Presentation to the Yountville Town Council on the LATA Grant Project – Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study and Partnership Development Opportunities Report

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Introductions

- ◆ CBG Communications Project Team:
  - ◆ Tom Robinson, President & CEO
  - ◆ Dick Nielsen, Senior Engineer
  - ◆ Krystene Rivers, Senior Research Associate
  - ◆ Andrew Entrikin, GIS Specialist

# Two Key Components of the Project

◆ Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

◆ Partnership Development Review and Analysis

Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

◆ The Study was designed to ensure that broadband infrastructure and services were available throughout the Town, and if not, design infrastructure to "fill in the gaps".

◆ Broadband is defined as 100 megabits per second (Mbps) download/20 Mbps upload, and the Federal and State goal is to have it be scalable to symmetrical 100 Mbps download/upload.

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Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

◆ Broadband system design and service review, review of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) broadband maps, discussions with broadband providers and a walkout of the available broadband infrastructure in the Town showed that <u>*wireline*</u> *broadband service is available to all* residents and businesses within the Town.

  ◆ That wireline service is planned to be increased to above symmetrical 100 Mbps by the end of 2026.

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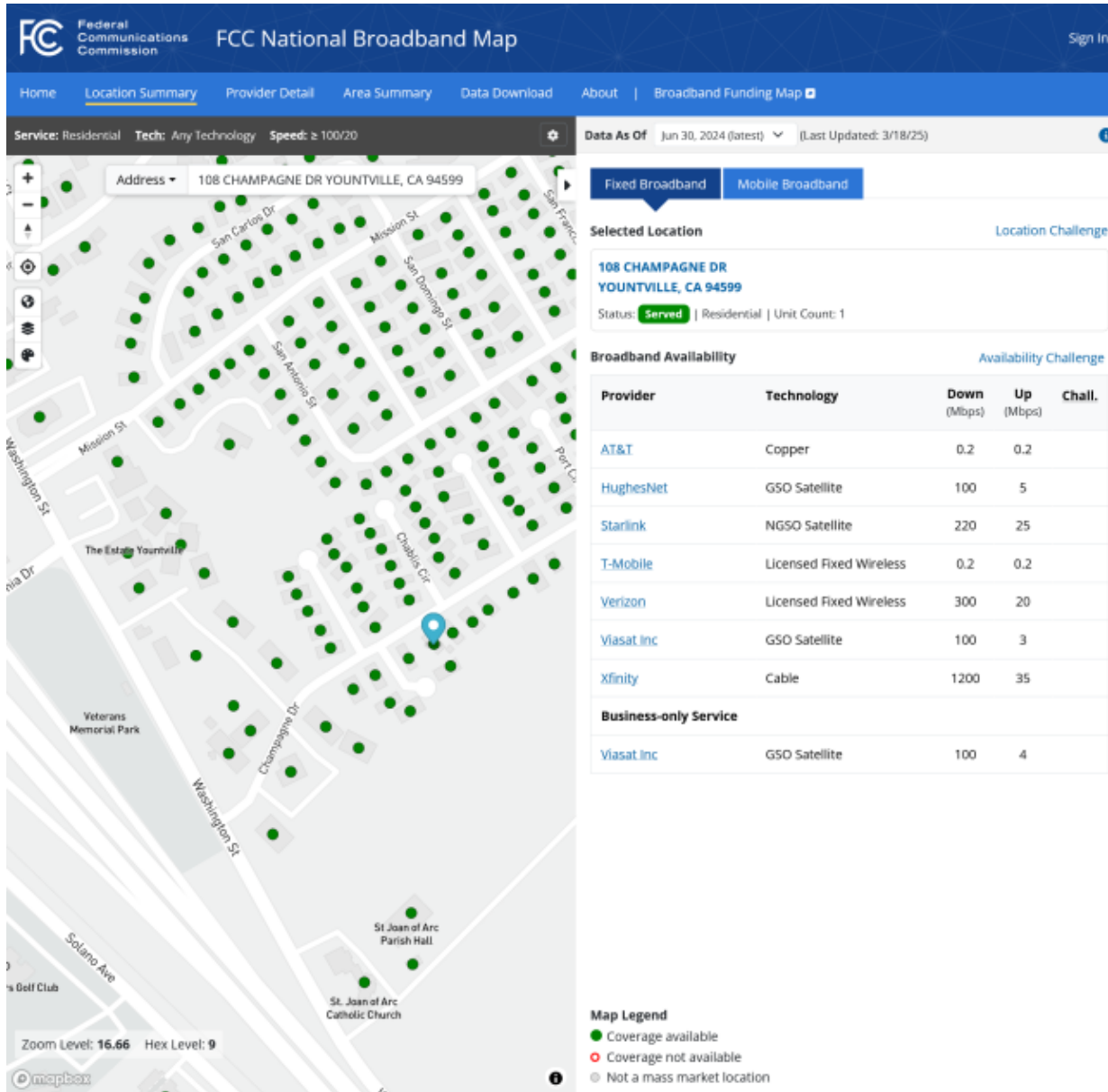
Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

