

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board

Meeting Packet: Wednesday, May 24, 2023

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Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 | 10:00am – 11:00am MST (or upon adjournment)

Idaho Capitol Building

Room WW53

This meeting will also be held virtually via Zoom

Register in advance [here](#).

Time	Topic	Presenter	Notes
10:00 am	Call to Order Roll Call	Chairman Vander Woude	
10:05 am	Approve Meeting Minutes March 15, 2023 March 22, 2023 March 31, 2023	Idaho Broadband Advisory Board	Action Item
10:10 am	Idaho Broadband Fund Contracts & Legal Counsel: K&L Gates	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, Idaho Dept. of Commerce & Jeff Cohen and Rob Dodson, K&L Gates	Action Item
10:25 am	Idaho Office of Broadband Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">Idaho CPF ProgramIdaho Broadband MapIdaho BEAD ProgramPublic Outreach	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, Idaho Dept. of Commerce	
10:45 am	Any New Business & Next IBAB Meetings	Idaho Broadband Advisory Board	
11:00 am	Adjournment	Chairman Vander Woude	

For additional information, please contact the State's Broadband Program Manager, Ramón S. Hobdey-Sánchez at 208.287.3153 or ramon.hobdey-sanchez@commerce.idaho.gov.



Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2023
Idaho Capitol Building
Room WW53 and via Zoom

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Chairman, Rep. John Vander Woude, Idaho Legislator	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, State Broadband Program Manager
Vice-Chair Sen. Doug Ricks, Idaho Legislator	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator
Sen. James Ruchti, Idaho Legislator	Ewa Szewczyk, Grants and Contracts Manager
Sen. Trent Berg, Idaho Legislator	
Rep. Megan Blanksma, Idaho Legislator	
Rep. Barbara Ehardt, Idaho Legislator	
Andrew Emerson, MH Solutions	
Mitch Watkins, Watkins Distribution (Z)	
Margie Watson, JC Watson & Company (Z)	
(Z) denotes via Zoom	

To view/hear entire meeting A/V, please click [here](#).

Call to order:

Chairman Rep. John Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM with a quorum present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes 2-15-2023 meeting.

Motion by: Margie Watson to approve meeting minutes.

Seconded by: Andy Emerson

All in favor: motion passes

Idaho Broadband Fund: Public Comments on Awarded Projects:

The following addressed the Board with submitting proposals and support:

Commentors:

- Patrick Caron from Cable One/Sparklight
- Stafford Strong, Charter Commission
- Jessica Eply, Zply Fiber

Port of Lewiston Project (\$6.3M)

- Scott Corbitt, GM

IRON/IIG Project (\$20M)

- Andy Binder, IRON President/CEO

Idaho Capital Projects Fund Grant Guidelines:

Draft 1 was presented in February.

New Business: N/A

Next IBAB Meetings: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 9:00 AM

Adjournment: 10:45 AM



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Idaho Capitol Building
Room WW53 and via Zoom

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Chairman, Rep. John Vander Woude, Idaho Legislator	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, State Broadband Program Manager
Vice-Chair Sen. Doug Ricks, Idaho Legislator	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator (A)
Sen. James Ruchti, Idaho Legislator	Ewa Szewczyk, Grants and Contracts Manager
Sen. Trent Berg, Idaho Legislator	
Rep. Megan Blanksma, Idaho Legislator	
Rep. Barbara Ehardt, Idaho Legislator	
Andrew Emerson, MH Solutions (A)	
Mitch Watkins, Watkins Distribution (Z)	
Margie Watson, JC Watson & Company (Z)	
(Z) denotes via Zoom	
(A) denotes absent	

To view/hear entire meeting A/V, please click [here](#).

Call to order:

Chairman Rep. John Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:05 am with a quorum present.

Idaho Office of Broadband Update:

Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, Program Manager of Idaho Broadband Advisory Board

Idaho Capital Projects Fund Grant Guidelines:

Board discussion on guideline verbiage and language.

The Board advised document to be revised before voting on it. Time frame for clean copy with changes by next meeting.

Staff will make revisions.

