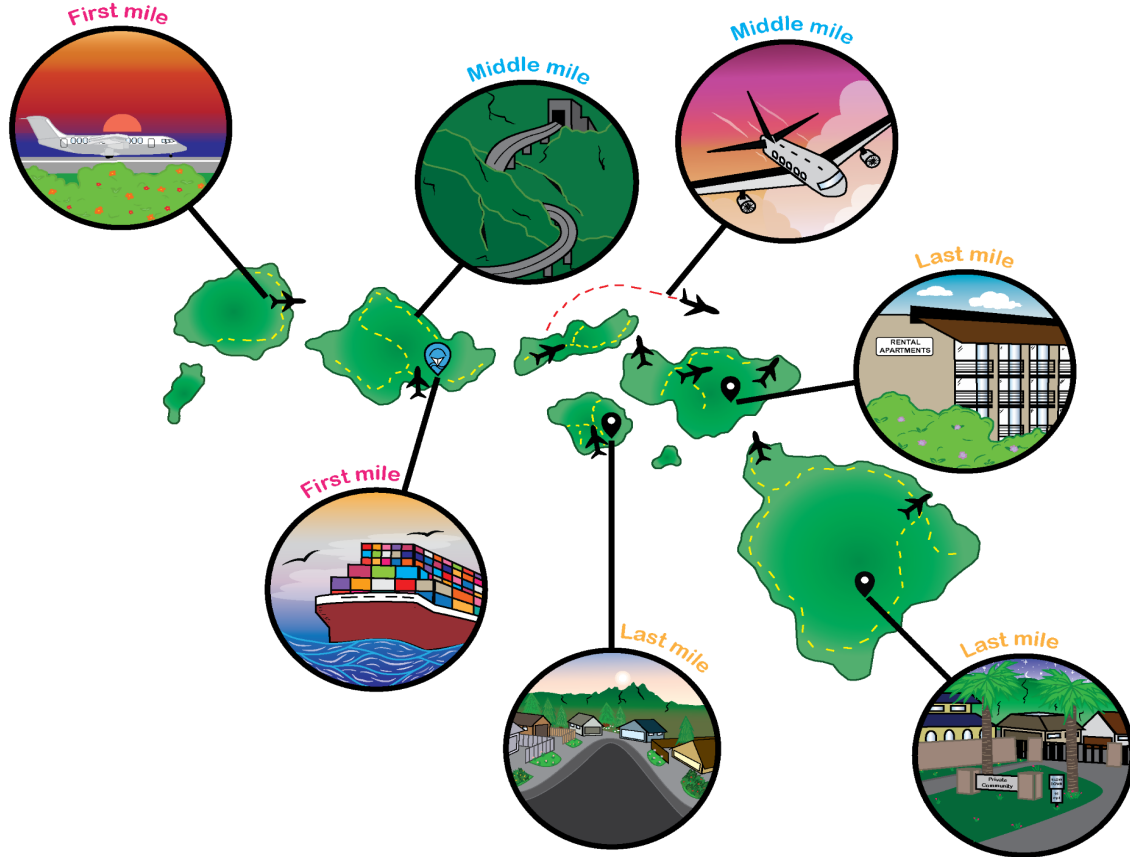


The Mail Delivery Metaphor



THE FIRST MILE: A TRANSPACIFIC JOURNEY

There are two ways mail and parcels reach Hawai'i from any other place in the world: by ship and by air. Every day, ships and flights arrive to our islands carrying freight and mail from other States and countries that will end up in local homes and businesses. Similarly, submarine fiber cables stretch across the Pacific Ocean, traveling under water for over two thousand miles to reach our islands. These transpacific submarine fiber systems deliver the internet to Hawai'i.

THE MIDDLE MILE: FROM PORT TO DELIVERY PROVIDER

Mail shipments from across the world arrive in our State at our docks and airports. Shipments move from docks and airports to regional centers to be sorted for delivery, and may even require an additional flight before reaching a regional distribution center. Once regionally sorted, this mail is transported by road to the local destination post office. Similarly, once transpacific fiber reaches our islands, the Internet's journey continues to Internet Service Providers equipment offices either on land through terrestrial fiber, or through a much shorter, inter-island submarine fiber system that connects all our islands.

THE LAST MILE: HOMESTRETCH

All roads lead to home, or they should . . . The last mile is the final leg of our mail's journey from the post office to our front doors. At last, the mail has been delivered! Just like mail carriers, our local Internet service provider is responsible for delivering Internet to our addresses, laying fiber to our addresses. When this fiber reaches our homes, apartment complexes, businesses, or other structures that services the public, Internet access to the home or last mile delivery is achieved.¹

¹ This excludes mobile service (e.g., cellular data and LEO satellite)