



Corporation of the County of Elgin
Connectivity Committee

AGENDA

For Wednesday, June 29, 2022, 2:00 P.M

- 1st Meeting Called to Order
- 2nd Approval of the Agenda
- 3rd Adoption of Minutes – February 17, 2021
- 4th Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
- 5th Delegations
- 6th Reports
 - 1) Whites Station Operations Centre Antenna Communications Tower
Optional Replacement Report – General Manager of Engineering,
Planning and Enterprise
 - 2) Connectivity Advocacy Plan
- 7th Other Business
- 8th Correspondence
- 9th Date of Next Meeting
- 10th Adjournment

VIRTUAL MEETING: IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION RESTRICTED

NOTE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Please click the link below to watch the Council Meeting:

<https://www.facebook.com/ElginCountyAdmin/>

Accessible formats available upon request.

Corporation of the County of Elgin

CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

For Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

The Elgin County Connectivity Committee met this 17th day of February 2022. The meeting was held in a hybrid in-person/electronic format with Committee Members and staff participating as indicated below.

Attendees: Deputy Warden Tom Marks, Chair (in-person)
Councillor Dominique Giguère (electronic)
Councillor Duncan McPhail (electronic)
Justin Pennings, Community Member (electronic)

Staff: Julie Gonyou, Chief Administrative Officer (in-person)
Brian Lima, General Manager of EPE/Deputy CAO (in-person)
Jeff Brock, Director of Information Technology Services (in-person)
Katherine Thompson, Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk (in-person)
Jeremy Sharkey, IT Coordinator (electronic)
Cecil Coxen, IT Manager, Township of Malahide (electronic)
Jenna Fentie, Legislative Services Coordinator (in-person)

Regrets: Mike Andrews, Community Member
Joshua Kiirya, Community Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. with Deputy Warden Marks the Chair.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Giguère
Seconded by: Justin Pennings

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the February 17, 2022 meeting be approved as presented.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No	Abstain
Councillor Dominique Giguère	X		
Councillor Duncan McPhail	X		

Justin Pennings	X		
Deputy Warden Tom Marks, Chair	X		
TOTAL	4	0	0

- Motion Carried.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by: Councillor McPhail
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held December 16, 2021 be adopted.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No	Abstain
Councillor Dominique Giguère	X		
Councillor Duncan McPhail	X		
Justin Pennings	X		
Deputy Warden Tom Marks, Chair	X		
TOTAL	4	0	0

- Motion Carried.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None.

5. **DELEGATIONS**

None.

6. **BRIEFINGS**

6.1 **Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis Recommendations – Director of Information Technology Services**

The Director of Information Technology Services provided an overview of the recommendations included in the final report provided by IBI Group Inc., titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” along with additional information regarding IBI Group’s Recommendation #1: Advocacy, Strategic Purchasing & ISP Coordination and suggested next steps.

Moved by: Councillor McPhail
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the report titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis Recommendations from the Director of Information Technology Services and General Manager of Engineering, Planning & Enterprise/Deputy CAO dated February 11, 2022 be received and filed for information; and

THAT staff be directed to present the final report prepared by IBI Group Inc. titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” to Elgin County Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting; and further

THAT the Chair be directed to provide Elgin County Council with a summary of the Connectivity Committee’s recommended next steps with respect to the final report prepared by IBI Group Inc.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No	Abstain
Councillor Dominique Giguère	X		
Councillor Duncan McPhail	X		
Justin Pennings	X		
Deputy Warden Tom Marks, Chair	X		
TOTAL	4	0	0

- Motion Carried.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Final Committee Review and Discussion on IBI Final Report titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” – Director of Information Technology Services

The Director of Information Technology Services asked the Committee if there were any further adjustments required in the final IBI Group report before presentation to County Council. The Committee agreed that no further amendments were required.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Connectivity Committee will meet again at the call of the Chair.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Justin Pennings
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 2:26 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No	Abstain
Councillor Dominique Giguère	X		
Councillor Duncan McPhail	X		
Justin Pennings	X		
Deputy Warden Tom Marks, Chair	X		
TOTAL	4	0	0

- Motion Carried.