New Business: NA

Next IBAB Meetings: Monday, March 27, 2023, at 8:00 am. (Meeting date and time was revised to Friday, March 31, 2023, at 9:00 am.)

Adjournment: 10:00 am



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 31, 2023
Idaho Capitol Building
Room WW53 and via Zoom

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Chairman, Rep. John Vander Woude, Idaho Legislator	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, State Broadband Program Manager
Vice-Chair Sen. Doug Ricks, Idaho Legislator	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator
Sen. James Ruchti, Idaho Legislator	Ewa Szewczyk, Grants and Contracts Manager
Sen. Trent Berg, Idaho Legislator (A)	
Rep. Megan Blanksma, Idaho Legislator (A)	
Rep. Barbara Ehardt, Idaho Legislator (A)	
Andrew Emerson, MH Solutions	
Mitch Watkins, Watkins Distribution	
Margie Watson, JC Watson & Company	
(Z) denotes via Zoom	
(A) denotes absent	

To view/hear entire meeting A/V, please click [here](#).

Call to order:

Chairman Rep. John Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM with a quorum present.

Idaho Office of Broadband Update:

Ramon on BEAD program and 5-year Action Plan and supplemental funds have been signed.

Capital Projects Fund: Executive Summary Public Comments & Grant Guidelines

Final consideration with change of verbiage from original draft regarding edits to clarify when writing the agreement related to grant guidelines.

Discussed CPF Grant Program and Guidelines. Plans for public comment period.

Motion made by: Andy Emerson made motion to approve Idaho CPF grant guidelines and to open up the grant portal within 3-business days of Treasury approval of the program, along with the addition of lobbying reference per earlier discussion.

Seconded by: Sen. Ruchti

All in favor: motion passes

All approved

New Business: N/A

- **Tentative Next IBAB Meetings (subject to change):**
 - No April Meeting Scheduled.
 - Wednesday, May 17, 2023
 - Wednesday, June 14, 2023
 - Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Adjournment: 9:25 AM

K&L GATES

K&L Gates LLP Materials Prepared for

**State of Idaho/Department of Commerce-
Broadband Infrastructure Project**

Submitted by:
Jeff Cohen
Rob Dodson
Eric Freedman

April 22, 2023

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

The need to provide broadband coverage and connectivity to meet the ever-increasing demand from individuals, businesses, and state and local government agencies creates opportunities and unique challenges for development of the required infrastructure. Our Telecommunication Infrastructure practice works with telecom infrastructure developers and other participants in broadband infrastructure on a broad range of complex issues, transactions, and agreements to address the evolving legal landscape.

We provide a comprehensive array of legal services to the telecom infrastructure industry, including with respect to construction, finance, intellectual property, regulatory compliance, and public policy advocacy. Our core services range from acquisition and disposition, to leases, land use, and dispute resolution.

Our team represents and counsels clients on matters such as:

- Bankruptcy and insolvency
- Boundary matters
- Construction agreements
- Data protection
- Eminent domain
- Environmental due diligence, permitting, and litigation
- Financing
- Intellectual property and trade secrets
- Leases, licenses, and easement agreements
- Loan facility counseling
- Lobbying
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Project development and finance
- Real estate development and construction
- Securitization and structured finance
- Site selection, zoning, and due diligence
- Taxation

A full description of our Telecommunications Infrastructure Practice, as well as a list of representative transactions can be found via the link below.

<https://www.klgates.com/Telecommunication-Infrastructure>

Project Description

The Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON) and Intermountain Infrastructure Group (IIG) have submitted a proposal to construct, own, and manage a broadband network extending from Grangeville in northern Idaho to Star in southern Idaho at Star. The IRON/IIG proposal specifically acknowledges the three broadband priorities set forth in the State’s December 22, 2022 call for proposals:

