



**KANSAS  
BROADBAND  
PLANNING**

# BEAD

**PROJECT FUNDING AREAS**

**PREVIEW**

# Agenda

- PFA Goals
- BEAD Update
- Public Comment & Responsive Actions
- Demo of PFAs
- Planning Rules to Consider
- Applicant Next Steps





# Funding Area Goals

01

Incorporate every broadband serviceable location

02

Minimize BEAD outlay

03

Encourage Competitive Applications

04

Minimize permitting or rights of way

05

Improve speed of deployment

# BEAD Update

## Project Funding Areas (PFAs)

- Designed around USDs, but with 80/20 NTIA rule and Volume 2 public comment considerations (see V2 next slide)
- Designed with unapproved Challenge process results, v3 NBM, and Deduplication as of 12/31/2023.
- Updated for contiguous geography, natural and man-made barriers, railroad ROW (where possible), distant locations in larger school districts, and school districts that required division to reduce BEAD outlay

## KOBD Next Steps

- Update with approved Challenge results, v4 NBM, BAG 3.0, BAG 4.0, and any other contracted state or federal infrastructure grants and for Final Deduplication
- Evaluate any changes to PFAs
- Publish final BEAD-eligible BSLs and PFAs at least 14 days prior to Subgrantee Application process opening



## APPROVED V2 2.4.6 page 37-38

"KOBBD primarily defines project areas for proposals based on Unified School District boundaries as found in attachment 2.4.6-Kansas Unified School Districts-Attachment.xlsx. In cases where a USD is too large or the BSLs are too widely dispersed, or in areas where a USD has few unserved or underserved locations, KOBBD may elect to divide the USD into smaller sections or may elect to combine a USD with contiguous USDs or census block groups. The goal is to ensure that the Project Funding Area is 80% unserved or underserved as required by BEAD policy and guidance. Final Project Funding Areas will be defined after the final deduplication is performed and prior to the subgrantee process beginning."

# Public Comment & Responsive Action



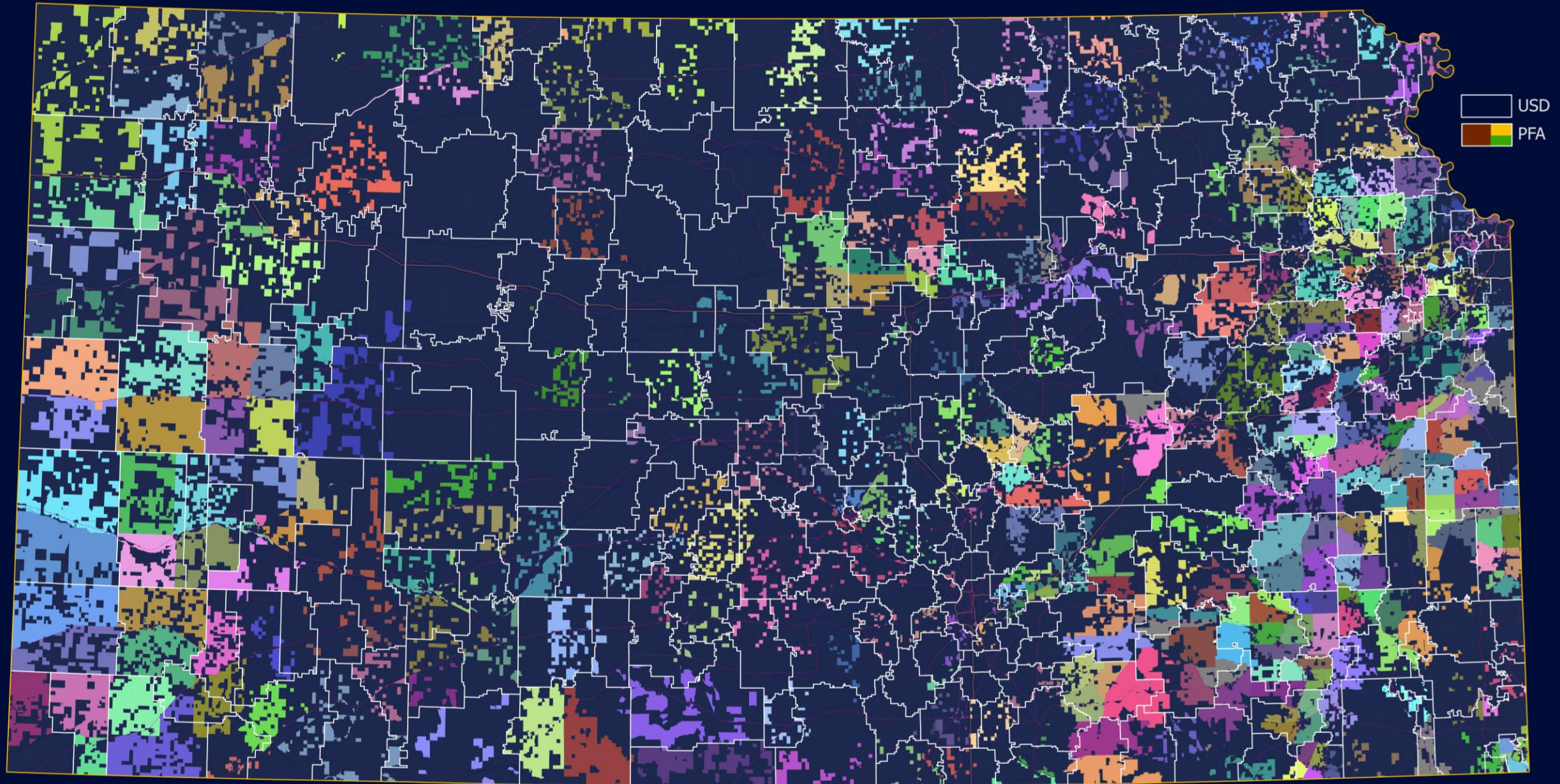
## Public Comments Received

- PFAs are too large
- Too many “unbuildable” locations (rocks, abandoned properties)
- Right of way not considered
- All USDs are not created equal from a financial ROI point of view

