

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Administration Building
North Haverhill, NH 03774
April 26, 2022

PRESENT: Commissioners Piper, Lauer and Ahern, County Administrator Libby,
Administrative Assistant Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Supt. Elliott, Ed Wargo, AS Director DePalo, Broadband Committee –
Brigitte Codling, Ed Morris, Carina Park, Kevin Glynn.

Commissioner Piper called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and began with the Pledge of
Allegiance.

Supt. Elliott arrived and gave the following report: (*see attached)

Ed Wargo arrived and gave the following IT update:

Office 365 Deployment – E. Wargo reported that they are doing cleanup of email accounts. They
have noticed many duplicate accounts, accounts that are not being used and misspellings. Every
account they can eliminate is one (1) less they will pay for. He stated that they are looking to
push their implementation date out another week out to ensure that they have the time to clean up
all of these accounts but noted that it is going well. He reported that the three (3) new servers
arrived but the storage for the servers is on back order until June 6th. He has begun installing the
new racks and cleaning the server room.

AS Director DePalo arrived and gave the following report: (* see attached)

Mental Health Contracts – AS Director DePalo discussed the mental health agency contracts
with the Commissioners stating that they need to make some decisions as to the direction they
want to go in the upcoming year. The Commissioners requested that AS Director DePalo write
up a summary on each of the options she gave and present it to the Commissioners. They asked
her to return next week with that report

Commissioner Ahern reported that the person who started the Pemi Youth Center is looking to
start a safe haven for abused children.

Broadband Committee – Brigitte Codling, Ed Morris, Carina Park, Kevin Glynn

Commissioner Piper began the discussion by stating that Rep. Egan invited the NHEC in to talk
with the Commissioners and members of the Executive Committee about wanting to collaborate
with the Broadband Committee that was formed by the Commissioners. Based on the NHEC
PowerPoint presentation and discussion, the Commissioners believe there is a lack of clarity as
to whether the NHEC wishes to work with the Broadband Committee as an Internet Service
Provider.

Commissioner Piper stated that a dominant question that the Commissioners hope to have answered by the Broadband Committee is why do they need a middle mile. NHEC has stated that it is duplicative and putting federal funding at risk. Commissioner Lauer stated that the NHEC is hitting many Grafton County communities already, and on paper, they are saying that the County's project can build on the end of their route. C. Park noted that she would like to address NHEC not wanting to be an ISP as that is news to them. They responded to an RFP saying they possibly wanted to come onto this project.

The members then gave the following presentation that explains why the middle mile is needed and answered questions from the Commissioners. (* see attached)

Agenda Items:

1. Commissioner Piper asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the April 19th and April 21st meetings. Commissioner Ahern stated that he is not ready to approve the minutes as he has concerns with the April 19th set and has not had a chance to read the April 21st set.
2. The Commissioners signed check register 1158.
3. CA Libby submitted a CDBG Claim for the MidState Childcare for \$187,299.91 for Commissioner Piper to sign.
4. CA Libby submitted CDBG Closeout Paperwork for the Microcredit & Covid Micro for the Commissioners to sign.
5. CA Libby submitted a CDBG Claim – Microcredit in the amount of \$4,879.08 for Commissioner Piper to sign.
7. CA Libby reminded the Commissioners of the Executive Committee meeting on Monday to discuss Elected Officials salaries and broadband. CA Libby gave the Commissioners spreadsheets with the Elected Officials salaries.
8. Bid Waiver Request – CA Libby stated that Director Andross has submitted a bid waiver for the additional radio consoles project approved in the second round of ARPA requests. To ensure compatibility and successful integration he is requesting to move forward with Motorola as they have infrastructure in place and several major upgrades in progress with Motorola.

MOTION: Commissioner Lauer moved to waive the bidding process and award the project to Ossipee Mountain Electronics for \$7,500 based on past performance and compatibility with current equipment. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

9. CA Libby stated that the Commissioners would be meeting with employees to discuss wage scales during their meeting on Thursday. Commissioner Piper stated that she wants to assure the employees of the legitimacy of the process and assure them that this new wage scale helps to solve existing problems regarding recruitment and retention.

10. Opioid Lawsuit – CA Libby stated Cheshire County, Strafford County, Coos County and Rockingham County have all agreed to remand the J&J case back to New Hampshire. She stated that it seems as though this is the direction the majority of the counties are going in and she asked the Commissioners what they would like to do.

MOTION: Commissioner Lauer moved to join four (4) counties and State of New Hampshire to remand the J&J case back to New Hampshire. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

11. Financial Reports

CA Libby reported that the County is \$3.7 million ahead of where they were last year in cash.

Variance Report:

- Nursing Home – CA Libby explained that the face sheet states that the Nursing Home is ahead \$869,000. When that is broken down and the money that the County has received for COVID purposes, the county is \$9,386.70 below revenue in operations.
- CA Libby explained that the DoC is behind in revenue because they budgeted for federal inmates and have not had any yet this fiscal year.
- County Attorney – CA Libby noted that the VOCA, County Attorney and Roving Advocate budgets are all grants, which are reimbursements for expenditures. If the revenue is down, the expenses are down as well.
- CA Libby noted that on the expense side they are \$190,000 short on the cap, which will be an issue at year-end. The physical therapy department looks like it may be over expended as well but there are funds within the Nursing Home budget to cover those.

Prorated Report

CA Libby stated that the County is over revenue at 77.24% and under expended by \$3.2 million or 68% with an unassigned fund balance of \$9 million.

Commissioners Issues:

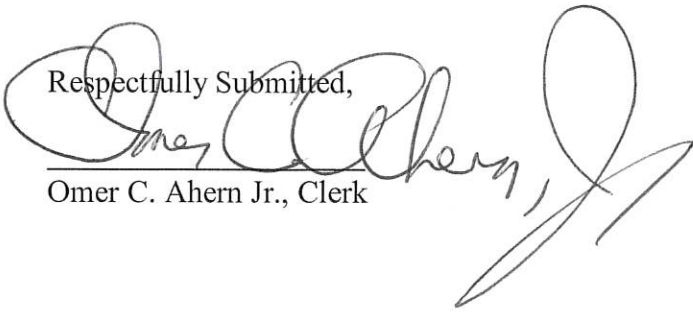
1. Commissioner Ahern reported that he toured the Little Antlers Daycare facility in Plymouth. The facility is still under construction but it is going to be a very nice facility that ensures that people have a safe place to send their children.

