



BROADBAND SUMMIT

County Roles in Fiber Partnerships

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Director of Broadband Operations

October 20, 2022



Jo-Carroll Energy

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

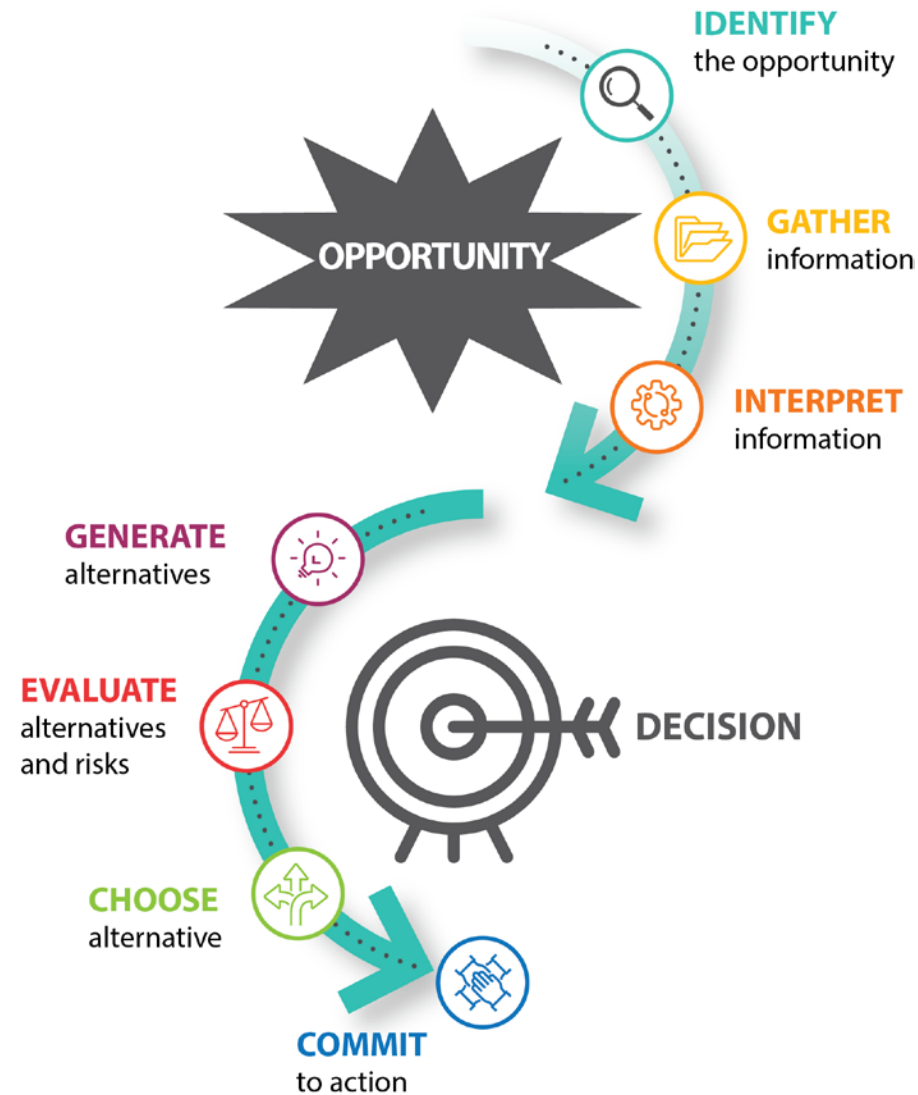


Sand Prairie
Connecting our members to the world®

An aerial photograph of a landscape featuring a large, irregularly shaped blue lake on the left side. A dense network of yellow lines represents roads, with several major highways marked with numbered shields (30, 78, 40, 88, 55). A winding river or stream is visible in the lower right quadrant. The text "How do we get here?" is written in white, italicized font, slanted across the upper middle portion of the map.

How do we get here?

Generational Opportunity



Federal, State, & Local Broadband Funding

- American Rescue Plan
 - **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (States & localities) - \$350 billion
 - **Capital Projects Fund** (States & U.S. Treasury) - \$10 billion
- Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act
 - **Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program** (NTIA/States) - \$42.5 billion
 - **Broadband Affordable Connectivity Program** (FCC) - \$14.2 billion
 - **Digital Equity and Inclusion Grants** (NTIA) - \$2.75 billion over five years
 - **Middle Mile Broadband Deployment Grants** (NTIA) - \$1 billion
 - **USDA ReConnect & Broadband Program** (USDA/RUS) - \$2 billion
- Connect IL Grant Program
 - \$400 million
 - Pending BEAD allocation



MISSION STATEMENT

A member-owned cooperative that strives to deliver utility solutions to our members and communities – safely, efficiently and responsibly.