◆ The Study then shifted to *reviewing where public access to the Internet should be provided at key public gathering spots* (for both residents and visitors/tourists) in the Town.

   ◆ Areas identified included: the largest, most utilized public parks; public facilities and campuses; and the Washington Street business corridor.

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Broadband Engineering Feasibility Study

◆ Multiple designs were made, evaluated and reviewed. The final recommended design is *proposed to be built, based on available funding and contributions by partners, in* <u>*three*</u> *phases.*

- ◆ It would provide no cost to the public, wireless symmetrical 100 Mbps download/upload in all the proposed locations.

- ◆ It would include multiple wireless broadband access points (APs), high-capacity wireless backhaul, fiber optic interconnects, and access to up to a 10 gigabits per second (Gbps), fiber optic-based, Internet access backhaul network.

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**Phase 1
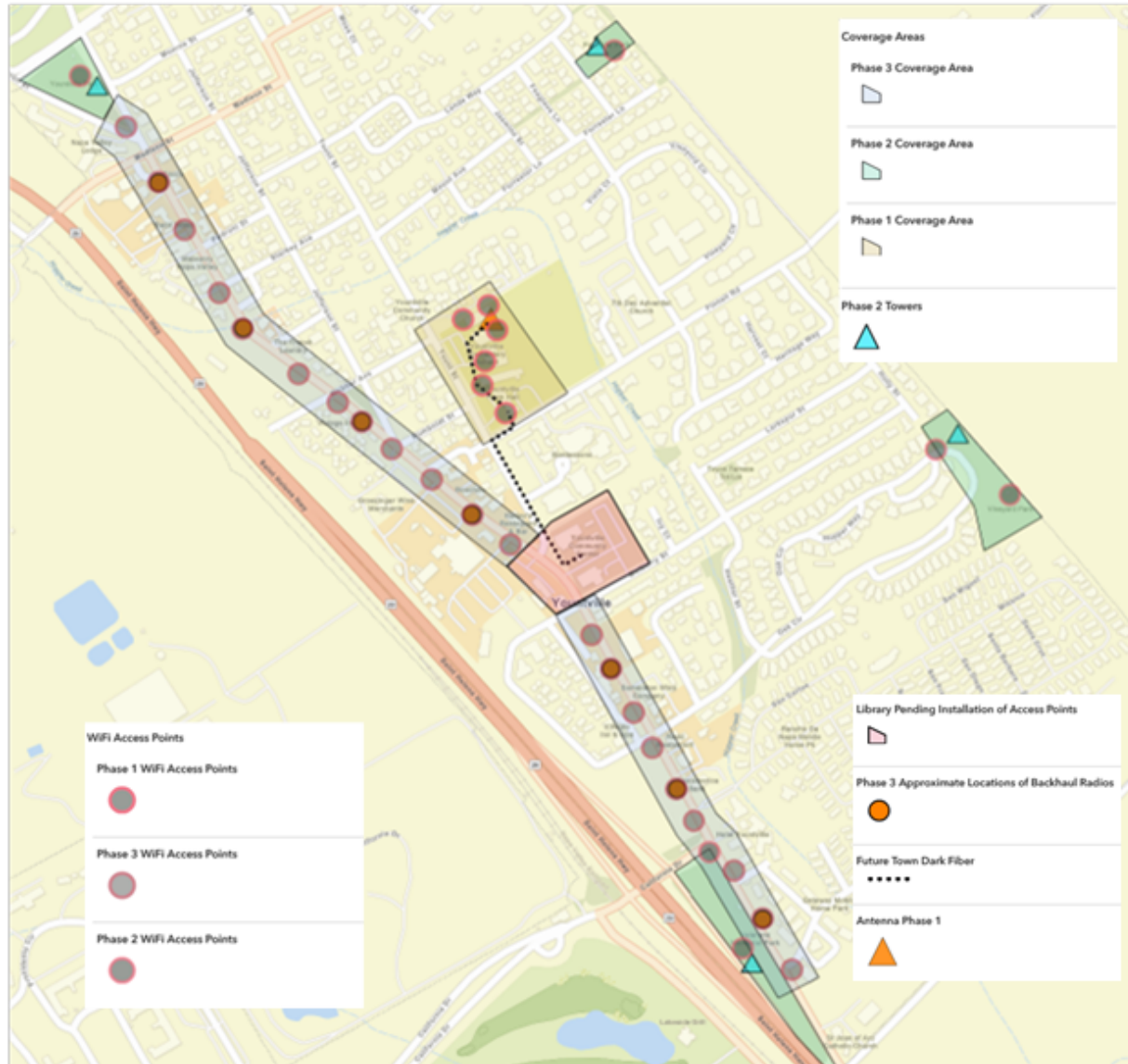of the
Public Access
Network**
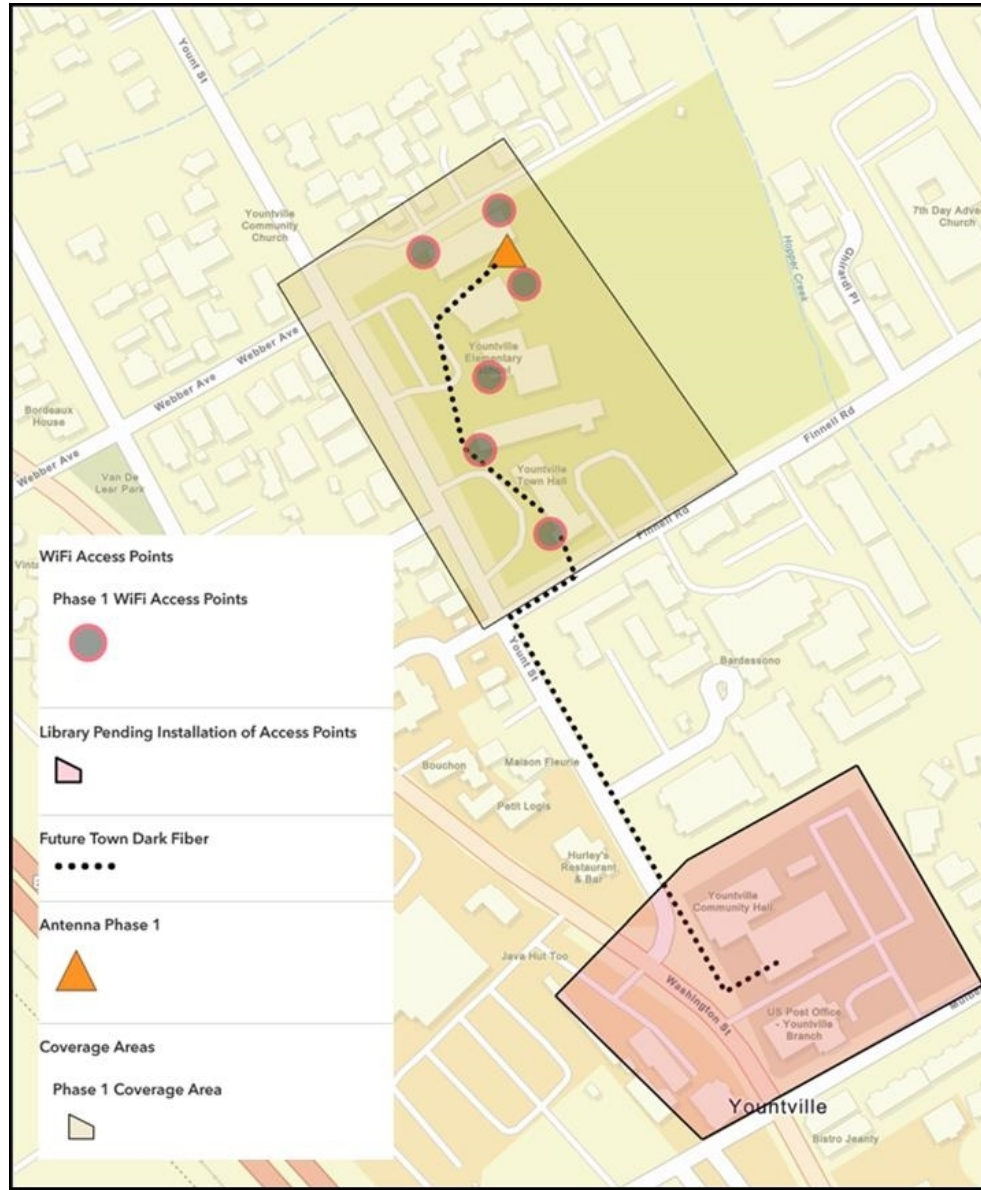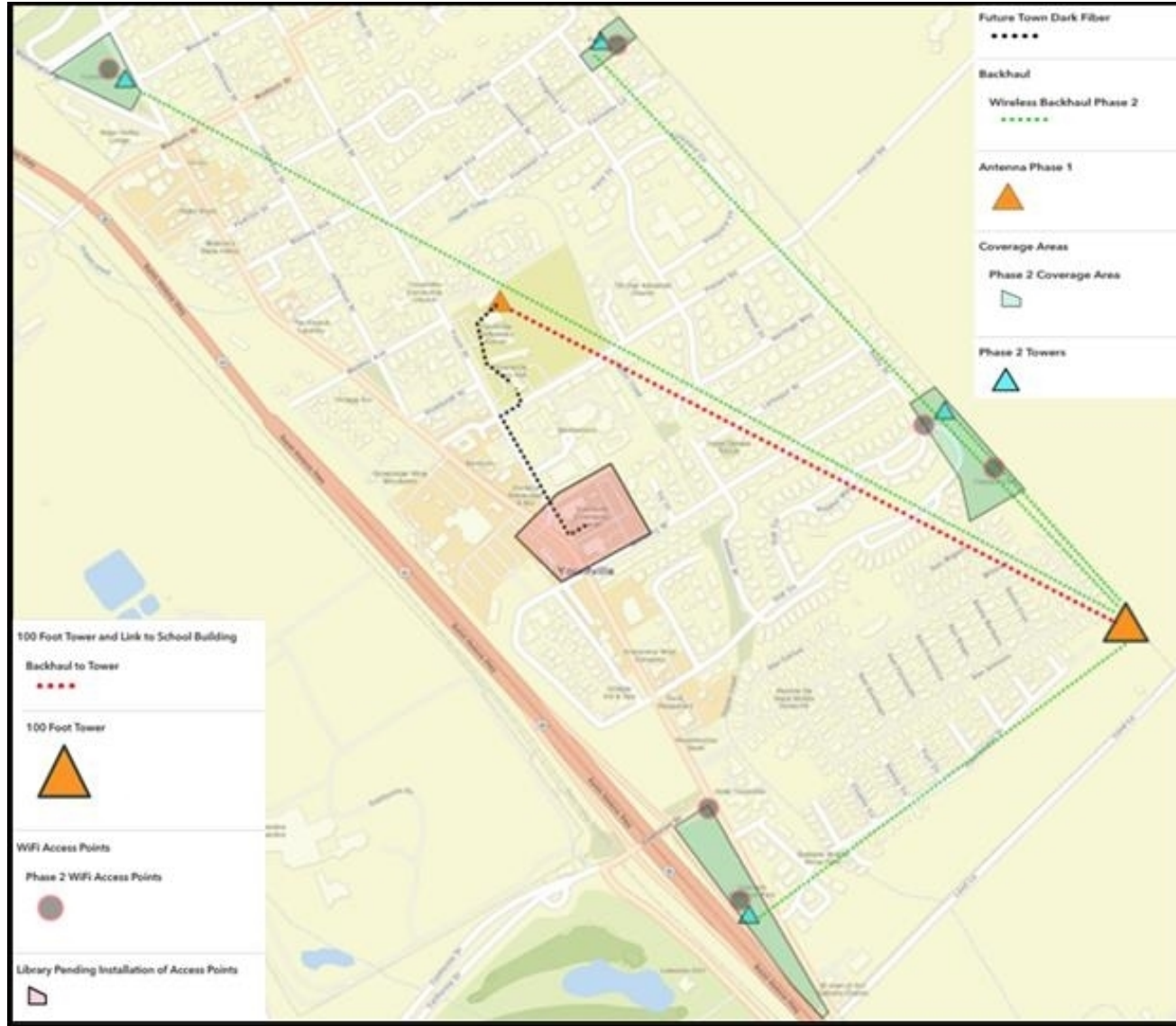
Phase 2
of the
Public Access
Network
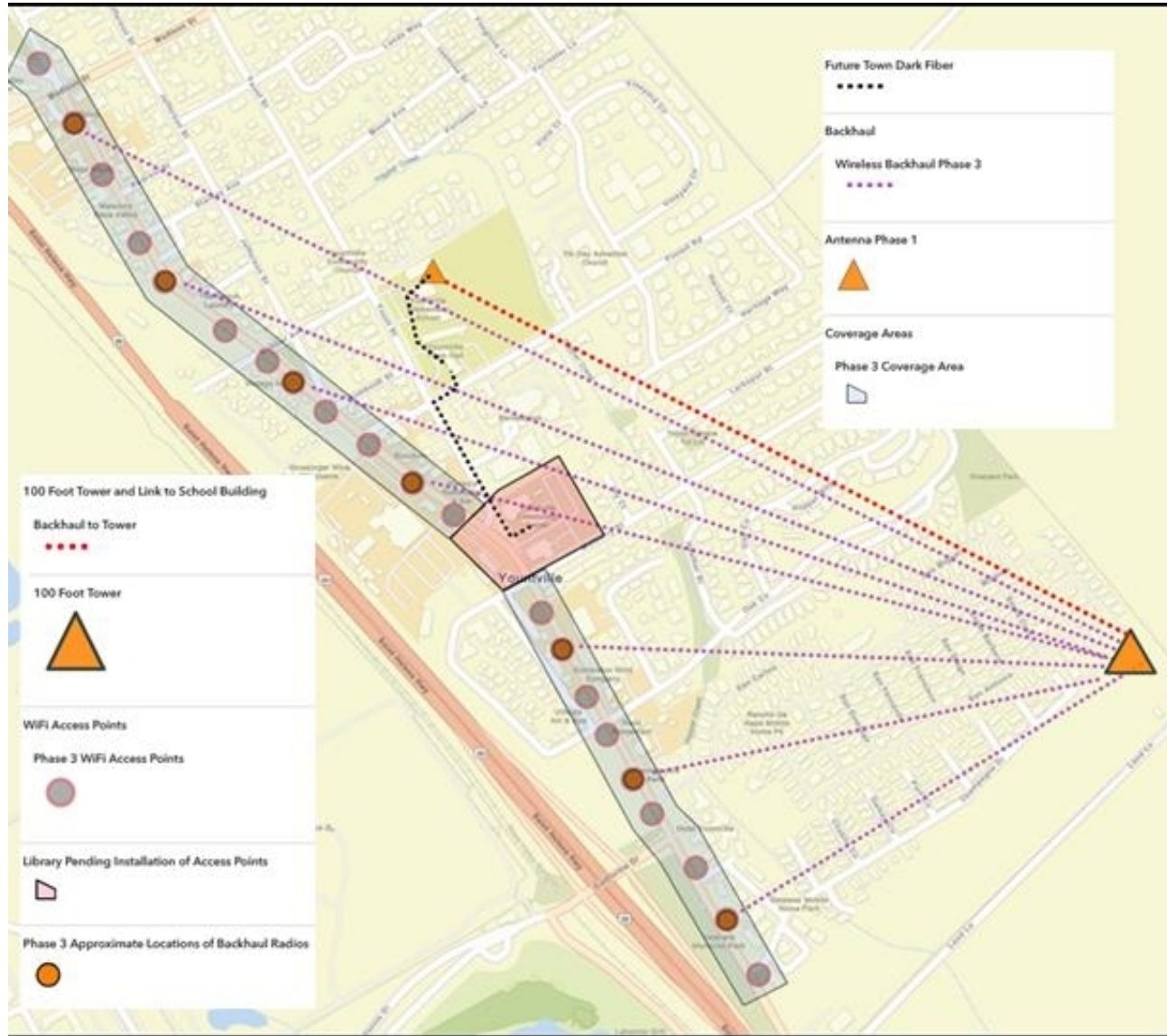
Phase 3 of the Public Access Network

