

Newbury Rural Economic Development Infrastructure District

d.b.a. Newbury REDI.net

2019 Annual Report

Newbury REDI.net is excited to announce that fiber optic broadband is much closer to reality for Newbury residents!

We have accomplished a lot this year. We were able to re-submit our USDA Grant which was funded the second time around, and were awarded 2 other broadband development grants! These funds are being used for a detailed engineering study by Consolidated Communications, and to develop a business plan for the development of a lightning fast, fiber-to-the-premises broadband network serving all Newbury residents and businesses.

Major accomplishments in 2019:

- Think Vermont Grant \$8,000
- USDA Grant \$19,000
- Broadband Innovation Grant \$34,000
- Commissioned a detailed engineering study required for feasibility analysis and comprehensive business plan.
- Hired Tilson Technology as our consultant to develop our business plan and help us negotiate terms with broadband providers and installation partners.

Our goals for 2020:

- Analysis of feasibility study by Tilson Technologies
- Development of a business plan to attract funding for building our fiber optic broadband network, insuring lowest rates for broadband subscribers
- Sign up residents for high-speed internet
- Arrange funding for fiber optic network
- Start installing fiber-to-the-premises high-speed network!

We are planning to begin signing up Newbury residents for fiber optic broadband by this summer! Why should **YOU** sign up? The benefits are many, but this will be **our** network that **we** own and control. Our Board is working hard to get you the very best value for internet, voice communication, and streaming content, which will eventually include everything currently provided by both cable and satellite providers. **We will need you to sign up! The more subscribers, the lower the cost -- it really is that simple.**

Many thanks to Ken Rower and Nathan Dudenhoeffer, who retired from our governing board, and welcome to Bonnie Taylor and Luke Birch, who stepped up to fill those seats. We also thank Rick Hausman and Connie Philleo for their many contributions, Jim Henderson for maintaining our web presence, and Laurie Williams for her extraordinary grant writing skills.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at *The Space on Main*, in Bradford, where we can accommodate remote participation in our meetings. Our meetings are open to all, and we encourage participation of anyone with knowledge, experience, or passion about broadband or fiber optic networks.

Newbury REDInet Governing Board:

Liane Allen

Luke Birch

Daniel Burwinkel

Lenice Cicchini

Edward Childs

Chip Conquest

Claude Phipps

Bonnie Taylor

Brad Vietje

For additional information or any questions, please contact Claude Phipps, chair, here4now2@myfairpoint.com, or 866-9008. Our important documents can be found on-line at www.NewburyREDI.net