

TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE PUBLIC MEETING

Technology Committee

Date: Thursday, August 12, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Liberty Grove Town Hall, 11161 Old Stage Road

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve Minutes: 7/8/2021
5. Public input
6. Town Hall IT business continuity project
7. 2022 PSC Broadband grant application
8. Future Liberty Grove broadband expansion
9. UW presentations on 8/31/2021 at Town Hall (1:30pm)
10. 2022 Technology Committee budget & 5-year project list
11. Future meeting
12. Adjourn

All agenda items will include discussion and possible action. Deviation from listed order may occur

***Audience members must ask for permission, during public input, to speak on agenda items ***

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

Members of the Town Board or any other Town Committee, who are not members of the body whose meeting agenda is published in this notice, are entitled, as any other citizen of the Town of Liberty Grove, to attend this meeting in an unofficial capacity. It is possible the attendance of one or more non-members may create a quorum of the membership of another body. Such a quorum is unintended, and the non-members are not meeting for the purpose of exercising the powers or duties attendant upon their membership on any Town Committee or Board.

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Technology Committee meeting on July 8, 2021
(This meeting was posted correctly)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve minutes: 6/10/2021
5. Public input
6. Report on DCEDC Broadband Engineering Study
7. Consider Town Hall IT business continuity project
 - a. Status report on project
 - b. Report on recent ransomware attacks
8. Consider future Liberty Grove broadband expansion
 - a. Report on Town broadband efforts
 - b. Report on Special Town Board meeting on 6/28/21
 - c. Report on Nsight correspondence related to 2022 PSC grant application
9. Consider 2022 Technology Committee budget & 5-year project list
10. Future meeting
11. Adjourn

Chair David Studebaker called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Committee members Cathy Ward, John Dwonch, Les Keepper, and Dan Watts were present along with Administrator Walter Kalms, Clerk/Treasurer Anastasia Bell, and 1 member of the public.

Ward moved, Dwonch second to approve the agenda as posted. Passed 5-0.

Ward moved, Dwonch second to approve the 6/10/2021 minutes as presented. Passed 5-0.

Public Input – John Skogsbakken, Timberline & Highway 42, expressed interest in the fiber project discussion. UW-Grad Students will be presenting information for broadband cooperatives on 8/13/2021 at 1:30pm at the Town Hall.

DCEDC Broadband Infrastructure Study – Finley Engineering has collected information and will provide a report in October.

IT Business Continuity Project – Keepper will work with the office to complete the equipment inventory and determine what can occur before the end of 2021.

Future Broadband Expansion – Studebaker reported on a large ransomware attack elsewhere. The current fiber backbone is not designed for home connections but the section being installed for the Washington Island project will be designed for home connections. Nsight is interested in the joint grant application, but it is unclear if this will be possible for the 2022 PSC grant cycle.

Technology Committee Budget – it was the consensus to include the following items in the 2022 Technology budget request:

- Phone system \$3,000
- Board dias monitors \$3,000
- Recurring (electric, wi-fi) \$3,000

- 2023 Grant matching funds \$100,000

The next Technology Committee meeting will be Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 7:00pm

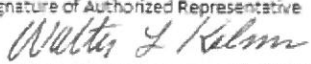
Keeper moved, Watts second to adjourn at 9:15pm. Passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

DRAFT

GRANT APPLICATION

For American Rescue Plan Act Broadband Access Grants

Primary Applicant (Name and Address): Town of Liberty Grove 11161 Old Stage Road Sister Bay, WI, 54234	Applications MUST be UPLOADED to ERF via the Commission's website, https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx Instruction in section 2.3 Applications are due and MUST be uploaded to ERF no later than: July 27, 2021 at 4:00pm (16:00) Central Time. Late applications will not be accepted.	
	Contact for further information: PSCStatebroadbandoffice@wisconsin.gov	
	Issue Date: June 1, 2021	
The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) is seeking applications for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Broadband Access Grants. The Commission may award one or more grants to public and private entities from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, PL 117-2 (March 11, 2021), which amends Title VI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), and the instructions and guidance found in the Interim Final Rule, U.S. Department of Treasury, "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds," 86 Fed. Reg. 26786 (May 17, 2021). Successful applicants will demonstrate a clear and achievable plan to deliver high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband communications services in one or more underserved areas in the State.		
Applicant Certification: In signing this application, the undersigned verifies under penalty of perjury that the Applicant and its employees and agents have not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement or participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competition with respect to this application; that no attempt has been made to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an application; that this application has been independently arrived at without collusion with any other proposer, competitor or potential competitor; that this application has not been knowingly disclosed prior to the opening of applications to any other applicant or competitor; that all of the responses and representations of Applicant in this application are true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information, and belief; and that Applicant agrees to, accepts, and will comply with all of the terms and conditions respecting this application and any award of an ARPA broadband access grant as may be established in a grant award Agreement.		
Name of Authorized Representative (Type or Print) Walter L. Kelms	Title Administrator	Phone (920) 854 2934
Signature of Authorized Representative 	Date 7/26/2021	

SUMMARY OF GRANT APPLICATION

Primary Applicant Name Town of Liberty Grove	Amount of Broadband Grant Request (round to nearest dollar) \$318,500.00
Federal Employer Identification No. 39-6005976	Amount of Matching Funds Pledged (round to nearest dollar) \$318,500.00
Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number 050636281	Name (as Shown on Your Income Tax Return) or Line 1 of the W-9 form, if Different from the Primary Applicant Name Liberty Grove, Town of
Contact Name and Title Walter Kalms, Administrator	Total Cost of Proposed Project (round to nearest dollar) \$637,000.00
Telephone Number (920) 854-2934	Project Name Northport FTTH Pilot Project
E-mail Address(es) tlibertygrove@gmail.com	Type of Proposed Broadband Service (FTTH, Cable, DSL, Fixed Wireless) FTTH
Grant Manager, If Different Than Primary Applicant Same as above	Type of Proposed Project (Last-mile, Middle-mile, backbone, other) Last-mile FTTH & backbone fiber.
Grant Manager Contact Name, Email Address, Tel Number Same as above	Grant Manager Federal Employer Identification No. N/A
If the Application Includes a Partnership, List the Names, Addresses, and FEINs of the Partner Companies or Organizations Brown County C-LEC, LLC, d/b/a Nsight Telservices, 450 Security Blvd, Green Bay, WI 54313. FEIN: 39-1962315	
Brief Project Description (2 sentences) Town of Liberty Grove requests an FY2022 ARPA Broadband Access Grant from the PSCW to partner with Nsight Telservices, LLC and construct a scalable FTTH pilot project deployment to 44 unserved homes and one business along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and N. Ports Des Morts Drive at Northport in the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County. The new network will deliver download speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber and upload speeds between 20 Mbps and 100 Mbps.	
Upon completion, will the project reliably meet or exceed 100 Mbps download and between at least 20 Mbps and 100 Mbps upload speeds and be scalable to a minimum of 100 Mbps symmetrical? Interim Rule, 86 Fed. Reg. at 26786. (yes/no) YES.	
Maximum Proposed Download Transmission Speed 1Gbps	Maximum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed 100Mbps

Minimum Proposed Download Speed to Customer Location 250Mbps	Minimum Proposed Upload Speed to Customer Location 20Mbps
County or Counties served by this project Door County	City, Towns, Villages and Community or Communities Served by This Project Town of Liberty Grove
List of the Broadband Service Providers, if Any, Currently Serving the Area the Applicant Proposes to Serve None.	
Does proposed project provide access to unserved or underserved locations as defined as lacking access to a wireline connection capable of reliably delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Interim Rule, 31 C.F.R. §35.6, 86 Fed. Reg. at 26786, 26823. (yes/no) Yes.	Is the Applicant certified as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community, or does the grant project propose to serve a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community? (yes/no) Yes, Liberty Grove has both certifications.
Expected Number of un/underserved Business Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total business locations passed or with new service access) 1	Expected Number of un/underserved Residential Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total residential locations passed or with new service access) 44
For providers that are eligible telecommunication carriers will the proposed broadband service be available to Lifeline customers? (yes/no) Yes.	Are there any programs available for low-income households to access low-cost service or discounts? (yes/no) Yes
Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program? (yes/no) Yes	Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge? (yes/no) YES