1. **Middle-Mile Broadband Infrastructure**: IRON/IIG have proposed construction of a 198-mile, 288-strand fiber connection linking the core network to last mile service providers. IRON/IIG proposes that approximately 99% of the network will be underground, thereby providing scaled capacity and reliability for three decades. As open access infrastructure, the network will create a free-market environment providing expanded opportunity for existing Idaho “last mile” service providers and encouraging new Idaho “last mile” service providers to enter communities. The project is dependent on the Port of Lewiston being able to complete its Moscow to Lewiston to Grangeville middle mile network—which would in combination with the IRON/IIG network create a new 314-mile north to south middle mile network.
2. **Shovel Ready**: IRON/IIG represents that the project is shovel ready, being mapped, fielded, and priced using current vendor input. Once a definitive contract with the State of Idaho is fully executed, the project will, according to IRON/IIG, be ready to enter the permit process. IRON/IIG estimates that it will take 36 months to complete the project and bring it online.
3. **Financial Match**: IRON and IIG commit to providing \$60 million of the \$80 million project cost. The project would provide expanded broadband access in five counties and nine communities that are underserved today.

K&L Gates Primary Project Team Roles/Links to Biographies

Jeff Cohen - Project management and supervision. Contract drafting and negotiation.

<https://www.klgates.com/Jeff-M-Cohen1>

Rob Dodson - Contract drafting and negotiation.

<https://www.klgates.com/Jack-R-Dodson-III>

Eric Freedman - Structuring and contract drafting.

<https://www.klgates.com/Eric-E-Freedman>

Alyssa Moir - Land Use/Environmental

<https://www.klgates.com/Alyssa-A-Moir>

Elizabeth Crouse - Taxation

<https://www.klgates.com/Elizabeth-C-Crouse>

Edmundo de la Fuente - Real Estate

<https://www.klgates.com/Edmundo-de-la-Fuente>

Rhys Hefta – Structuring and finance

Rhys W. Hefta | People | K&L Gates (klgates.com)

Scope of Work and Proposed Budget

We have listed below the tasks on which we would anticipate to assist the State in connection with the project. We strive to utilize an appropriate balance of associates and partners in order to staff matters efficiently. Subject matter experts are utilized as appropriate. For each of the tasks listed below, we estimated the number of hours required, based on past experience, and then multiplied that number by an average hourly billing rate of \$750 for the attorneys staffing the project. Without the ability to predict the pace and difficulty of negotiating with IRON/IIG, we request that there be an opportunity to revisit our budget estimates in the event the transaction becomes protracted or changes in any material way from the assumptions and qualifications noted below.

1. Investigation of Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON) and Intermountain Infrastructure Group (IIG) to help assess their creditworthiness and experience with telecommunications infrastructure projects: \$6,000
2. Assessment of IRON/IIG reports/studies for the project, including those relating to (i) site selection/real estate, (ii) engineering, (iii) permits and approvals, and (iv) environmental matters: \$22,550

3. Drafting and negotiating a comprehensive Project Joint Development Agreement (JDA), based upon the following assumptions: \$150,000

- a. IRON/IIG will develop, construct, own, and operate the network.
- b. Idaho Dept. of Commerce’s investment of \$20,000,000 will be made at the back-end of the project’s development.
- c. Development and construction of the project will be made according to pre-determined critical milestones, with remedies for failure to perform.
- d. The JDA will be drafted to ensure the key requirements of (i) open access, (ii) non-discrimination, and (iii) redundancy.
- e. Potential funding sources, such as BEAD funding, will be considered in structuring the project.
- f. We will provide tax and structuring advice in connection with preparing and negotiating the JDA.
- g. The JDA will include provision for an Advisory Committee to monitor the progress of the project.
- h. The JDA will provide remedies for delay and non-performance.
- i. The JDA will require that IRON/IIG provide periodic reporting and access to appropriate project information.
- J. The JDA will address bankruptcy and insolvency events.
- k. The JDA will ensure that risk of loss in connection with the project remains with IRON/IIG.

4. We will provide advice and counsel to the State throughout course of preparation and negotiation of the JDA: \$18,750

5. Ancillary documentation for the JDA and related matters: \$26,250

Total Estimated Budget: \$223,500

The budget excludes pre-approved travel and out-of-pocket costs, which would be billed at cost.

