



# Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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CHARTING A COURSE FOR A SUSTAINABLE CNMI  
MARCH 28-30, 2022 – OIA BRIEFING AND BIL PRIORITIES OVERVIEW  
BROADBAND



## THEME 1 SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS

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BUILD AND  
MAINTAIN  
RESILIENCY OF  
NATURAL, BUILT,  
AND HUMAN  
SYSTEMS THROUGH  
SAFE, SMART  
GROWTH



# BROADBAND

## CNMI BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY STRATEGY



WHO: Office of Planning and Development in partnership with the Office of Information Technology

WHAT: Deliver affordable high-speed broadband services

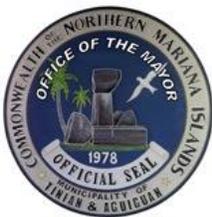
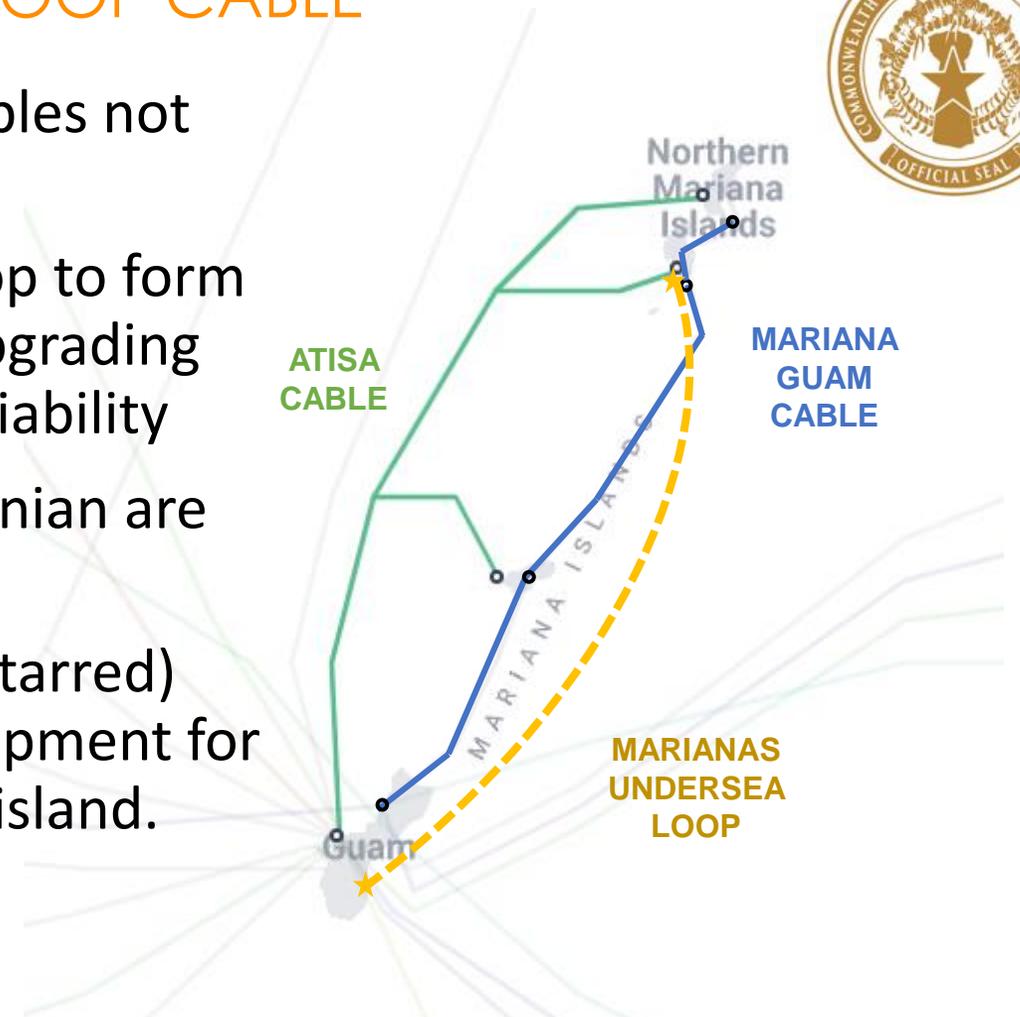
WHY: Better bandwidth will support community education, equity, and socio-economic development priorities

