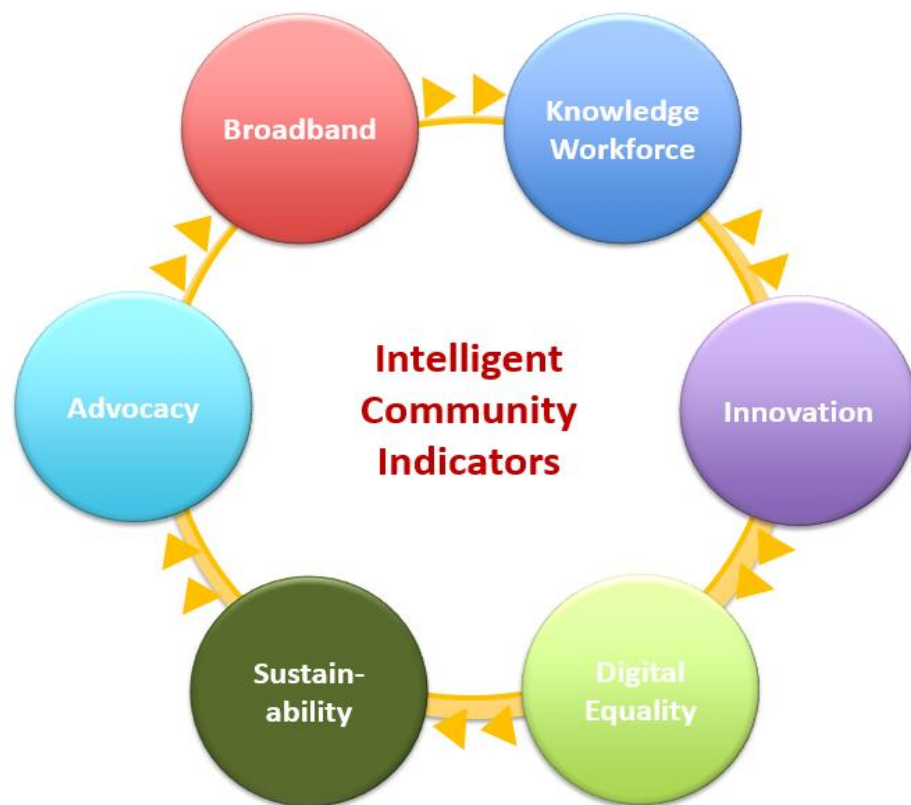


# Chisago Lakes Area Blandin Broadband Communities Vision Meeting



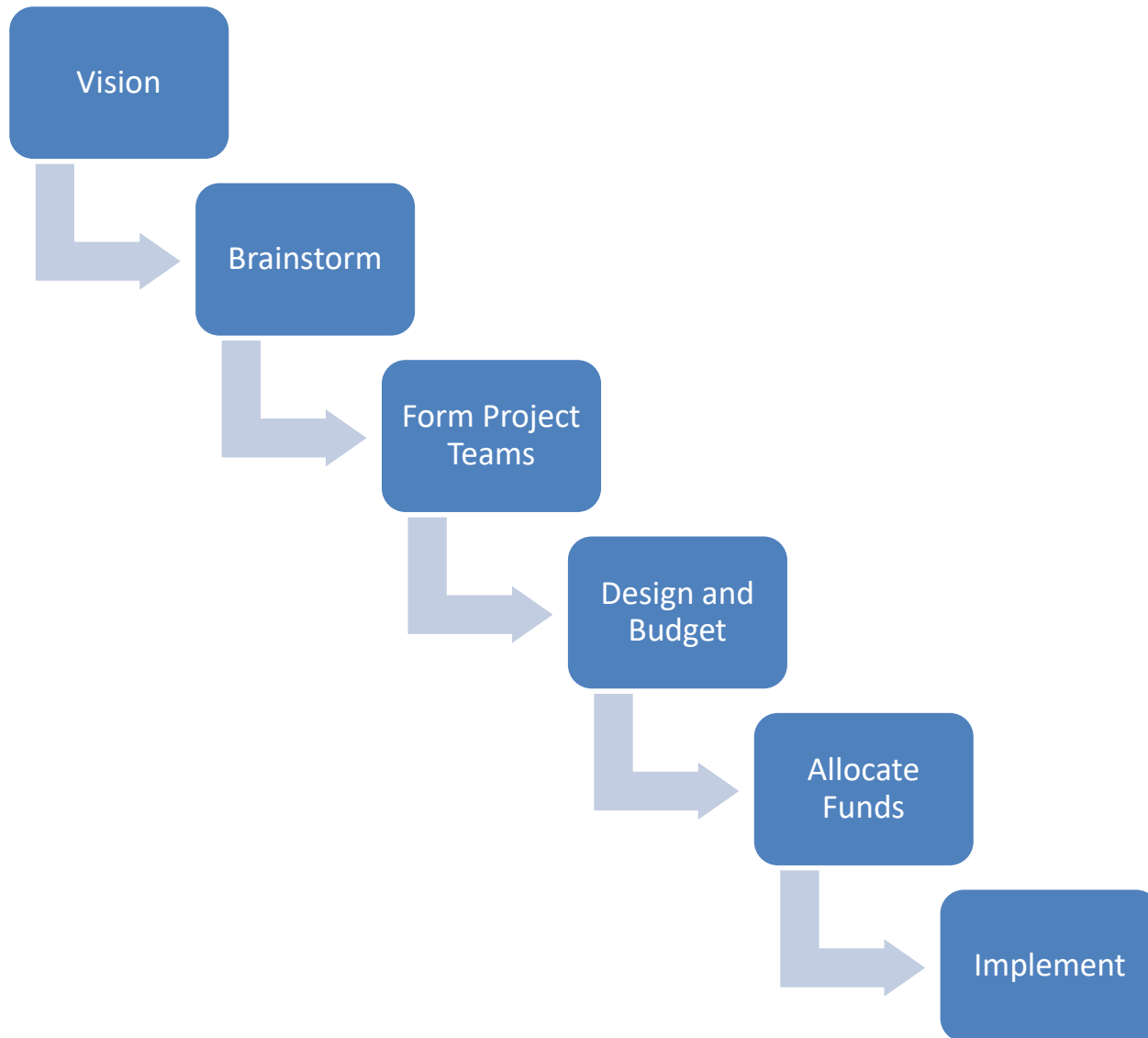
# Agenda

- Blandin Broadband Community Program
- Introduce Intelligent Community
  - Concepts
  - Chisago Lakes Area perspective
- Community Discussion in small groups
  - Assets and Gaps
  - Desired Outcomes
- Group reports
- Closing
- Adjourn

# BBC Benefits

- Create goals
  - Better broadband access
  - More sophisticated technology use
- Community coaching from the Blandin team
- Develop and implement tech projects
- Up to \$75,000 in grant funds

