

MONADNOCK BROADBAND GROUP

AGENDA

July 18, 2024

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Delegation Room

Historic Cheshire County Courthouse

12 Court Street, Keene, NH

(Enter from Center Street or Winter Street, 2nd Floor)

Where to park: [keenenh.gov/parking-services](https://www.keenenh.gov/parking-services)

Register: zoom.us/j/84790800079

Meeting ID: 847 9080 0079

Passcode: 943759

Join by phone: 1-646-558-8656

I. Welcome

II. Internet Service Provider Updates (40 minutes)

In the last year, many providers have made significant strides in improving broadband service in the Monadnock Region through a variety of funding sources. Representatives from AT&T and Comcast have offered to share some of their recent progress, what they see as potential future needs, and services and capabilities that may be of interest to Monadnock Broadband Group attendees.

III. Federal & State Broadband Updates (20 minutes)

Since the most recent Monadnock Broadband Group meeting at the end of 2023, the State's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) and Digital Equity plans were approved by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). A challenge process associated with the BEAD program for municipalities and non-profits is slated to begin on July 15th. The funding will address remaining broadband gaps as well as reduce barriers to access. Matt Conserva, Office of Broadband Initiatives, Clay Purvis, NTIA and Henry Underwood, Southwest Region Planning Commission will provide updates.

IV. Information Technology Needs Assessment (10 minutes)

Now that many municipalities have found broadband connectivity solutions, there may be more interest in broadband-related issues such as cybersecurity, digitizing processes/information and increasing public access to government proceedings. SWRPC has conducted initial research around and outside of the region and will report on potential opportunities to address these concerns. They could take the form of regional information sharing opportunities, in-depth needs assessments, regional service procurement or something else.

V. Legislative Updates (5 minutes)

At least four bills were identified in the most recent legislative session in New Hampshire relative to broadband (i.e. SB 247, SB 273, SB 395 and SB 445). Attendees are encouraged to provide updates on pending or upcoming legislation and consider coordinating on consolidated testimony, talking points and other logistics.

VI. Member Updates (10 minutes)

A chance to learn about what others are doing. Attendees are encouraged to describe activities related to addressing broadband and telecommunications challenges and opportunities in their communities.

VII. Next Steps (5 minutes)

An open forum on strategies for moving forward, coordination, collaboration, etc.

VIII. Adjourn