HOW: Redundancy and enhanced "middle-mile"



# MARIANAS UNDERSEA LOOP CABLE

- ATISA and Mariana Guam Cables not currently interconnected.
- Build Marianas Undersea Loop to form topological loop for ATISA, upgrading bandwidth and improving reliability
- By looping ATISA, Rota and Tinian are also served with redundancy.
- New cable landing stations (starred) outfitted with public ICX equipment for lighting middle mile on each island.



# MIDDLE MILE FIBER BUILDOUTS



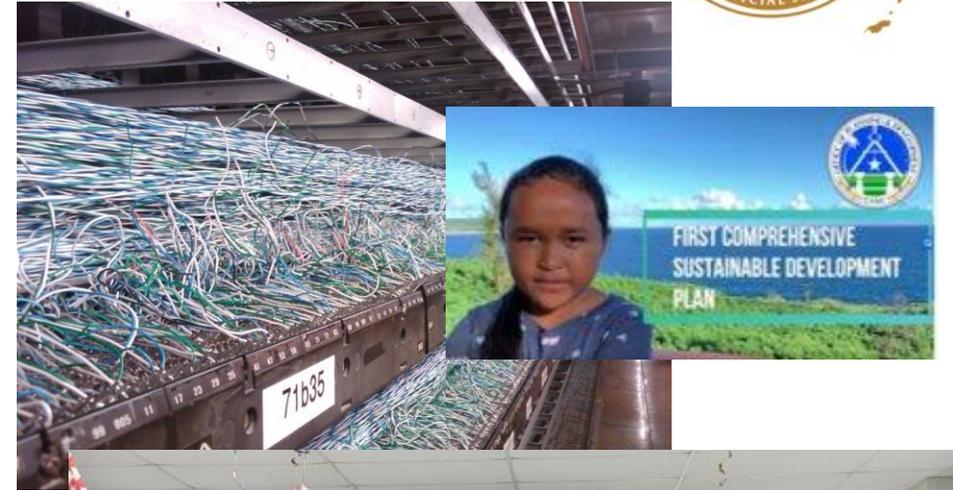
- Buildout of Island Fiber Loops (Middle Mile) with ring architecture on each of three main islands, including high strand count fiber for each village and remote Critical Infrastructure and Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs).
- Middle Mile will support 100Mb symmetrical Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) connections using upgraded or new central office hardware. Ring architecture will improve intra-island reliability.
- Buildout of Fiber-To-The-Premise (FTTP) for all Critical Infrastructures (starred on maps) and CAIs (pinned on maps.) CAIs will receive gigabit or better service. FTTP buildouts will also extend to government offices as needed.
- Public Wifi Spots available at high-traffic locations fed by new fiber installs.



# PROMOTING BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY



- Perform a study to identify the optimal operational structure for new middle-mile including potential options for Municipal organization, partnering with existing utilities, public auction/Indefeasible Rights of Use etc.
- Ensure that Middle Mile installs have open access for consuming last mile operators, including expedited non-discriminatory pole attachment agreements and permitting for easements and rights of way
- In the medium term (2022-2029) consider flexible options for supplementing existing subsidy programs such as FCC Affordable Connectivity Program and e-Rate Program.
- Continue to support digital equity, digital literacy, and programmatic access in partnership with appropriate CNMI agencies to ach



# CNMI BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY STRATEGY



*Thank  
you*



**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



Websites: [governor.gov.mp](http://governor.gov.mp) / [opd.gov.mp](http://opd.gov.mp)  
Email: [planning@opd.gov.mp](mailto:planning@opd.gov.mp)