

The High-Speed Internet for All Summit
NACo 2023 Legislative Conference
Lake County, Illinois Reference Sheet
Monday February 13, 2:30-4:30
Columbia 6 & 8, Terrace Level

NACo Broadband Summit Summary

Counties are preparing for an unprecedented investment of federal funds in high-speed internet deployment and digital equity efforts from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The High-Speed Internet For All Summit will bring together critical federal partners, state broadband office directors, and other key stakeholders. The summit will also elevate the central role of counties in digital equity initiatives to ensure historically marginalized and underrepresented communities receive equal access to the next generation of high-speed internet services.

Lake County Board's Special Committee on Broadband

Purpose: The Special Committee on Broadband is a new committee created in 2023 to review and evaluate the county's current broadband infrastructure and programs to determine the best way to support the broadband needs of all residents in the county. Further, the committee will work to acquire, apply for, and utilize state and federal funding in order to support programs that will impact residents in a positive way.

Committee's Actions: The Committee has worked to understand the basic pillars and components of broadband access, adoption, and utilization. They have reviewed maps created by the county's GIS division that show the unserved and underserved areas of the county. Following this, the Committee voted to issue an RFP for a broadband consultant to assess access, adoption, and use of broadband in Lake County and provide recommendations for a plan to address unserved and underserved areas of the county. Pending the arrival of a consultant, the Committee plans to develop a vision for broadband in Lake County, collect information from community pillars, and acquire knowledge about the state of broadband in the county and region. The Committee will continue to collaborate with other government and local organizations to expand the county board and community's knowledge about funding and programs for broadband.

Lake County Access Statistics

UNSERVED (less than 25 Mbps download speed/3 Mbps upload speed)				
Incorporation	POP 2020	Households & Businesses	Age 18+	Age Under 18
Incorporated	3,543	1,300	2,959	584
Unincorporated	489	287	369	120
Totals	4032	1,587	3,328	704

UNDERSERVED (less than 100 Mbps download speed/20 Mbps upload)				
Incorporation	POP 2020	Households & Businesses	Age 18+	Age Under 18
Incorporated	234,007	93,719	175,883	58,124
Unincorporated	27,997	11,991	22,265	5,732
Totals	262,004	105,710	198,148	63,856

*Mbps = Megabits Per Second

Lake County's Priorities