

CBRS Update

April 7, 2022



Strategic Plan Alignment

• 5b.2. Ensure that students have access to the internet inside and outside of school with support for families.



What is CBRS?

Citizens Broadband Radio Service

- Utilizes 150Mhz wide band of the 3.5Ghz
- Allows for creation of private LTE networks
 - No need to acquire spectrum licenses
- Benefits over traditional wifi
 - Longer range
 - Reduced power usage
 - Operates outside of wifi spectrum



Building the network

Initial Pilot and testing - 2020-21

- Created a small pilot at Castro/Mistral
- CBRS Technology proved successful
- Need to find alternate manufacturer
 - Radio used in the pilot was unstable
 - Manufacturer abandoned planned CBRS roadmap
 - Category A radio was piloted
- Reconfigured pilot site with different manufacturer

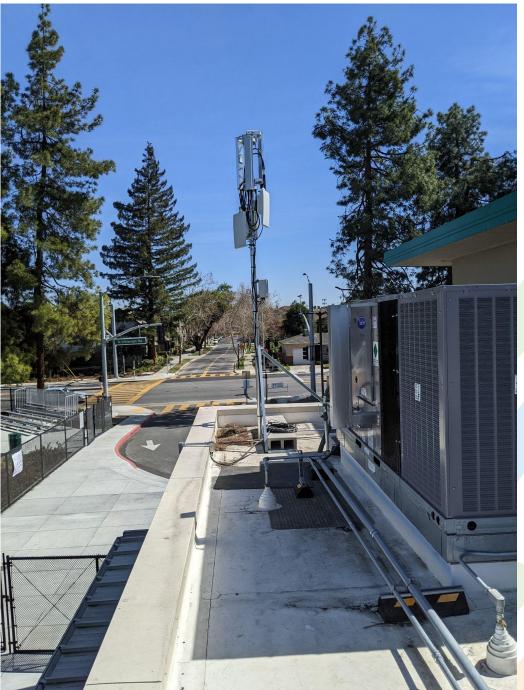
Building out the network - 2021-22

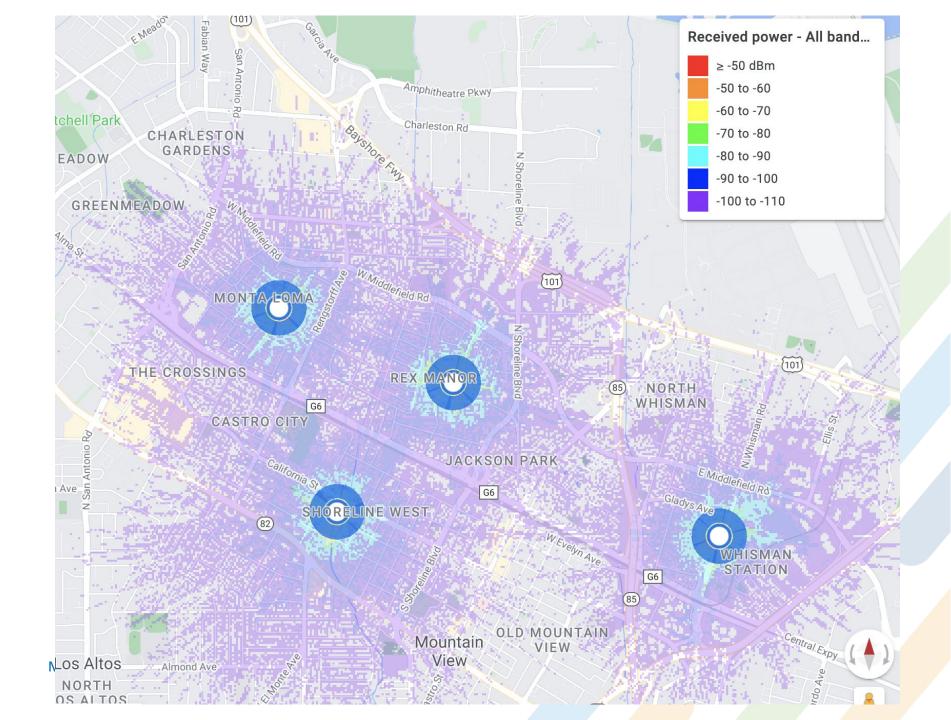
- Standard set up for all sites
 - Three radios
 - Three external antennas
 - Location varies by site
- Deployed radios at four school sites
- Supply chain issues with rooftop mounts

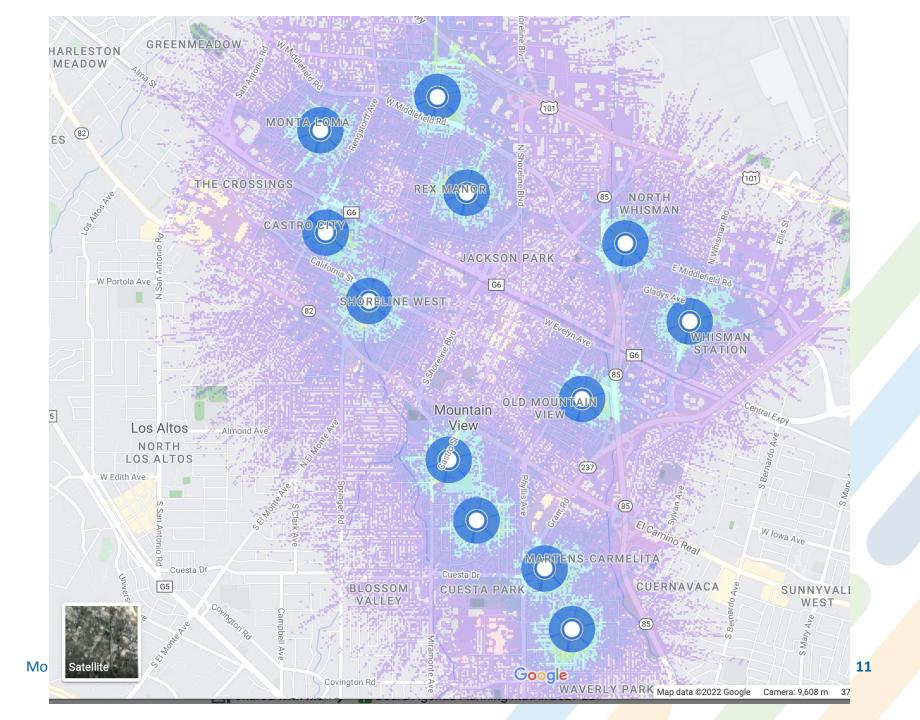
Monta Loma



Vargas









Supporting families

Initial Client testing 2020-21

- 30 client USB modems
- Low-cost
- Compact
- USB-powered



Client device testing - 2021-22

- Tested a variety of client devices
- iPad with built-in PLTE
- USB modem
- Several PLTE routers

Cradlepoint routers

- Managed CBRS router
- Supports 5Ghz WiFi
- External antennas
- Rugged design





- Program for families that need Internet access
- Variety of access methods
 - 200 Cradlepoint routers
 - 30 USB modem
 - 20 hotspots





Next Steps

Next Steps

- Continue with radio deployment at school sites
- Move families over to CBRS that have been using hotspots
- Test additional client devices
- Optimize radio set up to improve coverage