LANGLADE COUNTY BROADBAND COMMISSION REPORT, December 2025

Wisconsin BEAD Program – PSC Final Proposal Update (as of December 10, 2025)

Historic Announcement: BEAD BOB Funding Awarded on December 3, 2025

Langlade County will receive BEAD BOB award of \$13,899,487 to reach 3,140 eligible locations. The builds are heavily weighted toward fiber:

- Bertram Communications 2,515 locations using primarily fiber | \$13,186,569 • Locations Requested: 3,438
- Nsight (Cellcom) 140 locations using a mix of fixed wireless and fiber | \$67,076
- Cirrinity 485 locations using a mix of fiber and fixed wireless | \$645,842

Bertram cost per location=\$5,243.17 this award shows fiber only

Nsight (cellcom) = \$479.11 per location mainly fixed wireless

Cirrinity -\$1,331.63 per location mainly fixed wireless

• This is the single largest broadband award in Langlade County's history and positions the region for long-term economic and community vitality.

BEAD Implementation Timeline (PSC Update)

Presented by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission:

- NTIA Approval of BEAD Final Proposal: December 3, 2025
- **Tribal Consent Process:** Within 6 months of approval
- Grant Agreement Execution: Dec. 2025 Feb. 2026
- Environmental Review: Dec. 2025 Feb. 2026
- Nondeployment Funding: Pending NTIA guidance
- Construction Period: Approx. 4 years
 - o **Estimated Completion:** 2030

Broadband Impact Since 2015 –

Cirrinity Public-Private Partnership

- Total Investment: \$7.25 million
- Funding Breakdown:
 - o \$2.6 million contributed by Cirrinity
 - o \$759,771 invested by local towns and the County
 - o \$3.9 million awarded through Wisconsin PSC broadband grants
- Key Outcomes:
 - o 1,806 households and businesses connected or directly impacted
 - o 167+ miles of Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) installed

Local ISP Project Updates

Cirrinity

- Tower project invoiced; awaiting equipment installation and power-up
- Ribbon cutting planned upon completion
- Town of Neva Fiber Project:
 - o 58% take rate, expected to reach 60-70%
- Community Anchor clarification:
 - o Townships that provided a match during any grant program for implementation of fiber received free internet service.

Charter/Spectrum

- Active RDOF deployment to 1,737 Langlade County locations
- Full construction update scheduled for February 2026

Insight/Cellcom

• Currently working with Insight Team on additional fixed wireless and cellular opportunities Phase 1-3 more to come.

Strategic Priorities Going Forward

The Broadband Commission will continue advancing connectivity through:

- Expanded **cellular coverage** in priority areas
- Improved **fixed wireless** service in hard-to-reach terrain
- Fiber deployment through BEAD, PSC grants, and RDOF
- Ongoing collaboration with ISPs to ensure comprehensive rural coverage

Langlade County Broadband Commission Meeting Minutes November 18, 2025

Attendance: Steve Maier; County Board Supervisor; Eric Boman, Town of Upham; Angie Close, LCEDC; Mike Cragoe Town of Upham; Mark Leonard PSC, Al Murray, LC Forestry Administrator: John Berres, Insight

Absent: Niel Schueller, Town of Summit Meeting called to order at 12:00 pm

- 1) Meeting minutes approved from October 21 2025, Murray motion, Maier Seconded. All Ayes.
- 2) BEAD Update: Mark from the PSC presented an update and the preliminary timeline BEAD BOB Awards;
 - NTIA Curing and Approval of Final Proposal is hopeful by December 4th as 18 states were approved
 - Tribal Consent within 6 months
 - Grant agreements (December 2025-Feb 2026)
 - Environmental Review Process (December 2025-Feb 2026)
 - Nondeployment Funds- Waiting on NTIA Guidance
 - Construction (approx. 4 years) 2030
- 3) ISP Provider Update on current Projects
 - Cirrinity; Tower was invoiced and just waiting to get equipment installed and
 powered up. A ribbon cutting will be held at a later date. Neva project is
 completed with a 58% take rate and will project a 60-70% take rate as others are
 now reaching out. Clarification on Community Anchors was given by Cirrinity via
 email; If there was a grant that was awarded for the township and the township
 provided match funding over \$10k, Cirrinity was providing service free of charge.

- Chris from Charter will give a construction update on the Eastern RDOLF Project in February, 2026.
- Governor Broadband Taskforce is holding a webinar on what changed and what's next. Close is signed up and invited taskforce to view.
- 4) Convene into closed session in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(e), Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Scoring of Internet Service Providers proposals that contain confidential or proprietary information.

 Motion to move into closed session by Maier, seconded by Curler. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Approved.

5) Reconvene into open session

Motion to reconvene into open session by Murray, second by Curler, All Ayes. Motion Carried

6) Consideration of action discussed during closed session: Information only. No action taken.

- 7) The Commission will continue collaborating with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to identify and pursue opportunities for improved cellular coverage and fixed wireless service in targeted areas.
- 8) Next Meeting Date, tentative December 16, 2025
- 9) Meeting Adjourned at 1:01 PM

Angie Close, Chair



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Summer Strand, Chairperson Kristy Nieto, Commissioner Marcus Hawkins, Commissioner 4822 Madison Yards Way P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854

December 3, 2025

Re: BEAD Final Proposal and Grant Awards Approved

5-BD-2025

The Commission has received approval from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for Wisconsin's Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program Final Proposal and resulting awards. This is the primary approval that determines the locations and technologies the selected awardees will deploy to 175,464 locations.

Approved BEAD awards include those that were awarded through the Benefit of the Bargain (BOB) grant round and subsequent negotiations for remaining eligible locations that were not awarded in the BOB grant round. The approved Final Proposal also includes revisions required by NTIA under new guidance released related to excessive cost per location, Tribal consent, and other provisions.

Table 1: Summary of BEAD Awards

Total locations awarded BEAD funds	175,464
Total BEAD funds awarded	\$696,592,288
Average BEAD funding awarded per location	\$3,970
Total count of awarded entities	29
Total awarded projects	126

Table 2: Summary of Technology by Location and BEAD Funding

Project Technology	# of	% of	Total BEAD
	Locations	Locations	Funding
Fiber	133,347	76.0%	\$637,272,614
Fixed Wireless	17,204	9.8%	\$19,914,267
Low Earth Orbit Satellite	24,721	14.1%	\$37,182,860
Mixed	192	0.1%	\$2,222,547
	175,464	100%	\$696,592,288

The Commission has published WI BEAD Awards Summary by Entity and County data (PSC REF#: 569148), the WI BEAD Approved Final Proposal (PSC REF#: 569146), and WI BEAD Approved Final Proposal Data (PSC REF#: 569147) which includes the full data submission approved by NTIA, including funded locations and community anchor institutions (CAIs) awarded, funding by project and entity, and locations that no longer required BEAD funding.

Telephone: (608) 266-5481 Home Page: https://psc.wi.gov Fax: (608) 266-3957

E-mail: pscrecs@wisconsin.gov

Commission staff will work with awarded entities to finalize grant agreements, which will provide a four-year performance period to complete the projects. Additional administrative review steps will need to be completed by the federal government before grant agreements can be issued. Construction is expected to begin in 2026 for most projects.

For further details on the BEAD program please visit the Commissions <u>BEAD Grant Program webpage</u>. See <u>docket 5-BD-2025</u> for all BEAD documentation and communication. For questions regarding the BEAD program, email <u>PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov</u>.

