

ACCEPTING WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS,
AND DEPLOYMENT PLANNING GRANT FUNDS

In February 2023, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) provided notice that Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Local Planning Grants were available in the form of formula funding under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to Wisconsin counties and federally recognized Tribes to generate locally informed analysis of broadband needs and develop each community's vision for broadband development. Local planning activities may include a needs assessment, outreach and stakeholder engagement, and a strategy for broadband deployment. County and Tribal planning activities will inform Wisconsin's Five-Year Broadband Action Plan and future grant funding for broadband infrastructure projects across the state.

The BEAD Local Planning Grants are not competitive grants but rather formula funding that is being allocated to each applicant that elects to participate in the program. Dane County elected to participate in the grant program in coordination with the Madison Region Economic Partnership (MadREP), and 4 other neighboring counties. MadREP will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant funding.

Dane County's share of the formula funding totals \$20,171.15. The grant funding will be used to develop a 5 year broadband deployment plan. The county will gather data and input to aid in the development of Wisconsin's BEAD and Digital Equity Plan which will direct the deployment of federal dollars designated through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The Department of Planning and Development will oversee the BEAD planning effort and provide progress and other reporting as required under an agreement to be developed with the fiscal agent, MadREP.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following amendments be made to the 2023 operating budget in the Department of Planning & Development:

PDPLNDIV NEW "Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Revenue" \$20,171.15
PDPLNDIV NEW "Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Expenses" \$20,171.15