.

All West Communications

All West/Utah, Inc. has successfully completed its ARPA-funded broadband infrastructure project in Croydon, Utah. The project targeted 52 rural locations and reached full completion as of September 30, 2024.

Of the original \$508,425 grant award, only \$210,999.76 was spent by All West, with \$211,985.08 reallocated to HiCountryNet. The funds supported installation costs, project planning and design, materials, and permitting. The result was the deployment of 4.74 miles of fiber, creating a robust 1000/1000+ Mbps fiber optic network across the Croydon area. With

the infrastructure complete and the project 100% finished, All West has ensured long-term broadband capacity in an underserved area with a relatively small footprint but high impact.

All mainline construction is finished, and customer service drops have been completed for those who signed up, with the potential to install more as additional customers enroll. Adoption stood at 25% as of September 2024, and the deployed infrastructure now provides high-speed internet access to homes, farms, and businesses that previously lacked adequate connectivity. A final project report was submitted by All West in Q3 2024.

Direct Communications

Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC has successfully completed a full fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) broadband project in the White Hills neighborhood of Eagle Mountain, Utah. This rural area of 111 residences previously relied on low-quality DSL and fixed wireless internet, offering poor speed and reliability.

The project received a \$600,000 ARPA grant, of which \$566,723.54 (94%) was disbursed. Funds were used to purchase fiber infrastructure materials, electronics, and contractor services. The construction resulted in 15.63 miles of fiber deployed, connecting every household in the service area. Installation was customized based on best practices, with network interface points located either inside or outside homes depending on the optimal configuration. This investment established a scalable, future-proof broadband network for the White Hills neighborhood.

As of December 31, 2024, the project was 100% complete, and all homes now have access to buried, ducted fiber with symmetric speeds up to 2 Gbps. Adoption reached 54% by April 2025, demonstrating strong community interest and satisfaction with the new service. A final project report was submitted in Q1 2025.

Beehive Broadband

Box Elder County Government, in partnership with the Bear River Association of Governments and Beehive Broadband, completed a comprehensive broadband infrastructure project serving several rural communities in Utah. This effort targeted areas long underserved by high-speed internet, including Thatcher, Penrose, Howell, Bear River City, Elwood, Willard, South Willard, and Mantua.

The project is now 100% complete and successfully delivered broadband access to residents previously dependent on limited or no connectivity. With an adoption rate of 40% as of April 2025, the project has meaningfully narrowed the digital divide across the region.

The project received and fully disbursed \$7,431,135.00 in ARPA grant funds. These resources supported labor, materials, and costs related to infrastructure agreements, including those with agencies such as Rocky Mountain Power. A total of 81.8 miles of fiber were deployed, enabling reliable, high-speed internet access for residents and institutions throughout the target communities. The funds allowed for a robust and scalable broadband network to be installed, helping rural Utah meet growing digital demands across sectors like education, healthcare, and business. A final project report was submitted in Q1 2025.

CentraCom

During this reporting period, the fiber and conduit buildout were 100% completed in all project communities (Meadow, Leamington, and Kanosh). Customer sign ups and drops are continuing. The Millard County project has been completed, and a final project report was submitted by CentraCom in Q4 2025.

HiCountryNet

All construction phases of this project were completed during the reporting period. 268 broadband serviceable locations have been served; 242 of with fiber to the home and 26 with 5 mmWave Fixed Wireless offering symmetrical speeds of 940 Mbps. Over 12 miles of fiber were deployed during this project. The current take rate for the area is 30%, and it is anticipated that take rate will increase to 80-90% over time. The terrain was challenging and very rocky across all five phases of the project.

Phase 5 necessitated a transition from fiber to the home to mmWave fixed wireless because of the challenges with roads, geography, and home owners association requirements in the area. Despite these challenges, HiCountryNet was able to provide all BSLs in the project with access to reliable, high-speed broadband. . A final project report was submitted in Q1 2026, and final payment was made during this period.

Utah Broadband

The West Mountain Fiber project, led by Utah Broadband in collaboration with the South Utah Valley Electric Service District (SESD), aims to deliver high-speed broadband to a rural, underserved region of Utah.

Construction phases 1-3 are complete and are live. Phase 4 is underway. The northern headend permitting and construction is complete. The enclosure is installed in the Right of Way and has power. The second headend was installed. Planned completion date is

December 2026. The project is 70% complete. 228 homes have been passed, with 69 customer signups. During the final quarter of the reporting period there were an additional 5.4 miles of fiber deployed. The SESD/Utah Broadband project continues to progress. It is approximately 70% completed and it is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of 2026.

Notable challenges: The primary constraint continues to be make-ready work. SESD's crew capacity limits the pace Utah Broadband would like to maintain. Utah Broadband's strand installation is progressing faster than SESD's ability to complete the make-ready phases and the costs related to their work are also concerning. Utah Broadband is actively working with SESD to reduce those costs and align the work timelines for both organizations.

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

The Montezuma Creek Fiber to the Home Project, led by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), is designed to bring broadband access to Montezuma Creek, Utah—a remote and historically underserved area within the Navajo Nation. This census-designated community currently lacks reliable high-speed internet, and the project aims to provide digital connectivity for residents, businesses, and key anchor institutions.

During this reporting period, Make Ready has been completed (September 2025). A total of 98 poles have been changed out as part of the Make Ready process. The project is still awaiting Rights of Way, pending Cultural Resource Compliance Form (CRCF). Road crossing permits are in progress for three crossings. The legal plat and biological resource report have been received. The cultural resource report is in progress.

Right of Way permission is pending approval and review at the Navajo Nation GLDD as of January 2026. Road crossing permits for Elk Horn have been applied for with Elk Horn, Running Horse, and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Three conduits have been installed along the service route. The project is 33% complete.

Right of Way approvals remain a barrier. The process was anticipated to take 60 days, and has taken more than six months. The project was anticipated to finish construction by the end of April 2026, but right of way delays have necessitated extending that timeline to the end of October 2026. Recent communication from the Navajo Nation GLDD and the UDOT indicated that approvals were expected by the end of June 2026; however, these agreements are still in process. NTUA has requested a project extension due to these delays and continues to work with the Navajo Nation GLDD and UDOT to keep the process moving forward.

Box Elder Community Campus

Program Plan Number: CPF_GP-000362

Status: Approved

Funding Amount: \$7,000,000

Expenditures as of June 30, 2026: \$7,000,000

Program Start Date: January 2024

Program End Date: January 2025

The Box Elder Community Campus, administered by the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Utah, is developing a multi-purpose community facility designed to strengthen economic opportunity, improve access to essential services, and enhance quality of life for individuals and families in Box Elder County. The project supports the development of a comprehensive campus consisting of a community center, an events center, and a domestic violence shelter and family education center. Together, these facilities provide a centralized location where residents can access workforce development, education, health and wellness services, childcare, and community programming.

The campus is organized around three primary service areas: Workforce, Health & Wellness, and Education. Workforce initiatives include job skills training, employment counseling, entrepreneurship resources, childcare, and college and career readiness programming. Health and wellness services include health screenings, mental health and counseling services, family support programs, housing and safety resources, and community health education. Education initiatives provide academic tutoring, mentoring, parent education, and youth development programming. Project outcomes will continue to be measured through participation rates, referrals, pre- and post-program assessments, community engagement metrics, and other evaluation tools utilized by campus partners.

Significant milestones were achieved during the reporting period. Construction of all three campus facilities was substantially completed, leaving only final furnishings, security system programming, flooring, appliances, landscaping, and other finishing work. The completed campus now includes:

- A community center for youth programming and community organizations.
- An events center featuring a full-size gymnasium for community events and activities.
- A domestic violence shelter and family education center serving individuals and families in need.

As facilities became available, community organizations began utilizing the campus for training, educational programming, outreach activities, and community events. Multiple

memoranda of understanding (MOUs) and service agreements are being finalized to establish long-term occupancy and coordinated service delivery among nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and public agencies. These partnerships will significantly expand access to services for thousands of residents, particularly individuals and families from economically distressed communities.

The campus officially celebrated completion of construction with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and community open house held on March 20, 2026. The event provided community members, partners, and local leaders with an opportunity to tour the facilities and learn about the wide range of programs and services that will be offered throughout the campus.

Key project milestones achieved include acquisition of the project property, completion of the campus master plan, engineering and architectural design, award of construction contracts, completion of building construction, establishment of early childhood programming, receipt of certificates of occupancy, and completion of the three primary campus facilities. Throughout construction, portions of the existing facility remained operational, allowing nonprofit organizations and community groups to continue serving residents while new facilities were being completed.

The project experienced several implementation challenges during the reporting period. Initial land acquisition activities required more time than anticipated, delaying the start of construction. Additional schedule impacts resulted from supply chain delays, subcontractor availability, and the bankruptcy of the HVAC subcontractor responsible for the events center, requiring replacement contractors and delaying occupancy by approximately two months. Despite these challenges, project partners successfully maintained progress by securing additional funding for HVAC improvements and green space enhancements, coordinating closely with local government partners, and continuing community programming throughout construction.

As the project transitions from construction to full operations, the primary focus has shifted toward establishing long-term partnerships through MOUs, coordinating facility scheduling among numerous community organizations, and maximizing the campus's long-term impact. These efforts will ensure the campus serves as a sustainable regional hub for workforce development, education, health and wellness services, and community engagement for years to come.

Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects

Program Plan Number: CPF_GP-000196

Status: Approved

Funding Amount: \$96,600,035

Expenditures as of June 30, 2026: \$44,564,534

Program Start Date: February 2024

Program End Date: December 31, 2026

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Middle Mile Program is expanding broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved regions of Utah by constructing a carrier-neutral middle-mile fiber network along state highway rights-of-way. The program addresses one of the most significant barriers to rural broadband deployment—the time, cost, and complexity associated with obtaining right-of-way access, environmental clearances, and utility coordination. By constructing publicly owned middle-mile infrastructure, UDOT enables Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to focus resources on last-mile deployment, accelerating broadband expansion to rural households, businesses, community anchor institutions, and tribal communities.

UDOT is uniquely positioned to deliver this infrastructure because of its authority to utilize state highway rights-of-way and coordinate large-scale transportation and utility projects. The carrier-neutral network promotes competition among broadband providers, reduces deployment costs, and creates long-term opportunities for affordable, high-speed broadband service throughout Utah. Upon completion, UDOT will own and maintain the middle-mile infrastructure while partnering with multiple ISPs to provide last-mile connections to residents and businesses.

