

Vermont Senate Finance Committee

CVFiber Testimony on COVID Grant Funding CUD Broadband Support

Submitted by:

David Healy
Chair, Planning and Development Committee, CVFiber
cvfiber.calais@google.com

Project Construction: CVFiber would submit an additional funding allocation to support the construction of a 8.5 mile fiber route \$300,000 to build partnering with WEC. This line would run from WEC's East Montpelier Substation to its Maple Corner Substation. This fiber route will go by 89 premises, 53 of which are underserved. In addition, it will finally enable the last town office in CVFiber district to have access to 100/100. They currently are at 4/1 service and have difficulty maintaining their records or holding meetings. The last project benefit is it would provide 1 tube of fiber to VELCO to enable it to state's electric grid and manage loads.

We believe that this is a win-win-win-win project.

Additional Funding

If additional COVID Broadband funding was available, CVFiber's priority additions would be as follows:

- \$40,000 for CVRPC administrative support through the year
- \$1,250,000 for pre-construction costs (poles, design, engineering, etc)
- \$10,000 for legal assistance to assist with contract negotiations
- \$15,000 to support our website and outreach efforts
- \$50,000 for revising and updating business plans
- \$20,000 for supporting a grant writing/fundraising position
- \$30,000 for Fixed Wireless in home equipment.

Total: \$1,715,000

Prior Project Funding that Expired

We are hoping to receive the \$240,000 FTTP project funding that CVFiber that could not be build by December 31, 2020.

Thank you for your consideration

Respectfully submitted,