Superintendent Elliott took the Commissioners on a tour of the facility so that they could conduct their inspection of the Department of Corrections per RSA 30-B:12.

1:30 PM With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Omer C. Ahern Jr., Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omer C. Ahern Jr.", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name and extends upwards and to the left, overlapping the typed name.



April 26, 2022

Commissioners Report

1. **Population:** In House: 51 F Unit: 12
 E Unit: 10
 D Unit: 5
 C Unit: 15
 Intake: 9

Out of Facility: 23

Total population: 74

Intakes since 7/1/21: 683 Male: 449 Female: 234

2. Community Corrections Report:

- a) Electronic Monitoring: 5
- b) Daily Work Release: 0
- c) Pre-Trial Services: 12

Operation Impact:

Along with the following presentations, Sgt. Harness did community corrections residence checks and worked inside the Jail.

3/28- Presentation of Tucker Town X 2

3/29- Mock Crash meeting with Woodsville High School

3/30- Presentation of Driving While Distracted, Stranger Danger, DWI, Bullying and It's your Choice to Piermont Village School

3/31- Presentation of Tucker Town X 2 to BMU & Community Corrections meeting with Captain

4/1- Presentation of Day in a Life, Cyber Safety, Stop Cyber Bullying, It's your choice and Acts of Kindness to Warren Village School

4/5- Jail Tour & Mock Crash videotaping with Woodsville High School

4/7- Presentation of Tucker Town to BMU & Mock Crash meeting with Woodsville High School

4/11- Presentation of Cyber Safety, Stop Cyber Bullying, Bullying, Learn about Character, It's your Choice and Stranger Danger to Bath Village School

4/12- Mock Crash Meeting with Woodsville High School

4/13- Jail Tour and Job shadow with Riverbend CTC

4/15- Mock Crash rehearsal with Woodsville High School

4/18- Presentation of Tucker Town to BMU

4/19- Presentation of Juul to Ashland School

4/20- Mock Crash day 1 with Woodsville High School

4/22- Mock Crash day 2 with Woodsville High School

Community Work Detail:

Sergeant Griffin is assisting the Farm with their duties with his inmate workers that he has available. He has been assisting with EM/FIRRM checks and preparing for the upcoming gardening harvest season which will include sweet corn, Indian corn, pumpkins, potatoes, gourds and varieties of winter squash. Sergeant Griffin is also working three shifts per week inside the jail to help cover necessary shifts.

Transports: For the month of March staff conducted 14 transports.

- 1 transport to a treatment facility.
- 3 medical transports for inmate medical needs/doctor's appointments.
- 10 courtesy rides home for inmates being released that could not find a ride for themselves.

FIRRM Program

5 current participants

Level 1 – 3

Level 2 – 2

Level 3 - 0

Programs Department Report:

For the month of March, the Programs Department provided various services to 18 different inmates for approximately 387 hours. These services include SUD groups, individual counseling and HISET. The majority of these hours came from the following services broken down below.

Individual Counseling: 18 total hours

Female – 8 hours

Male – 10 hours

SUD Treatment Groups: 368 total hours

Female – 120 hours

Male – 248 hours

Mental Health Report: For the month of March there were four psychiatric clinic days with a total of 39 patient encounters.

General:

Staff training certification

Joint venture with Woodsville High School (Mock Crash)

Jail tour/Lunch

Are there any Commissioner concerns?

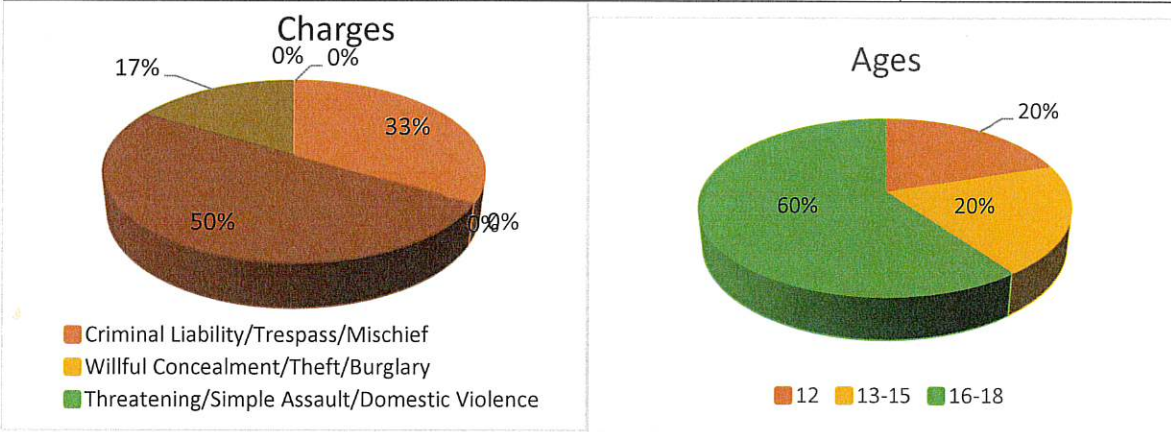
Alternative Sentencing Commissioners Report March 2022

Director’s Report: The Director continues to support the County, meeting with stakeholders and community partners. The Director continues to educate the county members on the Diversion programs through CIT trainings, Diversion Meetings and attorney meetings. The month has been filled with community outreach and research around continued needs.

Juvenile Restorative Justice

Grafton County Juvenile Restorative Justice Program is to promote community-based alternatives to the formal court process that; promote positive youth development, safer communities, integrates restorative justice practices, intervenes at the earliest possible opportunity and promotes reduction in juvenile crime and recidivism

Program	Active Participants	New Participants	Completed	Cases Returned
GCJRJ	4	0	0	0
COOS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	5	0	0	1



There are no changes to note in the juvenile programs. We have two new volunteers on the juvenile panels which has been a big help to relieve some panel members for participating in every single panel we hold. We are looking to make two groups of panel members so they can alternate weeks.

We continue to monitor how SB94 is impacting the state and juveniles through communicating with the southern part of the state. There have been positive and negative impacts to communities and the process that has been working for many years. We have noted that juveniles are not taking the program as seriously as before because they are aware this is not a “one shot deal”. On the other hand we are noting that families are engaging a little more the second time around which positively impacts the juvenile.