# Process



# Intelligent Community Framework



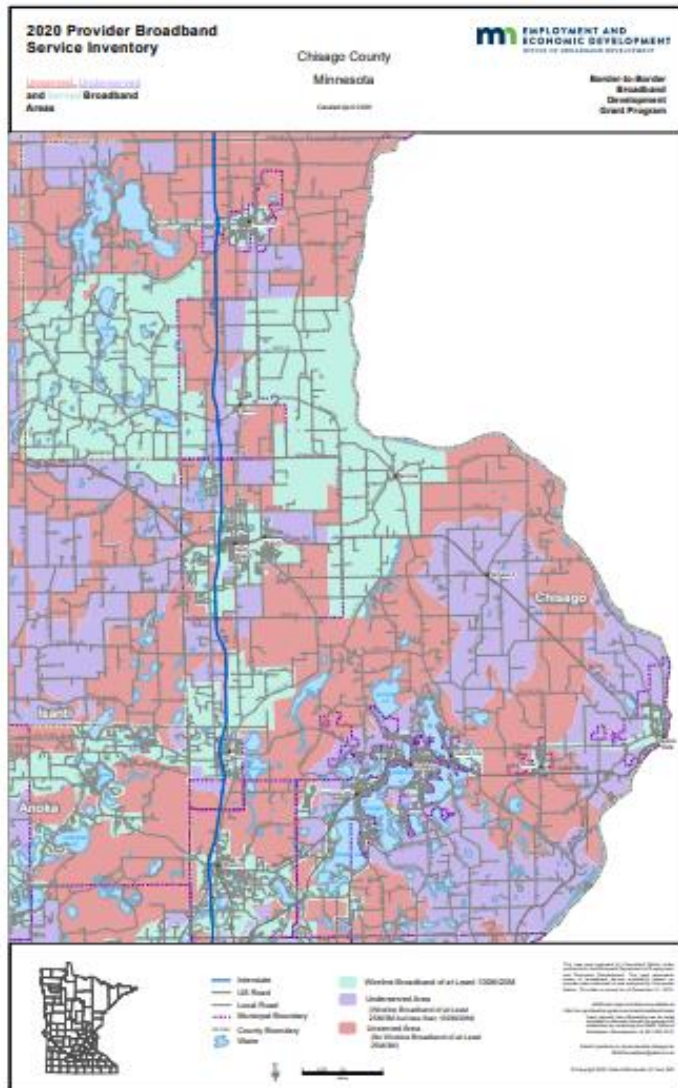
## Broadband

Communities need a broadband that supports a globally competitive economy

- Broadband is:
  - A marketing term
  - Refers to capacity, not a technology type
  - Can be delivered via fiber, copper or wireless
- Broadband goals
  - Federal FCC
    - 25 Mb/3 Mb
  - Minnesota
    - 25 Mb/3 Mb by 2022
    - 100 Mb/20 Mb by 2026
- Understand the differences between
  - Wired
  - Wireless



# Broadband in Chisago Lakes Area



- 100/20 (2026 goal) 71.26%
- 25/3 (2022 goal) 83.85%
- 2020 State ranking of 87
- #52 for 100/20 - #44 for 25/3
- Frontier and MidCo
- Efforts to bring FTH in Chisago Lake and Franconia Twps.
- WiFi at the Library, school
- Key Players – Providers, Local Gov., Residents

# Broadband Community Input

- 23 of 41 responses said their broadband was slow and/or unreliable.
- Slow unreliable interrupts/stops: ecommerce buying and selling, working from home, school home work, security system, streaming.
- Many stressed that they must have Internet for work and personal life.
- Midco customers are happy with service.



# Knowledge Workforce

**Communities will thrive on their ability to create, support and attract knowledge workers**

- Knowledge workers have
  - Technology skills
  - Post-secondary degrees and certifications
- Knowledge workers
  - Earn living wage salaries
  - Start new companies
  - Are critical to the success of all businesses and community organizations



# Knowledge Workforce

## Community Input

- Highly skilled workforce; many of which commute to the Twin Cities
- Using this workforce within Chisago Lakes would provide great benefits
- Workforce is now trying to work from home; rural broadband services not up to the requirements
- Distance learning hindered by inadequate broadband

# Digital Equality

**Digital equality means that everyone will have a computer, know how to use it and will have access to the network.**

- Increasingly, people cannot effectively participate in community without a network connection
- Health, education and government strategies to improve services and cut costs require the use of technology.