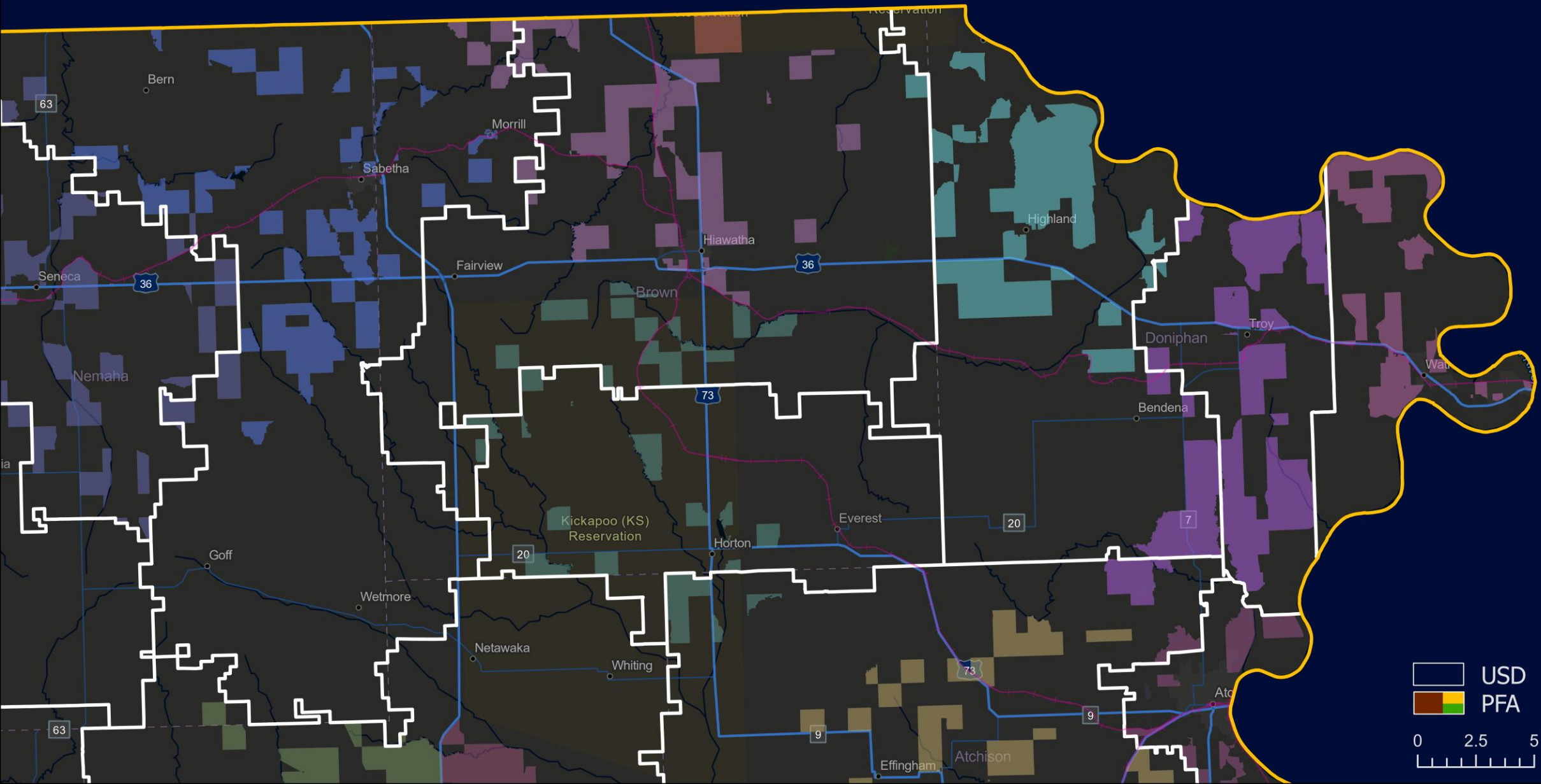
## Each PFA Reviewed

- Stranded locations moved into contiguous PFAs
- Known “rock” Location Challenges filed with the FCC
- Natural barriers like rivers considered
- Man-made barriers like roads, railroads, and bridges considered
- Geographic size/number of BSLs
- Consolidations and Separations of USDs for optimization
- Identified locations where expenses for line extensions are warranted