Adult Diversion & Program

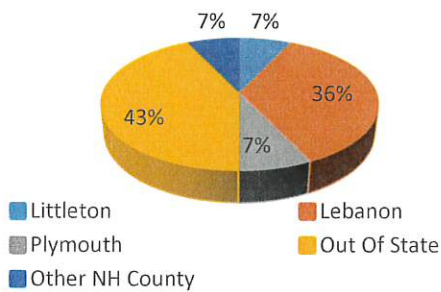
Grafton County Adult Diversion Program is to hold an eligible offender accountable while providing the resources, skills, and education to reduce the risk of committing crimes in the future. This program is an alternative to

Alternative Sentencing Commissioners Report March 2022

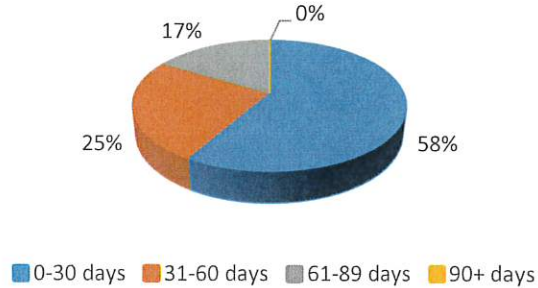
prosecution and offers a defendant a chance to avoid criminal conviction and other punitive sanctions including fines, probation and incarceration.

Program	Active Participants	New Participants	Graduated	Fees	Prospective Participants
Felony	5	3	0	\$100	5
Misdemeanor	7	0	0	\$680	0

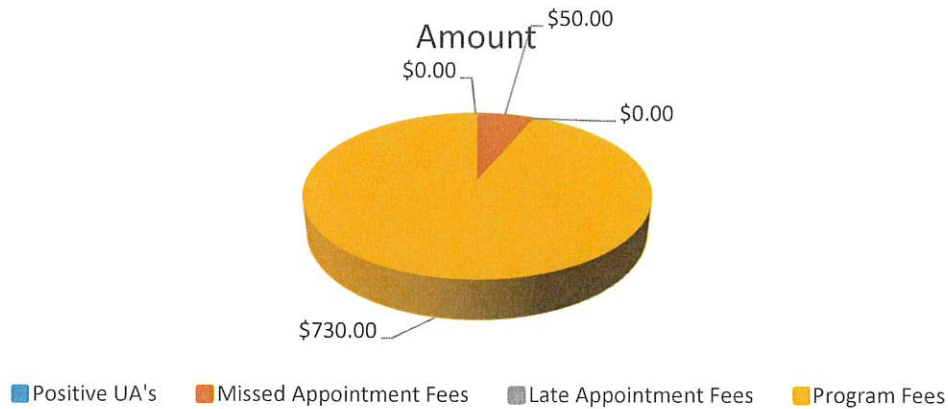
Geographics



Plea to Acceptance



Amount



There is a need for stronger collaboration with the CAO to work on early case resolution to hopefully meet offender needs in a manner that best reduces recidivism and increases rehabilitation.

We continue to focus on building relationships with community partners. We are utilizing a few new recovery services and homes due to the increased need and longer wait times for beds. As the pandemic slows, we are increasingly seeing the negative impacts of the past two years on individuals around substance use, violence and mental health.

There are long waits to get into treatment for SUD and MH at this time and the mental health agencies continue to face a staffing shortage. It is unclear at this time how long this will last but we have a significant need for more providers in this county.

Alternative Sentencing Commissioners Report March 2022

C.A.R.E & C.A.R.E+

The Grafton County C.A.R.E+ Program designed to support individuals who have been convicted and are under supervision to connect to services and stay active in a therapeutic environment. C.A.R.E+ stands for Community, Assessment, Re-Entry and Education + Supervision, the focus of this program is to assist individuals in giving back to their community while creating a successful foundation and becoming a productive member of society.

Program	Current	New	Completed	Program Fees	Prospective
C.A.R.E	3	0	1	\$0	0
C.A.R.E+	6	0	0	\$0	0

Staff have been able to support many LADC referrals for Probation and Parole which ultimately supports our community. As we see a decrease in services throughout the community it has become more evident that these services are important and needed within the county.

Mental Health Court

Grafton County Mental Health Court seeks to provide an effective and meaningful alternative to the traditional criminal justice system for individuals with a mental health illness. Our goal is to promote prompt intervention, education, treatment and recovery in order to improve the quality of the individual's life, reduce recidivism and improve community safety

Location	Active Participants	New Participants	Veteran Participants	Prospective Participants	Completed
ASSERT Littleton	6	1	3	3	1
HOH Lebanon	4	0	0	2	2
PMHC Plymouth	4	0	0	2	0
TOTALS	14	1	3	7	3

Each Mental Health Court had their annual meeting this month. During these meetings the teams worked on policies, procedures and much needed changes to MHC. Plymouth MHC has decided to allow clients from Carroll County as they do not have a MHC and there is a need for support. Once these policies and procedures have been finalized they will be sent to CAO and area referrals.

The Director and MHC Coordinator are working with CAO to determine how many individuals at the Felony level have had charges decreased to be eligible for MHC or those who are unable to have charges decreased and miss the opportunity to benefit from MHC. We have also been working on collecting recidivism statistics on previous participants.

There is still a significant need for a felony level mental health court and court time in all circuit courts. The Director has been working to determine how many felony level charges have been decreased to a misdemeanor in order for