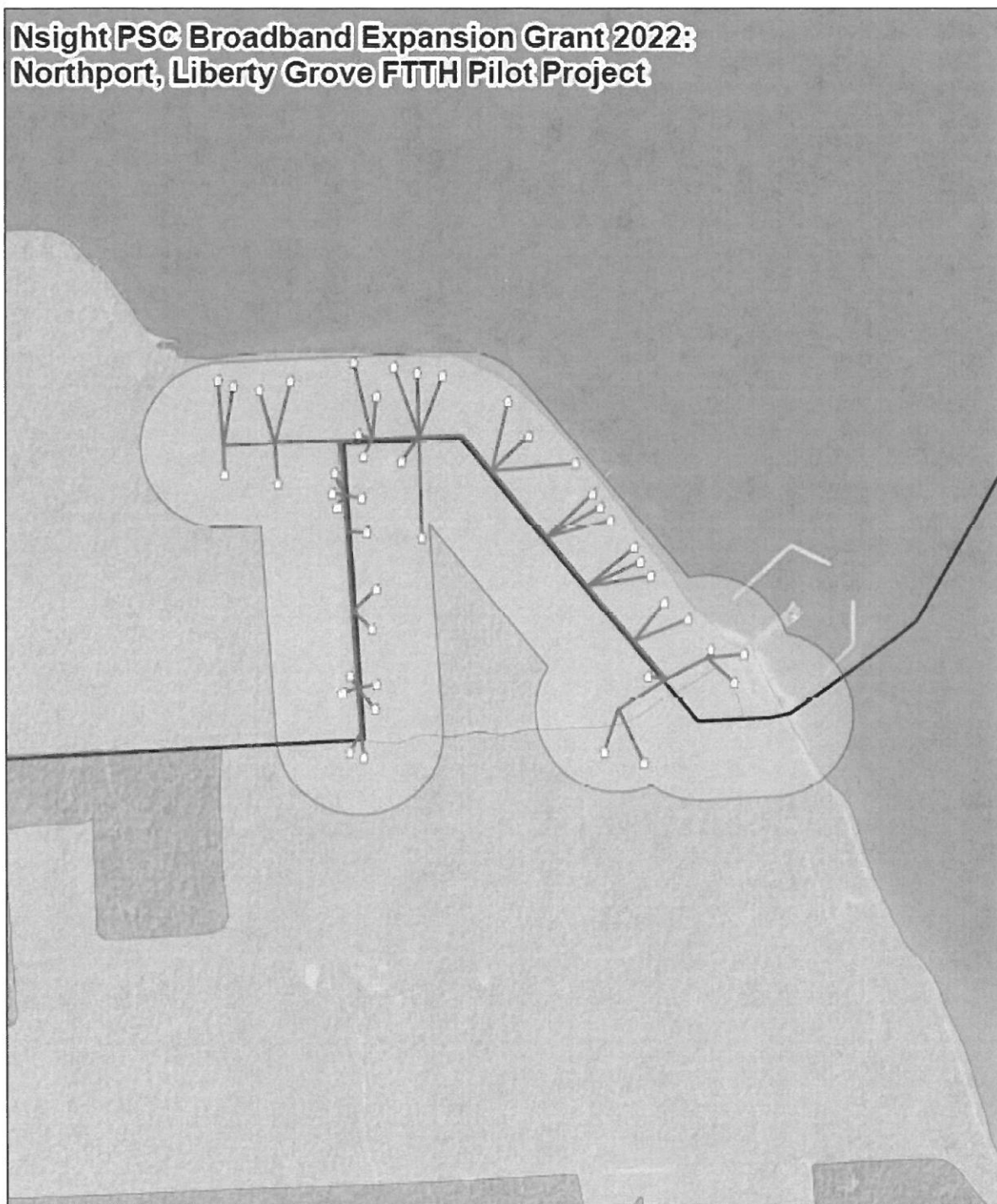
BUDGET AND INCOME SUMMARY

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	BUDGET & INCOME SUMMARY											
2	Grant Summary											
3												
4	Grant Applicant:						Project:					
5	Town of Liberty Grove						Northport FTTH Project					
6	Requested Grant Funds:				Match Provided:				Match % Requested:			
7	\$318,500.00				\$318,500.00				50.00%			
8												
9	Budget ¹											
10												
11	Line:	Description / Category:				Total Cost:		Grant Funds:		Match:		
12	1	Contractual, Consultant Fees				\$ 595,000.00		\$ 297,500.00		\$ 297,500.00		
13	2	Equipment				\$ 15,000.00		\$ 7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00		
14	3	Supplies				\$ 22,000.00		\$ 11,000.00		\$ 11,000.00		
15	4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)						\$ -		\$ -		
16	5	Permitting, Licensing Fees				\$ 5,000.00		\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00		
17	6	Travel						\$ -		\$ -		
18	7	Other						\$ -		\$ -		
19					Total:		\$ 637,000.00		\$ 318,500.00		\$ 318,500.00	
20	Do not include the value of in-kind contributions in the above budget or in the 'Match Provided' field in the Grant Summary section. The total of Grant Funds should match the 'Requested Grant Funds' above, and the total Match in this Budget section should match the number entered in the 'Match Provided' field above.											
21	Pledged Contributions											
22												
23	#:	Entity:				Entity Type:		Pledge Type:		Pledge:		
24	1	Town of Liberty Grove				Applicant		Cash		\$ 245,000.00		
25	2	Brown County CLEC, LLC (Nsight)				Partner		Cash		\$ 73,500.00		
26	3											
27	4											
28	5											
29	6											
30	7											
31	8											
32	9											
33	10											
34					Total:		\$ 318,500.00					

PROJECT AREA MAP.

Northport FTTH pilot project area map showing FTTH distribution network along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Ports Des Morts Drive.

Nsight PSC Broadband Expansion Grant 2022: Northport, Liberty Grove FTTH Pilot Project



URL Link – <https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=d4f58ba114174f21b1d97268a004e066>

NARRATIVE

1. Executive Summary.

The Town of Liberty Grove is an isolated community located at the northern tip of Door County peninsula. Surrounded on three sides by water with a dramatic landscape, its natural beauty attracts seasonal residents, visitors and people who love nature and want to live, work, study and raise their families here. Sadly, today much of Liberty Grove does not have access to good internet service because the terrain is rocky, hilly and wooded. As a result, the Town does not represent a great investment opportunity for any of the national landline broadband service providers.

Therefore, we will partner with a local landline broadband service provider, Nsight Telservices. Nsight has more than 110 years of experience providing communities and local businesses with leading technology, flexible communication solutions and extraordinary customer care. Nsight possesses considerable experience providing FTTH service in rural communities including Shawano, Oconto Falls Business Park and Havenwood Hills in Little Suamico.

The proposed Fiber to the Home (FTTH) pilot project serving 45 locations along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Ports Des Morts Drive in the unincorporated community of Northport will enable us to begin to address the need for expanded broadband access in the Town of Liberty Grove. All of the unserved homes along this route are set back from the roads in the midst of heavily wooded lots with rocky terrain. For this reason, the total project cost is \$637,000.00. The pilot project will give the partners real world experience deploying FTTH in rough terrain.

The pilot project will also allow Nsight Telservices to introduce its well established first in class engineering and customer centered FTTH service to northern Door County. This will be a GPON FTTH network with download speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber and upload speeds between 20Mbps and 100 Mbps. Therefore, the new network will be designed to reliably meet or exceed a symmetrical speed of 100 Mbps download and upload.