Our Vision

Jo-Carroll Energy exists to enhance the quality of life for our members.

Is Your Purpose Clear?

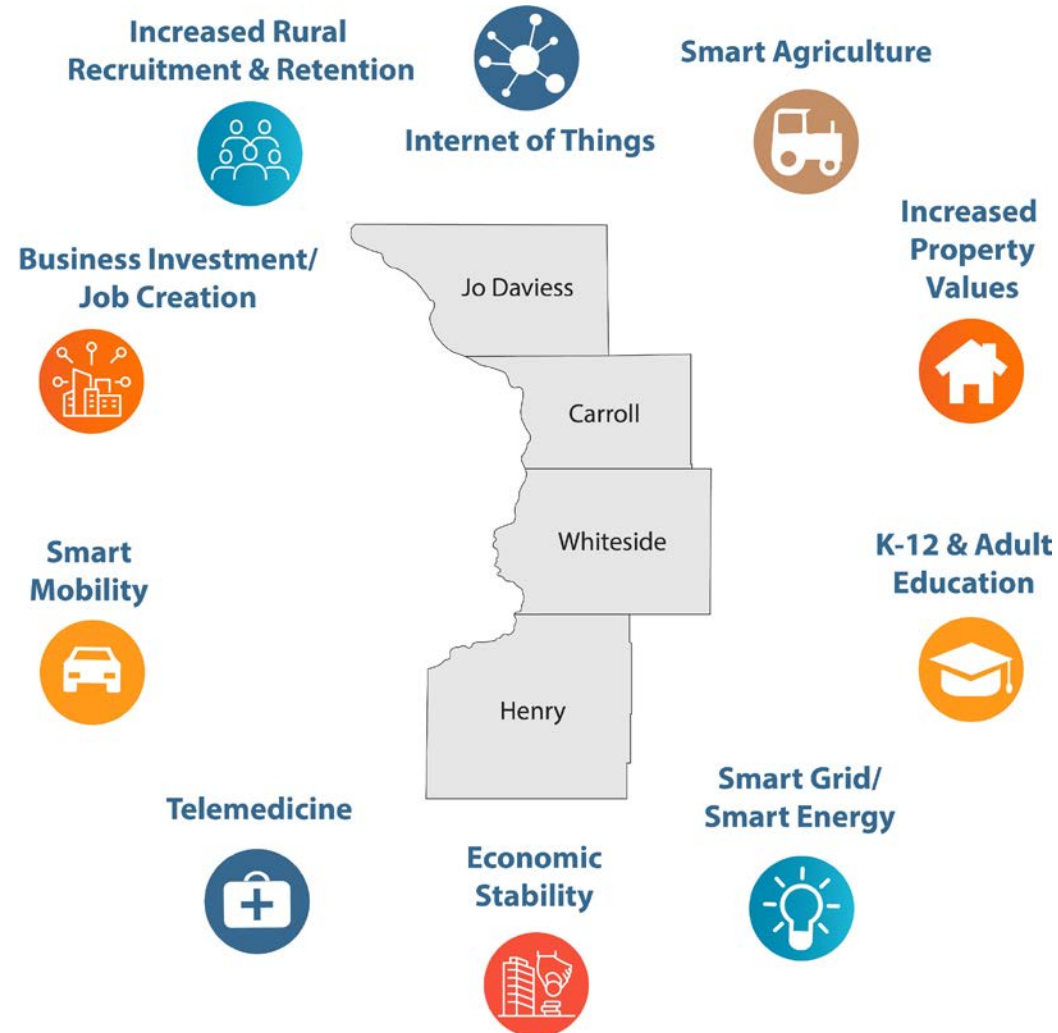
- “Illinois county officials working together to provide effective government for citizens – that's what the Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners is all about.” – **IACBM**
- “Member Engagement: Optimize alliances with state associations, affiliates and strategic partners – **NACo Performance Priority**
- “Today, reliable, fast, and affordable high-speed internet is as fundamental as acquiring electricity in the first half of the 20th century.” – **NACo Broadband Task Force Report 2021**
- “Electric cooperatives are embedded in their communities and can build on their business relationships to empower members and pursue opportunities for community enrichment.” - **NRECA Report 2013**
- Advancing the interests of the cooperative involves long-term work to connect member-owners with elected officials, community policymakers, and advocacy groups.” – **NRECA Report 2013**

