



SANDYNET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM
39250 Pioneer Blvd and via Zoom

AGENDA

TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN-PERSON:

Come to 39250 Pioneer Blvd., Sandy, OR 97055

TO ATTEND THE MEETING ONLINE VIA ZOOM:

Please use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89894482563>

Or by phone: (253) 215-8782; Meeting ID: 89894482563

ROLL CALL

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes

OLD BUSINESS

2. Official ACP Shutdown Date

NEW BUSINESS

3. Welcome Board Member Horsfall
4. SandyNet Master Plan RFP Intent to Award

STAFF UPDATES

5. CBX Colorado and Gunderson Rd Update

6. ARPA Update

ADJOURN

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice: Please contact Sandy City Hall, 39250 Pioneer Blvd. Sandy, OR 97055 (Phone: 503-668-5533) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation to observe and/or participate in this meeting.



SandyNet Board Meeting Minutes – 2/15/24

Members Present: Jeremy Pietzold, Chair; Gregory Freetage, Advisory Board Member; Jed Rabe, Advisory Board Member; Greg Moore, Advisory Board Member.

Members Absent: Joe Smith, Advisory Board Member; Don Hokanson, Council Liaison.

Staff Present: Gregory Brewster, IT Director

1. Meeting started at 6:58pm
2. Approval of minutes. Motion by Board Member Freetage, second by Board Member Moore.
Passed unanimously at 7:03pm.
Minor edits required prior to approval. (1) Remove verification required text under section 3(a). (2) Under section 5, replace error in year from 2022 to 2023.
3. New Business
ACP
Staff discussed ACP wind-down dates. Board discussed future options and Staff will investigate other programs and feasibility of each of them.
Master Plan Update
Staff presented an update on the Telecom Master Plan, expecting an intent to award by the next board meeting.
The advertisement for RFPs did not include the staffing analysis, rate analysis or space needs analysis.
Board members provided additional avenues for advertising the RFP.
4. Staff Updates
ARPA Update
Staff provided the current timeline for the ARPA construction project.
5. Adjourned at 8:16pm



PUBLIC NOTICE

Item # 2.

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <https://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 24-195

Released: March 4, 2024

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE FINAL MONTH OF THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WC Docket No. 21-450

In this Public Notice, due to the lack of additional funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) announces that the last fully funded month for the ACP benefit is April 2024.¹ Absent additional funding from Congress, the ACP can only provide a partial reimbursement for May 2024, and ACP providers have the option to claim and pass on that partial reimbursement amount to enrolled households. After May 2024, the ACP will no longer support any benefits to enrolled households. This Public Notice also (1) provides guidance on the May 2024 partial reimbursement month; (2) reminds participating providers of the notices they must send to ACP households; and (3) provides guidance on the consumer protections for ACP households during wind-down and after the ACP ends. The instructions and guidance in this Public Notice further the goal set forth in the *ACP Wind-Down Order* of keeping as many households as possible connected to broadband service after the end of the ACP.²

Partial Reimbursement in May 2024

The *ACP Wind-Down Order* stated that if reimbursement claims were to exceed the amount of remaining funds, reimbursements for benefits passed through to households will be paid out to providers on a reduced pro-rata basis for one month after the last announced fully funded month.³ This Public Notice confirms that April 2024 is the last fully funded service month where providers will receive reimbursement for passing on the full ACP benefit to enrolled ACP households eligible to receive the benefit. Based on our current forecast, funds are insufficient to pay all provider claims in full through the May 2024 service month.⁴ Therefore, providers that choose to provide a benefit in May should plan to pass through only a reduced benefit to households that have opted-in to continue to receive broadband service after the end of the full ACP benefit. May 2024 will be the last month for which providers will be able to seek reimbursement for ACP benefits passed through to subscribers.⁵ Reimbursements to

¹ *Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Order, DA 24-23 (WCB Jan. 11, 2024) (*ACP Wind-Down Order*).

² *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 1, para. 1.

³ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 11-12, para. 30; *see also Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 37 FCC Rcd 484, at 592, para. 233 (2022) (*ACP Order*).

⁴ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 4, para. 7 (explaining the forecast of the depletion of funding).