The Middle Mile Program consists of multiple strategic projects, including Logan Canyon, Trappers Loop, Levan, US-40 Jurassic, and Zion Canyon, each designed to close critical infrastructure gaps and support statewide broadband expansion. During the reporting period, substantial progress was achieved across all project corridors. Construction advanced on multiple segments, with several projects reaching substantial completion or entering final construction phases. These investments continue to expand broadband infrastructure, improve network resiliency, and support future connectivity for communities that have historically lacked reliable access to high-speed internet.

In addition to broadband expansion, the Middle Mile Program supports public safety, emergency communications, education, telehealth, remote work, and economic development by creating a resilient fiber backbone that can be leveraged by multiple broadband providers. UDOT continues to coordinate closely with local governments, tribal partners, federal agencies, utility companies, and private broadband providers to ensure the

infrastructure supports long-term community needs and maximizes the public benefit of CPF investments.

While significant progress has been made, several projects have encountered challenges related to environmental permitting, utility conflicts, railroad and right-of-way negotiations, tribal coordination, and federal approval processes. These challenges are common for large-scale infrastructure projects and have required additional coordination with local, state, tribal, and federal partners. Despite these complexities, construction continues to advance across the program, and project teams have implemented mitigation strategies to minimize delays while maintaining compliance with all applicable environmental and regulatory requirements.

During the next reporting period, UDOT will continue advancing construction activities across the remaining project corridors, complete additional fiber installations, expand coordination with last-mile providers, and implement additional public Wi-Fi partnerships in underserved communities. Due to permitting and right-of-way delays outside the State's control, Utah intends to request Treasury approval to extend the period of performance for the US-40 Jurassic and Zions CPF projects through June 30, 2027. This extension will provide the time necessary to complete construction while ensuring the projects fully achieve their intended objectives of expanding broadband access and strengthening digital connectivity in rural and underserved communities throughout Utah.

Description of Ancillary Costs: The primary ancillary cost associated with this project is public involvement. UDOT maintains a dedicated public involvement team that works with a broad range of stakeholders to disseminate project information, respond to community questions, and conduct outreach with affected residents, businesses, and community partners throughout project implementation.

Logan Canyon Middle Mile

The project is designed to provide middle-mile infrastructure that enables telecommunications providers to expand last-mile broadband services to surrounding communities. Project design was completed in September 2024, and the project was advertised for contractor bidding during the same month. Construction was awarded in October 2024, with construction activities beginning in May 2025. As of the end of June 2026, construction was approximately 89% complete.

During the reporting period, UDOT continued installation of standard fiber optic cable and junction box infrastructure throughout the project corridor, advancing overall construction to approximately 89 percent complete. To support continued deployment, approximately 55,000

feet of conduit, 15,000 feet of fiber optic cable, and 20 fiber distribution boxes were procured. These activities represent continued progress toward completing the project's middle-mile broadband infrastructure. Installation of the fiber optic cable throughout the project corridor is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2026.

UDOT encountered several construction and operational challenges during the reporting period, including:

- Installation of Rocky Mountain Power's 8-foot by 8-foot concrete vaults within the highway pavement presented challenges due to limited roadway width and the need to maintain one-way traffic through the construction zone. To address this challenge, project crews modified excavation methods, adjusted barrel spacing, and shifted traffic lanes while maintaining required construction clearances and safe passage through the work area.
- Logan Canyon is frequently used by cyclists, and some cyclists entered active construction areas despite posted warnings. UDOT responded by conducting outreach with cycling groups and installing electronic message boards emphasizing construction safety requirements and the risks associated with entering restricted work zones.

A forest fire occurred in Logan Canyon during construction. Fiber construction crews helped direct traffic and used their satellite communications to report the fire and elicit fire response faster than otherwise would have been possible.

The project is not yet far enough along to directly serve households and individuals. However, UDOT is working with local communities to establish Wi-Fi hotspots at community-owned facilities to provide interim connectivity benefits.

UDOT is also partnering with CentraCom Interactive, which is constructing fiber-to-the-home infrastructure in surrounding areas in coordination with the middle-mile project. This partnership will help maximize the long-term community impact of the CPF investment by supporting expanded broadband availability.

These engagement activities help ensure transparency throughout construction and support coordination with stakeholders impacted by project activities.

Levan Middle Mile

Design was completed and the project was advertised to contractors in March 2025. Bids received were highly competitive. The awarded contract was only 51% of the engineer's

estimate. Three additional bids were submitted, with amounts equal to 79%, 91%, and 99% of the estimate, respectively. The low bid contractor was contacted to confirm the accuracy of their bid and they expressed confidence in their submitted pricing. Fiber conduit and cable was ordered and delivered to the UDOT shed located in Gunnison.

Construction on the original SR-28 portion of the project began in June 2025 and progressed from 0% to 99% during the FY26 reporting period. Completion is expected in Summer 2026. Construction on the additional US-50 segment began in April 2026 and is expected to be completed in Fall 2026.

During the reporting period, project activities continued to advance through the procurement of critical materials and ongoing construction efforts. Approximately 913,450 feet of conduit, 3,913,318 feet of fiber optic cable, and 75 fiber distribution boxes were procured to support network deployment. In addition, fiber optic installation continued across both project segments, representing continued progress toward completion of the broadband infrastructure. Completion of fiber optic cable installation across both project sections is anticipated by Fall 2026.

UDOT encountered the following additional challenges during this reporting period:

- The project incorporated sections of existing conduit to reduce construction costs. However, portions of this conduit were found to be in significantly worse condition than anticipated.
- Construction productivity was also affected by unmarked and undocumented underground utilities encountered throughout the corridor.
- Equipment reliability issues during construction contributed to reduced production rates and schedule impacts.

Construction crews encountered unmarked and undocumented underground utilities throughout the project corridor. Additional investigation and adjustments to construction methods were required to avoid conflicts and maintain safe installation practices. One example included an abandoned approximately 150-year-old wooden water pipe wrapped with wire that became caught on drilling equipment and damaged the bore head, requiring additional corrective work.

Equipment reliability challenges affected construction productivity and contributed to schedule impacts. While crews have resolved some equipment issues, additional repairs and adjustments continue to be addressed to maintain progress and complete remaining construction activities. The project is not yet fully complete and is not currently serving all anticipated households and individuals. However, the infrastructure being constructed will

enable expanded broadband access throughout surrounding rural communities once completed.

Prior to construction, UDOT conducted outreach to property owners located along the project route. Mailers were distributed that included project maps and contact information for UDOT's public involvement team. At the contractor's request, UDOT also conducted direct outreach to stakeholders adjacent to the project right-of-way to provide construction information and request identification of private utilities to prevent conflicts during construction.

To date, UDOT's public involvement team has called more than 50 stakeholders to discuss these issues. This outreach will continue as the project progresses.

The following telecommunication companies are partners with UDOT on this project:

- CentraCom Interactive

CentraCom has actively been connecting households in the completed Nephi area. More detail on numbers and locations served will be available in next year's FY27 annual report. These engagement efforts help ensure transparency, minimize construction impacts, and maintain communication with communities throughout project implementation.

Trappers Loop Middle Mile

Project design was completed in May 2025, and Phase 1 was advertised for contractor bidding during the same month. Construction was awarded for Phase 1 in June 2025, and construction was substantially completed in June 2026.

Construction for Phase 2 was awarded to a contractor in May 2026, with construction expected to begin in late Summer 2026 and be completed in early Fall 2026. No Phase 2 construction expenses were recorded during FY26.

During the reporting period, the project achieved substantial progress through the completion of standard fiber optic cable and junction box construction along the Phase 1 project corridor, reaching substantial completion in June 2026. To support continued network deployment, approximately 401,000 feet of conduit, 42,800 feet of fiber optic cable, and 61 fiber distribution boxes were procured. UDOT also advanced planning activities and coordinated with contractors in preparation for Phase 2 construction. Fiber optic cable installation across all project phases is anticipated to be completed by Fall 2026.

UDOT encountered several challenges during the reporting period, including:

- Right-of-Way
- Ownership Easements,
- Union Pacific Railroad Coordination

A significant challenge has been coordination regarding right-of-way ownership and easement requirements with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). UPRR owns a substantial portion of the land within Weber Canyon along the I-84 corridor, which is a critical route for the planned fiber installation. While UDOT believes it has ownership rights to the I-84 corridor in this area, UPRR has asserted ownership interests that could require additional agreements and costs for fiber installation.

This issue continued throughout FY26 and required ongoing coordination between UDOT legal representatives, including the Utah Attorney General's Office, and UPRR representatives. Due to the complexity and timeline associated with resolving the right-of-way matter, UDOT plans to reallocate CPF funds associated with this segment to other eligible projects and pursue fiber installation along the I-84 Weber Canyon corridor separately using other funding sources.

UDOT encountered a utility conflict in a residential area that required redesign of the fiber alignment and additional environmental review. UDOT addressed this challenge by modifying the fiber route to the opposite side of the roadway and completing the necessary environmental clearances. These adjustments allowed construction activities to continue without significant impacts to the overall project schedule.

During the reporting period, Snowbasin Ski Resort expressed interest in utilizing the fiber infrastructure to support real-time travel information, including travel time and parking availability data for visitors. Due to the limited timeframe required to meet CPF project deadlines, UDOT was unable to establish the necessary agreements within the project timeline. UDOT continues to work with Snowbasin outside of the CPF project to explore opportunities for providing this information in the future.

US-40 Jurassic Middle Mile

Project design for the US-40 fiber expansion began in February 2025.

and was largely completed in February 2026. The project was subdivided into four distinct geographic segments that were advertised separately to contractors, as follows:

- Segment A is the westernmost portion of the overall US-40 project that will primarily

be in a canyon environment between Heber City and Daniels Summit; advertised November 2025 and was approximately 43% built at the end of June 2026.

- Segment B runs through a more open, typical environment from Daniels Summit to the western border of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation lands; advertised December 2025 with construction set to begin shortly after June 2026.
- Segment C covers the portion of the overall US-40 project that traverses the tribal lands; advertised December 2025 and was approximately 19% built at the end of June 2026.
- Segment D runs from the east end of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation to the Colorado border; advertised February 2026 with construction set to begin shortly after June 2026.

During the reporting period, all four construction segments were advertised by February 2026, and construction commenced on Segments A and C, which are currently 43 percent and 19 percent complete, respectively. UDOT also finalized agreements with the Ute Tribe for portions of the project located on tribal lands, representing a significant milestone in advancing construction activities. To support project implementation, 396,000 feet of conduit, 10,231,000 feet of fiber optic cable, and 326 fiber distribution boxes were procured. These activities represent substantial progress toward completing the project's middle-mile broadband infrastructure and expanding reliable broadband connectivity throughout the project area.

