Broadband Initiatives in Illinois

NIUNet - Northern Illinois University Research and Education Network.

IMBCA – Illinois Municipal Broadband Communications Association for Economic Development.

NITT – Northern Illinois Technology Triangle for Economic Development.

TriLightNet – A medical network for HIE development and healthcare.

NMBA – Northwest Municipal Broadband Authority – A municipal and education network.

DATA – DeKalb Advancement of Technology Authority – A BTOP funded grant for DeKalb County.

iFiber – The Illinois Broadband Opportunities Partnership – A nine county BTOP funded grant awarded to Northern Illinois University.
Northern Illinois Connecting into Statewide Broadband Initiatives
Dekalb Advancement of Technology Authority (DATA)

- Dekalb County is the grant recipient
- Partnership between...
  - Dekalb County Gov’t
  - Northern Illinois University
  - Dekalb Fiber Optic
- Grant is for $14.8M
- Network will include 130 miles of fiber
- Spans throughout Dekalb County
- Connect 60+ community anchor institutions
IBOP-NW

• Northern Illinois University is the grant recipient
• There are three sub-recipients of the grant
  – LaSalle County
  – Rockford Greater Area
  – Blackhawk Hills RC&D
• Grant is for $68.5M
• Network will include 870 miles of fiber
• Spans over 9 counties:
  – JoDaviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, Carroll, Lee, Whiteside, Ogle and LaSalle
• Connect 533 Community Anchor Institutions
Cost Avoidance
(Public Sector)

- **21st Century Speeds** - Multi-Gb access to Local schools, Municipals, E-911, County & Healthcare
- **Consolidation** – Ability to reduce hardware/software costs up to 50%.
- **Collaboration** - Ability to share or combine services or licensing for reducing costs by collaborating with other institutions.
- **Efficiency** - Reduction of phone costs and increasing capacity of coverage for phone services.
  - District 428 High School reduced from over $2,000/Month to $480/Month,
  - District 427 from over $8,000/Month to $2,000/Month
- **Innovation** - Ability to provide advanced educational courses from universities for P-20 programs providing more options, less travel and interruption of schedules.
Tax Base Increase
(Private Sector)

Support our local Internet Service Providers and reduce the costs for transport for connections to the internet.

- Help Providers to expand services for faster speeds to business and home owners at low cost.
- Offer Providers a reliable backhaul connection to higher speeds (100Mb or greater).

Provide a new level of service for local businesses.

- Connect facilities together with high-speed services or fiber.
- Provide high-speed communications for business sustainability.
- Provide multiple options for a healthy competitive environment avoiding monopolies and duopolies.
Project Update

• Grant Received – Q3-2010
• Selected Baxter & Woodman as Eng Firm – Q4-2010
• Established iFiber as a not-for-profit business to run and maintain the fiber network – Q1-2011
• Environmental Assessment (EA) Submitted – Q1-2011
• EA Approved (FONSI) – Q2-2011
• Selected Construction Firms - Q2/Q3-2011
  – Aldridge Electric/Kelso Burnett & Pirtano
• Construction Started – Q3-2011
• Wireless Contractor Selected – Q1-2012
Overall Progress

The Map
Questions?

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