



GOODHUE COUNTY MINNESOTA

TO EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OF OUR RESIDENTS

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

COUNTY BOARD ROOM
GOVERNMENT CENTER, RED WING

APRIL 14, 2022
8:15 A.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

Due to concerns surrounding the spread of COVID-19, it has been determined that in-person meetings or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. 13D.02 a are not practical or prudent. Therefore, meetings that are governed by the Open Meeting Law will temporarily be conducted by telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021.

The Goodhue County Board of Commissioners will be conducting a special session county board meeting pursuant to this section on April 14, 2022 at 8:15 a.m. in the County Board Room. The County Administrator and/or County Attorney will be present at the meeting location. All County Commissioners attending will appear by telephone or other electronic means. The public may monitor the meeting from a remote site by logging into <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/967102077> or calling 1 866 899 4679 OR 1 571 317 3116 any time during the meeting. Access Code: 967-102-077

Information Technology Director's Report

1. Approve submission of Community Project Funding request for county broadband projects.

Documents:

[Goodhue County Funding Request 4.22.pdf](#)



GOODHUE COUNTY COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING



2022

Project names: There are three separate projects included in this grant funding proposal, all located within Goodhue County: Goodhue Urban, Welch Village North and White Rock West.

Purpose of project: Nuvera has a long-standing partnership with Goodhue County, including a Customer Solutions Center located in the town of Goodhue, employees and many customers who live in Goodhue County. As a vital partner to the region, Nuvera is eager to continue supporting the success of residents and businesses by growing our critically important fiber Internet network.

Postal address of project (or general location if not applicable): See attached documents for visual representation of each project.

Requested funding amount for FY23:

The budgetary scope of each project is as follows:

- Goodhue Urban: \$2,327,126
- Welch Village North: \$1,734,489
- White Rock West: \$3,856,478

Any support from the Community Project Funding for these projects would be gratefully received and purposefully utilized.

How would this project benefit the public and why would it be a good use of taxpayer dollars? Fiber Internet is imperative to furthering the success of residents in the area who telecommute, engage in distance learning, or who simply wish to maintain a desirable quality of life, using the internet for communications, gaming, entertainment and more.

Why should this request be considered a priority for the people of Minnesota and, specifically, these project areas? In order to successfully compete with other communities across Minnesota in terms of employment opportunities, educational resources, quality of life, and more, it is critical that Goodhue County continue to invest in broadband infrastructure.

Please attach here any documentation that demonstrates local support for this project:

Nuvera's Regulatory and Legislative Administrator Monty Morrow continues to have conversations with local stakeholders including Minnesota House Representative Barb Haley, Minnesota Senator Mike Goggin, and Goodhue County commissioners. Attached, please find a letter of support from Rep. Haley. A letter of support from Senator Goggin will follow shortly.

Please provide a breakdown here of how this funding would be used (salaries, construction, etc.):

- Goodhue Urban: Labor costs - \$1,722,110; Material Costs – \$605,066
- Welch Village North: Labor costs - \$1,515,798; Material Costs - \$218,691
- White Rock West: Labor costs - \$3,257,572; Material costs – \$598,906

Is this a new or ongoing project? All of these projects are new. However, each can be considered an extension of previous projects in the area. See the attached map, outlining previous and future projects in Goodhue County.

What is the timeline of completion for this project, and will this project require additional federal funding in future fiscal years? The timeline is for fiscal year 2023.

If the Appropriations Committee is not able to provide the full amount of funding requested, can this project start in a limited capacity? Yes