Substantial completion of the construction work is expected by the end of 2026 in some segments and Spring 2027 in other areas, with the work on tribal lands most likely finishing last due to the permitting and agreement delays associated with those lands. UDOT is also working with the Ute Tribe on their own federal tribal grant to help that project be successful alongside UDOT's middle mile project.

This project isn't far enough along to be serving individuals and households directly yet. However, UDOT is working with communities to provide WiFi hotspots at community-owned buildings. The following telecommunication companies are partners with UDOT on this project:

- Ute Tribe
- Strata Networks

During the reporting period, UDOT encountered several challenges that affected project implementation and construction schedules. The project continued to navigate tribal

compliance requirements, including adherence to tribal processes and timelines necessary for work on tribal lands. In addition, UDOT discovered that existing fiber conduit attached to the Starvation Reservoir Bridge did not meet current UDOT standards and would not provide the long-term reliability required for the project. As a result, the conduit will need to be replaced before fiber installation can proceed. Similar conditions have also been identified on other bridges within the project corridor.

Construction activities were further impacted by rocky and wet ground conditions, which slowed trenching operations and made it more difficult to achieve the required installation depth. Unexpected utility conflicts, including unmarked irrigation and gas lines, also required additional coordination and field adjustments to avoid service disruptions and maintain construction progress. These challenges were referenced in the FY25 annual report but are included again in this FY26 annual report because they remain relevant project challenges.

UDOT's partnership with the Ute Tribe for this project has gone very well. This dynamic has become an opportunity to foster good relationships between UDOT and the Tribe. This opportunity was referenced in the FY25 annual report but is included again in this FY26 report because it remains a relevant and noteworthy opportunity.

Status of Notable Challenges: The project continues to experience challenges related to tribal compliance and securing rights-of-way across allotted tribal lands. Project staff have been working closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to obtain right-of-way easements for several allotted parcels, navigating a complex process that has required significant coordination and a thorough understanding of BIA requirements and documentation. The easement process began in Spring 2025 by seeking consent from landowners to access their property for survey and environmental work. Nine allotted parcels were identified, each with varying numbers of interest holders, with some parcels having as many as 70. In accordance with BIA requirements, project staff were required to obtain Consent to Access from at least 50 percent of the interest holders for each parcel. Initial outreach through certified and direct mail yielded limited success due to outdated address information and returned mail. To overcome this challenge, project staff engaged Gates Land to conduct in-person outreach and signature collection. After approximately six months of sustained effort, the required consent threshold was achieved, allowing survey and environmental field work to proceed on the affected allotments. The project team continues working with the BIA to secure the remaining right-of-way easements needed for construction.

The next step in the process was receiving a valuation of the land easement and approaching the interest holders again about purchasing an easement for the conduit and fiber. The BIA assisted project staff with appraisals and provided fair market values for 5 allotted parcels. This allowed the next phase of approvals to begin for a Consent to Purchase easement from

the interest holders. Project staff had to again solicit and receive approval from more than 50 percent of the interest holders to move forward with a right of easement from the BIA. As before, project staff were reliant on out-of-date addresses and found it difficult to track down valid contact information for these individuals. The project is currently at more than 50 percent approval on three of the five parcels and working on targeted outreach to meet that threshold for the other two parcels. A completed application will be submitted with the associated documentation to the BIA for their approval on the purchase of easement.

Fiber Conduit Across Bridges: Design of the conduit has been completed, old attachments are being removed, and new conduit is being installed. The original design anticipated using the existing conduit but it proved to be in very poor condition. Project designers worked quickly with UDOT's Structures Division to get a new attachment approved.

Rocky and Wet Conditions: The wet conditions resolved themselves as spring turned to summer and the ground dried. Rockier than expected conditions were not resolved, per se, but construction crews were able to work through the areas, albeit in slower fashion.

Unexpected Utilities: Project crews struck one unmarked irrigation line that hadn't been reported to the Blue Stakes utility location service. Design adaptations in the field and moving the fiber alignment to the other side of the road were required to avoid working too closely to high pressure gas lines.

Zion Middle Mile

Pre-design coordination with the National Park Service (NPS) took place in Summer 2024 and resulted in an Agreement between UDOT and NPS to allow detailed design and environmental compliance work to proceed. This Agreement was signed in August 2024.

Environmental and design work on the project commenced in December 2024 and was completed in FY26 for portions of the project occurring within both UDOT rights-of-way and inside the NPS boundaries. Construction of the original segment of the project along SR-9 and through the national park began in May 2026 and is expected to be completed in late Fall 2026. An additional phase of the project added during FY26 will extend fiber along US-89 and SR-20 east and north of the park. This phase is expected to begin construction in August 2026 and finish in January 2027.

During the reporting period, design for both the original and second phases of the project was completed, and construction began on the original phase. A second phase was also defined and finalized and is scheduled to begin construction in August 2026. To support project implementation, 296,337 feet of conduit, 2,380,178 feet of fiber optic cable, and 1,092 fiber

distribution boxes were procured. Installation of fiber optic cable for the original phase is anticipated to be completed in late Fall 2026, with the second phase expected to be completed by January 2027.

UDOT continues to partner with South Central Communications on this project. As part of this collaboration, South Central Communications is investing its own capital to expand fiber to the home service to communities on both sides of Zion National Park, while the State's middle mile investment will complete a resilient fiber ring connecting through the park and enhance broadband connectivity throughout the region.

The following additional challenges arose during this reporting period:

- A federal government shutdown and the reduction of staff at Zion National Park delayed the construction start date.
- Environmental clearances for Zion National Park were delayed, pushing construction into the most crowded and hottest time of the year.

Cost savings on the original phase of work on SR-9 and through Zion National Park, as well as on UDOT's other CPF middle mile projects, allowed for a second phase of work to extend fiber along US-89 and SR-20 to the east and north of the park. This will further CPF goals by providing fiber to more underserved individuals, households, and businesses.

Status of Notable Challenges: The project experienced delays resulting from the federal government shutdown, which temporarily limited coordination and project activities within Zion National Park. Following the reopening of the federal government, UDOT worked closely with National Park staff to resume project activities as quickly as possible and minimize further delays. While progress has continued, the shutdown impacted the overall project schedule. To address this challenge and ensure successful completion of the project, UDOT is requesting a time extension to extend the period of performance from December 31, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

The project encountered challenges related to environmental compliance requirements within Zion National Park. UDOT worked closely with National Park staff to meet all environmental review and permitting requirements as efficiently as possible while streamlining other project activities to minimize schedule impacts. Despite these efforts, compliance activities affected the overall project timeline. To ensure the project can be completed in accordance with all applicable environmental requirements and achieve its intended objectives, UDOT is requesting a time extension to extend the period of performance from December 31, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project

Program Plan Number: CPF_GP-000195

Status: Approved

Funding Amount: \$19,295,400

Expenditures as of June 30, 2026: \$14,615,478

Program Start Date: July 2024

Program End Date: December 31, 2026

The Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) Infrastructure Upgrade Project is improving middle-mile and last-mile broadband capabilities for schools, libraries, and key telehealth institutions throughout Utah. As a statewide anchor institution, UETN supports sustainable broadband connectivity by expanding and modernizing fiber optic infrastructure that benefits residential, business, government, education, and healthcare users.

CPF funding is being used to upgrade critical middle-mile network components, including hardware, cybersecurity systems, and software enhancements, to increase network capacity, reliability, and performance. These improvements support expanded broadband access for underserved and rural communities, including tribal areas, by enabling stronger connections for public schools, libraries, and healthcare facilities.

UETN has completed significant milestones associated with the Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project, including:

- **400 Gigabit Backbone Modernization:** Completed hardware and software upgrades at all 12 key network sites supporting UETN's statewide network of more than 2,000 connected locations. These upgrades significantly increase network capacity and support growing demand for public Wi-Fi access at libraries, higher education institutions, and healthcare facilities.
- **Edge Equipment and Aggregation Improvements:** Completed aggregation edge installations at four key sites to improve network routing efficiency, scalability, and performance for connected end-user locations.
- **Dark Fiber Deployment:** Completed installation of 13 dark fiber routes totaling approximately 605 miles, expanding statewide fiber infrastructure capacity.
- **Out-of-Band Management Upgrades:** Completed upgrades at all 63 higher education and K-12 sites supporting UETN's statewide network operations.

- Public Wi-Fi Enhancements: Completed Wi-Fi upgrades at all 54 planned library locations, expanding access to free public Wi-Fi services for community members.
- Cybersecurity Enhancements: Completed the Adlumin Security implementation, Security Review Baseline, statewide Managed Detection and Response (MDR), NetFlow monitoring, and Gigamon deployment to strengthen network security and operational visibility.
- San Juan Fiber Project: Completed construction connecting Navajo Mountain High School and three K–12 sites in Blanding, Utah, improving broadband connectivity for rural and tribal communities.

The project strengthens broadband infrastructure at community anchor institutions, education institutions, libraries, and healthcare sites that serve as critical access points for residents. This allows for adult education, telehealth access, and digital literacy resources that benefit surrounding households, especially in rural and underserved areas.

Project success has been measured by tracking increased network capacity, improved service reliability, and the ability to support additional institutions. Feedback from institutional stakeholders and data from UETN’s network operations center help assess performance and ensure that infrastructure upgrades translate into improved community access.

PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

Utah's CPF investments are designed to promote equitable access to critical infrastructure and ensure that all Utahns regardless of geographic location, economic circumstances, or community size can benefit from improved connectivity and public resources, with particular focus on rural and tribal communities that have historically lacked reliable broadband access.

Through strategic infrastructure investments, sustainable economic development initiatives, and strengthened collaboration among state, local, and federal partners, Utah is addressing longstanding disparities in access to reliable broadband and essential services. These efforts provide communities with the tools necessary to participate fully in the digital economy while preserving the unique characteristics and strengths of rural regions throughout the state.

By investing in reliable broadband infrastructure and community-serving facilities, these projects help reduce barriers faced by residents in geographically isolated areas and create pathways for long-term economic resilience, educational advancement, and improved quality of life. Together, these investments ensure that Utah's rural communities have the infrastructure and resources needed to remain connected, competitive, and positioned for future growth.

Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program

The Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program is designed to advance equitable access to reliable, high-speed broadband by prioritizing investments in unserved and underserved rural communities throughout Utah. Each of the seven projects funded through the Broadband Access Grant Program is targeted toward areas where broadband infrastructure would not otherwise be deployed due to geographic challenges, population density, and the high cost of service expansion. [Learn more about how the program is expanding broadband access across rural Utah in the linked video.](#)

The funded projects are serving communities across Box Elder, Millard, Morgan, Utah, Salt Lake, and San Juan counties, including rural and remote areas that have historically experienced limited access to reliable broadband services. The Montezuma Creek project and portions of the Millard County project will extend broadband connectivity to households located on Tribal lands, helping address digital access disparities affecting these communities.

