# Closing the Fiber Gap on the Big Island

## 3400 34.5 kV Line Rebuild & Relocation

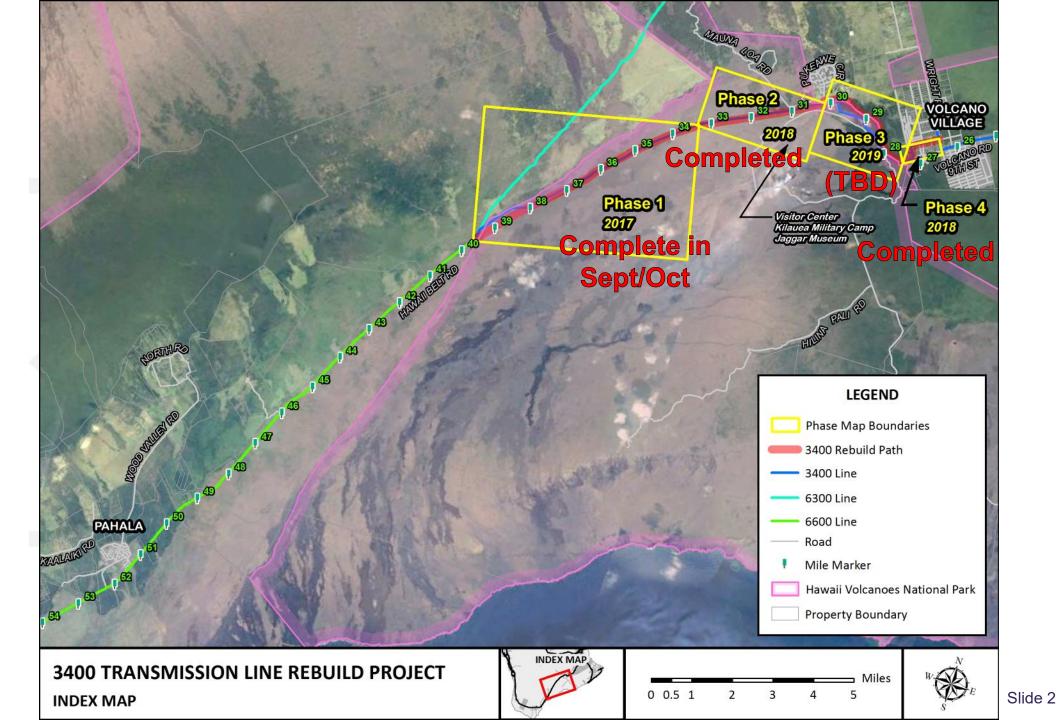
July 15, 2020 Briefing to Broadband Hui

(Update to the November 22, 2016 Broadband Council Briefing)





#### 4 Phases



# **Project Benefits**

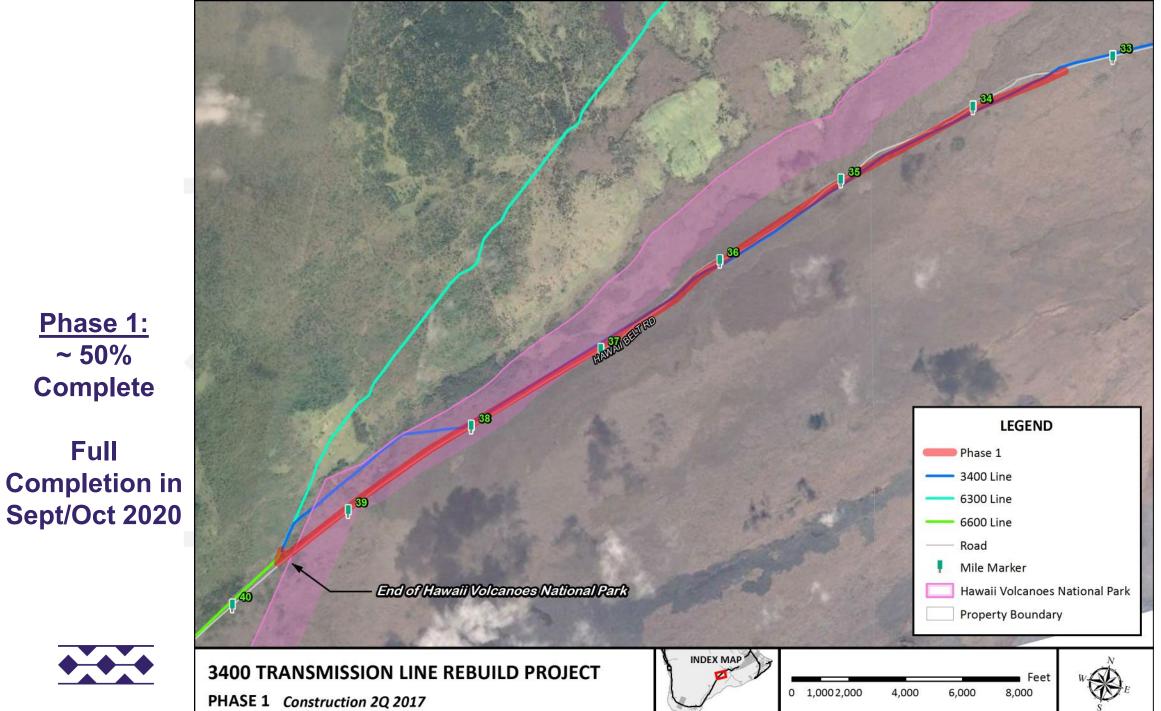
- Improved reliability for ~5,500 customers served by line (Kilauea Military Camp/Volcano, Wright Road, Royal Hawaiian Estates, Orchid Isle, Mountain View, Kurtistown).
- Address safety concerns with current pole line location.
  - Original line from 1950's
  - Terrain is unsafe with may deep crack and crevices with limited or no access roads to poles.
- Enable telecom fiber loop around the island by strengthening pole lines (Phase 1 & 2)
  - Currently a gap in the Southern loop.
    - September 2013 Issue with fiber in Waikoloa caused a 20 hour telecommunication outage from Waikoloa to Pahala, County sent out police and fire department to patrol areas to ensure public health and safety.
    - Communication loop can be completed with Phase 1 and Phase 2; completion of Phase 3 would provide improvement in reliability