Julie Gonyou,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Tom Marks,
Chair.



REPORT TO CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

FROM: Brian Lima, General Manager Engineering, Planning, and Enterprise (EPE) – Deputy CAO

DATE: June 21, 2022

SUBJECT: Whites Station Operations Centre
Antenna Communications Tower Optional
Replacement Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report titled “Whites Station Operations Centre Antenna Communications Tower - Optional Replacement Report” from the General Manager of Engineering, Planning, & Enterprise (EPE) / Deputy CAO, dated June 21, 2022 be received and filed.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a review of the recently completed structural inspection undertaken on the County’s Whites Station Operations Centre antenna communication tower. The inspection was undertaken by WesTower Communications Ltd. in accordance with the requirements of CSA/CSA S37-18 standard. The report will also provide replacement options and estimated construction costs for the Committee’s review.

DISCUSSION:

The County of Elgin retained the services of WesTower Communications Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as WesTower) to perform a structural inspection of the County’s 76.2 meter (250 foot) tall antenna communication tower located at Whites Station Operation Centre. The inspection focused on identifying the ability of the tower to meet the strength and serviceability requirements of the CSA/CSA S37-18 standard. In addition, an analysis was also completed to determine the structural adequacy of adding additional telecommunications equipment.

As per the structural analysis report findings, the existing tower no longer satisfies the structural requirements of the standard CSA S37-18. Furthermore, the tower constructed in 1965 was also deemed to have reached its end of its serviceable life.

WesTower also determined that there are a number of structural components that were determined to be undersized, and cannot be reasonably and/or economically reinforced

to meet the strength requirements of the standard. They therefore determined that the tower is not capable of supporting any additional loading or equipment.

There were a number of 'immediate' deficiencies identified that the County of Elgin recently addressed to satisfy the minimum standard safety requirements needed to maintain interim ongoing operation of the tower. The correction of these deficiencies resulted in an extended service life of an estimated 5 to 7 years. The analysis further recommended that the long-term viability of the radio service from this location would be best addressed by replacing the existing tower with a new CSA S37-18 conforming tower. A light weight industrial tower that would only support the existing equipment loading is estimated to cost in the range of \$150,000 to \$200,000.

If the Committee wishes to upsize the tower to a mid weight industrial tower that would be capable of facilitating additional equipment loading, the cost is estimated to increase in the range of \$300,000 to \$350,000. If the desire is to obtain more accurate cost estimates, a telecommunications tower installation specialist should be retained to investigate the appropriate solution for this location.

Alternatively, the County could also contemplate leasing another portion of its Whites Station Operations Centre property to prospective communications service providers for the installation of their own tower infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no current identified funds for in the 10-year capital budget plan for the installation of a new communications tower at the Whites Station Operations Center property. If the desire is to replace the exiting tower in future, the appropriate budget funds would need to be identified for future consideration by the Budget Committee.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Serving Elgin	Growing Elgin	Investing in Elgin
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring alignment of current programs and services with community need. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploring different ways of addressing community need. <input type="checkbox"/> Engaging with our community and other stakeholders.	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning for and facilitating commercial, industrial, residential, and agricultural growth. <input type="checkbox"/> Fostering a healthy environment. <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing quality of place.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring we have the necessary tools, resources, and infrastructure to deliver programs and services now and in the future. <input type="checkbox"/> Delivering mandated programs and services efficiently and effectively.

Additional Comments: N/A

LOCAL MUNICIPAL PARTNER IMPACT:

The Municipality of Central Elgin, leases the Whites Station Operations Centre from the County and is proactively notified when any work to the communications tower is undertaken.

COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:

N/A

CONCLUSION:

The County of Elgin retained the services of WesTower Communications Ltd. to perform a structural inspection on the County's 76.2 meter (250 foot) tall antenna communication tower located at the Whites Station Operation Centre. A detailed analysis was also undertaken to determine the structural adequacy of the current tower to support additional telecommunications equipment loading.

As per the structural inspection report findings, the existing tower does not satisfy the structural requirements of the standard CSA S37-18, and was also determined not to be capable of supporting additional telecommunications equipment loading. Furthermore, the tower constructed in 1965 was also deemed to have reached the end of its lifecycle.



If the desire is to obtain an accurate cost estimate, a telecommunications tower installation specialist needs to be retained to investigate the appropriate solution for this location.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted

Brian Lima
General Manager Engineering,
Planning, and Enterprise (EPE) /
Deputy CAO

Approved for Submission

Julie Gonyou
Chief Administrative Officer

Eugenio DiMeo
Manager of Corporate Facilities





REPORT TO CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

FROM: Julie Gonyou, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: June 22, 2022

SUBJECT: Connectivity Advocacy Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer, entitled “Connectivity Advocacy Plan”, dated June 22, 2022 be received and filed; and

THAT the Connectivity Advocacy Plan, once finalized, be presented to Elgin County Council for endorsement at a future meeting.

PURPOSE:

At its meeting on February 22, 2022, Elgin County Council supported the Connectivity Committee’s recommendation to leverage existing staff resources and the Connectivity Committee to support Option #1 as presented in the final report from IBI Group Inc. titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” (IBI Report). As detailed in the [IBI Report](#), Option #1 recommends support for **Advocacy, Strategic Purchasing and ISP Coordination**. The purpose of this report is to present a draft *Connectivity Advocacy Plan* for the Committee’s review and comment.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Appendix I – draft *Connectivity Advocacy Plan*
- Appendix II - Infographic – Connectivity Advocacy Plan
- Appendix III - Fibre Optic Progress Map - Connectivity in Elgin

BACKGROUND:

The Connectivity Committee has worked very hard to identify ways to create enabling environment for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to grow and flourish within Elgin County.

The landscape for connectivity networks across Elgin County is already changing. Since the Committee’s work began in 2018, additional community networks have emerged, and their potential for meeting connectivity gaps has improved (see Appendix



III). Nevertheless, there are still many areas that must still be addressed before community networks will reach their full potential which is why a formalized *Connectivity Advocacy Plan* is imperative.

CONNECTIVITY STUDY – BACKGROUND & DECISION-MAKING:

The following information provides background information and the decision-making chronology for the *Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions* study undertaken by IBI Group.

- In 2021, Elgin County Council engaged IBI Group to complete a study including “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” (“Study”). The Study provides a series of actions that are intended to advance connectivity in the County, while acknowledging the importance of partnerships and advocacy efforts. It recognizes the importance of broadband as an indispensable part of modern infrastructure.
- At the December 16th 2021 Connectivity Committee (“Committee”) meeting, IBI Group presented its final draft report which included options to advance the access of affordable and reliable high-speed internet in Elgin County. For ease of reference, IBI Group’s options are included within the next section of this report.
- The Connectivity Committee carefully considered all options presented by IBI Group and requested that staff provide additional information regarding Option #1: Advocacy, Strategic Purchasing & ISP Coordination.
- At its meeting on February 17th, the Connectivity Committee passed the following motion:

THAT the IBI final report titled “Internet Connectivity and Broadband Analysis, Assessment, and Proposed Solutions” presented to Elgin County Council; and

THAT the Chair be directed to provide Elgin County Council with a summary of the Connectivity Committee’s recommended next steps with respect to final report prepared by IBI Group Inc.

- On February 22, 2022, Elgin County Council supported the Connectivity Committee’s recommendation and passed the following motion:

THAT the report titled “Internet Connectivity - IBI Group Final Report and Committee Recommendations” from Deputy Warden Marks, dated February 17, 2022, be received and filed for information; and,

THAT Elgin County Council support the Connectivity Committee’s recommendation to leverage existing staff resources and the Connectivity Committee to support to IBI’s Option #1 – **Advocacy, Strategic Purchasing and ISP Coordination** to facilitate and advocate for investment in broadband infrastructure (senior government / private sector).

- A delay in bringing forward a draft strategy for consideration by the Committee was associated with a technical disruption at the County of Elgin in April 2022 which required Committee meetings to be suspended for the month of April and part of May.

