



WARREN COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT

2023 SUBMITTED BY WARREN COUNTY RFP REVIEW TEAM

DEFINITIONS

- Mega Bytes Per Second (MBPS): Speed rate of transmitting data
- Giga Byte Per Second (GBPS): 1 gbps = 1000mbps
- Download: the action of receiving data from an internet source
- Upload: the action of sending data from an internet source
- Broadband: used to define an internet service as high speed. Many Federal grants define broadband as minimum speeds of 100mbps (download) & 100mbps (upload)
- Passing: a premise (home or business) with access to services
- Fiber: transmission using glass tubing/conduit either buried or aerial
- Wireless: transmission using antennas to send/receive radio waves

BROADBAND EFFORTS 2012-2023

2012 Indiana Fiber Network (IFN)

- Fiber to connect Hospital and MSD schools

2017 Vantage point broadband assessment

- Used existing vertical assets and technology to propagate coverage and suggest new tower locations

2018 to 2021 - Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN) broadband planning grant

- Create broadband network in 9 county area
- Focused on agriculture and manufacturing

2019 / 2020 – OCRA Next Level Connection (NLC) grant

- Grant areas were contested by existing providers
- Low survey participation

2021

- Warren County Broadband Taskforce Created
- Designated Broadband Ready Community
- Broadband Survey launched across county
- Broadband Infrastructure Development Zone approved
- Warren County Strategic Plan launched

2022

- County commits up to \$5M for county broadband
- Launch RFI process
- Launch RFP process
- Promoted the FCC challenge process