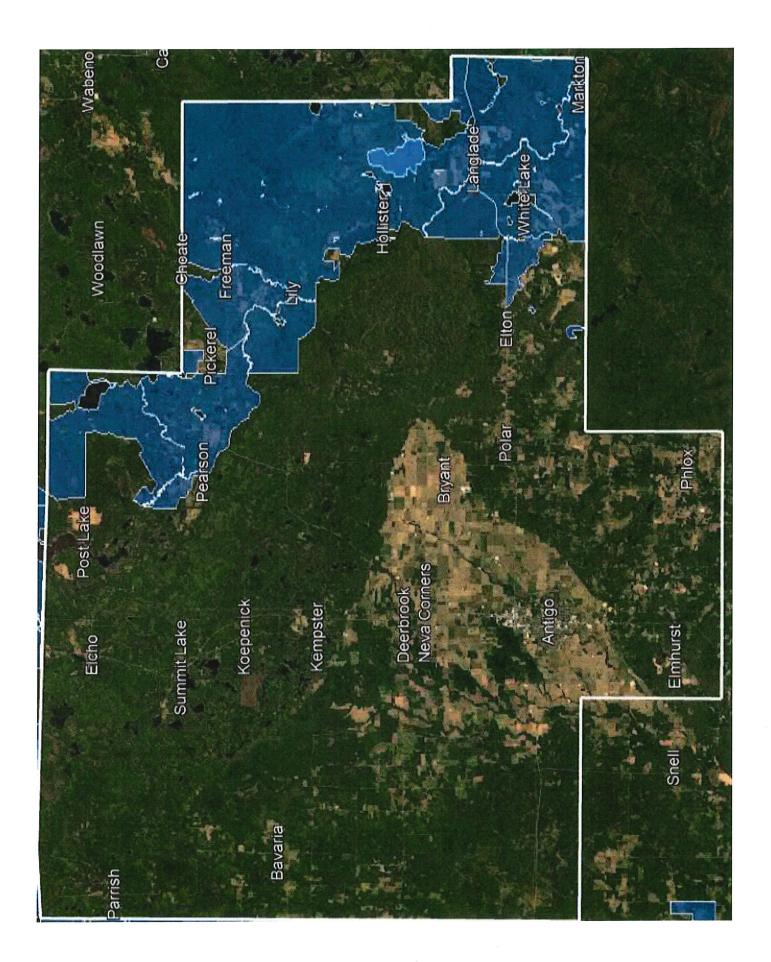
Sincerely,

Joe Fontaine

Administrator

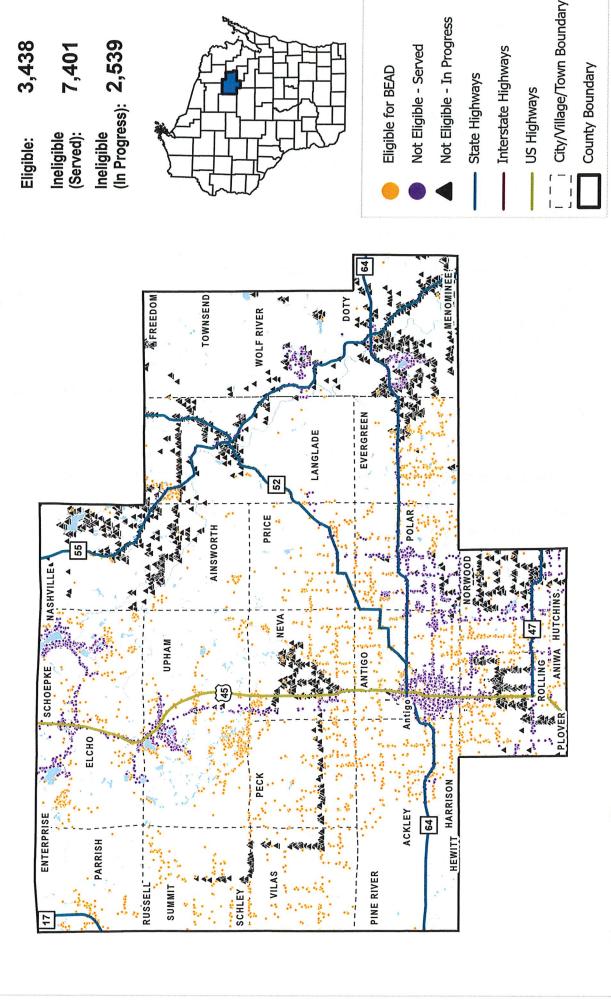
Division of Digital Access, Consumer and Environmental Affairs

JF:AK:RT:MM:bs DL: 02113193



Langlade County

Total BSLs:



In-Progress Enforceable Grant Commitments - Langlade County

Program	Awardee	Location Count
Federal Communications	Charter Fiberlink CCO, LLC -	1,737
Commission - Rural Digital	WI - Gigabit	Maria I
Opportunity Fund		J 25 22 2 2
Local Grant - American	Brightspeed	1
Rescue Plan Act		
State Grant - American	Wittenberg Cable TV	40
Rescue Plan Act	Company Inc	
State Grant - Broadband	Cirrinity	455
Expansion		
State Grant - Broadband	Tri-County Communications	2
Expansion		Mark Control
State Grant - Broadband	Wittenberg Cable TV	126
Expansion	Company Inc	
State Grant - Capital Projects	Wittenberg Cable TV	193
Fund	Company Inc	
Total		2,554

Note: In-Progress Enforceable Grant Commitment Total may exceed In-Progress Location Total due to overlapping commitments.

See data in interactive online map: https://maps.psc.wi.gov/apps/BEADEligibilityMap/

More information:

- BEAD Grant Program Information
- PSC Engagement and Endorsement FAQ
- UW-Extension Engagement and Endorsement Resources

Contact: PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov.