



# **Vermont Community Broadband Board**

## **Table of Contents**

### ***Executive Summary***

### ***Agenda***

- 1. Approval of September 11 meeting minutes***
- 2. Approval of BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2***
- 3. Digital Equity Plan Review***
- 4. Legislative Priorities including restoration of Funding include Letters to Committees***
- 5. CV Fiber Construction Grant Amendment***
- 6. VCUDA Updates - Proposed Process for VCBB Policy approval***
- 7. Budget Presentation FY24 Q1***
- 8. Parking Lot***



Board Packet Executive Summary

November 21, 2023

Christine Hallquist, Executive Director

Phone – 802-636-7853

Email – [christine.hallquist@vermont.gov](mailto:christine.hallquist@vermont.gov)

The agenda for this meeting is quite full so we may not get to all the items. We have moved the time-sensitive items to the front of the agenda.

### **Approval of BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2**

This discussion will be led by Lucy Rogers. We will be submitting the proposal to the NTIA upon receiving support from the Board.

### **Presentation of the Draft Digital Equity Plan**

This discussion will be led by Britaney Watson. This is to provide the VCBB Board the opportunity to provide comments and ideas on the Digital Equity Plan Overview Presentation before starting the public comment period. Public comment period is planned to start on December 1.

### **Legislative Priorities including restoration of funding.**

Toni Clithero will lead this discussion. These are staff policy recommendations for Board discussion.

### **CV Fiber Construction Grant Amendment**

Alexei Monsarrat will lead this discussion. CV Fiber has determined it will be unable to meet the full scope of its construction grant agreement given increased materials and labor costs. The CUD is seeking additional funds elsewhere. This amendment reduces the number of addresses by about 1/3 and adjusts the payment schedule. That schedule will be presented by CV at the Board meeting. For these addresses, the detailed design, materials, and make-ready has been completed/paid. Staff recommends approval of the amendment, but with an additional clause requiring CV Fiber to update their business plan.

### **Otter Creek Update**

Request by Laura Sibilia. Alexei Monsarrat will lead this discussion. Otter Creek is considering whether to shift its construction grant funding to other areas of its District in light of GoNetSpeed/Shoreham's enforceable agreement with the FCC that will result in a fiber build throughout OCCUD's territory, including to addresses included in OCCUD's Act 71 grant.

**Rule 3.7 – Make Ready (Pole Attachment PSC Rule 3.700)**

This item was requested to be included in the Board Agenda. Staff will respond to questions from the Board. VCUDA has worked extensively with the utilities on this issue and can update the Board on the negotiations. The link to this document is

[https://puc.vermont.gov/sites/psbnew/files/doc\\_library/Rule-3.700-pole-attachment.pdf](https://puc.vermont.gov/sites/psbnew/files/doc_library/Rule-3.700-pole-attachment.pdf)

**Budget presentation FY24 Q1 update**

Thomas Malinowski, the PSD Finance Manager, will provide the Board with Q1 Budget status based on the budget that the Board approved. The agreement with the Board was to present an update one month after the close of the quarter.

**Parking Lot**

Chance Payette will lead this discussion. Staff has reviewed the recording of the 11/13 Board meeting to capture additional items for the Parking Lot. The Board will review to ensure that all items are captured.

**Vermont Community Broadband Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 08:00am - 12:00pm**  
**AGENDA**

Meeting is being held virtually.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join by Phone; [+1 802-828-7667, 993720912#](#)

*Note: there may be executive sessions as needed.*

- 08:00 1) Call meeting to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda
- 08:05 2) Public Comment
- 08:15 3) Approval of September 11 meeting minutes
- 08:20 4) Approval of BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2
- 09:00 5) Digital Equity Plan Review
- 10:00 6) Legislative Priorities including Restoration of Funding include Letters to Committee
- 10:30 7) CV Fiber Construction Grant Amendment
- 10:50 8) Otter Creek Update
- 11:00 9) VCUDA Updates – *Rob Vietzke*
- 11:10 10) Rule 3.700 (Make Ready) - Update
- 11:20 11) Budget presentation FY24 Q1
- 11:35 12) Public Comment
- 11:40 13) Parking Lot – *Christine Hallquist*
- 11:45 14) Executive Session. Update on Executive Director Review and Board Performance, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. s. 313 (a)(3) *“The appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting.”*
- 12:00 15) Motion to Adjourn

Press inquiries: please contact Herryyn Herzog, [herryyn.herzog@vermont.gov](mailto:herryyn.herzog@vermont.gov) (802) 522-3396.

# **Vermont Community Broadband Board Meeting**

## **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 12:00pm – 4:00pm**

### **Revised Draft Minutes**

#### **I. Meeting Call to Order, Roll Call, & Approval of Agenda**

Patty Richards called the meeting to order at 12:01 and completed roll call.

- Patty Richards, Chair (Remote)
- Laura Sibilia (Remote)
- Brian Otley (Remote)
- Holly Groschner (Remote)
- Dan Nelson (Remote)
- Christine Hallquist - Staff (Remote)
- Robert Fish – Staff (Remote)
- Toni Clithero – Staff (Remote)
- Steven Zubkoff – Staff (Remote)
- Herryng Herzog – Staff (Remote)
- Lucy Rogers – Staff (Remote)
- Chance Payette – Staff (Remote)
- Alexei Monsarrat– Staff (Remote)
- Kristen Brynga– Staff (Remote)
- Alissa Mathews– Staff (Remote)

Patty Richards made a motion to approve the agenda Seconded by Brian. No further discussion.  
*Unanimously approved by Patty, Laura, Holly, Brian and Dan.*

#### **II. Approval of Minutes (August 14 and August 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting)**

Patty e the motion to approve the minutes for the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Laura. No further discussion *Voted in favor of the motion by Patty, Laura, Brian, and Holly. Dan Nelson abstained because he was not present at the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

#### **III. Lamoille FiberNet Construction Grant Application**

Staff recommended approval of the Lamoille Fibernet (“LFN”) Construction Grant in the amount of \$13,588,636. Christine advised that LFN had written a letter agreeing to comply with the VCBB’s future policies.

Patty made a motion to grant Lamoille FiberNet’s Construction Grant in the amount of \$13,588,636, conditioned on and subject to future policies developed by the VCBB based on accountability and development of a sustainability plan within one year or prior to Phase 2 construction grant application, whichever comes first and upon the execution of an operator agreement consistent with the grant requirements.

Patty granted Holly’s proposed amendment to read “*a motion to grant Lamoille FiberNet’s Construction Grant in the amount of \$13,588,636. The approval is conditioned on and subject to future policies developed by the VCBB related to accountability. As well as development of a sustainability plan as described in the letter from Lamoille Fibernet, within one year or prior to Phase 2 construction grant application, whichever comes first. And execution of an operator agreement consistent with the grant requirements. Holly seconded the amended motion. No further discussion. Voted unanimously by Patty, Laura, Holly, Brian and Dan.*”

#### **IV. Otter Creek Construction Grant Application**

Staff recommended the approval of the Otter Creek Construction Grant in the amount of \$9,952,273 and Christine turned it over to Laura Black, chair of the Otter Creek Communication Union District (OCCUD) Board for presentation and questions from the VCBB Board.

*Following Laura's presentation, Patty made a motion to grant Otter Creek's Construction Grant in the amount of \$9,952,273., conditioned on and subject to future policies developed by the VCBB related to accountability. As well as development of a sustainability plan as described in the letter from Otter Creek, within one year or prior to Phase 2 construction grant application, whichever comes first. And execution of an operator agreement consistent with the grant requirements. Seconded by Holly. No further discussion. Patty, Holly, Brian and Dan all voted in favor; Laura opposed. Motion approved on a 4 – 1 vote.*

**V. BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 1 – Board Approval**

Lucy Rogers led discussion concerning the BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 1 and requested Board approval for submission to the NTIA, having conducted the 30-day public comment with any board input.