Total Design of the Public Access Network Project (all 3 Phases)

Potential Cost of the Project

Total Costs, By Phase	
Phase 1 Total	$133,075
Phase 2 Total	$222,075
Phase 3 Total	$145,500
Total Cost of the Three Phases	$500,650

Partnership Development Opportunities

◆ Multiple potential partnerships were explored to help develop and implement the proposed broadband network, including with organizations that serve key populations in the Town (i.e., seniors, veterans, etc.).

◆ Discussions were held with Broadband providers and system vendors, including Comcast, wireless provider Valley Internet and others.

◆ Discussions were held with the Chamber of Commerce, concerning the positive impact that enhanced broadband can have on economic and workforce development.

Partnership Development Opportunities

◆ A Survey was then developed and sent out to approximately 60 members of the Chamber, with 14 businesses responding (23% response rate). Some key findings from the Survey included:

  ◆ Approximately half of the respondents indicated their broadband service/Internet access did not meet their current needs, indicating that the service was too slow and/or was unreliable.

  ◆ Eight of thirteen survey respondents indicated that a *high-*capacity *wireless broadband system in the Washington Street corridor and other business areas established by the Town* <u>*would be beneficial*</u> *to them*.

Partnership Development Opportunities

◆ Eight of eleven survey respondents indicated that a high-capacity wireless broadband system *covering public places* *would be beneficial* to them, *their customers and clients*.

◆ The majority of the survey respondents indicated that they *weren't sure yet* how willing they would be to help financially *support initial development and sustainability of such a system* until they knew more about what the cost would be and how they would be asked to support it (e.g., sponsorship, advertising placement on splash pages, etc.).

◆ Overall, business community involvement in development and sustainability of the network will require more detailed discussions.

Partnership Development Opportunities

◆ Discussions were held with potential public partners including the Napa County Library and the Veterans Home of California - Yountville.

◆ The Napa County Library presents the best opportunity for partnership, because of a current project underway to expand public Wi-Fi at the Yountville Library, that could be further expanded into the Town Center complex and would leverage the Library's high-capacity Internet backhaul.

◆ There would need to be a detailed partnership agreement, in a form such as a Memorandum of Understanding.

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Overall Conclusions and Recommendations

◆ Depending on available funding and contributions by partners, the Town should:

　◆ Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Napa County Library to develop and deploy, at a minimum, the first phase of the public broadband Wi-Fi system.

　◆ Work with the Library through the established MOU or a private vendor/provider partner to develop and deploy the second phase of the system implementation -- public broadband Wi-Fi Internet access in the four designated parks.

Overall Conclusions and Recommendations

◆ Work with the Library or a private vendor/provider partner in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce to develop and deploy the third phase of the public broadband Wi-Fi Internet access system to the Washington Street and other business corridors.

◆ Leverage the public broadband Wi-Fi Internet access system for broadband Internet adoption-spurring efforts.

◆ Such efforts should focus on:

◆ Affordable access to the Internet by the public.

◆ Enabling the public to gain access to digital skills training while utilizing the system.

Q & A

Thank you!