The project will provide the Town of Liberty Grove with a case study in partnering with an experienced provider to deploy FTTH service as it studies feasibility of a communitywide FTTH deployment. The Town is requesting an ARPA PSCW FY2022 grant award in the amount of \$318,500 or 50% of the total project cost because the project area is unserved. There are no landline carriers providing broadband speeds exceeding 25Mbps download speeds by 3Mbps upload speeds in the project area. The Town Board passed a Resolution on July 21st pledging \$245,000 including all of our ARPA money and additional funds from the Town budget. As the attached Resolution states, our Town Board is making this huge commitment because they believe that the "lack of Internet service limits the citizens and visitors from accessing critical technology for education, communication, medical devices, government services and other factors affecting quality of life". (See Exhibit 1)

Affordability is integrated into the program design. Nsight plans to offer its Fiber Lifeline program to eligible customers along the route. Nsight is also currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge and in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program. Nsight is pledging \$73,500 towards the project and actively endorses this application to the PSCW. (See signed Memorandum of Understanding in Exhibit 2)

2. Statement of applicant's ability to undertake the project.

The Town of Liberty Grove was organized in 1859 and is governed by a five-member board with office staff and public works employees to manage its 100+ miles of road and various public property. Budget numbers for the current year show over three million dollars in expenditures with a tax levy of two and a half million. Fees and state aids make up the difference in revenue. Funds are set aside for capital expenditures with reserve accounts established for long range projects. It is this policy of planning for future items that gives the Town the versatility to invest in projects such as the one in this application. This planning coupled with the experience of and success in procuring various grants in years past puts the Town in a favorable position to obtain and manage any funds that might be procured.

The Town of Liberty Grove will partner with Nsight Telservices to provide the new fiber-to-the home service along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and N. Ports Des Morts Drive in the Town of Liberty Grove.

As a premier communications provider, Nsight is proud of its heritage, Wisconsin-based ownership and reputation as an active corporate citizen. The company has provided essential local telephone service since 1910. Today, the Nsight family of companies includes subsidiaries Nsight Telservices, Cellcom, Nsight Tower and Glas. Nsight employs more than 720 people in the state, including technical staff that builds and maintains its network and local customer service teams to support its customers. With over \$300 million in assets, the company has more than enough funds to complete the project.

Nsight Telservices operates as a facilities-based Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) offering customized enterprise solutions including services scalable to 100 Gbps. With nearly 4,000 route miles of fiber optic cable and connections to major metropolitan areas, the company provides resilient and redundant fiber-based data and voice services to some of the largest enterprises in Wisconsin.

Under the Nsight Telservices and Cellcom brands, the company offers residential internet and voice services in the Shawano, Pulaski, Abrams, Niagara, Newton, Oconto, Oconto Falls and Two Rivers communities. The company operates fiber distribution networks in seven distinct markets and is the rural local exchange carrier (LEC) in 15 telephone exchange markets. The company's monthly churn rate for internet services averages less than .7% indicating customer satisfaction. Overall market penetration for internet service is 43%.

Nsight regularly invests in its existing network with funds budgeted annually to upgrade customers in established territories. The company always installs fiber in new construction areas within existing territories (i.e. new subdivisions) and takes a fiber-first approach for repairs and maintenance of its existing network, seeking to upgrade copper infrastructure to fiber whenever it is feasible. Additionally, if scenarios do not allow for fiber installation immediately, Nsight installs conduit to prepare for fiber in the future. Currently, the company's average speed across all residential service territories is 52 Mbps download / 8 Mbps upload.

Nsight has a proven track record of operating, maintaining and continually investing in its network. Key organizational capabilities and network highlights include:

- o Middle-mile interconnection to strategic cities in the region
- o Major metro-fiber routes with lateral build-outs
- o Optical network supports 19,200 Gbps of traffic per span, with up to 200 Gbps per channel
- o Geo-diverse core and aggregation routers to provide the highest level of network resiliency and uninterrupted service
- o Local control of splicing equipment
- o Network Management Center (NMC) with access to technical staff and engineers 24/7

Nsight is committed to growing its business in a thoughtful, forward-thinking and, above all, caring way. Guided by the belief that the business must give back to the communities it is privileged to serve, Nsight is actively involved in and supports organizations that embody the company's values and extend our mission. For more details see <https://www.nsignal.com/community>.

Status of all prior Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight broadband expansion grant projects that have been completed:

The Town of Liberty Grove was awarded a FY2018 broadband grant which has been successfully completed.

Subsidiaries of Nsight, including Nsight Telservices, have successfully completed five broadband grant projects in previous rounds.

	Round	PSC Filing #	Project Description	Type of Broadband Technology Used	Facility Route built	Number of customers
1	FY2018 II	336475	Oconto Falls Business Park Fiber	Last Mile Fiber Build	2.2 Miles	33
2	FY2018 II	336445	Sheboygan County Highway O Fiber	Middle Mile Fiber	7.5 Miles	6
3	FY2019	346426	Fiber to Washington Island	Middle Mile Fiber	4.4 Miles	N/A. Submarine Cable
4	FY2019	346357	Champion Fixed Wireless	CBRS Fixed Wireless	CBRS on one tower	26
5	FY2019	346317	Calumet County Regional Fiber Build	Middle Mile Fiber	16 Miles	6

An applicant should also comment on broadband construction projects undertaken in prior years that were not funded in part by the Broadband Expansion Grant program.

Nsight has extensive experience planning, constructing and maintaining broadband networks. These are notable examples of recent and upcoming projects that were not supported by a broadband expansion grant.

- o Door County Fiber Ring

Nsight managed the construction of approximately 113 route miles of fiber between Brussels, WI and Gills Rock, WI. This network was an extension of the Nsight fiber network connecting Green Bay and the communities of Denmark, Luxemburg, Kewaunee and Algoma. The Door County route created connectivity to county institutions, multiple school district properties, Cherryland Airport and public safety tower locations in Door County, as well as Cellcom's cell towers. Additionally, the speed, capacity, and reliability of fiber and redundancy of the network meant improved business connectivity and continuity for businesses and enterprises who needed their connection to be up around the clock. The county provided funding for the project in exchange for long-term leases on certain fiber segments. Nsight collaborated with the municipal utility for the rights to use duct and pole attachments. The project was initiated in 2011 and completed in 2015. Nsight invested additional time and money to adhere to environmental regulations and maintain natural landscapes that are important to the identity of Door County.

Nsight provided full project management, controlling contracts with engineering and design firms, environmental consultants, all permitting and regulatory agencies, and construction contractors. Nsight provided testing and characterization of the fibers and all splicing services. Nsight owns and manages the fiber network. This project was not supported by broadband expansion grant funds.

- o **Luxemburg Fiber Expansion**

In March of 2021, the Village of Luxemburg accepted Nsight's proposal to make Cellcom the village's preferred broadband provider. Under the Cellcom brand, Nsight will offer residents and businesses a broad range of services, including fiber-to-the-premise internet, wireless mobility plans, TV and voice service. Speeds will start at 250/Mbps and every address in the Village of Luxemburg will be served. Construction will begin in 2021 with anticipated completion in 2022. Services will be available in phases as work is completed in various parts of the village. The project will serve nearly 1,200 addresses.

- o **Rustic Acres Fiber Overbuild**

Nsight Telservices had an existing copper network in the Rustic Acres mobile home park in Little Suamico. Due to a damaged and failing cable, Nsight Telservices needed to perform a repair to continue to offer service to this neighborhood. The company elected to do a fiber overbuild to upgrade speeds for more than 100 addresses in the area from previously available average speeds of 21/Mbps to starting speeds of 250/Mbps. This project demonstrates the fiber-first approach Nsight has for the maintenance of its network.

- o **Havenwood Hills Fiber Overbuild**

Havenwood Hills is an expanding subdivision in Little Suamico. While existing speeds averaged 37/Mbps, a boom in growth in the neighborhood was starting to degrade customer experience. Nsight installed fiber to the area to upgrade speeds for 86 homes in the community. This project is an example of proactive efforts to maintain and improve network

performance to keep customers connected. Currently 41% of the addresses in the neighborhood have Nsight's service.

