Greater East Grand Region Economic Development Initiative 5 Church Lane Weston, ME 04424

May 6, 2020

Peggy Schaffer Executive Director ConnectMaine Authority 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy,

On behalf of the Greater East Grand Region Economic Development Initiative and the Greater East Grand Broadband Task Force, I am submitting this Phase 1 Planning grant application for your funding consideration.

As you will find in the attached application, significant work has taken place over the past twelve months by volunteer residents, business owners, and organizations to discover the path forward towards economic vitality and community well-being. In all the discussions to date investing in local infrastructure, especially high-speed broadband capacity, has been recognized as a key, if not the most important, building block to advance the goals and strategies over the next ten years.

The plan to complete a Phase 1 Plan includes a partnership with Pioneer Broadband. and continues to utilize project consultant Sarah Strickland and Sunrise County Economic Council as fiscal sponsor, both of whom have been part of the economic development initiative. Letters of support from towns, residents and organizations underscore the active local engagement we anticipate.

Please contact me directly with any follow-up questions or information needs. Thank you in advance for giving full consideration to our request.

Sincerely,

Dwayne'Young

Co-chair GEGR Broadband Task Force

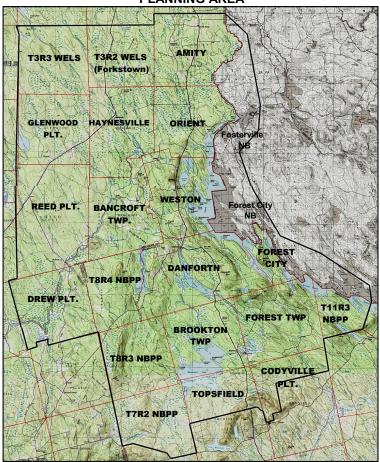
207-448-2316

townofweston@pioneerwireless.net

Greater East Grand Region

Representing the communities of Amity, Orient, Haynesville, Bancroft, Weston Reed Plantation, Drew Plantation Danforth, Forest City, Brookton TWP, Forest TWP Codyville Plantation, T11R3, T8R4, T8R3, T7R2

GREATER EAST GRAND REGION ECONOMIC PLANNING AREA



Community Broadband Planning Grant Application Phase 1 Request May 7, 2020

Prepared by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Planning Initiative, GEGR Broadband Task Force with Sarah Strickland, Project Consultant

Community Broadband Planning Grant Application Phase 1 Request

Table of Contents

Page 4
Page 6
Page 6
Page 7
Page 7
0 -
Page 7
0 -
Page 8
Page 13
Page 26
Page 26
Page 26 Page 31
Page 26
Page 26 Page 31 Page 33
Page 26 Page 31
Page 26 Page 31 Page 33

Applicant Information

1. Date: May 7, 2020

2. Submitting Committee – the Applicant:

Greater East Grand Region (GEGR) Economic Planning Initiative GEGR Broadband Planning Task Force Fiscal Sponsor: Sunrise County Economic Council

3. Vendor Partners:

Timothy McAfee | CEO
Don Flewelling | Dir. of Govt/Public Relations
Pioneer Broadband | 37 North St | Houlton ME 04730
Don@PioneerBroadband.net | 207-521-5765

Sarah Strickland | President Strategic Wisdom Partners | PO Box 34 | Robbinston ME 04671 Sbs4940@gmail.com | 207-454-2854

4. Grant Amount Requested: \$10,000

5. Community Project Point of Contact:

Dwayne Young – Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectman Town of Weston 5 Church Lane Weston, ME 04424 207-448-2316 dwayneyoung267@hotmail.com

6. Party Who Prepared Application:

Sarah Strickland - Project Consultant to GEGR Economic Planning Committee in consultation with GEGR Economic Planning Steering Committee, the GEGR Broadband Task Force and Pioneer Broadband

7.0 Executive Summary

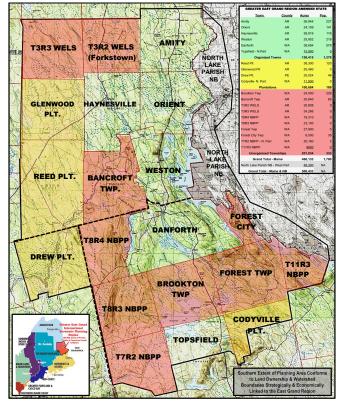
7.1 Engagement & Participation (30 points)

The Greater East Grand Region (GEGR) economic planning initiative began formally in April 2019 by a concerned group of local residents and business leaders committed to developing a community-based ten-year plan to advance its vision for the region's sustainability and future vitality.

This economic planning region was created in 2019 because of the historical and current strong business, education and community connections to Danforth as a service center and the cross-county boundaries of school district RSU 84/MSAD 14 served by exclusively by East Grand School in Danforth. The region, with 7 communities, 3 plantations and 6 TWP's, is situated at the remote extremities of three counties, has seen ever-changing international border rules, and is divided by two state legislative districts and three state tourism areas. This makes the prospect of coordinated economic and community planning very limited.

Since 2014, citizen groups, key community leaders, civic-minded landowners, creative business people and outside sources of funding have helped foster huge investments of time, energy and volunteerism in the well-being of some of our communities and in local education. These investments have produced returns, and we believe the hurdles the region has can be turned into strengths.

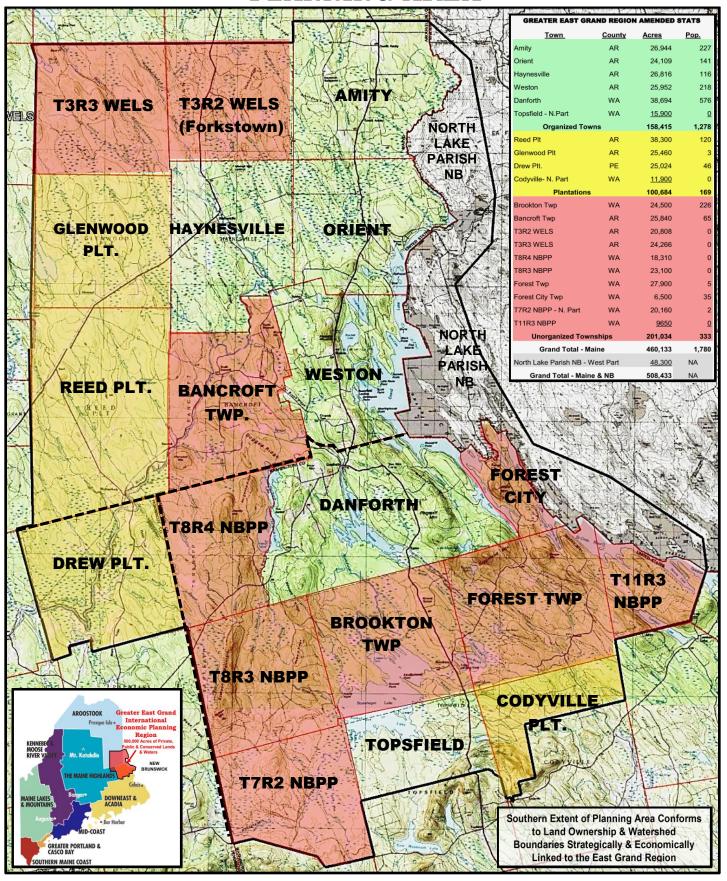
GREATER EAST GRAND REGION ECONOMIC PLANNING AREA



It is with a sense of urgency that we capitalize on these recent developments and take full advantage of prior investments to advance our collective vision: By 2030, the Greater East Grand Region is a stable constellation of rural communities that collaborate to attract people of all ages to live, work, visit and play because of its heritage and vision as a remote, rural and welcoming region.

As citizens of once flourishing settlements of loggers, farmers and entrepreneurs, we are reclaiming our rural heritage and true sense of community. As new-found pioneers, we are striving to build local and far-reaching partnerships in education and economic vitality with a focus on three connected goals: (1) supporting existing businesses and emerging entrepreneurs, (2) investing in youth and young adults, and (3) creating a regional landscape fortified with the necessary infrastructure, utilities, housing, local businesses, and public services for families, elders, and individuals to create a sustainable and satisfying rural lifestyle.

GREATER EAST GRAND REGION ECONOMIC PLANNING AREA



Significant upgrades to the available broadband in the GEGR communities is one of the most significant strategies to advance the region's goals and priorities. Its economic vitality, community vibrancy and workforce development will be possible only with increased broadband investment.

The Phase 1 Project will be led by the GEGR Broadband Task Force. The GEGR Broadband Task Force is a sub-committee of the GEGR Economic Planning Initiative and includes representatives from the communities, plantations and unorganized territories <u>that will be part of this first assessment in the region</u>, as well as the East Grand Chamber of Commerce, the RSU 84/MSAD school district and other anchor institutions and businesses.

GEGR Broadband Task Force

Co-Chair: Dwayne Young, Town of Weston, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen Co-Chair: Jennifer Fronczak, East Grand School, Teacher Ardis Brown, Town of Danforth, Town Manager Denise Smith, East Grand Chamber of Commerce, President; Business Owner; Weston Elbridge Cleaves, Citizens Organization for Rural Education, President; Weston Peggy White, East Grand School, Superintendent and Principal; Wytopitlock Jessica Potter, East Grand Health Center, Administrator, Danforth

Carolyn Fickett, Maine Family Resource Center, Program Manager, Danforth Kyle Burdick, Baskahegan Company, Woodlands Manager, Brookton Susan Hatton, Sunrise County Economic Council, Program Manager, Sunrise Loan Fund

Project Consultants (See Exhibit A)

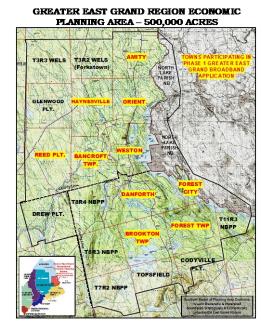
(1) Sarah Strickland, Project Consultant, will provide overall project management to complete the regional assessment, facilitate community and municipal meetings, conduct interviews, and complete the final written report for the Task Force. Sarah will provide guidance to task force members, selected residents, and students to assist with assessment activities.