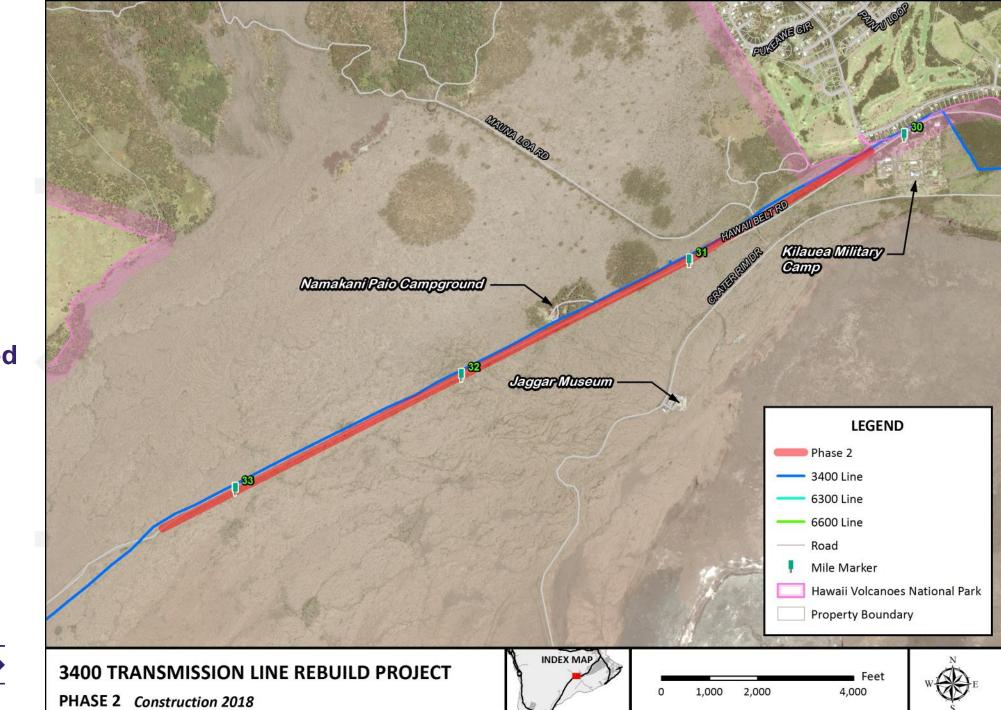


- HELCO and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HVNP) filed their respective Environmental Assessments (EA). EA Approval received and HVNP processed HELCO's special use permit needed to begin Phase 1 & 2 construction and secure rights-of-way permits.
- 3 of the 4 phases will be completed by end of 2020. Completion of Phase 1 in 20202 should enable carriers to close the gap
- Phase 3 will take longer due to land issues, permitting and approvals.





Slide 5



Slide 6

#### Phase 2: Completed

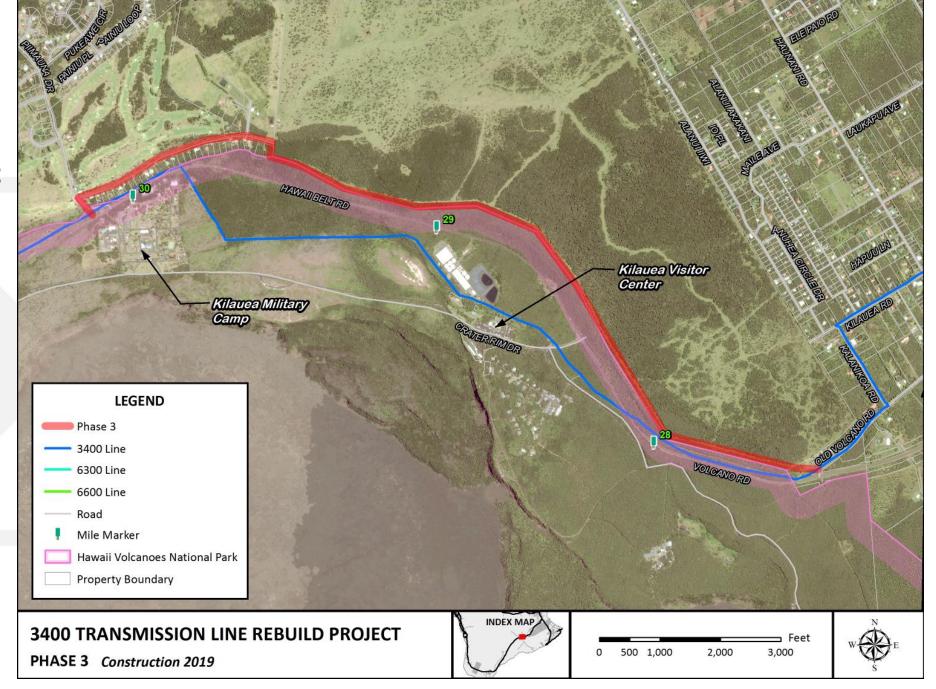
### Phase 3: (TBD)

Discussions with KSBE for use of land adjacent to HVNP on the North side of highway.

Will require an EA

May require a Habitat Conservation Plan & other permits

Will require PUC approval



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### Phase 4: Completed

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