3. Statement of need for high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband.

The Town of Liberty Grove is the northern tip of the Door County peninsula, surrounded on three sides by the waters of Lake Michigan, Deaths Door passage and the bay of Green Bay. The whole county is a nature wonderland, with Liberty Grove being the top of that wonderland. Liberty Grove is home to 12 County and Town parks and Newport Wilderness State Park as well as the Schoenbrunn Nature Preserve, the Mink River Estuary Natural Area, Ellison Bluff State Natural Area, GEO-DC (celebrating the Niagara Escarpment) and many other sites of natural beauty. We also host The Clearing Folk School and Savory Spoon Cooking School. Liberty Grove is a bit of heaven for those who want to enjoy the essence of Door County's beauty. Other attractions include the Washington Island Ferries crossing Deaths Door to the Island, beaches and kayak launches on both Green Bay and Lake Michigan, hiking trails galore, orchards, farm markets, Europe Lake and beautiful back roads for biking. All this natural rural beauty and the associated benefits not only attract visitors, but it also attracts people who love nature and want to live, work, study and raise their families here.

Sadly, today much of Liberty Grove cannot provide good access to the internet, a critical requirement of modern life. Liberty Grove's terrain is quite rocky, somewhat hilly and heavily wooded. Being rural, Liberty Grove does not represent a great investment opportunity for any of the major broadband service providers.

If awarded, the proposed grant will enable the Town to take a first step towards addressing this need by providing FTTH service to 44 existing homes and 1 existing business along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Ports Des Morts Drive at Northport in the Town of Liberty Grove. About half of these homes are seasonal homes. According to the study done in Liberty Grove in 2015 by the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater (summary attached), better internet service in Liberty Grove would allow existing seasonal homeowners to spend more time in their Liberty Grove homes. The 2015 study projected the longer stays would add well over \$1,000,000 (one \$million) per year (in 2015) to the local economy. This increase is only from existing seasonal homeowners, not new homeowners or additional visitors. In the six years since the study, everyone's dependence on broadband has continued to increase rapidly. In just 2019 and 2020, over 40 new home permits were taken out in Liberty Grove. A Town official stated that 95% of the incoming homeowners were concerned about having adequate broadband access. This growth in demand for internet services increased further during the pandemic.

According to the 2018 US Census, 43.5% of the population of Liberty Grove is 65 or older. This has several ramifications relative to our critical need for adequate broadband service.

1) In order to age in place and stay healthy physically, mentally, and emotionally, seniors need internet access. Internet is critical for communication with family and friends, for telehealth services, for access to news and knowledge, for access to banks and government services, for shopping and entertainment. Liberty Grove residents live 35 to 40 miles from specialists at the local hospital, from county government offices, from the larger retail stores and specialty shopping. Internet access is the only option for many of these services.

2) Adult children and grandchildren of any age are no longer able (or willing) to spend much time visiting their aging parents and grandparents who live in Liberty Grove but don't have good internet access. The adult children can't take advantage of remote working opportunities, college students can't attend classes or access study materials, youngsters can't access study, streaming or game services. The result for the elders is separation and loneliness.

3) Our school district is steadily shrinking because we are not renewing our younger population. For all the same reasons just listed above, families are reluctant to move to rural Liberty Grove without good internet access. In today's world, adequate broadband access is a requirement. To engage in remote work, remote schooling and the other aspects of modern connected life requires high quality, reliable internet access.

It is difficult to attract or develop new businesses in an area that has inadequate broadband service. Almost no business can operate nowadays without an active internet presence and reliable high-speed access. Relying on spotty, expensive cell-phone based internet access doesn't allow a small business to serve a significant customer base and to grow. Even though Liberty Grove represents an almost ideal living environment, poor internet access is a major deterrent to any business considering moving their operations to our Town.

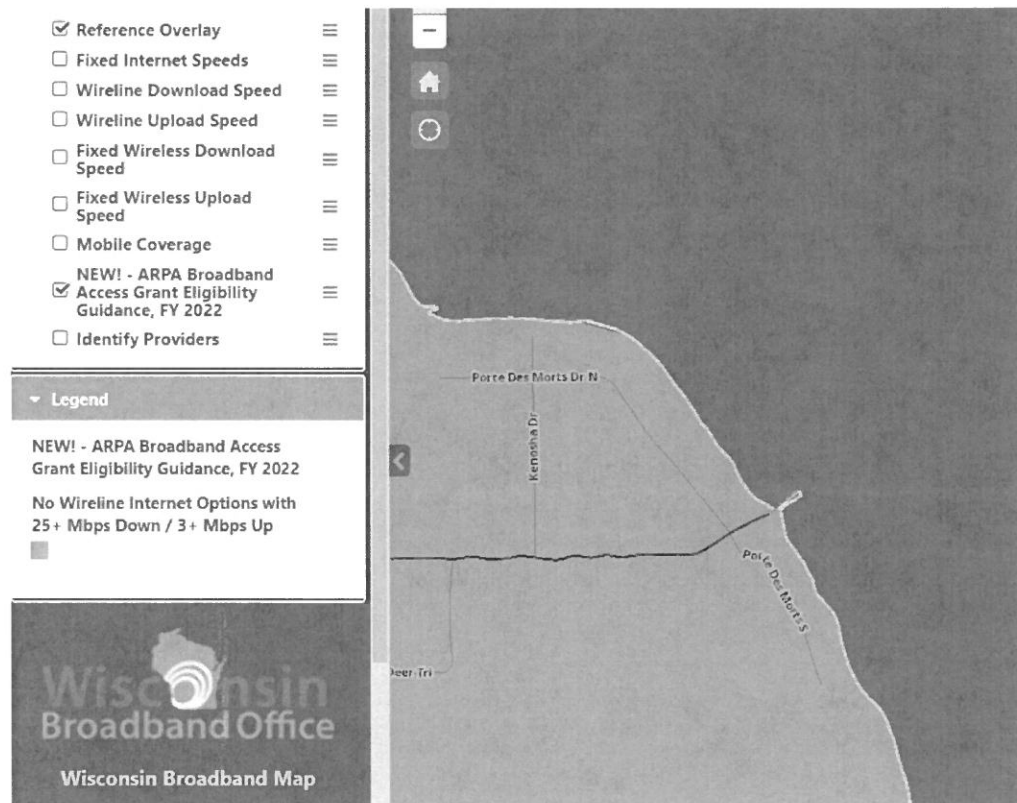
For those areas served by the proposed project, the new broadband access will help address each of the issues just described as well as the multiplied remote schooling and remote working demands caused by the pandemic.

The FTTH pilot project along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Ports Des Morts Drive will enable applicant Town of Liberty Grove and partner Nsight Telservices to begin to address this need for expanded broadband access in the Town of Liberty Grove. It will give the partners real world experience deploying FTTH in rough terrain. It will allow Nsight Telservices to introduce its well established first in class engineering and customer centered FTTH service to northern Door County. It will also provide Door County with a case study in FTTH deployment requirements as it studies feasibility of a countywide FTTH deployment.

