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USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program

GMA Rural Broadband Summit
Warner Robbins , Georgia
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Status of FY 2019 "Round 1" Funding

Round 1 Funding: USDA received an initial $600 million for Round 1 and received more than enough applications to use up 100% of the funding.

The plan is to announce each loan and grant award individually ASAP.

Teams are being sent to Proposed Funded Service Areas (PFSA) to complete Service Area Validations (SAV) to confirm eligibility of each PFSA per program requirements regarding % households (HH) that cannot have access to broadband at 10 mbps/1 mbps.

100% grants: 100% of HH cannot have access to 10/1
100% loans and 50% loan/50% grant combinations: 90% of HH cannot have access to 10/1

Loan applications determined to be financially feasible and grant application that score high enough to receive an award may still found to be ineligible as a result of the SAV.

Upcoming ReConnect Program Workshops

ReConnect Program website: https://www.usda.gov/reconnect

ReConnect Program weblink for "EVENTS": https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/events

Link to subscribe to receive notifications of new events:
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDARD/subscriber/new?category_id=USDARD_C200
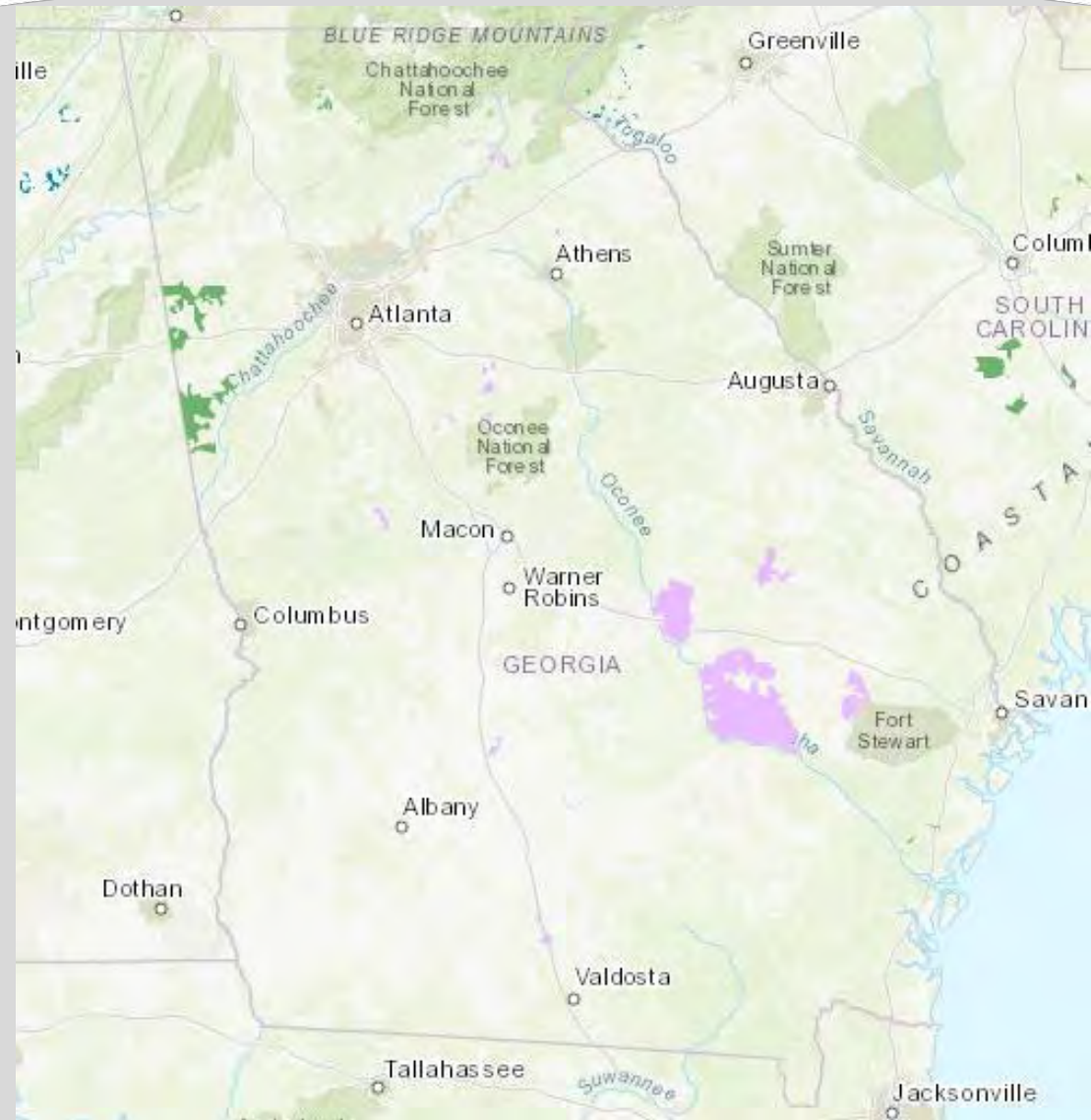
Planned Georgia workshop:

There are no USDA DC-sponsored events near Georgia at this time, but a broadband event co-sponsored by Georgia Rural Development and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs is being planned for the first week of December in Monroe County. Details will be provided in the coming weeks.

