

TOWN OF VERMONT
Dane County
4017 Hwy JJ
Black Earth, WI 53515

Telephone: 767-2457



Fellow Citizens of the Town of Vermont,

In December 2016, the Board of the Town of Vermont voted to create a citizens committee, The Town of Vermont Citizens Broadband Committee. The goal of the committee is simple, have installed and available to all citizens, wired high speed Internet at an affordable price. If you look at the current technical research, the only real solution for Internet is a wired solution. We need a wired solution.

Every year, governmental agencies include on our phone bills an extra charge to be used to provide funding for installation of Internet in rural areas. Our carriers receive these funds every year, but up until now, have not used the funds for our township. The funds have been used elsewhere.

This year, we will strongly make our case to the governmental agencies to fund our carriers AND direct them to use those funds in OUR Township.

The strategy is simple:

- 1. Petition the governmental agencies and carrier** – There is strength in our numbers. We need to make sure everyone is aware we do not have adequate wired service available and it creates a hardship for our citizens. Enclosed is a petition for you to sign. Please sign and return TODAY.
- 2. Document our current level of service.** It's common knowledge we have poor Internet, and sometimes poor phone service, but how bad is it? Enclosed is a survey to gather that data. The results of the survey will be tabulated. Please complete the survey TODAY.
- 3. Armed with the above information, we will go visit and make our case with:**
 - a. each of the governmental funding agencies.
 - b. each of our governmental representatives.
 - c. any other governmental members who might forward our cause
 - d. any media outlet that can create public awareness beyond the bounds of our township.

Please take a few minutes to sign the petition, complete the survey then return it TODAY by mail using the enclosed envelope to the Clerk of the Town of Vermont. Your participation is critical. Please participate. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.

Let's make this happen in 2017!!!

Respectfully,

John Hallick

Chair, Town of Vermont Citizens Broadband Committee

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Town of Vermont Broadband Petition

We, the citizens of the Town of Vermont - Wisconsin, petition the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, The Rural Utility Service and The Federal Communications Commission to install high speed Broadband service in our township.

The township does not have high speed broadband services available to the citizens in the area served by TDS, the incumbent carrier. Year over year, the citizens of the Town of Vermont have asked TDS to provide acceptable service but the public funding has been used to upgrade services in other geographic areas.

We urgently request funding be provided to TDS or Mount Horeb Telephone Company in 2017 with the direction to use the funds to provide broadband services to our township. High speed Internet is embedded into our lives and the lack of it creates a hardship on our citizens.

Respectfully,

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Town of Vermont Broadband Survey

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

1. Who provides your home PHONE service? Please check below

TDS MHTC Satellite Cellular Do not have wired PHONE service at home

2. If you do not have wired PHONE service at home, please explain why you don't below.

3. If you have home wired PHONE service, how would you rate the quality of your home phone service? Indicate below using a rating of 1 to 10 with 1 being poor.

____ Rating _____ Comments

4. Who provides your home INTERNET service? Please check below

TDS MHTC Satellite Cellular Do not have INTERNET service at home

5. If you do not have wired INTERNET service at home, please explain why you don't below?

6. If you have wired home service, how would you rate the quality of your home INTERNET service? Indicate below using a rating of 1 to 10 with 1 being poor.

____ Rating _____ Comments

7. If you have Internet service, please tell us how fast it is. To do this:

- a. connect to the Internet
- b. open an internet browser
- c. go to www.speedtest.net
- d. click on the button "Begin Test" Note: there are other buttons on the screen. Make sure you click on "Begin Test"
- e. After the test runs, it will return 3 numbers. Please record those below

_____ Ping

_____ Download Speed

_____ Upload Speed

_____ Internet is too slow for SpeedTest to run

8. Would you be interested in serving on the Town of Vermont Citizens Broadband Committee?

Yes