CONNECTIVITY ADVOCACY PLAN:

Advocacy efforts with all other levels of government to be centered on the critical role played by access to stable and affordable broadband infrastructure in local, provincial, and national economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic. The *Connectivity Advocacy Plan* includes four (4) key pillars which are detailed in Appendix I. An infographic that supports the *Connectivity Advocacy Plan* is included in Appendix II and a Fibre Optic Progress Map is included in Appendix III.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Serving Elgin	Growing Elgin	Investing in Elgin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring alignment of current programs and services with community need. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploring different ways of addressing community need. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engaging with our community and other stakeholders.	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning for and facilitating commercial, industrial, residential, and agricultural growth. <input type="checkbox"/> Fostering a healthy environment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhancing quality of place.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring we have the necessary tools, resources, and infrastructure to deliver programs and services now and in the future. <input type="checkbox"/> Delivering mandated programs and services efficiently and effectively.



LOCAL MUNICIPAL PARTNER IMPACT:

The *Connectivity Advocacy Plan* requires that Elgin collaborate with its Local Municipal Partners. The *Connectivity Advocacy Plan*, once finalized, will be discussed with Elgin's Administrators at an upcoming meeting.

COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Connectivity Advocacy Plan includes a Communications/Engagement pillar with the goal of communicating the activities and efforts of the Connectivity Committee.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Committee review and provide feedback regarding the draft *Connectivity Advocacy Plan*. Once finalized, it is recommended that the Committee seek Council's approval for the *Connectivity Advocacy Plan*.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted

Julie Gonyou
Chief Administrative Officer

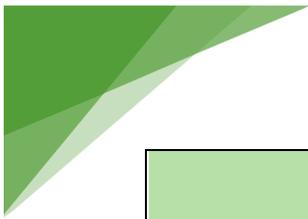
Appendix I – **Draft Connectivity Advocacy Plan**

Elgin County Connectivity Committee

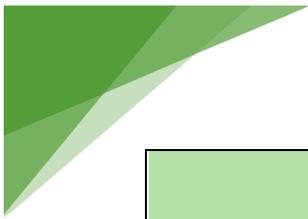
Plan to support Option #1- Advocacy, Strategic Purchasing and ISP Coordination

Advocacy efforts with all other levels of government to be centered on the critical role played by access to stable and affordable broadband infrastructure in local, provincial, and national economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic. This key concept will be supported and demonstrated through 4 key pillars and their corresponding objectives:

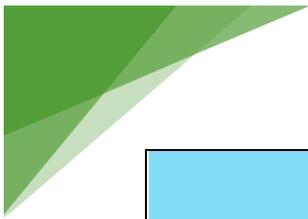
Pillar	Objectives	Actions	Responsibility
Communications/Engagement	1. Communicate the activities and efforts of the Connectivity Committee	Ensure that Committee activities and news are made publicly accessible so residents and ISPs recognize that broadband is a key priority being supported by an active and engaged Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish a dedicated section of the existing Connected Elgin page for the Committee. - plan, conduct, and process strategic public surveys to ensure engagement is always ongoing. - make publicly available information regarding Elgin County's efforts to facilitate broadband expansion targeted toward potential ISPs (web page, social media) - publicize news and updates on Committee activity; link to 	Administrative Services/Communications



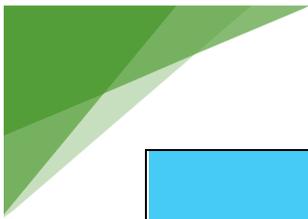
		<p>Committee meeting agendas and minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- host a renewed forum with current/prospective ISPs for updated insights into contemporary, local needs/considerations- Prepare and implement a communications strategy to support advocacy efforts and the work of the Committee- Prepare and disseminate news releases for major milestones/advancements.	
	2. Highlight resident experiences in order to attract ISP/funding support	<p>Leverage lived experiences from residents and business owners regarding their connectivity experiences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- establish and maintain a constantly-updated database of resident concerns that tracks key information to substantiate needs/concerns/geographic considerations and use it to support communications/ advocacy efforts/ Committee business- Utilize social media, Engage Elgin and Elgin County website to share these resident experiences.	Administrative Services



