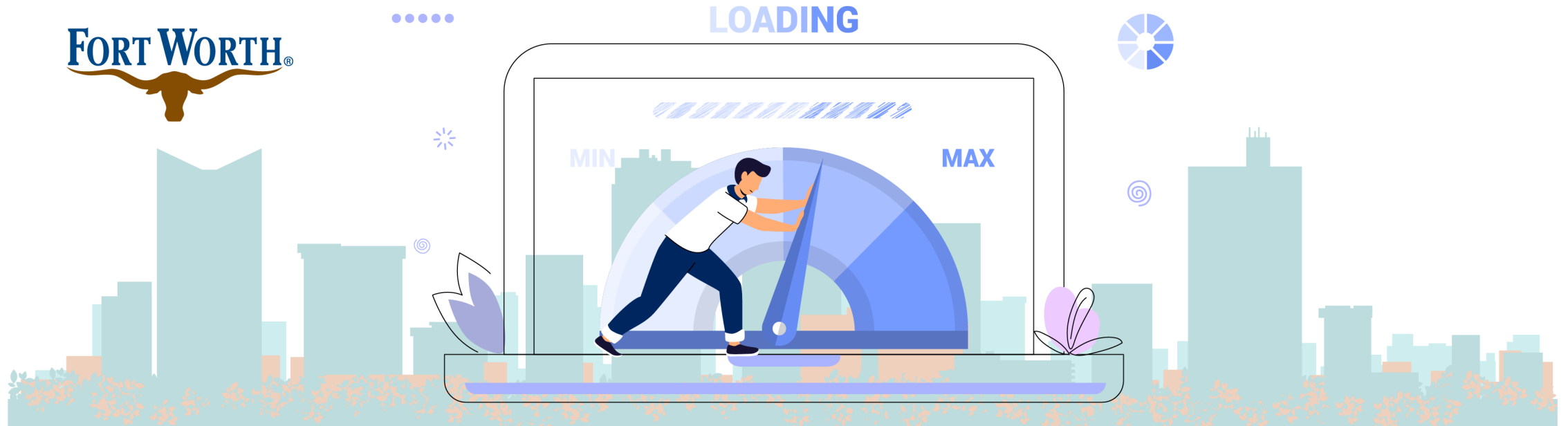




# Broadband Enhancement Strategy



Work Session Presentation  
Tuesday, September 19, 2023



This presentation will cover:

Benefits of Broadband

How it Works

The Costs

## Council's Strategic Vision Priorities



## Broadband and Quality of Life

- Addresses **Equity Gap**



- Supports **local government** communications & connectivity

- Bolsters **economic opportunities**



# Benefits to Economic Development

- Broadband is key to:
  - **Retaining** and **attracting** businesses in many sectors: data centers (IXP), medical centers, hospitals, financial institutions, advanced manufacturing, aerospace, biomedical, and others.
  - **Competitiveness** (faster speed at lower costs)
  - Attracting **workforce** (remote work)
  - Online **reliability**
  - **Hiring** (80%+ of lg corporations accept job applications online only)
- Broadband access is key to helping small businesses grow, thrive, and survive economic turbulence.



Fiber  
infrastructure



Additional  
cameras and  
sensors at a  
fixed cost in the  
contract



Expansion of  
public safety data  
increases safety of  
personnel and  
proactive  
information flow





# Opportunities for CoFW Departments

- Property Management
  - Quicker access to diagnostic repair info.

