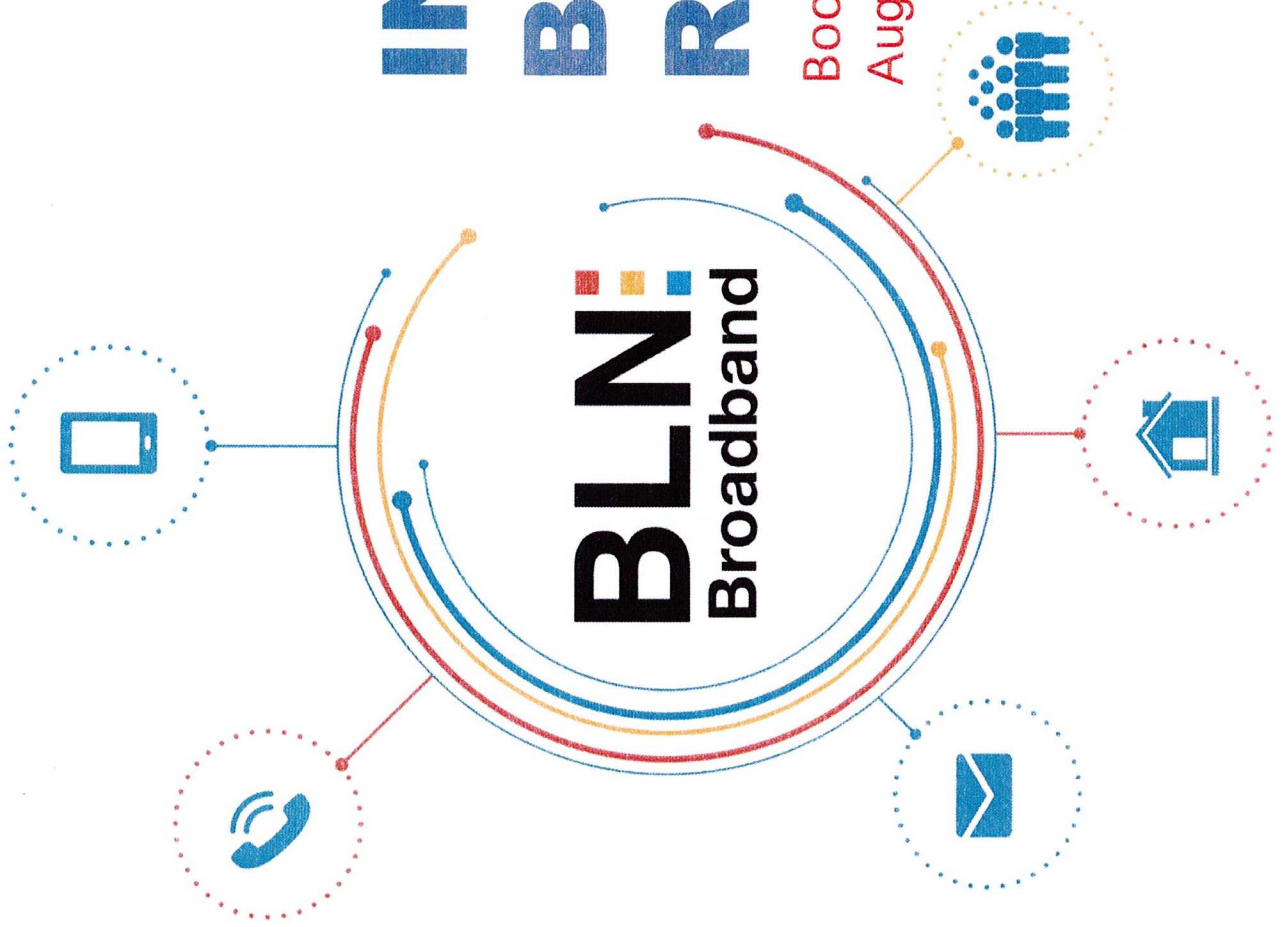


INDIANA BROADBAND READINESS

Boone County, Indiana
August 16, 2021



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

What Is Broadband Readiness?

- Certification from State of Indiana
 - Codified as Broadband Ready Communities (IC 5-28-28.5)
 - Indicates that **a county is ready** to build out a network
 - City of Zionsville is certified
 - Positions county to seek options for broadband expansion
 - **Starts With a Plan**



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

Broadband Readiness Starts With a Plan

- An Assessment of Current State
 - Similar to a Scoping Report, Engineering Assessment, etc.
 - Drives Project Definition, Prioritization
 - Engages Multiple Agency Cooperation for Strategic Growth (inclusive of your cities and towns)
- **Creates a Roadmap for Future State**



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

Broadband Readiness Starts With a Plan

- A Roadmap for Future State
 - Envisions Goals of:
 - *Extending broadband to every premise in the county*
 - *Access to health care and education*
 - *Economic development that embraces a virtual (and tech dependent) workplace*
 - *ROI*

- **Plans Drive Implementation Strategy**



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

Broadband Network Implementation Strategies

- Implementation Strategies Include
 - Public Infrastructure utilizing automated open access model with local control
 - *All can use (no special road for Amazon, UPS, FedEx, or private citizen)*
 - *Potential collaboration with existing entities in the county*
 - *Broadband utility providing customer choice of ISPs*
 - *Platform for innovation*
- **Begin with a Trusted Advisor**



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

BLN Is a Trusted Advisor and Consultant

- We Know
 - Planning Processes
 - Critical Infrastructure
 - County Government Goals
 - Multi-Agency Coordination
 - Design and Construction Management
 - Funding & Grant Application Processes
 - Open Access
- **MOST IMPORTANT: BLN Is Not An ISP Driven by a Need for Consumers**



BOONE COUNTY: BROADBAND READY

BLN Is a Trusted Advisor and Consultant

- Our Advice
 - Develop a Plan (assessment, scoping)
 - Earn Certification as an Indiana Broadband Ready Community
 - Include Key Stakeholders in the discussion
 - Consider the possible models for execution
 - Review financing options and grant opportunities
 - Hire a Guide

