

Broadband Expansion Efforts in Dane County

DANE COUNTY ZONING AND LAND REGULATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 11TH, 2025
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Presentation Agenda

- What is Broadband?
- Dane County Broadband Task Force
- Dane County broadband webpage
- Overview of broadband in Dane County
- Broadband expansion efforts in Dunkirk
- Resources
- Questions



What is Broadband?

Technologies

- Fiber, Coaxial Cable, Fixed Wireless, Copper/DSL, Satellite, Cellular Mobile

Speeds

- 25/3 Mbps as a baseline speed
- 100/20 Mbps as a more functional speed
- 1,000/1,000 Mbps as a more 'future-proof' speed
- It is really about the experience of the user

Regulation

- Broadband industry as a whole is largely de-regulated
- Absent additional funding like broadband grants, internet service providers often look at the business case and economics to determine when and where to expand services

Broadband, or high-speed internet, is **vital** for community success and prosperity



Dane County Broadband Task Force

- The Dane County Board created the Dane County Broadband Task Force via 2020 RES-415. The task force has been meeting regularly since its creation to hear presentations and discuss the various components of broadband, success stories, innovative ideas, funding options, and other counties' experiences.
- In 2024, the Broadband Task Force was reconstituted to address the following issues:
 - Increase outreach and awareness of the importance of improving broadband access, affordability, and adoption in Dane County;
 - Identify and foster partnerships necessary to improve broadband access, affordability, and adoption including those with economic development organizations, mission based organizations, and other entities engaged in digital inclusion and equity work.
 - Encourage and support public private partnerships between municipalities and Dane County with internet service providers to address connectivity gaps and leverage state and/or federal funding sources such as the BEAD Program and RDOF Program.
 - Implement the broadband engineering assessment findings.
 - Continue research and innovation based on the recommendations from the Dane County Broadband Task Force.



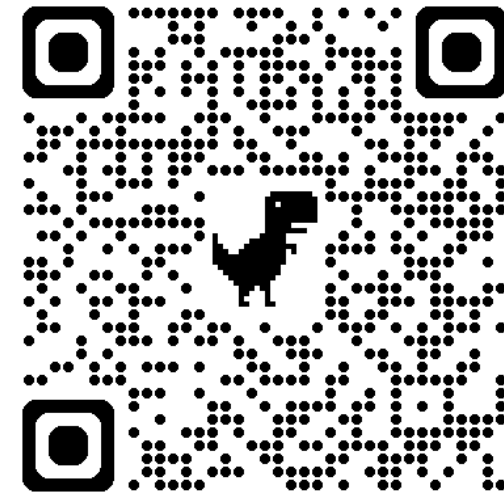
Dane County Broadband Webpage

- Dane County Broadband (<https://broadband.danecounty.gov/>)



Dane County Broadband

Welcome to Dane County's broadband webpage! Thank you for stopping by. Here you will find various resources regarding broadband expansion, as well as updates on Dane County's broadband planning efforts. Broadband, also known as high-speed internet, is a top priority for Dane County as it is a key ingredient for community prosperity and success. Broadband plays a significant role in for business, education, health, and a resident's overall quality of life.