⁵ As stated in the *ACP Wind-Down Order*, providers will have two months from the relevant snapshot to submit claims for benefits passed through to eligible ACP households. May 2024 is the last data month for which providers

(continued....)

providers for May 2024 will be on a reduced pro-rata basis.

For the partial May 2024 reimbursement, providers will not be able to claim more than the discount that was passed through to the subscriber.⁶ We understand that ACP participating providers are likely to be considering the discounts they intend to apply to broadband bills in May. To help providers determine the amount they will be able to seek reimbursement for service provided in May 2024, we intend to release in March 2024 more information regarding the reimbursement rate available to providers for service provided in May 2024. The Bureau will also provide additional information to providers at that time about notifying USAC of their intention to seek reimbursement for May 2024 discounts.

Required Provider Notices to ACP Households

The Bureau's *ACP Wind-Down Order* set out procedures for the efficient wind-down of the ACP and for notifying the over 23 million households enrolled in the ACP about the end of the program and impact on their bill.⁷ By January 25, 2024, providers were required to have sent an initial notice to their ACP subscribers advising them of the possibility of the program ending.⁸ As previewed in the *ACP Wind-Down Order*, USAC is also sending notices to enrolled households,⁹ and the Commission and USAC have revised the ACP websites to provide up-to-date information to consumers about the status of the ACP.

As set out in the *ACP Wind-Down Order*, by March 19, 2024 providers must send their ACP households a written notice that advises that the program is ending and states the impact on the households' broadband service and bills.¹⁰ Providers must also send another notice to ACP households that coincides with the last bill or billing cycle in which the full ACP benefit is applied.¹¹ We remind providers that, while we do not prescribe a specific format or wording for these consumer notices, certain key pieces of information must be included in the notices to ensure the notices meaningfully inform consumers about the impact of the end of the ACP on their broadband bills.¹² Specifically, these next required consumer notices must indicate that the ACP is ending and include (1) the date of the last bill on which the full ACP benefit will be applied and (2) the amount that the household will be billed for the service once the full ACP benefit is no longer available or that the household will be subject to the

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will be able to seek reimbursement for benefits passed through to eligible ACP households. *See also Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 37 FCC Rcd 484, at 592, para. 232 (2022).

⁶ 47 CFR § 54.1803(a).

⁷ USAC, *ACP Enrollment and Claims Tracker*, <https://www.usac.org/about/affordable-connectivity-program/acp-enrollment-and-claims-tracker/> (last visited Mar. 4, 2024).

⁸ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5, para. 12.

⁹ *See also* USAC, *ACP Newsletter - January 2024 (Jan 30, 2024)*, <https://www.usac.org/wp-content/uploads/about/documents/acp/bulletins/ACP-Newsletter-January-2024.pdf>.

¹⁰ *See ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5, para. 12 (indicating that the second required provider notice to ACP households shall be sent as soon as practicable, but no later than 15 days after the last fully funded month of the ACP is announced). March 19, 2024 is 15 days after the release of this Public Notice announcing the last fully funded month of the ACP.

¹¹ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5-6, para. 12. Providers must ensure that households that transfer their benefit after the notice deadlines set out in the *ACP Wind-Down Order* receive notices from the provider regarding the end of the program and the impact of the end of the benefit on the household's broadband bill and service, consistent with the requirements in *ACP Wind-Down Order*.

¹² *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5, para. 11.

provider's undiscounted rates and general terms and conditions after the end of the ACP.¹³ These consumer notices must also remind ACP households of their right to change their service or opt out of continuing their service at the end of the ACP.¹⁴

In this Public Notice, we also establish requirements for notifying consumers about any partial ACP benefit that is applied for service provided for May 2024. Providers that intend to claim and pass through a partial benefit to ACP households for May 2024, where the household has opted in to continue to receive and pay for broadband service after the full ACP benefit is no longer applied, must provide written notice to those households that the benefit amount applied to the May bill may be less than the full ACP benefit the household has been receiving. Such written notices must also state that the household will be subject to the provider's fully undiscounted rates and general terms and conditions after the last bill that any partial benefit is applied. This information may be included in the other required notices or sent separately.

