



Catherine Crago Head of Strategic Initiatives HACA/Austin Pathways

## **Authors**

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## With Thanks to

John Bratcher, T-Mobile James Mason, ACC IT Intern Khotan Harmon, ACC IT Intern Stan McClellan, Texas State University HACA & Austin Pathways Resident Smart City Ambassadors

## Background & Introduction

- HACA has 18 public subsidized housing properties spanning Austin from north to south across the eastern crescent.
- Is a single provider's 4G hotspot the best product for all HACA properties and all parts of town?
- What are acceptable levels of service, using third-party definitions, for broadband speed in a HACA household, i.e. per multiple users using intensive applications simultaneously in a household?
- What is the cost of service both per household and per property for wireline vs. wireless broadband service?
- Does a resident at a given property get "\$1 of wireless broadband" for a dollar spent?

## Our Scope

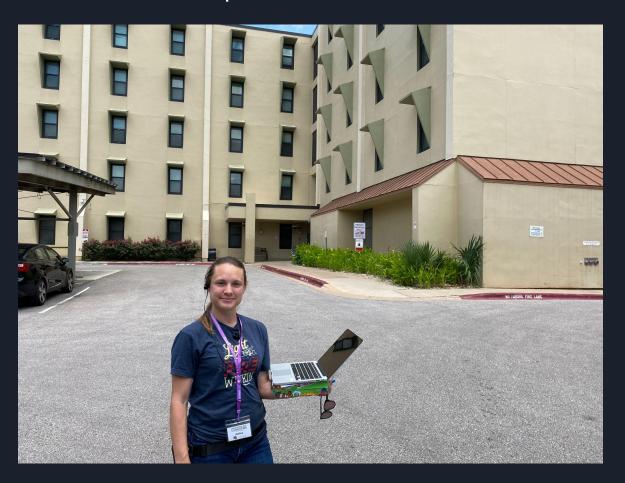
- One year 7-Week Project Staffed by co-lead by 2 and assisted by 4 part-time ACC IT Work Study Interns
- Three Phases.
  - Phase 1, July 30, Procurement Recommendation,
     Stakeholder Feedback
  - Phase 2 & 3, Vendor analysis
- Core activities, Phase 1: design of experiment, key map design and validation, data collection and validation, evaluation, stakeholder requirements feedback and synthesis
- Ten HACA Properties
  - 8 Central and North Properties with No In-Home Internet
  - o 2 Central-Downtown Properties with Free Google Fiber

## Phase 1 Questions

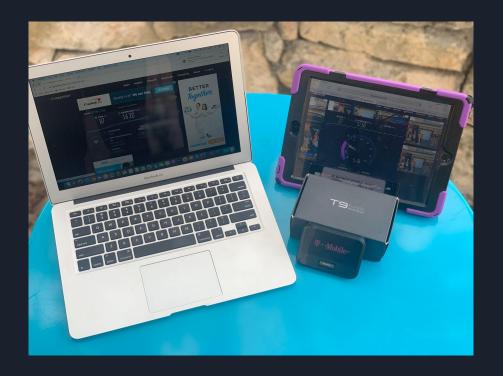
- What is the right internet service to provide to each household at each property, given a conservative outdoor reading and better-than-average devices?
- Is a single provider's 4G hotspot, is that product the best for all HACA properties and all parts of town?
- What are acceptable levels of service, using third-party definitions, for broadband speed in a HACA household, i.e. per multiple users using intensive applications simultaneously in a household?
- What is the cost of service both per household and per property for wireline vs. wireless broadband service?
- Does a resident at a given property get "\$1 of broadband" for a dollar spent?