*Patty made a motion to approve the BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 1 as presented in the Board Packet, with the understanding that there will be some additional language explaining the Fixed Wireless challenge process by staff. Seconded by Laura. No further discussion. Unanimously approved by Patty, Laura, Holly, Brian and Dan.*

**VI. BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2 – Board review**

Lucy explained the status of the Board's approvals of the BEAD application deliverables, including VCBB's August 28, 2023, submission of Vermont's Five-Year Plan, the Board's recent approval of Volume One of Vermont's Initial Proposal, and the ongoing review of Volume 2. Next steps for Volume 2 include a public comment period from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. On affordability, the board suggested some options to consider instead of staff's proposed \$45.00 flat fee, Staff and Vernonburg will continue to write a draft that may allow for more flexibility and still adhere to NTIA guidance. The Board asked if the Sunset Provisions in the Act 71 language would conflict with the BEAD plan. Lucy answered that she would look into that question. *Patty closed. No further discussion and no action taken by the VCBB board.*

**VII. Ex parte communications**

*Patty made a motion that the Board approve her memorandum on late submission of documents by staff. t Laura seconded. No further discussion. Motion was approved by Patty, Holly, Laura and Dan.*

**VIII. Governmental Affairs**

A general concept discussion around Legislative representation. Patty asked if board members had thoughts of any entities or people that would be good, please pass those on to Christine and copy the board. . *No further discussion. No action taken.*

**IX. VCUDA Updates**

*With a new Policy coordinator helping out Committees are flourishing. Legislatively, the Policy and legislative committee are talking about some technical corrections and other things that we deferred last year, but the restoring the 20 million dollars, the revenue changes that are being discussed, including the Vermont Universal Service Fund and the Consumer Protection bill and its impact on broadband is high on the list for that group. The Finance Committee issued an RFP over the last month and has selected and hired an individual to help lead the development of the shared services programs that are funded by the Northern Borders Grant. VCUDA advised the CUDS "were happy"*

*BEAD Volume 1, particularly the attempt to put some more rigorous process around determining addresses served by wireless and how that would be done.*

*VCUDA and most of the CUDs signed a letter to Secretary of Commerce Raimondo and the NTIA, about the letter of credit calling on the NTIA to reconsider the arbitrary requirements for the letter of credit.*

**X. Public Comment**

*Irv Thomae commented about the affordability discussion earlier in the meeting and wanted to thank Board members for questioning the flat fee as unrealistic. He does not want to see Vermonter's expectations raised on a number that may not be sustainable. He also commented about service drop being more expensive on mobile homes versus regular homes due to National Electric code that requires utilities to be delivered to a mobile home in conduit versus an overhead drop.*

*F.X.Flinn, chair of ECFiber, explained their 21 towns served by their business. The method to develop their top line revenue to cover all costs and expenses. The determination was \$100 per customer with at least 6 customers per mile. Currently, they are at 5 customers per mile with the average price of \$104 per customer. We would not be able to go forward with the \$45.00 in place. He would also like feedback from the Board on his and Irv's comments.*

*Paul Fixx, chair of NEKFiber, also is concerned with the \$45.00 affordability amount. The BEAD document seems to mention \$75.00, which NEK believes they could sustainably meet with some of their own affordability programs. Paul also mentioned they have a working group that's very carefully looking at possibilities to provide their own affordability program and will try to share some outline of where that might go so that the BEAD proposals might allow independently stood up programs rather than a firm price.*

*Ellie de Villiers expressed support of Irv's comment about possibly not including a specific target value in the version for public comment. She also pointed out that the affordable connectivity program ("ACP") is projected to run out next year. She agreed that staff should take this up and discuss with the stakeholders.*

**XI. Parking Lot**

Christine mentioned all of the hard work the Board has put into the Accountability Policies. After completing the ex parte discussion, that item will be closed. We are adding 2 more items:

1. Is the request to produce an overlay of the BEAD timelines and the grant requests in the upcoming work of the Board.
2. Staff will produce an update to the Board on BEAD versus ARPA requirements.
3. An action item for Governmental Affairs
- 4.Accountability Policies: Patty confirmed ongoing meetings of working groups. Laura asked if the Sunset Provision could be allowed more time for development as they are trying to create a review process for the board to evaluate reporting recommendations to the Legislature. The board determined a first draft will be due October 9<sup>th</sup>. P. Lucy added the next BEAD item for the Board is a vote in November, but some time could be set aside in October to have a conversation and then vote on Volume 2 in November. Staff mentioned a review may also be needed regarding Digital Equity. *The Board confirmed there will not be a special meeting in September.*

**XII. New Staff Introductions**

*Christine introduced the three newest members of the VCBP staff including Chance Payette, Alexei Monsarrat, and Steven Zubkoff.*

**XIII. Confirm Regular Meeting 10/9 & Motion to Adjourn**

*No special meeting for the month of September. The next scheduled VCBB Board meeting is Monday, October 9th from 12:00 to 4:00. Patty made a motion to adjourn at 3:46. Motion approved unanimously by Patty Holly Laura Brian and Dan.*

DRAFT



**Summary of Changes to BEAD Initial Proposal Volume 2**  
**in response to VCBB board feedback from Nov. 13 meeting**

<b>Board Feedback</b>	<b>Section in Initial Proposal Volume 2</b>	<b>Resolution / Change in Initial Proposal Volume 2</b>
Grammar and proofreading final pass	Entire document	Resolved. Document has been proofread for grammar, formatting, and style.
The number and frequency of acronyms hinders readability	Entire document	Resolved. Most acronyms have been spelled out throughout the entire document to increase readability. A few acronyms remain that are clearly explained at the first instance.
Broadband for telehealth for older Vermonters could be emphasized more centrally	Requirements# 1 and #4	No changes were made in Initial Proposal Volume 2. This is a topic that will be more closely addressed in the upcoming Digital Equity plan and is not the focus of Initial Proposal Volume 2.
Scoring should clearly outline that Minimal BEAD Outlay is scored based on the total amount of BEAD funding requested, not the total amount of match included. This is in addition to the considerations of reliability and resiliency.	Requirement #8, text box 2.4.2.1, Row #2 labeled "[Primary Criteria] Minimal BEAD Program Outlay" (pg 43)	Resolved. This criterion is going to continue to be scored based on BEAD funding requested, not match, and clarifying / explanatory language has been added: "The VCBB is choosing to award points based on amount of BEAD funds requested and not based on the 'total project cost' (which includes both the BEAD funds requested and any proposed matching funds) to avoid instances of prospective subgrantees artificially inflating project costs or matching funds values in an effort to receive points in this category, and to ensure that the emphasis is on the metric that ultimately determines how many addresses are served with BEAD funding."
Consider receiving bids for only unserved addresses, not both unserved and underserved	Requirement #8, text box 2.4.1 and 2.4.9	This was an extremely interesting suggestion that generated considerable conversation and analysis by VCBB staff and Vernonburg. As a result of these discussions, the project areas were kept at including all unserved <i>and</i> underserved addresses, but language was added explicitly stating that staff may negotiate the removal of underserved addresses to prioritize unserved addresses. Specifically, the following was added in text box 2.4.9 on pg 52 "the VCBB may require prospective

