

ROCK COUNTY, WISCONSIN



Board of Supervisors
51 South Main Street
Janesville, WI 53545
(608)757-5510
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June 2, 2022

Dear Town Clerk:

Rock County recently established a Broadband Committee to expand broadband throughout Rock County.

One of the major concerns expressed by residents is poor or nonexistent broadband service. You or someone you know may lack adequate and/or acceptable broadband access. We are encouraging your residents and businesses to participate in the County's broadband speed test. The data collected from the speed test will help with identifying and quantifying, the existing broadband speeds throughout Rock County. Attached is a flyer containing a QR code to assess the speed test survey.

Considering the significant increase in remote work, as well as the uptick in the delivery of educational and health services to the home via the Internet, the importance of having a robust broadband network cannot be overlooked. To alleviate privacy and other data collection concerns that might be preventing folks from participating in this project, the speed tester contains safeguards outlined in the attached flyer.

Please encourage your residents to participate in this speed test project, and spread the word through your work and personal networks via town website, email, newsletters, social media posts, etc.

In addition to requesting your participation on the speed test, Rock County is undertaking a program that will expand broadband capacity throughout Rock County. In partnership with Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC, the County will be siting additional communications towers throughout rural Rock County that will substantially increase cellphone coverage. The County's broadband project will install a middle-mile fiber system directly benefitting 15 of the 20 towns in Rock County. Attached is a map of Rock County identifying potential communication tower sites and the middle mile fiber preliminary route. A separate map of your town is also included if the middle mile fiber will be running through your jurisdiction.

At the May 26, 2022 Rock County Board of Supervisors meeting, the County Board discussed a resolution to fund a portion of the broadband project with revenue bonds. A motion was passed to table the resolution until the next County Board meeting of June 9, 2022. At this time, the project remains on hold.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the Broadband Committee members.

Sincerely,


Rich Bostwick, Chair 608-757-5540
Rock County Broadband Committee

bostwick@co.rock.wi.us

Members:

Sup. Mary Beaver 608-882-1152
Sup. Mary Mawhinney 262-203-1756
Sup. Alan Sweeney 608-884-4026
Sup. RJ Sutterlin 608-423-6648
Sup. Connie Winter 608-868-7472
Sup. William (Bill) Wilson 608-868-9180

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