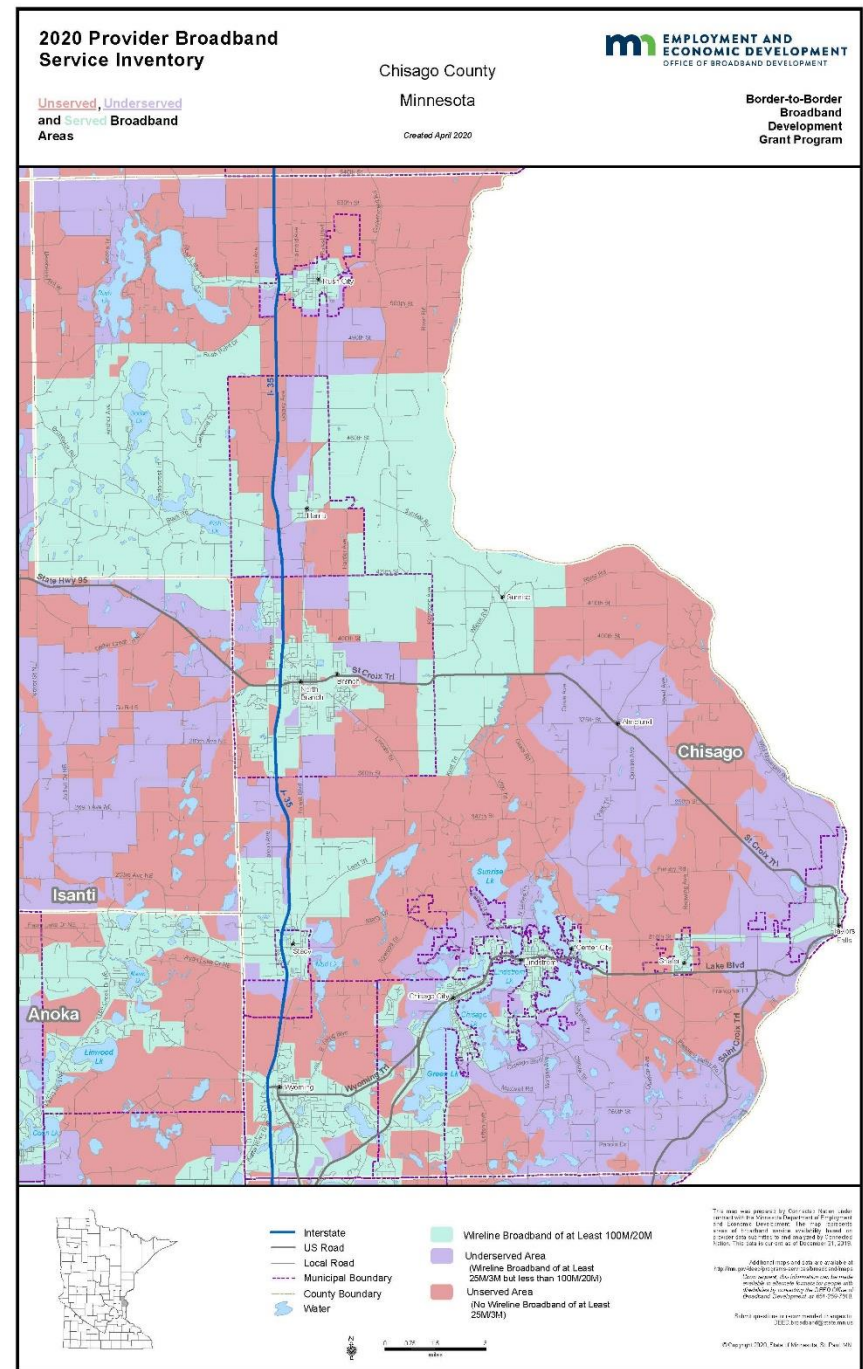


# Digital Equity in Chisago Lakes

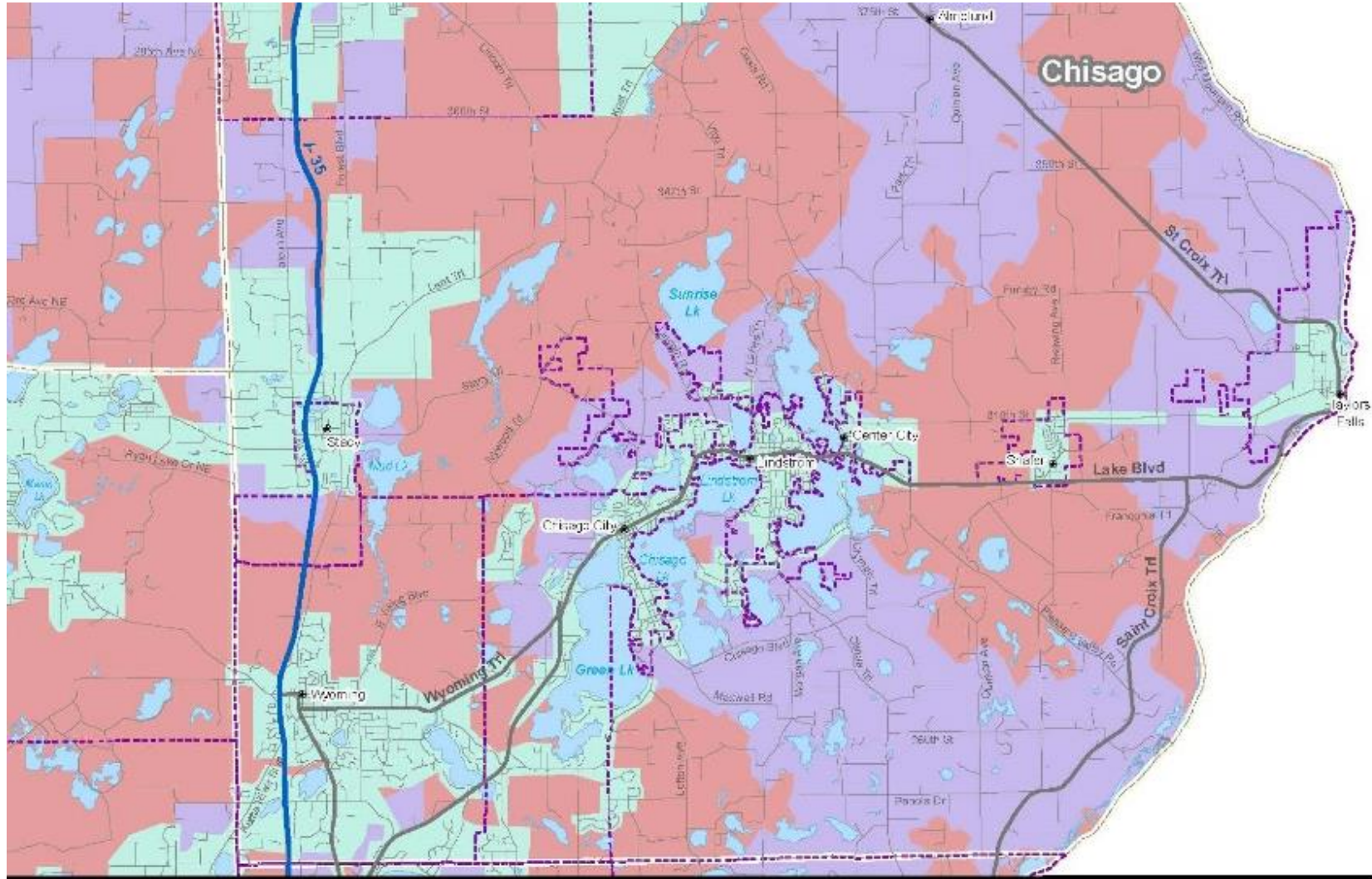
## May 2020 Distance Learning Internet Survey

Cellular	2.50%
CenturyLink	1.50%
Frontier	37.50%
HughesNet	0.50%
Midco	52.00%
Other/Not Listed	1.50%
ViaSat	1.00%

2020Broadband Service Provider map:  
<https://bit.ly/2Nafmkr>







-  Interstate
-  US Road
-  Local Road
-  Municipal Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Water
-  Wireline Broadband of at Least 100M/20M
-  Underserved Area (Wireline Broadband of at Least 25M/3M but less than 100M/20M)
-  Underserved Area (No Wireline Broadband of at Least 25M/3M)



This map was prepared by Connected Nation under contract with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. The map represents areas of broadband service availability based on provider data submitted to and analyzed by Connected Nation. This data is current as of December 31, 2019.

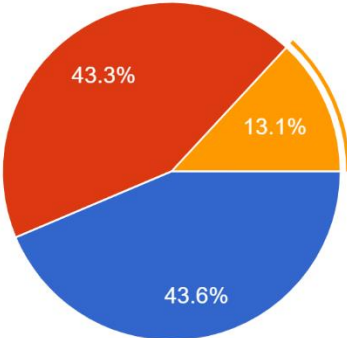
Additional maps and data are available at <http://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/maps>. More specific data information can be made available in alternate formats for people with disabilities by contacting the DPEED Office of Broadband Development at 651-259-7910.

Submit questions or comments on maps to: [DEED.broadband@state.mn.us](mailto:DEED.broadband@state.mn.us)

# Digital Equality in Chisago Lakes

Access to devices (Technology). Please choose one answer.

