



FARM FOUNDATION FORUM
“The Task of Rebuilding Rural Infrastructure”
October 3, 2017



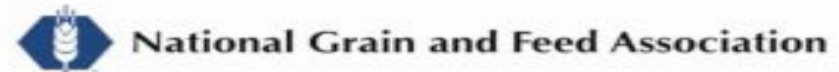
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OVERVIEW

- More than 220 organizations from across the country
- Advocating for investment in infrastructure that recognizes rural America's needs are fundamentally unique
- Infrastructure improvements are needed for U.S. to maintain status as the global leader in agriculture & support rural communities
- Solutions...
 - Federal investment alone insufficient
 - Streamlined regs and requirements
 - Creativity and flexibility
 - long-term perspective (i.e. no "quick fix")



Coalition Priorities



AG RESEARCH



BROADBAND



ENERGY



FINANCING



HEALTHCARE



TRANSPORTATION



HOUSING



WATER



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AG RESEARCH

- Federal government should continue its history of supporting agricultural research.
- Cutting-edge research is being conducted in outdated agriculture research infrastructure.
- \$8.4 billion in total deferred maintenance outstanding in Ag Research building and infrastructure.



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BROADBAND

- Broadband is vital to economic development, education, agriculture, health care & public safety activities.
- The High-Cost Universal Service Fund lacks sufficient resources to reach rate/service parity for rural & urban areas.
- Less federal regulatory burden for permits & access to government lands would boost investment in rural broadband.



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ENERGY

- RUS loan program helps modernize the grid, combat cyber threats & integrate renewable energy.
- RUS loans produce net income for the Treasury – approximately \$300 million in 2016.
- Reducing the regulatory burden on RUS loans & infrastructure siting would increase development.



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HEALTHCARE

- 80 rural hospitals closed since 2010, 673 facilities are vulnerable, making up 1/3+ of facilities.
- Funding needed for 77% of rural counties in Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas.
- Telehealth, combined with broadband, facilitates early diagnosis & treatment in rural areas that can lead to lower health care costs.



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HOUSING

- Low income rural Americans depend on multifamily housing loans through USDA Rural Development.
- Need to modernize housing programs such as MPR and Sections 538 and Section 521.
- Rural communities need senior care facilities, higher proportion of population over 50 years old.



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TRANSPORTATION

- Most our locks and dams are dilapidated and have outlived their 50-year design lifespan.
- Waterways are critical corridors of commerce & supported \$128 billion in ag exports in 2015.
- Most of the US transportation system is rural: 74% of bridges and 73% of roads.



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WATER

- 94%+ of U.S. drinking water utilities supply communities with fewer than 10,000 persons.
- USDA Water and Waste Water program backlog is \$2.5 billion, with 995 pending applications.
- Aging & deteriorating systems beyond useful life/with have the greatest public health needs need priority.



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FINANCING

- Access to affordable and long-term financing options is critical for rural infrastructure projects.
- Rural infrastructure facilities often are smaller, don't attract major financial institutions.
- Federal funding often is limited for rural projects, private sector financing partners are needed.



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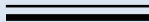
Farm Credit Facts

- Customer-owned Cooperative
- Provides Loans and Financial Services
- Nationwide Service
- No Government Funding
- Created in 1916
- Agriculture Committee Jurisdiction
- Regulated by Farm Credit

Administration

100-Year-Old Mission

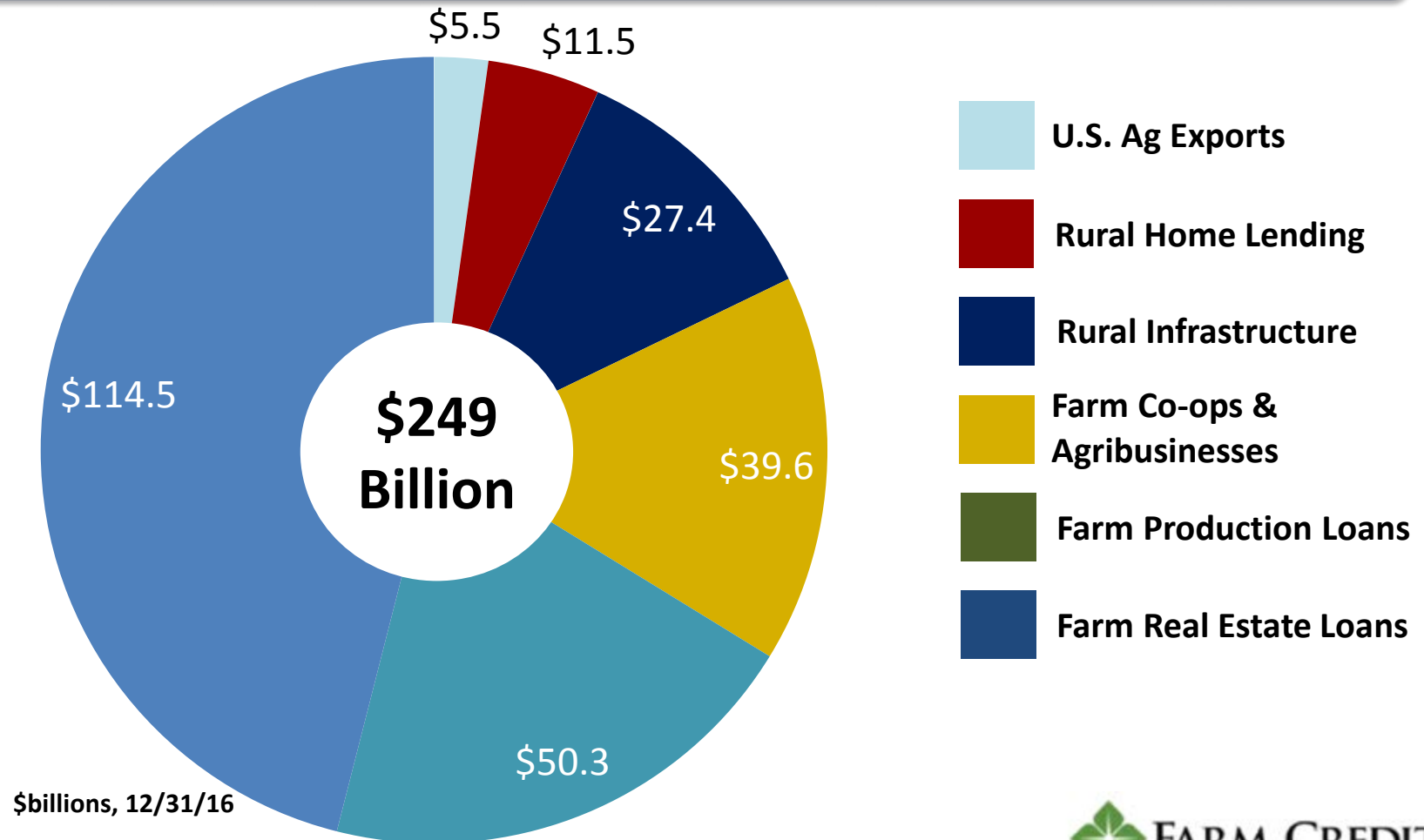
Support rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services, today and tomorrow.





