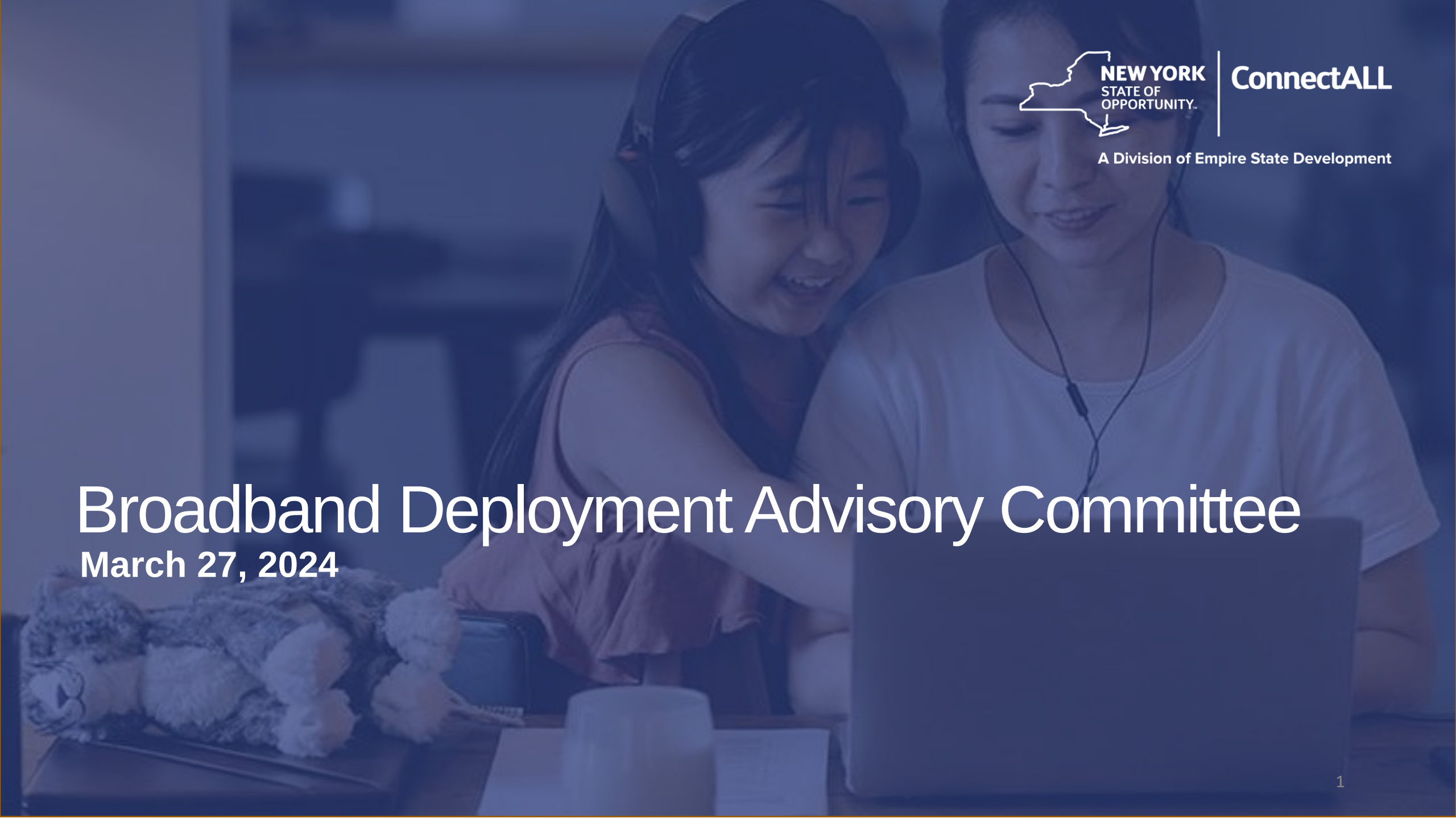


NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | ConnectALL

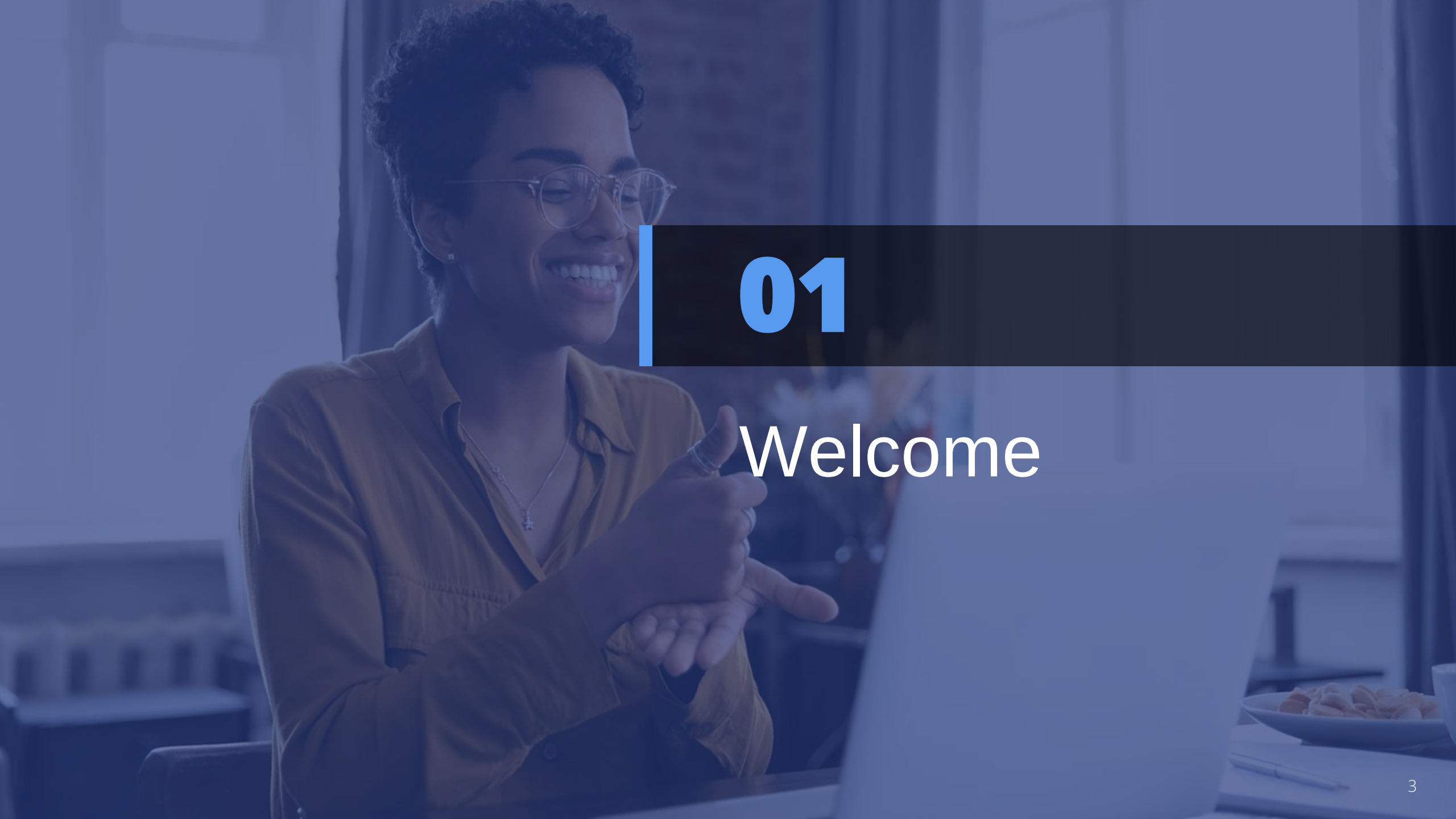
A Division of Empire State Development

Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee

March 27, 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Affordable Connectivity Program Update