# Preliminary Project Funding 'Areas'

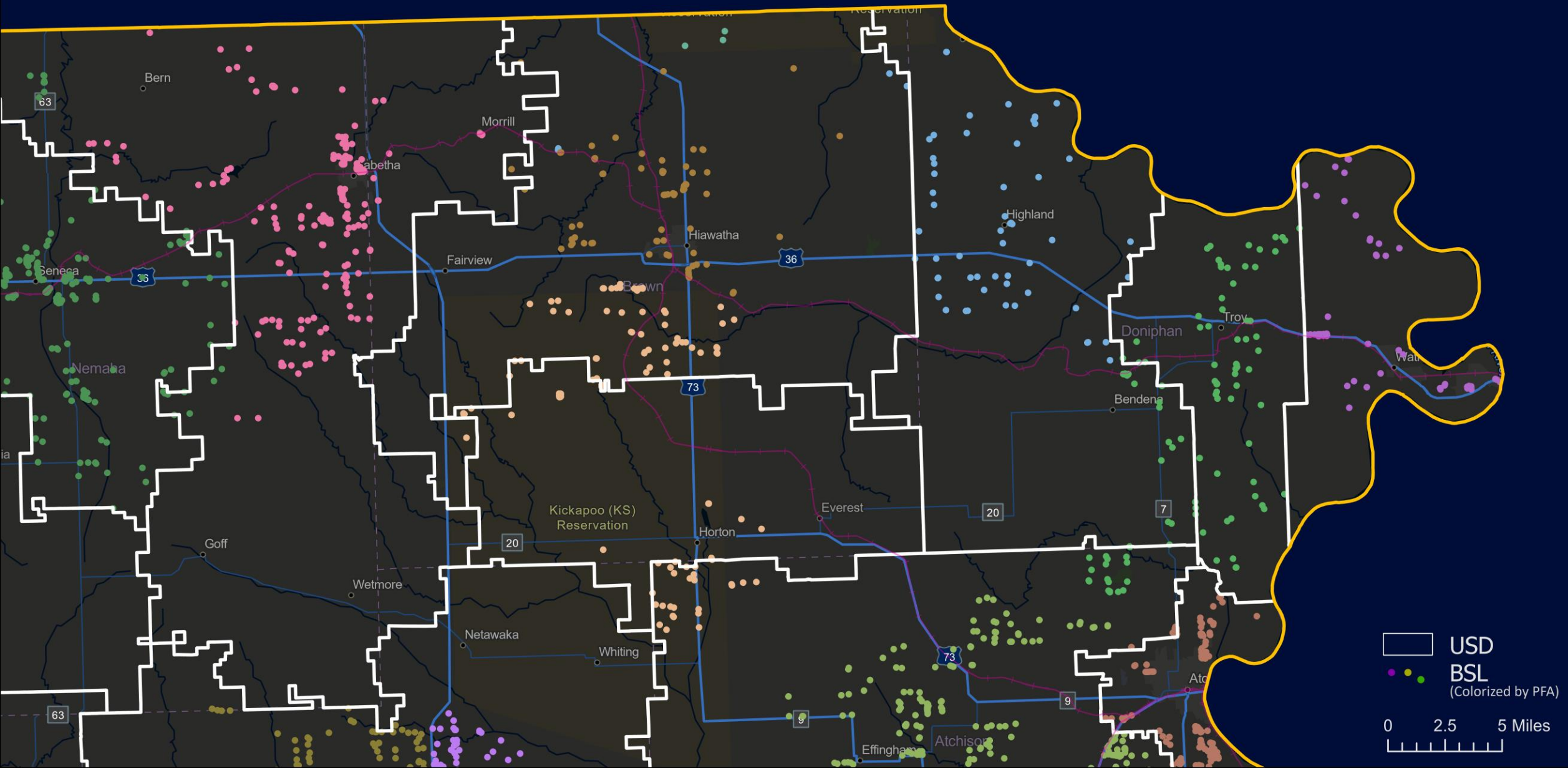


# Preliminary Project Funding 'Areas'





# Preliminary Project Funding 'Areas'





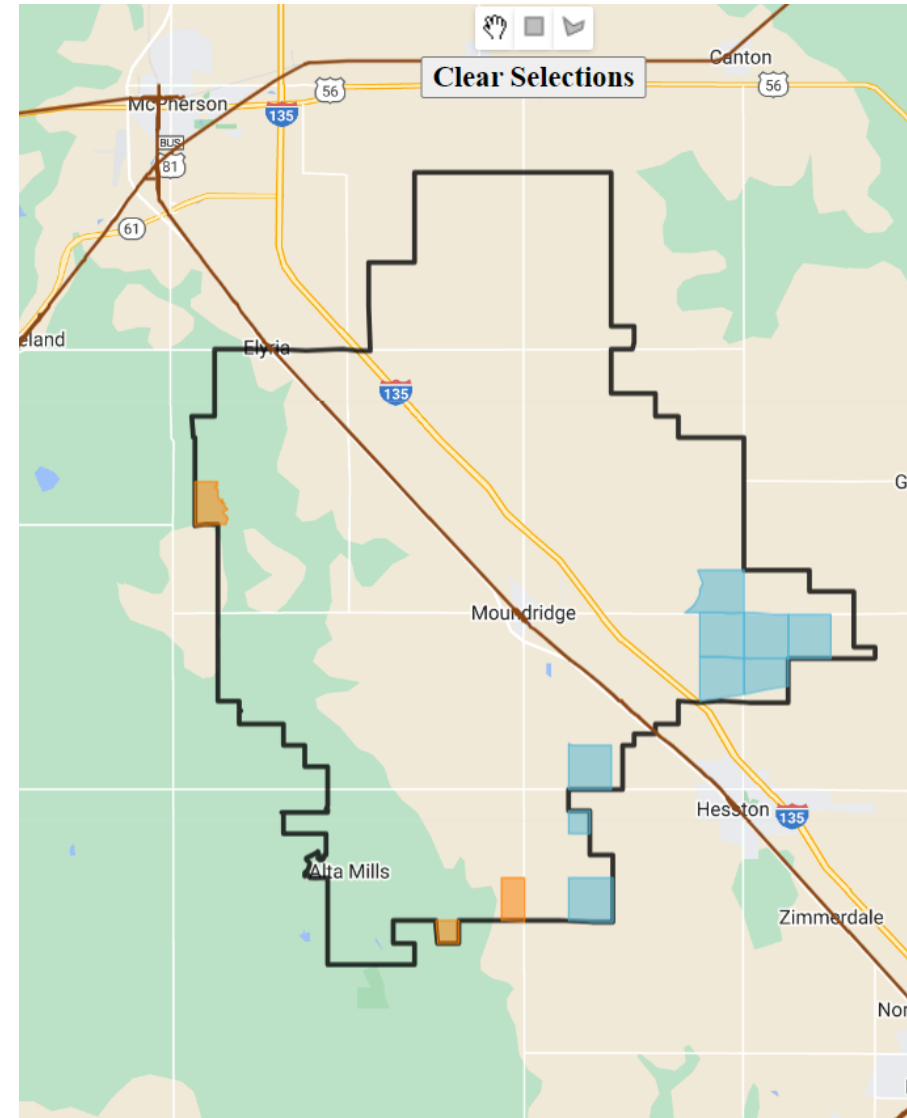
# DEMONSTRATION

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# PFA Example

## Combine BSLs – Sparse BSLs and CBs Moundridge USD 423

- Adjacent to Census Blocks in another PFA
- 27 BSLs in 12 Census Blocks
- 22 BSLs in 9 Census Blocks combined with Hesston PFA to the SE (light blue)
- 5 BSLs in 3 Census Blocks combined with Burrton PFA to the SW/W (orange)
- Moundridge is no longer a PFA

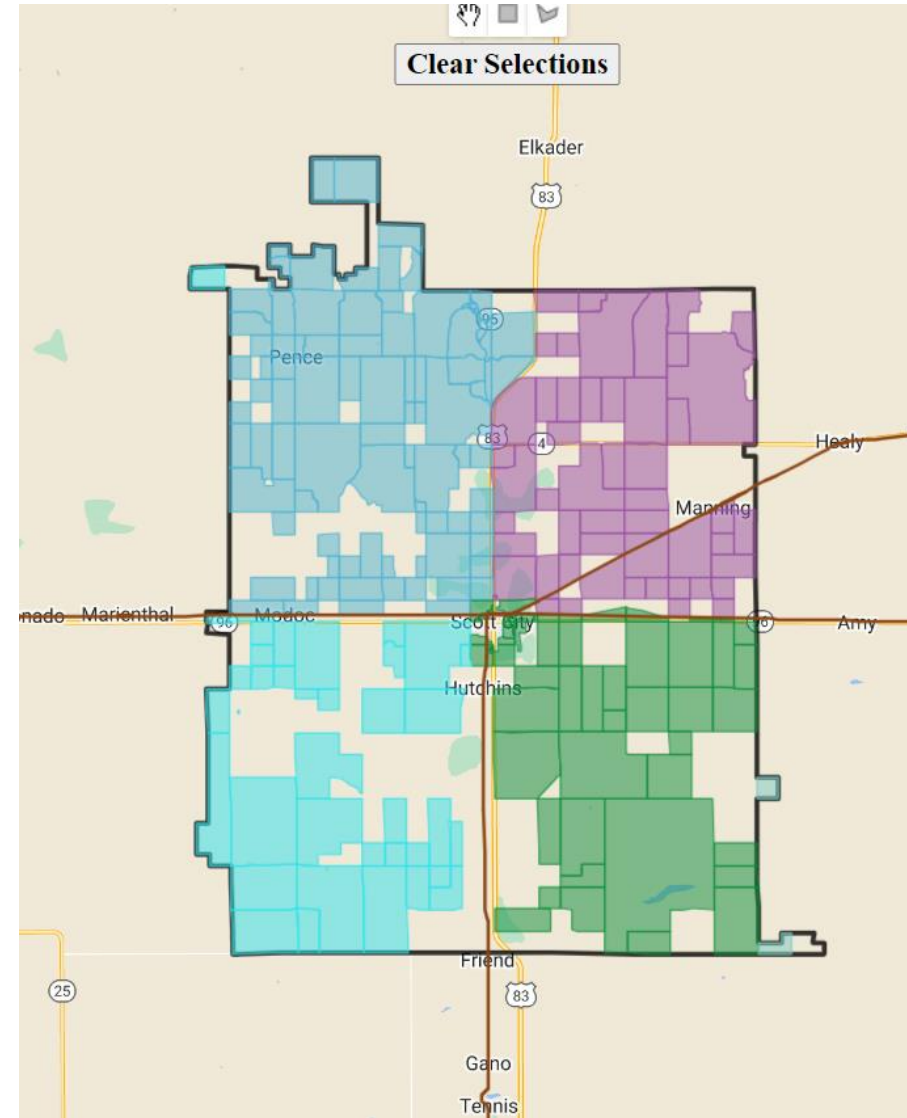


# PFA Example

## Scott County USD 466

### Divide Large Geographic Area

- Large Geographic area
- 619 BSLs across 756 square miles
- 4 PFAs created
- Considered railroads crossings (brown) and major roads for ROW



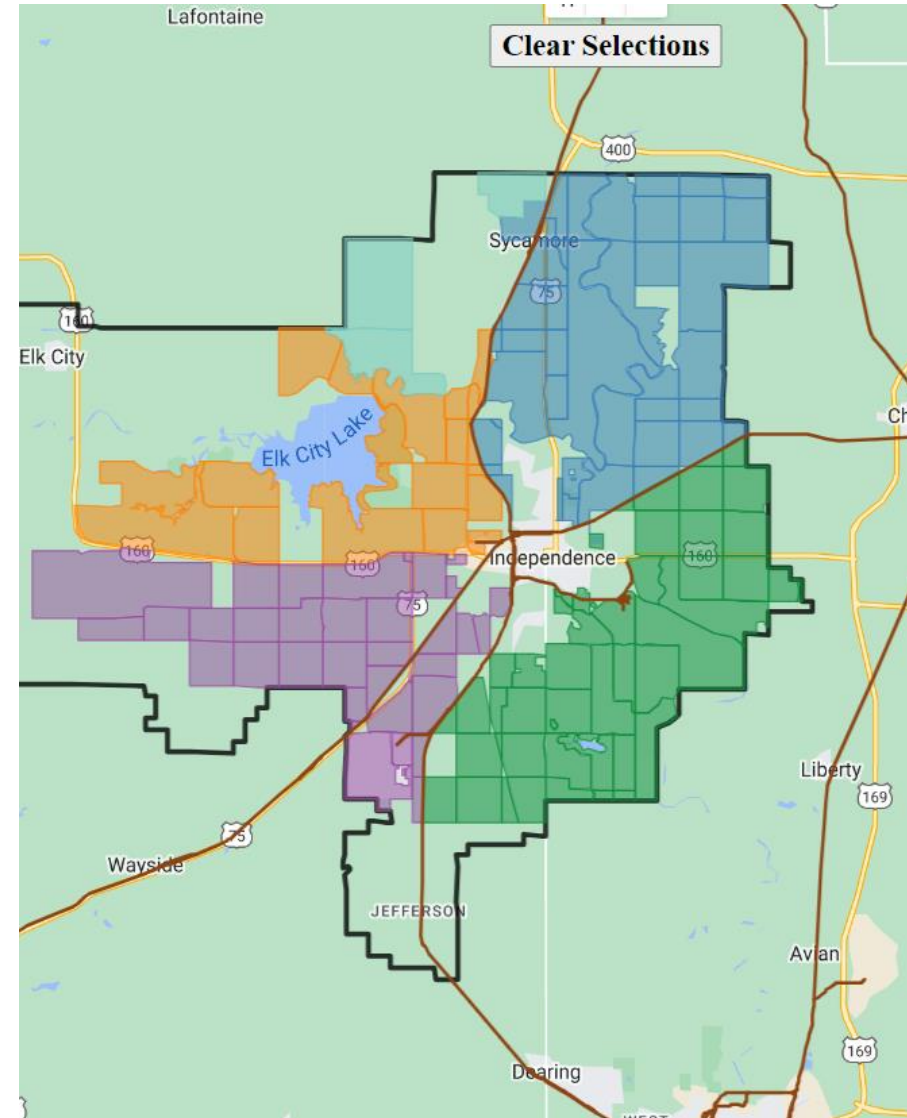
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# PFA Example