2023

- January 2023 – review proposals and begin selection process

CURRENT STATE – UNSERVED/UNDERSERVED AREAS

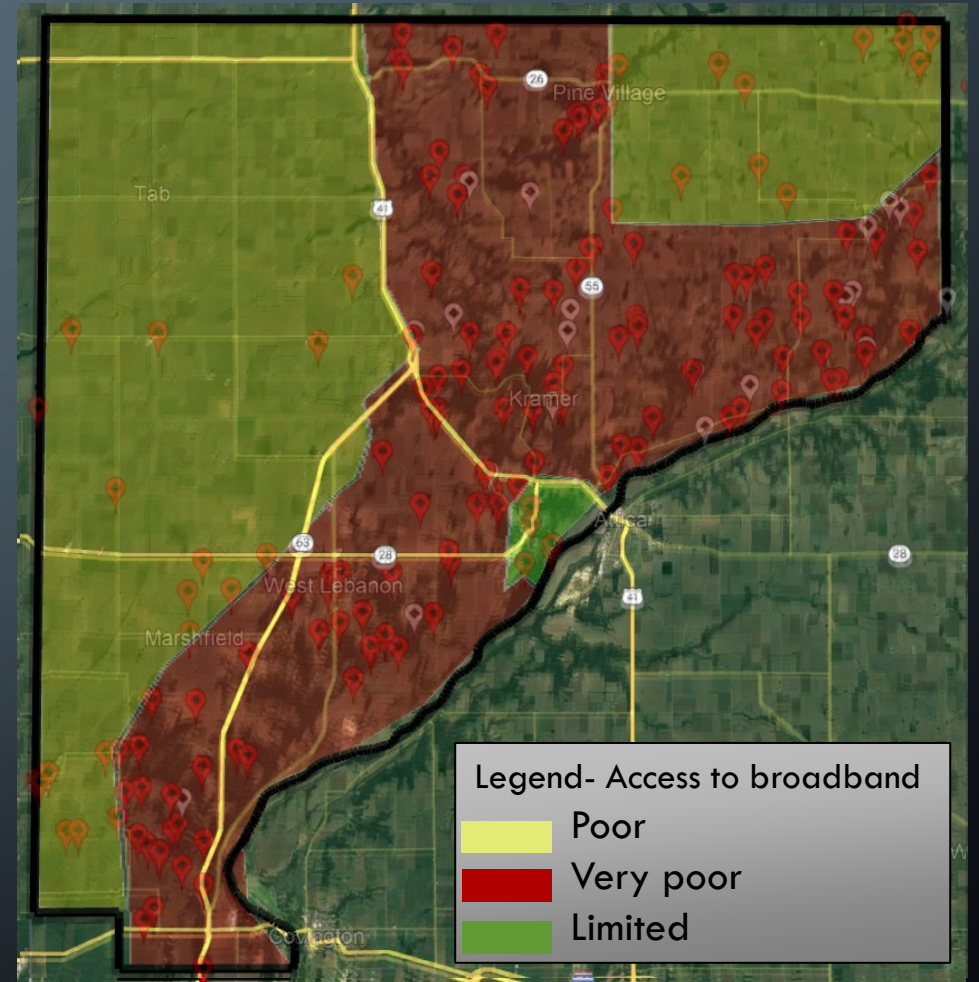
70%

of residents NOT able to access broadband

63%

Say service is NOT meeting their needs

Data from 2021-2022 Warren County Broadband survey



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

17%

Educational use

14%

Business use

14%

Tele-work use

10%

Said they are considering moving out of county
b/c of poor internet options

??

Impact on attraction/retention because of
poor internet service?

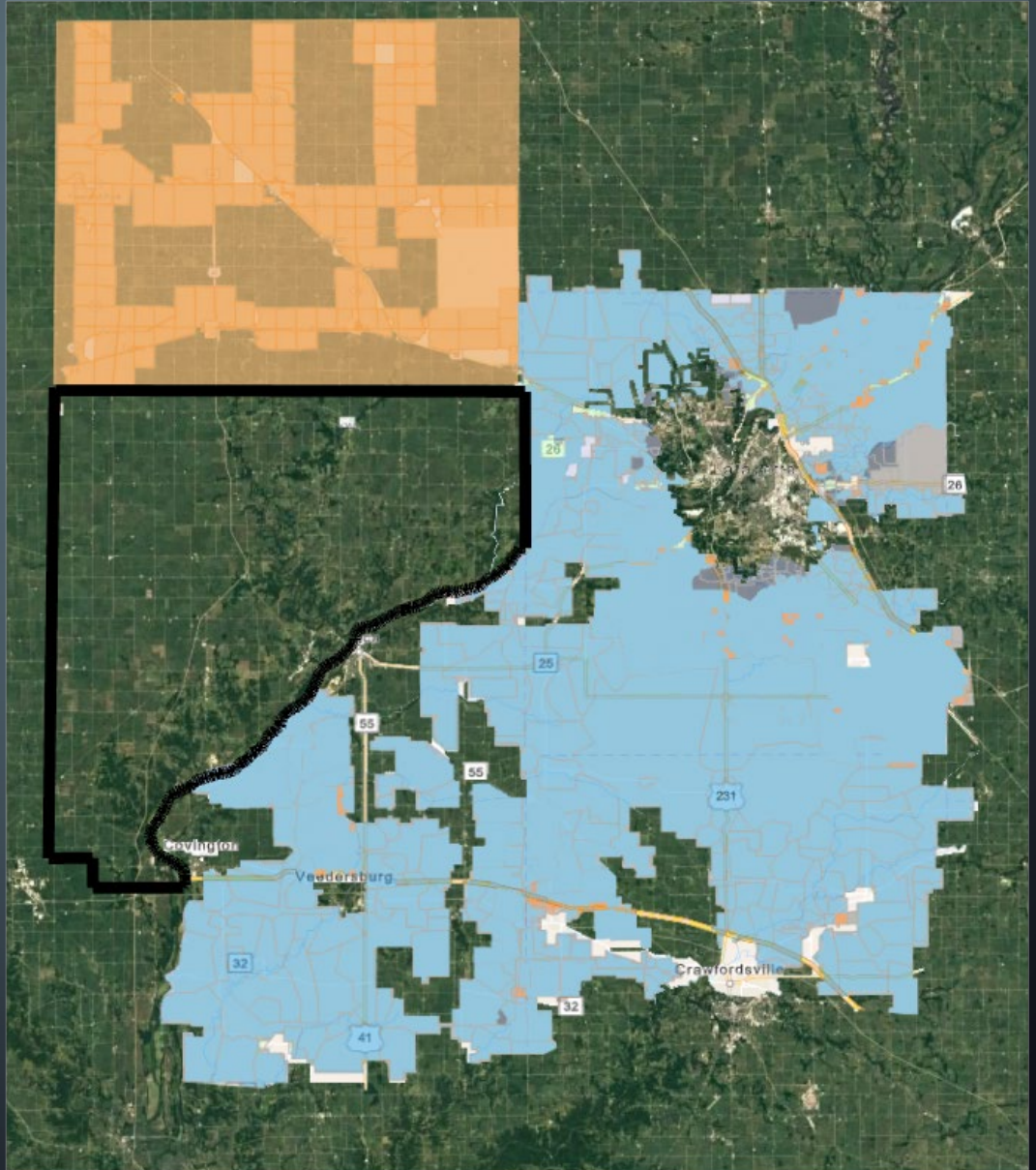
Data from 2021-2022 Warren County Broadband survey