		subgrantees, including those with bids below the Extremely High Cost Per Location Threshold, to remove some underserved locations from their proposals to ensure that VCCB is appropriately prioritizing deployment to unserved locations with Priority Broadband Projects.”
Include future VCBB board policies which may pertain to BEAD subgrantees	Requirement 8, text box 2.4.1, under heading “Issuing and Monitoring Grants”, and Requirement #19	Resolved. Reference to “VCBB policies” and “additional VCBB policies currently under development and consistent with the BEAD requirements” were added in these locations. This language was carefully crafted to ensure that it alerted the public to the possible inclusion of additional VCBB policies without appearing to subvert the intent to comply with BEAD requirements. In addition, language was added to requirement #19 to clarify that the measured listed therein are a floor, and not a ceiling, of accountability measures for BEAD subgrantees.
Provide parameters for “lifetime of assets”	Requirement #8, text box 2.4.2.1, Row #3 labeled “[Primary Criteria] Affordability” (pg 44)	Resolved. After much discussion, the decision was made to update this language to read “over the lifetime of the funded network or 20 years, whichever is greater.” The floor of 20 years provides a minimum timeframe, while leaving flexibility for future guidance NTIA may issue defining the lifetime of a network. The word “assets” was updated to “network” due to the board feedback on the different lifespan of different components of a network.



November 21, 2023 | 1

# Digital Equity Plan Summary

**VCBB Board Meeting  
Nov. 21, 2023**

# Agenda

1. Needs and Barriers
2. Goals
3. How Goals and Barriers Link
4. VCCB's Role
5. Goals and Activities
6. Alignment with Existing Priorities
7. Collaboration and Partnerships
8. Timeline
9. Monitoring and Evaluation
10. Accountability
11. Funding and Sustainability
12. Stakeholder Engagement

# Needs & Barriers

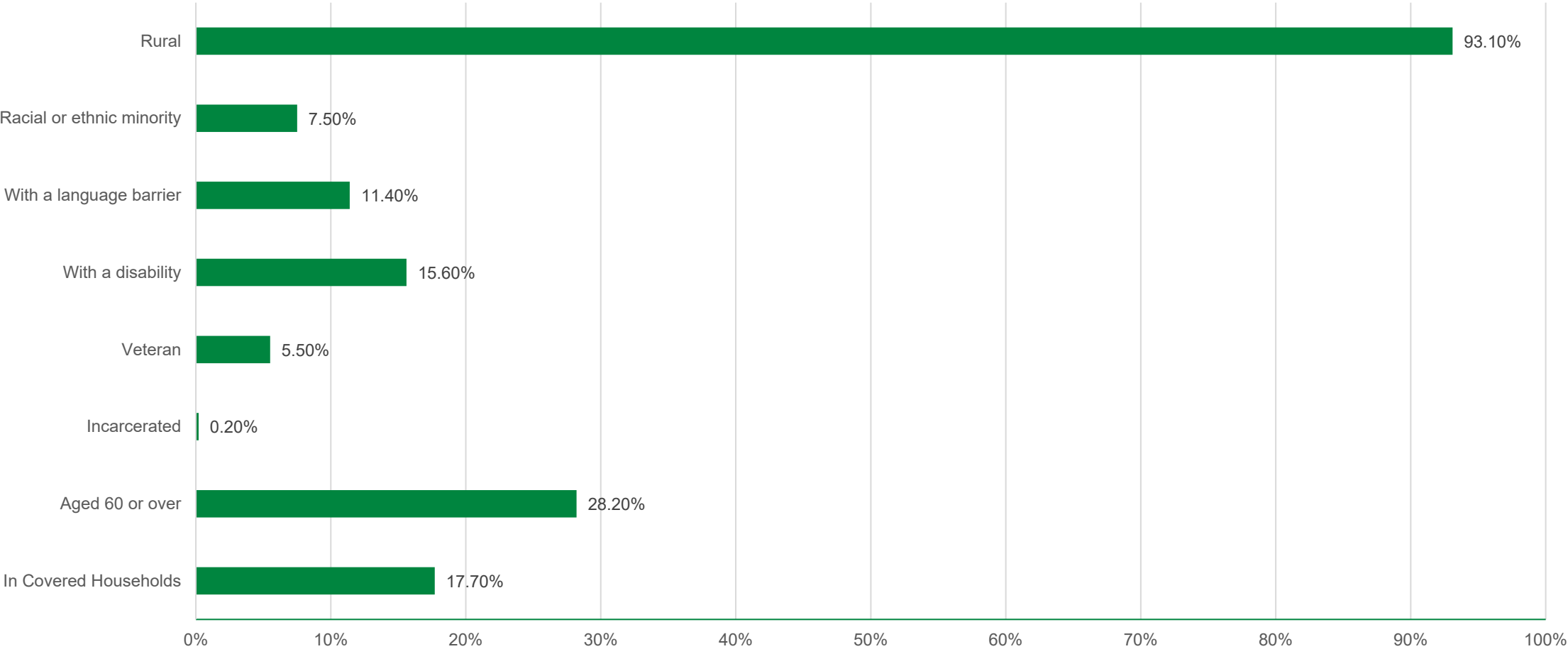
<b>Broadband Availability:</b> Broadband service is not available in area.	<b>Broadband Affordability:</b> Service is available but too expensive. Unaware of resources to help with service cost (e.g., ACP). Mistrust of subsidies.	<b>Device Access:</b> Don't have / can't afford a device that meets needs. Lack of awareness of resources available. Mistrust of subsidies/low-cost devices.	<b>Relevance:</b> Don't see the need/value in signing up for and paying for broadband service and/or assistive technologies.	<b>Digital Literacy:</b> Don't have the skills, confidence to use Internet, information technology meaningfully and productively.
---	---	--	---	--

Some pertinent baseline data:

- **60%** of survey respondents who live in a rural area indicated that broadband service is too expensive
- **82%** of Veteran survey respondents expressed an interest in resources to improve their digital skills
- **45%** of survey respondents who live in low-income indicated the cost of a device is too high

# Vermont's Covered Populations as a Percentage of Total Population

Vermont's Covered Populations



# Vermont's Goals

Goal 1: Mobilize resources for end-to-end broadband infrastructure deployments to all unserved and underserved locations and Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) in Vermont.