3. Challenge Process Overview



01

Welcome

02

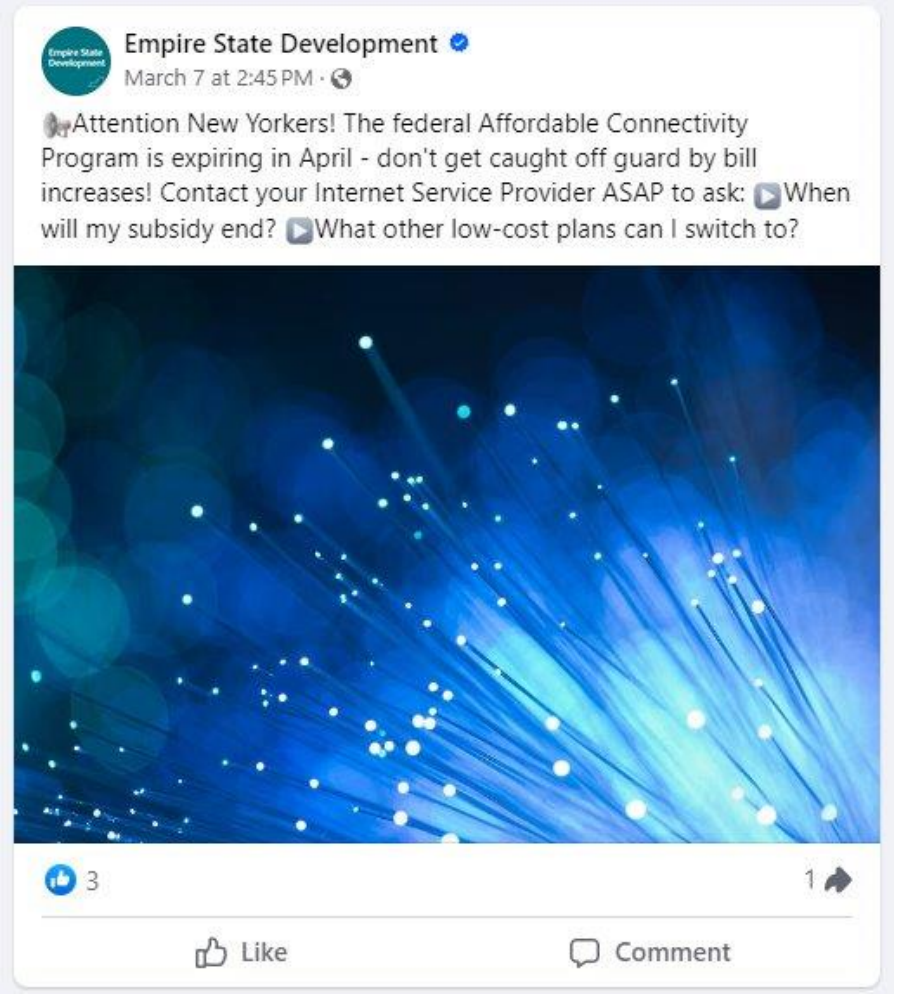
Affordable Connectivity Program Update

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM UPDATE

The Affordable Connectivity Program stopped accepting new applications and enrollments on February 7, 2024.