BROADBAND BUILDS

Benton — Fiber to the home

Tippecanoe — Fiber to the home

Fountain — Fiber to the home



ECONOMIC IMPACT

93%

said expanded access to broadband should be a top priority for the county. - 2022 Comprehensive Plan survey

Purdue Center for Regional Development Study:

- Access to education & higher wage jobs
- More profitable farms & businesses
- Higher property values
- Reduce personal expenses

\$4 to \$1

Benefit to Cost

*page 4 of the PCRD study for a TipMont
REMC fiber buildout.*

<https://pcrd.purdue.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/005-RPINsights-Tipmont-Broadband.pdf>



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
(RFP) OVERVIEW**

PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Aug 2022 – Ice Miller & Associates legal firm contracted

Sept 2022 – Request for Information (RFI)

Nov 2022 – Request for Proposal (RFP)

Jan – May 2023 Review & negotiations with respondents

May 2023 – Public Hearing of final selection

KEY ASPECTS OF PROPOSALS

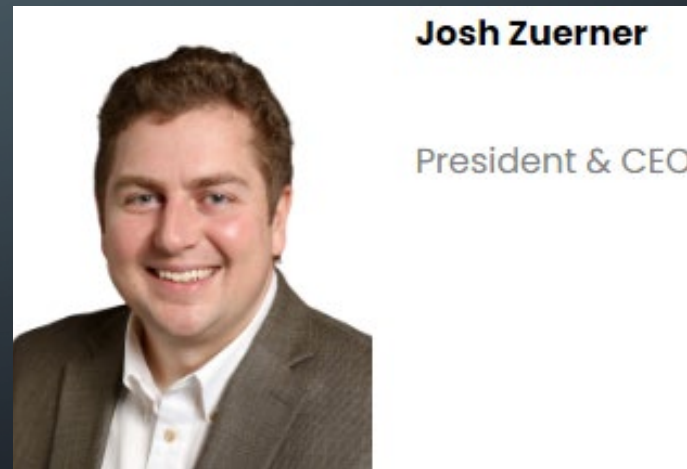
- Develop partnership to achieve growth and services
- Focus on unserved, underserved, and growth areas
- Connect a high number of passings
- Financial contribution by provider
- Commitment to help achieve 100% coverage ASAP

PROPOSALS AND NEGOTIATIONS OVERVIEW

- 7 proposals submitted
- Various solutions & coverage levels proposed
- Various levels ownership arrangements proposed
- Wide range of terms and commitments offered
- Joink chosen for final selection of RFP process