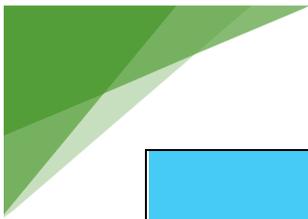
	<p>3. Provide a public repository of Elgin-specific connectivity data</p>	<p>Maintain an organized and updated data repository to support advocacy and engagement efforts, inform committee members, and guide implementation of the plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain an updated GIS map showing connectivity/gaps and ensure it is publicly accessible. - undertake new survey opportunities for both residents and existing/prospective ISPs on matters of County interest in relation to broadband. Utilize survey results to keep data repositories current. 	<p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Engineering/IT</p> <p>Administrative Services/Communications</p>
<p>Leadership/Relationship Building</p>	<p>1. Streamline the approval process for new broadband projects</p>	<p>Explore opportunities in existing and future Elgin County policies/procedures related to broadband infrastructure construction projects that would reduce or eliminate fees for work undertaken to expand/enhance the local network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undertake a review of current policies/procedures related to permits, construction, information sharing, formal relationships as they relate to broadband projects 	<p>Engineering Services/Administrative Services/Legal Services</p>



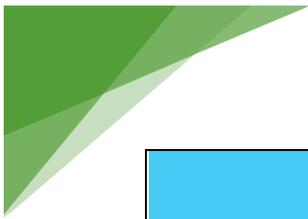
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- establish a solid customer service presence based on responsible data management and ongoing follow-up with residents and ISP representatives (collecting information, confirming receipt of all messages, regular updates, check-ins, sending individualized information when relevant)- reach out to counterparts at comparable/ neighbouring municipalities for insight into other incentivization/facilitation policies and procedures that support broadband projects- meet with senior management and legal counsel to consider the implications and technicalities of reducing/eliminating fees related to broadband infrastructure- explore potential for the establishment of an Elgin-specific RFP process as a means of supporting the value of a localized approach to infrastructure expansion and enhancement	<p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Engineering Services/Administrative Services</p> <p>Engineering Services/Legal Services/Administrative Services</p> <p>Engineering Services/Purchasing</p>
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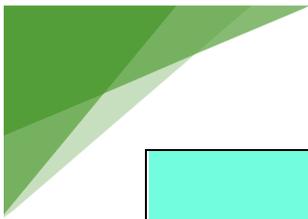
	<p>2. Establish Elgin County as the lead for advancing rural broadband efforts</p>	<p>Establish and maintain a strong public presence for Elgin County as the lead for community broadband expansion/ enhancement, while being mindful of key relationships with the province, LMPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- demonstrate a meaningful awareness of Elgin County taking ownership of local broadband infrastructure issues/ advancement by building relationships with both members of the public and current/prospective ISPs- Maintain a close working relationship with LMPs on this shared priority- research policies implemented by neighbouring jurisdictions intended to incentivize/facilitate broadband projects with a focus on making Elgin County a competitive regional presence for attracting new prospective ISPs- engage with stakeholders/partners (WOWC, SCOR) to remain updated on best practices and regional advocacy efforts	<p>Administrative Services/Engineering Services</p> <p>Administrative Services/Engineering Services</p> <p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Council and Committee</p>
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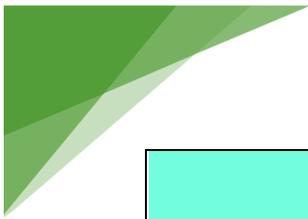
		<p>and ensure coordination of efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish a positive working relationship with representation from Infrastructure Ontario (IO), government ministries, relevant agencies 	<p>Engineering Services/Administrative Services/Committee</p>
	<p>3. Build and enhance relationships with the public, ISPs, and other levels of government regarding broadband</p>	<p>Cultivate relationships with key stakeholders and engage in regular two-way communication and information sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - define the vision and framework for relationships with ISPs and the level of support to be provided to ISPs as part of funding application processes - streamline access to information and centralize contact - maintain regular engagement with key provincial contacts (both political and staff/department) - host a second public internet forum for the sharing of ideas and discussion. - engage in regular communication with local 	<p>Administrative Services/Economic Development</p> <p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Council/Committee/Administrative Services</p> <p>Economic Development</p>



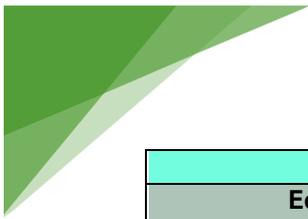
		<p>municipal partners to facilitate streamlined messaging, project policy and implementation coordination, benefit from localized insights, remain updated on ongoing/emerging issues and concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- engage with a broad spectrum of Elgin's business community, especially rural businesses, to establish a sound understanding of needs and concerns specific to business operation-possible survey, etc. as quantifying this will be critical to supporting advocacy efforts.	<p>Administrative Services/Engineering Services</p> <p>Economic Development</p>
<p>Advocacy</p>	<p>FUNDING FOR RURAL BROADBAND IN ELGIN</p>	<p>Engage in a variety of advocacy efforts with the goal of achieving increased funding for rural broadband in Elgin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- develop and implement an advocacy strategy with senior levels of government, especially the province and especially in the pre-election period, centered on meetings and delegations with Ministers/senior ministry representatives that highlights both Elgin County's unique needs and approach	<p>Administrative Services/Communication</p>



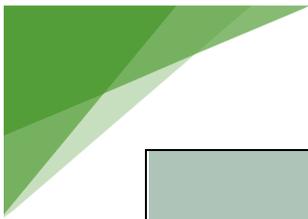
		<p>to addressing the need for broadband, and emphasizes the need for Elgin to receive its fair share of funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- prepare standard advocacy strategy materials and tailor them to specific audiences in advance of meetings/ delegations.- establish working relationships with ministry staff/government representatives who can facilitate advocacy efforts. (Admin, Committee)- facilitate communication to the provincial government on behalf of local/prospective ISPs regarding concerns and barriers that impact the advancement of broadband projects in Elgin.- using data collected via the previous surveys and webpage/database, communicate to the province at every opportunity the degree to which the lack of stable/affordable/accessible broadband negatively impacts life and business in Elgin.	<p>Council/Committee/ Administrative Services</p> <p>Council/Committee /Administrative Services</p> <p>Council/Committee/ Administrative Services</p>
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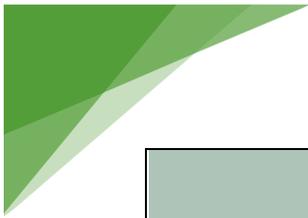
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- act as a resource for Committee members and Councillors on matters related to broadband advocacy, support as a central point of contact to streamline information dissemination (Admin)- draft letters on behalf of County Council, the Connectivity Committee in response to senior government changes regarding broadband to continually reinforce Elgin as a willing partner in advancing and expediting local projects- prepare letters of support on behalf of Council/ Committee for ISP funding applications to senior levels of government- create, update, and make public templated advocacy letters for residents to download and personalize and send to senior levels of government (general concerns, specific to unserved residents, issue-specific) and share suggestions for optimizing self-advocacy efforts	<p>Administrative Services/ Engineering Services/ IT</p> <p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Administrative Services</p> <p>Administrative Services</p>
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Education			
	<p>1. Support public awareness of available connectivity options</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Develop and make public resources that support enhanced connectivity for Elgin County residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- develop and make public an Elgin County connectivity guide that is easily accessible both on the web page and in hard copy (Admin/EcDev)- engage with library branch staff in order to gather information about local community internet needs collected both formally and informally (level of use by residents without home internet, reasons given by clients for lack of home internet)- Leverage the Elgin County Library network as a key means of receiving and disseminating hard copy information related to broadband. The Library will act as a source of localized insights as a service most connected to the public and can target residents who lack access to stable and affordable high-speed internet (Admin)	<p>Administrative Services/Communications</p> <p>Administrative Services/Library Staff</p>