- The Program is a Federal Communications Commission benefit program that provides a discount of up to $30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to $75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.
- Nearly 1.8 million New York households are enrolled in the Program, saving more than $50 million in total each month. *(Source: Universal Service Administrative Co., March 2024)*
- The last fully funded month of the program is April 2024.
- Subscribers should contact their providers to ask how and when their bill will increase, including prices, fees, and taxes, and what low-cost service options are available.

→ *For more updates, refer to* ***AffordableConnectivity.gov***

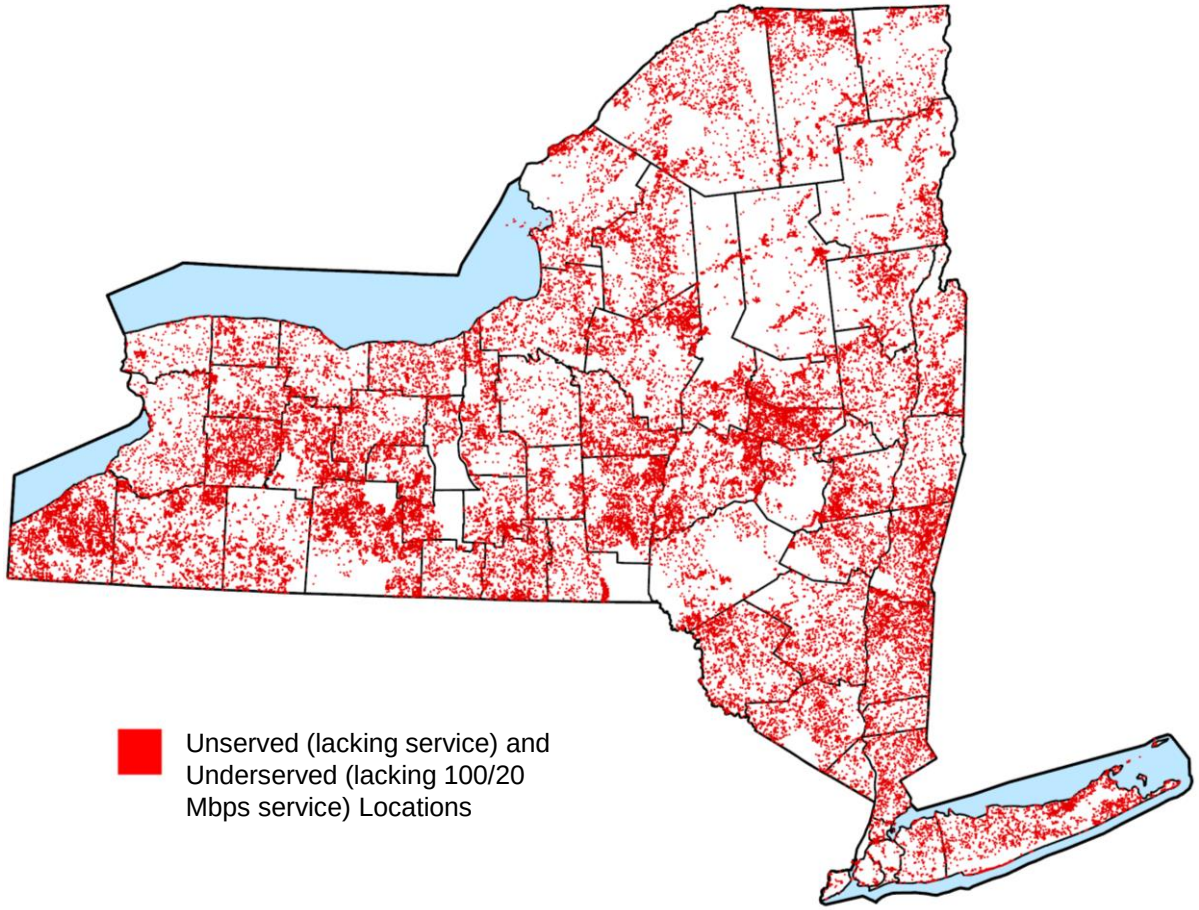


03

Challenge Process Overview

CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

The ConnectALL Deployment Program, with funding from the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, will fund deployment to unserved and underserved locations.



