

Date: 2-16-23

For immediate release

To: Coös County City, Towns, and Unincorporated Places

From: The Office of Coös County Commissioners

Memo: Coös County Broadband Committee to Reconvene

The Office of Coös County Commissioners would like to announce that the county is committed to continuing the collaborative work of the Coös County Broadband Committee for the next two years by following the recommendations of the Coös County Mapping Study published in June 2022.

The committee will meet monthly, a combination of virtual and in-person, and turn its focus on broadband improvements through membership in the NH Broadband Investment and Planning Network managed by the National Collaborative for Digital Equity (NCDE), and partner with the NH Municipal Association (NHMA), and North County Council in support of economic opportunities.

We realize that municipalities must actively pursue new fiber infrastructure to secure our economies of scale for the next 50+ years. Although some communities will receive fiber through federal grant funding, others will be left to their own devices. NH Broadband Investment and Planning Network member communities will be assisted on an individual consulting basis on the ever-changing landscape of telecommunications and the specific needs of the community.

All will benefit from participation, whether sharing strategies or aggregating demand.

The majority of the Coös County municipalities have an individual(s) appointed to the committee already. What we are asking now is to have the select board from each town re-confirm your existing member or appoint a local person to serve on the committee and to be the liaison back to each municipality. We welcome all of our Coös communities to join.

If your town wishes to be a participant, please return the Letter of Commitment and a copy of your Board of Selectmen minutes, where this was discussed and approved by March 22, 2023 to Jennifer Fish at jennifer.fish@cooscountynh.us . If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the email address above.