



Connect Alaska Releases Comprehensive Report Detailing Broadband Expansion Work

Documenting Infrastructure Gaps and Alaska School Broadband Audit Among Grant Program Highlights

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Anchorage, AK – Today, Connect Alaska released the [Connect Alaska Final Grant Report](#) which highlights the successes of the five year State Broadband Initiative grant program undertaken in partnership with the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED).

“This final grant report highlights Connect Alaska's work to better understand broadband access, adoption and use,” said Tom Ferree, president and COO of Connected Nation, Connect Alaska's parent company. “During the five year project, Connect Alaska staff traveled the state in order to quantify broadband access. We also worked with school districts as part of the Alaska School Broadband Audit making Alaska one of the first states to garner a comprehensive assessment of its schools’ broadband speeds, technologies, applications and challenges.”

The Connect Alaska project was the report documents the broadband infrastructure gaps that continue in Alaska. Since 2010, over 24,000 additional households have gained access to broadband service statewide at speeds of 3 Mbps download/768 Kbps upload. However, more than 38% of Alaska households do not have access to higher speeds such as 25 Mbps down/3 Mbps up.

The report also summarizes the Alaska School Broadband Audit initiative, which investigated and validated broadband connectivity in every public K-12 Alaska school district. Connect Alaska field engineers visited every district in the state to validate, verify, and confirm data regarding broadband connectivity, network capacity, equipment, and district Wide Area Networks. That project not only uncovered substantial gaps in educational access and use of broadband, but also brought to light creative uses Alaska public schools are taking in response to their broadband challenges. The complete Alaska School Audit Report and data portal is available here: <http://www.connectak.org/school-broadband-audit>.

For more information about the Connect Alaska Final Grant Report, please visit <http://www.connectak.org/ak-final-grant-report>.

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About Connect Alaska: Connect Alaska partners with technology-minded businesses, government entities, and universities across the state to accelerate broadband access, adoption, and use in Alaska. Connect Alaska is working with the Alaska Broadband Task Force, and this initiative is made possible through support from the state of Alaska and the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

For more information about Connect Alaska, visit our website at www.connectak.org. You can also follow Connect Alaska on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).