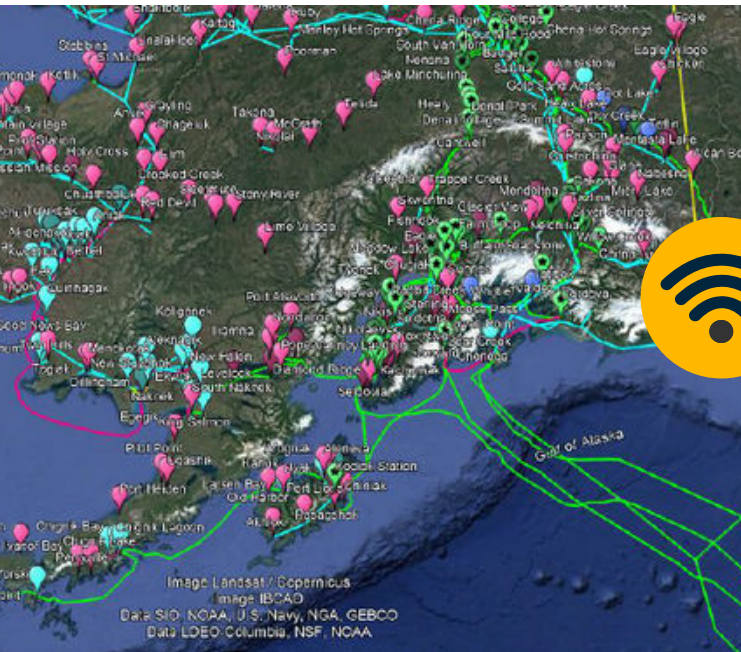


Technology & Telecommunications

KPEDD developed and lead a Kenai Peninsula Broadband Taskforce to prioritize infrastructure expansion in communities of greatest need, identify gaps in coverage and providers, outline coverage options, and provide a conduit for information between federal funding agencies, service providers, communities and tribes, major resource providers, and Peninsula-based businesses.



Challenging FCC Fabric Maps

KPEDD developed and lead a campaign across the Kenai Peninsula encouraging residents and businesses to test their broadband access and speeds against those reported generically by internet providers. The FCC's broadband fabric map has been challenged and is currently being adjusted based on feedback. The corrected map will allow for greater infrastructure funding and priorities unserved and underserved communities, such as Nanwalek and Port Graham.

The developed 13-seat Broadband Taskforce included IT professionals and communications liaisons for major resources including the hospital, utility providers, school district, local government, tribes, and industry leaders.

KPEDD is currently awaiting map completion based on the State of Alaska's broader dispute of geographic inconsistencies through the Office of Broadband. Once complete, KPEDD will assist in funding allocations based on regional priorities to develop critical infrastructure across the Peninsula.

Stable and sufficient levels of connectivity are a necessary factor in e-commerce, educational access, and even medical treatment in Alaskan communities. Without this critical infrastructure, the Peninsula will lose its ability to compete with other regions and states for economic growth and retainment of workforce.

