

Welcome!

Lincoln County Local Technology Planning Team Quarterly Meeting December 2, 2013



PLANNING FOR OUR DIGITAL FUTURE...
LINCOLN COUNTY
LOCAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING TEAM



Agenda

- Broadband Updates
- Project Review
- Task 2 – Inventory Existing Infrastructure
- Task 3 – Access & Use
- Task 4 - PUD Evaluation
- USDA-RD Resources
- Closing Notes



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Broadband Updates

- Washington State Broadband Office
- Lincoln County IT
- Libraries – Local and State



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LTPT Project Review

Goals	Actions	Deliverables	Timeline/ Deadline
1. Establish & facilitate a Local Technology Planning Team.	Finalize membership. Establish meeting structures & schedules for the full LTPT & for the resulting subcommittees. Hold quarterly meeting.	List of members & roles/assignments. Quarterly meeting agendas, sign-in sheets, handouts & notes.	July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Quarterly meetings: September 30, 2013 December 31, 2013 March 31, 2014 June 30, 2014
2. Inventory existing infrastructure.	2A – Develop an anchor institution access/use inventory tool & process. Facilitate data collection.	Inventory of anchor institutions. Draft & final report - tool, process & inventory. Provide information to WSBO for state map.	January 1 to June 30, 2014. Draft tool/process due March 31, 2014. Final report due June 30, 2014.
	2B – Develop a provider/service identification inventory tool & process. Facilitate data collection.	Inventory of providers & their services. Draft & final report - tool, process & inventory. Provide information to WSBO for state map.	January 1 to June 30, 2014. Draft tool/process due March 31, 2014. Final report, June 30, 2014.
	2C – Develop a countywide broadband infrastructure map.	Countywide map. Provide information to WSBO for state map.	March 1, to June 15, 2014. Final report due June 30, 2014.



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LTPT Project Review

Goals	Actions	Deliverables	Timeline/ Deadline
3. Assess current and potential future broadband access and use.	3A – Develop business assessment tool & outreach plans. Survey distribution, collection & analysis.	Business assessment tool & outreach plan. Business assessment findings report.	August 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Tool/outreach plan due September 30, 2013. Report due December, 31, 2013.
	3B – Develop community assessment tool & outreach plan. Survey distribution, collection & analysis.	Community assessment tool & outreach plan. Community assessment findings report.	January 1 to March 31, 2014. Draft report due March 31, 2014. Final report due June 30, 2014.
4. Evaluate PUD as middle mile service provider.	4A – Identify contacts for current WA PUD broadband service providers & develop the draft information gathering tool.	List of WA PUD broadband service providers. Tool & process for gathering PUD information.	August 1 to September 31, 2013. Draft tool/process due on September 31, 2013.
	4B – PUD telephone interviews and/or site visits.	List of interviewees. Report with summary of interviews, best practices and lessons learned.	October 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Interviews complete and draft report due December 31, 2013. Final report due June 30, 2014.



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Inventories

Goal 2: Inventory existing infrastructure

- Met with County Public Works and Land Services
- Meeting this week with CenturyLink
- Meeting with LCLTPT library rep



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Business Assessment

Goal 3: Business survey distribution, collection & analysis.

- 20 questions, all optional
- Press release, Chamber membership lists, EDC listserv, flyers, meetings (PDA, Council, Farm Bureau...)
- Business Assessment findings report due Dec. 31.



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Business Assessment

32 Businesses throughout the County:

- 14 Davenport
- 7 Reardan
- 6 Harrington & Odessa
- 5 Edwall
- 4 Wilbur
- 3 or less Almira, Creston, Deer Meadows, Fort Spokane, Hanson Harbor, Lamona, Lincoln, Mohler, Seven Bays & Sprague



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Business Assessment

23 of 32 (72%) use CenturyLink.

- 2 each Asisna, Odessa Office, RitzCom
- 1 each AT&T, HughesNet, Inland Cellular

Over half pay between \$50 & \$100 mo.

- 15% pay less and 30% pay more

When asked how much they would be willing to pay for upgraded Internet service, the response was very similar.