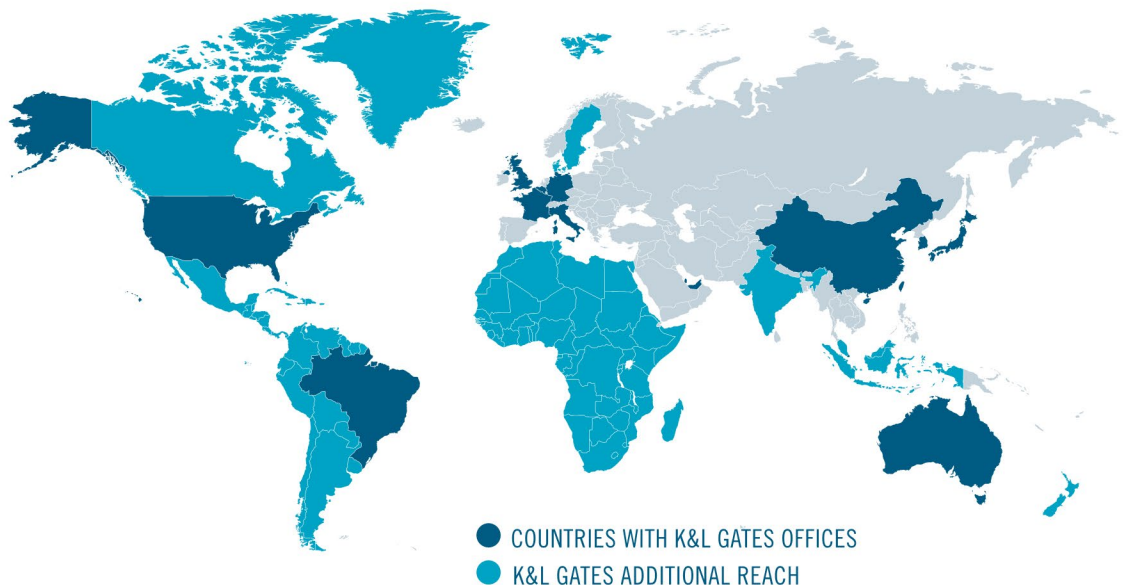
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ADDITIONAL FIRM INFORMATION

We foster an inclusive and collaborative environment, combining the knowledge and experience of our lawyers and policy professionals to create teams that provide exceptional client solutions and value.

GLOBALLY POISED

K&L Gates is one of the largest law firms in the world with more than **45 OFFICES LOCATED IN KEY CAPITAL CITIES AND WORLD COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTERS ACROSS FIVE CONTINENTS**. Our broad platform offers clients local market knowledge and access to both national and international capabilities to help our clients navigate the ever-changing international landscape. With the combined knowledge, resources, talent, and experience of nearly 1,800 lawyers and policy professionals, our global reach extends beyond our office locations to areas such as Africa, India, and the Caribbean.



TRULY INTEGRATED

Our many offices around the world operate as one firm, united and without borders. Being a fully integrated firm, we seamlessly represent leading multinational corporations, growth and middle-market companies, capital market participants, and entrepreneurs in every major industry, as well as public sector entities, educational institutions, philanthropic organizations, and individuals. Our range of multidisciplinary practice areas and services, combined with our collaborative culture, enable our clients to confidently turn to us to guide them through nearly any legal issue with reliable service and a consistent **K&L Gates Experience**.

THE K&L GATES EXPERIENCE
GLOBAL COUNSEL

CLIENT-FOCUSED

In all we do, our objective is to provide nothing short of the utmost value to our clients by delivering solutions to their legal and business needs. Our client-first approach is manifested firmwide—from matter management and pricing practices, to the technology and innovations we apply, to our deep industry and sector-specific knowledge across the key industries in which our clients operate. Our clients' best interests are at the forefront of the decisions and investments we make.

15
OUT OF
20
of our
LARGEST CLIENTS
USED LAWYERS IN 10 OR MORE
OF OUR OFFICES IN 2021



Recognized as one of the **TOP LAW FIRMS** for **SUPERIOR CLIENT SERVICE** in the BTI Client Service A-Team 2022 Survey.

INNOVATIVE

We strive to meet our clients at the critical cross-roads of their challenges and business needs to help them navigate the increasingly complex legal landscape. In today's data-heavy, fast-moving, and multijurisdictional environment, we understand the importance of being able to manage the growing volume of information at ever-increasing speeds. That's why we carefully invest in technology platforms, harness innovative techniques in processes and procedures, and create a culture of driving growth that enhances our efficiency and delivery of services, facilitates collaboration, and helps solve client problems.

Ranked among law firms highly recommended by **TOP LEGAL DECISION MAKERS**, in BTI Consulting Group's 2022 Most Recommended Law Firms report.

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THOUGHT LEADERS

Our lawyers are thought leaders not only in the legal industry, but also in the industries they serve. We immerse ourselves in burgeoning areas and technologies that are reshaping the world, such as data privacy, social media, and artificial intelligence. Legal insights, client alerts, blogs, podcasts, videos, and on-demand CLE programs are regularly produced and readily available on our website.

K&L GATES
HUB

klgates.com/hub

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

On top of our commitment to our clients and the legal profession, we are dedicated to working together for the common good. This core value is more than just rhetoric. Corporate social responsibility is woven into the DNA of our firm.

Diversity and Inclusion

We have built a workplace that is intrinsically diverse in experiences, perspectives, and ideas, and reflects our commitment to diversity and inclusion. One of our core values is to create and sustain a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture that encourages satisfaction and productivity for all of our lawyers and allied professionals.

Pro Bono and Community Outreach

Lawyers in our offices around the world have provided pro bono legal representation to countless disadvantaged and oppressed individuals, as well as to nonprofit organizations that provide community services. At the firmwide level, we are able to make an impact with efforts such as our Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative, and the entire firm participates in dozens of volunteer activities on our Global Day of Service.

Sustainability

Being environmentally responsible has long been a concern of our firm at multiple levels. We have created a unified, firmwide sustainability policy and plan of action that address both our local offices and our global organization. We extend our commitment by working with clients to help them develop policies and new technologies. We seek pro bono initiatives that address social, environmental, and energy justice.



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K&L GATES

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Idaho Capital Projects Fund Broadband Infrastructure Grant 2023

Grant Schedule/Timeline

Application Period Opens: Monday, May 22, 2023 @ 5pm MST
Application Deadline: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 @ 5pm MST

Public Comment and Challenge Period Opens: Monday, June 26, 2023 @ 5pm MST
Public Comment and Challenge Period Closes: Monday, July 10, 2023 @ 5pm MST

Applicant rebuttal period will run for 3 business days from online posting of challenges (Approximately July 17-20).

Grant Application Review Period: July 20 – August 10, 2023

Presentation of Shortlist to Idaho Broadband Advisory Board: August 2023
Grant Awards Announced: August/September 2023

Period of Performance for Projects ends December 31, 2026.

Grant Scoring Breakdown

Project Evaluation and Scoring Criteria [Total Points Available without Bonus Points = 210 (190 points for indisputable last-mile projects)].

Completed applications will initially be reviewed by the Idaho Department of Commerce to determine eligibility. Applications for eligible projects will then be reviewed, scored and prioritized by the grant review committee consisting of the Idaho Department of Commerce, State Board of Education, Idaho Department of Transportation, Idaho Commission for Libraries, Idaho Office of Emergency Management, and/or others as deemed appropriate by the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board. Thereafter, review committee recommendations will be evaluated and acted upon by the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board. Applicants may also be required to present project(s) directly to the Board.

All projects scoring 80% or higher (including bonus points) will be prioritized for award of CPF grant monies. The final selection of proposals/projects with a score of 80% or above is at the discretion of the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board reserves the right to award projects in unserved, high-cost locations.