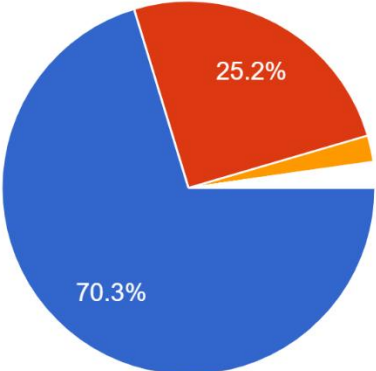
3,053 responses



- My child has access to their own computer or Chromebook.
- My child has access to a device that is shared with other family members.
- My child does not have access to a device

Internet access at home Please choose one answer

3,053 responses



- Yes, we have reliable Internet services.
- Yes, we have access to Internet but o...
- No, we do not have access to Internet.
- Hot spot Internet only available when...
- Scheduled for internet 3/23
- We have internet but it is a little spotty...
- We have reliable internet to view text...
- Unreliable hot spot from phone

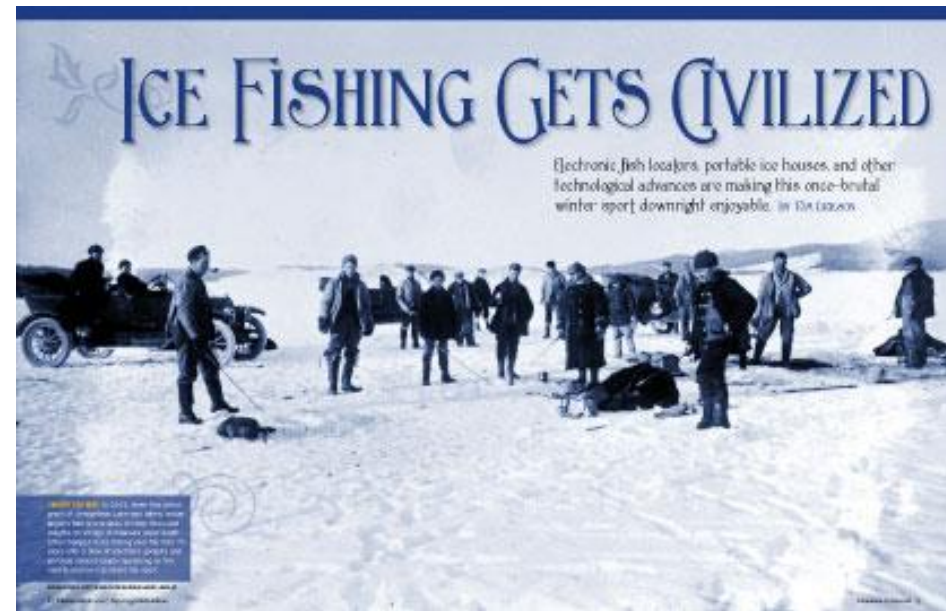
# Digital Equality Community Input

- Students with access to technology and broadband at home have an advantage with the resources available to them. This provides more time and information to students to connect with peers, as well as their teachers.
- Good access means you can and will be able to access online programming, further skill development, and during times like we are experiencing, being safe at home doing your job.
- Some local residents are unable to access internet on constant basis and go use the library parking lot wifi to do office work
- Many students are not able to use both video and audio at same time in meetings and not able to watch videos in efficient manner (slow and disruptive). Those that can solve challenge with investments have an advantage. Those with limited flexibility will have access limitations.
- Our elderly and veterans in the community have been affected the most. Many are limited, based on their residence, with a dependable company to provide high speed internet that works.
- The digital divide is REAL here! We have many residents who are able to connect without issue and many who have little to no internet access on a regular basis. The digital divide is REAL here! We have many residents who are able to connect without issue and many who have little to no internet access on a regular basis.