We strongly encourage providers to include in these required consumer notices information about their lower cost offerings and low-income programs, or a phone number or link to a website where ACP households may obtain such information.¹⁵ Providing this information will further the Commission's goal of keeping as many households as possible connected to internet service after the end of the ACP benefit, as set out in the *ACP Wind-Down Order*.¹⁶ Providers are also not limited in the number of notices they may send to their ACP households and we encourage providers to correspond more frequently with their ACP households should the provider believe that such additional outreach is necessary or beneficial.¹⁷ We also remind providers that these notices must be sent to ACP households in writing and in a manner that is accessible to persons with disabilities.¹⁸ Providers are encouraged to send the required consumer notices in a format and language that is consistent with any consumer-expressed preferences.¹⁹

Consumer Protections

We emphasize that ACP providers remain subject to the consumer protection requirements in the ACP rules²⁰ during wind-down, except for those related to new ACP enrollments,²¹ and that some requirements will remain applicable after subscribers cease receiving the ACP benefit. The ACP was not intended to place additional financial burdens on eligible households and these consumer protection requirements are among the core components that protect consumers from financial harm.²² Providers can also mitigate additional financial burdens on consumers after the end of the ACP by offering to move consumers to low-cost internet service plans that they already offer or that they newly adopt as an offering to low-income consumers.

¹³ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5-6, para. 12.

¹⁴ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5-6, para. 12.

¹⁵ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5-6, para. 12.

¹⁶ See *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 1, 5, 8, paras. 1, 12, 20.

¹⁷ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 5-6, para. 12.

¹⁸ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 6, para. 13.

¹⁹ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 6, para. 13.

²⁰ 47 CFR § 54.1810.

²¹ E.g., 47 CFR § 54.1810(a); 47 CFR § 54.1810(c)(1)(i); 47 CFR § 54.1810(e)(2)(i); 47 CFR § 54.1810(i)(2)(iv).

²² *ACP Order*, 37 FCC Rcd at 559, paras. 158-59 (noting that consumer protection requirements are among the core components of the ACP and their immediate implementation was required to protect low-income consumers from harm).

Providers are reminded that during the wind-down period they remain subject to most consumer protection requirements in section 54.1810 of the Commission's rules. For instance, because eligible households may continue to transfer their ACP benefits during wind-down, participating providers transferring households must comply with transfer-related consumer protection provisions.²³ The only consumer protection requirements that would not apply are those relating specifically to newly enrolling eligible households in the ACP.²⁴ New enrollment-related consumer protections were rendered moot when the Commission instituted the ACP enrollment freeze on February 8, 2024.²⁵ The remaining consumer protection requirements²⁶ will continue to apply for as long as a subscriber receives any ACP benefit for the ACP-supported service, and in some instances beyond that, after which time the provider's relevant general terms and conditions would apply, to the extent those terms and conditions are not inconsistent with applicable Commission rules and statutory requirements.²⁷

We note particularly that, under ACP rules, a participating provider may not terminate an eligible household's ACP-supported service on the grounds that the household has failed to pay the charges set forth on a bill for such service until 90 days have passed since the bill payment due date.²⁸ This rule remains in effect as long as a household continues to receive ACP-supported service. We remind providers that should a household enter a delinquent status after the bill due date, a provider is permitted to mitigate the financial harm to the household by switching the household to a lower-cost plan, with advance notice to the household.²⁹

Moreover, the prohibition on charging early termination fees to eligible households who purchase and apply the ACP benefit to service plans subject to extended service contracts continues to apply after the end of the ACP.³⁰ If a household entered into a service plan with an extended service contract and applied their ACP benefit to that service plan, the provider cannot charge the household an early

²³ See 47 CFR § 54.1810(b); *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 8-9, para. 22.

²⁴ See, e.g., 47 CFR § 54.1810(a) (requirements governing disclosures and consents for enrollment); 47 CFR § 54.1810(c)(1)(i) (prohibiting participating providers from considering the results of a credit check as a condition of ACP enrollment); 47 CFR § 54.1810(e)(2)(i) (prohibiting participating providers from conditioning ACP application or enrollment on a household selecting a new service, bundled plan, or equipment); 47 CFR § 54.1810(i)(2)(iv) (prohibiting as an "unjust and unreasonable" practice "[f]ailing to enroll an eligible household as soon as practicable once the provider receives the household's affirmative consent to enroll with that provider").