## Independence USD 446

### Lake and ROW Conflicts

- Major RR conflicts
- Water conflicts
- "Donut" hole is served
- 723 BSLs divided into 4 PFAs

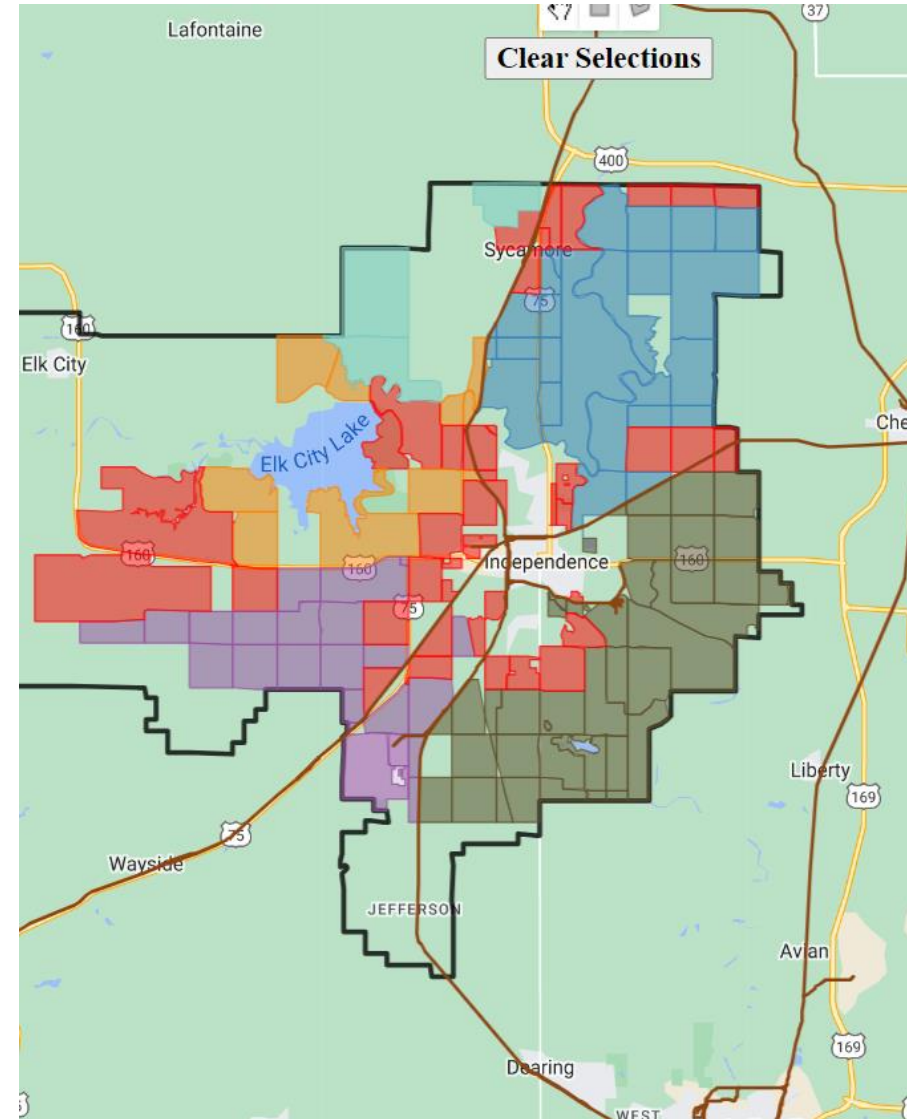


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# PFA Example

## Independence USD 446 with Line Extensions

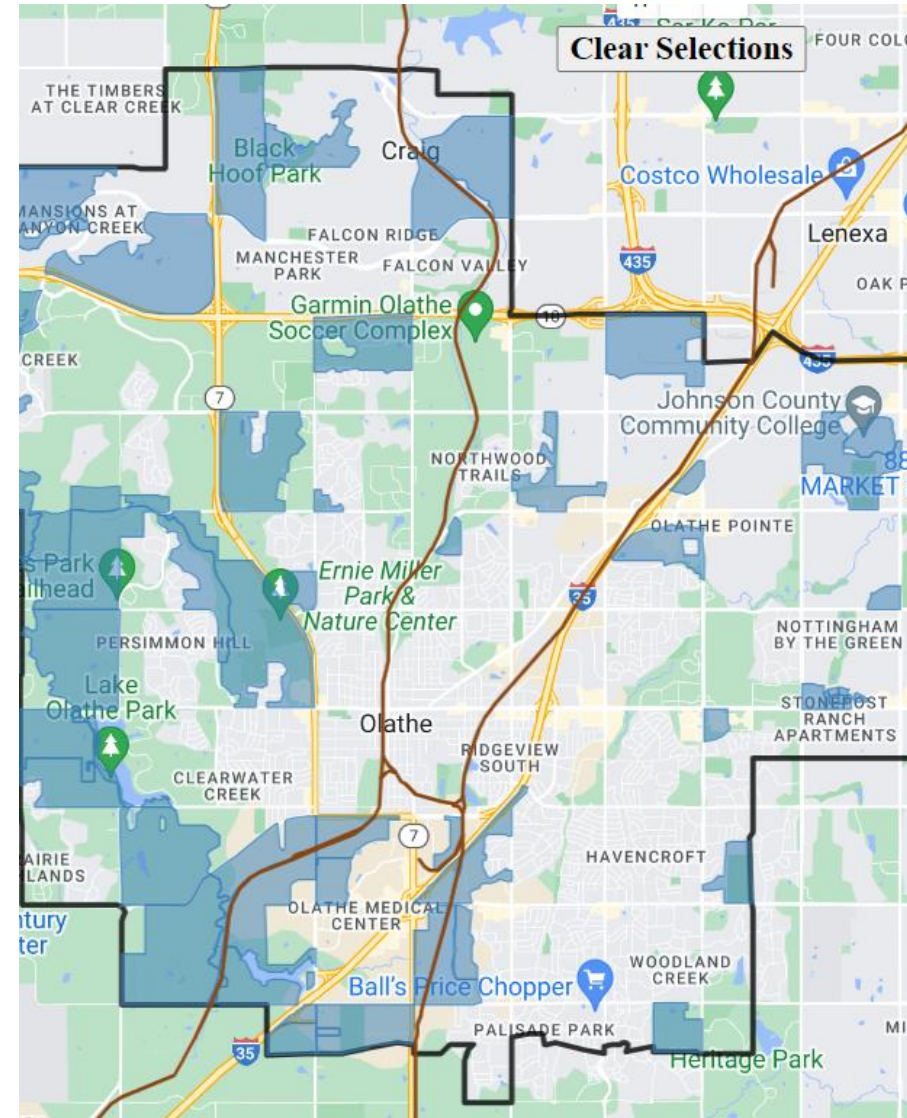
- Line Extensions represent BSLs "on top" of an existing network
- Existing networks determined based on publicly available information