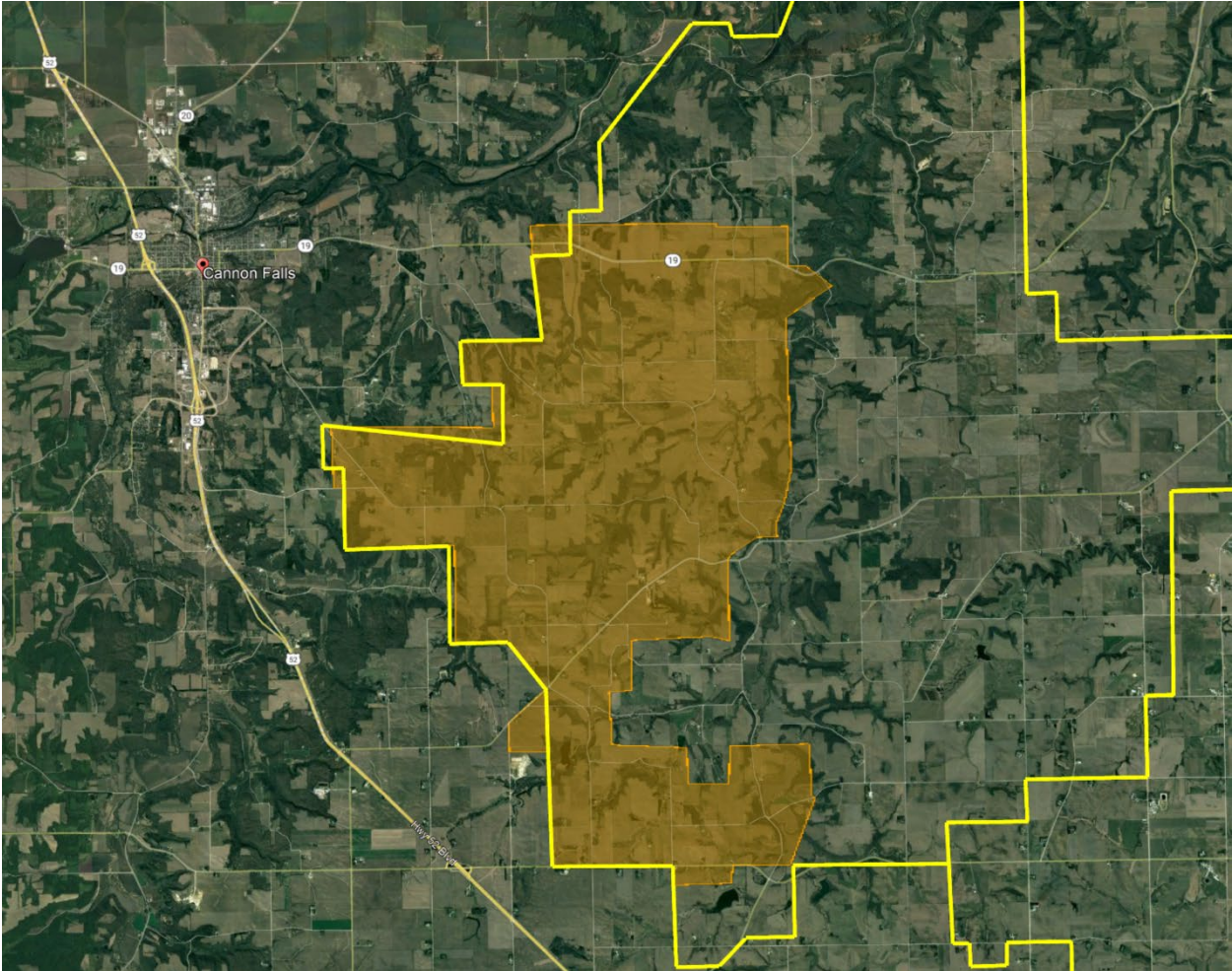
If this project has been included in a presidential budget request, please indicate that here and detail how much and in what fiscal year: No

If this project has received any funding in the past, from either a public or private source, please provide details: No, however, previous builds in the area have received state border-to-border grant funds. See the overview map of previous and current projects attached to this document.