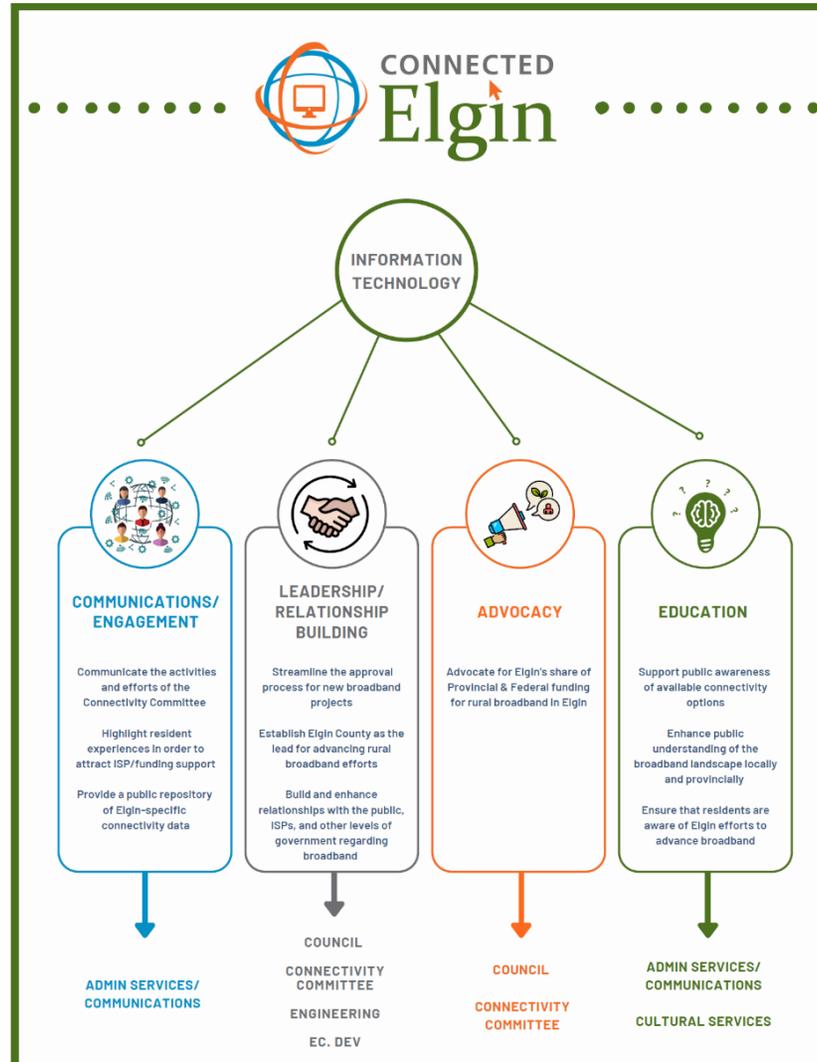
	<p>2. Enhance public understanding of the broadband landscape locally and provincially</p>	<p>Synthesize the broad volume of technical/contextual/logistical information related to broadband expansion in Ontario and locally and prepare it for public access/communication in a way that is easy to understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- develop and maintain a section on the Engage Elgin web page with updated information on provincial legislation and programs regarding broadband expansion, SWIFT project details and updates and connectivity related resources from AMO, ROMA etc.	<p>Administrative Services/Communications</p>
	<p>3. Ensure that residents are aware of Elgin efforts to advance broadband</p>	<p>Endeavour to contextualize/chronologize the process by which broadband enhancements/expansion have taken place to-date in Elgin County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Share publicly goals, priorities, process, timelines, efforts, etc.- address the common misconceptions (most significantly, that nothing is being done to address the lack of stable and affordable high-speed internet in Elgin County)	<p>Administrative Services/Communications</p> <p>Note: This objective links back to the actions taken to communicate the activities and efforts of the Connectivity Committee and County Council in regards to improving connectivity in Elgin County.</p>



