Focus on Private Partners

Current internet service providers

Who would be the most likely private partners?

Identify current internet service providers, the level and price of services offered to the community

Additional information:

One or more of the Community's current ISP might be well-situated to provide affordable, reliable internet service to everyone in the community if a mechanism existed to help fund the cost of additional capital investment or increase subscriber revenues or both. Even if other private partners are preferrable – or if it decides that the Community should own and operate internet infrastructure as a public utility, it must consider the strong possibility that an existing provider may decide to take steps to improve its network and compete on services and price. The consequence could be two "weak" providers, neither of which is able to provide the Community with the service it wants and needs.

Who are potential private partners?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

What additional information do I need to learn?

Funded ISP's already in the community

Are there any ISP's already in the community that are receiving funding?

Things to consider:

Identify any ISPs or other entities that have already been awarded grants or low interest loans to provide upgraded or new internet service in Community. Make note of the specific terms of the Funding award, including the dollar amount awarded, the agreed timing for build-out, and the type and level of service the ISP has committed to provide.

Additional information:

These providers must be considered as Private Partners in your relationship. the fact that they have been awarded funding means they have a significant financial advantage over any other ISP that might seek to provide service in the same area. Public Partners likely can provide incentives to encourage these providers to build out networks faster than the time frame agreed to in the grant or loan award and if necessary, they may be able to encourage the Private Partner to build out a system that can better meet the Community's needs.

What ISPs are those or what else should be considered?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

What additional information do I need to learn?

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON