

RESOLUTION**ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Planning & Development
Committee
INITIATED BY



3/21/2022
DATE DRAFTED

Adopting Broadband Telecommuting Opportunities and Telecommuter Forward Certification

WHEREAS, Rock County through the Ad Hoc Broadband Committee has made progress on a variety of broadband-related issues, including submission of a PSC Broadband Expansion grant application; and

WHEREAS, the PSC's Wisconsin Broadband Office encourages coordination and partnership between telecommuting stakeholders by certifying local communities as being Telecommuter Forward!; and,

WHEREAS, Established in 2017 under WI. Act 342, Telecommuter Forward! is a voluntary program for local units of government (city, village, town, or county) to signal that the political subdivision supports and commits to promote the availability of telecommuting options.

NOW, THEREFORE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors assembled this ____ day of _____, 2022, does hereby support telecommuting opportunities for the County of Rock in its application for Telecommuter Forward! Community certification.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Planning and Development Department is hereby designated as the single point of contact for coordinating telecommuting opportunities within Rock County including the following responsibilities:

1. Coordination and partnership with broadband providers, realtors, economic development professionals, employers, employees, and other telecommuting stakeholders.
2. Collaboration with broadband providers and employers to identify, develop, and market telecommuter-capable broadband packages.
3. Communication and partnership with broadband providers and economic development professionals to develop common goals.
4. Promotion of telecommuter-friendly workspaces, such as business incubators with telecommuting spaces, if such a workspace has been established in the political subdivision at the time the political subdivision adopts the resolution.
5. Familiarity with broadband mapping tools and other state-level resources.
6. Maintaining regular communication with the state broadband office.
7. Making regular reports to the Planning and Development Committee and/or the Rock County Board of Supervisors.

FISCAL NOTE:

Minimal fiscal impact in and by itself.

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 & 59.51, Wis. Stats.

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Josh Smith
County Administrator

Committee Action
Planning & Development Committee

**Adopting Broadband Telecommuting Opportunities and Telecommuter Forward
Certification**

Executive Summary

Through its many outreach and planning efforts throughout the state, the PSC's Wisconsin Broadband Office encourages coordination and partnership between telecommuting stakeholders by certifying local communities as being Telecommuter Forward!.

Created by 2017 Wisconsin Act 342, Telecommuter Forward! is a voluntary program for local units of government (city, village, town, or county) to signal that the political subdivision supports and commits to promote the availability of telecommuting options.

These policies would fall under a single point of contact for coordinating telecommuting opportunities within Rock County including the following responsibilities:

1. Coordination and partnership with broadband providers, realtors, economic development professionals, employers, employees, and other telecommuting stakeholders.
2. Collaboration with broadband providers and employers to identify, develop, and market telecommuter-capable broadband packages.
3. Communication and partnership with broadband providers and economic development professionals to develop common goals.
4. Promotion of telecommuter-friendly workspaces, such as business incubators with telecommuting spaces, if such a workspace has been established in the political subdivision at the time the political subdivision adopts the resolution.
5. Familiarity with broadband mapping tools and other state-level resources.
6. Maintaining regular communication with the state broadband office.
7. Making regular reports to the Planning and Development Committee and/or the Rock County Board of Supervisors.

The activities contained in these policies provide a platform for broadband development in Rock County and is appropriate that the Planning and Development Department be assigned responsibility.

