Alaska Telecom Association
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Last Mile
Middle Mile
Middle Mile is Key - 2010
Middle Mile is Key - 2019
Broadband Expansion

- 118,813 locations upgraded/new broadband by ATA members since 2015
- Projects completed in 2020 by:
  - Copper Valley Telecom
  - Alaska Communications
  - GCI
Broadband Expansion

- New middle mile projects
  - KPU Telecom
  - Matanuska Telephone Association
  - Nushagak Cooperative
  - Cordova Telecom

Nushagak Cooperative announces significant increase to internet capacity for members

By: Tyler Thompson  •  AUG 6, 2020

The co-op’s microwave project is complete, and it is now testing data capacity and moving members to the new packages.
Dec. 3, 2019 USDA awards Cordova Telecom $18.9M grant to connect Yakutat
October 12, 2020 USDA awards $21.5M grant to Alaska Power & Telephone to connect Coffman Cove and Kasaan on Prince of Wales Island.
ReConnect Pilot Program Round 2

- October 12, 2020 USDA awards $25M grant to GCI to build an undersea fiber connecting Unalaska, Akutan, King Cove, Sand Point, Chignik, & Larsen Bay
School Broadband Assistance Grants

Helping Students by Helping Schools Reach 10 25 Mbps

- SB74 signed March 26, 2020
- Emergency regulations adopted to support increase in FY21
What’s next?

- Private investment
- Federal Programs
- State
- New initiatives
Low Earth Orbit Satellites - LEOS

- One Web
- Starlink
- Project Kuiper
- Telesat
2.5GHz Rural Tribal Spectrum
How can we use 2.5GHz in Alaska?
USDA

- Community Connect
- ReConnect Pilot Program Round 3
- Distance Learning & Telemedicine
- Denali Commission
Congress

$100 billion “universal fiber” plan proposed by Democrats in Congress

Ambitious legislation would deploy 100Mbps symmetrical broadband throughout US.

JON BRIDGREN - 6/25/2020, 10:00 AM

Broadband Internet Is an Imperative, Not a Luxury

We need a national investment to bring internet to millions of Americans. $100 billion is a good place to start.

Bullish on Broadband: Time to Get Your Grant Proposals Ready

At least 15 federal agencies provide grants to support better broadband. It’s time for communities to get moving if they want to claim their share.

Pandemic Builds Momentum for Broadband Infrastructure Upgrades

Coronavirus crisis shows need for widespread high-speed internet in U.S. homes.

The digital divide is an emergency
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