# Innovation

**Innovation refers to doing new things and doing old things in new and better ways**

- Innovation allows people to do things more effectively and efficiently
- Local innovation can focus on “catching up” as well as moving ahead





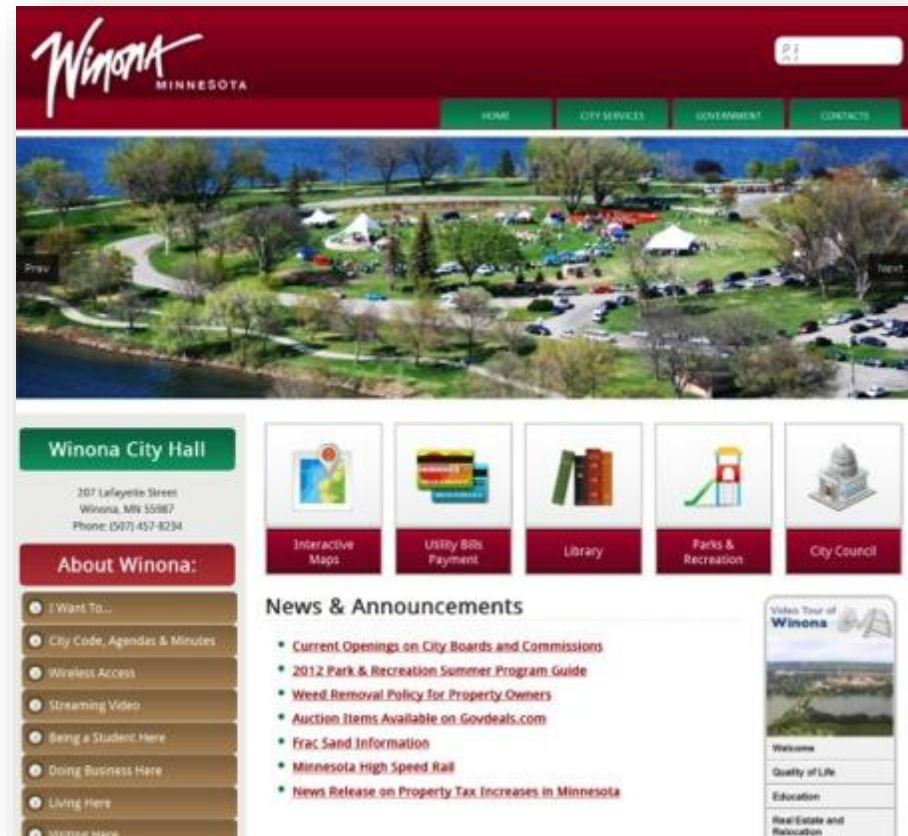
# Innovation Community Input

- COVID 19 has changed that we work and do business
- Education system immersed in technology
- Social media is very important to reach customers, especially for small businesses in the current pandemic environment
- Great Internet bandwidth is required to support
  - Business
  - Education
  - Telehealth

# Advocacy

**Advocacy is the communication strategy that your community uses to motivate positive change.**

- Marketing is needed to attract people and investment
- Advocacy is targeted internally to promote community buy-in



# Advocacy in Chisago Lakes Area

- Chisago Lakes is home to a wide variety of people. We can ensure that all people are heard and accommodated through:
  - Demographic Information
  - Feasibility Study for current broadband
- Communication is key! Making sure that community members understand the long-term goals and making sure that information is thorough but also understandable.

# Advocacy Community Input

- Our assets:
  - the beauty of the area, lakes and parks
  - strong sense of community
  - excellent schools, churches and health care services
  - friendly and caring people,
  - Metro proximity
  - We work together to get things done
- Gaps
  - expanded and user friendly bus/transportation
  - affordable housing
  - better food access

Thank you  
community presenters!

# Next Steps

- Magically, we will move into small group discussion rooms by Intelligent Community element!
- Small group discussion agenda
  - Introductions
  - Discuss our ASSETS
    - What can we build on?
  - Discuss our GAPS
    - What are we missing?
  - Create set of Desired Outcomes
    - What will be different if we are successful?
    - Think OUTCOMES, not PROJECTS!

# Discussion Rules

- Don't hog the screen time; get to your point!
- Better to have a big list of assets and gaps than to talk about one item in depth
- Don't argue the point; everyone has their own perspective.

# Intelligent Community Reports

Assets

Gaps

Desired Outcomes



# Next Steps

Brainstorm Meeting June 24, 8:30 - 10 am

Online Project Voting June 29 – August 3

Project Development and Budgeting - August  
Grant Allocation

Project Implementation Goal – September 1

# Closing Remarks

Thank you!