**Puts public safety vehicles  
back on road faster**

- Municipal Court
  - Virtual court dockets from home, payment of fines

**Optimizes time for everyone**

- Human Resources
  - Job applicants can apply from home

**Removes barriers for employment**



# Opportunities for CoFW Departments

- Development Services

- Online tools and resources for residents and businesses

**Increases** accessibility

- Stormwater

- Monitoring floods, wildlife, vandalism, Open Space, illegal activity

**Protects** our City

- Park and Recreation

- Reliable access at community centers, computer labs

**Increases** accessibility

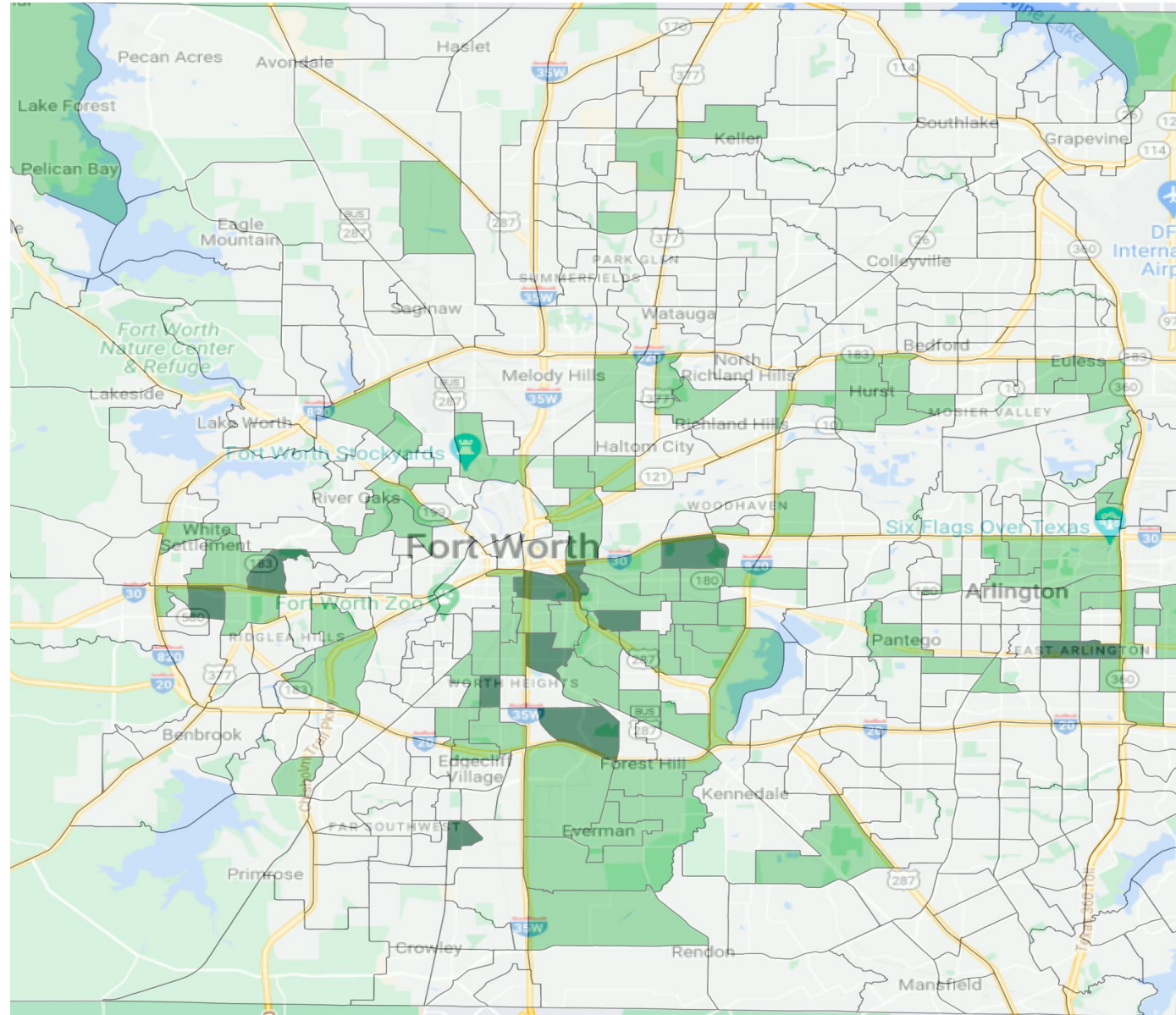




## Statistics for the City of Fort Worth

- **310,985** households in total
- **234,599** have high speed internet (**75%**)
- **51,022** have no high speed internet (**17%**)
- **25,364** have no internet at all (**8%**)







