

## Broadband Grants on Commission Agenda Thursday June 23, 2022



On Thursday, June 23, 2022 at the Open Meeting, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is scheduled to discuss the Broadband Expansion Grants in the docket 5-BF-2022. The meeting is open to the public and will be live broadcast on YouTube.

During the meeting the Commission is expected to discuss and award the State Broadband Expansion Grants. On June 2, 2022, Governor Evers and

the Commission announced increased funding for the state grants to \$125 million. This increase makes the current grant round the largest in state history.

Open Meeting Agenda

## **Commission Meetings Now on YouTube**

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin announced that all weekly Commission open meetings will now be available and live-streamed on Youtube.com. This decision will not only increase transparency but also access to the Commission and its proceedings.

Commission meetings are open to the public and take place at the Hill Farms State Office Building in Madison, WI. At open meetings, the Commissioners discuss and make decisions on many topics, including requests for permits to construct utility infrastructure like power plants and transmission lines, opening proceedings or investigations, reviewing requests for utility rate or tariff changes, resolving customer complaints, and funding award decisions like broadband expansion grants.

To receive alerts when meetings have been posted to the PSC YouTube page, click the red 'Subscribe' button, and then click the bell icon to get the alerts. Note: to subscribe to alerts, YouTube requires that you set up an account.

PSC YouTube Channel

#### Subscribe to the Docket 5-BF-2022

The only way to ensure you are notified of information related to a proceeding, like the Broadband Expansion Grants is to subscribe to the docket on the Commission's Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system. The docket for the current State Broadband Expansion Grant round is 5-BF-2022. Within the docket the public can find all the applications, comments, memos, correspondence, reports and Commission orders associated with a particular grant round. If you would like notifications when new documents are added you can subscribe to dockets <u>here</u>. (You can also subscribe to earlier dockets.)

## Worth Reading Accelerate: A Community Broadband Planning Program



Accelerate: A Community Broadband Planning Program guide educates and supports broadband planning. The guide can inform community leadership teams as they create their community's broadband vision and goals and pursue the best possible broadband solutions for their area. Written by Bill Coleman from Community Technology Advisors and published in collaboration with the Blandin Foundation and the Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, this comprehensive resource helps communities through the development of broadband planning. The guide will help with understanding current and emerging technologies, navigating public and private roles, analyzing financial models, and building partnerships. It is a great resource for communities.

Accelerate

# **Grant Recipient Corner**

#### ATTENTION! ARPA Quarterly Reports are due July 8, 4 p.m. CT

All ARPA quarterly reports must be submitted through <u>ERF</u> no later than July 8, 4 p.m. CT. First, make sure you have saved your Word document as a PDF file on your desktop. Then go to the PSC website, select "E-Services", and "ERF Upload Document". Log in or create your account, select "Public", ensure the "Existing Docket" radio button is selected, input "5-BF-2022" into the Docket table and click the "Check Docket" button. Choose "report" as the document type, choose the PDF document file you want to submit, enter the file description as laid out below, and click "Upload."

The description should begin with "ARPA Quarterly Report, Award UID" and then include the Fiscal Year, Quarter number, Agency name, and project name. The file name should also be in this format. The UID is an internal identification number for your awarded grant. This UID can be found on the upper right corner of your reporting form.

Once records management staff accept the filing, they will receive an email from ERF confirming the upload and informing them of the ERF number.

Description: ARPA Quarterly Report, Award UID: FYXX-QX – Agency Name – Project Name

• Example: ARPA Quarterly Report, Award 123: FY22-Q3 - ACB, LLC - Town of XYZ

If you have questions about reporting, please contact us at <u>PSCFederalBroadbandGrantReimbursement@wisconsin.gov</u>. This email is monitored by all Grant Specialists.

**WBO Newsletter** 



The Wisconsin Broadband Office will send out regular communication to internet service providers, grant applicants and broadband stakeholders. We aim to be relevant and share timely information from our office.

Please reach out if anyone from the Wisconsin Broadband Office can be of assistance. <u>Email Us</u>

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