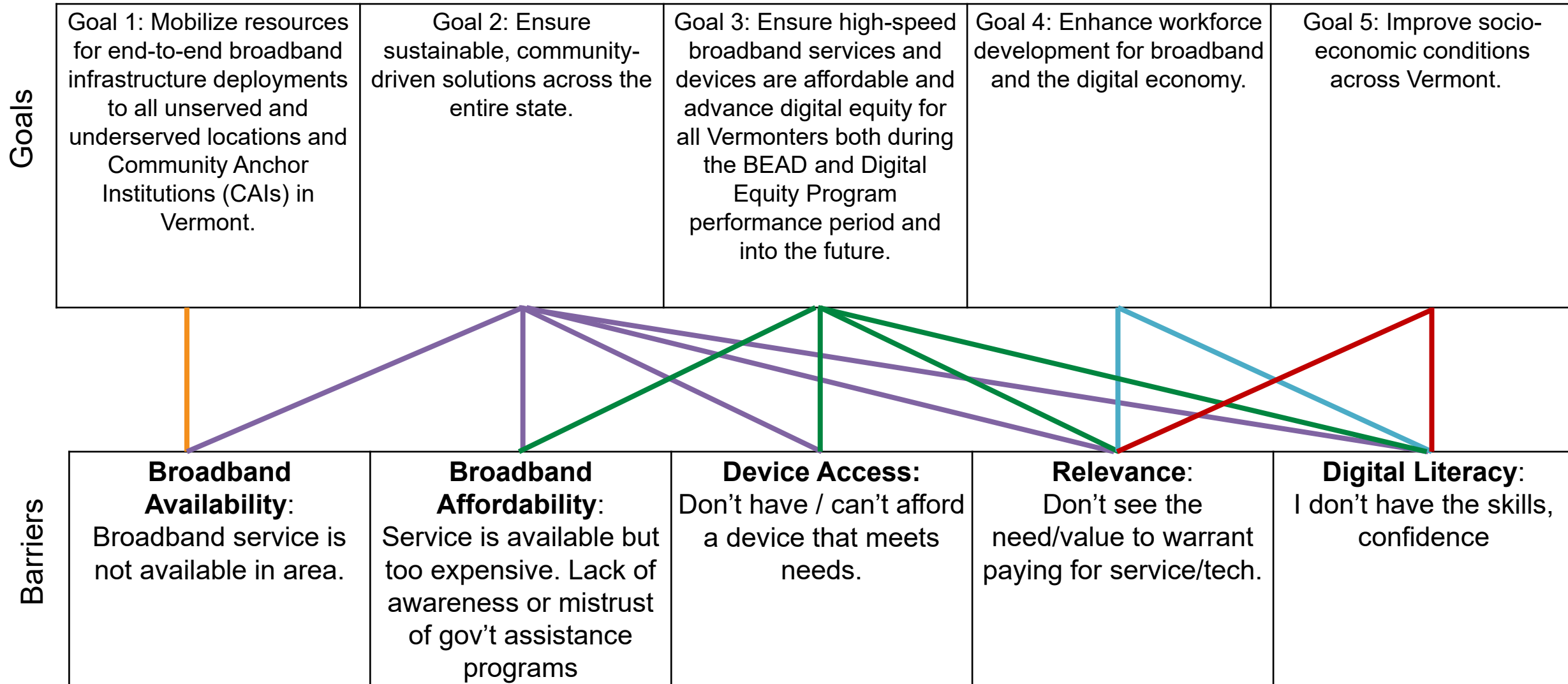
Goal 2: Ensure sustainable, community-driven solutions across the entire state.

Goal 3: Ensure high-speed broadband services and devices are affordable and advance digital equity for all Vermonters both during the BEAD and Digital Equity Program performance period and into the future.

Goal 4: Enhance workforce development for broadband and the digital economy.

Goal 5: Improve socio-economic conditions across Vermont.

# How Goals and Barriers Link





# VCBB's Role in Summary

- **Visionary:** Set the vision and strategy for advancing digital equity
- **Convenor:** Bring together stakeholders to learn and collaborate
- **Administrator:** Fund initiatives to advance objectives, ensure alignment with BEAD, accountability
- **Data analysis:** Aggregate, analyze, share data on digital equity
- **Advisor:** Help and empower other agencies, local government, CUDs, etc. incorporate digital equity into their services
- **Disseminator:** Disseminate resources for digital equity (e.g., asset inventory, skilling opportunities, broadband service updates)

# Goal 1

Mobilize resources for end-to-end broadband infrastructure deployments to all unserved and underserved locations and CAIs in Vermont.

## Objectives:

- Leverage BEAD and other available funding resources to remove barriers and foster a competitive and sustainable market for broadband service across Vermont.
- Implement the BEAD grant program (and other funding sources) for reliable and resilient broadband infrastructure deployments to extend 100/100 Mbps or better connectivity to all on-grid unserved and underserved locations, 100/20 Mbps or better connectivity to all off-grid locations, and 1/1 Gbps or better connectivity to all CAIs.
- Assist subgrantees in securing funding from additional sources for broadband infrastructure deployments.
- Ensure every town in Vermont has at least one CAI with access to symmetrical gigabit Mbps broadband service.

## Highlights of core activities:

- Pursue additional funding sources to supplement BEAD and Digital Equity Act programs.
- Support CUDs, ISPs, and other entities to pursue funding opportunities for expanded broadband deployment and other digital equity initiatives.
- Work with community partners and ISPs to install equipment to enable Wi-Fi signals outside buildings people experiencing housing insecurity frequent for services

<b>Barriers Addressed:</b> Broadband availability
<b>Covered Populations:</b> All

# Goal 2

Ensure sustainable, community-driven solutions across the entire state

## Objectives:

- Design and implement BEAD and Digital Equity grant programs that invest in infrastructure and digital equity initiatives with community support.
- Develop and strengthen partnerships with community stakeholders to identify opportunities for the VCBB to support and coordinate initiatives.
- Ensure BEAD- and Digital Equity-funded initiatives include commitments to future equipment upgrades and continued universal service coverage.
- Assist communities with strategies and resources to ensure broadband affordability and accessibility, along with connecting communities with digital skilling resources.
- Support local champions and community organizations to help their community members find and use the affordability and skilling resources they need.

## Highlights of core activities:

- Continue stakeholder engagement and establish a public feedback mechanism about the digital equity plan and funded activities.
- Establish a digital navigators program modeled after Vermont's Health Ambassadors
- Establish a train-the-trainer model to assist other state agencies and non-governmental organizations to incorporate digital equity resources into their outreach efforts.
- Publish and disseminate to each CAI materials describing digital equity resources
- Establish a device loaning program with libraries to allow Vermonters to check out/in a computer, tablet, or assistive technology.

### Barriers Addressed:

Broadband availability and affordability, device access, relevance, digital literacy

### Covered Populations:

All

# Goal 3

Ensure high-speed broadband services and devices are affordable and advance digital equity for all Vermonters both during the BEAD performance period and into the future.

## Objectives:

- Ensure all households with an income level at or below 150 percent of the poverty line have access to a low-cost broadband service option.
- Promote the ACP and other related resources for broadband affordability and adoption.
- Assist communities with strategies and resources to ensure broadband affordability and accessibility, along with connecting communities with digital skilling resources.
- Establish a coordinated effort with other state agencies to promote digital inclusion across Vermont.
- Promote the accessibility and inclusivity of digital public services.
- Ensure all Vermonters have access to accessible, multi-lingual, community-based technical support.
- Ensure every Vermont household with a student living in it has a connected device and assistive technology (if needed)

## Highlights of core activities:

- Work with the Department of Education to design and implement a device access program
- Audit and evaluate Vermont's state public services for accessibility and inclusivity.
- Design and implement a grant program for community organizations to upgrade their websites, materials, and online services to ensure accessibility.
- Establish a hotline available to the public for support getting information on digital equity resources, particularly the ACP benefit and digital literacy resources, and a referral to their local digital navigator.

**Barriers Addressed:**  
Broadband availability and affordability, device access, relevance, digital literacy

**Covered Populations:**  
All

# Goal 4

## Enhance workforce development for broadband and the digital economy

### Objectives:

- Increase capacity of education and training programs to develop the talent pipeline.
- Increase industry awareness and involvement in the opportunity created by these programs.
- Promote, target, and recruit participants in Vermont.
- Support for the industry to create sustainable employment opportunities.
- Establish a roadmap of career possibilities for participants in the Workforce Development Programs.
- Encourage the recruitment of a diverse workforce of Vermonters for jobs in the broadband ecosystem, including fiber technicians, flaggers, inspectors, trenchers, tree clearing crews, and electricians.

### Highlights of core activities:

- Work with the Department of Corrections to incorporate training opportunities for incarcerated individuals.
- Continue to support the design and implementation of apprenticeship and job training programs in collaboration with the Department of Labor and potential employers.
- Work with employers and workforce development partners to define, document, publish, and disseminate career roadmaps to articulate long-term opportunities for people entering or re-entering the workforce.
- Design and implement a grant program for community organizations to upgrade their websites, materials, and online services to ensure accessibility.
- Establish a hotline available to the public for support getting information on digital equity resources, particularly the ACP benefit and digital literacy resources, and a referral to their local digital navigator.