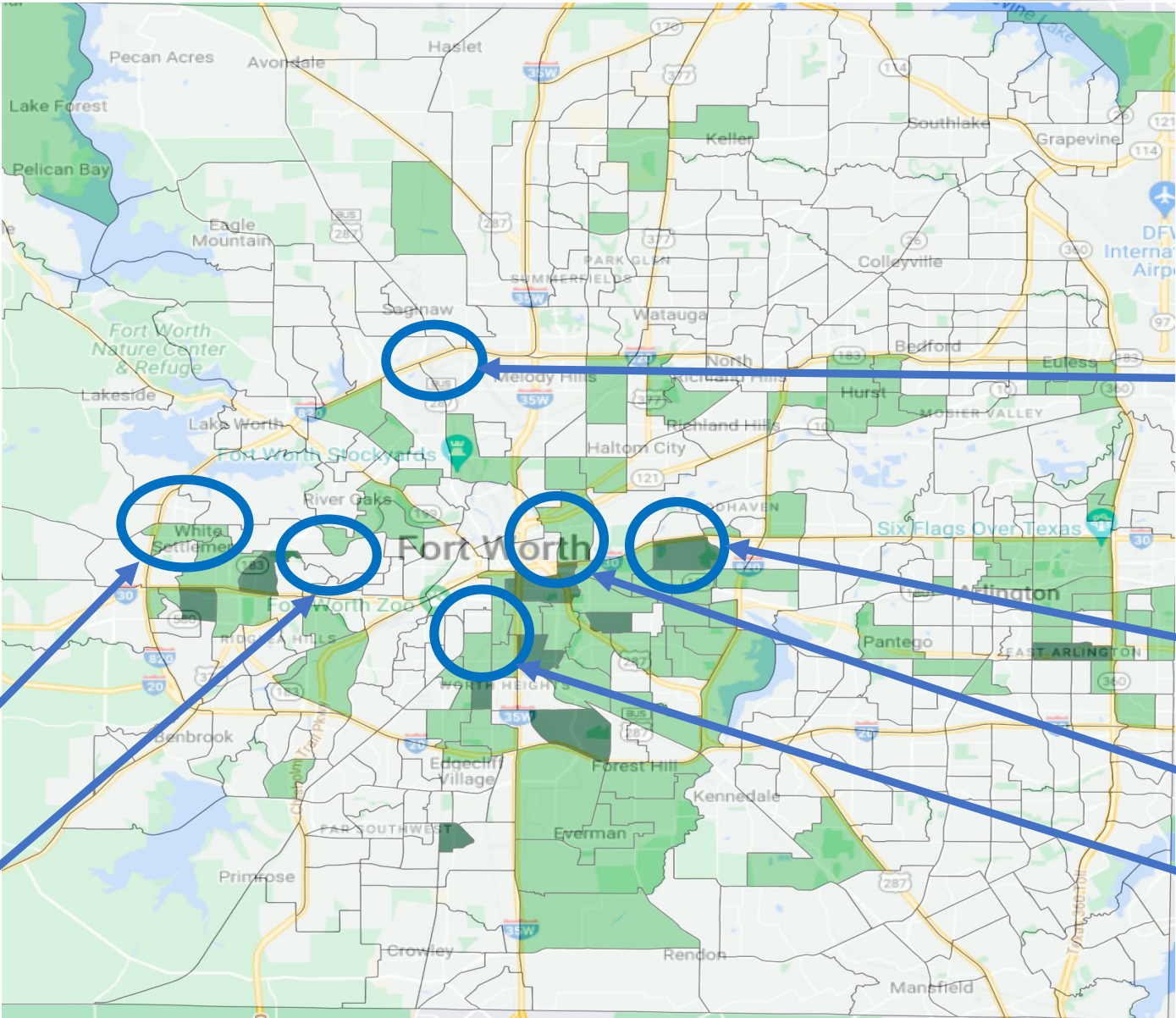


# Broadband Household Access

0-100 Unserved

101-500 Unserved

500+ Unserved



**Northside/  
Marine Creek**

**Stop Six**

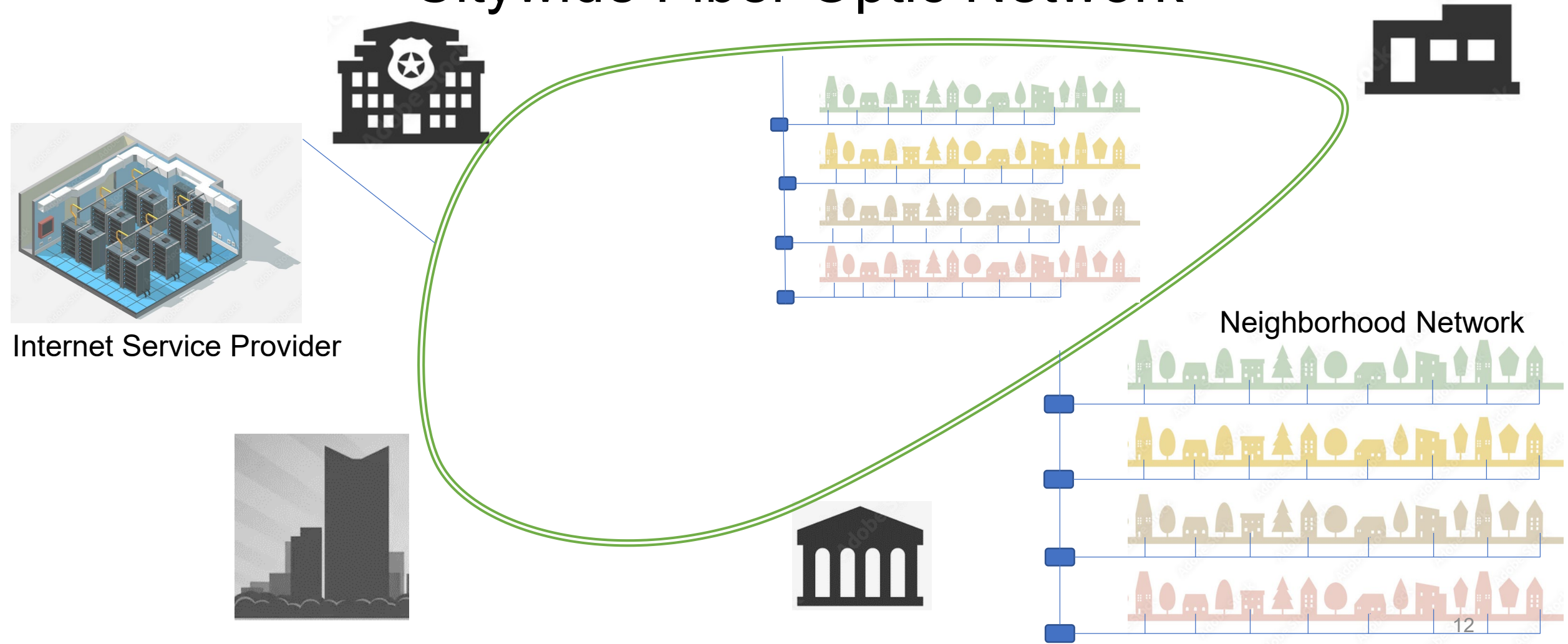
**Ash  
Crescent**

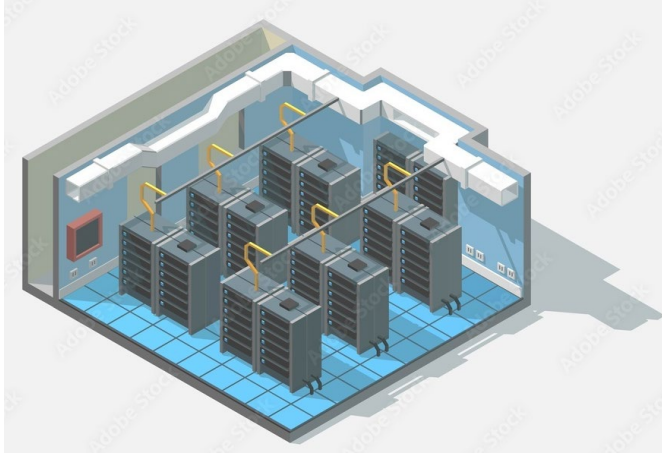
**Rosemont**

**Las Vegas Trail**

**Como**

# Citywide Fiber Optic Network

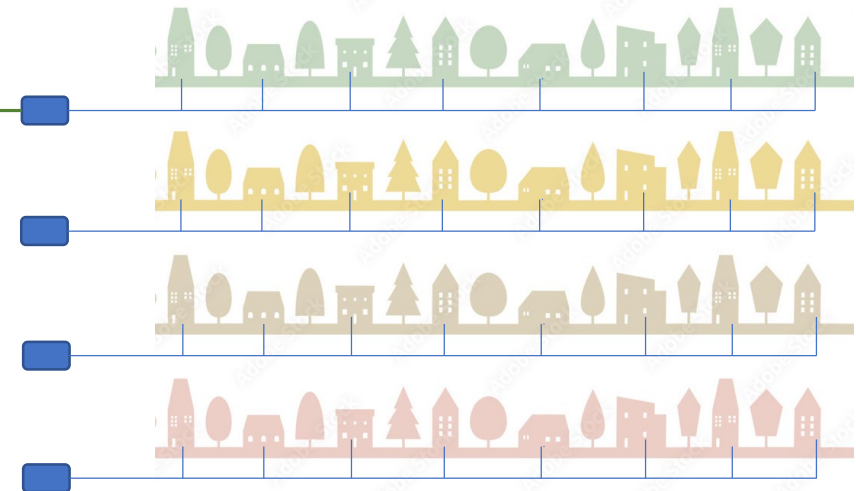




Internet Service Provider

Backbone Network

Last Mile





## City Network Costs

- Current annual spend - \$3.75M+
  - **\$124.5M+** over 32 years (limited bandwidth)
- Capital Cost to build our own network - **\$64.6M**
  - \$7.5M upfront (\$4.5M ARPA, \$3M NCTCOG)
  - \$3.625M/year fixed for remaining term
- **\$123.5M** over 32 years (unlimited bandwidth)
- **Opportunities exist to drive down overall cost as we find public and private partnerships**
  - Actively discussing partnership with Tarrant County





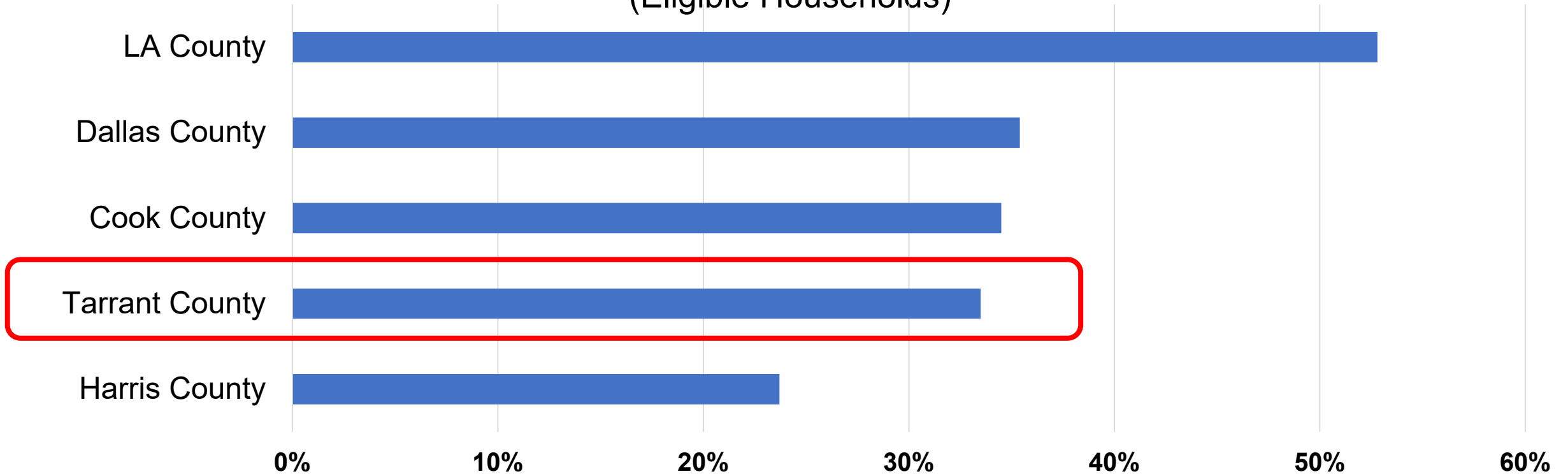
## Broadband Investment in Other Places

Location	Population	Upfront Investment
Dallas County	2.5M	\$35M
Clark County (Las Vegas)	2.3M	\$43M
Erie County (Buffalo)	2.3M	\$29M+\$8M
Bexar County (San Antonio)	2M	\$32M
City of Memphis	628K	\$15M+\$3M



# Affordable Connectivity Program – Enrollment

(Eligible Households)



\*Enrollment data from USAC: <https://www.usac.org/about/affordable-connectivity-program/acp-enrollment-and-claims-tracker/> (accessed October 13, 2022); eligibility based on household income below 200 percent of the poverty line, per U.S. Census data on households <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045221> and household income <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=S1901> (accessed October 13, 2022).

## RFP Responses

- Six proposals received
- Sprocket Networks chosen
  - Established ISP
  - Top proposal for equity and onboarding
  - Exceeds business equity goal
  - Will establish offices in Fort Worth
  - CoFW will have the ability to offer a dark fiber service to technology-related companies
    - **Fort Worth is the only top 20 City in the Country that I know of that will control its own dark fibers**



## Federal and State Funding Opportunities

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act - **\$65B**
- CoFW will **aggressively pursue** federal and state grants

Broadband Equity, Access, Deployment	<b>\$42.5B</b>
State Digital Equity Capacity Grant	<b>\$1.4B</b>
Digital Equity Competitive Grant	<b>\$1.3B</b>
State Digital Equity Planning Grant	<b>\$60M</b>



## Next Steps

- M&C on **September 26, 2023** to authorize award of contract to Sprocket Networks
- Mobilize Sprocket and HBK Engineering
- Mobilize city resources (permitting, route finalization, etc.)
- Continue creating awareness of the Neighborhood Wi-Fi / Broadband Opportunities

# Questions?