Alternative Sentencing Commissioners Report March 2022

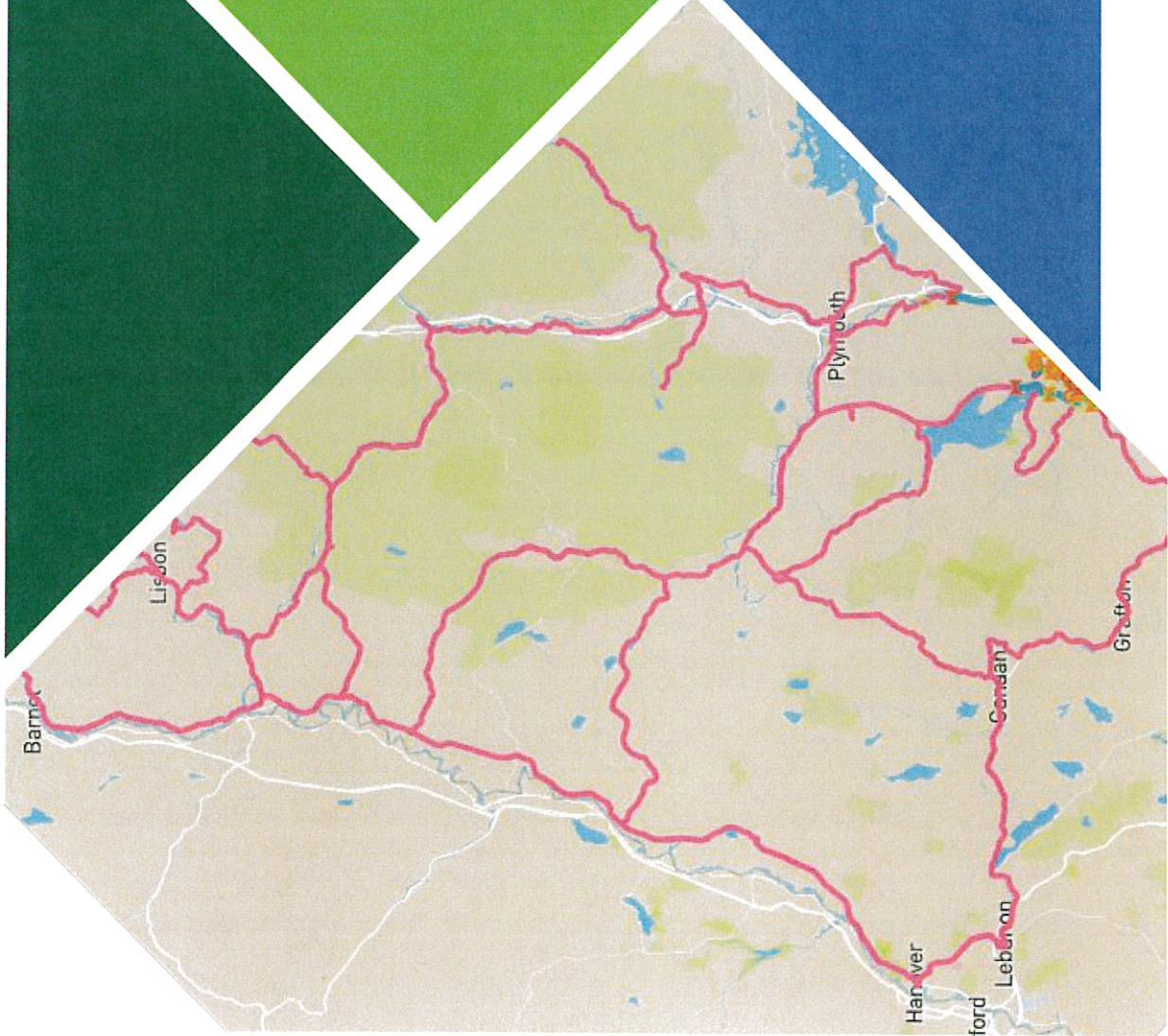
an individual to receive appropriate supports as well as communicating with the court clerks in hopes to get court time, specifically in Lebanon.

The Governor’s commission continues to work on creating state standards and guidelines for MHC.

Budget Report

Revenue below; Please note there are no funds from insurance companies as most of our clients have switched to Amerihealth and they are not currently allowing us to become enrolled with them. The Director is working on this and will hopefully be able to back bill for services up to 180 days.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	Oct	Nov	Dec
JRJ	---	---	---									
AD	\$705	\$375	\$730									
MISSE D	---	\$25	\$50									
LATE	---	---	---									
+ UA’s	---	---	---									
MRT	---	---	---									
CARE	---	---	---									
MISSE D	---	---	---									
+ UA’s	---	---	---									
INS	\$636.96	\$0	\$0									
BDAS	\$1445.04	\$1970.53	\$2410.99									
Totals	\$2787.00	\$2370.53	\$3190.99									



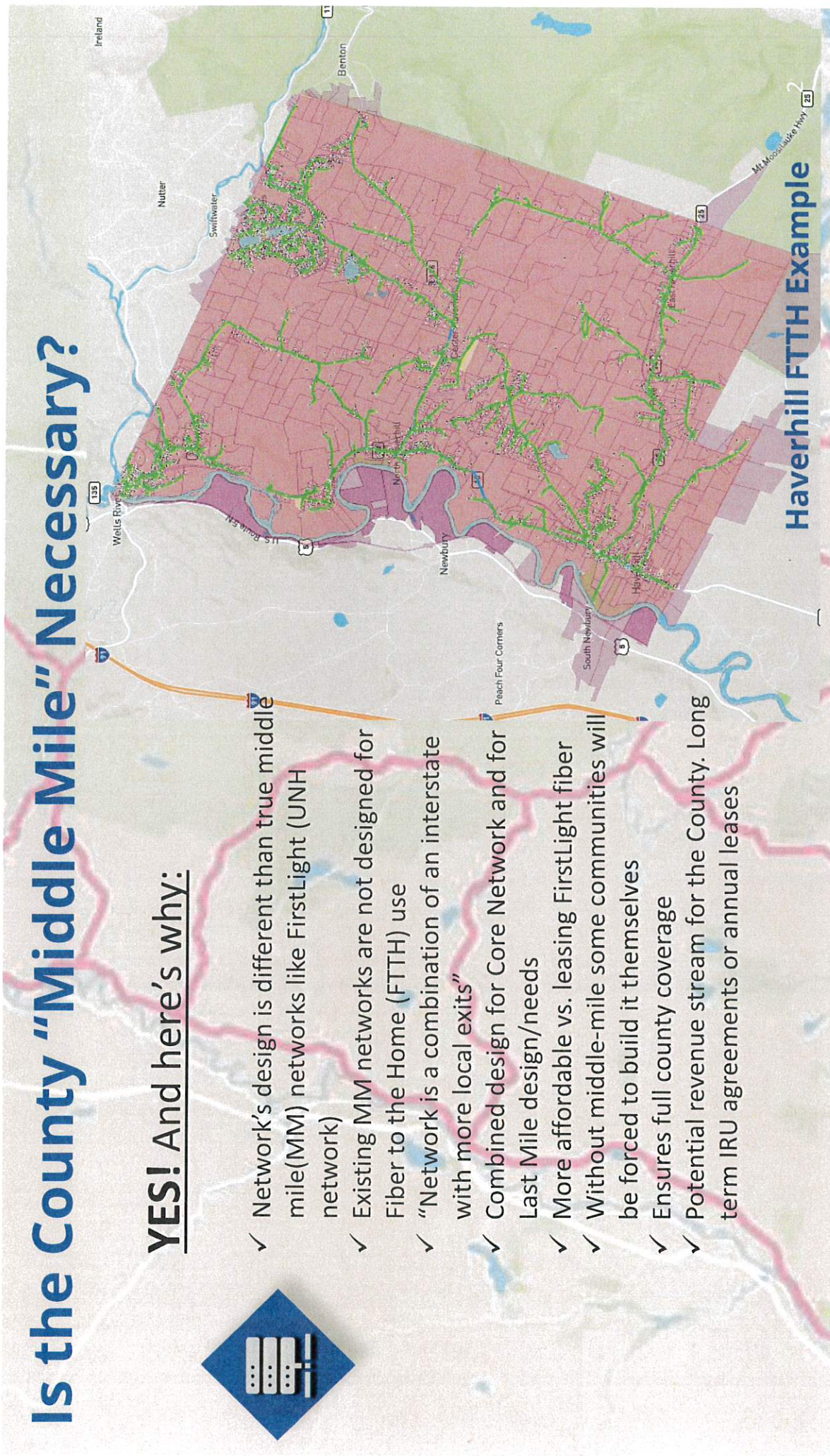
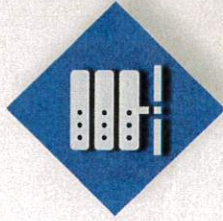
Grafton County Broadband Now

April 26 2022

Is the County "Middle Mile" Necessary?

YES! And here's why:

- ✓ Network's design is different than true middle mile(MM) networks like FirstLight (UNH network)
- ✓ Existing MM networks are not designed for Fiber to the Home (FTTH) use
- ✓ "Network is a combination of an interstate with more local exits"
- ✓ Combined design for Core Network and for Last Mile design/needs
- ✓ More affordable vs. leasing FirstLight fiber
- ✓ Without middle-mile some communities will be forced to build it themselves
- ✓ Ensures full county coverage
- ✓ Potential revenue stream for the County. Long term IRU agreements or annual leases

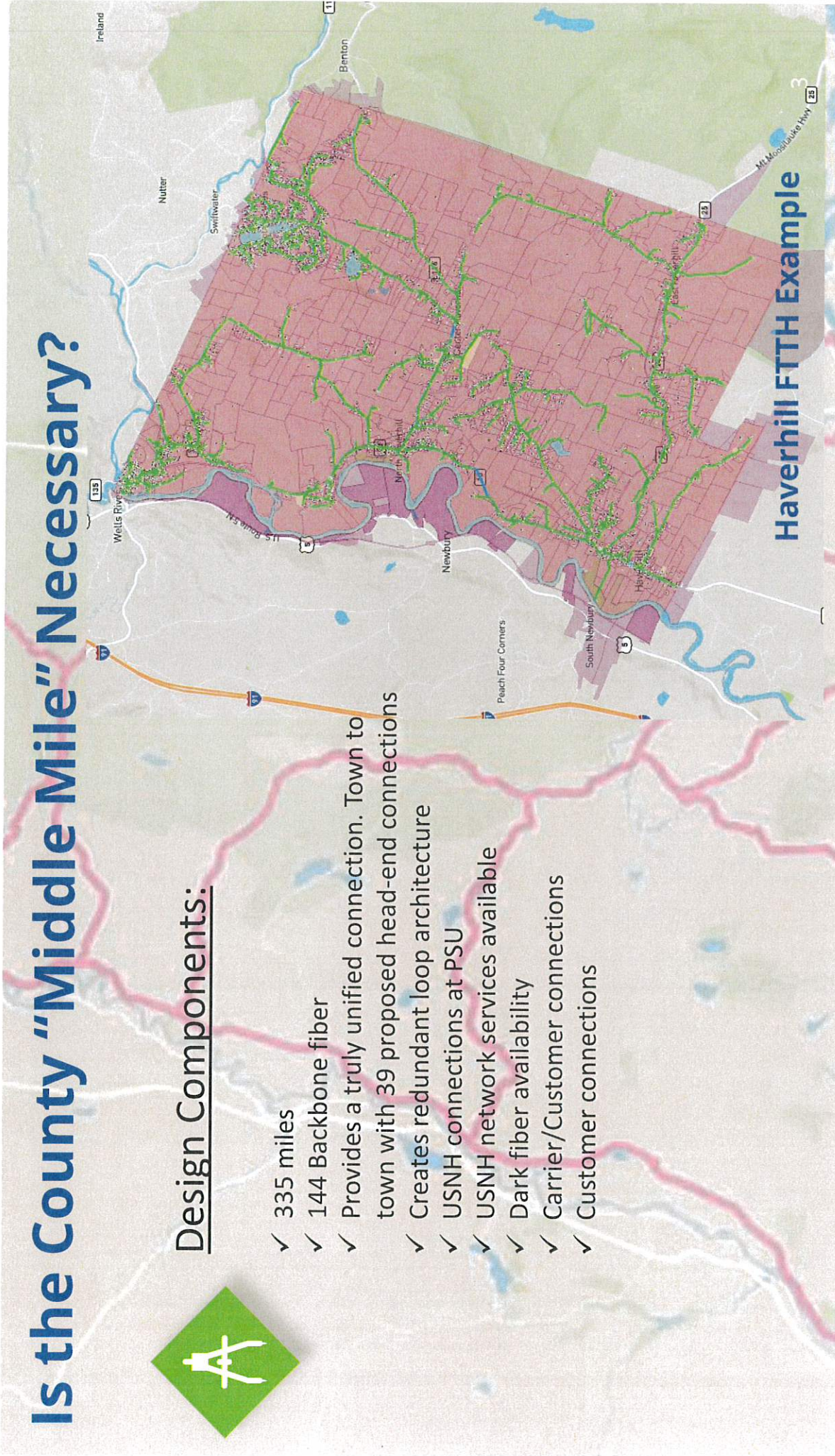


Is the County "Middle Mile" Necessary?