- Line Extensions represent the lowest cost per BSL
- Technical Application will require line extensions to be identified and costed separately
- Will be excluded for calculation of the Extremely High-Cost threshold



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# PFA Example Olathe USD 233 Urban Area

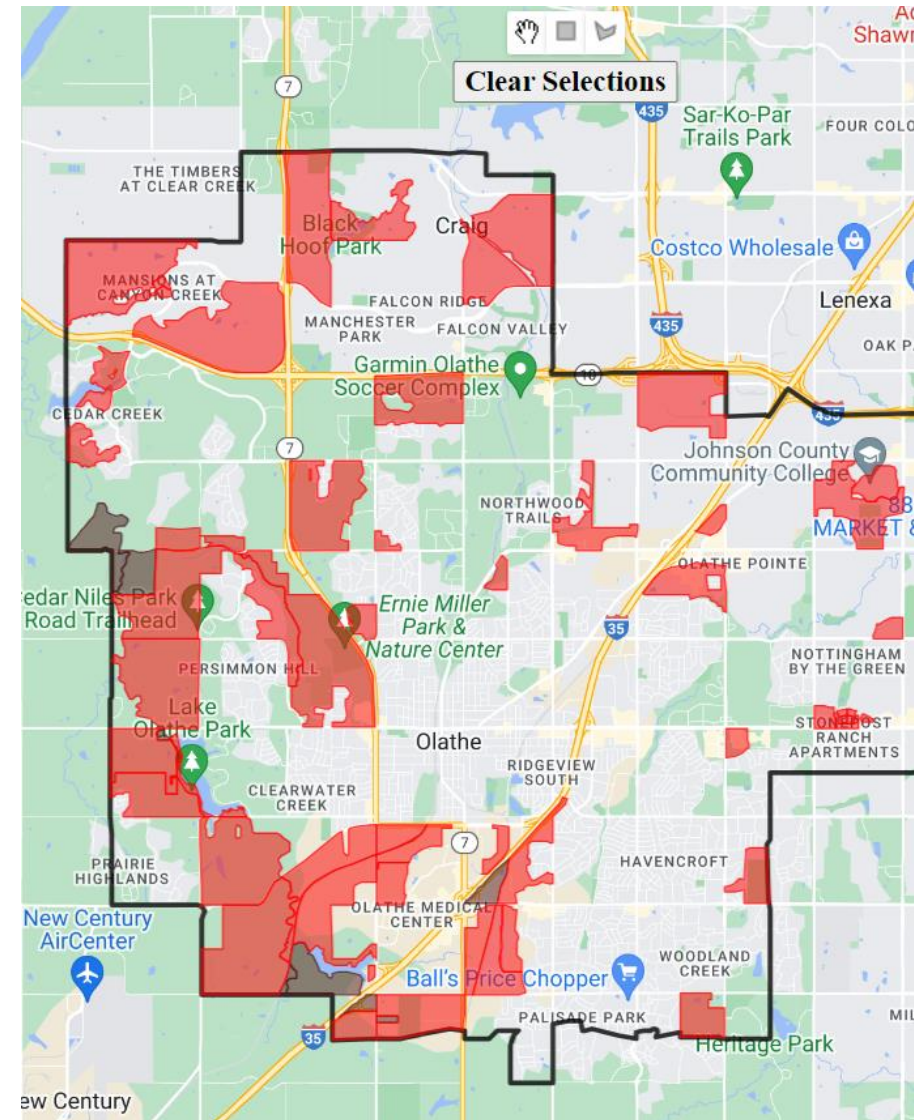
- Urban Areas are highly served with multiple providers
- 127 unserved/underserved BSLs on a total of 50,148 BSLs in Olathe
- 1 PFA – Why? Next Slide