CPF funding has enabled broadband providers to reach locations where service expansion would not have been financially feasible without public investment. By extending last-mile broadband infrastructure to these communities, the program supports greater access to

remote work opportunities, online education, telehealth services, and essential digital resources.

All Broadband Access Grant recipients participated in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), demonstrating a commitment to supporting affordability and access for eligible households. In addition, participating providers have established low-cost service options to improve affordability for residents in newly connected areas. The Utah Broadband project has reported a low-cost plan option providing 500 Mbps symmetrical service for \$55 per month. CentraCom has reported low-cost plan options providing 50 Mbps symmetrical service for \$39.95 per month and 100 Mbps symmetrical service for \$59.85 per month.

Through targeted investment in rural and Tribal communities, the Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program is helping ensure that residents across the state have equitable opportunities to participate in the digital economy and access critical services supported by reliable broadband connectivity.

All West Communications

Croydon is a rural, unincorporated community in Morgan County, Utah. It is located 60 miles northeast of Salt Lake City, and is 17 miles from the county seat of Morgan. Like Mantua, Croydon is located in a mountain valley, and is very sparsely populated. According to recent [U.S. Census data](#), there are approximately 12,800 people in the county as a whole. 12% of the county population is 65 years or older, 3.5% of the population are veterans, 3.9% of the population speaks a language other than English at home, and 4.0% of the population is living below the federal poverty line. These covered populations in this remote community are particularly vulnerable to the digital divide. This new fiber-to-the-home network will provide an essential service by connecting them and the rest of the rural community to digital opportunities.

Direct Communications

Direct Communications will serve the White Hills Project area of Utah County. This area has an estimated population of 500, and is located approximately 13 miles from the next town center (Eagle Mountain). Residents in this area are miles from other services and many travel into Eagle Mountain or other cities for work, school, shopping, and other essential needs. This community has been unable to benefit from the recent population growth in the county since it lacks adequate services and has not been able to capitalize on recent economic development in the area due to its remote location. The Direct Communications project will

allow residents of this community to more fully participate in the growing economy and benefit from digital resources.

Beehive Broadband

Mantua is a small rural town of approximately 1,000 people, located sixty miles north of Salt Lake City. It sits in a mountain valley over four miles from the nearest small city (population ~ 20,000) and about 25 to 30 min from any metropolitan areas. Since this mountain community sees significant snowpack each year it's important they have a climate-resilient fiber network that is less impacted by snowstorms than wireless technology.

According to the [U.S. Census data](#), approximately 12.8% of the population are 65 years or older, 4.5% of the population are veterans, 3.6% of the population speaks a language other than English at home, and 2.4% of the population are living below the federal poverty line. These covered populations in this remote community are particularly vulnerable to the digital divide. This new affordable fiber-to-the-home network will provide an essential service by connecting them and the rest of the rural community to digital opportunities. Construction has also started in four additional rural communities in Box Elder County, which will significantly increase access to essential resources for residents of these communities.

CentraCom

The CentraCom project to build out communities in Millard County will also serve rural and tribal households. According to [recent U.S. Census data](#), this county in central Utah has a total population of 13,027. 12.7% of the population is of Hispanic or Latino origin, and 12.8% of the population speaks a language other than English at home. The median income in the county is \$29,802 and 11% of the population is below 100% of the poverty level. Residents in the communities of Kanosh, Leamington, and Meadow are currently unserved by broadband access, and this project will have a significant impact on the lives of residents in these rural areas.

HiCountryNet

The HiCountryNet project will serve two rural communities in the foothills of the Oquirrh Mountain range. The property sizes in this area range from 2.5 to 10+ acres with rolling hills and extremely rocky conditions. The communications infrastructure in this region has not been upgraded for decades. The rocky conditions and sparse population of the area make it difficult to trench and bore, and the homes are spread out by great distances. Many of the residents have lived here for decades and are blue collar or are retired on a fixed income. The

vast majority of fixed, terrestrial connections in the region do not currently meet the 25/3Mbps threshold for broadband service. The HiCountryNet project will ensure that residents in these communities can receive sufficient internet access.

Utah Broadband

The Utah Broadband Project is located in the South Utah Valley Electric Service District. This area, located on the southeast side of Utah Lake, serves several rural and agricultural Census-designated communities, including Palmyra, Lake Shore, Spring Lake, and West Mountain. While the north side of Utah County has become increasingly urbanized and densely populated, the southeastern side remains rural and agricultural.

According to [recent U.S. Census data](#), 15% of the population of Utah County as a whole speaks a language other than English and 14% is of Hispanic or Latino origin. 15.2% of the population is below 150 percent of the poverty level. The total estimated population of Utah County is 659,399. The total estimated population of these four Census-designated communities on the southeastern side of Utah Lake is 3,023. The average percentage of population over 65 years of age in these communities is 10%, with an average population under 18 years of age at 34%. This means that half of the population in these areas is either designated as senior citizens or as children. The average percentage of the population in these areas that speaks a language other than English is 6.7%, with 5.7% of the population reporting Hispanic or Latino origin. An average of 6.5% of the population is below 150% of the poverty level, with 4.9% of the population reported as veterans.

The Utah Broadband Project in the South Utah Valley Electric Services District will allow these rural communities to connect to essential resources and benefit from the economy of Utah County as a whole.

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

The Montezuma Creek project is located in the Navajo Nation in San Juan County, which is the largest county in Utah by total area with 7,823.8 square miles of land area. The total population of the county is 14,358, making it an extremely rural area with approximately 2 people on average per square mile. Its location in the southeast corner of the state also means that it has challenging topography and is extremely remote.

According to recent [U.S. Census data](#), the median income in the county is \$52,108 (for comparison purposes, the median income in Salt Lake County is \$90,011). 15% of the population is over 65 years old. 47.1% of the population is Native American and 38.6% of the population speaks a language other than English at home. The Montezuma Creek project will

provide fiber broadband connections to more than 90 Native American households in a remote rural community, providing crucial connectivity for residents to access telehealth services, online education services, and remote work opportunities.

Box Elder Community Campus

The Box Elder Community Campus is a community centered infrastructure investment designed to improve access to essential services, expand economic opportunity, and support underserved populations in Northern Utah. The project addresses critical barriers that impact workforce participation and family stability by providing expanded childcare options and creating a centralized location for nonprofit organizations and community service providers.

The campus supports individuals and families experiencing barriers to employment and economic stability, including challenges related to childcare availability, housing insecurity, mental and physical health needs, domestic safety concerns, and family support services. Through a coordinated network of programs and resources, the campus provides access to childcare, transitional housing support, domestic violence services, prevention programs, workforce training, counseling, health resources, family assistance, and legal aid.

Located in the highest intergenerational poverty neighborhood in Box Elder County, the campus was intentionally developed to serve communities with significant unmet needs. Box Elder County is a largely rural, manufacturing-dependent community where workforce challenges, limited access to services, childcare shortages, transportation barriers, and lower educational attainment create obstacles to economic advancement. The campus provides a central location where residents can access services that promote self-sufficiency, health, education, and long-term economic stability.

The project is designed to serve historically underserved groups and address gaps in access to critical community resources. Programs and services initiated through the campus include:

- Adaptive recreation programs for disabled youth and support groups for families of disabled youth, providing inclusive opportunities and resources for families.
- Homeschool association programming supports families who face barriers to traditional educational resources.
- Grandfamilies Program for kinship care, providing support and resources for grandparents and relatives raising children.
- Childcare services for parents entering or returning to employment, helping reduce barriers to workforce participation.

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) services available to the broader community to support food access and nutrition.
- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) programming, including Northern Utah’s first AA conference and ongoing quarterly meetings and trainings.
- Homeless prevention and benefits navigation services assisting families at immediate risk of homelessness.

Upon full operation, the campus will continue expanding access to services by increasing availability of community programs, improving Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, supporting both younger and older populations, strengthening coordination among community organizations, and increasing digital connectivity for residents accessing services.

The Box Elder Community Campus has established strong partnerships among government entities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, educational institutions, and community members to ensure programs address identified community needs.

A Founders Night event was held on November 7, 2024, bringing together elected officials, community leaders, nonprofit partners, businesses, education providers, and residents to highlight the project’s goals and community impact. Participants included state and local elected officials, Box Elder County and municipal leaders, local employers, nonprofit organizations, and education partners such as Utah State University and Bridgerland Technical College.

A capstone event was held on January 9, 2026, celebrating completion of construction and providing community partners, funders, elected officials, and stakeholders with an opportunity to tour the facility. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on March 20, 2026, marking the completion and opening of the campus.

The Box Elder Community Campus is helping close service gaps by providing a centralized, accessible location where residents can connect with multiple resources and support programs. Progress is measured through program participation, services delivered, community partnerships established, and expanded access to resources for underserved populations.

Examples of outcomes achieved include:

- Increased access to adaptive sports programming and support services for families of children with disabilities.

- Expanded availability of affordable, high-quality childcare supporting workforce participation.
- Creation of community support opportunities for older adults, including a quilting guild serving approximately 40 women ages 65 and older through monthly socialization and support activities.
- Expanded access to technology-based educational programs, including robotics teams, coding programs, and esports opportunities for low-income youth.
- Increased community access to specialized facilities, including winter practice space for Special Olympics participants.
- Improved coordination among service providers, allowing residents to access multiple resources in one accessible location.

The long-term goal of the Box Elder Community Campus is to enhance community accessibility through the development of a multipurpose facility that brings essential services together in one location. The campus incorporates physical accessibility throughout the facility and provides space for nonprofit organizations, educational programs, community events, and support services that benefit residents across Northern Utah.

Through CPF investment, the Box Elder Community Campus is reducing barriers to opportunity, strengthening community resilience, and creating a sustainable model for addressing the needs of underserved populations through coordinated services and accessible infrastructure.

Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects

Logan Canyon Middle Mile

Community outreach began during project development and has continued throughout construction. Outreach has included, but has not been limited to:

- Residents and property owners in and adjacent to Logan Canyon
- Logan City, Garden City, Cache County, Rich County, and local elected officials
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) stakeholders
- State and federal legislators
- United States Forest Service

- Telecommunications providers, including AT&T, First Digital, CentraCom, and other utility partners
- Utah Communications Authority and other public safety partners
- Recreation stakeholders, local businesses, and canyon users including cyclists.

Throughout project development and construction, stakeholders have remained supportive of expanding broadband infrastructure through Logan Canyon. Initial comments focused on accelerating project delivery, securing funding, and identifying opportunities to support the project. As construction has progressed, public questions have shifted toward construction schedules, traffic impacts, recreational access, and anticipated project completion.