Section	Short Description	Point Value												
i.	a.-j. = Mandatory Requirements (Eligibility): Yes or No	Y/N												
ii.	Project Purpose and benefits: address un/underserved area and improve affordability in those markets.	20												
iii.	Project address critical needs: telehealth, remote work and tele-education	15												
iv.	Project address critical community needs.	10												
v.	How middle-mile segment will be managed as open access.	20*												
vi.	Comprehensive proposed technical solution that addresses needs; consider last-mile users, businesses and CAIs.	10												
vii.	Broadband Experience and Competency.	20												
viii.	Technology type: <table border="1" data-bbox="500 646 1062 802"> <thead> <tr> <th>Technology Type</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fixed Wireless/Cable</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fiber</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Technology Type	Points	Other	3	Fixed Wireless/Cable	7	Fiber	15	15				
Technology Type	Points													
Other	3													
Fixed Wireless/Cable	7													
Fiber	15													
ix.	Number of unserved and underserved locations impacted by proposed project. <table border="1" data-bbox="522 928 1037 1167"> <thead> <tr> <th>Locations*</th> <th>Points – 100/100Mbps</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-100</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101-200</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>201-400</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>401-600</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>601+</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Locations*	Points – 100/100Mbps	0-100	4	101-200	8	201-400	12	401-600	16	601+	20	20
Locations*	Points – 100/100Mbps													
0-100	4													
101-200	8													
201-400	12													
401-600	16													
601+	20													
x.	Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan	25												
xi.	Demonstrate financial capability to complete proposed project.	20												
xii.	Project Match: <table border="1" data-bbox="500 1341 1062 1570"> <thead> <tr> <th>Match</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0%-10%</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11% - 30%</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31% - 54%</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>55% - 79%</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80%-99%</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Match	Points	0%-10%	3	11% - 30%	6	31% - 54%	9	55% - 79%	12	80%-99%	15	15
Match	Points													
0%-10%	3													
11% - 30%	6													
31% - 54%	9													
55% - 79%	12													
80%-99%	15													
xiii.	Community support.	20												
	Total	/210												
xiv.	Bonus Point Section	5-10												
a.	Student/educator connected locations.	7												
b.	Projects that connect a greater number of locations at the most economical cost.	3												
c.	Applicant is Idaho based/headquartered in Idaho and/or using Idaho labor for construction.	7												

d.	Project enhances public safety and/or cybersecurity.	5								
e.	Price and speeds of cheapest available monthly service plan:	5								
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Price</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$70 or less</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$50 or less</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$35 or less</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Price	Points	\$70 or less	1	\$50 or less	3	\$35 or less	5	
Price	Points									
\$70 or less	1									
\$50 or less	3									
\$35 or less	5									
f.	Project connects unserved CAIs/governmental facilities.	7								
g.	Board discretion.	10								
h.	Project is serving 80% or more of unserved locations.	5								
i.	Dark fiber and/or broadband infrastructure is provided for governmental use.	5								
	Total	/54								

*Special note: this section and points will not be applied to indisputable last-mile only projects.



Idaho Broadband

The Idaho Commerce Office of Broadband and the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board's mission is to improve broadband access across the state. Stable, reliable broadband infrastructure positions Idaho communities to attract business and enhance the quality of life for their citizens.

To help in this mission, current and future broadband funds are available to expand broadband access throughout the state.

CURRENT AND FUTURE BROADBAND FUNDS

Idaho Broadband Fund

\$8.7M

In January 2023, IBAB obligated \$26.3 million to fund two middle-mile projects covering 300 miles.

Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

\$124.1M

The FY23 Commerce supplemental includes \$124.1 million via the American Rescue Plan (ARPA).

Broadband Equity, Access and Development (BEAD) Program

\$150M

The FY24 Commerce budget includes \$100 million, plus a \$50 million roll over from FY23 via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

IDAHO BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB) was created by the Idaho Legislature in 2021 through House Bill 127. The board consists of three members from the Idaho House of Representatives, three from the Idaho Senate and three private sector Governor appointees.

The board created the broadband strategic plan for structuring, prioritizing and distributing grants from state and federal funding. This plan supports the board's vision that Idahoans have access to affordable and reliable broadband infrastructure.

MEMBERS

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN VANDER WOUDE (CHAIR)

REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA EHARDT

REPRESENTATIVE MEGAN BLANKSMA

SENATOR DOUG RICKS (VICE CHAIR)

SENATOR JAMES RUCHTI

SENATOR TREG BERNT

MARGIE WATSON - JC Watson & Company

ANDY EMERSON - MH Solutions

MITCH WATKINS - Watkins Distributing



For additional information, visit commerce.idaho.gov/broadband or contact the State's Broadband Program Manager, Ramón S. Hobdey-Sanchez at 208.287.3153 and ramon.hobdey-sanchez@commerce.idaho.gov.