$696 million

to reach unserved and underserved locations across New York State

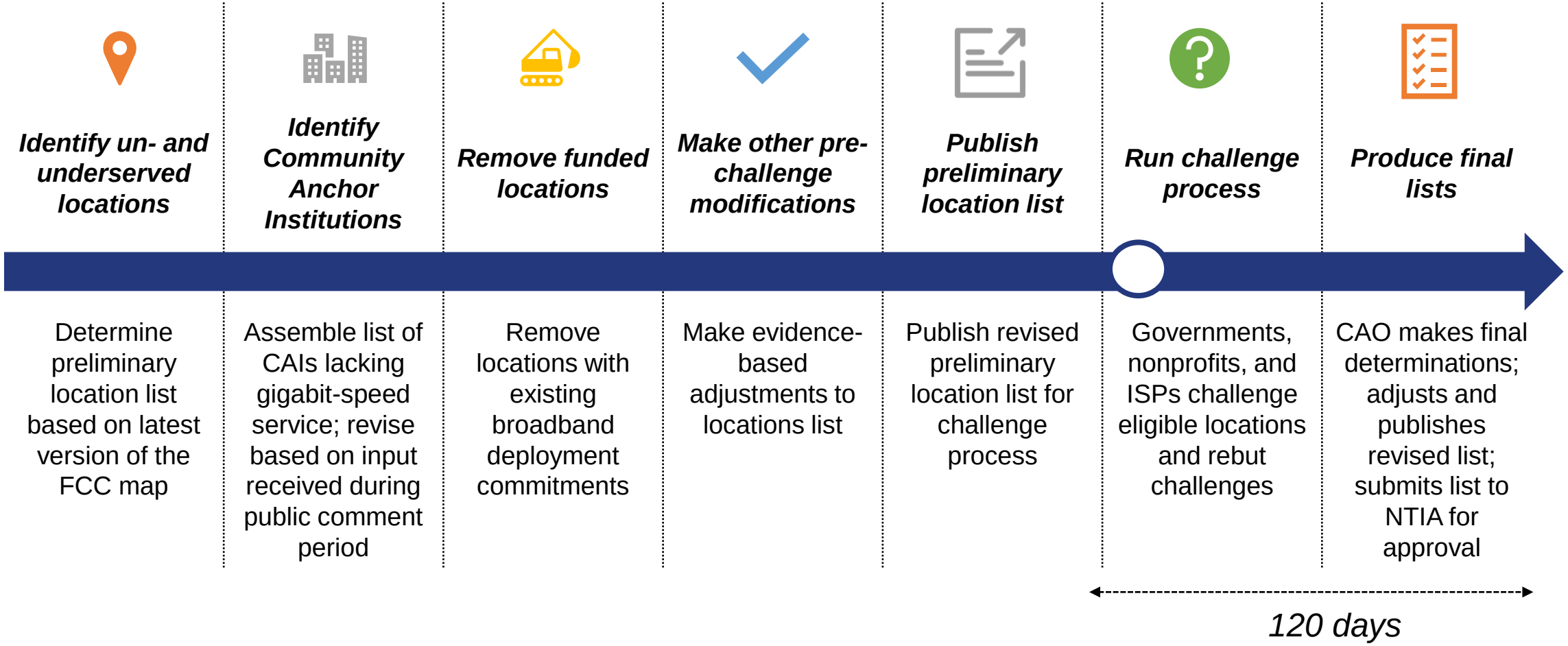
Only locations on the FCC map are eligible for funding. Currently, the map shows ~95,000 unserved and underserved locations in New York.

The Challenge Process will further refine the map so that ConnectALL can allocate funding based on the most accurate possible data.

Sources: June 30, 2023 FCC availability data as updated on February 20, 2024, NTIA Federal Deduplication file dated February 29, 2024, ConnectALL's list of state and local enforceable commitments dated March 8, 2024, with the DSL modification applied (as described in the New York BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 1).

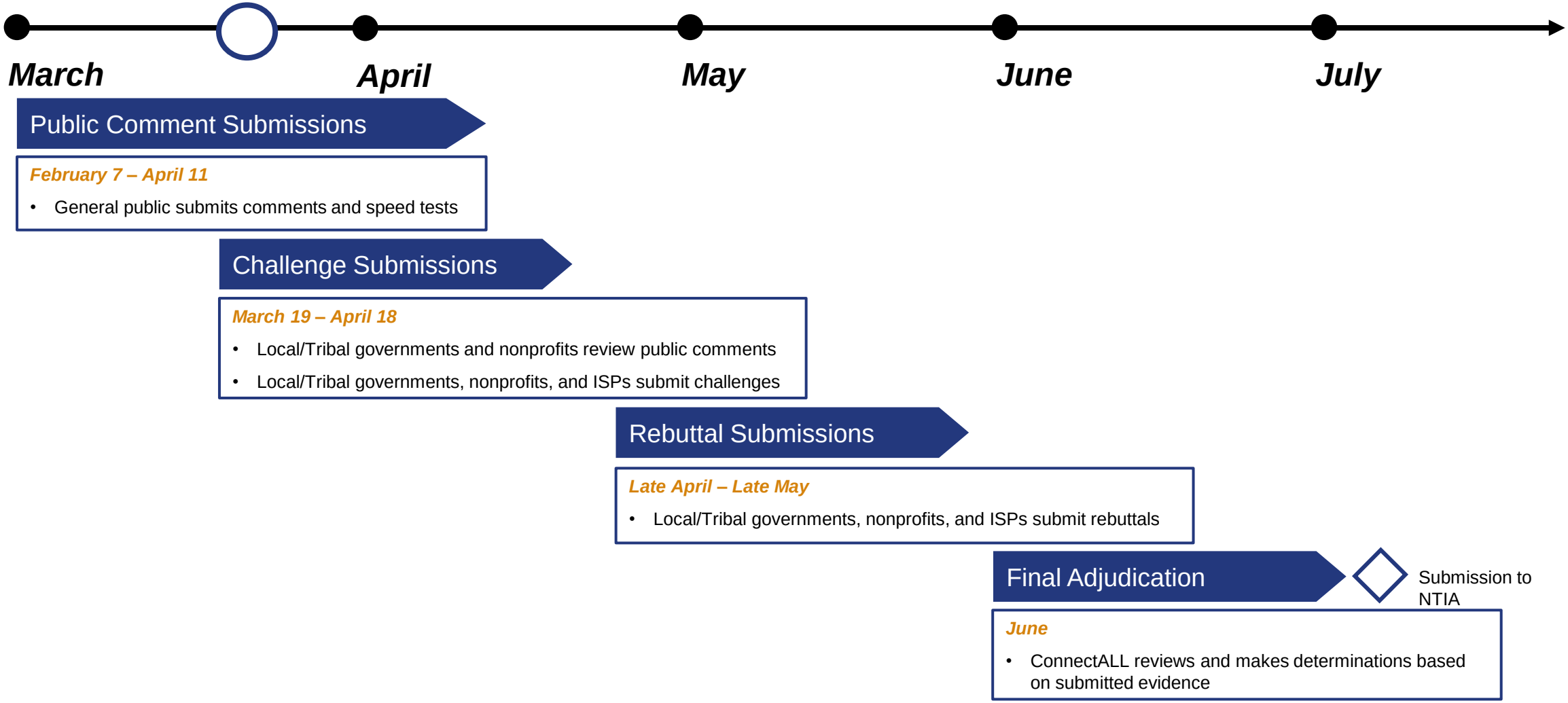
CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