To maintain collaboration and transparency, the project team has continued coordinating with agency partners and elected officials throughout construction. On October 8, 2025, UDOT hosted a government and stakeholder project tour, providing local and state officials with an opportunity to observe construction progress firsthand, discuss project benefits, and better understand the engineering and environmental considerations involved in delivering fiber infrastructure through Logan Canyon.

The project continues to provide long-term benefits for residents, businesses, visitors, emergency responders, and telecommunications providers. Expanding reliable fiber infrastructure improves emergency communications, strengthens network resiliency, supports future broadband expansion, and increases connectivity for communities throughout the canyon. Reliable high-speed internet also benefits students, businesses, telehealth services, tourism, and individuals with limited access to digital resources, helping ensure more equitable access to essential online services for years to come.

Awareness: UDOT is using its public involvement efforts to promote awareness of the benefits this project will provide to communities. To promote awareness, UDOT has leveraged its public involvement efforts to highlight the benefits this project will bring to the community.

[Watch video Logan Canyon Fiber project](#)

Outcomes: This project is not far enough along to have documented outcomes relative to the project goals of connecting individuals and households to the fiber network, but project progress is on track to meet the desired goals and outcomes by project end. These outcomes will be featured in the next annual report covering FY27.

Levan Middle Mile

On Jan. 19, 2023, a broadband workshop was hosted with representatives from Juab and Sanpete Counties and surrounding municipalities. This workshop discussed local connectivity and barriers to internet adoption and access.

Key takeaways from this workshop included:

- Negative impacts to teleworking capabilities because of low internet speeds.
- Small rural communities are most in need of broadband infrastructure. Local ISP CentraCom has invested a lot of their own funding building fiber to the homes. This middle mile will help connect their ongoing effort and provide resilience to these rural communities. They are building fiber to the home connection in tandem with the middle mile project to meet the connectivity needs by the project end date.
- Where infrastructure is lacking students are unable to connect to virtual learning opportunities due to a lack of internet at home.
- Many residents rely on satellite or wireless internet in areas where fiber to the home is unavailable.

Additional engagement included close coordination with county commissioners, city elected officials, statewide leadership, and the local ISP. Since project inception, UDOT has engaged those in the area with critical needs and brainstormed methods for addressing those needs. People with critical needs include those with limited internet access, low incomes, those with limited digital skills, seniors, immigrants, small businesses, students, and individuals with disabilities. It is proven that access to high-speed internet allows the opportunity for students to learn and thrive, businesses to remain nimble and competitive, seniors to take advantage of telehealth options, and everyone to connect with others and participate fully in digital society.

Awareness: UDOT is using its public involvement efforts to promote awareness of the benefits this project will provide to communities.

Outcomes: This project is not far enough along to have documented outcomes relative to project goals, but project progress is on track to meet the desired goals and outcomes.

Trappers Loop Middle Mile

On January 24–25, 2023, broadband workshops were held with representatives from Morgan County, Weber County, and local municipalities to better understand the state of broadband

connectivity throughout the region and identify community priorities and needs. Through these workshops, participants identified unserved and underserved locations, as well as barriers to broadband access and adoption.

The communities served by the Trappers Loop Fiber Project have critical connectivity needs that can be addressed through implementation of this infrastructure. Limited connectivity contributes to challenges related to emergency response, affordability, and access to opportunities. The installation of a fiber optic backbone, along with the addition of traffic monitoring cameras, will support improved public safety and emergency response capabilities. During the winter months, Trappers Loop experiences increased traffic volumes from residents, commuters, and recreationists traveling to Snowbasin Resort and surrounding recreation areas. Enhanced traffic and weather monitoring capabilities will provide real-time information on roadway conditions, helping travelers make informed decisions and improve overall roadway safety.

Rural and low-income residents are particularly impacted by the lack of reliable broadband access. The fiber optic backbone established through this project will create opportunities for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to expand service to households throughout the corridor. By maintaining public ownership of the conduit and fiber infrastructure, UDOT will enable multiple providers to access the network, encouraging competition and increasing broadband service availability. Expanded broadband access will support telework, online education, telehealth services, and other essential digital resources for residents and businesses within the project area.

A comprehensive public awareness and stakeholder engagement campaign was conducted to inform communities about the project and its benefits. Outreach efforts included identifying key stakeholders throughout Morgan and Weber Counties and utilizing effective communication methods to provide meaningful engagement opportunities. As part of this effort, a high-level informational video was developed to explain the purpose of the project, its anticipated benefits, and its role in improving connectivity, emergency response, and public safety throughout the corridor. Project representatives also coordinated with local stakeholders, including Snowbasin Resort, the communities of Huntsville and Mountain Green, Weber and Morgan County officials, and county commissioners to ensure ongoing collaboration and communication throughout project development.

Awareness: UDOT is using its public involvement efforts to promote awareness of the benefits this project will provide to communities.

Outcomes: To date, approximately 100 homes have now been provided with last mile connectivity as a result of this CPF project and the ISP partners. Further connections will be documented in next year's FY27 annual report.

The main section of fiber optic cable on Trappers Loop (SR-167) is live. UDOT is currently working with Liberty Broadband, Beehive Communications, Allwest, and Comcast on their connections to provide last mile connectivity to users.

US-40 Jurassic Middle Mile

A broadband workshop was hosted with representatives from the counties, surrounding municipalities, and tribal lands. This workshop discussed local connectivity and barriers to internet adoption and access.

Key takeaways from this workshop included:

- Teleworking capabilities are negatively impacted by low internet speeds in some underserved areas.
- Small rural communities are most in need of broadband infrastructure. The local ISP has been investing in building the communities but they are having issues crossing tribal lands to get to some of the smaller rural locations. Tribal lands are divided into allotments and permission is needed from the majority allottee owners. Then BIA needs to clear the applications. Any telecom provider, even the local ISP, will still need to get those tribal and allotment permissions agreements and clear the BIA. They will need to abide by all tribal requirements if they use any of the middle mile conduit placed over tribal lands.
- Students who are in the underserved and unserved areas are unable to connect to virtual learning opportunities from home.
- Some of the residents rely on satellite internet in areas where fiber to the home is unavailable.

Additional engagement included close coordination with county commissioners, city elected officials, tribal leaders, statewide leadership, and local internet service providers (ISPs). Since project inception, UDOT has engaged those in the area with critical needs and brainstormed methods for addressing those needs. People with critical needs include those with limited internet access, low incomes, those with limited digital skills, seniors, immigrants, small businesses, students, and individuals with disabilities. It is proven that access to high-speed internet allows the opportunity for students to learn and thrive, businesses to remain nimble

and competitive, seniors to take advantage of telehealth options, and everyone to connect with others and participate fully in digital society.

During FY26 specifically, project staff identified potential locations for free public hotspots along the US-40 corridor. As those preliminary locations were identified, staff met with local officials and stakeholders to determine the appropriate places in those communities to place the free hotspots. The project will be installing five Wi-Fi hotspots along the corridor. One notable location is the Jensen Rest Station. This is a state-owned facility that is currently paying for a third-party hotspot through Strata Networks. This location experiences heavy WiFi use. This project will provide a state-managed hotspot with better security and usage parameters. Jensen is a remote community with limited connectivity. The rest stop is the unofficial hub of the community. This hot spot will provide free, secure connectivity to the members of the Jensen community, emergency responders, and visitors.

Awareness: UDOT is using its public involvement efforts to promote awareness of the benefits this project will provide to communities.

Outcomes: This project is not far enough along to have documented outcomes relative to the project goals of connecting individuals and households to the fiber network, but project progress is on track to meet the desired goals and outcomes by project end. These outcomes will be featured in the next annual report covering FY27.

Zions Middle Mile

Pre-construction outreach was facilitated in both Washington and Kane Counties. Throughout early 2026, the project team presented both in-person and virtually at town and city council meetings in communities adjacent to the project area, including Hurricane, Rockville, Orderville, and Springdale. In March and May 2026, the project team canvassed the project corridor between Hurricane and Springdale to discuss project benefits, impacts, and timelines with business owners and local community members. Additionally, a mailer was distributed in May 2026 to 1,019 residences, businesses, and P.O. boxes within 600 feet of the project corridor with tentative construction start date information and background about the project. During in-person canvassing efforts, contacts were collected to develop a project email list. Project emails are sent out weekly with construction updates. A project-specific hotline is also maintained, and all stakeholder questions or concerns provided over the phone are recorded by the Public Involvement team.

Additional engagement included close coordination with county commissioners, city elected officials, statewide leadership, local internet service providers (ISPs) and a National Park. Since project inception, UDOT has engaged those in the area with critical needs and

brainstormed methods for addressing those needs. People with critical needs include those with limited internet access, low incomes, those with limited digital skills, seniors, immigrants, small businesses, students, and individuals with disabilities. It is proven that access to high-speed internet allows the opportunity for students to learn and thrive, businesses to remain nimble and competitive, seniors to take advantage of telehealth options, and everyone to connect with others and participate fully in digital society.

Awareness: UDOT is using its public involvement efforts to promote awareness of the benefits this project will provide to communities.

Outcomes: This project is not far enough along to have documented outcomes relative to project goals, but project progress is on track to meet the desired goals and outcomes.

Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project

The Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) Infrastructure Upgrade Project is designed to enhance connectivity and ensure equitable access to essential services across communities throughout Utah. By partnering with telecommunications providers, UETN connects anchor institutions such as schools, libraries, and healthcare facilities, creating a holistic network that benefits both public entities and individual households. The project specifically supports infrastructure and technology for Pre-K through high schools, school districts, Head Start programs, and healthcare end sites, including those in high-poverty districts. Upgrades to the leased network will ensure that equitable services are accessible statewide, supporting both new and existing sites on UETN's network.

This initiative is intentionally focused on underserved and high-poverty communities, including rural areas, tribal lands, and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. "Critical need" is defined as areas lacking sufficient network capacity to support current bandwidth demands while allowing for the addition of new schools, libraries, and healthcare institutions without compromising reliability. The network prioritizes key sites, particularly public libraries, which offer free Wi-Fi to community members in critical need areas, ensuring digital access for education, healthcare, and civic participation.

The program is designed to serve underserved and high-poverty communities, including rural areas, tribal lands and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. "Critical need" is defined as areas lacking sufficient capacity to support the bandwidth demands of existing sites, as well as being able to add new schools, libraries, and healthcare institutions to the network

while maintaining reliability. The network includes key sites, particularly public libraries that are offering free WiFi to communities with critical needs.