(2) Tim McAfee, CEO and Don Flewelling, Director of Govt/Public Relations for Pioneer Broadband will provide engineering and infrastructure

expertise for the inventory and gap analysis.

Communities to be included in this phase of Broadband Assessment

- Amity
- Orient
- Haynesville
- Weston
- Bancroft TWP
- Reed Plantation
- Danforth
- Forest City
- Forest TWP
- Brookton TWP



7.2 Project Focus (30 points)

There are four project segments which will produce a final Phase 1 report.

(1) Task Force Orientation (Month 1)

- Review relevant information from the economic development asset mapping and plan establish the larger context for this effort.
- Participate in a High-speed Broadband 101 orientation and field trip with Don Flewelling.
- Review, modify and finalize the community broadband assessment process and survey tools to maximize participation across the region.
- Finalize the project timeline, deliverables and task force meeting schedule.

(2) Months 2-5, task force members and selected volunteers will assess community need with residents and businesses. Sarah Strickland to lead. Steps include:

- Hold information meetings with town leaders and residents about the project.
- Implement a communications plan about the project and assessment survey to encourage participation region wide.
- Initiate and complete the on-line residential and business survey activities that will assess community concerns, costs of current services, and service gaps.
- Conduct 1:1 interviews with cornerstone organizations across the region.
- Prepare a summary report for the Task Force.

(3) Months 2-5, complete an inventory of existing broadband infrastructure and a gap analysis for all communities in the region. Don Flewelling to lead. Steps include:

- Municipal procedures, policies and ordinances will be requested and reviewed by the Task Force.
- Based on the recent school and health center experience with Covid-19, conduct a digital inclusion assessment that addresses affordable internet, equipment, digital literacy and public computer access in the region. Internet "deserts" will be identified in the region.
- Prepare a summary report for the Task Force that includes a gap analysis with preliminary options to remediate.

(4) Task Force Reporting (Month 6)

- When all the assessments and reports are complete, the task force will meet to review the findings, develop recommendations, and prepare a summary report outlining results and likely next steps.
- Meetings with town leaders and businesses in each community will be held to assess readiness to move into Phase 2 planning.
- A public meeting will be held and articles in the local paper will inform residents about the results and set the stage for the next phase.

7.4 Project Deliverables

- Fully functioning Task Force that is oriented and prepared for the "marathon" ahead.
- Identified broadband needs and goals for each community in the region.
- Inventory mapping of existing broadband infrastructure.
- Gap analysis between community goals and existing infrastructure.
- Assessment of municipal procedures, rules and ordinances that will impact option and decisions.
- Digital inclusion plan informed by Covid-19 experience of families/students, health center patients and businesses.
- A final Phase 1 document that recommends next steps for Phase 2 planning and funding.

7.5 Project Metrics

- Resident and business survey process results in necessary and sufficient participation.
- Towns are engaged and provide requested information in a timely manner.
- Consultant interim reports are delivered to the Task Force per the project schedule.
- Meetings with town leaders in each community are well attended with informed discussions.
- There is a clear path forward with priorities for the region to seek funding for Phase 2 planning.

7.6 Project Timeline (larger version on page 33)

GEGR Broadband Project Activties			June				Ju	ıly			August September			October				November					Dec/Jan 2021					
	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	
Task Force Orientation and Coordination																												
Review economic development report recommendations						П			П														П					
Participate in Broadband 101 orientation and virtual "field trip"																							П					
Finalize the assessment process and tools																												
Finalize and affirm the timeline, deliverables						П			П														П					
Schedule meetings for year	1		2				3					4				5			6				П	7				
	П					Г			Т														Т					
Resident and Business Needs Assessment	П					П				П													П					
Prepare and finalize survey questions						П			П														П					
Upload on-line survey for residents and businesses																												
Prepare, review and distribute articles for newspapers, etc.																							П					
Announce project in local newspapers, through Chamber and town meetings										Г					Г								П					
Conduct selected 1:1 interviews																							П					
On-line survey open																												
Survey data analysis and report prepared	П					П									П								П					
Report presented to Task Force	П					П			П			4											П					
	П					П			Т		П												Т					
Existing Infrastructure Survey & Gap Analysis	П					П			Т														П					
Gather and assemble municipal information from communities																							П					
Gather and assemble digital inclusion information from organizations	П																						П					
Gather and assemble existing infrastructure information for inventory						П																	П					
Data analysis to identify gaps																							П					
Report prepared for Task Force	П					П		П	П														П					
Report presented to Task Force						П										5							П					
	Т					П			Т							П							Т					
Task Force Recommendations and Report to the Region																												
Task Force meeting to sythesize findings and prepare recommendations						Г			Т	Г									6				Т					
Presentation materials and report prepared for distribution/website	Т					Т			T	г													Т					
Distribute report and hold information meetings as needed	Т					Г			Т	г													Т					
Task Force meeting to decide on Phase 2 project requirements	t					\vdash		\vdash	\top	г													-	7	T			Meetings TBD
	t	\vdash		-		\vdash			+	г		\vdash			\vdash			\vdash		\vdash			t					

8.0 Financial Commitment (25 Points)

Pro	oject Budget	Total Cost	Match	Grant Request
	Phase 1	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

Match Sources:

\$5000 from existing economic planning project funds. \$5000 requested from Washington County UT TIF Commissioners meeting scheduled for May 14th.

Fiscal Sponsor: Sunrise County Economic Council

Exhibit A – Consultant Information

Pioneer Broadband

Throughout the 90's, the advent of the Internet allowed for virtual private networking (among other uses) resulting in the growth of wide area networks to improve efficiency and quality control. Insurance operations including retail agencies were ripe to deploy these new system configurations. In addition, insurers were improving and increasing their business-to-business applications via the Internet. FAPCO's demand for broadband was steadily increasing; and so was the cost and frustration. Because FAPCO's office locations span a distance of 180 miles in the heart of northern Maine, broadband services were expensive with limited options and few solutions on the horizon. Seeking answers, FAPCO experimented with wireless connectivity and by 2001, *Pioneer Wireless Network* was born. The business plan quickly morphed into building a large-scale network throughout Northern Maine to solve the entire region's high-speed Internet void. Now under the trade name, *Pioneer Broadband*, the network currently covers the state from Loring south to Lincoln, Downeast to Calais and everywhere in-between delivering broadband services to even the smallest rural community. Pioneer has expanded into all mediums of connectivity including cable, digital subscriber line (DSL) and fiber optics including fully redundant fiber-fed international connectivity with our Canadian partner, BellAliant. Pioneer also owns secure data storage facilities in Central and Southern Aroostook County complete with power redundancy and security.

For years Pioneer has expanded the broadband infrastructure in Aroostook and Washington counties by being one of the largest recipients of the ConnectMaine Broadband grant funding agency. Thanks to Pioneer's responsible use of these funds, thousands of Maine households now receive affordable broadband that would otherwise be available.

In 2016, Pioneer launched an ambitious project to 'fiber-enable' the entire town of Houlton, Maine and surrounding areas. With that development, Pioneer received the approval to become Houlton's second television cable franchise providing choice of a competitive video offering in addition to providing superior Internet connectivity. Now with the expertise at designing, building and operating fiber optic networks, in 2017 the Downeast Broadband Utility (serving the towns of Calais and Baileyville, Maine) hired Pioneer to design and construct a municipal broadband network for their communities. In 2019, Pioneer entered the line construction business by starting Pioneer Construction dedicated to fiber optic and cable construction projects across Maine.

Although not ubiquitous, Northern Maine now boasts better connectivity options than many other parts of the state including areas surrounding Portland and Bangor. Pioneer currently employs 17 and hires a number of independent contractors for tower, site and installation work.

Pioneer Broadband is a telecommunications company based in Houlton, Maine, serving high speed Internet to over 3500 customers via fiber optic cable, wireless, DSL. Pioneer is a registered CLEC recognized by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. An early collaborator in the Maine Fiber Company's Three Ring Binder Project, Pioneer has integrated many miles of MFC fiber in the Pioneer Network and has recently completed construction a protected network ring around MFC's Northern part of the Three Ring Binder.

Pioneer is a long-time collaborator with the ConnectMaine Authority and is the recipient of many ConnectMaine grant awards. Pioneer Broadband is the only Maine Internet Service Provider with direct connectivity to the Canadian Internet backbone. Pioneer has a proven track record of success and deep commitment to serving rural Maine!

