

Application #	APP-006394
Organization	Madison County
Amount Awarded	\$36,000.00

Project Scope (Attachment B):

Project Overview:

Community Engagement:

- Develop outreach programs to involve residents in local broadband efforts.
- Organize town hall meetings, workshops, or community forums to gather input and feedback from residents regarding their broadband future.
- Establish community partnerships with local organizations, schools, libraries, and businesses to broaden outreach efforts.

Educational Initiatives:

- Design informational campaigns to educate community members about Capitol Project Funds allocated for broadband expansion.
- Create user-friendly materials, such as brochures, flyers, and online resources, to explain the scope and impact of the broadband project.
- Conduct public presentations or webinars to provide detailed information about the funding, project timeline, and expected outcomes.

IDAHO BEAD PLANNING GRANT CLOSE OUT FINAL REPORT

The Madison County Broadband Action Team (MCBAT) presents a comprehensive initiative aimed at engaging residents in local efforts to enhance broadband connectivity and digital literacy. In collaboration with Fybercom, a public-private partnership has been established, granting Madison County a substantial Capital Project Fund totaling \$13,673,938. This fund is dedicated to bolstering broadband infrastructure and fostering community-wide digital empowerment.

Our mission is threefold:

1. **Broadband Infrastructure Enhancement:** The allocated funds will be strategically utilized to educate citizens about broadband infrastructure throughout Madison County. This initiative aims to bridge the digital divide by ensuring reliable and high-speed internet access reaches every corner of our community.
2. **Community Engagement and Education:** MCBAT is committed to fostering active participation from residents in the broadband initiative. Through various outreach programs, workshops, and community events, we aim to educate residents about the importance of broadband connectivity and the opportunities it presents. Moreover, emphasis will be placed on promoting digital literacy and skills development to empower individuals of all ages to navigate the digital landscape confidently.
3. **Public-Private Partnership with Fybercom:** The collaboration with Fybercom exemplifies a successful model of public-private partnership, leveraging the expertise and resources of both sectors to drive meaningful change. Fybercom's commitment to enhancing Madison County's broadband infrastructure aligns with our shared goal of fostering economic growth, educational opportunities, and community development.

Key Objectives:

- Education of broadband infrastructure is being built to serve citizens of Madison County, ensuring equitable access for all residents.
- Implementation of outreach campaigns and educational programs to raise awareness about broadband benefits and digital literacy.
- Collaboration with local schools, libraries, and businesses to maximize the impact of broadband connectivity on education, commerce, and innovation.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation of broadband initiatives to ensure effectiveness and address evolving community needs.

Funds through this grant were used to create a Broadband Action Team referred to as MCBAT (Madison County Broadband Action Team). Meetings were held to discuss upcoming BEAD grants as well as ways to educate and inform our citizens about the fiber project being completed through a partnership between Madison County and Fybercom. Community Engagement meetings were held, and several informative videos were created and hosted on both Madison County's and Fybercom's websites. Examples of these videos include:

www.co.madison.id.us/broadband_project/broadband_project.php

www.fybercom.net/fiber

As well as Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/LT6VhF1g5ohCRUHX/>

In conclusion, the Madison County Broadband Action Team, in partnership with Fybercom, met the mission goals, poised to revolutionize broadband connectivity and digital inclusion in our community. Through proactive engagement, strategic investments, and a commitment to lifelong learning, we aim to empower every resident to thrive in the digital age. The MCBAT Education and Community Engagement has been a huge success! This project will continue for the next two years, while we get everyone connected. Of note is the proposed BEAD areas being changed to not only go down highway 33 thru Teton City and Newdale City but moved to the north to the Teton River to include all residents of these cities – instead of only half on the Madison County side of highway 33. This makes much more sense in our area. Together, we are building a more connected, resilient, and prosperous Madison County for generations to come!

Sincerely,

Paul Sorensen

Paul Sorensen
Madison County CIO
MCBAT Coordinator

Jared Stowell

Jared Stowell
Fybercom CEO

Date 02/11/2025