

Digital El Paso + Doña Ana Broadband

VERTICAL ASSET INITIATIVE

The pandemic has established the internet as a critical lifeline to the long-term strength and well-being of El Paso and Doña Ana County. As our community works to improve educational and workforce outcomes, in an effort to advance quality of life and economic prosperity, closing the digital divide must be a key component of the strategy.

We are taking steps to:

- Improve broadband availability in all areas of these counties
- Support and facilitate public-private partnership investment in broadband
- Ensure schools and public safety facilities have access to broadband
- Develop a strategic plan that deploys broadband infrastructure to help close the digital divide in our region
- Improve broadband access throughout our counties and foster economic development in our region

WHAT IS A VERTICAL ASSET?

- Light poles
- Power poles with light
- Power poles without light
- Water towers
- Facility locations (multifloor)
- Cellular towers
- Public safety towers

WHY VERTICAL ASSETS?

Identifying local vertical assets will allow the two groups to:

- Implement Proof of Concepts (PoC) that will provide free community Wi-Fi for students/distance learning, access to critical community support services, continuing education, and telemedicine/counseling
- Be used to implement replicable model wireless hotspots for schools and other pockets of vulnerable populations in the community
- Build maps and preliminary network design
- Assist in the development of bills of materials and project costs
- Support and reinforce potential grant submissions

HOW TO SUPPORT

1. Provide a 'GIS shapefile' or 'KMZ file' of vertical assets to help identify locations where equipment can be placed
2. Explore potential availability of identified assets

**Consent or authorization of use of these files will be understood.*

CONTACT

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Digital Inclusion in the Borderplex Region



WHAT IS DIGITAL EL PASO?

We are a public, private partnership (P3) led by the County of El Paso. Our mission is to develop and adopt a clear, regional broadband plan, and to expand our regional definition of infrastructure to include broadband as a "4th utility. This will establish El Paso as the largest bi-national connected community in the world and as a visionary leader in closing the digital divide.

WHAT IS DOÑA ANA BROADBAND?

A public-private regional partnership formed to collaboratively develop and implement a plan to increase access to affordable, efficient broadband, especially to Doña Ana County's underserved communities, by December 2024. Fast, reliable broadband networks will enable our community to learn online, access telehealth, explore new careers innovate and develop unprecedented opportunities.