TIMOTHY R. MCAFEE

136 Westford Hill Road Hodgdon, Maine 04730 207-532-1165

EXPERIENCE

1991 - 1995	Nuclear Reactor Operator
	US Navy - SSN 686 USS L. Mendel Rivers
1995 - 1996	Independent Consultant
	McAfee Information Systems
1996 - 1998	Service Technician
	Computer Systems & Solutions
1998 - 2001	Systems Administrator
	F. A. Peabody Company
2001 - 2007	General Manager and Engineer
	Pioneer Wireless, Inc.
2007 - 2011	CTO/Engineer
	Pioneer Broadband
2011 –present	CEO/Engineer
-	Pioneer Broadband

EDUCATION

1989	Graduated Hodgdon High School
1989 - 1991	US Navy - Nuclear Power School
2000	Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer
2006	Fiber Optic Association of America – AFOT / CFOT
2011	Fiber Optic Association of America - CFHP

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Designed and implemented a microwave broadband network covering the bulk of Aroostook County, Maine making Pioneer Broadband the first broadband provider in some municipalities.
- Established cross-border 1 Gbps microwave data link into New Brunswick in 2006 to offer Northern Maine businesses an alternate route to the Internet.
- Created a datacenter in Presque Isle, Maine in the basement of Key Bank on Main Street. The area was a computer room for the Casco Northern mainframe in the 1970s. http://www.pioneerdatacenter.net
- Established a cross-border fiber optic cable connection to Bell Aliant in New Brunswick in 2010.
- Constructed multi-site fiber-fed remote terminal DSL network throughout the Greater Houlton, Maine area.
- Designed and implemented neighborhood FTTH systems in Big Lake, Westfield, New Limerick, Linneus, and Hodgdon., Maine.
- Designed and implemented a FTTH overbuild on an old copper CATV plant in Sherman and Stacyville, Maine.
- Designed and implemented FTTH system for nearly all of the Town of Houlton, Maine.
- Designed and implemented neighborhood FTTH system for Premium Choice Broadband Newbury Neck Road, Surry, Maine.
- Designed open access dark fiber infrastructure for Downeast Broadband Utility Baileyville and Calais, Maine.
- Designed and implemented FTTH system for Hodgdon, Maine, Benedicta, Maine and parts of Herseytown, Maine.

Background in television and radio engineering, computer sales, potato sales, Internet technical sales, marketing & administration, network project design, grant-writing, wide-area fiber-optic network-design, government and public relations. 64 years old, married 41 years, two daughters, three grandchildren, resided in Aroostook County since college graduation in 1978.

EXPERIENCE

1977 – 1981	Maine Public Broadcasting Company Television and Radio Engineering Technician
1981 – 1983	WEGP - WTMS Radio Radio Chief Engineer
1983 – 1987	Netherland Typewriter, Inc. Computer Sales Manager
1987- 2006	Maine Farmers Exchange Sales Manager
1996 - 2006	MFX Internet ISP System Administrator
2006 – present	Pioneer Broadband Govt/Public Relations

EDUCATION

1978	Associates Degree of Electrical Engineering Technology, University of Maine at Orono.
1979 – 1985	Studied/taught Computer courses in Basic, RPG and COBOL. Northern Maine Community College.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 1995 Developed new local Internet Service Provider business in Presque Isle, Maine.
- 2000 Built first high-speed fixed-wireless network in Caribou, Presque Isle, Mars Hill and Houlton, Maine.
- 2006 Developed graphic design work and direct marketing material for Pioneer Broadband advertising brand.
- 2008 today. Grant writer for over 40 ConnectMaine grants to expand rural broadband Internet service.
- 2014 today. Business consulting for Maine municipalities developing Internet service projects.
- 2015 today. Grant project mapping and network design for new "Fiber to the Home" projects.
- 2016 Developed and wrote legislative language to support increased funding for the ConnectMaine Authority to advance funding for rural broadband in Maine.
- 2018 Grant application work on USDA Community Connect and ReConnect projects.

Email: sbs4940@gmail.com

Sarah B. Strickland

KEY ROLES

Organizational/Strategy Consultant **Executive Director** Board Chair/Board Member Service Line Administrative Director **Program Director** Marketing Manager **Department Supervisor** National Research Coordinator Industrial Relations Supervisor

SECTORS

Non-Profit Health Care Education Government Arts

CLIENTS in Maine

Downeast Innovation Network: Co-Consulting Coordinator ME Arts Commission: School Arts Assessment Project East Grand Region Economic Planning Project Director East Grand School: Natural Resources Pathway Development Downeast Fisheries Partnership: Strategic Planning East Grand Health Center: Community Needs Assessment Hancock County Soil/Water Commission: Strategic Planning Downeast Community Partners: Strategic Planning Project WaCo Council of Governments: UT Planning Sunrise County Economic Council: DownEast Sustainability St Croix Int. Waterway Commission: Strategic Planning St. Croix Estuary Project: Visioning and Identity Project Lubec Community Outreach Center: Business Planning Healthy Acadia: Farm to School Project Evaluation WHCA and Child/Family Opportunities: Strategic Alliance Maine Farmland Trust: Evaluation Project Advisor

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts: Psychology Pitzer College, Claremont, CA **Emphasis: Organizational Psychology**

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Robbinston Historical Society: Secretary

EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Sarah B. Strickland is the President of Strategic Wisdom Partners, a consulting firm for social service, education, health care and other community agencies seeking to enhance their governance, strategic, operational and impact capacities. Sarah has over 30 years of professional experience extending across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. The last 15 of these years involve working with organizations to increase their leadership, strategic and business capacity in the form of strategic planning, program design and evaluation, business planning, and board development. She also worked in executive partnership with a founding CEO and co-led the national organization's strategic, program development and operations functions. The first fifteen years included progressive system-level administrative and line management positions in large organizations in which Sarah's financial, operations, marketing, personnel and management skills were honed. During that time, she was a co-author on two behavior change research projects: SILS: Spinal Injury Learning Series (1981), and SWITCH (2007). Over her career, Sarah has served as a volunteer non-profit board chair and member during significant leadership transitions, financial challenges, expansions and major fundraising efforts. These experiences combined with her extensive system-level administrative and management experience developed her executive skills that she now brings to the organizations she serves. Building local leadership capacity at the board, executive, and operations levels is a hallmark of her current

CORE COMPENTENCIES

work with organizations.

- Strategic Planning
- **Board Governance and Development**
- Cross-sector Planning and Project Management
- Meeting Design and Facilitation
- Operations Planning and Budgeting
- Financial Management
- **Fundraising strategy**
- Research Design, Implementation and Evaluation
- Writing Proposal, Grant, Strategic and Business Plans

Sarah B. Strickland **Career Highlights**

Strategic Wisdom Partners, Robbinston, ME A strategy, business and leadership consulting practice serving non-profit, government, healthcare, education, arts and business organizations.	2013-Present
Cincinnatus, Inc. Minneapolis, MN A strategy, business and leadership consulting group serving non-profit, government, healthcare, arts, education and business organizations.	2005-2013
National Institute on Media and the Family, Minneapolis, MN Executive Director responsible for business strategy, administration and financial management in collaboration with Founder/President David Walsh, Ph.D.	2005-2009
SBS Associates, Minneapolis, MN A consulting practice offering health care and non-profit executives strategic and business operations expertise to initiate new strategies or revitalize stagnant priorities.	1999-2005
Fairview Health Services, Minneapolis, MN System level management positions for Occupational Health, Pain Management, PM&R Services and Behavioral Services between 1985-1989 and 1992-1999.	1989-1999
Sarah Strickland & Associates, Minneapolis, MN Management consulting specializing in strategic planning for health care organizations	1989-1992
HealthOne Corporation, Minneapolis, MN Marketing - Associate Director/Manager; Employer Health Promotion Supervisor	1981-1985
Travel and relocation with husband	1980-1981
Mississippi Methodist Rehabilitation Center, Jackson, MS Research coordinator for national study on behavioral change with spinal cord injured patients funded by DHEW.	1976-1980
Continental Group Inc., Corrugated Division, Jackson, MS Industrial Relations Supervisor responsible for personnel, benefits and workers' compensation for a corrugated box manufacturing plant with 300 employees.	1975-1976
Education & Professional Growth Bachelor of Arts, Organizational Psychology, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA Leadership Minneapolis, Chamber of Commerce program Planned Parenthood of MN/SD/ND - board member/board chair Art of Convening, Advanced Training, Heartland Circle, Inc. Visual Facilitation Master Program, Grove Consultants International True North Groups - moderator training Top Gun Prep, Maine Center for Entrepreneurial Development Cobscook Community Learning Center - board member/board chair Maine Women's Fund - board member	1975 1986 1985 - 2003 2006 2009 2012 2014 2014 - 2019 2014 - 2019

Exhibit B - Precertification Checklist

1. Creation of a Community Broadband Team - Provide list of members, including name and title that will be part of your community's team:

GEGR Broadband Task Force

Co-Chair: Dwayne Young, Town of Weston, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Co-Chair: Jennifer Gillman, East Grand School, Teacher

Ardis Brown, Town of Danforth, Town Manager

Denise Smith, East Grand Chamber of Commerce, President; Business Owner; Weston

Elbridge Cleaves, Citizens Organization for Rural Education, President; Weston

Peggy White, East Grand School, Superintendent and Principal; Wytopitlock

Jessica Potter, East Grand Health Center, Administrator, Danforth

Carolyn Fickett, Maine Family Resource Center, Program Manager, Danforth

Kyle Burdick, Baskahegan Company, Woodlands Manager, Brookton

Susan Hatton, Sunrise County Economic Council, Program Manager, Sunrise Loan Fund

Volunteers

Jackie Morse, Machias Savings Bank, Branch Manager Danforth/Houlton Heather Zakupowsky, Business Owner, Orient Dave Conley, Business Owner, Weston Mitch Lansky, Business Owner, Reed Plantation/Wytopitlock Colin Brown, Woodie Wheaton Land Trust, Executive Director, Forest City

Single Point Person:

Dwayne Young – Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen Town of Weston 5 Church Lane Weston, ME 04424 207-448-2316 dwayneyoung267@hotmail.com

Planning Grant Applicant:

Greater East Grand Region Economic Development Initiative Fiscal Sponsor: Sunrise County Economic Council

2. Hold at least one Community Broadband Meeting

- Greater East Grand Region economic development meetings began in April 2019 and continue
 year-to-date. Planning has identified expanded high-speed internet as priority infrastructure
 investment in draft economic development plan. GEGR Broadband Task Force initiated April 21,
 2020 to conduct regional assessment and seek funds. (Pages 18-20)
- Broadband providers currently in region Consolidated Communications, Pioneer, Spectrum, Hughes Net. Information meetings held with Pioneer.
- Preliminary email survey to local businesses and organizations initiated by Chamber. (Page 17)
- Sample Pioneer Petition to expand services from October 2018. (Page 18)
- Preliminary review of broadband mapping data for Danforth and Weston. House numbers do
 NOT include summer resident population in identified towns. Annotated in yellow. (Page 19)