²⁵ Cf. *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 10, para. 26 (waiving requirement in 47 CFR § 54.1804(b) that providers publicize the availability of the ACP due to enrollment freeze). Enrollment-related consumer protections are moot as long as enrollments are frozen.

²⁶ Consumer protection requirements applicable until the ACP ends include 47 CFR § 54.1810(b) (transfers); 47 CFR § 54.1810(c)(1)(ii), (iii) (credit check prohibitions not related to enrollment); 47 CFR § 54.1810(d)(2) (90-day non-payment provision); 47 CFR § 54.1810(e)(1), (2)(ii) (prohibitions on inappropriate upselling and downselling); 47 CFR § 54.1810(f)(3) (prohibition on early termination fees); 47 CFR § 54.1810(g) (prohibitions on restrictions on switching service offerings); 47 CFR § 54.1810(h) (prohibitions on restrictions on switching providers); 47 CFR § 54.1810(i)(1), (2)(ii), (iii), (v), (vi), (vii) (certain unjust and unreasonable practices).

²⁷ See, e.g., 47 CFR § 54.1810(a)(1)(v) (requiring providers to disclose to consumers prior to enrollment that a "household will be subject to the provider's undiscounted rates and general terms and conditions if the Affordable Connectivity Program ends").

²⁸ 47 CFR § 54.1810(d)(2). This provision implements 47 U.S.C. § 1752(b)(7)(B), which provides that "[n]othing in subparagraph (A) shall prevent a participating provider from terminating the provision of broadband internet access service to a subscriber after 90 days of nonpayment."

²⁹ *ACP Order*, 37 FCC Rcd at 554, para. 145 ("We find that providers may downgrade a household to a lower-priced service plan once the consumer enters a delinquent status after the bill due date to mitigate the non-payment amount upon advance notice to the household of the change in service.").

³⁰ See 47 U.S.C. § 1752(b)(6)(A)(i); 47 CFR § 54.1810(f)(3).

termination fee for terminating that service contract early, even after the household stops receiving the ACP benefit. A household's statutory right not to pay an early termination fee for ending an extended service contract early (*e.g.*, because the household wanted to change service or opt out of continuing service) remains in place after the ACP benefit stops being applied to the service.³¹ Providers are also reminded that they may not engage in unjust and unreasonable acts or practices that would undermine the purpose, intent, or integrity of the ACP and this would continue to be the case after households no longer receive the ACP benefit due to the wind-down of the program.³² For example, even after, the ACP benefit is no longer being applied to broadband bills, it would undermine the purpose, intent, and integrity of the ACP, and FCC programs more generally, for a provider to hold itself out as an ACP participating provider, engage in false or misleading advertising of the ACP, or violate any remaining applicable program rules.³³

Finally, we acknowledge that the *Broadband Label Order* requires providers to display, at the point of sale, labels that indicate, among other things, whether they participate in the ACP.³⁴ With the upcoming end of the ACP, providers will not be required to include information on the ACP in their labels.³⁵ This guidance is subject to change should the funding status of the ACP change.

Compliance and Further Program Updates

As a reminder, providers must continue to de-enroll subscribers when de-enrollment is required under the Commission's rules.³⁶ Moreover, providers cannot claim subscribers that are not eligible to be claimed and cannot claim reimbursement for more than the amount passed through to eligible households.³⁷ The Commission is committed to ensuring the integrity of the ACP, including during the wind-down period, and non-compliance will be addressed using all available tools and investigatory procedures. Consumers who have concerns about provider compliance with ACP rules and wind-down requirements may file a complaint with the Commission by visiting [ConsumerComplaints.fcc.gov](https://www.fcc.gov/consumer-complaints).

Providers and consumers are encouraged to visit [AffordableConnectivity.gov](https://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov) and [fcc.gov/acp](https://www.fcc.gov/acp) for more information and further updates regarding the ACP. Providers seeking further assistance regarding ACP wind-down requirements should contact USAC via their support email address for providers. Providers are also encouraged to visit [USAC.org](https://www.USAC.org) to sign up for the ACP bulletin and future webinars and to view past webinars and information sessions. Households with questions may contact the ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575 or acpinfo@fcc.gov. Consumers who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing may use the ASL Hotline at (844) 432-2275.

For further information about this Public Notice, contact Benjamin Nashed, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at Benjamin.Nashed@fcc.gov.