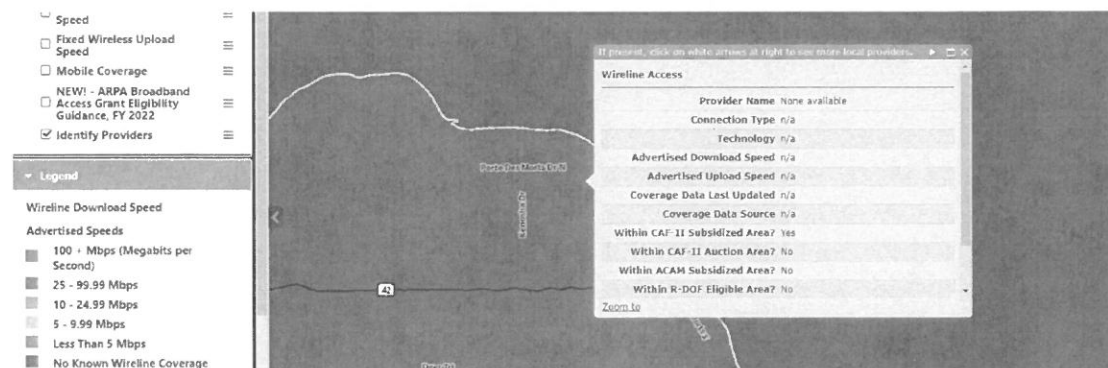
Landline Service Providers:

The project area along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Ports Des Morts Drive at Northport are eligible for FY2022 ARPA PSCW Broadband Access Grant program. In fact, the project area is not served by any landline provider at this time as is demonstrated below and in the attached letters of support. (See Exhibits 3, 4, 6)

Wisconsin Broadband Map showing project area eligibility.



The Town of Liberty Grove is a rural community located at the tip of the Door County peninsula which has no access to landline Broadband Internet services. The necessary infrastructure has not been installed and is not scheduled for near-term installation to provide internet service. As the map below demonstrates, there is currently no wireline broadband internet service provider serving the project area at Northport.



As the attached letters of support demonstrate, the homes in the project area do not have access to any landline broadband internet service provider at all. Phone service is provided

by Frontier Communications. Each home needs high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband service in the proposed area. Also, the limited availability of Internet in Liberty Grove is a major roadblock to attracting economic development. The project will enable critical activities such as remote school, healthcare and work.

Since there are no landline broadband service providers the applicant cannot provide price range of the offered services.

Fixed Wireless Broadband Providers:

Door County broadband advertises fixed wireless broadband internet service in the project area with 25Mbps download and 6Mbps upload speeds. Their residential wireless plan extends from 4Mbps/1Mbps at \$54.95 per month to 25Mbps/6Mbps at \$204.95 per month. However, speeds vary by location and the densely tree covered topography of the project area makes it impossible for homeowners to access even basic fixed wireless broadband service. None of the households in the proposed footprint have access to reliable 25Mbps/6Mbps service due to the dense foliage. The project will be capable of serving all 45 unserved locations in the project area with fiber to the home broadband internet service at speeds download speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber. The Town expects all households to take advantage of the new service.

There are no existing agreements or plans to build reliable wireline service with minimum speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload within the project area before December 31st, 2024. Nsight was awarded an FY2021 PSCW Broadband Expansion Grant (Fiber to Washington Island Phase II) to build middle mile fiber extending its existing backbone fiber from point of presence at Gills Rock to Northport Pier. However, that project did not include a distribution FTTH network along the mainland route.

4. Project Proposal

a. Technology and network design.

Describe the technology that the project will employ to reach targeted locations in the project area. Include technology type, anticipated operating speeds etc.

Proposed Technology:

Town of Liberty Grove is partnering with Nsight Telservices, LLC and choosing to invest in fiber optic infrastructure as the technology for the Northport project. In addition, the two partners propose to invest in a physical fiber broadband network that provides last mile connections.

Nsight plans to deploy XGS-PON technology which utilizes fiber to the premise (FTTP) and supports up to 10 Gbps speeds on a single optical distribution network (ODN) between the distribution electronics known as the optical line terminal (OLT) and the customer premise

equipment known as the optical network unit (ONU). This is a shared resource with all subscribers in the ODN. Nsight will deploy scalable optical multiplexing between 64 to 128 subscribers per ODN and will monitor utilization to add capacity as needed. The technical implementation supports typical service speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber.

Nsight has backhaul network within the targeted footprint with 10 Gbps capacity and electronics that support scaling to 100 Gbps. The system would be served by a fiber folded ring between Sister Bay and Gill's Rock with geo-diverse aggregation points south of Sister Bay and transport out to the Internet.

The fiber in the project area will be buried. This will prevent the cables from being damaged by storms in this heavily wooded neighborhood. When the project is completed, the design and installation will conform to all applicable federal, state, and local requirements. Nsight will use standard engineering practice, the installed infrastructure will provide the service levels and speeds stated in this application. The project will provide a service to the unserved or underserved households and businesses. It is designed to reliably exceed a symmetrical speed of 100 Mbps download and upload.

Residential and Business Service Plans

Nsight will offer the Northport customers similar pricing as in its other fiber markets. Prices are subject to change but have remained very consistent while speeds have increased for the last decade.

Standard Internet Packages

Current monthly internet pricing is as follows.

Residential:

- 250/20 Mbps: \$39.95/month initial 12 months; \$49.95 thereafter
- 500/50 Mbps: \$59.95/month initial 12 months; \$69.95 thereafter
- 1000/100 Mbps: \$99.95/month initial 12 months; \$109.95 thereafter

Note: An additional \$5.95/month gateway fee is also charged. Standard installation cost is \$19.95 with a 12-month contract; \$110.00 without a contract.

Business:

- 250/20 Mbps: \$54.95/month initial 12 months; \$64.95 thereafter
- 500/50 Mbps: \$104.95/month initial 12 months; \$114.95 thereafter
- 1000/100 Mbps: \$199.95/month initial 12 months; \$209.95 thereafter

Note: An additional \$5.95/month gateway fee is also charged. Standard installation cost is \$19.95 with a 12-month contract; \$110.00 without a contract.

b. Affordability, digital literacy and internet access.

Nsight will integrate affordability options into the program design. Nsight is committed to providing internet access to households facing negative impacts due to COVID-19. Therefore, it is integrating three (3) affordability options into this project. In particular, Nsight plans to offer its Fiber Lifeline program to eligible customers along the route. Lifeline is a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone and internet. Eligible Nsight customers will receive up to a \$9.25 discount on internet service and up to a \$5.25 discount on phone service. If awarded, Nsight will plan to extend this service from its current fiber to the home markets to the project area. Eligible households with income below 200% of the federal poverty level will have access to fixed home internet service with download/upload speeds up to 250Mbps/20Mbps at a cost of less than \$25 per month.

Nsight Telservices is also currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge. The Nsight Student at Home plan includes Broadband and Free Wi-Fi for \$29.95 per month. Fiber served addresses receive bandwidth of 250/20Mbps. Eligible customers in the new service area will receive this offer for a limited term of nine months.

Nsight and its sister company Cellcom provide both online and in-person digital literacy programs free of charge to customers. These include in person training at retail stores and online YouTube "How To Videos". How to Videos include eCommerce support and how to set up outgoing voicemail. Such programs will be made available to customers in the project area.

5. Partnerships and community engagement

Identify participating partners that are local electric cooperatives, telecommunications cooperatives, other co-operative, local governments, or other non-profit private or public organizations; and it should describe the nature or extent of their participation.

This application includes a public-private partnership between applicant Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices. We are partnering with Nsight because the company has more than 110 years of experience providing communities and local businesses with leading technology, flexible communication solutions and extraordinary customer care. Nsight's continued growth is spurred by ever-evolving consumer demands and their desire to partner with a trusted, local telecommunications provider. Meeting the needs of its customers in a personalized manner is the company's top priority and has been at the heart of the organization since its humble beginning in 1910. The beginnings of the partnership between the Town and Nsight started in November 2020 when Town of Liberty Grove passed a

Resolution supporting Nsight's PSCW application to complete a middle mile fiber build linking its tower in Gills Rock to Northport Pier where the current distribution network for the FTTH project will begin.

If the application includes partnerships, collaborative agreements, and the partnership is memorialized in a joint venture agreement or other writing, provide a copy of that agreement.

The public-private partnership between applicant Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices is memorialized in the Town of Liberty Grove Resolution passed on July 21st, 2021 and in the Memorandum of Understanding defining the terms of the partnership and signed by both parties. (See Exhibits 1 and 2)

Applicant Town of Liberty Grove pledges \$245,000.00 to the project. As the attached Resolution demonstrates, the Town pledged this sum because the necessary infrastructure has not been installed and is not scheduled for near-term installation to provide Internet service. Moreover, the town board members believe that this lack of Internet service limits the citizens and visitors from accessing critical technology for education, communication, medical devices, government services and other factors affecting quality of life.