Design Components:

- ✓ 335 miles
- ✓ 144 Backbone fiber
- ✓ Provides a truly unified connection. Town to town with 39 proposed head-end connections
- ✓ Creates redundant loop architecture
- ✓ USNH connections at PSU
- ✓ USNH network services available
- ✓ Dark fiber availability
- ✓ Carrier/Customer connections
- ✓ Customer connections



Haverhill FTTH Example

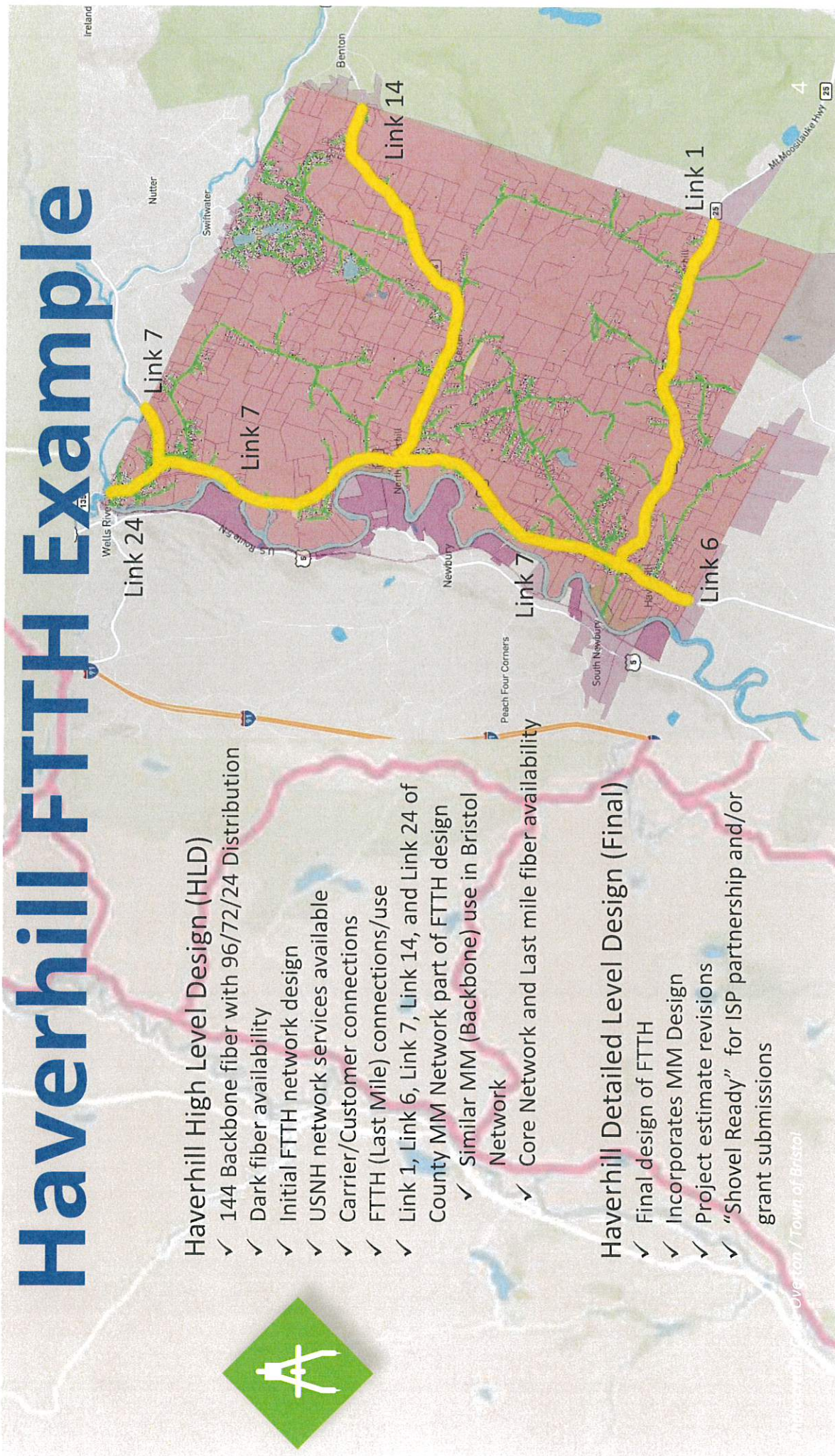


Haverhill High Level Design (HLD)

- ✓ 144 Backbone fiber with 96/72/24 Distribution
- ✓ Dark fiber availability
- ✓ Initial FTTH network design
- ✓ USNH network services available
- ✓ Carrier/Customer connections
- ✓ FTTH (Last Mile) connections/use
- ✓ Link 1, Link 6, Link 7, Link 14, and Link 24 of County MM Network part of FTTH design
 - ✓ Similar MM (Backbone) use in Bristol
 - ✓ Network
 - ✓ Core Network and Last mile fiber availability

Haverhill Detailed Level Design (Final)

- ✓ Final design of FTTH
- ✓ Incorporates MM Design
- ✓ Project estimate revisions
- ✓ "Shovel Ready" for ISP partnership and/or grant submissions



IRU

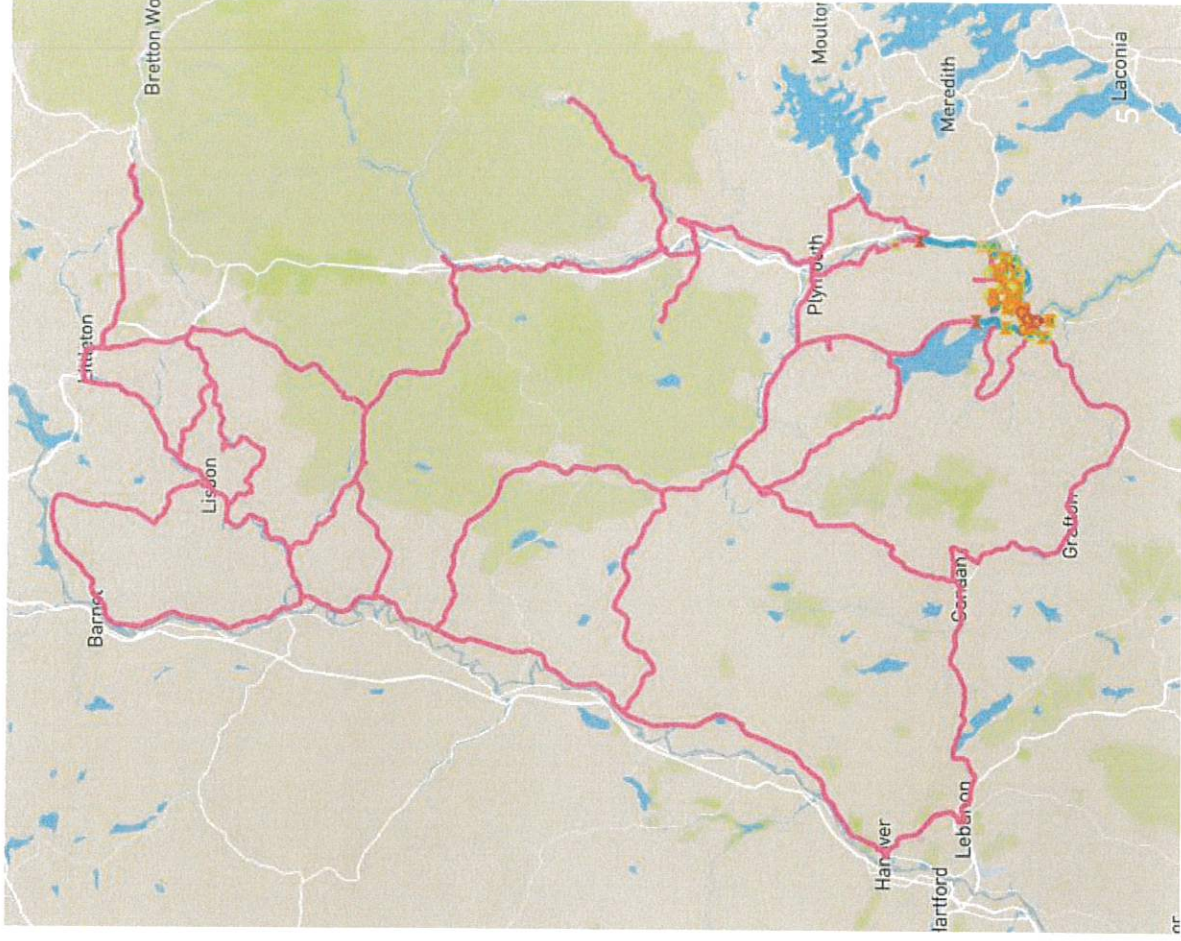


Indefeasible Right of Usage (IRU)

- ✓ Long term lease
- ✓ Term length 20-30 years
- ✓ Lease and O&M fees
- ✓ IRU can have restrictive terms depending on Owner of Fiber
 - ✓ i.e. Bristol's NHEC IRU
- ✓ High count leased becomes financially prohibitive

Potential County IRU terms

- ✓ Long term lease
- ✓ Term length 20-30 years
- ✓ Lease and O&M fees
- ✓ O&M cost focused
- ✓ Competitive pricing in marketplace
- ✓ Structure IRUs to support last mile usage



Bristol Broadband Now



Bristol Broadband Now Network Partnership

- ✓ Partnership after RFP process
- ✓ Selected Hub66
- ✓ MOU and IRUs executed
- ✓ Five year ownership structure to meet NBRC grant guidelines and ISP investment
- ✓ Ability to fast-track investment

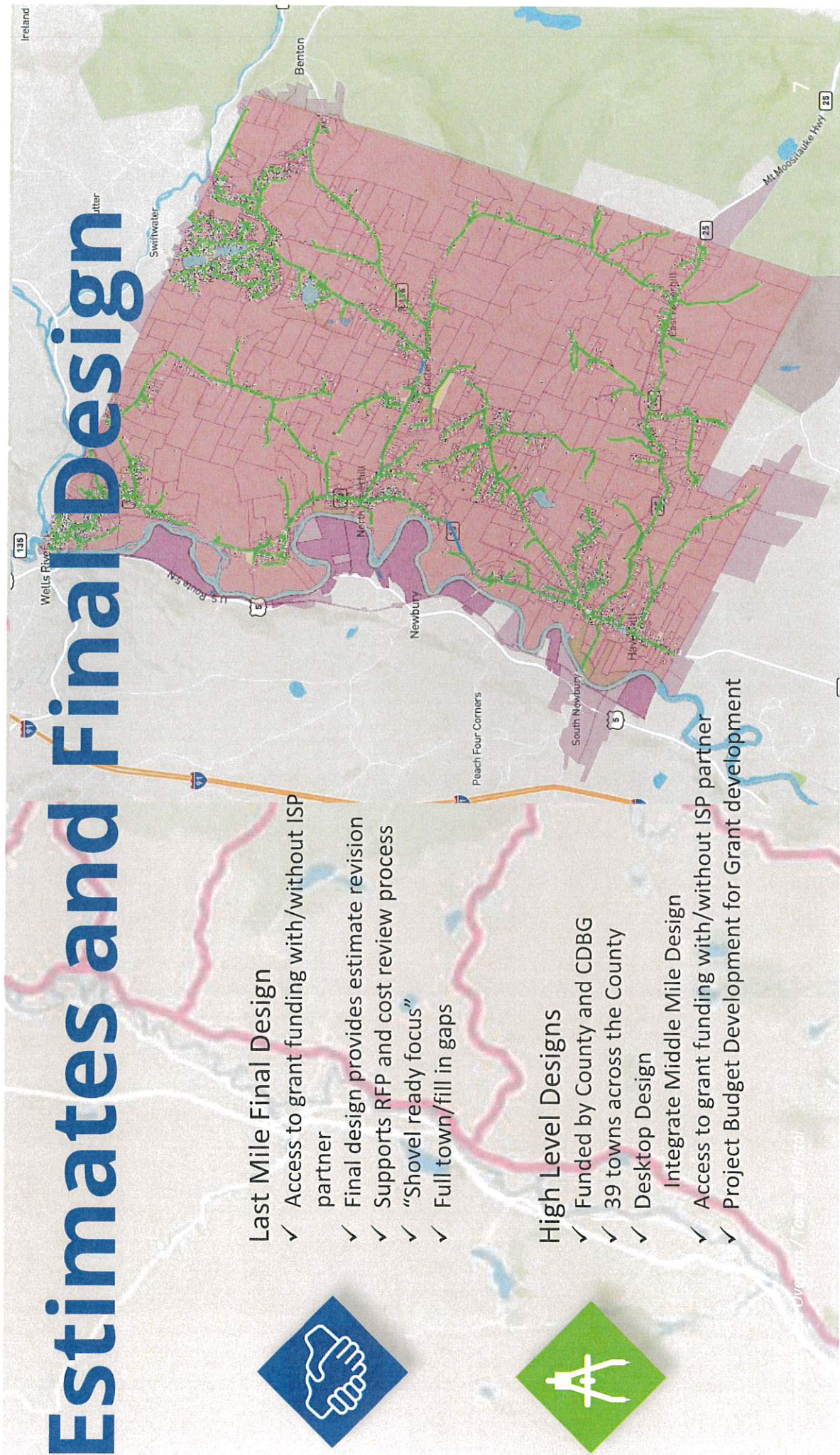
Estimates and Final Design

Last Mile Final Design

- ✓ Access to grant funding with/without ISP partner
- ✓ Final design provides estimate revision
- ✓ Supports RFP and cost review process
- ✓ "Shovel ready focus"
- ✓ Full town/fill in gaps