**Barriers Addressed:**  
Broadband availability and affordability, digital literacy

**Covered Populations:**  
All

# Goal 5

## Improve socio-economic conditions across Vermont

### Objectives:

- Ensure fair labor standards among BEAD subgrantees (in line with Vermont's BEAD Initial Proposal).
- Support workforce development opportunities in broadband related industries
- Empower Vermont residents, agencies, organizations, and businesses with the ability to use technology to study, work, communicate, and access health and other social services.

### Highlights of core activities:

- Oversee BEAD subgrantees to ensure accountability for fair labor standards and encourage recruiting from Covered Populations and other Underrepresented Communities and State-supported apprenticeship programs.
- Facilitate public-private partnerships on vocational rehabilitation: Work with technology companies on vocational rehabilitation programs that recruit and skill Vermonters from Covered Populations.
- Develop and promote digital skilling resources focused on in-demand job skills.
- Support CAIs and work with them to develop or expand programs and resources to increase the use of digital access for socio-economic mobility.

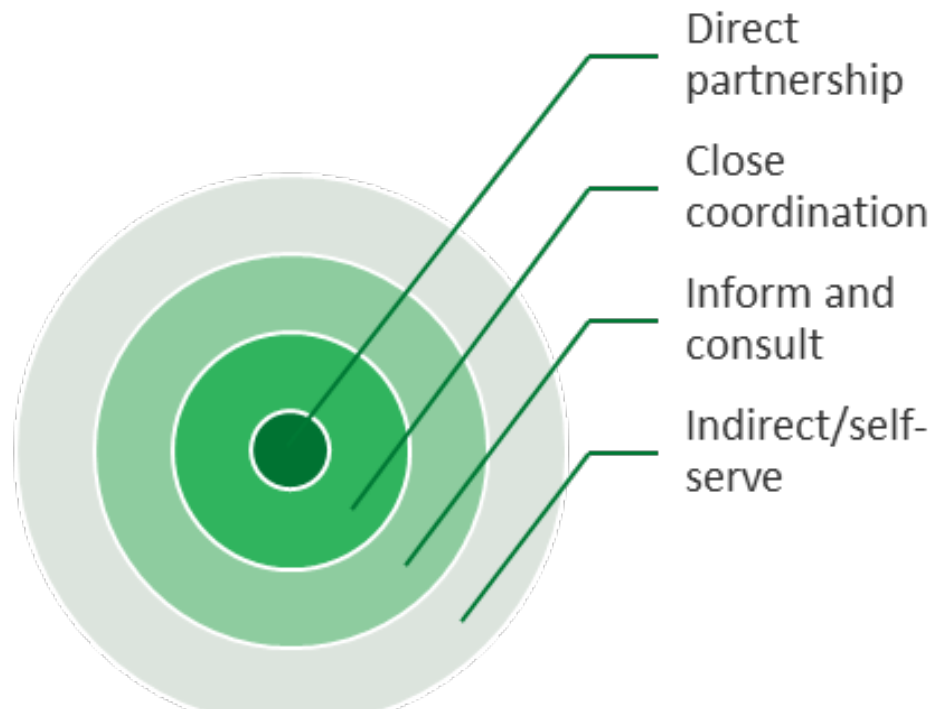
**Barriers Addressed:**  
Relevance, digital literacy

**Covered Populations:**  
All

# Alignment with Existing Policies and Priorities

- Vermont's objectives for digital equity intersect with its objectives for education, public services and civic engagement, health and human services, and community and workforce development.
- Priorities of equity, opportunity, and resilience emerge across agencies and sectors.
- The VCBB believes strongly in the correlation between Internet and technology access and positive socio-economic outcomes.

# Collaboration and Partnerships



- The VCBB intends to have varying degrees of collaborations in VT
- Types of potential partner organizations
  - Community-based organizations
  - Local Community Anchor Institutions
  - Institutions of higher learning
  - Workforce development agencies
  - Private sector companies



# Timeline

## 2024

- Establish data management function
- Continue stakeholder outreach and engagement
- Establish a Digital Navigators program
- Build upon Vermont Digital Equity Asset Inventory
- Finalize design and partnership approach for implementation
- Award subgrants
- Conduct annual digital equity survey

## 2025

- Implement program activities, including ongoing oversight of subawards and stakeholder engagement.
- Monitor and evaluate progress towards KPIs
- Maintain Vermont's digital equity dashboard and asset inventory
- Publish evaluation and learning report
- Conduct annual digital equity survey

## 2026

- Implement program activities, including ongoing oversight of subawards and stakeholder engagement.
- Monitor and evaluate progress towards KPIs
- Maintain Vermont's digital equity dashboard and asset inventory
- Conduct annual digital equity survey
- Publish evaluation and learning report

## 2027

- Implement program activities, including ongoing oversight of subawards and stakeholder engagement
- Monitor and evaluate progress towards KPIs
- Develop sustainability strategy for program activities
- Maintain Vermont's digital equity dashboard and asset inventory
- Publish evaluation and learning report

## 2028

- Conduct annual digital equity survey
- Evaluate progress towards KPIs and lessons learned
- Develop the next version of Vermont's Digital Equity Strategy
- Ensure sustainability or close-out of program activities, as appropriate

# Monitoring and Evaluation

Key steps to Vermont's approach to monitoring, evaluating, and learning during the implementation of this plan include:

- Establish a data collection, management, and monitoring function to collect more granular data around digital equity in Vermont
- Design data collection practices to enable the VCBB to regularly evaluate the impact of programs towards digital equity outcomes
- Where necessary, establish partnerships and data-sharing agreements with other agencies and organizations that already routinely collect relevant data
- Regularly monitor and evaluate progress towards key performance indicators (KPIs) and utilization of digital equity programs and services by Covered Populations
- Establish a publicly available dashboard that transparently displays Vermont's progress towards its KPIs

# Accountability

To ensure transparency and accountability, the VCBB will take the following steps mentioned above and summarized below:

- Establish a virtual dashboard that presents the VCBB's progress towards KPIs and a mechanism for public feedback about programs and resources
- Regular reporting on performance and learning posted publicly.
- Frequent and open communication and engagement with stakeholders and the public.
- All presentations and materials will be in plain language and evaluated for accessibility

# Funding and Sustainability

- Vermont's BEAD funds will focus on addressing barriers to broadband access.
- Digital Equity Plan and future grant funds will focus on broadband adoption and other digital equity issues.
- VCBB has an objective focused on increasing financial and in-kind resources for digital equity beyond the NTIA grant program
- Through widespread collaboration with community partners and state agencies, digital equity will become institutionalized throughout Vermont's public and community services.

# **Stakeholder Engagement: Future Opportunities for Public Input**

- Monthly office hours with Vermont's Digital Equity Officer
- VCBB Board meetings
- 30-day public comment period on the Digital Equity Plan draft
- Quarterly Digital Equity update and listening session
- Ongoing feedback via letters, emails, and phone calls

# Thank you

### Proposed Legislative priorities for 2024 session

	Subject Matter	Proposal	Recommendation
1.	Reinstatement of \$20M borrowed for flood relief	Consider broadening the language of the appropriation to include all potential BEAD requirements including letters of credit and potentially performance bonds	Prepare proposed language and share with Board at December meeting
2.	Affordability	<p>Create an affordability fund to complement the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) with the following potential funding streams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The USF (based on fees charged to all phone numbers (mobile and VOIP in addition to traditional Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS) lines</li> <li>• Savings from implementing an exemption from the Rule 3.700 pole attachment tariff for publicly owned broadband infrastructure or infrastructure located in un/underserved areas</li> <li>• Fees paid by nonpublic broadband providers to VTrans for use of the Right of Way for broadband infrastructure</li> <li>• Require landlords of multiple dwelling units to include the cost of broadband in rent and nonexclusive access to conduit to allow competition from other broadband providers and promote fiber broadband deployment</li> <li>• Require owners of mobile home communities to include the cost of broadband in lease payments and nonexclusive access to conduit to allow competition from other broadband providers and promote fiber broadband deployment</li> </ul>	Complete research and outreach to identify potential litigation and other risks and prepare any appropriate recommended language
3.	H-0419, Consumer Protection/Privacy Bill	Staff is proposing that we add a review and discussion of this important proposed legislation to our December meeting. It appears that this legislation would provide a statewide baseline of	Add to agenda for December meeting

		consumer protections similar to what the Board is requiring in its Consumer Protection provisions in its grant agreements involving CCI and WCVT.	
4.	Technical Corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updating the definitions in Act 71 to align with BEAD to allow the use of a single state map of served/underserved/unserved locations (e.g., 25/3 is underserved in Act 71 and unserved in BEAD)</li> <li>• VCUDA will address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Changing the date of the annual CUD reporting; and</li> <li>○ Providing a process for the merger of CUDs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	VCBB will address in December meeting; VCUDA will include in its comments



29 Main Street, Suite 4  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
www.cvfiber.net



## Act 71 Construction Grant Program

### Grant # 02240 – FY22 - Act71Const-03 Grant Amendment Request

6 November 2023

Dear Rob Fish,

The Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) awarded CVFiber Grant # 02240 – FY22 – Act71Const-03 on 11 July 2022, and authorized Amendment #1 on 05 June 2023 (the "Grant"). The Grant provides CVFiber with funds in the amount of \$14,200,118 to be used for the purposes of funding the project as proposed in CVFiber's application and defined and described in the Grant's Attachment A – Scope of Work (the "Project"). The VCBB makes Grant payments in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant's Attachment B – Payment Provisions.

CVFiber requests an amendment to Grant # 02240 – FY22 – Act71Const-03 that modifies the Project and Payment Provisions as described below. These modifications are required due to the changed conditions and information available to CVFiber since the submittal of the grant application in June 2022. Substantial changes necessitating this amendment request include increased material costs, increased labor costs, and increased administrative support required to execute the Grant Scope of Work.

The requested amendment to Grant # 02240 – FY22 – Act71Const-03 are listed below (note that changes are underlined for emphasis):

- To change page 9, Grant Attachment A-Scope of Work Section B.1 Project Summary, by replacing it in its entirety with the following:
  - Network Construction: Within twenty-four (24) months grantee shall construct a network consisting of at least 200 miles, 1,900 passings, and providing service to residents of selected areas of the towns of Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Woodbury, and Worcester. Grantee will provide

the VCBB with an updated accounting of addresses to be completed in the next quarter. The grantee will also provide updated budget reporting quarterly.

- To change page 15, Attachment B, Payment Provisions, item (4): Dispersal of Grant Funds by replacing the project milestones chart with the following:

PROJECT MILESTONES	AMOUNT DISBURSED
Upon Grant Agreement execution, Board receipt and Executive Director approval of submission of invoice and documentation for materials and construction contracting and make-ready, 30% of the award will be issued to grantee.	<b>\$3,686,782</b>
Performance payment of 6% upon submission and approval by the Grant Manager of detailed designs for phase 1 (for a total of 30%) (#1 = CL01, CL02; #2 = RS01; RS02; #3 = CL03, RS03; #4 = MT01, MT02; #5 = MT03; MA01, MA02, MA03, PF01)	<b>\$737,356 x 5 =\$3,686,782</b>
30% of the Grant award is reimbursable for approved construction expenses with any remaining amount of this 30% to be issued upon completion of first 50% of the miles.	<b>\$3,686,782</b>
Amendment #1 award is payable for approved expenses upon submission of invoice and supporting documentation.	<b>\$1,719,761</b>
Construction completion payment (8%) upon completion <u>of construction in Design Areas CL01, CL02, CL03, RS01, and RS02</u> and compliance as outlined in the grant agreement. This includes testing, and submission of all required reporting data.	<b>\$1,136,009</b>
Final payment (2%) upon submission of 6-month post-project reporting and all required data.	<b>\$284,002</b>

Thank you,

*Jerry Diamantides*

Jerry Diamantides

Chair, CVFiber

jdiamantides@cvfiber.net

## **Proposed Process for VCBB Policy Approval**

1. Working Group or Sub-Group provides input for the development of Draft Policy
  - Sub-Group chair (member of the VDBB Board) determines when a draft policy is ready for review.
2. VCBB Staff and Counsel Review Draft Policy
  - Review Statutory Authority and make recommendations if necessary.
  - VCBB Staff review compatibility with current programs and activities including any conflict with other policies, overlap, concerns, etc.
  - Staff should also include implementation instructions (date to be implemented, any transitional, grandfathering or financial implications, etc)
3. After Sub-Group , Staff and Counsel Review, Draft is posted
  - Posted on VCBB website for public comment (no less than 5 business days)
  - Comments are shared with Board Chair, Sub-Group Chair, Exec. Director and Counsel.
  - Sub-Group Chair decides to make further revisions or proceed to full Board of the VCBB.
4. Final Draft including in Board packet as part of standard Board meeting and public notice process.
5. Board Meeting
  - Final public comment is considered prior to vote on policy prior to final Board vote.
  - Board discusses policy and has option to send back to working sub-group.
  - Board approves policy, including the date the policy goes into effect and any implementation instructions.

# VCBB Board Budget FY24 QTR 1 Update

## Budgets by State Fiscal Year

### Operating

Category	FY24	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Costs	28,000.00	<b>28,000.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment & Software	10,000.00	<b>10,000.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Internal Service Fees	162,035.36	<b>162,035.36</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Misc Costs	5,000.00	<b>5,000.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-state Contractual	2,531,039.40	<b>2,531,039.40</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Personnel Costs	5,286.60	<b>5,286.60</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel	1,463,466.63	<b>1,463,466.63</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> State Contractual	1,896,258.84	<b>1,896,258.84</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplies	2,000.00	<b>2,000.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel & Training	42,500.85	<b>42,500.85</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,145,587.68</b>	<b>6,145,587.68</b>

### Capital (Grants)

Category	FY24	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital Grants</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>
ARPA Capital	90,500,000.00	<b>90,500,000.00</b>
ARPA SFR (Act 74)	37,500,000.00	<b>37,500,000.00</b>
One-time General Fund	1,100,000.00	<b>1,100,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>

Fiscal Year	FY24			Total		
Category	Sum of Budget	Sum of Expenses	Budget Used	Sum of Budget	Sum of Expenses	Budget Used
<b>Capital Grants</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>	<b>8,476,226.40</b>	<b>6.57%</b>	<b>129,100,000.00</b>	<b>8,476,226.40</b>	<b>6.57%</b>
ARPA Capital	90,500,000.00			90,500,000.00		
ARPA SFR (Act 74)	37,500,000.00	8,476,226.40	22.60%	37,500,000.00	8,476,226.40	22.60%
One-time General Fund	1,100,000.00			1,100,000.00		
<b>Non-state Contractual</b>	<b>2,531,039.40</b>			<b>2,531,039.40</b>		
<b>State Contractual</b>	<b>1,896,258.84</b>	<b>419,139.16</b>	<b>22.10%</b>	<b>1,896,258.84</b>	<b>419,139.16</b>	<b>22.10%</b>
Federal	1,457,718.84	372,074.13	25.52%	1,457,718.84	372,074.13	25.52%
USF	438,540.00	47,065.03	10.73%	438,540.00	47,065.03	10.73%
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>1,463,466.63</b>	<b>283,433.41</b>	<b>19.37%</b>	<b>1,463,466.63</b>	<b>283,433.41</b>	<b>19.37%</b>
USF	725,407.80	156,318.93	21.55%	725,407.80	156,318.93	21.55%
Federal	589,656.06	117,807.57	19.98%	589,656.06	117,807.57	19.98%
AoA One-time ARPA	148,402.77	9,306.91	6.27%	148,402.77	9,306.91	6.27%
<b>Internal Service Fees</b>	<b>162,035.36</b>	<b>14,316.90</b>	<b>8.84%</b>	<b>162,035.36</b>	<b>14,316.90</b>	<b>8.84%</b>
Federal	109,035.36			109,035.36		
USF	53,000.00	14,316.90	27.01%	53,000.00	14,316.90	27.01%
<b>Travel &amp; Training</b>	<b>42,500.85</b>	<b>3,951.05</b>	<b>9.30%</b>	<b>42,500.85</b>	<b>3,951.05</b>	<b>9.30%</b>
<b>Board Costs</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>5,250.00</b>	<b>18.75%</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>5,250.00</b>	<b>18.75%</b>
<b>Equipment &amp; Software</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>1,397.00</b>	<b>13.97%</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>1,397.00</b>	<b>13.97%</b>
<b>Other Personnel Costs</b>	<b>5,286.60</b>	<b>476.52</b>	<b>9.01%</b>	<b>5,286.60</b>	<b>476.52</b>	<b>9.01%</b>
<b>Misc Costs</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>1,824.91</b>	<b>36.50%</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>1,824.91</b>	<b>36.50%</b>
<b>Supplies</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>184.69</b>	<b>9.23%</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>184.69</b>	<b>9.23%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>135,245,587.68</b>	<b>9,206,200.04</b>	<b>6.81%</b>	<b>135,245,587.68</b>	<b>9,206,200.04</b>	<b>6.81%</b>

## Operating

Information is FY23 thru  
9/30/23

**% budget spent: 6.81%**

**% Remaining: 93.19%**

**FEDERAL:**  
includes BEAD, NBRC  
Digital Equity

does not include  
H.315 & Grants to  
CUDs

Information is  
7/1/21 thru 9/30/23

## Operating #2

Year to Date Totals

does not include  
H.315  
Grants to CUDs

FEDERAL:  
includes BEAD  
Digital Equity  
NBRC

Category	Sum of Budget	Sum of Expenses	Budget Remaining	Expenses % of Total	Remaining % of Total
Capital Grants	242,000,000.00	73,048,744.18	116,691,264.51	95.91%	88.69%
Personnel	11,067,375.48	1,592,147.81	9,475,227.67	2.09%	7.20%
State Contractual	2,634,260.00	1,277,451.41	602,927.59	1.68%	0.46%
Internal Service Fees	906,352.08	118,372.87	787,979.21	0.16%	0.60%
Travel & Training	202,620.25	45,108.44	157,511.81	0.06%	0.12%
Board Costs	140,000.00	35,290.94	104,709.06	0.05%	0.08%
Equipment & Software	50,000.00	26,878.65	23,121.35	0.04%	0.02%
Misc Costs	25,000.00	10,102.09	14,897.91	0.01%	0.01%
Other Personnel Costs	10,573.20	2,753.75	7,819.45	0.00%	0.01%
Supplies	10,000.00	1,586.54	8,413.46	0.00%	0.01%
Non-state Contractual	3,707,111.21		3,707,111.21		2.82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>260,753,292.22</b>	<b>76,158,436.68</b>	<b>131,580,983.23</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Funding	Sum of Budget	Sum of Expenses	Budget Remaining	Expenses % of Total	Remaining % of Total
⊞ ARPA SFR (Act 74)	150,000,000.00	75,005,803.26	22,734,205.43	98.48%	17.28%
⊞ Federal	9,018,154.03	859,247.43	7,405,025.60	1.13%	5.63%
⊞ USF	4,942,655.06	228,749.42	4,713,905.64	0.30%	3.58%
⊞ AoA One-time ARPA	292,483.13	43,365.13	249,118.00	0.06%	0.19%
⊞ ARPA Capital	95,000,000.00		95,000,000.00		72.20%
⊞ One-time General Fund	1,500,000.00		1,500,000.00		1.14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>260,753,292.22</b>	<b>76,137,165.24</b>	<b>131,602,254.67</b>	<b>99.97%</b>	<b>100.02%</b>





279.3 mi

0 mi3.7k mi

Miles Completed

Last update: 2 minutes ago

1.4k

026.6k

Eligible Addresses Completed

Last update: 2 minutes ago

1.9k

052.1k

Total Addresses Passed

Last update: 2 minutes ago

486

New Fiber Customers

Last update: 2 minutes ago

Funding Progress

Funded Project Progress

\$187.14M

\$0\$245M

Total Obligated Act 71 Grant Funding

Last update: 1 minute ago

3,673 mi

0 mi7,342 mi

Project Miles Funded

Last update: 1 minute ago

26.6k

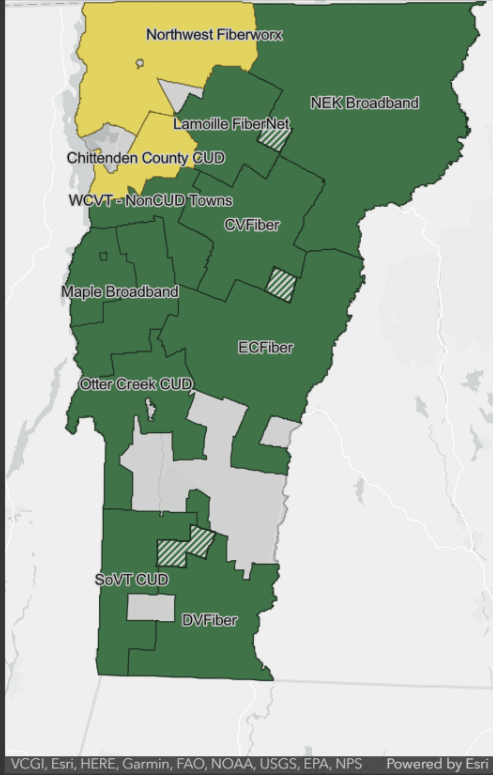
058.3k

Eligible Addresses Funded

Last update: 1 minute ago

Funding Progress

Funded Project Progress



Act 71 Construction Grants to Date	
CVFiber	\$14,200,118
DVFiber	\$21,945,429
ECFiber	\$13,227,657
Maple Broadband	\$10,843,386
NEK Broadband	\$38,805,525
Lamoille FiberNet	\$13,588,636
Otter Creek CUD	\$9,952,273
SoVT CUD	\$9,009,085
WCVT - Maple Broadband	\$9,000,000
Last update: 1 minute ago	
Construction	

\$148.92M

Total Awarded for Construction Grants

Last update: 1 minute ago

\$28.4M

Total Awarded for Pre-Construction Grants

Last update: 1 minute ago

\$9.82M

Total Awarded for Pre-Project Materials

Last update: 1 minute ago

\$73.05M

Total ARPA Funding Spent

Last update: 1 minute ago

Act 71 Pre-Construction Grants to Date	
WCVT - NonCUD Towns	\$8,348,243

Act 71 Pre-Project Materials Funding	
CVFiber	\$6,000,000
DVFiber	\$1,108,800
Maple Broadband	\$781,284
NEK Broadband	\$1,353,915
Lamoille FiberNet	\$281,652
Northwest Fiberworx	\$295,450