3. Identify Key Documents/Existing Efforts

- Does the municipality use broadband to deliver municipal services?
 - o Yes both Weston and Danforth use broadband to deliver municipal services.
 - Other towns to be in included in assessment.
- Describe the services, and how broadband is used to deliver these services.
 - Weston IF&W sales, uploads to facilitate online boat and motor vehicle re-registration,
 Vital Records, website with tax maps, ordinances, applications and forms, tax
 commitments, posts regarding ongoing or upcoming events and changes.
 - Danforth Uses broadband at the office, library, fire station, and Waste Water Treatment Facility. We all use broadband daily with all our services; hunting/fishing licenses, boat/atv registrations, communications, grants, assessing, etc. We are using it more now than ever.
- Is there local or regional economic development plans in which broadband could play a role? If so, provide a list of these documents. (See pages 26-30)
- Does the town have a cable franchise agreement?
 - Weston No, though Spectrum does have 6 or so customers in Weston.
 - o Danforth Time Warner Cable Internet LLC; Maine Fiber has lines in Danforth
- Are there any on-going community projects focusing on the digital divide or information technology (public access through schools or libraries, training, improving access to broadband, etc.)?
 - Weston The town office has a "guest wi-fi access" that can be utilized by the public
 - Danforth Covid-19 has brought a greater emphasis on the need for broadband; capacity of sharing the internet, social isolation, etc.
- Is there a TIF or other economic development grant for all or part of the area to be served?
 - Brookton TWP, Forest TWP, T11R3, T8R4, T8R3, T7R2 are part of the Washington County Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District and part of the Greater East Grand Region.
 - The economic development planning project received \$10,000 from TIF and \$10,000 from the Maine Community Foundation to support the economic planning initiative.
 This phase of planning will be completed in June 2020.
- Does the town have a municipal electric company? If not, what electric utilities serve the area?
 - Danforth and Weston No, Eastern Maine Electric Coop serves the entire region.

4. Identify potential Community Anchor Institutions

- Provide a list of potential community anchor institutions.
 - East Grand School RSU 84/MSAD 14
 - East Grand Health Center
 - Machias Savings Bank
 - Danforth Habilitation Association
 - Danforth Library & Town Hall

• Provide a list of commercial institutions that could benefit from lower cost, higher bandwidth, and/or improved reliability of broadband.

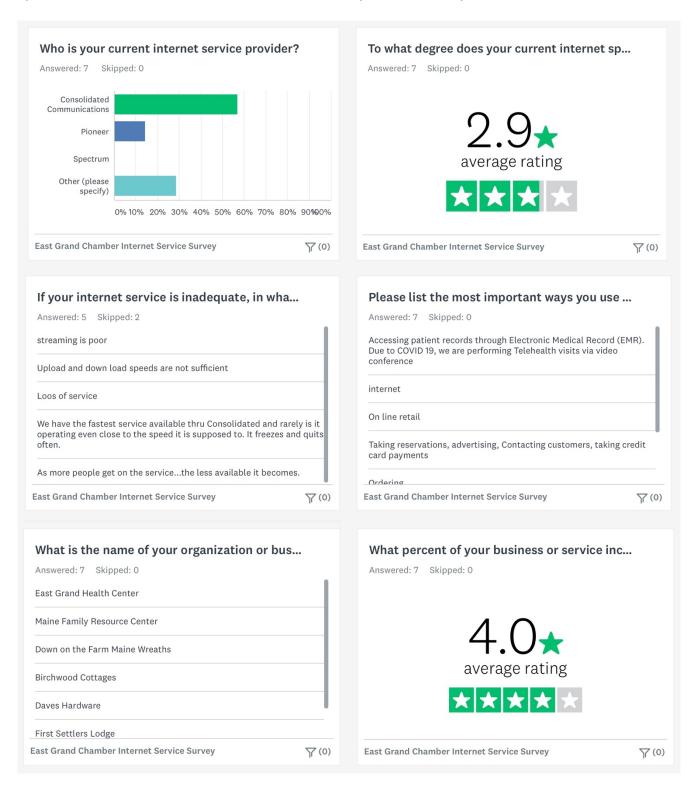
Retail	Lodging/Camps
Dave's Hardware	Paradise Cabins
Spring Valley Gift & Yarn	First Settlers Lodge
Gillis Fuel LLC	Rideout's
Knight's Thriftway	Birchwood Cottages
Down on the Farm Maine Wreaths	Greenland Cove Campground
Orient Gardens	Greenland Cove Cabins
The Millyard	Cowgers Cabins
Mem's Place	Maine River Lodge
Maple Grove Farm	Wheaton Lodge
	Village Camps
Municipalities/UT	
Town of Weston	Clubs
Town of Danforth	Grand Lakers ATV Club
Town of Haynesville	East Grand Snowmobile Club
Town of Orient	Eastern Maine Snow Sports
Town of Amity	Haynesville Woods ATV Club
Drew	
Reed Plantation	Non-Profits
Brookton (UT)	Woodie Wheaton Land Trust
Forest City	Maine Family Resource Center
Wytopitlock	Chiputneticook Lakes International Conservancy (CLIC)
	Citizens Organization for Rural Education (CORE)

Businesses/Services – to be expan				
Rossignol Architecture	Canoe the Wild Maine Wilderness Trips	Baskahegan Company		
Community News	Rising Sun Outfitters	Davis Forest Products		
B & R Bartlett Enterprises	Grand Lake Hunt Park	Hanington Bros		
Cary's Cars & Equipment	Cary Brown Excavation	Colin Bartlett & Sons		
Cary Brown Excavation	Down on the Farm Maine Wreaths	Foss & Son Inc		
Cecelia Rhoda Probate Paralegal	Ground Up Construction	DJ Campbell & Son, Inc		
Richard Rhoda Attorney at Law	Furnace Doctor	Brent Bartlett		
Gabrielle Lapointe Yoga		Fred Parker		
Chan's Place		Donald Parker		
Our Maine Street LLC		Patrick Cowger		
Little Cove Day Care		Daniel Campbell		
Cowans Recovery & Towing		Other independent truck drivers		

5. Create a process for your community to develop a Vision Statement

- The **Greater East Grand Region economic development** planning initiative has been underway since April 2019. A regional economic development vision statement and ten-year plan is drafted based on significant community input and research. It will be brought forward to residents in June for added input. As a remote rural region aspiring to support existing businesses, and attract new locally based entrepreneurs and remote employees high speed internet is identified as a requirement to advance the long-term goals. (See Exhibit D, page 31)
- The ConnectMaine broadband planning grant will allow the necessary feasibility planning to be completed and help the region and its communities determine their "broadband vision" for local and regional connectivity. This will provide the information to identify a model to expand fiber-optic broadband that considers quality, speed and cost. The project process is designed to accomplish this.

April 2020 East Grand Chamber of Commerce Preliminary Member Survey



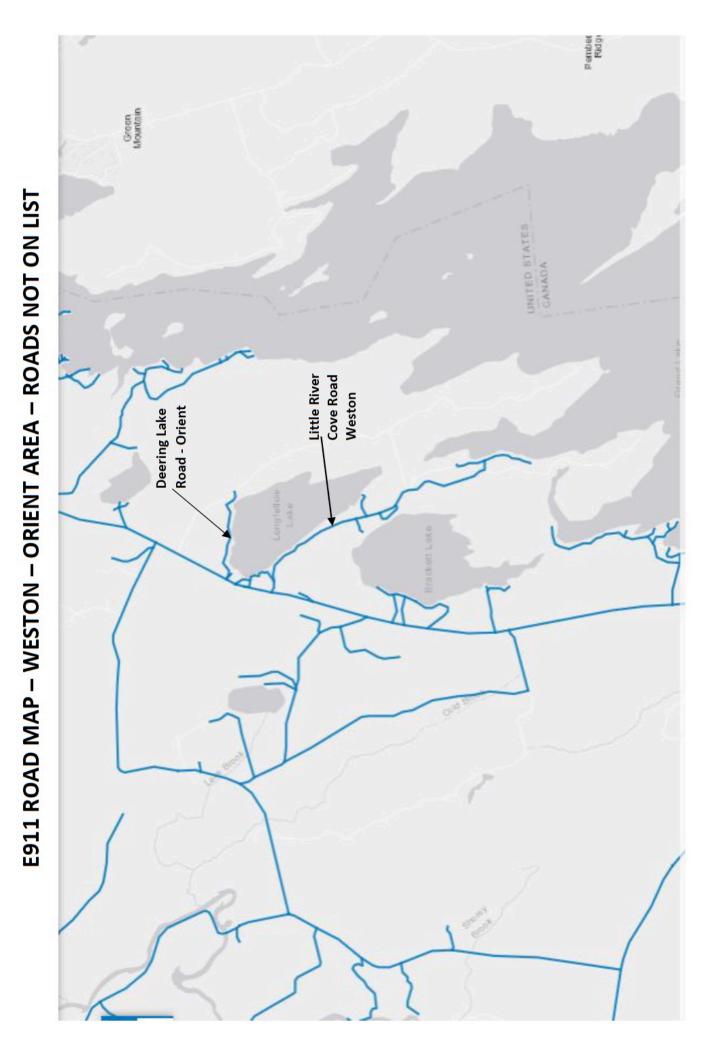
Broadband Community Assessment Form - Petition to Expand Internet Service List Community/Zip Codes Here **Printed Name** Signature Road Address **Current Provider Contact Phone**