The Town partnered with Nsight Telservices in this pilot project to deploy scalable fiber to the home service. As the attached Memorandum of Understanding demonstrates, Nsight will design, engineer, and construct the new network. Nsight will hire contractors to design and build this last mile FTTP network and will own and operate it after the project is completed. Nsight Telservices will make a connection to the new FTTH network, provide internet backhaul, complete installs and disconnects at customer premises, handle billing, and maintain the new network. Nsight will contribute \$73,500 to the project.

The Town will pay all fiber project vendor and contractor invoices submitted to the Town by Nsight for this project. The Town will also file interim reports and requests for reimbursements and will receive all PSCW grant payments. Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices will sign an Asset Purchase Agreement transferring any assets or components of the fiber project to Nsight when the project is completed. Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight agree that Nsight will have financial, billing, & operational control over the FTTH network after the Asset Purchase Agreement is signed. The terms of this partnership are memorialized in the attached Memorandum of Understanding signed by both parties.

The Town of Liberty Grove took numerous actions in support of the grant application. These initiatives were led by the Town's Technology Committee. The mission of the Liberty Grove Technology Committee is to recommend to the Town Board feasible solutions that address technology-related needs identified by the Town and /or Community and determined to benefit the governing unit, businesses, and the community of the Town of Liberty Grove. Town Board members began working with Nsight Telservices senior management in late 2020 to plan the current project. Meetings were held between the Technology Committee and Nsight in the Spring of 2021 to identify a suitable pilot project that would help the Town understand what it will need to do to provide all community households and businesses with

reliable landline broadband internet service. Immediately after the PSCW announced its ARPA funded FY2022 Broadband Access Grant program on June 1st, the Technology Committee recommended to the Town Board that it move forward with the partnership and pilot project grant application.

In addition to passing a Resolution and endorsing the Memorandum of Understanding, Town Board members worked with residents to provide letters of support in favor of the FTTH project. They also communicated with their County Board colleagues to generate further support for the project.

6. Timeline.

The FY2022 Town of Liberty Grove FTTH project construction timeline will begin with grant approval and acceptance by the applicant.

- i. Months 1-3: Engineering and environmental work.
- ii. Month 4: Permitting and material order.
- iii. Months 5-9: Beginning of Construction and testing.
- iv. Month 10-24: Completion of Construction, splicing & turn-up of customers. All eligible customers will be offered Fiber Lifeline program discounts by Nsight.

7. Budget Discussion.

Provide a narrative description of the budget and additional details regarding the project costs and match.

The grant funds in the amount of \$318,500 (50% of total project cost) requested will be used for the sole purpose of implementing the proposed broadband project and service in the un/underserved areas covered by the application under the purpose set forth in sections 602(c)(1) of the Social Security Act, as applicable.

Proposed project will include funding for the following costs:

Line:	Description / Category:	Total Cost:	Grant Funds:	Match:
1	Contractual, Consultant Fees	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 297,500.00	\$ 297,500.00
2	Equipment	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
3	Supplies	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)		\$ -	\$ -
5	Permitting, Licensing Fees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
6	Travel		\$ -	\$ -
7	Other		\$ -	\$ -
Total:		\$ 637,000.00	\$ 318,500.00	\$ 318,500.00

Applicant understands that the total project cost (\$637,000) is significant for this pilot project. The largest line item in the budget is #1 contractual fees (\$595,000) which includes construction design costs and anticipated costs of hiring a Utility Contractor to complete buried and underground fiber conduit construction along the route. This estimate is driven by the unusually high concentration of trees and rock formations in the project area along Kenosha Drive, Route 42 and Prots Des Morts Drive in Northport and the need for partner Nsight Telservices' contractor to bury fiber cable by boring or trenching through this rock to reach the 44 homes with long driveways and dense foliage. Applicant and partner Nsight Telservices will work together during the design and construction phases of this pilot project to develop options that control costs (such as maybe adding poles along some driveways) while connecting fiber to homes in the project area. This experience will assist partners as they work to extend the FTTH network to similar topographies beyond the project area in future.

Applicant Town of Liberty Grove will invest \$245,000 in cash into the proposed project. The attached Resolution passed by the Town of Liberty Grove Town Board on July 21st supports the applicant's offer of matching funds for this project. (See Exhibit 1) Town of Liberty Grove is contributing all its American Rescue Plan Act funding to this project.

Partner Nsight will invest a total of \$73,500 in cash into the proposed project. The attached signed Memorandum of Understanding supports Nsight Telservices' pledge of matching funds for this project. (See Exhibit 2)

As of date of application, there are no third-party contributor contributions.

The applicant and partner are not proposing in-kind match.

Attachments and supplemental materials:

1. Town of Liberty Grove Town Board Resolution
2. Memorandum of Understanding between Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices.
3. Letter of support from community members Stephen and Sheila Seybold.
4. Letter of Support from project area property owners William Stachour & William Bell.
5. Letter of Support from André Jacque, State Senator 1st Senate District.
6. Letter of Support from Project Area Resident James Griffin.
7. Letter of Support from Project Area Resident Ken Konrad.
8. Letter of Support from Joel Kitchens, State Representative, 1st Assembly District.
9. Letter of Support from Mike Gallagher, Member of Congress.

Attachments and supplemental materials.

Exhibits:

1. Town of Liberty Grove Town Board Resolution

**TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE
RESOLUTION 8-21**

Resolution Supporting ARPA PSCW Broadband Access Grant Application For Fiscal Year 2022

WHEREAS, the Town of Liberty Grove, is a rural community located at the tip of the Door County peninsula which has minimal access to Broadband Internet services; and

WHEREAS, the necessary infrastructure has not been installed and is not scheduled for near-term installation to provide Internet service as illustrated on the PSC map; and

WHEREAS, the limited availability of Internet in Liberty Grove is a major roadblock to attracting economic development; and

WHEREAS, this lack of Internet service limits the citizens and visitors from accessing critical technology for education, communication, medical devices, government services and other factors affecting quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission has changed the service requirements for projects included in grant applications; and

WHEREAS, Nsight will partner with the Town of Liberty Grove in a pilot project to deploy a scalable fiber to the home (FTTH) service that will provide fiber based broadband internet service with download/upload speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber to 42 unserved homes along Kenosha Drive and N. Ports Des Morts Drive in the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County; and

WHEREAS, the two partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding on July 21st, 2021 outlining the terms of this partnership.

WHEREAS, the Town has received American Rescue Plan Act funds from the State of Wisconsin to be used on infrastructure such as broadband.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, the Liberty Grove Town Board supports a FY2022 Public Service Commission grant application in partnership with Nsight for by the installation of fiber to homes along Kenosha Drive and N. Ports Des Morts Drive and pledges \$245,000, if approved, towards the cost of the new FTTH network.

I, Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer of the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County, Wisconsin hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution which was passed at a properly noticed meeting of the Liberty Grove Town Board on July 21, 2021.

Anastasia Bell

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Liberty Grove

2. Memorandum of Understanding between Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE & BROWN COUNTY C-LEC, LLC. (DBA: Nsight Telservices)

The Town of Liberty Grove "Town" agrees to partner with Nsight Telservices "Nsight" for a fiber to the home (FTTH) grant proposal that is being submitted to the ARPA Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) Broadband Access Grant Program for the FY2022 grant cycle.

Town of Liberty Grove (Applicant) and Nsight Telservices will jointly apply for an FY2022 PSCW Broadband Access Grant to:

- Deploy a scalable FTTH service that will provide fiber based broadband internet service with download/upload speeds between 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps per subscriber to 42 unserved homes along Kenosha Drive and N. Ports Des Morts Drive in the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County, Wisconsin.
- Project will include drops and installation to each home along the route.