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³¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 1752(b)(6)(A)(i).

³² See 47 CFR § 54.1810(i)(1).

³³ See 47 CFR § 54.1810(i)(2), (i), (ii), (vii).

³⁴ *Empowering Broadband Consumers Through Transparency*, CG Docket No. 22-2, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 7 FCC Rcd 13686 (2022) (*Broadband Label Order*). This Order was required by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58, 135 Stat. 429, § 60504(a) (2021).

³⁵ *Broadband Label Order* at 13704, para. 55.

³⁶ 47 CFR § 54.1809.

³⁷ 47 CFR § 54.1803.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <https://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 24-274

Released: March 19, 2024

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES REIMBURSEMENT RATE ESTIMATES FOR MAY 2024 AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM BENEFITS

WC Docket No. 21-450

In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) reminds providers that May 2024 will be the last month for which providers will be able to seek reimbursement for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) benefits passed through to ACP households.¹ We further remind providers that, absent additional funding from Congress, the ACP will not be able to reimburse providers for the full statutory benefit amount for service and device benefits applied to ACP service bills in May 2024.² To allow providers to plan for May service month offerings and to provide notice to their ACP households regarding May 2024 ACP service, we list below an estimated reimbursement range for each benefit type, within which the partial reimbursement amount may fall.

Benefit Type	Statutory Maximum	Estimated Maximum Reimbursement Range for May 2024
Non-Tribal Service Benefit	\$30 per month ³	\$7 - \$16
Tribal Lands Service Benefit	\$75 per month ⁴	\$18 - \$39
ACP Connected Device Benefit	\$100 per device ⁵	\$24 - \$53

The estimates presented in the above table take into account factors such as open claims for past service months, recent program activity, and claims trends. These are estimated ranges and the final maximum reimbursement amounts announced in April may fall outside this range. The Antideficiency

¹ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Final Month of the Affordable Connectivity Program*, Public Notice, DA 24-195, at 1 (WCB Mar. 4, 2024) (*March 4th Public Notice*) (explaining that April 2024 would be the last fully funded month for the ACP benefit and that May 2024 would only be a partially funded month for the ACP benefit).

² *March 4th Public Notice* at 1-2.

³ 47 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(7)(A).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 47 U.S.C. § 1752(b)(5). Providers seeking to claim reimbursement for ACP devices provided to ACP households in May 2024 shall satisfy all Commission requirements related to device reimbursement, including that the provider shall “shall charge and collect from the eligible household than \$10.00 but less than \$50.00 for such connected device.” 47 CFR § 54.1803(b).

Act precludes an agency from making or authorizing an expenditure from, or creating or authorizing an obligation under, any appropriation or fund in excess of the amount available in the appropriation.⁶ Accordingly, we present this estimate as a range solely to assist providers in preparing for the May service month. It is not being shared for the purpose of communicating the minimum or maximum possible reimbursement amounts for May 2024.

We anticipate that after the closing of the September 2023-January 2024 claims window on April 1, 2024,⁷ the Bureau, in coordination with the Office of Economics and Analytics and Office of the Managing Director, will have sufficient data to provide final maximum reimbursement amounts for May 2024. The final maximum reimbursement amount will be announced by the Bureau in April 2024.

Providers are not required to pass through any benefits to ACP households after April 2024.⁸ Providers can choose whether to pass on and claim the partial reimbursement for May service. Providers may also, but are not required to, offer a discount larger than the estimated reimbursement rate announced by the Bureau. Providers are prohibited from billing ACP households for more than what they would pay had the full ACP benefit been applied to the bill if the household has not opted in to paying a higher amount.⁹ Moreover, providers offering ACP-supported service and devices in May 2024 are expected to fully comply with the ACP rules. Providers must provide service to ACP households subject to the same terms as non-ACP households,¹⁰ and they may claim only those households to which they provided service at the time of the snapshot date.¹¹

Finally, we direct providers to notify the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) of their intent to participate during the May 2024 service month by filling out the survey that USAC will distribute to providers. USAC will distribute the survey to providers within a week of release of this public notice. Providers will have two weeks from distribution of the survey to respond. Timely responses to the survey will aid our administration of the wind-down.

