



LINCOLN COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

January 24, 2025

FOR PUBLIC NOTICE

January 30th Broadband Commission Meeting Will Feature Public Presentations from Internet Service Providers About Proposed Internet Service Expansion Projects in Lincoln County.

The Lincoln County Broadband Commission's monthly public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Lincoln County Service Center in Merrill and online. The meeting will feature presentations from internet service providers (ISPs) who are proposing to expand their services in Lincoln County through the federal Broadband Equity, Access, & Deployment (BEAD) grant program. ISPs are seeking public support from Lincoln County, all impacted local governments, and key community institutions as part of the BEAD grant application process.

Following the ISP presentations, in-person attendees will have an opportunity to speak with ISP representatives one-on-one in a separate meeting area. Attendees will also have an opportunity to share their thoughts on the proposed ISP projects during Public Comment, which will take place after the ISP presentations and general monthly updates. Following Public Comment, the Lincoln County Broadband Commission members may adjourn into closed session to deliberate which ISP project(s) the organization should recommend receive formal support from the Lincoln County Board through an official County endorsement as required by the BEAD program process. To view the complete meeting agenda, visit: <https://www.lincolncountyedc.org/commission-meetings>

All interested members of the public are invited to attend. Government officials and representatives from community anchor institutions located in areas likely to be included as part of the internet service expansion proposals are especially encouraged to participate. Attendees may join the meeting:

- IN PERSON: Lincoln County Service Center (801 North Sales Street, 2nd Floor Board Room, Merrill, WI 54452)
- ONLINE: <http://meet.google.com/cyt-wxgo-nsq>

ABOUT THE BEAD GRANT PROGRAM: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law created the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program with a goal of providing high-speed internet for all Wisconsinites. BEAD will support the deployment of fiber and other qualifying internet technology that provides service of 100/20 Megabits per second (Mbps) download/upload to all households and businesses in Wisconsin that lack access to 100/20 Mbps. BEAD funding may only be allocated to bring service to areas deemed un(der)served by the Public Service Commission and listed as BEAD eligible on BEAD project units maps. Lincoln County has 2,938 BEAD eligible locations within 86 approved project units. For more information, visit: <https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/ServiceType/Broadband/GrantBEAD.aspx>

ABOUT THE LINCOLN COUNTY BROADBAND COMMISSION: The Lincoln County Broadband Commission (LCBC) is a non-governmental entity designated to oversee activities related to broadband/internet service expansion efforts throughout Lincoln County, Wisconsin. For more information, visit: <https://www.lincolncountyedc.org/broadband>

QUESTIONS about this public meeting and/or the Lincoln County Broadband Commission may be directed to:

Ken Wickham, Chair, Lincoln County Broadband Commission
Ken.Wickham@co.lincoln.wi.us or (715) 360-0912

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