# PFA Example

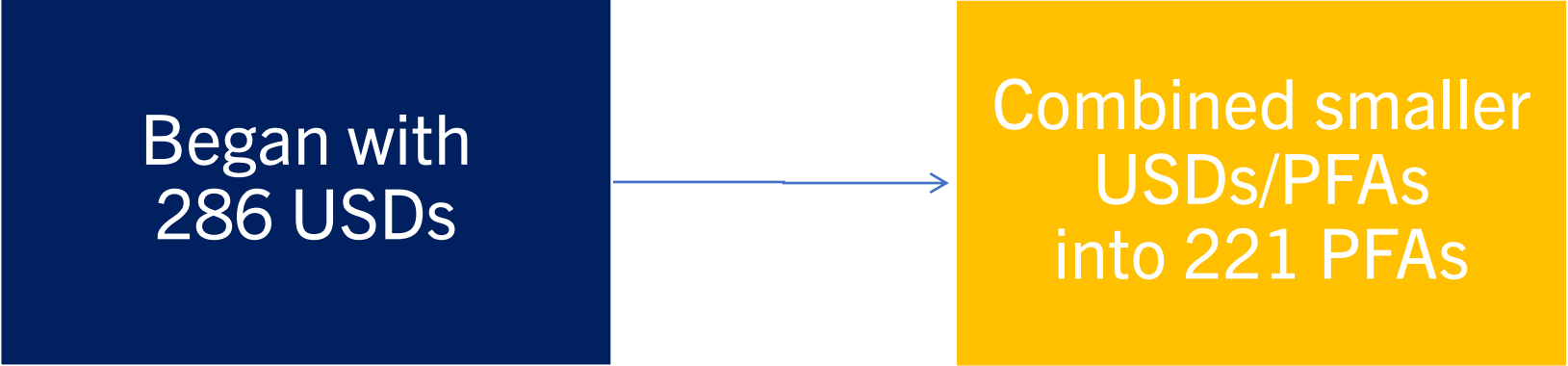
## Olathe USD 233 with Line Extensions

- All but 5 Census Blocks with 5 BSLs are identified as Line Extensions
- Line Extensions represent the lowest cost per BSL
- Technical Application will require line extensions to be identified and costed separately
- Will be excluded for calculation of the Extremely High-Cost threshold
- Approximately 20,000 BSLs are Line Extensions on 61,000 unserved/underserved BSLs Kansas wide

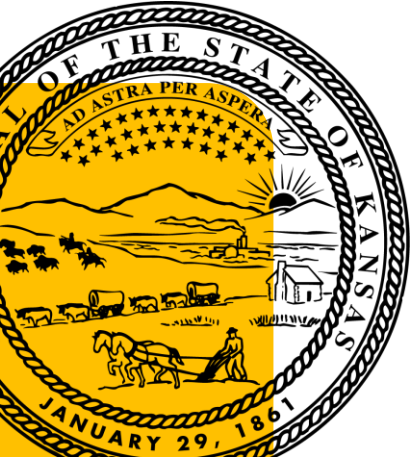
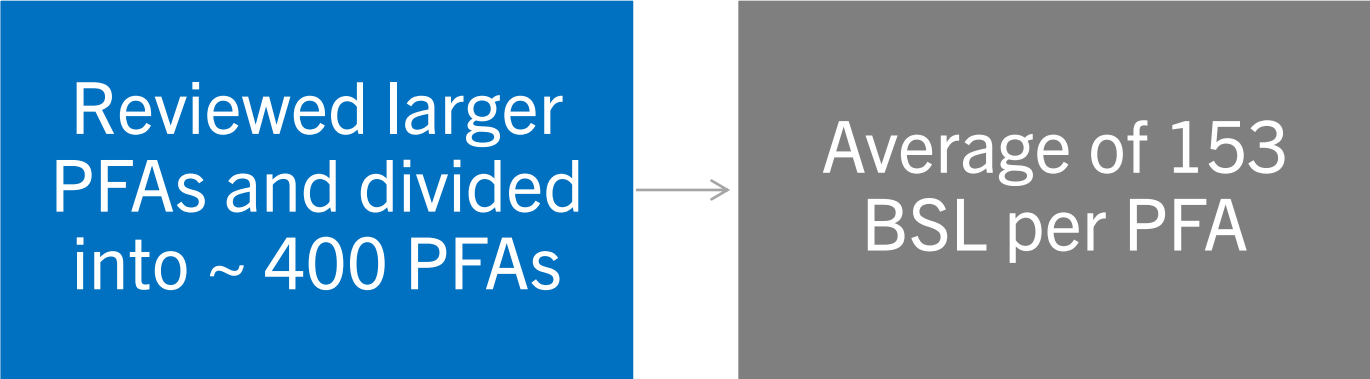