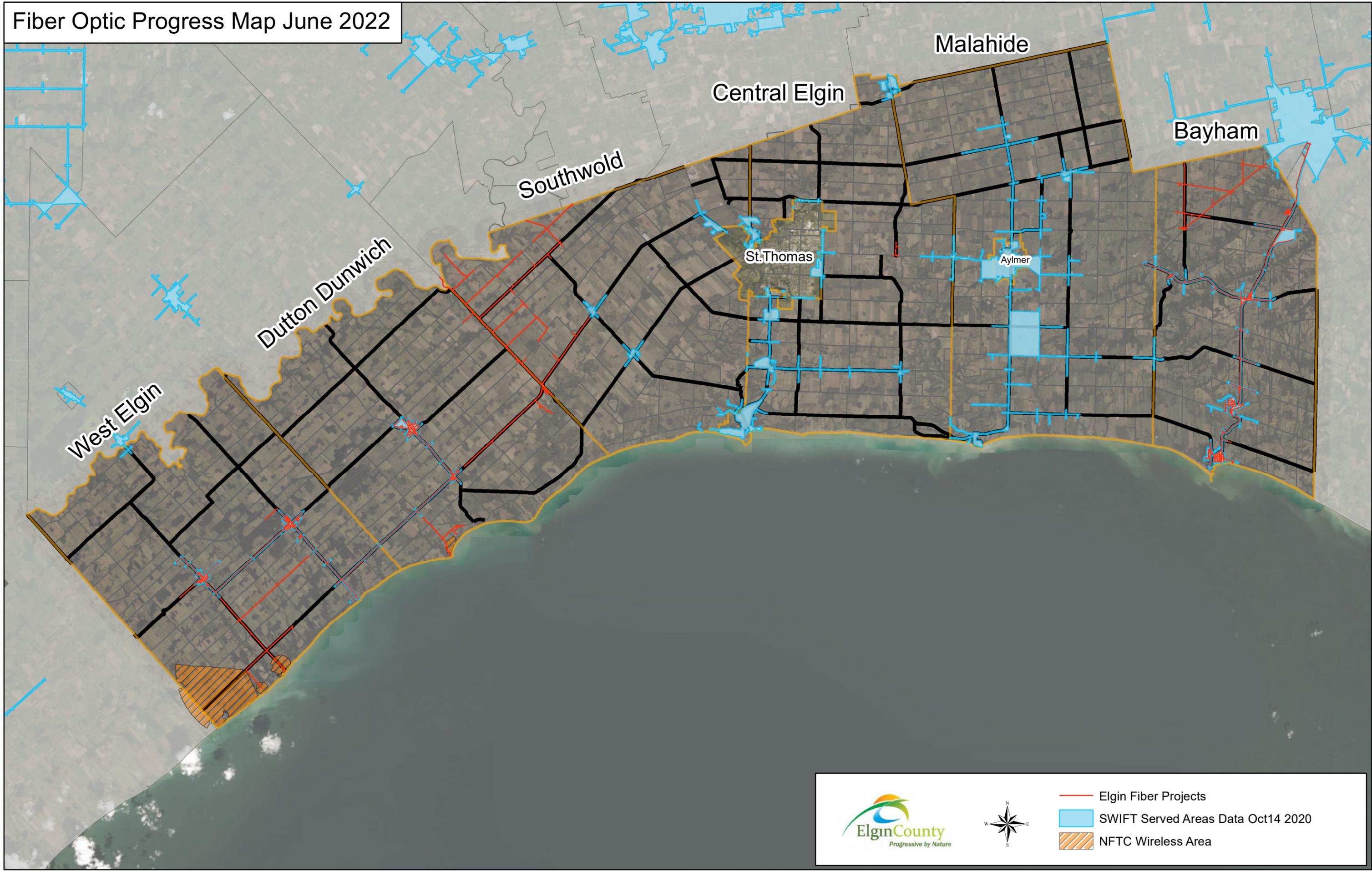
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- maintain an updated public archive of County of Elgin advocacy efforts to date.- post previous Council correspondence related to broadband advocacy on the Engage Elgin Connectivity Webpage- Provide continuous avenue to provide feedback.	
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Appendix II

Infographic – Connectivity Advocacy Plan



Fiber Optic Progress Map June 2022



- Elgin Fiber Projects
- SWIFT Served Areas Data Oct14 2020
- NFTC Wireless Area