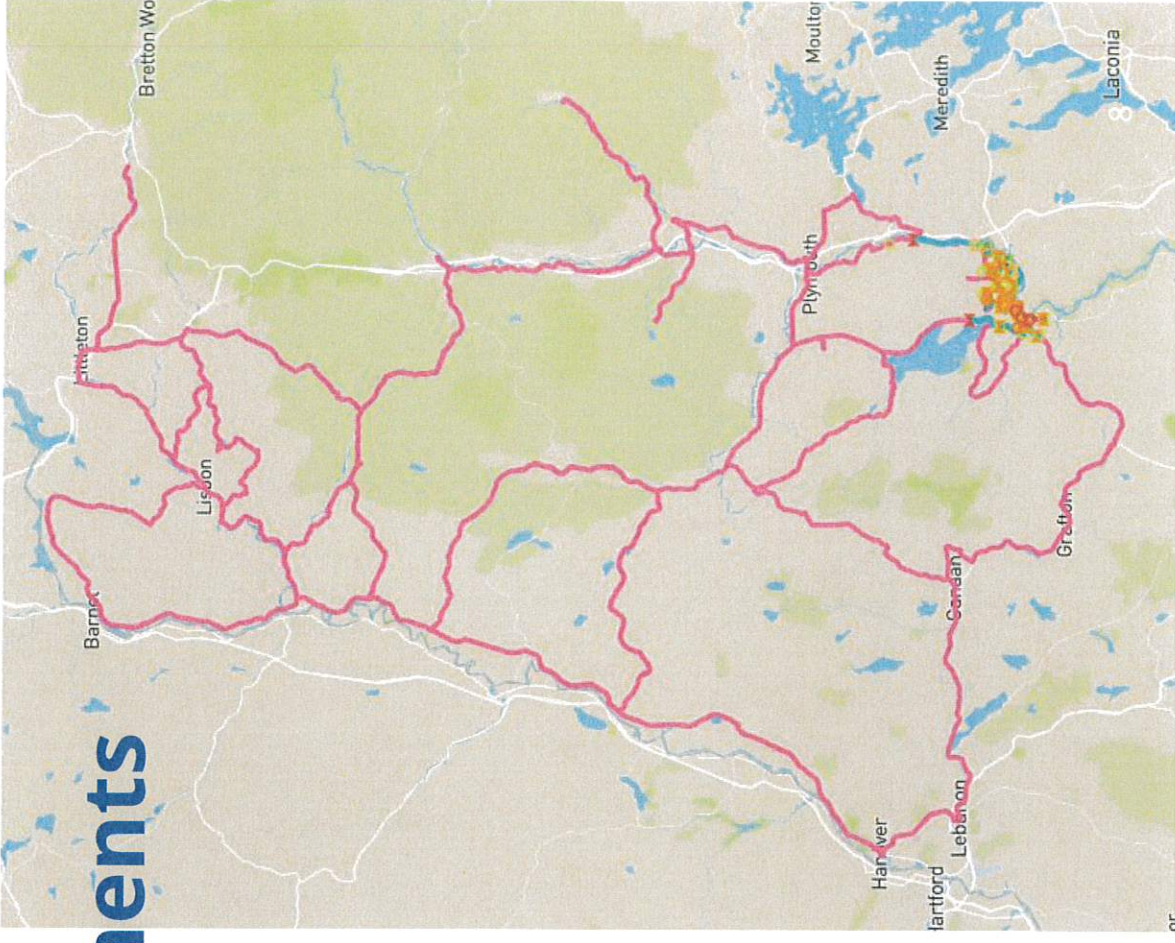
High Level Designs

- ✓ Funded by County and CDBG
- ✓ 39 towns across the County
- ✓ Desktop Design
- ✓ Integrate Middle Mile Design
- ✓ Access to grant funding with/without ISP partner
- ✓ Project Budget Development for Grant development



Committee Accomplishments

- ✓ Put a regional, statewide, and national spotlight on this issue in the north country.
- ✓ Created urgency with existing ISPs that they need to act
- ✓ Will create competition, which benefits residents of Grafton County
- ✓ Providing much-needed guidance, support, and resources to local communities
- ✓ Developing a path for other groups to follow. Example of success!
- ✓ Leveraged 100s of hours from the committee members (\$50,000-\$70,000 of free work), \$10,000 from NCIC Technical Assistance, and \$25,000 CDBG.



Conflicting Arguments

- ✓ **The county middle-mile duplicates existing broadband projects, so won't qualify for grants. There are no grants for MM funding.**
 - How will NHEC will qualify for grants, to expand their network, essentially duplicating existing projects if this is true?
 - The Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program, establishes and funds a \$1 billion program for the construction, improvement or acquisition of MM infrastructure. The purpose of the grant program is to expand and extend MM infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved communities.
- ✓ **The county middle-mile is not needed for 39 towns to gain access to the internet.**
 - There are a number of homes in Grafton County that currently have no access to the internet. Most of those homes will not be served by an NHEC project or any other ISP project.
 - NHEC **purchased** access to their remote locations.
 - If the MM is not needed, why is NHEC building one?
- ✓ **The county middle-mile does not focus on last-mile internet service.**
 - As in the case of Haverhill the middle mile is vital to our ability to pursue a last-mile project. Grafton county residents no longer want to be held hostage by a single ISP.
- ✓ **The "most productive focus of the County would be helping to provide fiber-to-the-premises".**
 - That has been the goal since day one and exactly what the County Commissioner are doing through the GCBC.
- ✓ **The "Good Guys" state they are not for profit, elected by their constituents, and make "pittance".**
 - They fail to tell you that the NHEC management team alone makes over \$2,537,275 annually: CEO makes almost \$500,000 per year, CFO makes over \$300,000 per year, VP of Operations makes over \$300,000 per year