Act 71 Pre-Construction Grants to Date	
CVFiber	\$2,804,667
DVFiber	\$4,111,318
ECFiber	\$2,841,130
Maple Broadband	\$4,202,083
NEK Broadband	\$6,670,000
Lamoille FiberNet	\$2,563,363
Northwest Fiberworx	\$3,558,933
Otter Creek CUD	\$1,349,936
Chittenden County CUD	\$300,000

#	Priority	Item	Date entered	Assigned to	Resolution and date
51		Application scoring criteria policy	11/13/23	Staff	
50		Ensure BEAD submittal has adequate acronym boxes	11/13/23	Staff	
49		Develop an RFP for Government Affairs to bring on someone prior to January 01, 2024 and determine funding source	11/13/23	Staff	
48		Policy development Timeline, if needed	11/13/23		
47		Process for Approval of Working Group Policy drafts	11/13/23	Rob V/ Patty	
46		Create folder on VCBB website for Board Policies, starting with Ex parte Communications	11/13/23	Staff	
45		Revise September 11 meeting minutes	11/13/23	Christine	
44		Letters/memos to House and Senate Appropriations Committees			
42	1	Produce an overlay of the BEAD and ARPA timelines and the grant request timelines in the upcoming work of the Board.	09/11/23	Christine Hallquist	
43	1	Propose strategy for Government Affairs	09/11/23	Christine Hallquist	

35	1	Patty Richards to lead the Board in a response to the auditor's report	04/10/23	Board	
37	1	Develop Construction Standards <sup>1</sup>	07/18/23	Dan Nelson/Christine Hallquist	
38	1	Annual Report Submission List <sup>2</sup>	07/18/23	Holly Groschner/Christine Hallquist	
39	1	Develop Grantee agreement that VCBB will operate the system in the event of failure to comply	07/18/23	Christine Hallquist	
40	1	Develop Lien for the VCBB funded network and components <sup>3</sup>	07/18/23	Christine Hallquist	
41	1	Policy for certification of Grantee compliance to Performance and Operating Standards	07/18/23	Patty Richards/Christine Hallquist	
36	1	Determine what restrictions exist for ex parte communications	07/18/23	Patty Richards	Passed policy at 09/11/23 meeting
26	1	Establish policy to address issue of enforceability with any of the partners and the CUDs.	8/22/22	CH	Policy discussion to be held at 4/10/23 meeting. This is now part of the Board Policy discussions related to the Auditor's report.

<sup>1</sup> Include open architecture policy, safety, reporting process on compliance and detailed description for each attribute. Staff process required for compliance to Board policy.

<sup>2</sup> Identify all criteria, including how to address affordability, geographic diversity, Universal Service, operating standards, and reliability. Staff process required for compliance to Board policy.

<sup>3</sup> Include sunset provision for the Lien

29		Include placeholder for budget update, dashboards, and policy and goals discussion to all Board Meeting Agendas	11/03/22	CH	Budget and Dashboards addressed at January and February Board Meetings Christine will confirm with Patty what Board expectations are for the policy and goals discussion
24	1	Invite to the Federal Delegation to future Board Meeting	8/8/22	CH	Delegation will be invited to the January Board meeting
22	3	VCBB's approach to mapping and strategy for challenging the FCC.	6/14/22	CH	Presented initial strategy 12/12/22. A Federal Program Officer at the NTIA will be needed to work on this with and that has finally been announced as Clay Purvis from the Public Service Department. He will be invited to January meeting.
28		Finalize subsequent overbuild policy and data policy.	10/31/22		This is addressed in the VCBB Data and Overbuild Policy submitted to the Board for continued discussion at the 12/12/22 meeting.
32		Alignment of VCBB Mission Statement based on Act 71	11/14/22		Patty Richards to lead this 12/12/22.
25	2	Host workshop for the CUDs on Uniform Guidance	8/8/22	CH	Completed December 7th
30		Adjust timing of Board Packet to at least 5 business days before the Board Meeting	11/03/22		Plan to start new schedule in January
33		Create a Communication Procedure Plan for Board notifications of updates from Staff (press releases, legislative presentations,	11/14/22		Completed in the November 28 Board meeting.
34		Discussion regarding development of a separate website			Staff recommends we continue with the current website which follows state protocols.

27		Board requested that a grant agreement template be shared	10/31/22		Item closed – agreement was shared
23	1	Define audit criteria and post award grant reporting and review process for grantees/CUDs	8/8/22	CH	Item Closed - Compliance Recommendation Memo presented October 31 <sup>st</sup> . Additional reporting requirements will be shared once the new form is updated and staff will create a dashboard for tracking.
18	1	Signature Authority of Executive Director	03/28/22	CH	Closed. Approved in July.
19	1	Policy around hiring staff	03/28/22	CH	Closed. Approved in July.
21	1	Invite to Doug Farnum to future Board Meeting	6/14/22	CH	Attended August 8 <sup>th</sup> meeting.
20	3	Recommendation for designation of an entity for Digital Equity & Affordability Office	03/28/22	CH	Closed. This is being addressed by the Governor's office per a directive from the NTIA. This falls into the responsibility of the VCBB as a subset of the IJA program.
8	2	Policy on "Material Default" see §8086(c)(2)	11/1/21	board	Closed. Issue has been resolved through legislation.
5	3	VCBB Dashboard – to be shared monthly to show progress. What are the milestones?	11/1/21	CH	Closed. Stone Environmental has presented its proposal and the software platform meets the needs.
16	1	Provide Board with impact of Commitment letter	02/14/22	CH	Closed with material pre-purchasing proposal.
17	2	Statewide marketing collaboration with VCUDA	02/14/22	CH	Closed. VCUDA is not interested.
15	2	Provide Benchmarks for what telecom companies spend on Marketing	02/14/22	CH	Will research and present back on 3/14/22 Board meeting
1	1	Budget	10/18/21	CH	Completed. 2021 budget approved. 2022 will be presented in March.

2	1	Overbuild – what is the standard (20% of total served?)	11/1/21	CH	Completed. See Construction RFP Definition
3	2	Business Plans – what is the scope? Will they be updated before construction grants?	11/1/21	CH	Completed. The updated business plans will be included in the Construction RFP responses.
6	3	Fiber purchase – VCBB involvement? authorization? Status?	11/1/21	CH	Completed
7	1	Make Ready Construction – policy: part of §8085 grants or not?	11/1/21	board	Policy established. Make ready construction will be part of the construction grant program.
9	2	Revisiting timeline for VCBB – construction RFP & reporting timelines	11/22/21	RF	Completed. Part of the construction RFP. RFP approved by the Board on 01/03/22
10	2	Sequence assumptions for preconstruction and construction & reporting timelines	11/22/21	CH	Completed. Part of the Construction RFP. RFP approved by the Board on 01/03/22
11	2	DPS 2021 Map – Unserved	11/1/21	CH& board (LS)	Completed
12	1	Confidentiality. Grant Agreement Art 5 (state standard). Is the product of a grant a “public document” – e.g. will we post construction plans?	11/1/21	CH/Legal	The RFP and construction schedules will be public.
13	2	USP & contiguous CUD construction- policy	11/22/21	Board LS/HG	Completed. Addressed in the Construction RFP.
14		Legislative Consideration – Purchase of consolidated services/goods	11/29/21		Not needed.