Supporting Rural Communities and Agriculture

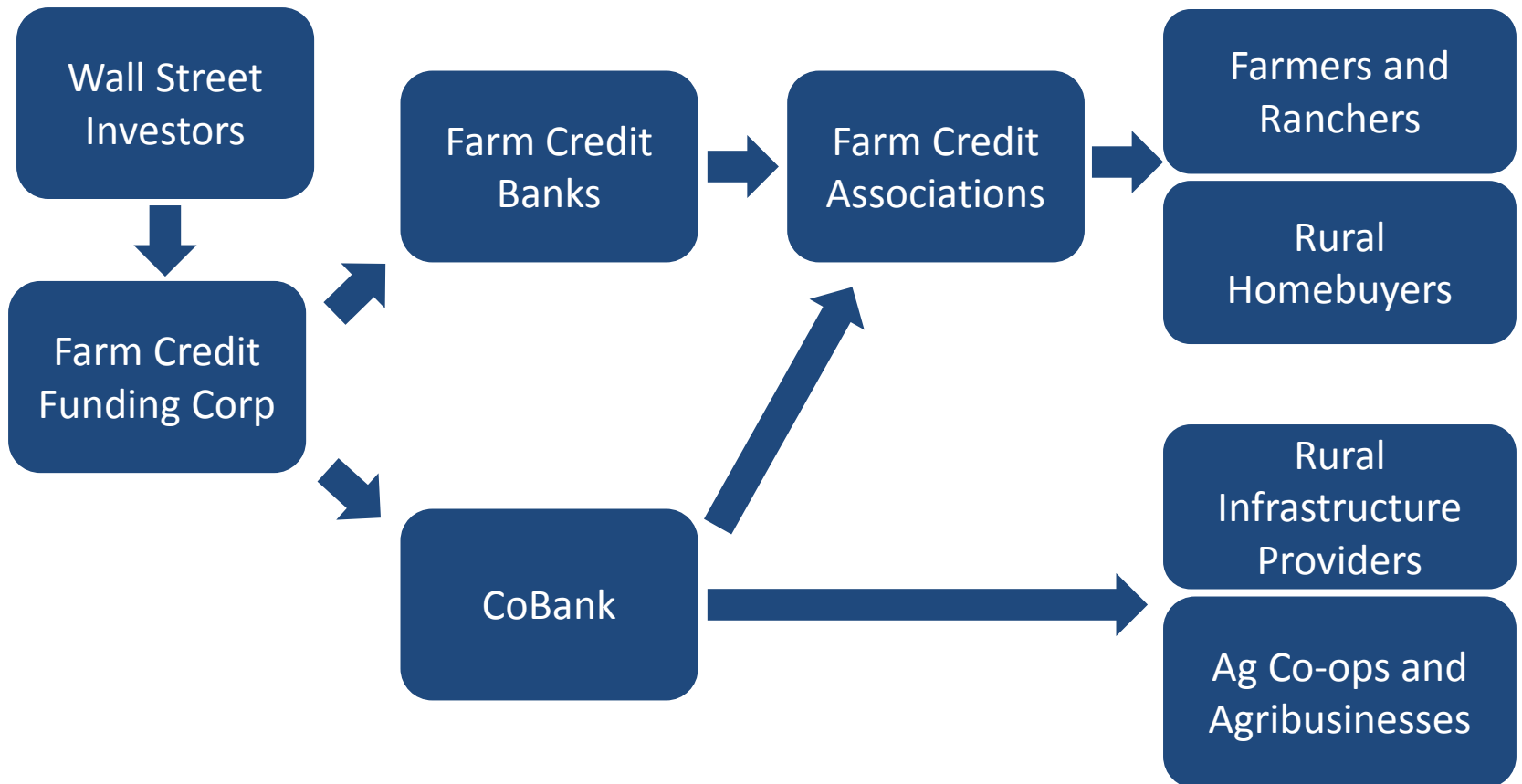
Farm Credit Loans





Supporting Rural Communities and Agriculture

Farm Credit Funding Flows from Wall Street to Rural America





Questions?
Thank You!



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