The Town will be the applicant and will receive the grant in the amount of \$318,500 from the PSCW, if awarded. The Town pledges \$245,000 to this project. The Town will pay all fiber project vendor and contractor invoices submitted to the Town by Nsight for this project. The maximum amount that the Town will pay for these invoices is \$245,000 in the aggregate. The parties acknowledge that the payment by the Town is not for the entire cost of the Fiber project and represents only a portion of the build cost. The parties will attempt to have the Town only pay invoices for labor and non-physical assets such that the Town does not take possession or ownership of any assets or components of the Fiber project. However, should the Town take possession or ownership of any assets, the Town agrees to sell those assets to Nsight in the aggregate for \$1.00. The Town and Nsight will sign an Asset Purchase Agreement transferring any assets or components of the fiber project to Nsight when the project is completed.

The Town and Nsight agree that Nsight will have financial, billing, & operational control over the FTTH network after the Asset Purchase Agreement is signed. Nsight will design, engineer and construct the new network. Nsight will hire contractors to design and build this last mile FTTP network and will own and operate it after the project is completed. Nsight will make a connection to the new FTTH network, provide internet backhaul, complete installs and disconnects at customer premises, handle billing, and maintain the new network. Nsight will contribute \$73,500 to this project.

Nsight Telservices supports the partnership and actively endorses the Town of Liberty Grove's application submitted to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin on July 27, 2021 for the purpose of building the proposed fiber network.

Submitted this 21st day of July, 2021.



Walter Kalms, Administrator
Town of Liberty Grove
11161 Old Stage Road
Sister Bay, WI 54234



Rick Brooks, CTO and Vice President of Engineering
Nsight Telservices
PO Box 19079
Green Bay, WI 54313



3. Letter of support from community members Stephen and Sheila Seybold.

July 20, 2021

Wisconsin Public Service Commission

Dear Members, PSC:

I am writing in support of the Town of Liberty Grove/Nsight grant application for a "Pilot Project" to provide fiber communication for the Northport area near Ellison Bay WI. At present this area is extremely limited in access to any consistent and affordable internet service. At present, our only option for internet is satellite based, and subject to restrictive limits and usage.

My wife and I moved permanently to our home on Kenosha Drive in the Fall of 2020. We have spent much time researching options for internet, TV and Cellular phone providers and we are very much aware of the limitations to the current available options.

Our home utilizes satellite internet provider Hughes Net, which limits both our data amount and data speeds. Currently we have a maximum amount of data of 30GB per month, with an upload/download speed of 3Mbps/25Mbps. Satellite internet is often affected by the weather, and lack of speed limits our usage. Our monthly cost is over \$100.00 per month for this limited service. Lack of high-speed internet also limits our ability to work from home, further limiting access to employment opportunities.

Since we are unable to receive a consistent cellular signal, and we cannot utilize VoIP for telephone, we must also utilize a land line for telephone service, at an additional cost of \$60-70 dollars per month for basic local service. Our current landline provider (Frontier Communications) is unable to provide internet service.

Lack of consistent high-speed internet also forces us to utilize a satellite TV provider (Dish Network) to be able to receive a TV signal. We are unable to stream TV programs or movies due to lack of internet access.

We strongly urge the Public Service Commission to award the grant funds to Nsight and the Town of Liberty Grove to rectify this problem for resident such as ourselves. Thank you for your consideration to this application.

Sincerely,

Stephen and Sheila Seybold

12718 Kenosha Dr.

Ellison Bay, WI 54210

shseybold@gmail.com

4. Letter of Support from project area property owners William Stachour and William Bell.

Internet Service inquiry for Northern Door County



William Stachour <stachour@yahoo.com>
To: tlibertygrove@gmail.com; OMalley, Michael

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Fri 7/23/2021 10:11 PM

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside of Nsight or any of its affiliated companies. If you do not recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click on links, open attachments or respond to this email.

Dear Wisconsin Public Service Commission:

We are interested in any project that improves our internet service in the door. Our current provider, Door County Broadband, provides us with the following speeds currently.

Download: 5.34 Mbps
Upload: 2.04 Mbps

We are told this is the best available to us here (vs our Appleton address, where we get 115Mbps / 12Mbps up / down).

We are interested in any program which might bring improvement to our area.

Thanks very much!

Bil Stachour
stachour@yahoo.com
(920) 750-4123
12862 N. Porte des Morts Dr.
Ellison Bay, WI 54210

Wisconsin Public Service Commission

RE: Pilot Project

I have homes at 12748, 12770 and 12778 N. Porte Des Morts with internet service at only 12770 and 12778 because the service is so slow. Although I pay for 8 down and 2.5 up I am only able to get speeds of 4.67 down and 2.42 up with no ability to get quicker speeds.

Thank you for your attention to this problem.

William Bell

5. Letter of Support from André Jacque, State Senator 1st Senate District.



ANDRÉ JACQUE

STATE SENATOR • 1st SENATE DISTRICT

Phone: (608) 266-3512
Fax: (608) 282-3541
Sen.Jacque@legis.wis.gov

State Capitol • P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Walter Kalms
Administrator
Town of Liberty Grove
11161 Old Stage Road
Sister Bay, WI 54234

Dear Mr. Kalms:

I'm pleased to write in support of your co-op application for Partners' Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices, LLC, to request an FY 2022 ARPA Broadband Access Grant from the PSCW for a pilot project to construct a scalable fiber to the home deployment that will provide fiber-based broadband internet service with download/upload speeds exceeding 100Mbps/100Mbps to unserved homes along Kenosha Drive and N. Ports Des Morts Drive in the Town of Liberty Grove.

As the State Senator for the area, I believe this is the very type of project this grant program was designed to fund. Without significant support from the grant program it is highly unlikely a project like this would be built. I have become aware for several years now of the critical need for faster internet service for both work demands and quality of life.

Those needs existed before challenges posed by COVID-19. We've since seen an unprecedented transition to virtual methods of communication for educational instruction, business interactions, and even social organization engagement that in many ways are here to stay. Many areas have particularly struggled in these adjustments as faster quality internet connections may at best be available at local municipal buildings such as a local library if at all. I have contacted providers previously on behalf of area residents, several of whom organized petitions for expanded service. I see this proposal as a tremendous collaborative opportunity for success in moving beyond those previous pleas that fell on deaf ears.

Rural network connectivity is pivotal to fulfilling citizens' economic and private needs and has become an infrastructure necessity in the modern world for my constituents.

Thank you for contacting me to offer my full support for your proposed project.

Sincerely,

Senator André Jacque
1st Senate District

6. Letter of Support from Project Area Resident James Griffin.

Broadband Availability In The Northport/Port Des Mort Neighborhoods



Jim Griffin <jfgdoor@gmail.com>

To: tlibertygrove@gmail.com; OMalley, Michael

Reply

Reply All

Forward

...

Thu 7/22/2021 8:58 AM

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside of Nsight or any of its affiliated companies. If you do not recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click on links, open attachments or respond to this email.

To: Wisconsin Public Service Commission

I live at 12744 N Port Des Morts Dr, Ellison Bay, WI 54210 and I can only obtain 8.6 MBPS from DC Broadband Co. Even though they offer larger packages for more expensive prices, they tell me that I can't receive any more in my area. I can barely run my TV and my laptop computer without buffering with this limited amount.

Sincerely,
James Griffin

7. Letter of Support from Project Area Resident Ken Conrad.

Letter of support



kdakc@att.net

To: tlibertgrove@gmail.com; OMalley, Michael

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#) [...](#)

Tue 7/20/2021 11:22 AM

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside of Nsight or any of its affiliated companies. If you do not recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click on links, open attachments or respond to this email.

To:

Wisconsin Public Service Commission

My current internet service is Hughes Net

Upload speed 0.76 Mbps

Download speed 35.1 Mbps

Reliability not very good

I'm supporting the grant application for a pilot project to run fiber to the area created by Kenosha Dr and N and S Port Des Morts and Hwy 42.