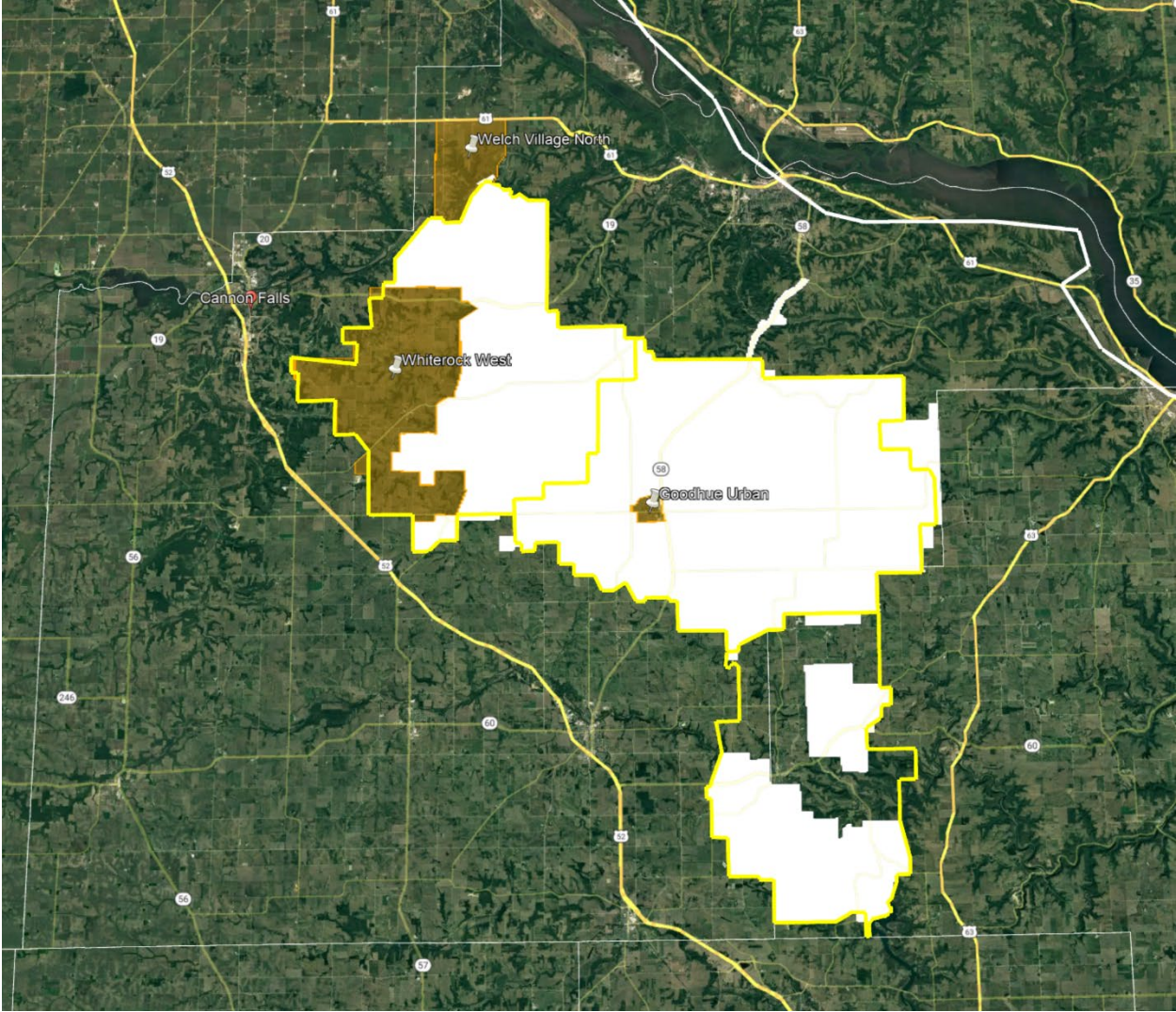
Goodhue Urban



White Rock West (Yellow Shaded Area)



PAST AND CURRENT PROJECTS – White shaded areas are past and current fiber projects, yellow shaded areas are proposed projects (as listed in the first question) and areas without shading are not currently part of a fiber project.



Barb Haley
State Representative
Caucus Whip
Goodhue and Wabasha Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

April 7, 2022

Minnesota Office of Broadband Development
Border to Border Grant Program
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Site E200
St Paul, MN 55101

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the Border-to Border-grant application submitted by Nuvera that will improve broadband for my constituents in Goodhue County.

As the State Representative for 21A, I know this grant will benefit the underserved and unserved broadband areas of Goodhue County. In my district, the advantages for consistent and adequate broadband supports agribusiness, manufacturing, small businesses, students, and citizens. Businesses and farm operations need strong, stable internet and often there are areas where no internet or cellular service is available or reliable. Access to broadband supports our workforce needs which in turn maintains jobs, educational opportunities, and main street business -- which are all critical in supporting rural communities. The area of expansion is in an area where I often hear from my constituents with frustration for the lack of broadband -- Goodhue and Welch Village North. It is my hope you will strongly consider this application so that my constituents can receive broadband access as in the metro and other parts of the state.

Nuvera's application has matching funds and they have worked with leaders in our community to obtain approvals and permitting. The economic development impact on Goodhue County by having access to stable broadband will allow the region to compete within Minnesota and globally. I strongly support the Border-to-Border grant application submitted by Nuvera for Goodhue County and appreciate your consideration you can provide for a grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara K. Haley".

Barb Haley
State Representative, 21A
Minnesota House of Representatives