Greater East Grand Region - Aroostook County Underserved List

					<u>, </u>			1	T
					Maine Municipal				Column C-D is *Ranges reflect areas
				Number of	DirectoryTotal			Added	where broadband service is not available
				unserved	Column "E"	2019-2020	%	Summer	or avaialbility is reported at speeds less
TOWN	Street Name	From Address*	To Address*	addresses	addresses	Population	underserved	residents	than 25 x 3 Mbps.
Amity	Estabrook Rd	298	430	2	24	218	11%		
Amity	Monument Rd	19	476	12					
Amity	Tracy Rd	7	164	7					
Amity	Tracy Rd	342	360	2					
Amity	Wildwood Ln	29	29	1					
Bancroft	Bancroft Rd	1349	1378	4	53	54	98%		
Bancroft	Bancroft Rd	1665	1665	1					
Bancroft	Bancroft Rd	1827	1827	1					
Bancroft	Bancroft Rd	1903	2555	12					
Bancroft	Bancroft Rd	2745	2810	7					
Bancroft	Baskehegan Rd	391	391	1					
Bancroft	Ferry Rd	1132	1143	2					
Bancroft	Haynes Rd	6	253	2					
Bancroft	Hinch Rd	16	127	3					
Bancroft	Kelly Rd	31	362	7					
Bancroft	Kelly Rd	412	414	2					
Bancroft	Kelly Rd	478	506	2					
Bancroft	Kelly Rd	739	739	1					
Bancroft	Kennedy Ln	53	53	1					
Bancroft	Mill Rd	71	71	1					
Bancroft	Schoolhouse Rd	17	42	6					
Drew Plt				-	???	44	???		
Glenwood Plt	Military Rd	2219	2219	1	3	3	100%		
Glenwood Plt	Military Rd	2247	2247	1					
Glenwood Plt	Moulton Dr	73	73	1					
Haynesville	Dales Pit Rd	188	188	1	70	170	41%		
Haynesville	Danforth Rd	6	600	13					
Haynesville	Denmark Rd	171	305	2					
Haynesville	Fitzpatrick Rd	4	4	1					
Haynesville	Military Rd	2616	2616	1					
Haynesville	Military Rd	2957	2978	7					
Haynesville	Military Rd	3001	3032	4					
Haynesville	Military Rd	3057	3057	1					
Haynesville	Military Rd	3141	3382	19					
Haynesville	Military Rd	3391	3426	4					
Haynesville	Military Rd	3465	3540	4					
Haynesville	Mooseberry Rd	17	17	1					
Haynesville	Skagrock Rd	18	360	11					
Haynesville	Tweedie Rd	1	1	1					
Orient	Alder Ln	5	5	1	27	142	19%		
Orient	Boundary Rd	521	521	1	27	142	1370		
Orient	Boundary Rd Boundary Rd	626	626	1					
	Cedar Point Rd	164	206	5					
Orient									
Orient	Circle Ln	11 57	13	2					
Orient	Highland Dr	5/	57	1					

Orient	Hillside Ln	9	9	1					
Orient	Hummingbird Ln	88	88	1					
Orient	Island Cove Rd	29	29	1					
Orient	Moosewood Ln	7	7	1					
Orient	Number Nine Rd	72	608	8					
			430						
Orient	Old Bark Landing Rd	430		1					
Orient	Old Bark Landing Rd	454	482	2					
Orient	Red Bank Ln	21	21	1			4.50/		
Reed PIt	Bancroft Rd	2872	3451	6	66	145	46%		
Reed PIt	Main St	95	765	42					
Reed PIt	Main St	770	777	3					
Reed PIt	Main St	800	836	4					
Reed PIt	Military Rd	1554	1619	4					
Reed PIt	Mill Rd	112	112	1					
Reed PIt	Old Rd	8	12	2					
Reed PIt	Santa Claus Ln	2	3	2					
Reed PIt	Springer Rd	4	8	2					
Weston	Bancroft Rd	312	312	1	147	208	71%		
Weston	Bancroft Rd	645	645	1					
Weston	Bancroft Rd	678	971	10				3	
Weston	Bancroft Rd	1000	1093	3				2	
Weston	Bancroft Rd	1100	1100	1					
Weston	Bass Ln	6	28	2				2	
Weston	Bass Ln	30	30					1	
Weston	Butterfield Landing Rd	34	46					3	
Weston	Butterfield Landing Rd	112	130	4				3	
Weston	Butterfield Landing Rd	136	176	3				1	
Weston	Butterfield Landing Rd	182	203					10	
Weston	Cedar Point Rd	260	260	1					
Weston	Cedar Point Rd	268	274					2	
Weston	Cedar Point Rd	276	284	2				2	
Weston	Chadwick Point Rd	781	798					2	
Weston	Chadwick Point Rd	803	829	4				1	
Weston	Church Ln	5	16	3				1	
Weston	Cropley Rd	7	7	1					
Weston	Cropley Rd	99	307	8					
Weston	Dark Cove Rd	47	54	2					
Weston	Dark Cove Rd	157	173	1				4	
Weston	Dark Cove Rd	179	273	6					
Weston	Faulkner Lake Rd	134	134	1					
Weston	Faulkner Lake Rd	138	154					2	
Weston	Gellerson Dr	13	13	1					
Weston	Harris Hill Rd	121	289	1				6	
Weston	Harris Hill Rd	303	317	2					
Weston	Harris Hill Rd	321	401					4	
Weston	Harris Hill Rd	407	467	2				2	
Weston	Lakeside Dr	28	28					1	
Weston	Lakeside Dr	36	76	2				2	
Weston	Little River Cove Road	64	698					34	
Weston	Living Waters Rd	39	39	1					
Weston	Logan Farm Road								

Weston	Longfellow Lane	7	36	4				2	
Weston	Loon Ln	32	44					3	
Weston	Madigan Point Rd	31	39	2				2	
Weston	Madigan Point Rd	41	47	_				3	
Weston	Madigan Point Rd	54	76	2					
Weston	Mallard Drive	2	2					1	
Weston	Moody Ln	90	90	1					
Weston	Nagle Lane	32	32	1					
Weston	Nineteen Road Rd	44	44					1	
Weston	Number Nine Road	638	768	1				3	
Weston	Partridge Ln	10	54	2				2	
Weston	Phils Drive	27	31					2	
Weston	Randall Dr	77	81	2					
Weston	Randall Dr	81.5	142					8	
Weston	Route 1	6	225	5					
Weston	Route 1	293	363	4				2	
Weston	Route 1	375	462	5				1	
Weston	Route 1	580	580					1	
Weston	Route 1	588	593	2					
Weston	Route 1	626	669	3					
Weston	Route 1	680	921	9				10	
Weston	Route 1	959	959	1					
Weston	Route 1	1021	1081	6					
Weston	Route 1	1207	1207	1					
Weston	Route 1	1241	1241	1					
Weston	Route 1	1270	1300	2					
Weston	Route 1	1416	1440					2	
Weston	Samantha Lane	65	65	1					
Weston	Schoodic Dr	2	4					2	
Weston	Schoodic Dr	12	12	1					
Weston	Scribner Lane	8	8					1	
Weston	Selden Rd	9	262	7				3	
Weston	Selden Rd	273	299					3	
Weston	Smart Ridge Drive	18	28	2					
Weston	Springer Rd	80	284	15				4	
Weston	Waterfront Dr	6	6	1					
Weston	Wishbone Ln	24	29	3				1	
Total Underserved	- East Grand Region - year-round resid	lents only			390	984	40%	148	Added Seasonal or potential custo
									Level of service to be determined





Little River -25 Lots

Greater East Grand Region - Washington County Underserved List

			 	migton ot		1	1	1	
TOWN	Street Name	From Address*	To Address*	Number of unserved addresses	Column E Totals by Town	Year-Round Population	% Underserved	Added Summer residents	Note for Column C and D *Ranges reflect areas where broadband service is not available or availability is reported at speeds less than 25 x 3 Mbps.
Brookton Twp	Channel Rd	81	81	1	43	n/a			141505.
Brookton Twp	Forest City Rd	45	45	1	7.5	11/4			
Brookton Twp	Forest City Rd	95	96	2					
Brookton Twp	Forest City Rd	144	292	13					
Brookton Twp	Picnic Point Rd	88	167	7					
Brookton Twp	Route 1	74	223	2					
Brookton Twp	Route 1	458	1059	17					
Danforth	Amero Ln	100	100	1	154	588	26%		
Danforth	Baker Ridge Rd	8	348	7	-5.		20,0		
Danforth	Bartlett Ln	3	24	2					
Danforth	Brooks Ln	28	68	3					
Danforth	Brown Rd	61	61	1					
Danforth	Byers Ln	8	12	2					
Danforth	Calais Rd	1253	1445	8					
Danforth	Calais Rd	1486	1486	1					
Danforth	Calais Rd	1520	1535	2					
Danforth	Calais Rd	1607	1607	1					
Danforth	Central St	46	60	2					
Danforth	Central St	77	110	6					
Danforth	Cowgers Ln	14	14	1					
Danforth	Crooked Brook Farm Rd	8	8	1					
Danforth	Depot St	71	122	4					
Danforth	Fifield Ln	11	43	4					
Danforth	Greenland Cove Rd	581	581	1					
Danforth	Hanington Dr	19	19	1					
Danforth	Hot Brook Lake Rd	61	81	3					
Danforth	Huff Rd	15	25	4					
Danforth	Irish Settlement Rd	46	299	8					
Danforth	Kinney Ln	30	70	3					
Danforth	Kneser Ln	23	23	1					
Danforth	Lakeview Rd	5	71	3					
Danforth	Lydic Ln	12	12	1					
Danforth	Maple St	12	199	16					
Danforth	Maple St	231	231	1					
Danforth	Moon Is	3	3	1					
Danforth	Reservation Rd	25	141	7					
Danforth	Roy Lee Rd	27	50	2					
Danforth	Sandy Beach Rd	20	516	13					
Danforth	Sandy Beach Rd	538	643	4					
Danforth	Schillinger Rd	9	44	2					
Danforth	Snow Farm Rd	46	81	4					
Danforth	Springfield Rd	190	246	5					
Danforth	Springfield Rd	340	381	4					
Danforth	Springfield Rd	521	521	1					