# On Location at North Loop

- Boots on the ground
- Outdoors only
- Hardware in hand



# Speedtesting Hardware



MacBook Air: 1.6ghz, dual-core 8th-gen, intel core i5 2015, macOS Catalina 10.15.7

Mac Serial #: CO2SC907H3QF

iPad: 32GB, 7th Gen, IOS 13.7

iPad Serial #: CO2SC907H3QF

T-Mobile 4G Hotspot Sims:

8901260011786575707F

8901260011786569304F

8901260011786459530F

## Ookla's Speedtest.net in the browser

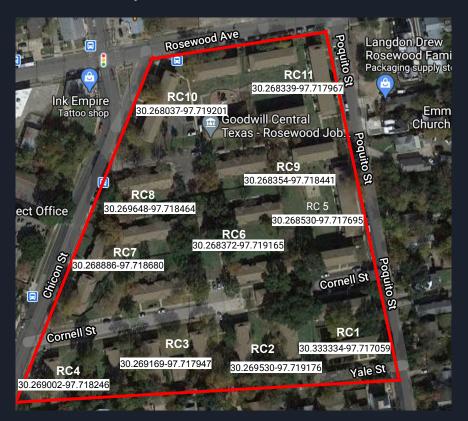


#### Speed tests measure:

- ping (ms)
- download (Mbps)
- upload (Mbps)

## Property Key Maps - Example, Rosewood Courts

- Built in 1939
- 124 units
- 248 residents
- 58 K-12 Households
- Borders: Rosewood to Cornell/Yale N-S and Chicon to Poquito W-E.
- The property is approximately 358,000 ft².



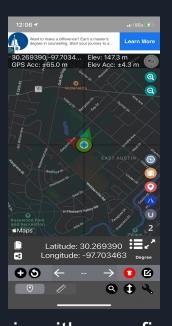
# Confirm your Key Map GIS Location











Download the Coordinates App

Click on the symbol and it will refresh your location.

Zoom in with your fingers on the touch screen.
Check that Long & Lat are correct at the bottom

## FCC Broadband Speed Guides

	<b>Light Use</b> (Basic functions: email, browsing, basic video, VoIP, Internet radio)	Moderate Use (Basic functions plus one high-demand application: streaming HD video, multiparty video conferencing, online gaming, telecommuting)	<b>High Use</b> (Basic functions plus <i>more than one</i> high-demand application running at the same time)		
1 user on 1 device	Basic	Basic	Medium		
2 users or devices at a time	Basic	Medium	Medium/Advanced		
3 users or devices at a time	Medium	Medium	Advanced		
4 users or devices at a time	Medium	Advanced	Advanced		

Basic Service = 3 to 8 Mbps\*

Medium Service = 12 to 25 Mbps

Advanced Service = More than 25 Mbps

#### Sources:

https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/broadband-speed-guide https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/household-broadband-guide

#### Minimum Download Speeds for:

- Students 5-25 Mbps
- Telecommuting 5-25 Mbps
- Streaming HD Video 5-8 Mbps
- File Downloading 10 Mbps
- Online Gaming 4 Mbps

<sup>\*</sup>Mbps (Megabits per second) is the standard measure of broadband speed. It refers to the speed with which information packets are downloaded from, or uploaded to, the internet.

## Hotspots performance extremes

Santa Rita Courts 2341 Corta Street Ave. 78702



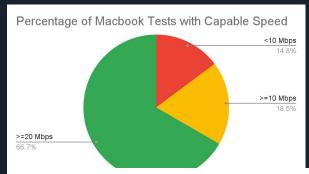
Rosewood Courts 2001 Rosewood Ave. 78702

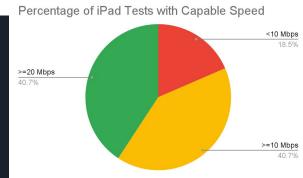


## The Device Matters

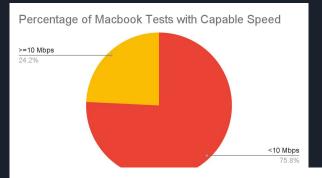
In general, MacBook Pro devices performed better than iPads. Both devices used were relatively new, or "better than average."

