

**From:** michael rooney <mrooney@lamoillefiber.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021 5:38 PM

**To:** Ann Cummings <ACUMMINGS@leg.state.vt.us>; Mark MacDonald <MMacDonald@leg.state.vt.us>; Christopher Pearson <CPearson@leg.state.vt.us>; Randy Brock <RBrock@leg.state.vt.us>; Michael Sirotkin <msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us>; Christopher Bray <CBray@leg.state.vt.us>; Ruth Hardy <RHardy@leg.state.vt.us>

**Cc:** Fish, Robert <robert.fish@vermont.gov>; Faith Brown <FBrown@leg.state.vt.us>

**Subject:** [External] Re: Universal Service in all CUD charters?

[External]

Hi,

I understand you are asking if Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District (LFCUD) has something in its charter requiring LFCUD to reach all of the addresses in our member towns.

As you can see from the home page of our website lamoillefiber.net the first thing we say is "**Mission Statement**

The mission of Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District (LFCUD) is to make locally-controlled, affordable, and reliable high-speed internet service available to every address in our member towns."

Not only is LFCUD going to reach all of our addresses, we will have an affordable initial service available to our subscribers. A key to affordable service is to be able to get grants to finish our make ready and network design and then start building as soon as possible. We hope ARA monies can be used for grants the make ready and network design and running fiber to our unserved and underserved addresses which is the first phase of reaching all of the addresses in our member towns.

There are other things that can be done to decrease the CUDs' costs so they can deliver more affordable service. One of them is to mandate what is called "one touch make ready" so approved installers can get through make ready and installation of Fiber faster and less expensively.

Essentially all addresses have electric service running on their electric utility's poles. Since the State regulates the electric utilities, the electric utilities could be encouraged to help their local CUD's locate their Fiber on the electric utility's poles quickly, at no or little charge and without annual rental charges. After all, the CUDs are municipal organizations so decreasing costs to the CUDs is the same as helping the towns get Fiber. The electric utilities could also get Fiber from the CUDs so the electric utilities do not need to manage an additional Fiber network to every address. The CUD Fiber can be used for many other municipal functions and services.

Please help our residents and businesses get the Internet services they need to live and work now and in the future by getting CUD's the ARA and other Federal and State monies they need to get Fiber up and running quickly for everyone.

Thank you and regards,  
..michael..

Michael Rooney  
LFCUD