Danfarth	Continue field Dd	704	701	1			ı	
Danforth	Springfield Rd	791	791	1				
Danforth	Springfield Rd	896	990	4				
Danforth	Springfield Rd	1087	1257	5				
Danforth	Springfield Rd	1394	1419	2				
Danforth	Springfield Rd	1532	1532	1				
Danforth	Stoddard Ln	6	6	1				
Danforth	Toupin Mountain Rd	4	4	1				
Danforth	Weatherbee St	5	82	8				
Forest City Twp	Castle Rd	245	245	1	39	n/a		
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	1674	1740	2				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	1966	1966	1				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	2092	2092	1				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	2288	2357	3				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	2423	2423	1				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	2434	2466	6				
Forest City Twp	Forest City Rd	2510	2510	1				
Forest City Twp	Gray Ghost Rd	4	262	4				
Forest City Twp	Lydic Ln	286	306	2				
Forest City Twp	Spednic Rd	2	562	2				
Forest City Twp	Walls Hill Rd	185	223	2				
Forest Twp	Channel Rd	189	189	1	11	n/a		
Forest Twp	Channel Rd	224	263	3				
Forest Twp	Drakes Lake Rd	1	69	4				
Forest Twp	Forest City Rd	300	374	4				
Forest Twp	Forest City Rd	757	757	1				
Topsfield	Farrar Brook Rd	33	33	1	93	226	41%	
Topsfield	Gary Rd	19	19	1				
Topsfield	Hillside Ln	14	16	2				
Topsfield	Kaiowaza Rd	106	118	3				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	15	164	7				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	199	199	1				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	227	249	2				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	266	305	3				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	360	390	3				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	603	845	4				
Topsfield	Lakeview Rd	1152	1152	1				
Topsfield	North Rd	22	216	12				
Topsfield	North Rd	252	511	12				
Topsfield	School Rd	10	10	1				
Topsfield	School Rd	20	204	6				
Topsfield	Severance Rd	14	14	1				
Topsfield	Snigdom Rd	27	101	4				
Topsfield	Snigdom Rd	115	115	1				
Topsfield	Snigdom Rd	147	147	1				
Topsfield	South Rd	9	442	22				
Topsfield	South Shore Rd	3	3	1				
Topsfield	Tower Rd	298	299	2				
Topsfield	Upper Codyville Rd	94	94	1				
Topsfield		52	52	1				
TOPSITEIU	Whidden Cove Rd	52	52	1				

EXHIBIT #1

GREATER EAST GRAND REGION ECONOMIC PLANNING GROUP WORK PRODUCT FILES TO 7-1-19

(All Files Available on Thumb Drive)

1) Chronological Documents - Meetings, Notes, Accomplishments

Name	✓ Date r	modified	Туре	Size
2-14 MEMORANDUM TO GROUP	7/8/20	019 6:35 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	186 KB
3-11 Memorandm - Exploring A Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan	7/8/20	019 6:36 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	368 KB
3-19 Exploring A Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan - Exploratory Meeti	7/8/20	019 6:38 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	346 KB
3-19 Initial Ad-Hoc Exploratory Group	7/8/20	019 6:38 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	10 KB
4- 16 Initital Project Team - Regional Planning	4/29/2	2019 9:55 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	153 KB
4- 29 PROPOSAL FOR A HERITAGE RECLAIMED	4/28/2	2019 8:42 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	303 KB
4-12 FINAL AGENDA APRIL 12 - GREATER EAST GRAND REGION AD-HOC GROUP	7/8/20	019 6:31 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	247 KB
4-12 Judy East - East Grand Region 4-12-2019 mtg notes - EGC Edits in Red	5/15/2	2019 7:51 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	270 KB
4-12 Statement of Purpose - Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan (Draft)	5/15/2	2019 7:37 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	216 KB
🙆 4-16 East Grand Region 4-12-2019 mtg notes	7/7/20	019 4:55 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	277 KB
4-27 Lakes & Lake Neighborhoods ALL (1)	5/15/2	2019 7:44 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	39 KB
🙆 4-27 Lakes & Lake Neighborhoods ALL (2)	5/15/2	2019 7:44 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	31 KB
4-27 Lakes & Lake Neighborhoods Summary 1	5/15/2	2019 7:44 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	34 KB
4-29 Goal Setting and Project Team Agreement	5/15/2	2019 7:54 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	284 KB
🙎 5- 9 Assets Outside of Region Map	5/15/2	2019 7:19 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	234 KB
5- 9 Initial Planning Meeting - PowePoint - May 9th No Pop Ups	5/12/2	2019 8:24 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	5,084 KB
5- 9 Initial Planning Meeting - PowePoint - May 9th	5/12/2	2019 8:25 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	5,168 KB
5- 9 Revised Agenda - May 9th Meeting	5/15/2	2019 7:36 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	120 KB
5- 13 Greater East Grand Region Landscape - Initial Depiction	5/14/2	2019 6:21 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	510 KB
5-1- List of Landowners & Acres	6/14/2	2019 5:14 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	8 KB
🚨 5-1- Water Trails	5/15/2	2019 7:38 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	32 KB
🔝 5-9 Draft Agenda - May 9th Meeting	7/7/20	019 4:56 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	120 KB
5-9 Initial Planning Meeting - PowePoint - May 9th - Resources & Goals	5/23/2	2019 5:52 AM	Microsoft Power	P 31,220 KB
5-9 Initial Planning Meeting - PowePoint - May 9th No PopUps	6/14/2	2019 6:27 AM	Microsoft Power	P 30,232 KB
5-9 Notes From Economic Planning Meeting May 9 2019	7/7/20	019 5:00 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	123 KB
5-13 Highlights from May 9th Meeting	7/7/20	019 4:57 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	191 KB
5-15 Challanges of Managing a Small Town - Reed Plt. Mitch Lanksy 2014 Maine Townsman	5/15/2	2019 8:30 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	759 KB
5-20 Judy East - Email - Participation in Planning Effort	7/8/20	019 7:09 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	108 KB
5-22 Goals & Objectives - Highlights from May 9th Meeting Revised	7/8/2	2019 7:06 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 103 KB
😅 5-22 Reordered Goals & Objectives - 5-22-19	7/8/2	2019 7:09 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 102 KB
6-4 MEMO TO WWLT - BOOMING GROUNDS	7/8/2	2019 6:43 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 315 KB
6-9 SWOT EGC Grid	7/8/2	2019 7:10 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 230 KB
6-11 SWOT Notes from Economic Council Project Planning Committee June 11 2019	7/8/2	2019 7:08 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 227 KB
6-14 MEMO CONFLENCE OF BASKAHEGAN & MATTAWAMKEAG RIVERS	7/8/2	2019 6:59 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 249 KB
🙆 6-18 MEMO - June 18th Meeting with Sarah Strickland	7/8/2	2019 7:06 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 187 KB
🔓 6-22 Draft Agenda - May 22nd Meeting	7/7/2	2019 4:57 PM	Foxit Reader PD	F 119 KB
6-28 MEMO - Funding Meeting with Charles & Sarah - June 28, 2019	7/8/2	2019 6:29 AM	Foxit Reader PD	F 327 KB

2) Map Depictions Including Google Earth Downloads & KMZ File

Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
A Divided Landscape - Greater East Grand Region C No Dev	7/4/2019 4:51 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	629 KE
🔏 A Divided Landscape - Greater East Grand Region C	7/4/2019 5:01 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	631 KE
Base Map State Marketing Regions - East Grand Superimposed	5/15/2019 7:26 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	101 KE
🔓 Baskahegan Company Lands	5/15/2019 7:30 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	201 KE
Broad Land Ownership - GEGR Landscape	5/15/2019 7:50 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	591 KE
BROOKTON Lake Neighborhoods	5/15/2019 7:43 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	368 KE
CONSERVATION AND THE EAST GRAND LANDSCAPE C	5/12/2019 7:09 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	437 KE
Danforth Lake Neighborhoods	5/15/2019 7:43 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	217 KE
Drew Plt. East Topo Depiction	5/15/2019 7:38 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	601 KE
Drew Plt. MR WMA	5/15/2019 7:38 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	259 KB
EAST GRAND REGION TOPOGRAPHY & WATERSHEDS AMEN	6/19/2019 5:45 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	359 KE
ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE & COVER TYPES	5/15/2019 7:23 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	323 KE
Forest City Lake Neighborhoods	5/15/2019 7:43 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	223 KI
Greater East Grand Region - Lands Open to Public Recreation	5/12/2019 7:47 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	679 KI
Greater East Grand Region - National Cover Types Amended	5/16/2019 5:10 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	445 KB
Greater East Grand Region - Recreational Access to Public Water	6/14/2019 12:46 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	665 KE
Greater East Grand Region - Strategic Highlights Amended	6/19/2019 5:49 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	644 KE
Greater East Grand Region Maine Natural Areas Habitat Map	5/15/2019 7:42 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	230 KE
Greater East Grand Region Planning Map Amended	5/12/2019 7:18 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	585 KB
Greater East Grand Region Planning Map B Amended	5/15/2019 7:42 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	510 KE
GREATER EAST GRAND REGION WATER RESOURCES	5/16/2019 6:01 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	250 KE
GREATER EAST GRAND REGION WETLANDS & WATER	5/16/2019 6:32 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	313 KI
Segreater East Grand Region	5/16/2019 5:32 AM	KMZ	3 KE
MAPPED ACCESS SITES TO PUBLIC WATER	6/13/2019 7:47 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	125 KE
Moosehead Lake Region	5/15/2019 7:29 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	288 KE
🔝 New Brunswick - Green Mtn Lake Neighborhood	5/15/2019 7:45 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	258 KI
New Brunswick Gold Coast - Fosterville Lake Neighborhood	5/15/2019 7:45 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	278 KE
ORIENT LAKE NEIGHBORHOODS	5/15/2019 7:45 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	494 KI
PUBLIC WATER ACCESS SITES GEGR	5/15/2019 7:37 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	202 K
PUBLIC WATER ACCESS SITES LANDSCAPE	5/15/2019 7:37 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	538 K
Weston - Lake Neighborhoods	5/15/2019 7:45 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	312 KI

