

# Identify Next Steps



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## Summary

### The purpose of the final day of the workshop was to:

- Gather a sampling of the core stakeholders within the working groups (with a strong weighting towards PAN members) to discuss the results of the previous 3 days working sessions.
- Distill a list of issues surrounding a potential broadband / fiber project
- Prioritize issues into next steps and identify those that would be best served with help external to the group

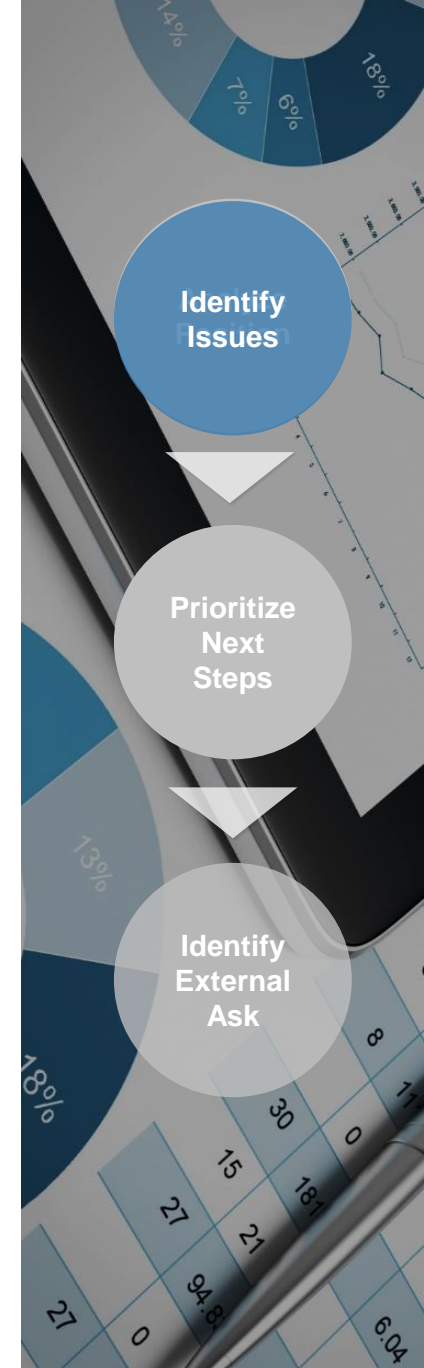
### Ultimately, we recommend a three-pronged approach:

- Identify next steps or directionally aligned tasks that can be completed internal to the core group and start execution
- Create and release RFP(s) for the tasks that would require or be aided by external help
- Continue to conduct further research into other communities that have already, or are executing on similar projects.

# Identification of Issues

Issues were distilled from the working sessions and validated by the working group.

- Documentation and Knowledge
  - What exists
  - Common map of assets
  - Awareness of all parties
- Areas of Coverage
  - Large area to cover
  - Challenging Topography / Geography
  - Aging / Non-existent Infrastructure
    - Existing Plant Aging (IRU, others)
    - Large areas with little to no coverage (High speed / Fiber)
- Government
  - Political Will
  - Regulations
  - Consistency of "Dig once" ordinances
  - Co-ordination of improvements (ensure all parties aware of when sites open through construction)
- Shared Access to Existing Infra
  - Existing Fiber
  - Existing Conduit
- Funding
  - Cost of Infrastructure
- Project Definition
  - Defined Scope and Responsibility
  - Strategy / Direction / Plan



# Prioritization of Next Steps

From the issues, next steps were generated targeted at addressing the issues and moving the project forward.

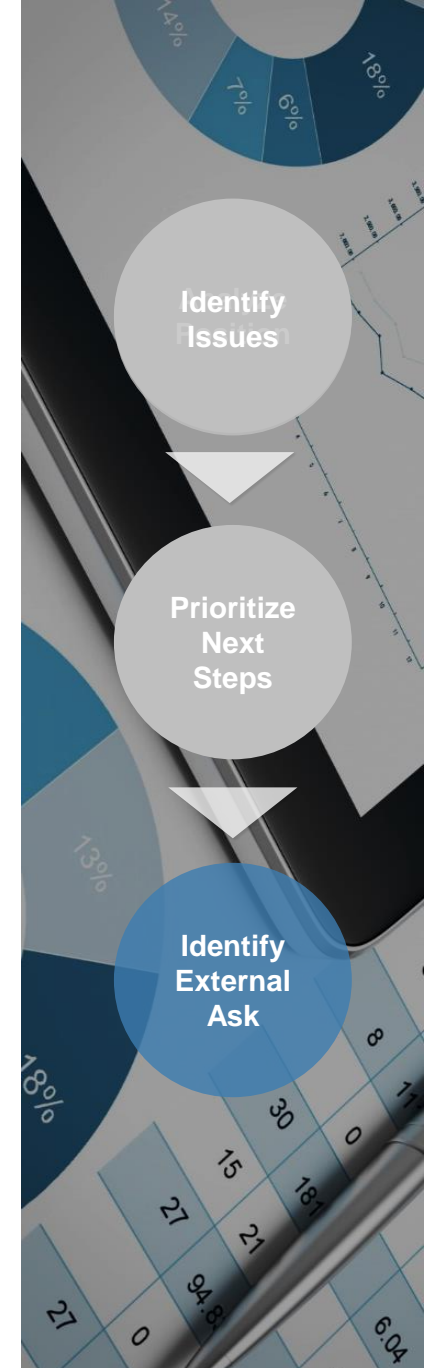
1. Cohesive Comprehensive Vision / Strategy
  - Evolving Future Tech aligned with stakeholder needs
  - Development
  - Proof of concept opportunities
  - Deployment Model
2. Ownership / Governance
  - Possible new entity - current ownership cant scale
    - Ownership of the process
    - Governance of access to assets
3. Education on the issues at and to all levels (Residential / Private / Public / Lobby)
  - Communication plan tailored appropriately
4. Centralized comprehensive documented knowledge of existing infrastructure
  - Capacity and planning
5. Communication and Coordination within and among solution providers (Public and Private)
6. Feasibility - Funding / Cost / Effort
  - Development of funding sources (Grants, Loans, etc.)
7. Regulations and Legal
  - Current assets have regulatory baggage
  - Similar "Broadband Friendly" policy across regions



# Identification of Areas for External Ask

Taking the list of next steps the working group discussed which would be aided best through outside help. These tasks will be contained in the RFP ask.

1. **Cohesive Comprehensive Vision / Strategy**
  - Evolving Future Tech aligned with stakeholder needs
  - Development
  - Proof of concept opportunities
  - Deployment Model
2. Ownership / **Governance**
  - Possible new entity - current ownership cant scale
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# Successful and continued forward momentum will be aided by learning from others

Links to further research:

[Chatham County Fiber Feasibility Study](#)

[Fiber Broadband Association](#)

[Community Networks](#)

- [Municipal FTTH Networks Map](#)

[Vice](#)

- [Vice - Municipal Broadband](#)
- [Vice - Community Broadband](#)
- [Report : 26 States Now Ban or Restrict Community Broadband](#)
- [More than 750 American Communities Built thier own Internet Networks](#)