Awareness: CPF-funded services are delivered through trusted community institutions—education institutions, libraries, and healthcare facilities—ensuring accessibility where residents already seek support. These institutions help raise awareness through local outreach and public WiFi availability.

Outcomes: The project has significantly improved network capacity to ensure that both new and existing schools, libraries, and healthcare facilities have the broadband infrastructure needed to meet current and future demands. Upgraded middle-mile connections and expanded fiber routes enable UETN to support growing bandwidth needs and connect newly established sites. Progress is tracked through network utilization data, site installation tracking, and feedback from anchor institutions to ensure ongoing alignment with community needs.

LABOR

Across Utah's broadband and infrastructure projects funded through the CPF and related programs, all projects reported adherence to prevailing wage standards or higher, reflecting a consistent commitment to fair labor practices and responsible grant stewardship.

Overall, the labor practices across these projects reflect a focus on fair wages, local hiring where applicable, skilled workforce deployment, and alignment with federal wage and civil rights requirements, supporting both infrastructure delivery and local economic development.

Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program

All projects confirmed that workers were paid prevailing wages or higher. Examples include Direct Communications paying pipe layers \$22/hour and operators \$28/hour, and AllWest reporting hourly wages between \$21 and \$27.55 for its labor force. HiCountryNet paid \$25/hour to its backhoe/excavator operators. Several projects emphasized the use of local hiring, including Beehive and Central Telcom, contributing not only to community development through infrastructure, but also by supporting the local workforce. The consistency in prevailing wage compliance across providers reflects a commitment to fair labor practices as part of responsible grant stewardship.

All West Communications

All project workers were paid at or above prevailing wages, with laborers earning between \$23 and \$27.55 per hour, and operators between \$21 and \$23 per hour. The wage transparency reflects a commitment to fair labor practices and compliance with federal guidelines. While specific subcontractors or stakeholders weren't listed, the documentation confirms that sufficient labor resources were deployed to complete the project on schedule, with no noted delays or labor-related barriers.

Direct Communications

The project adhered to prevailing wage standards, paying three pipe layers \$22 per hour and three operators \$28 per hour. Local hiring practices were followed, supporting economic activity in the area. Though no subcontractors or named stakeholders were listed, the report indicates the use of contractor services as part of the funded activities. The labor effort contributed to timely project completion and the successful deployment of high-quality, buried fiber infrastructure.

Beehive Broadband

All laborers were paid at or above prevailing wages, in compliance with federal funding requirements, and local hiring practices were utilized to support workforce development within the region. While specific subcontractors weren't named, the inclusion of agencies like Rocky Mountain Power highlights coordination between public and private sectors. This local hiring approach not only ensured compliance but also supported regional job creation and kept project investments circulating within the community.

CentraCom

All workers on the project are paid at or above prevailing wage standards, ensuring fair compensation in line with labor regulations. BJ Jackson Construction and the municipalities of Kanosh, Leamington, and Meadow have served as critical stakeholders and partners in project execution. The workforce has successfully completed complex infrastructure tasks including fiber splicing, outside plant work, and cabinet installation, even while navigating challenges like railroad permit issues. The adherence to wage standards and use of skilled local labor supports both economic equity and project integrity.

HiCountryNet

The project employs backhoe and excavator operators, including five workers earning \$25 per hour or more, in accordance with prevailing wage standards for similar construction projects. There have been no reported issues regarding wage compliance or labor availability. Key partners and subcontractors, such as PCM Industries and Rockaholics, LLC, support specialized aspects of infrastructure deployment. By maintaining fair labor practices and offering competitive compensation, the project promotes local workforce development and contributes to job stability in the region.

Utah Broadband

All project workers are compensated at or above prevailing wage levels. UBB field crews have also demonstrated local investment by cleaning up roadside trash during construction, reflecting community stewardship alongside infrastructure development. Although no detailed labor partner list was provided, the progress on conduit, vaults, and aerial installations shows the use of skilled construction teams in active phases of deployment.

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

All workers associated with the project are paid wages equal to or above prevailing wage standards. Although construction has not yet begun, 77 poles have already been replaced in anticipation of fiber deployment. NTUA is coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including Millennium Contracting, Inc., and various local institutions, to ensure readiness once ROW approval is finalized. The project also plans to prioritize local labor and infrastructure providers to keep economic benefits within the community.

Box Elder Community Campus

The Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management (DFCM) led the bidding and contracting process for the construction of the Box Elder Community Campus. All contractors were selected in accordance with DFCM's existing policies and procedures to ensure compliance with project and procurement requirements. At this stage, no formal community benefit agreements have been established; however, agreements will be implemented as rooms, spaces, and project components are completed. The project is being delivered through the standard bidding process, with no direct hires or personnel costs managed by the grantee. Prevailing wage requirements are embedded in the contracting process rather than through direct project hires.

Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects

UDOT has executed numerous cooperative agreements with local governments to provide fiber access to government buildings, enabling these agencies to maintain Wi-Fi hotspots for community use. In terms of labor practices, UDOT adheres to all applicable federal requirements, including Civil Rights and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) regulations, with a DBE goal of 3% for project construction. These measures ensure equitable participation and compliance with prevailing labor standards while supporting local workforce engagement.

Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project

All projects that involve construction that need to comply with Davis Bacon have agreed to adhere to this standard. They have filled out a certification to confirm they agree and have complied to the terms of Davis Bacon.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement has been a central component of Utah's broadband and connectivity initiatives, ensuring that infrastructure projects are responsive to local needs and broadly supported. Across the Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program, projects like Beehive, AllWest, Direct Communications, NTUA, HiCountryNet, and Utah Broadband have engaged local leaders, residents, schools, businesses, and tribal communities to inform project design, deployment, and adoption strategies. Engagement efforts have included community workshops, site visits, stakeholder meetings, public events, translation services, and digital outreach to reach underserved populations, including low-income residents, seniors, students, and individuals with disabilities. These activities have facilitated strong local support, helped identify critical connectivity gaps, and promoted equitable access to telehealth, education, and employment opportunities. Projects have also emphasized coordination with local governments, non-profits, and regional stakeholders to maintain ongoing communication, respond to community feedback, and ensure long-term adoption and benefits.

Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Program

[During the application process](#), each applicant for the Broadband Access Grant was required to demonstrate the community impact of the proposed project. The recipients of these funds are required to report on community impact each quarter as the project progresses.

Stakeholder Involvement: Each broadband project in Utah has engaged a broad range of stakeholders to ensure comprehensive community involvement, collaboration, and support. These partnerships have been critical for the successful implementation and long-term sustainability of infrastructure projects, helping to align technical deployment with local needs while promoting economic development and digital inclusion.

For CentraCom, key stakeholders include the cities of Kanosh, Leamington, and Meadow, as well as BJ Jackson Construction, a new subcontractor in Leamington, who contributed to project execution. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) project engaged a wide array of partners, including the Navajo Nation Tribal Utility Authority as the infrastructure provider, local anchor institutions such as the San Juan County Public Library, Montezuma Creek Community Health Center, Montezuma Creek Elementary School, and White Horse High School, as well as business customers like Red Mesa Express, Montezuma Well Service, Family Dollar, Millennium Contracting, and Navajo Nation Oil & Gas.

HiCountryNet collaborated closely with PCM Industries for construction, with additional support from subcontractors ICS and Rockaholics, ensuring that design and deployment efforts were well-coordinated. AllWest worked with Morgan County Public Works to facilitate project planning and implementation, while Beehive Broadband engaged multiple municipalities—including Box Elder County, Elwood City, Bear River City, Howell Town, Willard City, South Willard, Thatcher, Penrose, and Mantua Town—as well as regional partners such as the Bear River Association of Governments, Niels Fugal & Sons, Rocky Mountain West Telecom, Rocky Mountain Power/Pacificorp, Optimize, and the Bear River Canal Company. Direct Communications partnered with Optimize Communications for construction services, ensuring local coordination and project oversight.

These extensive stakeholder relationships have helped projects identify and address community needs, leverage local expertise, and ensure that broadband deployment reaches underserved and rural areas. By fostering collaboration among government entities, businesses, non-profits, and educational institutions, these projects not only expand connectivity but also support local workforce development, economic growth, and equitable access to critical digital services.

All West Communications

All West proactively engaged the community throughout the project. During the grant application phase, they worked with local leaders and received a formal resolution of support from the Morgan County Council. The company used both traditional and digital outreach strategies such as word-of-mouth, online engagement, and collaboration with local influencers to inform and encourage adoption. These efforts aim to build long-term customer interest and ensure that the community continues to benefit from the broadband investment.

Direct Communications

Community response has been overwhelmingly positive, reflected in both the high adoption rate and local feedback shared during a state ribbon splicing event. Residents expressed support to community leaders and chamber members, highlighting the value of the new service. While quantitative metrics on educational, health, or employment outcomes are not available, the qualitative benefits are clear. The project significantly improved digital access and quality of life, laying the groundwork for increased connectivity-driven opportunities in a growing rural neighborhood.

Beehive Broadband

The project featured strong coordination with local governments and stakeholders in each of the affected cities. Engagement efforts included visits to all participating communities, with direct communication and planning alongside Box Elder County. Community impact was broadly positive, with the COVID-19 pandemic highlighting the critical need for broadband access in areas such as education, healthcare, and basic human connection. These interactions helped ensure that deployment was tailored to local needs and that residents were aware of and able to benefit from the new service.

CentraCom

Community collaboration has been central to the project's progress and success. Local governments in Kanosh, Leamington, and Meadow actively supported the project, including efforts to resolve permitting barriers. The visible excitement from residents about gaining high-speed fiber access illustrates a strong connection between infrastructure investment and public interest. The project team has maintained clear communication with communities and demonstrated responsiveness, such as by implementing wireless alternatives where fiber access was not feasible. As adoption grows, continued engagement will ensure residents are well-informed and able to benefit fully from the new broadband services. The communities served by the Millard County Project now have high-speed fiber based services. Residents are excited and orders are on-going.

During the reporting period, CentraCom reported engagements with the following organizations:

- Kanosh City
- Leamington City
- Meadow City
- B Jackson Construction

HiCountryNet

Community engagement efforts are reflected in the high wireless adoption rate (>90%) and the proactive transition to fiber, indicating strong community interest in improved broadband service

The Hi Country project was first envisioned when the owner of HiCountry net, a resident of the project area, realized there were poor connectivity options for the community. He worked with the directors of the community area to identify the reasons for connectivity struggles, including the rural nature of the communities and the difficulty of new utility deployment due to geography. HiCountryNet worked with the local homeowners association to obtain a service agreement to access the right of way in the communities.