3) Shared Background Files/Information

Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
ASSET BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	4/27/2019 6:13 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	180 KB
Asset Mapping Process	5/6/2019 1:28 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	217 KB
asset-mapping digital promise	5/15/2019 7:21 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	517 KB
Community Assets	4/20/2019 6:48 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	222 KB
Economic Development Strategies Must Reflect Communities	5/15/2019 7:26 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	268 KB
Excerpt From Maine SCORP Plan	4/27/2019 11:35 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	2,214 KB
FUTURE IQ - Future of Tourism in the Maine Woods	5/6/2019 6:47 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	252 KB
FUTURE IQ - VISIONS OF TOURISM IN THE MAINE WOODS	5/15/2019 7:25 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	425 KB
FUTURE OF TOURISM IN THE MAINE WOODS	5/15/2019 7:20 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	296 KB
Sreater East Grand Region	6/15/2019 6:18 AM	KMZ	3 KB
How Remote Jobs Can Help Employ Rural America	4/23/2019 9:35 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	221 KB
HOW SMALL TOWNS AND CITIES CAN USE LOCAL ASSETS TO REBUILD THEIR ECONOMIES	4/27/2019 6:15 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	195 KB
🖟 How to Develop a Strategic Economic Development Plan	5/15/2019 7:26 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	238 KB
🖟 Introduction to Asset Mapping - WIRED	5/15/2019 7:22 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	2,036 KB
LEVELS OF ASSET MAPPING	5/6/2019 1:54 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	53 KB
Maine 2014-2019 SCORP Excerpts	4/27/2019 6:03 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	416 KB
Maine Landowner Liability Law	4/29/2019 10:23 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	178 KB
Maine Population Outlook 2016-2026	5/8/2019 4:15 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	220 KB
Maine Population Outlook to 2026	5/15/2019 7:21 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	580 KB
Maines Infrastructure 2017	4/27/2019 5:14 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	170 KB
Moosehead-Lake-Region-Strategic-Action-Plan	5/15/2019 7:18 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	2,035 KB
Rather than lure employers	4/23/2019 9:36 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	127 KB
Riding the Trail to Revitalization	4/27/2019 6:00 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	206 KB
Table Population & Acres Amended	5/15/2019 7:19 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	29 KB
WHAT ARE ASSETS	5/15/2019 7:24 AM	Foxit Reader PDF	47 KB
WHAT IS GIS	4/20/2019 7:46 PM	Foxit Reader PDF	304 KB

DRAFT - MAY 13, 2019

Greater East Grand Region Initial Planning Team SUMMARY OF MAY 9TH MEETING - GOALS & PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

POTENTIAL COLLAPSED CATEGORIES (Not prioritized)

1. Natural Resources

- a. Utilize more fully natural and managed resources- (Lakes, rivers, wetlands, forests, lands and landowners (private public and conservation)
- b. Explore expansion and new cottage industries/light manufacturing thru entrepreneurship
- c. Develop strong connections between landowners, community and potential entrepreneurs

2. Tourism

- a. Develop local cultural and heritage based assets
- b. Sustain/expand infrastructure (lodging, dining, and retail)
- c. Continue to support traditional hook & bullet businesses
- d. Help develop new offerings in eco-tourism & non-consumptive outdoor recreation

3. The Out-of-Doors

- a. Expand recreational infrastructure (trails, public access and waterfront public use areas)
- b. Preserve public use and access on private lands especially to public waters
- c. Connect health and wellness benefits to the out-of-doors

4. The Internet/technology

- a. Expand high speed coverage while highlighting existing high speed fiber optic locations
- b. Promote tech related in-migration people and business opportunities

5. Farming/Local Ag/Local retail

- a. Target marketing to lake neighborhoods and other existing retail customer bases
- b. Expand Local Ag thru philanthropy, co-ops and CSA's

6. Sustain/upgrade critical local infrastructure

- a. Improve regional/local communication including development of a central hub (source)
- b. Sustain/improve clinic, school, energy, food basic human services/quality of life
- c. Continue revitalization removal of blight aesthetics count
- Seek workforce development to meet current and future demand for local worker skills and abilities

<u>Other:</u> Incorporated the easterly part of Drew Plantation (Penobscot County) into the Greater East Grand Region Planning Landscape.

IDENTIFIED NEEDS GOING FORWARD

- 1. Conduct a **SWOT Analysis** Sharpen focus & Vision
- 2. Develop a **Strategic Plan** Where are we going? What are the steps/process?
- 3. Assess volunteer capacity / need for contracted services
- 4. Develop **planning budget**, feasibility and funding sources
- 5. Other?

March 2020 MEMORANDUM

To: Greater East Grand Region Steering Committee

From: Sarah – Elbridge - Sue Szwed

Re: Bullet Point Progress Update: Mid-Dec to date - Planning Group

<u>Sue Szwed:</u> Water Trails Point Person (December – February) Exploring access to waterways, boat launch and campsite improvement, and possible elevation of Mattawamkeag River and Baskaheagan Stream to water trail status with numerous phone calls and emails with Doug Beck at BPL, Diano Circo at IF&W, trail planners at National Park Service, Northern Forest Canoe Trail; Landowners and stakeholders - Island Falls Town Manager, The Conservation Fund, Forest Society of Maine

The following is a chronological listing of items from calendars to-date.

December	Created USGS and Google Earth comprehensive water trails maps and resource
	information
January	Review draft GIS mapping with Sarah compiled by students at UMM
	Compose and launch press release community news – MCF Planning Funding requirement
	Assemble recreational trails maps and content into draft comprehensive slide show
	(35 pages)
	 Initiate contact with Brian Bronson (ATV Coordinator for BPL) for upcoming ATV Meeting
	Strategy & scheduling session with Sarah at Mill Yard
	 Recreational Trails Meeting Weston T/O – Strategy and Process (Memorandum of Meeting Attached)
	Firming up communication and content with Jon McLaughlin for February 27 th meeting involving SADC and others
	Meeting with Korah Sole and Peggy White – Upcoming
	workforce/entrepreneurship project thru Rural Aspirations.
	A conversation with Colin Bartlett – Discussion about Orient Store
	Firmed up ATV meeting with Bronson from BPL
February	Meeting at BCO office – recreational trails con't - landowner and philanthropic mentionation in accordance months.
	participation in economic matters Adopting in Propleton - LIT Assets & Recommendations - Buck Plummer Residence
	 Meeting in Brookton – UT Assets & Recommendations – Buck Plummer Residence Interview – Davis Forest Products
	MCF Grant – Trails Development - East Grand Snowmobile Club
	MDIF&W – Impact of campground & access on area fisheries
	Response from Angela Wotton - SASWC and NRCS in Houlton
	Interview – Hanington Bros – Stead Timberlands
	• 2/17 - Meeting with health center and employers on MeHAF and telehealth grant
	opportunities
	• 2/20 – ATV Club meeting
March	March 3 – Portrait of a Graduate team meeting at EGS
Upcoming	March 5 – Water Trails planning meeting with BPL
	March 26 th - Economic development meeting with SADC and all planning team members

Exhibit D: Greater East Grand Region - 2030 Economic Development Plan 4-20-20 DRAFT ONLY

Vision: By 2030, the Greater East Grand Region is a stable constellation of rural communities that collaborate to attract people of all ages to live, work, visit and play because of its heritage and vision as a remote, rural and welcoming region.

Success Metrics:

- 1. A sustainable, collaborative and trustworthy intermediary organization guides and coordinates economic development for the region.
- Investment in existing assets and people have increased new business and employment opportunities.
- 3. 4-season recreational tourism is a positive economic driver through successful marketing.
- 4. Young adults have chosen to remain or return "home" because of the region's positive direction and opportunities.
- 5. New families with children have moved to the region because of the excellent education, welcoming community and job opportunities.
- 6. Elders are able to successfully "thrive in place."

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The Starting Gate: Regional Collaboration & Investment to Advance the Vision

- 1. Define and organize a regional entity to guide and manage the implementation of the economic/community development plan.
- 2. Create and establish a destination identify and marketing effort that attracts visitors to the region.
- 3. Establish a 5-year funding strategy to implement priorities from the plan.
- 4. Complete a feasibility plan to establish a Greater East Grand Region Endowment Fund to support sustained investment into the future.

Three-Year Goals and Priorities

Goal A: Economic Vitality – Stable local businesses and investment in innovation.

- 1. Existing business owners and their respective transitions are successful.
- 2. Grow recreational and nature tourism into a four season destination and economy.
- 3. Invest in and support new small businesses and start-ups especially for young adults and encore entrepreneurs.

Goal B: Workforce Development – an educated, reliable, workforce is available to local businesses.

