

Mammoth Lakes Town Council

Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Update and Discussion on the Status of Broadband in the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County.

Council Meeting Date: 1/19/2022

Prepared by: Daniel C. Holler, Town Manager

Recommended Motion: Provide comments and any direction to staff on Broadband presentation.

Summary:

Staff will provide a high-level overview of the current state of broadband throughout the County and Town, discuss the most significant aspects of legislation impacting broadband development in the area and pose some local policy questions which may lead to strategic direction for the future of broadband within the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Broadband has been a long-standing topic of interest for Mammoth Lakes, dating back to 2013 when the Town was actively working with Suddenlink to improve service offerings which ultimately led to them bringing Gigabit speeds into our community. Since that time, the broadband landscape has changed throughout the country.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of entities offering effective digital services alongside municipalities ensuring that constituents have the capacity necessary to access those through high-speed and high-quality broadband offerings. While most of Mono County was well positioned going into the pandemic, challenges still exist – including within the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The lack of ubiquitous, quality service is certainly the case throughout most of the state and country - thrusting the topic into the spotlight and yielding landmark legislation alongside historic funding allocations dedicated to expanding and improving broadband.