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“Our historic broadband investments mean students and families across Idaho will have the tools they need to succeed. First responders will have the connection and communication they need to do their jobs, and healthcare providers can expand their utilization of telemedicine. The benefits of these completed projects are just the beginning of many more in Idaho.” — Governor Brad Little

SINCE 2020...



To continue its mission of expanding broadband access across the state, the Idaho Office of Broadband and the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board have awarded broadband projects throughout Idaho totaling \$74 million across 98 projects, impacting over 170 communities.

The most recent award was \$26.3 million to fund two middle-mile infrastructure projects covering a 300 mile north-south route.

LINK UP IDAHO

Link Up Idaho, led by the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board and Idaho Department of Commerce, in coordination with the Idaho Office of Information Technology Services, aims to gather information about connectivity challenges in Idaho communities, to improve the state’s map of Idaho broadband coverage.

The Link Up Idaho initiative encourages Idahoans to submit information about their internet to provide insight into broadband availability across the state. Idahoans can submit information on their broadband coverage at linkup.idaho.gov.



For additional information, visit commerce.idaho.gov/broadband or contact the State’s Broadband Program Manager, Ramón S. Hobdey-Sanchez at 208.287.3153 and ramon.hobdey-sanchez@commerce.idaho.gov.

LINK UP IDAHO

Five-Year Action Plan in Progress



PARTICIPATE IN THE STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE ►

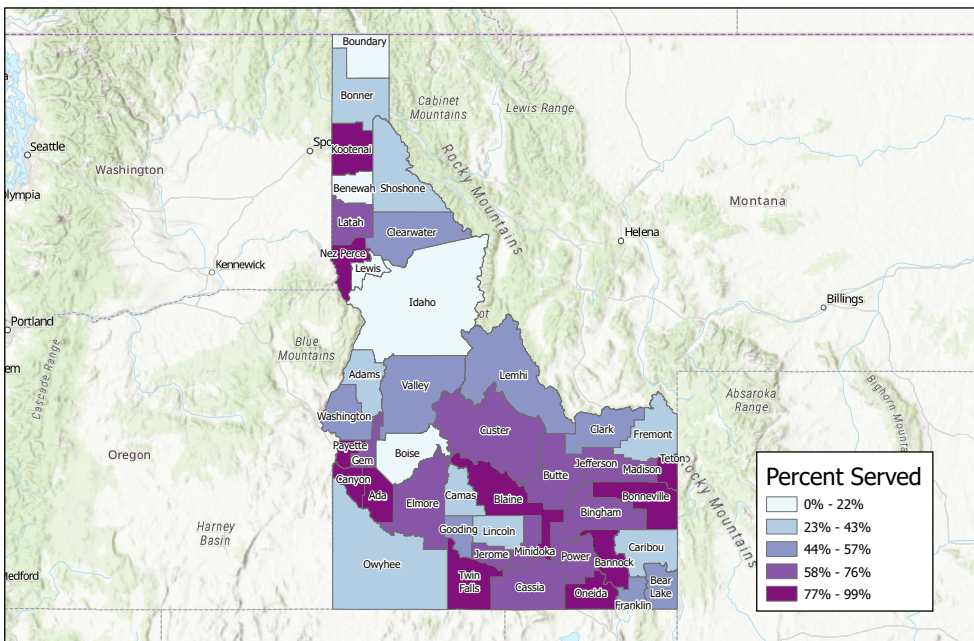


The Link Up Idaho initiative, led by Idaho Commerce and the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board (IBAB), in coordination with the Idaho Office of Information Technology Services, recognizes that providing affordable, accessible, and reliable broadband for all residents is one of the most critical challenges of our time. Many Idaho communities lack adequate internet service or simply don't have access, creating a digital divide among communities. **All Idahoans deserve an equal opportunity to thrive in a digital world.**

IDAHO BROADBAND AVAILABILITY

EXPANDING BROADBAND IN IDAHO IS CRITICAL

- » Advancing access to government services
- » Supporting economic development (business growth and telework)
- » Creating educational opportunities
- » Increasing access to health care and telemedicine
- » Improving public safety and services
- » Increasing accessibility



As Idaho Commerce seeks to expand its broadband connectivity to all areas in need, stakeholder feedback is vital to the state's Five-Year Action Plan aimed at closing the digital divide. The plan is the first step to qualify for all available Federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding.