- 1. Investment continues in East Grand School's vision and natural resources magnet priorities.
- 2. Incentives and opportunities for young adults to return "home" are funded and implemented.
- 3. "2-Generation" services for marginalized individuals and families are developed locally and supported through East Grand Health Center, East Grand School and other local non-profits.

Goal C: Vibrant Communities – the region attracts visitors, welcomes newcomers, and supports residents.

- 1. Funding is secured to develop a high speed fiber-optic internet service across the region.
- 2. Continue to invest in Danforth's downtown destination plan and *Danforth for a Lifetime* initiative.
- 3. Complete a regional study to address the affordable/desirable housing challenge; and opportunities for locally owned businesses.
- 4. An active and ongoing succession plan to recruit and train volunteers to serve in community, civic and non-profit entities.

Project Timeline

GEGR Broadband Project Activties		June	ē			7	July	П		Au	August			Sep	September	er		Oct	October			No	November	er	Т	Dec/Jan 2021
rea	1	8 15	5 22	29	9	13	20	27	3	10	17 2	24 3	31 7	7 1	14 21	1 28	2	12	19	26	7	6	16	23	30	
Task Force Orientation and Coordination																										
Review economic development report recommendations														H												
Participate in Broadband 101 orientation and virtual "field trip"														H												
Finalize the assessment process and tools													of 10	_												
Finalize and affirm the timeline, deliverables						Ц				H				H			Ш									
Schedule meetings for year	1	2				3	L			H	4				2		9	L				7			2	
Re																										
Resident and Business Needs Assessment														H												
Prepare and finalize survey questions																										
Upload on-line survey for residents and businesses												, ,	, i		,	,										
Prepare, review and distribute articles for newspapers, etc.																										
Announce project in local newspapers, through Chamber and town meetings																										
Conduct selected 1:1 interviews																										
On-line survey open																										
Survey data analysis and report prepared													- 1													
Report presented to Task Force											4															
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Existing Infrastructure Survey & Gap Analysis		Н	Н		Ц				H	H	Н	Н	Н	H		Н	Ш									
Gather and assemble municipal information from communities		-	4									-	_			_										
Gather and assemble digital inclusion information from organizations											7		, i	2 N	/ N											
Gather and assemble existing infrastructure information for inventory												\dashv														
ង Data analysis to identify gaps																										
Report prepared for Task Force															\dashv											
Report presented to Task Force															5											
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Task Force Recommendations and Report to the Region													ar T				Ш									
Task Force meeting to sythesize findings and prepare recommendations																,	9									
Presentation materials and report prepared for distribution/website									× 1		A 7	v 1	 	v - v	v 1	v 1										
Distribute report and hold information meetings as needed											-															
Task Force meeting to decide on Phase 2 project requirements				-							- 1			- 1								7			- 1	Meetings TBD
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Pioneer Broadband 37 North St Houlton, ME 04732 866-335-1254

To: ConnectMaine Authority

Re: Greater East Grand Region - Planning Grant Request Attn: Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director & Authority Members

Ms. Schaffer:

Pioneer Broadband is pleased to collaborate with the Greater East Grand Region's efforts to acquire a planning grant in Round 15. We are in full support of their effort designed to improve Internet service within the region. The importance of fast and reliable Internet service for households and businesses cannot be emphasized enough.

Pioneer Broadband has worked diligently over the past years to blaze a trail along the Three Ring binder path and increase the availability of Internet service in the region. However, there remain still vast Internet deadzones and with the pandemic restrictions in place for the present, more of our rural citizens have the need to work from home. The sparse population and remote nature of some of these locations make it difficult to justify the cost of the necessary infrastructure. The approval of a grant to aid in this project would be of great benefit and, hopefully develop into construction of the infrastructure that can deliver service to connect citizens of the region to the Internet.

We strongly urge your approval of this grant, and gratefully thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely, Don Flewelling

Don Flewelling | Dir. of Govt/Public Relations
Pioneer Broadband | 37 North St | Houlton ME 04730
Don@PioneerBroadband.net | 207-521-5765 | 207-538-5307

RSU 84/MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT 14

DANFORTH - WESTON - AND SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES FOR ORIENT & BANCROFT
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
31A HOULTON ROAD DANFORTH, MAINE 04424 207-448-2882 - FAX 207-448-7235

May 4, 2020

Connect Maine Authority Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multimunicipal area.

The lack of reliable Internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households and has only been fully exposed with the recent Covid-19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low bandwidth or the complete lack of connectivity.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to our vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality Internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed Internet, a must-have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Margaret C. White

Superintendent/Principal

Tes D Caral

RSU 84/East Grand School



Woodie Wheaton Land Trust

2 Grove Road Forest City, ME 04413 (207) 448-3250 www.woodiewheaton.org WWLToffice@gmail.com

May 1, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority
Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director
59 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Mrs. Schaffer;

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an ongoing issue for businesses and households, and has been fully exposed with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low bandwidth or the complete lack of connectivity.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its' vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Colin Brown

WWLT Executive Director

May 1, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority

Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director

59 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

I am writing this letter in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the towns in our rural area. I feel that securing this grant for our municipalities is crucial at the present time for several reasons.

The aim for our organization is to revitalize and develop the economic strength of our area which means drawing more residents and local businesses to take root in our neighborhood to serve the population. We would like to use the assets we have which are unspoiled natural resources, a plethora of recreational opportunities in the out-of-doors, and a peaceful, slow-paced setting in which to live and work to attract them. One of the ways we would like to do this is to entice potential citizens who would like to work remotely. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and continues to become more prevalent as our society advances technologically. Without access to sufficient broadband internet, corporations as well as individuals will not choose to relocate to our region and therefore our aspiration of regeneration cannot be attained. We cannot compete with more populated cities that already have high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is vital to develop a robust, modern economy.

The lack of reliable internet service is not only an on-going issue for businesses, but also households as substantiated by the recent COVID-19 virus outbreak and the resulting stay-at-home orders issued by Governor Mills. As a teacher I know that students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low bandwidth, and in many cases, the complete lack of connectivity. Teachers and students cannot communicate efficiently nor effectively. Because of these issues, some students are not receiving direct instruction from their teachers, are not able to participate in meaningful discussions with classmates, and are not able to access online resources and assignments posted for their use. I have already seen this lack of equity affect students' learning in a significant manner and could potentially intensify and create more of a learning gap over time if the quarantine continues or must be reinstated later in the future.

During this lockdown period many parents are working from home and they also must rely on the internet connection simultaneously as the students attend a virtual class. Parents and students must compete for bandwidth because of a slow connection and at times may not be able to fulfill the objectives of their work. This has been an issue for several of my students' families during the past six-week period.

As you can see, the need for reliable high-speed broadband internet service in our area is at a pivotal juncture for citizens, businesses and households and the development and growth of our economy. Our organization fully supports the attempt to expand our broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Jill W. Plummer



May 1, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households and has only been fully exposed with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low band-with or the complete lack of connectivity. Folks that are staying here for business, need to be able to connect and stay connected.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its' vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Smith

Owner, First Settlers Lodge

Colin Bartlett & Sons, Inc. 82 School House Road, Unit #4 Orient, ME 04471 (207)532-2214

May 4, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority
Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director
59 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households and has only been fully exposed with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low band-with or the complete lack of connectivity.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its' vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Colin Bartlett

Color Sartlett

President

B & R Bartlett Enterprises, Inc. 82 School House Road, Unit #1

Orient, ME 04471

(207)532-2214

May 4, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority
Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director
59 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households and has only been fully exposed with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low band-with or the complete lack of connectivity.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its' vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Brent Bartlett

President

Town of Haynesville 16 Danforth Road Haynesville, ME 04497 (207) 448-2239

May 5, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households and has only been fully exposed with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor. Students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low band-with or the complete lack of connectivity.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth and working-class residents, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet.

We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy. We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Carol P. Randall

Carol P. Randall

Clerk

Town of Danforth PO Box 117 Danforth, Maine 04424-0117 207-448-2321

May 1, 2020

Connect Maine Authority Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This is a letter of support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

The lack of reliable internet service is an on-going issue for businesses and households. The greater demand with the recent Covid- 19 virus and the stay-at-home orders issued by the Governor has brought to light the urgency of good, reliable broadband to our community. The students that are trying to learn remotely are suffering because of the low band-with or the complete lack of connectivity. People are trying to work from newly established home offices, and we have a large population of seniors who are currently socially isolated that could greatly benefit from broadband communications.

As an area that is looking to retain and attract both youth, working-class residents, and retirees, the lack of broadband is a detriment to its' vitality. Telecommuting is a way of life for many and we have the quality of life to offer those individuals, but not the connection needed. Individuals and businesses that may be looking to relocate to get a better life experience often gauge their decisions on the availability of quality internet. We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Ardis Brown Town Manager

TOWN OF WESTON

5 Church Lane Weston, Maine 04424 Phone (207) 448-2316 Fax (207) 448-2747

townofweston@pioneerwireless.net

www.townofweston.net

May 1, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director 59 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

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We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Dwayne/Young, Adm.

"The Little Town with the big view"
Selectpersons
John Ribe, Karen Cummings, Michael Cheetham

REED PLANTATION

P. O. BOX 10

WYTOPITLOCK, MAINE 04497

207-456-7546

reedplantation@gmail.com

May 5, 2020

ConnectMaine Authority

Peggy Schaffer, Exec. Director

59 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0059

Dear Peggy Schaffer:

This letter is in support of the effort by the Greater East Grand Region Economic Plan to secure funds for a planning grant to expand the broadband coverage in the multi-municipal area.

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We would be able to better compete with more populated areas with a better footing through expanding high-quality, high-speed internet. High-speed internet is a must have in any robust economy.

We fully support the attempt to expand broadband coverage and make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Diane T. Hines

Town Manager