Is Your Purpose Clear? (cont'd)

- “...provides a platform for communities to build inclusive broadband teams,” – **Accelerate Illinois Program**
- “...we collaborate with Federal, State and Local partners in Northwest Illinois to create the conditions for economic growth and improved quality of life.” – **Whiteside County Economic Development**
- “We work better when we work together. If you support closing the digital divide, we should explore how a joint effort can help us fulfill our missions.” – **Benton Institute for Broadband & Society**
- “...creating avenues for positive change and growth among all with whom we interact.” – **IL Assoc. of Regional Councils**
- “**Culture eats strategy for breakfast.**” – **Peter Drucker**

Why Fiber In Rural NW Illinois?

Promotes rural prosperity and enhances local economies



Digital Equity and Adoption

- **Digital Equity** - Digital equity is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy. Digital equity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.
- **Digital Adoption (Inclusion)** - Access to the internet, digital devices and digital literacy are key to bridging the digital divide and opening doors to economic, educational and health care opportunities.
- Free **Public WiFi** Locations
- Provider of FCC's **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** - low-income funding
- Provider of **FCC Lifeline** - low-income funding

Broadband



- Broadband Services
- Voice and Data Services
- Data Transmission Services
- Internet Access
- Internal Connections

Equipment and Devices



- Network Equipment (i.e., routers, wireless controller systems, cabling, software, etc.)
- Distance Learning, Employment and Service Access Equipment (i.e., laptops, tablets)

Affordable Connectivity Program



Helping households connect

Jo-Carroll Energy, with its Sand Prairie internet service, has been approved by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as a provider for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) a new longer-term program that replaced the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program on December 31, 2021 to help lower the cost of high-speed internet to eligible households in our area.

The program will continue to help households struggling to pay for internet service during the pandemic. This new benefit will connect eligible households to jobs, critical healthcare services, and virtual classrooms. The Affordable Connectivity Program will provide an **on-bill credit of \$30 per month towards broadband service for qualifying households.**

WHY FIBER IN RURAL NW ILLINOIS?

Essentially 'future proof' pending near-term bandwidth demand increases and use cases

Average Broadband Household

A snapshot of the average U.S. broadband household.

OVBI Average Broadband Household Index – 2Q22



490.7 GB
Average Bandwidth Usage



459.5 GB
Average Downstream Usage



335 Mbps
Average Downstream Speed



85%
Households with at least One Streaming Device*
*Deloitte Insights- Digital media trends survey, 14th edition