# PFA/BSL Process:

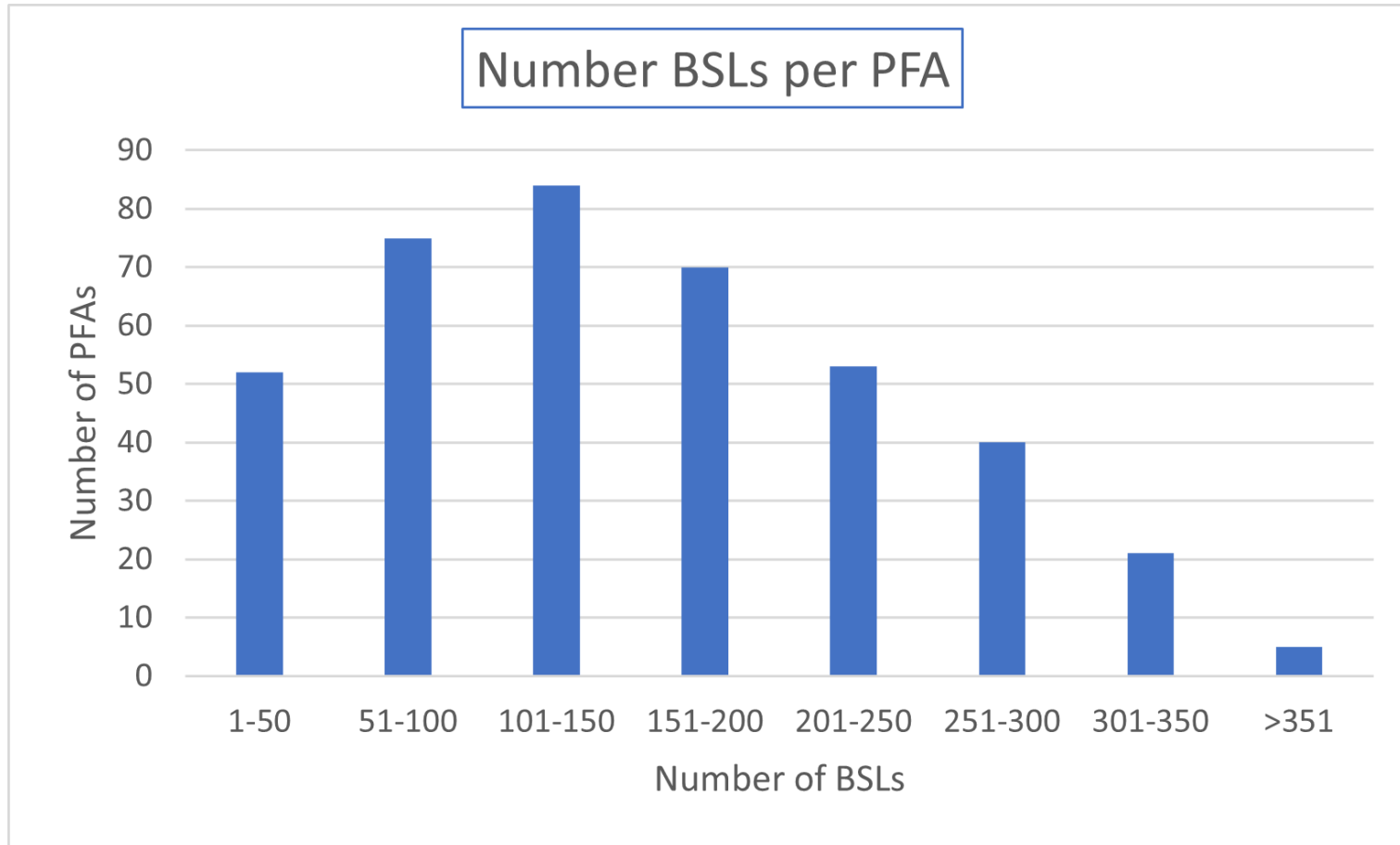
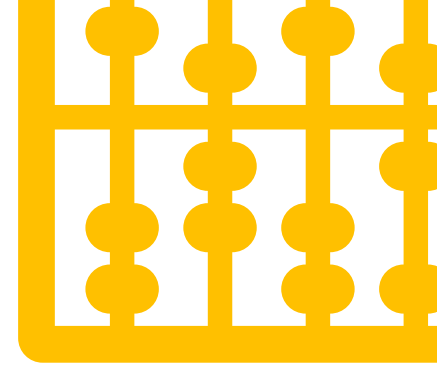


# Results:



*V4 NBM, Approved Challenge Results, and Final Deduplication to be executed prior to posting PFAs/BSLs for Technical Grant Applications*

# PFA/BSL Dispersion



# 80/20 Requirements Planning Rule

Per BEAD NOFO, applications require 80% unserved/underserved and no more than 20% served



**Scenario 1** – Applicant is passing through a served area it already serves. BSLs are not counted in the 20% if not overbuilding yourself

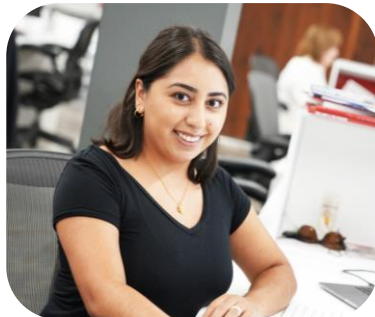
**Scenario 2** – Applicant is passing through a served area of another provider to reach unserved or underserved areas and DOES NOT plan to overbuild; no design or costs to break that service down is included. BSLs are not counted in the 20%

**Scenario 3** – Applicant is passing through a served area to reach unserved or underserved locations and you intend to offer service to those served locations-20% rule applies.

# Applicant Next Steps



- Consider expansion to unserved or underserved areas
  - Contiguous PFAs can be bid together
  - Consortiums are an option
- Start now to fully detail your cost per location broken down by unserved, underserved and CAI (*application requires this breakdown*)
- Engage with local communities and potential network providers (*document your outreach for Local Coordination entries in the application*)
- Review permitting needs in areas of interest
- Issue FCC Location Challenges & update FCC BDC data
- Engage with KOBD: [kdc\\_bead@ks.gov](mailto:kdc_bead@ks.gov)



# PFA Informational Calls

May 20 – May 31

## Individual Sessions

20-minute blocks

## Application Approach

For Project Designers and Financial Team

## Transparent

Questions will be posted on FAQ page

<https://bit.ly/PFAInformationalKS>



# QUESTIONS

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