ConnectALL will complete a multi-step process to confirm unserved and underserved locations eligible for federal funding.



CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

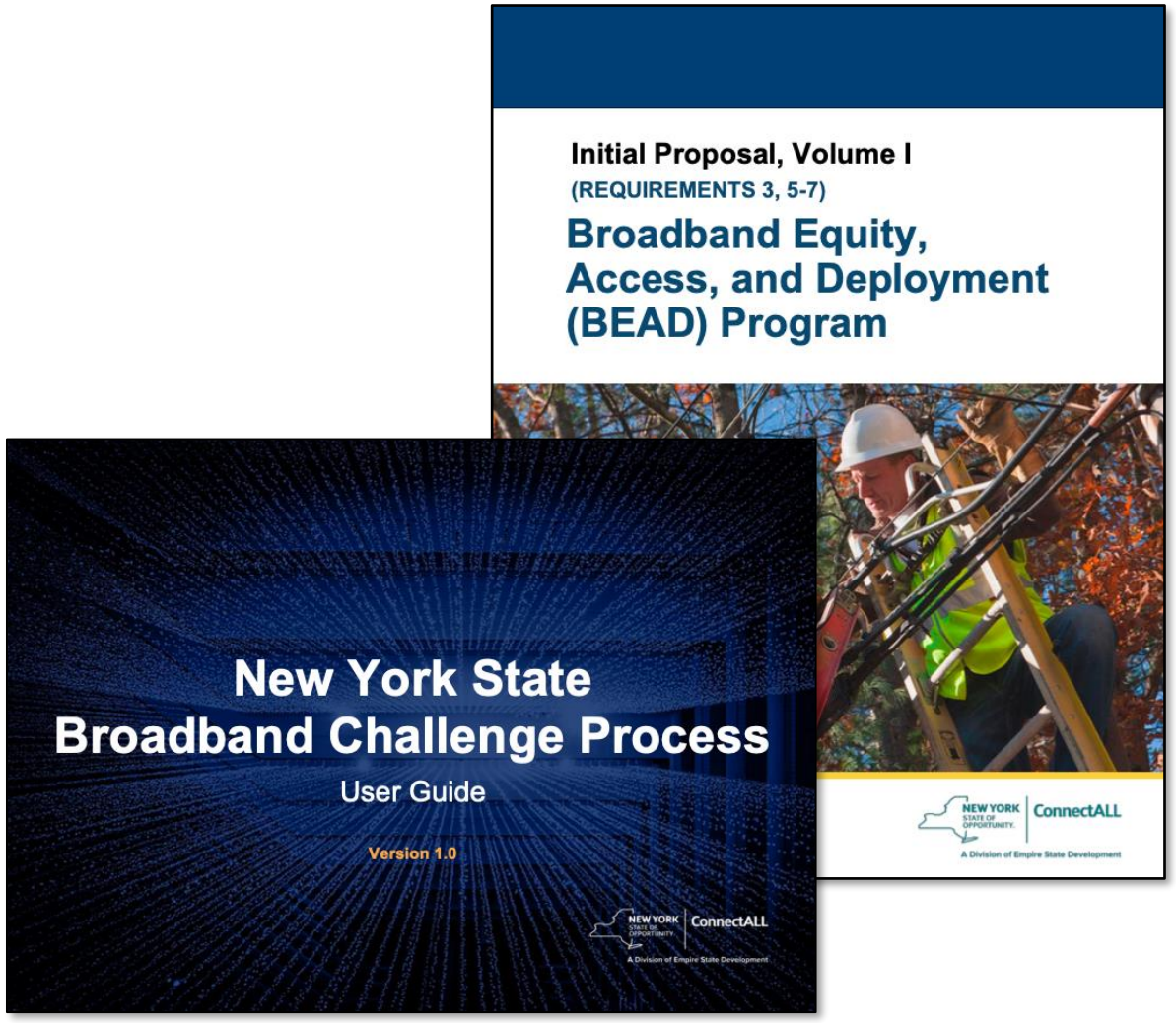
ConnectALL expects the challenge process to require approximately 120 days to complete.



CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

ConnectALL's Challenge Process is now live! Challenges can be submitted until April 18.

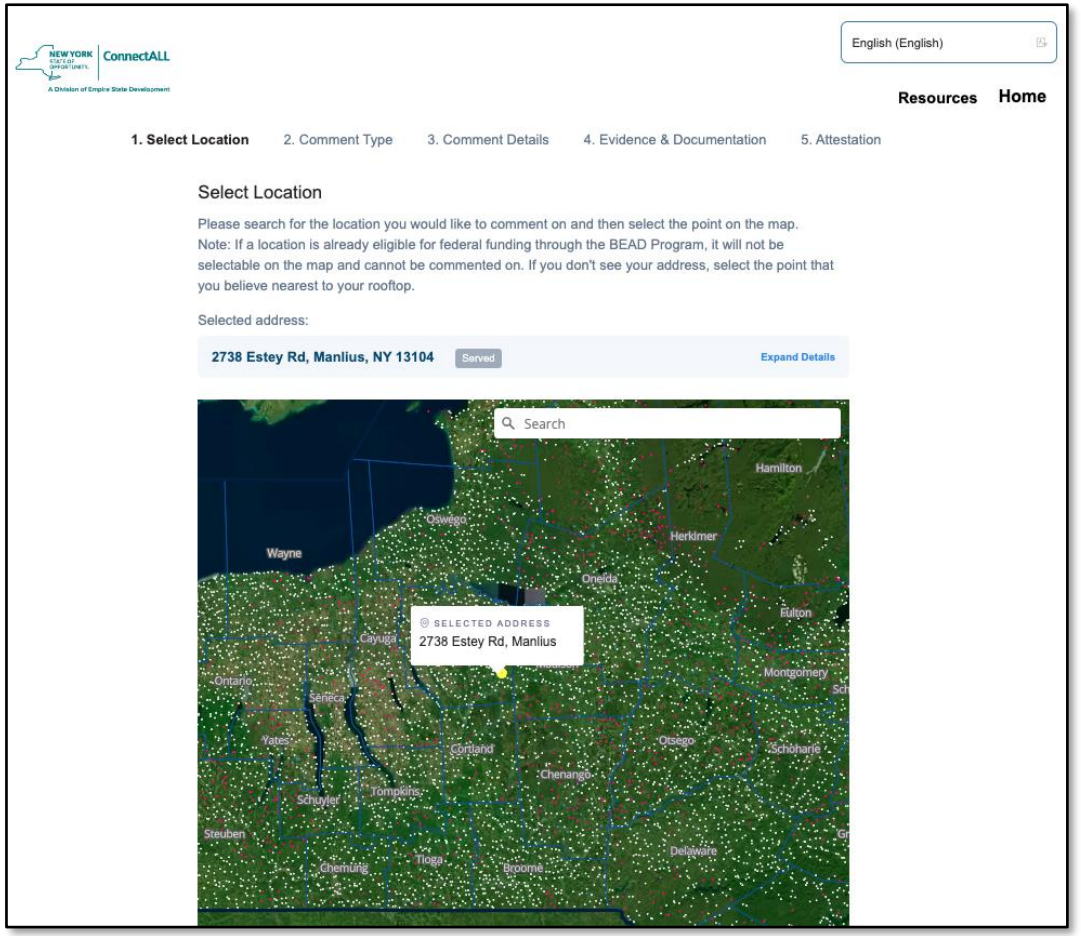
- Challenge website: ***register.broadband.ny.gov***
- Eligible Challengers:
  - Units of local or Tribal government
  - Nonprofit organizations
  - Internet service providers
- Anyone can comment
- Initial Proposal, Vol. I and Challenge Process User Guide available on portal site and at ***broadband.ny.gov***



CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

The public comment feature allows members of the public to provide information on service available at their location, which can be used to support formal challenges.

- Any member of the public can submit a public comment on Availability, Speed, Latency, Data Cap, Technology, or Business Service Only
- ”Other” category allows for free-text comments
- Comments will be visible to government and nonprofit challengers
- Public comment ends **April 11**
- Outreach toolkit available at: ***broadband.ny.gov/new-york-state-broadband-challenge-process***



CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

ConnectALL will accept challenges and rebuttals in the following categories.

Challenge Type	Description
Availability	Service not offered at location.
Existing Service	Service is offered at location.
Speed	Actual speed at location is lower than reported on map.
Latency	Latency exceeds 100 ms.
Data Cap	The only service available is data-capped.
Technology	Incorrect technology reported on map.
Business Service Only	No residential service available.
Covered by Enforceable Commitment	Location is set to receive broadband through an enforceable commitment.
Not Covered by Enforceable Commitment	Location is indicated as part of an enforceable commitment but should not be.
Planned Service	Location is set to receive broadband in 2024, other than through an enforceable commitment.
Is an Anchor Institution	Location is not classified as a Community Anchor Institution, but should be.
Is Not an Anchor Institution	Location is classified as a Community Anchor Institution, but should not be.
CAI is Served	Community Anchor Institution location currently has access to symmetrical gigabit service.
CAI is Not Served	Community Anchor Institution location does not currently have access to symmetrical gigabit service.

CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

ConnectALL will allow for area and multiple dwelling unit (MDU) challenges, for scenarios where multiple challenges for a particular category are submitted for one provider.

Area Challenge: 6 or more locations using a particular technology and a single provider within a census block group are challenged

MDU Challenge: At least 3 units or 10% of the unit count at the location are challenged, whichever is larger

- Area and MDU challenges will be considered for Availability, Speed, Latency, Data Cap, and Technology challenge types.
- Providers will be required to rebut with evidence that service is available for all locations within the census block group/all units within the MDU, or partially rebut with evidence for each individual location that is served.
- Challenges will be resolved on a location by location basis.

→ For more information, reference ConnectALL's Initial Proposal, Vol., I (Section 4.6.6) and the Challenge Process User Guide

CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

ConnectALL has adopted the below definition to identify Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) that may be eligible to receive broadband through the ConnectALL Deployment Program.

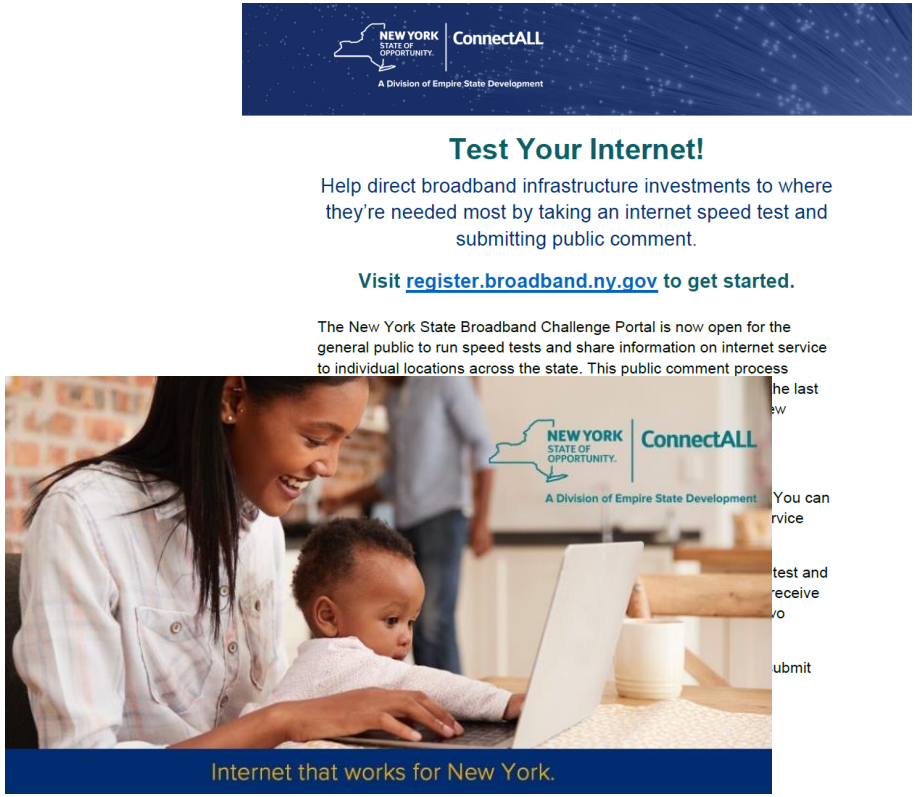
- **Schools:** Including K-12 schools and State-Supported Schools for children with disabilities
- **Libraries**
- **Health facilities:** Including clinics, health centers, hospitals, emergency cooling centers, or other medical providers
- **Public safety entities:** Including fire houses, emergency medical service stations, evacuation centers, police stations, and public safety answering points
- **Institutions of higher education:** Including junior colleges, community colleges, minority-serving institutions, historically Black colleges and universities, other universities, or other educational institutions
- **Public and supportive housing and State residential facilities**
- **Community support organizations:** Including senior centers, job training centers, homeless shelters and other locations providing services for homeless individuals, community organizations offering programming for individuals with disabilities, daycare facilities, nonprofit-run organizations providing youth after-school programming, and nonprofit public computing centers

CHALLENGE PROCESS OVERVIEW

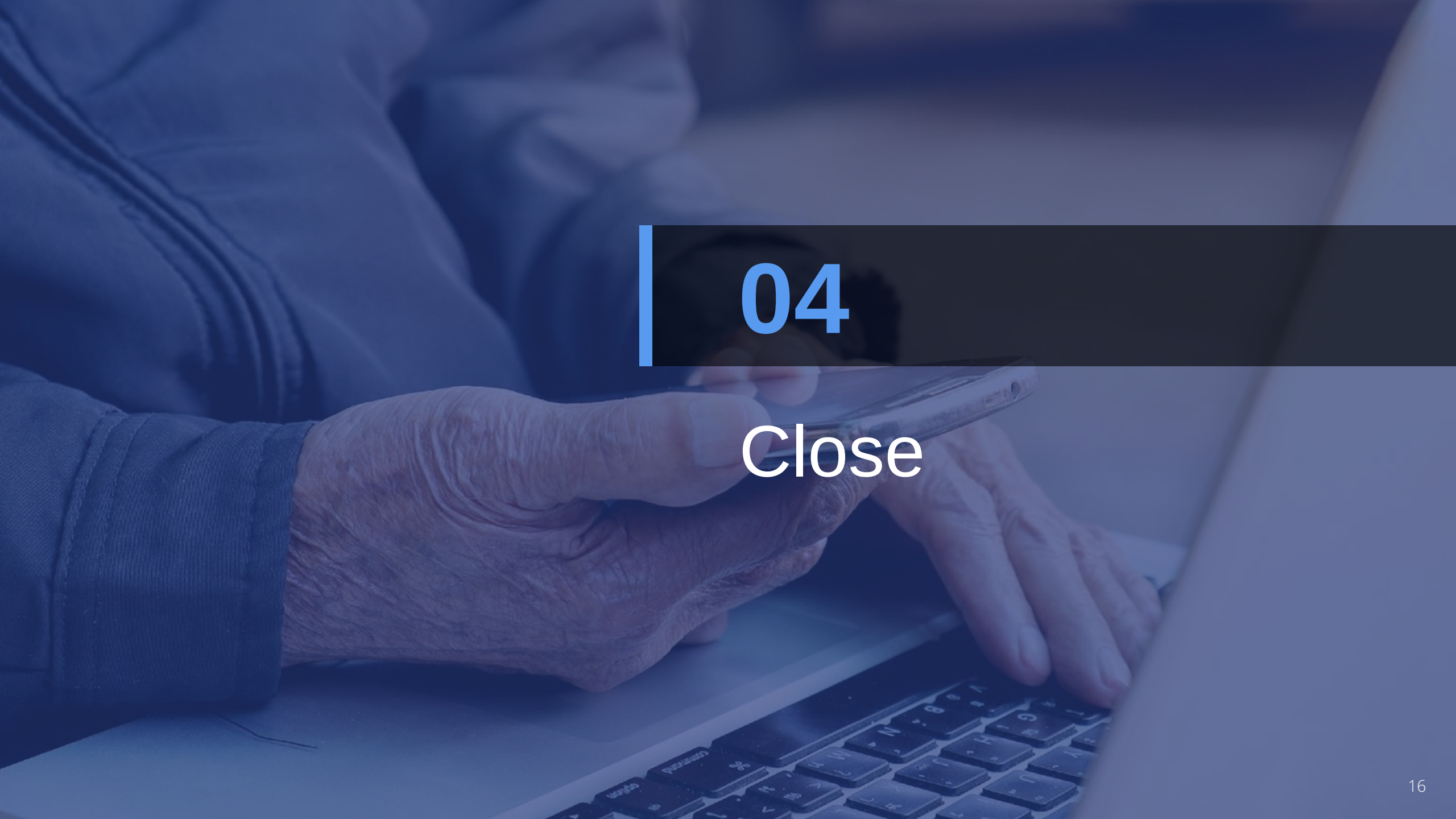
Use the challenge outreach toolkit to share information on the challenge process and public comment feature.

The toolkit includes:

- Sample email or newsletter language and social media language
- Graphics for LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter to accompany suggested social media language
- Flyer template for community organizations to offer use of internet connected devices to individuals without internet service to submit public comment
- Flyer with instructions for taking a speed test and submitting public comment



→ Download the challenge outreach toolkit: broadband.ny.gov/new-york-state-broadband-challenge-process



04

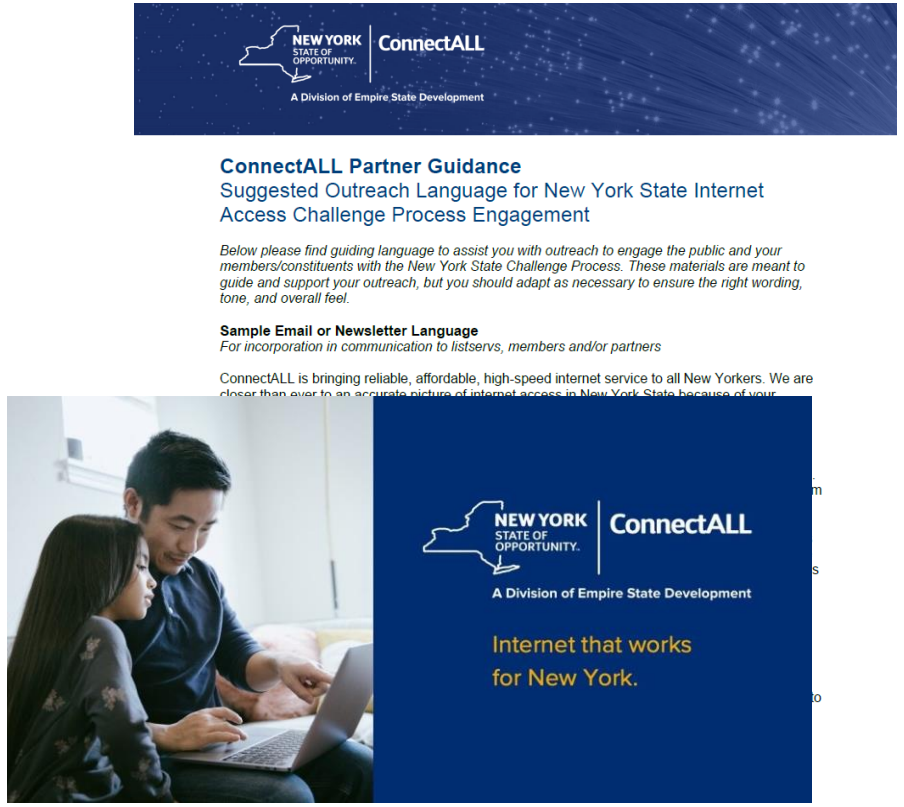
Close

CLOSE

Please share the federal Affordable Connectivity Program update and the ConnectALL challenge process.

Affordable Connectivity Program: Spread awareness of the program update and encourage subscribers to contact their service providers for more information. *For more updates, refer to* ***AffordableConnectivity.gov***

Broadband Challenge Process: Use the Challenge Outreach Toolkit to share information on the challenge process and public comment feature. *Download the challenge outreach toolkit:* ***broadband.ny.gov/new-york-state-broadband-challenge-process***



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Thank you!

Contact the ConnectALL Office:
Challenge@esd.ny.gov