31.2 GB
Average Upstream Usage

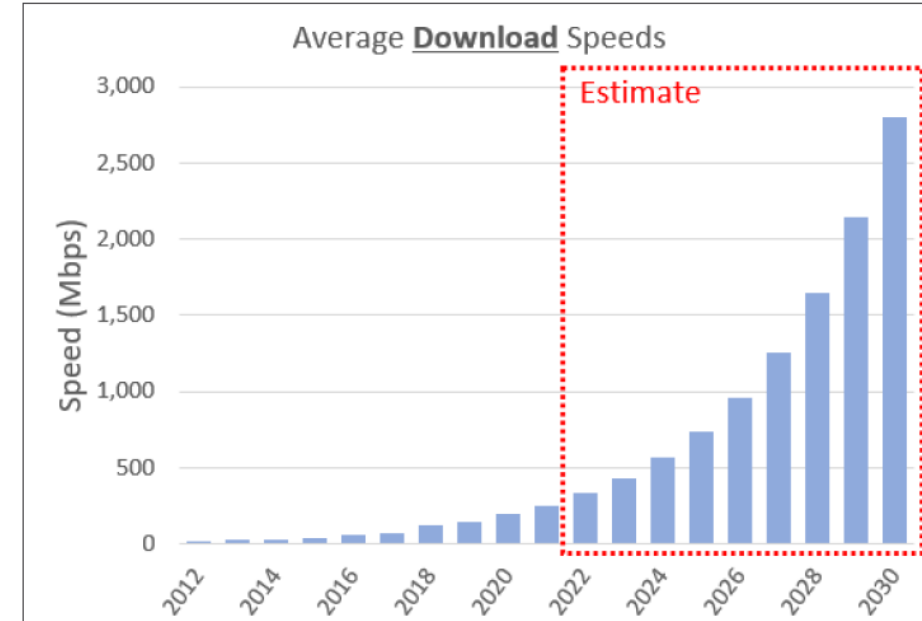


23 Mbps
Average Upstream Speed



25 per household
Average Number of Connected Devices*
*Statista

Source: Open Vault, 2Q22



Both Upload and Download Speeds are Increasing >30% Annually

Source: FCC's Measuring Broadband America Reports

FIBER COMMUNITIES MAP



1. Interest
tells us where to build next



2. Sign-Up
and choose your package



3. Pre-Construction
is underway



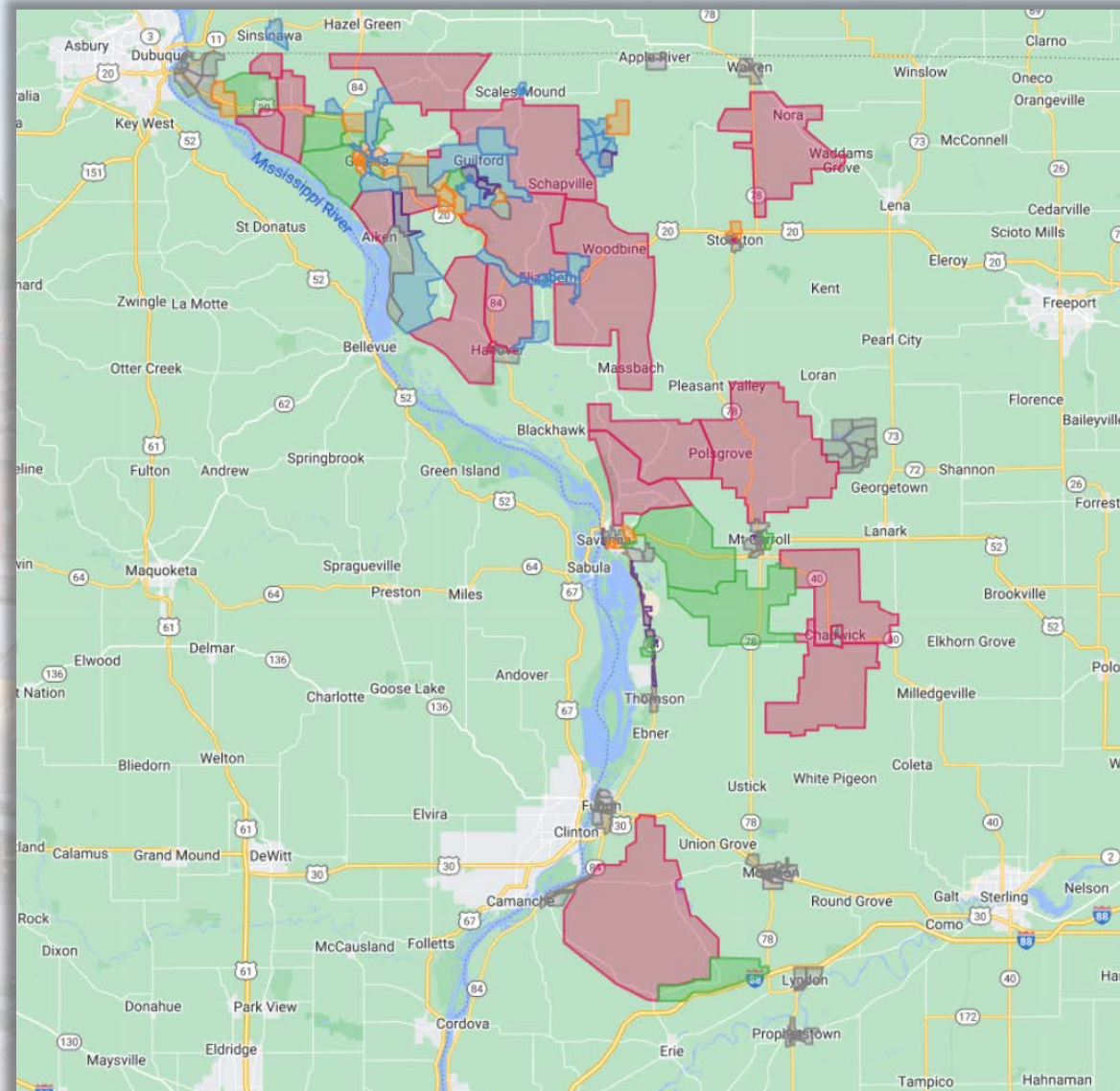
4. Construction
has started



5. Schedule Install
and get ready for Fiber



6. Fiber Install
is complete



We need your help!