During the reporting period, HicountryNet reported engagements with the following organizations:

- HiCountryNet (design/planning)
- PCM Industries (construction)
- Rockaholics, LLC (construction)

Utah Broadband

The SESD West Mountain project will bring high-speed broadband access to this rural, underserved community. This will help economic growth by attracting businesses, enabling remote work, increased property values, and by supporting smart agriculture operations. This will also help with education by closing the homework gap and by helping adults more easily participate in continued education. This will help with healthcare access by enabling telemedicine, help with community connectivity by bridging the digital divide and facilitate online and social interactions. Government and Public Services will be helped by enhanced emergency response and communication, and better access to online government services. This project will increase the quality of life in the community by facilitating access to entertainment and facilitating innovation. This deployment will transform the community's access to resources, opportunities, and overall quality of life, creating a ripple effect that benefits generations to come.

During the reporting period, Utah Broadband reported engagements with the following organizations:

- Utah Broadband
- South Utah Valley Electric Service District

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

Community impact is expected to be substantial once the project is complete. The service will enable students to attend school online, patients to access telehealth services, and individuals to pursue self-employment or remote work opportunities. The project will also allow residents to stay connected through digital platforms, promoting social inclusion. NTUA has engaged anchor institutions such as schools, clinics, and local businesses in planning, demonstrating a broad-based commitment to improving connectivity in this high-need area.

The community of Montezuma Creek will have the ability to attend school online, they will have access to telehealth, and access to apply for public benefits. The community will have the ability to be self-employed and work from home, creating a work-life balance. The community will be able to stay connected to family and friends by using social media.

During the reporting period, NTUA reported engagements with the following organizations:

- Navajo Tribal Utility Authority - Infrastructure Provider (Access to Electric Poles to place Last Mile Fiber)
- Red Mesa Express - Business Customer
- San Juan County Public Library - Anchor Customer
- Montezuma Creek Community Health Center - Anchor Customer
- Montezuma Creek Clinic Transportation - Business Customer
- Montezuma Well Service - Business Customer
- Transitions A Center for People w/ Abilities - Business Customer
- Montezuma Creek Elementary School - Anchor Customer
- White Horse High School - Anchor Customer
- NN Regional Business Development Office - Anchor Customer
- Family Dollar - Business Customer
- US Post Office - Anchor Customer
- Millennium Contracting, Inc. - Business Customer
- Navajo Nation Oil & Gas-Montezuma Creek - Business Customer
- HR Green

Box Elder Community Campus

Community engagement has been a foundational component of the Box Elder Community Campus project from its initial development through implementation. The project has brought together community members, nonprofit organizations, local governments, businesses, and service providers to identify critical community needs, design programming, and develop a facility that increases access to resources for underserved populations throughout Northern Utah.

The project has engaged more than a dozen community partners, creating a collaborative network of organizations that serve individuals and families facing barriers related to economic stability, disability services, childcare access, education, health, and other critical needs. As nonprofit partners continue to focus on assisting the area's most vulnerable populations, the campus will provide a dedicated space to expand the capacity of these organizations and improve coordination of services.

The Box Elder Community Campus will serve as a central hub for community participation by providing space for organizations that offer resources, skills training, educational opportunities, and support services. The facility will continue to host community engagement activities, public participation events, and partner-led programming to ensure residents have opportunities to provide feedback and connect with available resources.

Community feedback has been incorporated throughout project planning, design, and implementation. The Boys & Girls Club of Northern Utah has worked closely with community members and partner organizations to develop programming, determine facility space needs, address safety considerations, establish partnerships, and ensure the campus reflects the needs of the populations it is intended to serve.

Community organizations and stakeholders engaged in the project include:

- Brigham City
- Box Elder County
- Box Elder Chamber of Commerce
- Box Elder Home Schoolers Consortium
- Local residents
- State legislative representatives

- Grandfamilies Program
- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
- United Way of Northern Utah
- Day for Girls
- Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts
- Utah State University 4-H Positive Youth Development Program
- Special Olympics
- Quilting Guild of Northern Utah

These partnerships help ensure the campus continues to address identified community needs and provides opportunities for residents of varying ages, abilities, and backgrounds to access supportive services.

The project has prioritized outreach strategies designed to improve accessibility for underserved groups. Program communications and informational materials will be translated into Spanish, with plans to expand translation resources to additional languages as community needs are identified.

The project has established communication networks with families of youth with disabilities to share information and connect families with resources. Future engagement efforts will include expanded outreach to older adults and other identified populations to strengthen participation and ensure programs continue to reflect community needs.

The Box Elder Community Campus will continue community engagement efforts beyond project completion through ongoing collaboration with nonprofit organizations, community partners, and residents. Formal partnerships, including Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and letters of engagement, will be established to support long-term coordination and continued participation.

Through sustained engagement, the campus will continue to adapt programming, identify emerging needs, and provide a community driven approach to delivering services and resources to underserved populations throughout Northern Utah.

Utah Department of Transportation Middle Mile Projects

Community engagement has been a key component of the Utah Department of Transportation's (UDOT) Middle Mile Broadband Projects, with outreach beginning prior to

project selection and continuing throughout project implementation and construction. UDOT engaged a broad range of stakeholders to identify connectivity needs, evaluate potential project benefits, and ensure investments were aligned with community priorities.

Stakeholder engagement included local residents, municipal and county officials, state and federal elected representatives, telecommunications providers, recreation entities, Tribal governments, and other community partners. Feedback and coordination with these groups helped inform project planning and prioritize infrastructure investments that provide meaningful benefits to communities throughout Utah.

Project selection and implementation efforts focused on maximizing public benefits, including:

- Expanding access to reliable broadband infrastructure by connecting unserved and underserved communities, particularly in rural areas where private investment alone may not have supported deployment.
- Improving broadband affordability and accessibility by increasing available infrastructure and supporting opportunities for expanded service options.
- Supporting educational opportunities by improving connectivity for students and enabling greater access to virtual learning resources.
- Enhancing access to telehealth and telework opportunities for rural residents, including individuals with disabilities and communities that face geographic barriers to essential services.
- Strengthening public safety communications by improving network reliability and supporting critical services, including enhanced connectivity for emergency response and 911 access.

UDOT continues to coordinate with stakeholders throughout construction to address community impacts, maintain communication with affected areas, and ensure that completed broadband infrastructure delivers long-term benefits to residents, businesses, and community institutions across Utah.

Logan Canyon Middle Mile

Community outreach prior to project selection was conducted with a variety of citizens, local politicians, state and federal legislators, and telecommunication providers. Project selections were largely based on where UDOT's middle mile funds could make the most positive impact in the following areas:

- Improving the affordability of publicly available broadband service.
- Connecting unserved and underserved communities that telecommunication companies have not yet served with broadband.
- Creating a fiber ring to provide resilience to the communication networks.
- Enabling unserved/underserved students to connect with broadband internet to enable virtual learning opportunities.
- Connecting unserved/underserved rural residents and people with disabilities to telehealth services, telework capabilities, and virtual learning opportunities.
- Improving public safety communications and the ability to dial 911.

Over the last year, UDOT coordinated with the following entities on this project:

- Cache County
- Rich County
- Logan City
- Logan Race Club
- Garden City
- Utah Division of Facilities Construction and Management (DFCM)
- Utah State Parks (especially Bear Lake State Park)
- Beaver Mountain Resort
- Bear Lake Watch
- Utah Visitors Bureau
- State Trucking
- Utah State University
- Multiple recreation outlets

UDOT connected with these entities and organizations prior to construction, and continues to share project updates while construction progresses to completion. A live text chat with the project team relays impacts and information to the UDOT Traffic Operations Center to keep drivers aware and prepared for impacts in the canyon.

This project includes a dedicated project website with built-in translation options to provide information in multiple languages. UDOT also shares project updates through social media, project email updates, and the UDOT Traffic app to help travelers stay informed of upcoming construction activities and traffic impacts. Throughout construction, the project team coordinates with Logan City, Garden City, and other local partners to schedule work around busy summer travel periods, holidays, and community activities whenever feasible to help minimize impacts to residents and visitors. Project flyers with an overview and contact information have also been distributed at local businesses and public buildings in Logan City and Garden City.

As construction progresses toward its anticipated fall 2026 completion, UDOT will provide regular updates and produce a final video highlighting construction activities, key milestones, and the long-term benefits of Logan Canyon's expanded fiber infrastructure.

The project website also features videos documenting project progress and serves as a central hub for current construction information, photos, schedules, and public updates. Here is a [link to the latest end of year highlight video of 2025](#).

Levan Middle Mile

UDOT has been actively engaging with communities along the entire project route to ensure that residents and local governments are informed and involved in the planning and design of the Levan Middle Mile project. Community outreach prior to project selection was conducted with a variety of citizens, local politicians, state and federal legislators, and telecommunication providers.

Project selections were largely based on where UDOT's middle mile funds could make the most positive impact in the following areas:

- Improving the affordability of publicly available broadband service by building the expensive middle mile.
- Connecting unserved and underserved communities that telecommunication companies have not yet served with broadband.
- Enabling students to connect with broadband internet to enable virtual learning opportunities.
- Connecting rural residents and people with disabilities to telehealth services, telework capabilities, and virtual learning opportunities.

During the construction phase so far, UDOT’s public involvement team coordinated with local government entities via email in September 2025, January 2026, and April 2026. These emails contained information about project progress, current work areas, and work schedule. This project’s public impact has been minimal because work is occurring on the shoulder of minor state highways, so it has fewer construction outreach events to report than some of the other CPF middle mile projects.

The PI team created English-language materials during the construction phase. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Juab and Sanpete Counties are majority white. The next largest racial category is Hispanic or Latino, with 6% and 11% respectively. Based on this information, construction materials have been distributed in English only. The project website contains a sentence in Spanish encouraging stakeholders to contact the project team for Spanish materials. At the top of the website, there is a “translate” button.

A business card was distributed to the contractor and municipalities to support any in-person stakeholder interactions. The card contained the project hotline, email address, and website. A public relations campaign about the project was started in 2025 [with an overview video](#). This video was added to the project website with images of project work. Three emails were sent to stakeholders in September 2025, January 2026, and April 2026. These emails contained information about project progress, current work areas, and work schedule.

UDOT will continue stakeholder outreach about construction impacts in the last half of 2026 through email updates, doorhangers, mailers, and other methods.

Numerous co-operative agreements between UDOT and local governments have been signed. These agreements specify an arrangement where UDOT will provide fiber access to local government buildings so that Wi-Fi hotspots can be maintained there by those government agencies.