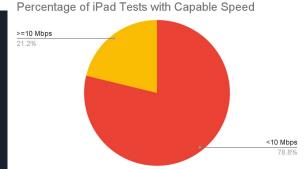
## Santa Rita Courts





## **Rosewood Courts**





## PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

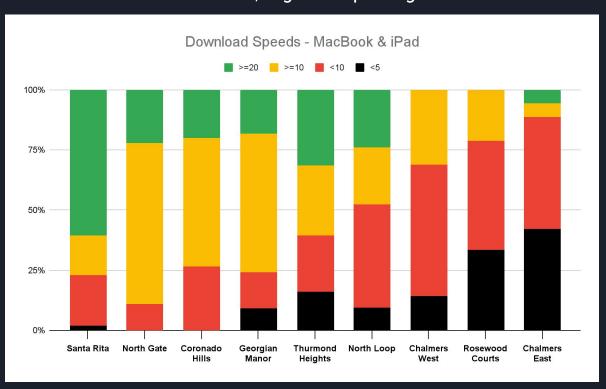
# Hotspot Purchase Recommendation

Based on Anecdotal Data, June 7 - July 30, 2021

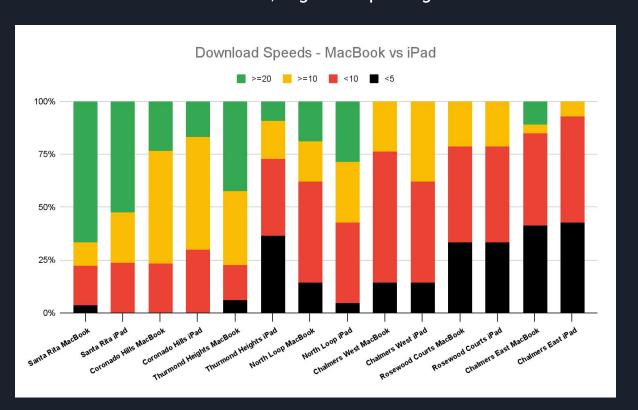
Property Name	Units (#)	Recommendation (Buy Hold or Stop)	Served Units (#)	Served Units (%)	Under- served (#)	Under- Served Units (%)	Un- served (#)	Un- served (%)
Santa Rita	97	Buy	89	92%	0	0%	8	8%
Georgian Manor	94	Buy	46	49%	31	33%	17	18%
Northgate	50	Buy	18	36%	26	52%	6	12%
Thurmond Heights	144	Hold	<b>4</b> 6	32%	54	38%	44	31%
Coronado Hills	48	Hold	13	27%	19	40%	16	33%
Booker T. Washington	216	Stop	30	14%	0	0%	186	86%
Northloop	130	Hold	0	0%	130	100%	0	0%
Chalmers Courts	79	Stop	0	0%	0	0%	79	100%
Chalmers East	158	Stop	0	0%	0	0%	158	100%
Rosewood	124	Stop	0	0%	0	0%	124	100%
Totals	1140		242		260		638	

Table 1, 10 properties tested using outdoor keymap locations; "Units served" based on percentage of keymap points % of keymap points serving >20Mbps download speed, denoted by green color denotes keymap points.

# Download Speeds MacBook and iPad, by Property



# Upload Speeds MacBook and iPad, by Property



# Phase 2 questions to be answered by May, 2022

- What is the right internet service to provide to each household at each property, given an actual indoor reading and better-than-average devices?
- Do mobile wireless providers tend to perform well in some neighborhoods where other providers do not perform well?
- Do 5G hotspots for a given vendor perform better than 4G at HACA properties? How much better? What is the incremental value provided?
- Does a resident at a given property get "\$1 of 5G broadband" for a dollar spent?
- Does the socioeconomic status of the area affect the results? Could we try across the street?
- Which wireless service providers are the best options for properties in distinct and diverse parts of town?

## Questions?

# Catherine Crago

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