SECTION 02

The Infrastructure Gap

02

All 56 states and territories have NTIA approval of their BEAD Final Proposals, NIST has approved 55, 54 have signed award agreements, and the first BEAD-funded connections are live. Construction, not paperwork, is now the test.

$42.45B

Appropriated by Congress for BEAD.

Dr. Troy Nash Founder and CEO, AGI Affinity

SECTION 02 / THE INFRASTRUCTURE GAP

The approvals are nearly done. The building has started.

BEAD pipeline status across all 56 states and territories.

PIPELINE / NTIA DASHBOARD, SEPT 8, 2026

56	Final Proposals submitted
56	approved by NTIA
55	approved by NIST
54	signed award agreements

THE MONEY / AND THE FIRST CONNECTIONS

$42.45B	total BEAD allocation
$21B	in savings reported by NTIA
May 2026	Nebraska's first BEAD-funded household connection, one of the first in the country

What the pipeline numbers do not tell you. An approved proposal and a signed award agreement are permissions to build, not households connected. Track connections against dollars disbursed, not approvals.

NTIA, Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program overview, and the NTIA BEAD Progress Dashboard as read September 8, 2026. NTIA, statement on the $21 billion BEAD savings, March 6, 2026. NTIA, Nebraska's first BEAD-funded household connection, May 14, 2026. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58 (2021).

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Accelerating broadband deployment

01 **Protect BEAD funding from rescission** so the full $42.45 billion reaches communities, through enforceable deployment commitments and congressional oversight.

02 **Streamline cybersecurity compliance** with technical assistance and standardized templates, so small subgrantees are not shut out by paperwork.

03 **Set enforceable deployment milestones** with clear dates to begin construction and connect households, and consequences for missing them.

04 **Require quarterly progress reports** from every subgrantee, with public dashboards tracking connections delivered against funds disbursed.

05 **Create an expedited Tribal track** for BEAD deployment on Tribal lands.

How AGI Affinity can help

We support state broadband offices and ISPs through BEAD implementation, from proposal development to subgrantee selection and deployment oversight. The TSDOH Assessment Matrix keeps infrastructure money pointed at the communities with the greatest need.

We check every figure in this brief against its source. If you find an error, email info@agiaffinity.com and we will correct it within 5 to 7 business days. Policy: agiaffinity.com/sourcing-and-corrections

NTIA, Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program overview, and the NTIA BEAD Progress Dashboard as read September 8, 2026. NTIA, statement on the $21 billion BEAD savings, March 6, 2026. NTIA, Nebraska's first BEAD-funded household connection, May 14, 2026. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58 (2021).