FACTS

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) currently defines:

UNSERVED as access to 25 Mbps download/3 Mbps upload speeds

UNDERSERVED as areas where at least 80% of the population has access to speeds up to 100 Mbps download/20 Mbps upload speeds

100,000
ESTIMATED NUMBER,
BY THE US CENSUS, OF UNSERVED
IDAHO HOUSEHOLDS. YOUR INPUT
WILL HELP INFORM A MORE
ACCURATE COUNT.

15,249
AND COUNTING
CHALLENGES TO THE FCC MAP

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

We want to hear from you. In order to qualify for the Infrastructure Investment and Job Act's (IIJA) historic BEAD funding, Idaho is working in coordination and collaboration with local, regional and Tribal entities, and diverse stakeholder groups to develop an inventory of all broadband improvement programs in progress and identify locations where the greatest needs are.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

SURVEYS

We are collecting feedback from all of our stakeholders on current and future planning efforts, infrastructure and assets, and obstacles and barriers. These will be hosted on our website and available to everyone in Idaho.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We are collecting feedback from targeted stakeholders at appropriate conferences, meetings, and other events throughout the state. Specific planned sessions include workforce development focus group, regional stakeholder meetings, Tribal workshops, and ISP roundtables.

If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute information about your experiences with broadband connectivity in Idaho, contact broadband@commerce.idaho.gov.

COMING SOON! Visit Link Up Idaho online for announcements on engagement opportunities, FAQ, project announcements and more.

[LINKUP.IDAHO.GOV](https://linkup.idaho.gov)

FUTURE

By 2027, the state will strive to serve 100% of Idaho's businesses and homes with access to affordable high-speed broadband internet with a 100/20 Mbps down/up minimum.¹ Help us create the roadmap to get there by having your broadband issues heard!



¹ Horras, D. & Strong, C. (2021). Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan. Idaho Advisory Board.

ONE-COLOR USAGE



REVERSE-COLOR USAGE



COLOR PALETTE

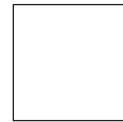


BLACK

CMYK:
0/0/0/100

RGB:
0/0/0

HEX:
#000000



WHITE

CMYK:
0/0/0/0

RGB:
255/255/255

HEX:
#FFFFFF



SAPPHIRE

CMYK:
100/27/0/56

RGB:
0/79/113

HEX:
#004F71



AMETHYST

CMYK:
62/100/9/44

RGB:
90/40/95

HEX:
#5D285F



GARNET

CMYK:
7/100/68/32

RGB:
157/34/53

HEX:
#9D2235



TANGERINE

CMYK:
0/76/100/0

RGB:
227/82/5

HEX:
#E35205



EMERALD

CMYK:
76/3/100/18

RGB:
76/140/43

HEX:
#4C8C2B



AQUAMARINE

CMYK:
53/0/23/0

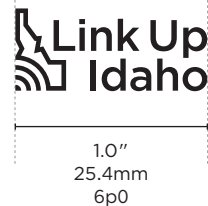
RGB:
100/204/201

HEX:
#64CCC9

CLEAR SPACE



MINIMUM SIZE-PRINT



CORRECT USAGE

- When placed on a dark background, the logo should be white.
- Only/always use brand colors.

INCORRECT USAGE

- **DO NOT** change the size of, placement, relationship of any of the logo elements.
- **DO NOT** rearrange any of the logo elements.
- **DO NOT** place the logo on similarly-colored or overly complex backgrounds or photographs.
- **DO NOT** mix or alter the logo colors or use them independently.
- **DO NOT** add effects to the logo.
- **DO NOT** stretch, squeeze, skew or distort the logo in any way.
- **DO NOT** outline the logo in any color.
- **DO NOT** change or use different fonts in the logo.
- **DO NOT** use a low-resolution file of the logo.