Ken Conrad

12740 Kenosha Dr

Ellison Bay WI 54210

920-363-0152

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

8. Letter of Support from Joel Kitchens, State Representative, 1st Assembly District.



JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

July 23, 2021

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Secretary Steffany Powell Coker
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, Sixth Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Secretary Powell Coker,

Please accept this letter as my support for the application being submitted to your agency by Nsight that requests grant funding in 2021 to improve broadband internet services in the town of Liberty Grove.

Nsight is seeking a \$318,500 grant from the state to provide high-speed internet access to at least 42 households and businesses in the Door County township. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$637,000.

As the state representative of this region, I know firsthand how much this grant would help my constituents who are making this request.

Expanded access to high-speed internet generates major economic growth and rapid job creation. Unfortunately, some areas of the state do not have reliable access to these services and it is critical that the town of Liberty Grove is not left behind.

Although this grant would fund a local project, Door County is responsible for a large portion of the tourism economy that helps make Wisconsin run. So, awarding this particular grant would also benefit the entire state as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Kitchens".

State Rep. Joel Kitchens
1st Assembly District

9. Letter of Support from Member of Congress Mike Gallagher.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 23, 2021

Mr. Walter Kalms
Administrator of the Town of Liberty Grove
11161 Old Stage Road
Sister Bay, WI 54234

Dear Administrator Kalms,

I write in support of the application of the Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices, LLC for funding through the fiscal year 2022 American Rescue Plan Act's Broadband Access Grant from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

The Town of Liberty Grove, located at the northern tip of the Door Peninsula, comprises several unincorporated and rural communities that have limited access to broadband services. In addition, this area's unique location and small population make the area one of the more difficult and expensive places to implement broadband services.

With their small, sparsely populated location, the Town of Liberty Grove's greatest challenge is implementing medium to large scale infrastructure projects without help. That is why deploying broadband services is merely impossible without the use of grant assistance.

The project will offer fiber to the home (FTTH) service to 43 locations along Kenosha Drive and Port Des Morts Drive. The partnership between the Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices, LLC offers a unique proposition for those needing broadband service in the area. With the help of this grant, the partnership between the Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices, LLC, will provide a great example of how public and private interests can work together to find solutions that match the needs of the people.

I request full and fair consideration to the Town of Liberty Grove and Nsight Telservices, LLC's application for funding. If you have additional questions regarding my support, contact Dane Lasecki in my office at dane.lasecki@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

S/F,



Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress

Thoughts for summer projects for the two UW law school grad students associated:

1) Create a project plan for creating a Peninsula (Door County) Broadband Cooperative. Create a step by step guide. For each step provide a list of documents to be completed, sources of information how to complete those documents, lists of information required to complete the documents, where to get that information,. Identify two or three law firms who would be qualified to help with the effort. Develop model budgets for the co-op's creation (including legal fees) along with for its first 2 or 3 years operation, plus any other information needed that will allow us to create a Peninsula Broadband Cooperative to serve the citizens of Door County. The ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive step by step guide that the citizens of Door County can use to set up a new Peninsula Broadband Cooperative.

2) Create a comprehensive set of benefits that implementation of a robust, affordable, high speed broadband infrastructure can bring to a community. Value these benefits with real data from specific examples. Where the benefits can be quantified, do so.

a. Focus first on aspects that relate to community and individual health. Things like the many benefits of telehealth with specific examples, real ones if possible. Benefits like being able to receive an exam without travel. Go into detail – sick baby exam where the mom has other little ones to care for making it difficult to travel – exam of an elderly person who has fallen – an exam from “on the job” – exam by a specialist hundreds of miles or even a continent away – etc. etc. etc. Devices that can feed data to the examiner, to a lab, to a collection system that analyzes, warns, recommends – heart monitors, diabetes management, etc. etc. etc. My knowledge and imagination are too limited.

b. What quality of life factors are enhanced or even enabled by such an infrastructure? Extended aging in place with reduced cost. Multiplying the coverage allowed to a home health aide – instead of helping 3 or 4 people, they can help 6 or 8? Use of Internet of Things (IoT) to help watch over people. But must also address concerns about Big Brother. Lots more ideas needed.

c. Economic Development – What can this infrastructure bring to our community? Work from home – people coming here because it's a wonderful place to live and they can access the world from here – families come to live here, work from here, raise and educate their kids here, repopulating our schools. – allowing home based or small businesses to readily serve distant customers via the internet, allow businesses to operate as part of an organization scattered widely, allow local distributor to handle all their logistics, order processing, etc. etc. etc.

d. Remote education access for youngsters, college students, graduate studies, researchers. Allow teachers to deliver course material to far distant students. Access to online workforce development training.

e. Agriculture

f. Etc. etc. etc.

g. Easier access to and involvement in local government including fulfilling citizen responsibilities and accessing government services online.

h. By providing easier, more affordable access to all kinds of information and services, it creates a higher level of social equality in the community.

Sample source document: [Socio-economic-benefits-of-High-Speed-Broadband.pdf](#)
([europedirectpuglia.eu](#)) This document is way too dense and complicated. We must assume a short attention span audience and we must say things that will personalize the message.

Material from other sources should be freely researched. An example:

Some ways Broadband can benefit a rural community

Smart Agriculture: The importance of agriculture to rural communities cannot be overstated — and smart technology enriches the agriculture industry with its ability to provide insight and actionable data quickly and efficiently. Consider soil moisture monitoring that can help maximize crop yields and reduce loss with sprinkler system optimization, which also helps to conserve water or air quality monitoring to comply with emissions regulations of harmful ammonia or nitrogen oxide gases. In contrast, large asset and tank management monitoring can help keep track of equipment and control inventory levels reducing risk and waste.

Telehealth: Using smart technology's data collection capabilities to support long-distance clinical health care reduces the need to travel to doctors' offices from distant rural locations. By reducing travel, critical information can be gathered efficiently and safely, lower risk of exposure to contagious diseases, and provide significant cost savings for both patients and medical professionals.

Remote Learning: As recent experiences have shown, broadband to the home is a critical necessity when it comes to in-home learning. Smart technology relies on that same broadband infrastructure to help manage many aspects of the remote learning experience, whether it's the use of remote attendance systems or database access and test monitoring. Smart technology is instrumental to ensuring the education system is not only efficient but an effective learning tool.

Citizen Services: Reliable and accessible data that can be quickly acted upon represents enormous time and cost savings for our local governments. There's almost no aspect of city management and maintenance that's not improved and made more efficient by the proper use of smart technology — and this is every bit as true for small rural towns as it is for large cities. Smart surveillance systems may deter unwanted behavior but, more importantly, alert personnel at the first sign of suspicious activity, from illegal dumping to fights on the city playground, to locating vehicles of interest through license plate recognition software.

Utility services also offer numerous opportunities; waste management can employ smart trash cans to reduce service costs; thermal monitoring on electrical power plants can alert overheated transformers, and remote vegetation management can help electric service providers clear lines in response to fallen tree limbs before costly failures occur.

Our Task Force is a place to start as a source of reference material.

Draft IT Committee budget 2020-2024

Priority	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	New project requests, required upgrades and maintenance of existing equipment					
	Broadband grant (matching funds)			\$ 100,000		
	Grant application costs					
	Public auto recharging station (add 1 per year)					
	Construction & Equipment					
	Electrical and service fees	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000		
	Public Wifi					
	Electrical and service fees	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000		
	Town Hall Equipment					
	Conference room and meeting room monitors					
	Town Hall phone system			\$ 3,000		
	Board dias monitors			\$ 3,000		
	Backup and Security					
	Antivirus, backup, antispam & password manager software (may become annual expense)		\$ 2,500			
	Professional services		\$ 4,000			
	Backup/recovery testing and digitization of paper documents		\$ 3,000			
	Document scanner for digitizing		\$ 2,500			
		\$ 2,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 109,000	\$ -	\$ -