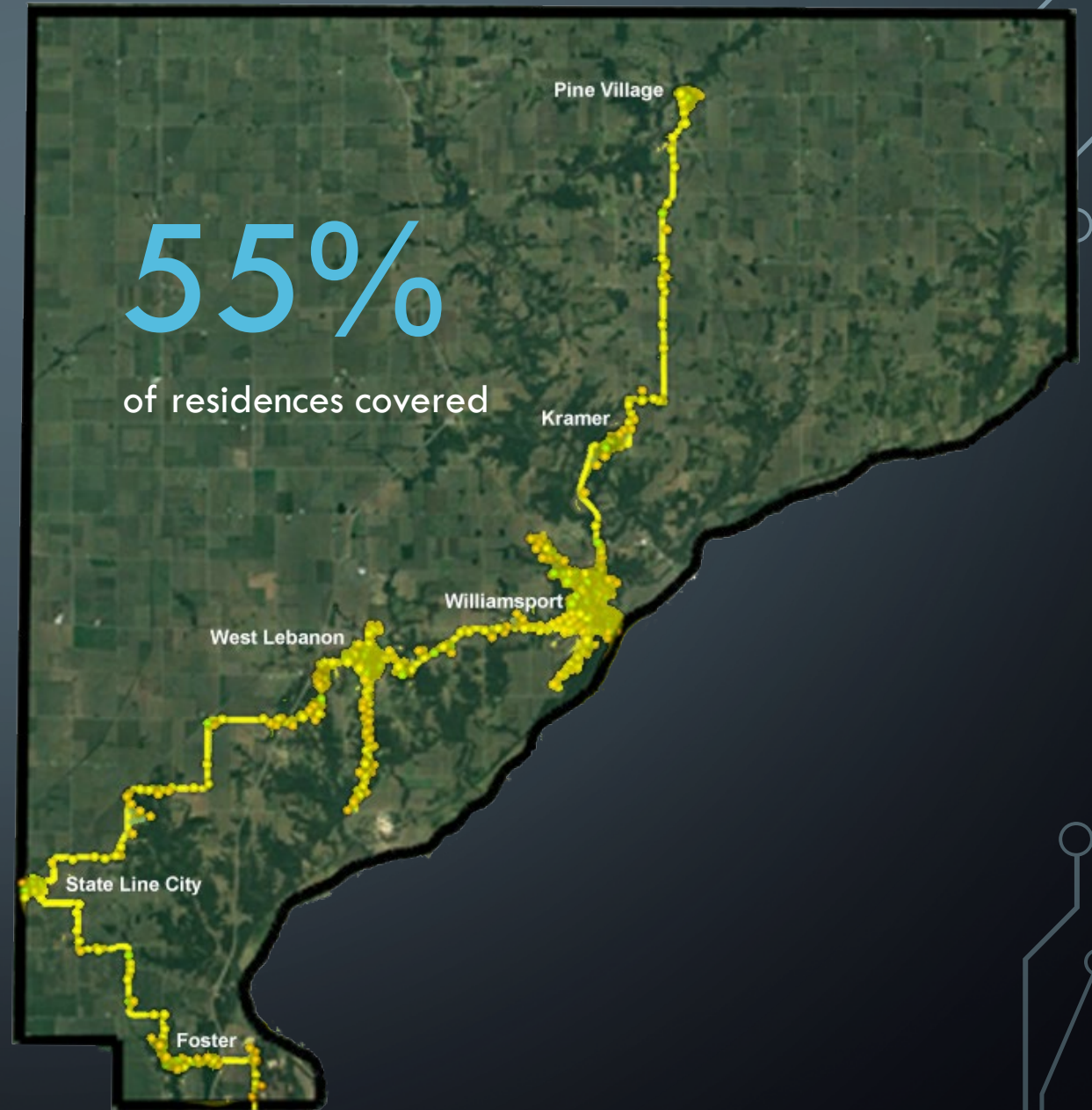
JOINK OVERVIEW

- Based in Terre Haute, IN
- 200+ employees
- 10,000+ service connections
- Well respected in the industry
- Experience in rural builds
- High quality builds and services
- Success in broadband grants



JOINK PROPOSAL

- All fiber construction (buried)
- 2000+ Passings
 - Along middle mile
 - State Line City
 - West Lebanon
 - Williamsport
 - Pine Village



JOINK PROPOSAL – CUSTOMER FOCUSED

- Free Installation up to 100ft
 - Wireless router provided
- Phone services available
- Programs available for 100ft+ installation
- Dedicated business services available

SPEED	PRICE
Download/Upload	Per Month
300/300	\$69.00
500/500	\$99.00
1G/1G	\$129.00

WARREN COUNTY & JOINK TERMS

Commitments for consumers

- Rate lock for 2 years
- Rate will always match rates across Joink system
- Free installation available for 2 years past project completion

WARREN COUNTY & JOINK TERMS

- Fiber allotment for County use
- Terms to ensure expansion continues in the county
- Joink financial contribution toward achieving 100%
- Grant writing resources and services



**PLAN TO 100%
BROADBAND ACCESS**

PLAN TO 100%

Partnership

- Funding commitments
- Grant services

Grants:

- 2023 OCRA Next Level Connection 4 grant (up to \$5M)
- Indiana Connectivity Program (\$25k per line, \$4800/passing)
- 2024-2028 FCC BEAD Funding