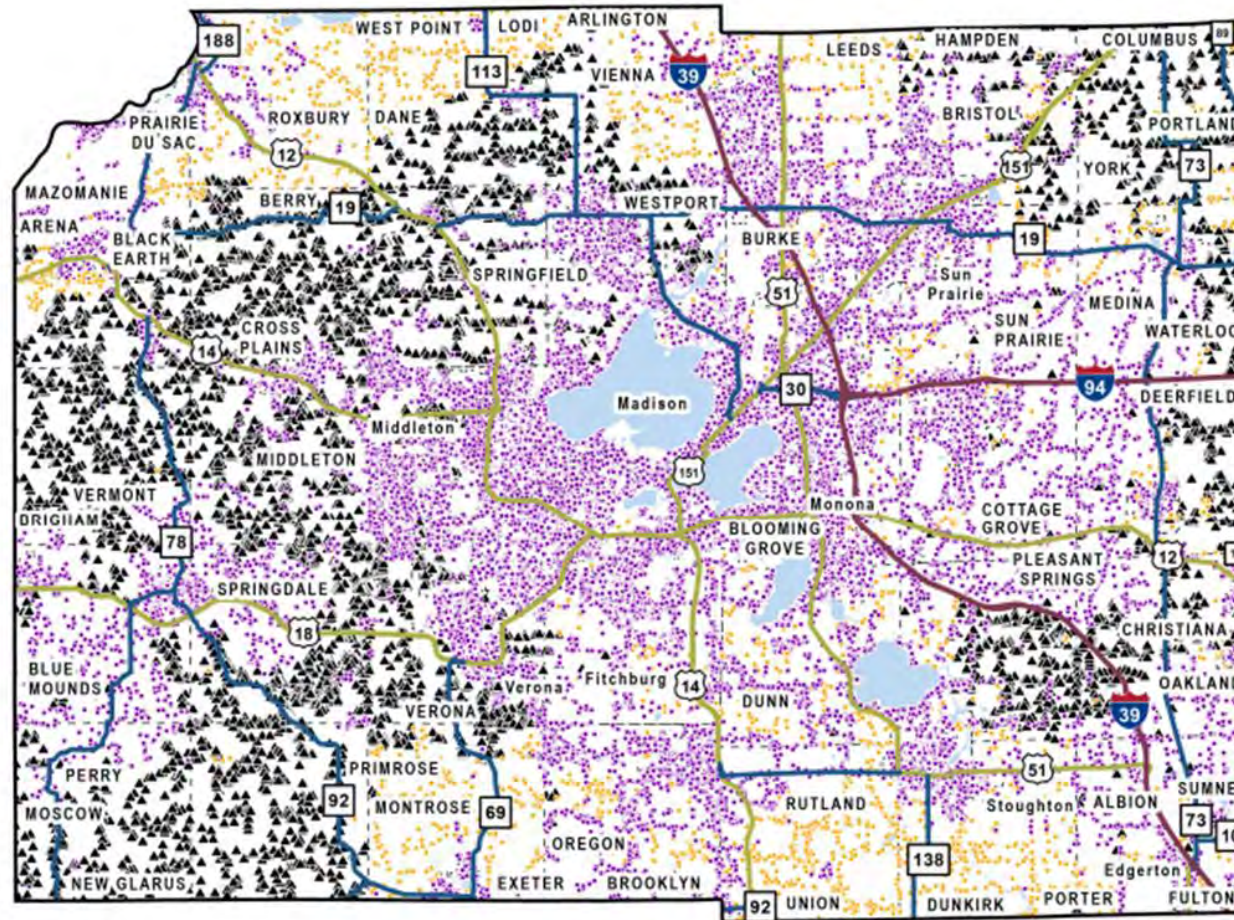


Total BSLs: **158,261**

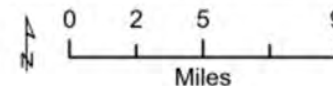
Eligible: **3,561**

Ineligible
(Served): **148,765**

Ineligible
(In Progress): **5,935**



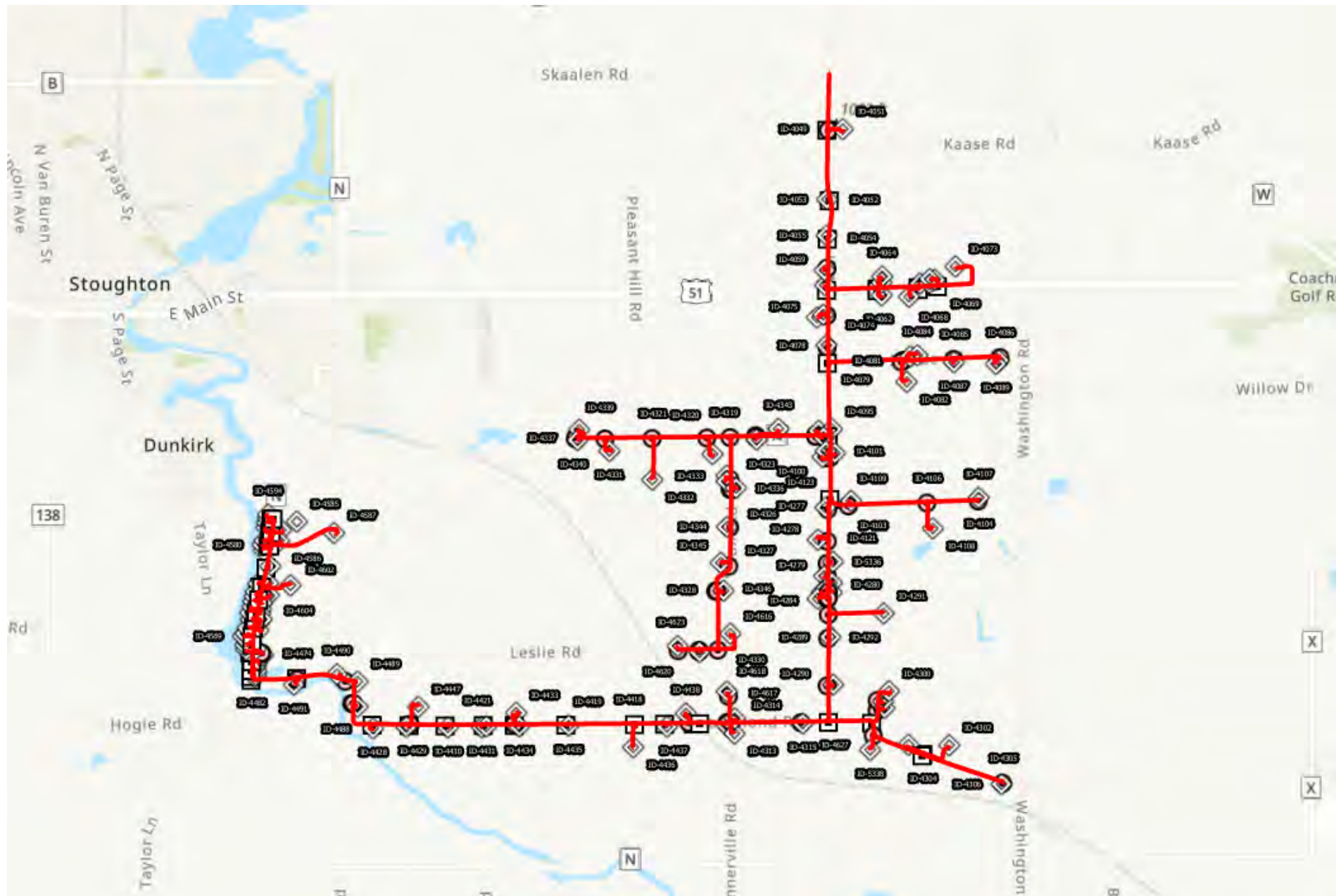
- Eligible for BEAD
- Not Eligible - Served
- Not Eligible - In Progress
- State Highways
- Interstate Highways
- US Highways
- City/Village/Town Boundary
- County Boundary



Broadband expansion efforts in Dunkirk

- Dane County Planning and Development has partnered with UpNetWI, a local internet service provider based out of the Stoughton/Pleasant Springs area, to expand broadband access in the Town of Dunkirk.
- Utilizing a small amount of County ARPA funds (about \$300,000), this project will deploy state-of-the-art fiber to the home service to approximately 140 unserved and underserved addresses.
- The vast majority of addresses are in the Town of Dunkirk, although a few fall in the neighboring townships of Pleasant Springs and Albion.
- The fiber internet service will be deployed to all addresses included in the project by no later than November 15th, 2026. However, it is possible and we hope that the project wraps up a bit sooner than that.
- The Town of Dunkirk Town Hall is included in the project.





Resources

- Dane County Broadband (<https://broadband.danecounty.gov/>)
- Dane County Broadband Profile 2024 (<https://psc.wi.gov/Documents/broadband/CountyProfiles/2024CountySummaryProfiles/Dane2024.pdf>)
- Dane County Broadband Task Force (<https://board.danecounty.gov/initiatives/Broadband-Task-Force>)
- Wisconsin Broadband Office Homepage (<https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/ServiceType/Broadband.aspx>)
- FCC National Broadband Map (<https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>)
- FCC Funding Map (<https://fundingmap.fcc.gov/home>)
- 2023 AECOM Dane County Broadband Infrastructure Engineering Assessment (<https://broadband.danecounty.gov/documents/pdf/AECOMFinal.pdf>)
- 2022 Dane County Broadband Task Force Report (<https://board.danecounty.gov/documents/Dane-County-Broadband-Task-Force-Report---2021-2022---5.pdf>)



Questions?

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