

MONADNOCK BROADBAND GROUP MEETING

JUNE 8, 2020 (1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.)

ATTEND WITH VIDEO/SCREEN SHARING: **[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81555880246](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81555880246)**

ATTEND WITH AUDIO ONLY WITH YOUR MOBILE PHONE (ONE-TAP):

+16465588656,,81555880246#,,1#,317503#

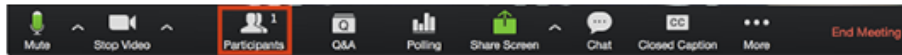
ATTEND FROM ANOTHER PHONE BY CALLING **(646) 558-8656** AND THE MEETING ID: **815 5588 0246** AND PASSWORD: **317503**



ZOOM TIPS

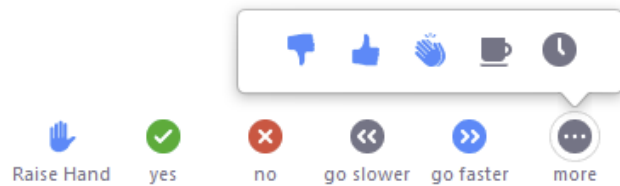
PROVIDING FEEDBACK

2. Click the **Participants** button.



3. Click one of the icons to provide feedback to the host. Click the icon again to remove it.

Note: You can only have one icon active at a time.



...BY PHONE

- *6 Mute/unmute
- *9 Raise Hand

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. 2020 Legislative Updates
3. AT&T Network Buildout Updates
4. Other Updates
5. Next Steps
6. Next Meeting
7. Rapid Feedback Form
8. Adjourn

2020 LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

From <http://www.swrpc.org/broadband/legislation> ...

- Proposed New Hampshire Legislation
 - [Senate Bill 457](#): establishing communications districts
 - [Senate Bill 459](#): relative to determining access to broadband
 - [Senate Bill 559](#): relative to municipal broadband infrastructure bonds
- Proposed Federal Legislation
 - [S.2867 - Rural Broadband Investment Tax Credit Act](#)
 - [S.2866 - Rural Broadband Financial Flexibility Act](#)
 - [S.1515 - Rural Reasonable and Comparable Wireless Access Act of 2019](#)
 - [S.1822 - Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability Act](#)

LETTER OF SUPPORT RE: SBS 457, 459 AND 559



Southwest Region Planning Commission
37 Ashcroft Street, Keene, NH 03431 603-337-0557 Voice 603-337-7440 Fax

June 2, 2020

The Honorable Melanie Levesque, Chair
Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 102
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SBS 457, 459 and 559

Dear Chairman Levesque and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Monadnock Broadband Group (MBG) in reference to SBS 457, 459 and 559. MBG serves as an informal coalition of municipal officials, practitioners and other stakeholders with interest in understanding and coordinating relative to broadband issues in Southwest NH. Southwest Region Planning Commission provides logistical support to MBG in conducting meetings and related activities, and through this correspondence, we attempt to capture MBG's sentiments. MBG has reviewed and discussed these bills during recent meetings and believe they have merit for reasons indicated below.

SBS 457 - Establishing communications districts

- Enabling legislation for the formation of communication districts could facilitate the coordination of effective multi-municipal broadband design solutions in NH, particularly in rural areas.
- There are number of towns which have begun moving forward with individual solutions such as the use of municipal bonding to attract/support a provider. However, other communities are still looking for a solution to broadband connectivity and communications districts would provide one more opportunity for doing so.
- If broadband deployment happens on a town-by-town basis, it will likely take many years before the state achieves universal service -- if it does at all.
- Communication districts can increase competitiveness in a market by creating another option.
- Rural communities will benefit from aggregating their demand -- precisely what communications districts will allow for.
- Neighboring states have more options for improving broadband connectivity than NH and communication districts are sometimes a part of the picture; from a competitive standpoint, it's important for NH to keep pace.

- NH is ready for communication districts; municipal administrators and funders (like the NH Municipal Bond Bank) are already familiar with the mechanics (including the organizational structure and funding) of multi-municipal water and sewer systems.
 - MBG members are already talking with neighboring communities about the broadband issues they have in common and communication districts will add to the strategies available in working together toward effective solutions.
- SBS 459/559 - Relative to determining access to broadband/Relative to municipal broadband infrastructure bonds**
- It is understood that some providers are less responsive to requests for information which can leave municipalities in an awkward position. Clarity on the relationship between non-responsiveness on the part of a provider relative to an area being served or unserved will prove beneficial to municipalities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,


Henry Underwood
GIS Specialist/Planner

<http://www.swrpc.org/broadbandgroup>

AT&T NETWORK BUILDOUT UPDATES

Ryan Clark, Regional Director of External Affairs will provide an update about AT&T's network buildout and coverage expansion in the Monadnock Region.



OTHER UPDATES

A chance to learn about what others are doing. Attendees are encouraged to describe activities related to addressing broadband and telecommunications challenges and opportunities.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SOCIAL DISTANCING BROADBAND IMPACT SURVEY

Due to the recent COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent social distancing period for many individuals, there is a focus on broadband / internet connectivity for households across New Hampshire. The State of New Hampshire is interested in capturing data related to availability, affordability and reliability of your broadband service at your residence. The State of New Hampshire is partnering with Mission Broadband, Inc. to conduct the following survey. Please answer all questions.



**mission
broadband**
Connecting America's Communities

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NH_SD_BB_Survey

NEXT STEPS/NEXT MEETING

Strategies for moving forward, coordination, collaboration, etc.

RAPID FEEDBACK FORM/ADJOURN