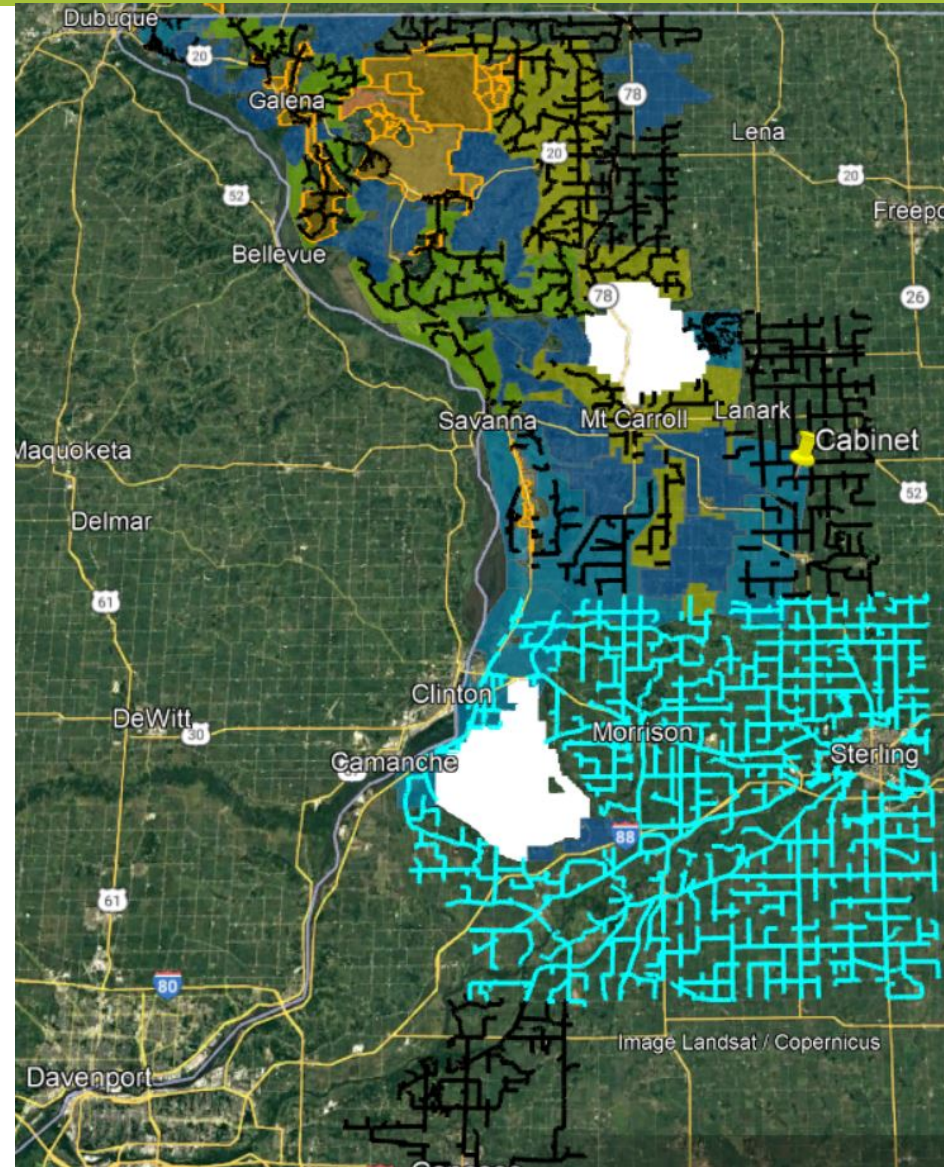
Let us know if you are
interested in fiber internet!

Please visit **connectSP.com** to fill out
an interest form or sign-up for service.

connectSP.com/iwantfiber



PURPOSE & GOALS



Key Partnerships (aka The Team)



**Connect
Whiteside**
CONNECTWHITESIDE.ORG



WHITESIDE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



NW ILLINOIS
Economic Development



Blackhawk Hills Regional Council

Jo-Carroll Energy works closely with members, communities, organizations and other key stakeholders in support of local economic development opportunities. JCE believes developing new infrastructure, resources and incentives to retain, grow and attract members and businesses both locally and regionally is critical to the success of its membership.

THANK

YOU!

I  **FIBER
CO-OP**



Sand Prairie

A service of Jo-Carroll Energy



Jo-Carroll Energy

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 