



CONNECTMAINE

ConnectMaine Authority Members: Nick Battista, Jasmine Bishop, Fred Britain, Susan Corbett, Heather Johnson, Jeff Letourneau, Liz Wyman

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Public Announcement

BROADBAND GRANTS AWARDED

The ConnectMaine Authority awards eight Broadband Infrastructure Grants to expand the availability of broadband service in the state, totaling about \$15 million.

Broadband service enables civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning and access to essential services. The projects awarded represent a wide spectrum of public-private partnerships to reach about 6,000 in some of the least served areas of the state. The broadband infrastructure resulting from five of the projects will be publicly-owned by municipalities or broadband utility districts. Two other projects leverage existing expansion or upgrade projects underway, and involve a national internet service provider and a smaller, Maine-based company. Importantly, these projects won't leave outlying roads or potential subscribers without access to broadband service.

Projects	Counties or Towns	ISPs	Costs	Grants
Chebeague Island	Cumberland	Axiom Technologies	\$1,655,571	\$800,000
Cooper	Washington	Pioneer Broadband	\$639,776	\$400,000
Leeds	Androscoggin	Axiom Technologies	\$4,169,732	\$2,100,000
Maine West	Buckfield, Hartford, Hebron, Sumner	GWI	\$8,054,943	\$6,815,914
Northport	Waldo	GWI	\$2,938,043	\$2,189,670
Princeton	Washington	Pioneer Broadband	\$784,366	\$235,309
Searsport	Waldo	Consolidated Communications	\$3,029,664	\$2,087,464
Southport	Lincoln	Axiom Technologies	\$2,433,465	\$400,000
Totals	11	4	23,705,560	15,028,357

The ConnectMaine Authority awards infrastructure grants to support expansion of broadband service. Opened on January 12, this application window includes the remaining bond funds and additional funds dedicated from the Maine Connectivity Authority. In July 2020, Maine voters had approved a state broadband bond of \$15 million, of which just over half was awarded in May 2021.

The mission of ConnectMaine is to facilitate the universal availability of broadband to all Maine households and businesses, and to help them understand the valuable role it can play in enriching their lives and helping their communities thrive. More information can be found on the ConnectMaine website: www.maine.gov/connectme.