For further information about the Public Notice, contact Negheen Sanjar, Attorney Advisor, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau by email at Negheen.Sanjar@fcc.gov.

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⁶ 31 U.S.C. § 1341(a)(1)(A).

⁷ *Affordable Connectivity Program*, WC Docket No. 21-450, Order, DA 24-23, at 11, paras. 28-29 (WCB Jan. 11, 2024) (*ACP Wind-Down Order*); see also USAC, *ACP Enrollment Freeze Begins February 8* (Feb. 5, 2024), <https://www.usac.org/wp-content/uploads/about/documents/acp/bulletins/ACP-Enrollment-Freeze-Begins-February-8.pdf>; USAC, *ACP Newsletter - January 2024* (Jan. 30, 2024), <https://www.usac.org/wp-content/uploads/about/documents/acp/bulletins/ACP-Newsletter-January-2024.pdf>.

⁸ *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 12, para. 31.

⁹ See *ACP Wind-Down Order* at 6-8, paras. 15-19.

¹⁰ 47 U.S.C. § 1752(b)(7).

¹¹ 47 CFR § 54.1808(a).

March 19th, 2024

Dear ACP Household,

I am writing you because you are an active Affordable Connectivity Plan (ACP) household that is currently receiving a discount on your SandyNet broadband service. This is the second notice required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to notify and communicate to active ACP enrolled households about the current state of the ACP program. The first letter of notice went out to enrolled households in January 2024. ACP has already begun its wind-down, starting in February 2024. Funding for the ACP program is nearly exhausted from its original allocation in 2021, and at the time of this letter, Congress has not established additional funding to keep the program operating. Currently, funding for ACP is expected to run out in May of 2024.

In 2021, Congress established the ACP program in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, appropriating \$14.2 billion to the program. Since then, over 22 million households have enrolled in the ACP program and receive a monthly benefit. Before the ACP was created, the Emergency Broadband Benefit provided a similar discount to households during the COVID-19 pandemic. SandyNet joined the ACP in late 2022 and began enrolling households.

With the current unknown future of the ACP program and its funding, I regret to write to you and inform you that unless Congress chooses to fund and save the program, ACP will exhaust its remaining funds and shut down in May 2024. The FCC is currently expecting April 2024 to be the last month for full reimbursement. Those who are eligible for the benefit in May 2024 will receive only partial reimbursement. We expect to know the full amount in April 2024 and will notify enrolled households of that amount in April. Once the reimbursement is established, SandyNet will adjust the amount due for the household to reflect the full cost of the service. You will receive prior notice before that change takes effect.

Below is a table of common plans and their rates reflected with and without the ACP discount. The follow up letter in April will provide the expected May ACP discount rate and expected rate due for SandyNet, as well as the rate that the service will be set to after the program ends.

Package Plan	Current ACP Discount (Including April)	Current SandyNet Rate (Including April)	SandyNet Rate Without ACP Discount	ACP Discount for May
Fiber 500/500 Mbps	\$30	\$14.95	\$44.95	TBD
Fiber 1000/1000 Mbps	\$30	\$24.95	\$59.95	TBD
Wireless 25/5 Mbps	\$30	\$9.95	\$39.95	TBD
Wireless 50/10	\$30	\$19.95	\$49.95	TBD

* Please note that this table reflects the four most common rate plans. The April letter will be individualized with the exact rates for each household.

Additionally, the FCC has made the following resources available to help communicate the status and any upcoming changes to ACP:

<http://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov>
<http://www.fcc.gov/acp>

Frequently asked questions are available from the FCC to help answer any common or program specific questions. Households can call the ACP Support Center at **877-384-2575** and speak with someone about the wind-down. SandyNet staff is also available to help communicate and provide information or options that can help make the transition smoother. Please reach out to our support team at **503-668-2923** or send an email to **support@sandynet.org**.

When SandyNet enrolled in the ACP program in 2022, it enabled us to offer a low-income broadband option to the community, that did not require households to suffer from speed reductions or poor technical support. With the upcoming shutdown of ACP, SandyNet has started the process of exploring options that would point towards a sustainable and equitable ACP alternative for qualifying households. The notice of the ACP wind-down from the FCC was announced less than two weeks ago, and it will take time to identify and set up a new plan.

Unfortunately, this means that there will be a gap in service after the ACP ends. The exploration and discussion of this topic will be a recurring item on upcoming SandyNet Advisory Board meetings.

Please reach out to the SandyNet support team with any questions or clarification of the ACP wind-down process.

Thank you,







Gregory Brewster
SandyNet General Manager

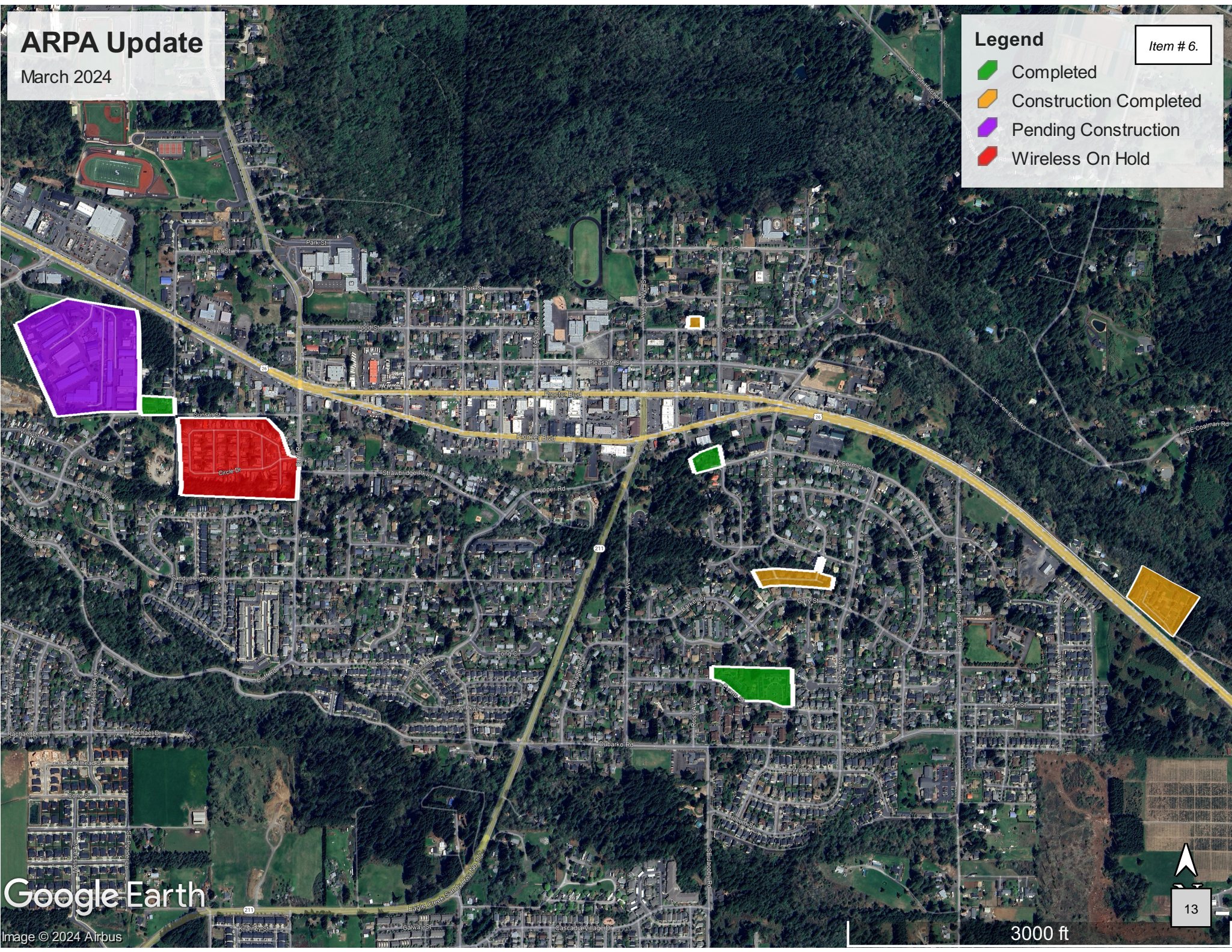
ARPA Update

March 2024

Legend

-  Completed
-  Construction Completed
-  Pending Construction
-  Wireless On Hold

Item # 6.



Google Earth

Image © 2024 Airbus

3000 ft