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Business Assessment

How does your business connect:

- 59% DSL
- 15% Fixed Wireless (microwave)
- 12% Wireless Cellular
- 3% each Fiber and Satellite



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Business Assessment

When asked about their business presence on the Internet:

- 96% have a website
- 53% have a Facebook page
- 21% use LinkedIn
- 17% use Google+
- 14% use Twitter



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Business Assessment

When asked what Internet services they use most:

- 100% use email
- 75% use online banking
- 68% do ordering online
- 65% do research
- 56% provide customer services
- 46% sell products or services



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Business Assessment

When asked how important they think high speed broadband is to the success of their business over the next 5 years:

- 65% said extremely important
- 25% said very important
- 6% said somewhat important



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Business Assessment

Other findings:

- When asked how satisfied they are with their service, speed, price & reliability, the answer was “Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied.”
- All respondents subscribe to 5.0 up to 10.0
- 75% of respondents say their service does not limit job-related training.
- Over half do at least some work from home & a third say they have staff that works from home at least part time.



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Business Assessment

- What does it mean that so few businesses responded to this survey?
- Given that few applications or digital tools other than email are used by Lincoln County businesses, do they have the information needed to know what they don't have?



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WA PUD Telecommunications Legislation

RCW 54.16.330

A PUD in existence on June 8, 2000, may construct, purchase, acquire, develop, finance, lease, license, handle, provide, add to, contract for, interconnect, alter, improve, repair, operate, and maintain any telecommunications facilities within or without the district's limits for the following purposes:

- (a) For the district's internal telecommunications needs; and**
- (b) For the provision of wholesale telecommunications services within the district and by contract with another public utility district.**



Washington PUD Association (WPUA)

The Washington Public Utility Districts Association represents 27 nonprofit, community-owned utilities that provide electricity, water and wastewater services, and wholesale telecommunications.

PUDs providing telecommunications services



<http://www.wpuda.org>



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PUD Interviews

Five interviews completed with PUD staff supporting telecommunications services

- Chelan
- Douglas
- Okanogan
- Pend Oreille
- Stevens



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PUD Interview Questions

- Broadband background and planning
- Broadband infrastructure development
- Broadband services and operations
- General feedback



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PUD Interviews – Background

- All five provide other services
 - Five – water (waste also for two)
 - Four – electrical
- Four got into broadband initially for internal communications and data transmission needs
- Broadband services began 1999-2013



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PUD Interviews – Infrastructure

- Four use existing assets (poles, etc.).
- Estimated infrastructure build costs range from \$1.2 million-\$120 million.
- Three secured federal funds.
- Two used local bonds/taxing authority.
- Four used other sources (county funds, power sales, excess electricity, dollars, etc.).



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PUD Interviews – Services & Operations

- Services = wholesale fiber, wire and wireless broadband, data centers and transport.
- Staff range = 1-18 - broadband skills are critical for some positions.
- All use other support services within the PUD (legal, customer service staff, etc.).
- Revenue stream from premise broadband services does not cover monthly costs.



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PUD Interviews – Services & Operations

- Customer base = 6 to 12,000.
- “If not for the carrier customers, the 1,700 customer hook-ups would not cover it (expenses).”
- Each PUD has a limited number of last mile providers.
- “Your system is only as good as your last mile providers.”



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PUD Interviews – Fast “Fact\$”

- Fiber costs about .41 a foot – 99% of the cost is labor.
- Cost to deploy overhead fiber was \$30,000 per mile (20 poles). Put up your own poles, closer to \$40,000 per mile.
- You’ll need a 1G pipe to Spokane – probably around \$3,000 per month.



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PUD Interviews – General Feedback

- Need a vision and engage the community.
- Learn the true costs of owning, operating, upgrading and maintaining your own system.
- Building the same system today, closer to \$8 million versus \$27.8 million.
- Get your customers to put some skin in the game.
- Don't get caught up on, "built it and they will come".



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PUD Interviews – Next Steps

- Meet with local utility/telecom providers
- Explore Pace Engineering resources
- Inventory infrastructure
- Solicit LCLTPT feedback, questions, etc.
- Report findings
- Analyze data



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USDA Resources

Peter McMillan
Program Director
Community Programs
USDA Rural Development



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Next Steps

- Review **Quarterly Meeting Schedule**
 - **Monday March 3 / Tuesday March 4**
 - **Monday May 19 / Tuesday May 20**
- LTPT Documents on LincolnEDC.org



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Thank You!

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us!

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