UDOT has signed such agreements to provide free public WiFi hot spots with the following entities:

- Nephi City
- Levan Town
- Gunnison City
- Scipio Town
- Fayette Town

Trappers Loop Middle Mile

Community outreach prior to project selection was conducted with a variety of citizens, local politicians, state and federal legislators, and telecommunication providers. Project selections were largely based on where UDOT's middle mile funds could make the most positive impact in the following areas:

- Improving the affordability of publicly available broadband service.
- Connecting unserved and underserved communities that telecommunication companies have not yet served with broadband.
- Enabling students to connect with broadband internet to enable virtual learning opportunities.
- Connecting rural residents and people with disabilities to telehealth services, telework capabilities, and virtual learning opportunities.

UDOT coordinated with the following entities regarding this project during FY26:

- Weber County
- Morgan County
- Huntsville City
- Mountain Green City
- Ogden Valley
- U.S. Forest Service (manager of Pineview Reservoir)
- Morgan School District
- Weber County School District
- Snowbasin Resort
- UDOT Traffic and Safety Division
- State Trucking
- Emergency medical services and first responders

UDOT connected with these entities and organizations prior to construction, and continues to share project updates while construction progresses to completion. A live text chat with the project team relays impacts and information to the UDOT Traffic Operations Center to keep drivers aware and prepared for impacts in the canyon.

This project has been set up with a website with translation options incorporated into the main page. This provides a wider range of translation options. UDOT is watching for opportunities to use community events to disseminate information about this project and meet people where they are. Where appropriate, UDOT may participate in markets and city/town events to share information. UDOT has leveraged existing social media channels to inform the media and general public of fiber project purposes and has targeted regional social media with project impacts.

UDOT completed a project introductory video to demonstrate the benefits that the project and fiber will provide the community. This video was used as a high-level introduction of the project, its benefits, and why fiber is being installed in this community. Construction of Phase 2 of the Trappers Loop Fiber Project has started and is estimated to finish in September 2026. This phase will construct fiber along SR-226 (also known as Snowbasin Road).

This effort to connect Snowbasin Resort to UDOT fiber is a larger effort to improve connectivity throughout the state. For Phase 2 a section will be added to existing video to include the 3 miles of fiber being installed along SR-226 and explain the benefits of connectivity. Ongoing communications also include weekly email updates that include a description of work completed, ongoing work, progress photos of work completed, traffic impacts, and project milestones.

The project team also shares updates through UDOT social media channels and encourages travelers to use the UDOT Traffic app for real-time construction alerts, lane closures, road conditions, and travel information. Throughout construction, UDOT documents all public outreach activities and communications in a stakeholder log and maintains a project hotline, responding to inquiries live or within 24 hours whenever possible. The Trappers Loop project video can be found [here](#).

US-40 Jurassic Middle Mile

Community outreach prior to project selection was conducted with a variety of citizens, local politicians, state and federal legislators, and telecommunication providers. Project selections were largely based on where UDOT's middle mile funds could make the most positive impact in the following areas:

- Improving the affordability of publicly available broadband service.
- Partnering to connect unserved and underserved communities.
- Enabling students to connect with broadband internet to enable virtual learning opportunities.
- Connecting rural underserved/unserved residents and people with disabilities to telehealth services, telework capabilities, and virtual learning opportunities.
- Improving public safety communications and the ability to dial 911.

UDOT has been working diligently to engage with affected communities, local governments, tribal representatives, and other stakeholders throughout all segments of the project. As part of these efforts, UDOT has coordinated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Uintah & Ouray Agency regarding six allotted properties owned by members of the Ute Tribe. The project team has been working with the BIA to obtain consent to access these properties to complete required survey and environmental assessments. UDOT has also conducted outreach with several communities and organizations to discuss project benefits and potential public Wi-Fi locations.

The project team met with representatives from Vernal City to introduce the project and discuss opportunities to support downtown development through free public Wi-Fi, with the City providing development plans to help identify potential connectivity opportunities. UDOT also coordinated with the Utah Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding potential public Wi-Fi hotspots at Starvation Reservoir and met with representatives from Duchesne City, Roosevelt City, Uintah County, and the Jensen Welcome Center to discuss potential hotspot locations that would enhance connectivity for residents, visitors, and community facilities. Specifically, UDOT met with representatives from Roosevelt City to introduce the project and discuss potential locations for a public Wi-Fi hotspot within the community. These engagements have helped UDOT identify community needs, coordinate project activities, and support the deployment of broadband infrastructure that provides meaningful benefits to rural and underserved areas.

UDOT has been working in close coordination with the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation and their efforts to expand connectivity on Tribal Lands. They have a few federal grants that they have received to build a last mile network to connect more than 1,000 unserved Native American households and anchor institutions. UDOT is working to ensure compatibility between their middle mile efforts and the Tribe's last mile efforts to ensure federal grant requirements for both entities are met. UDOT has designed box locations where the middle mile conduit and fiber can be accessed by last mile projects.

As construction continues on the various project segments, project staff will prepare an outreach package to notify cities, towns, drivers, and recreation users of the work happening and travel impacts associated with the construction. As work on the segments of the project's fiber network located on Ute Tribal Lands progresses., project staff will work to notify tribal members of the project, increased connectivity, and how they can best take advantage of increased broadband service in the Uintah Basin.

Zion Middle Mile

Community outreach prior to project selection was conducted with a variety of citizens, local politicians, state and federal legislators, and telecommunication providers. Project selections were largely based on where UDOT's middle mile funds could make the most positive impact in the following areas:

- Improving the affordability of publicly available broadband service by helping telecom companies with the expensive middle mile build.
- Connecting unserved and underserved communities that telecommunication companies have not yet served with broadband.
- Enabling unserved/underserved students to connect with broadband internet to enable virtual learning opportunities.
- Connecting rural unserved/underserved residents and people with disabilities to telehealth services, telework capabilities, and virtual learning opportunities.

UDOT coordinated with Zion National Park, Hurricane City, the Town of Rockville, Washington County Commissioners, the Town of Orderville, and the Town of Springdale during this reporting period. Town and City Council presentations were provided in early 2026 to the aforementioned towns and cities to prepare citizens and officials for the upcoming and imminent impacts of construction starting in June 2026.

The project team also coordinated individual meetings between the design team, contractor, and town staff for the Town of Springdale prior to construction starting. Officials were provided with physical outreach materials during canvassing efforts in spring 2026 and were added to the project email updates list if they provided their permission to sign up.

The project website has translation options included in the main page to provide a wide range of translation options. As UDOT prepares for a public meeting, Spanish translation will be provided at the public meeting and in all printed materials. UDOT is working with Rockville

and Springdale to ensure they are aware of community needs and can prepare meeting materials that meet the objectives of the project while connecting with the communities.

UDOT also participated in the Southern Utah Transportation Expo in St. George to introduce the project and give an overview of the benefits of fiber to communities. UDOT is watching for opportunities to use community events to disseminate information about this project and meet people where they are. Where appropriate, UDOT may participate in markets and city/town events to share information.

UDOT created a project video about the benefits and impacts of fiber installation and published it in February 2026. The video currently lives on the project website and on UDOT's official YouTube page. The video will be edited and updated once Phase 2 construction along US-89 begins in order to visually cover the Phase 2 project area. Engagement and construction notifications will be expanded among communities along US-89 as Phase 2 construction begins, which include Orderville, Panguitch, Circleville, Marysville, Junction, and Salina. This may include in-person canvassing and additional town/city council presentations.

Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project

The Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) Infrastructure Upgrade Project has actively engaged a wide range of stakeholders to address the growing demand for enhanced network services. UETN maintains regular communication with stakeholders through regional and state technology forums, wireless user groups, and advisory bodies such as the UETN Board, Advisory Council, and Technology Advisory Committee. Additionally, UETN has a dedicated liaison working directly with the Navajo Nation to ensure their specific needs are addressed. Stakeholders have voiced concerns about performance degradation, emphasizing the importance of improving troubleshooting and issue resolution processes. The communities involved in this project have demonstrated significant grassroots support and active interest, highlighting strong commitment to the project's success. UETN will continue to engage with stakeholders through these established channels as the project advances.

UETN has a longstanding practice of working collaboratively with stakeholders to identify and prioritize broadband infrastructure needs across the state. Throughout the CPF project lifecycle, community feedback has been incorporated through regular engagement with advisory councils, stakeholder meetings, and ongoing outreach. UETN has consulted with its Governing Board, Education Advisory Committee, and Technology Advisory Committees to guide project planning and implementation. The project team also conducted consultations with all 54 participating libraries through virtual meetings and monthly surveys to gather

input and address connectivity needs. In addition, UETN maintains regular outreach with K-12 school districts, charter schools, private schools, healthcare clinics, and higher education institutions connected to the network through dedicated advocates assigned to each sector. UETN has also coordinated with the Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to support project planning and implementation on tribal lands, ensuring stakeholder input is incorporated throughout the project.

To reach underserved populations UETN relies on its trusted community anchor institutions—public libraries, schools, and healthcare facilities—to engage directly with underserved populations. These institutions have established relationships to effectively reach and support their communities, including rural, tribal, and underserved residents. Due to data privacy requirements and the decentralized nature of the network, UETN does not conduct direct outreach to individuals but instead supports these institutions with the tools, infrastructure, and resources needed to gather feedback and provide services. Monthly surveys collected by libraries and ongoing dialogue with education and healthcare partners ensure community needs are reflected in project implementation.

Looking forward, UETN plans to sustain this trusted and effective engagement model by continuing to work through its network of community anchor institutions. These partners remain the most effective channels for gathering localized feedback, building trust with underserved populations, and ensuring equitable access. UETN will maintain regular communication with stakeholders through advisory councils, regional technology forums, and working groups. This ongoing collaboration ensures that community perspectives continue to shape project implementation and that the network evolves in response to local needs.

PROJECT INVENTORY

PROJECT NAME	PROGRAM PLAN NUMBER	PROJECT STATUS	USE CODE	CPF FUNDS ALLOCATED TO PROGRAM	EXPENDITURES AS OF JUNE 30, 2026
Utah Rural Last Mile Broadband Grants Project	CPF_GP-000193	Approved	1A Broadband Infrastructure Project	\$15,000,000	\$12,421,130
UDOT Middle Mile Projects	CPF_GP-000196	Approved	1A Broadband Infrastructure Project	\$96,600,035	\$44,564,534
Box Elder Community Campus	CPF_GP-000362	Approved	1C Multi-purpose Community Facility Project	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Utah Education and Telehealth Network Infrastructure Upgrade Project	CPF_GP-000195	Approved	1A Broadband Infrastructure Project	\$19,295,400	\$14,615,477
Total Budgeted & Spent:				\$137,895,435	\$78,601,141
Total CPF Award:				\$137,895,435	
Available for Allocation:				\$0	