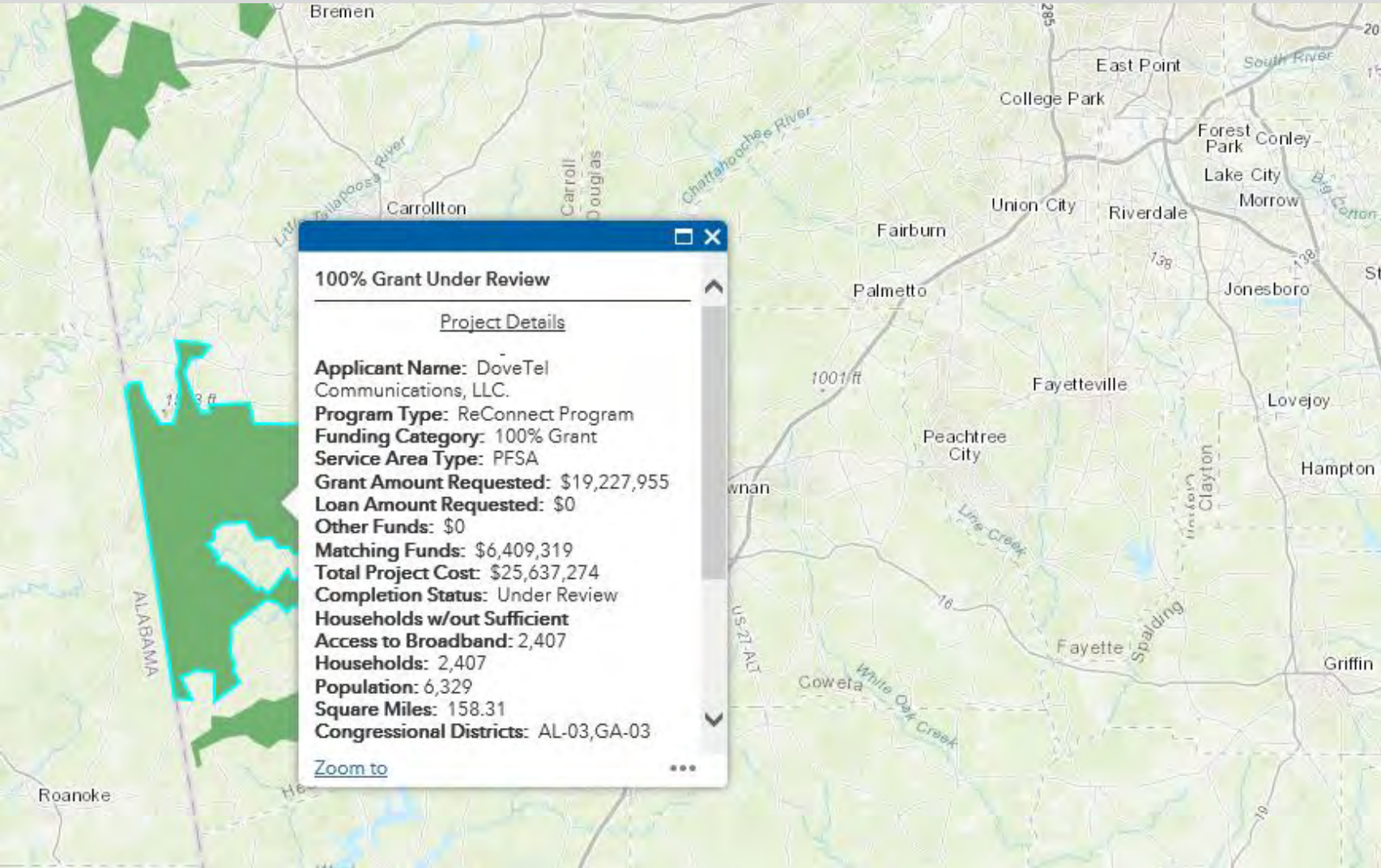# FY 2019 Georgia ReConnect Applicants

The "Applications Map" is located on the homepage of the ReConnect website: https://www.usda.gov/reconnect

The map shows each applicant's Proposed Funded Service Area. Once an application is approved, the status of the application will change from "Under Review" to "Approved," and the application service areas will be shown under a separate "Approved" layer. All applications that are not funded under this program will be removed from the map.

For some PFSAs to be seen, the "zoom" feature will need to be used or viewer can type in the name of the applicant. Click on shaded-PFSA for application details.

Example of Applicant PFSA detail

Round 2 Funding: USDA received an additional $550 million

The new Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which sets out the new program policies, application procedures and application deadlines, will be published once all of the Round 1 awards have been announced.

USDA's goal is to publish the Round 2 FOA by the end of 2019.