

Broadband questions from Council:

1. How is the Port working with PUD on the expansion of broadband services to underserved and unserved areas of the county?
2. Will the trunk line, midsection, and last mile portions of the broadband system remain open access in perpetuity? If not, which sections will not and why.
3. Can the Port and PUD provide any IRU (indefeasible right of use) agreements to the council? Is it possible to provide these agreements prior to council authorizing funding?
4. Has the Port or PUD considered a structure for Whatcom County similar to SkagitNet? Why or why not?
5. Who are the members of the Port's Broadband Committee, and has there been discussions about including members of the County, local jurisdictions, and or councilmembers.
6. What portion of the Port's future broadband projects is aerial lines and what portion is underground?
7. When public funds are used for construction of broadband infrastructure, when does it make sense to have the infrastructure owned in perpetuity by the agency vs. owned by a private internet service provider (ISP)?
8. Is the Port headed in the direction of private infrastructure and the PUD is going in a public infrastructure direction – is that correct?
9. In areas where the broadband infrastructure will be aerial, what is the data from PSE? How many times, for how long, and in what areas was power interrupted from 2017-2022?
10. What work has each entity (Port, PUD, Tribes, County, City) done up to this date regarding broadband? Grants obtained, mapping, partnerships, interlocal agreements, ...(Please provide lists and links)
11. What is the best management of broadband as we move forward? How can we all work together (Port, PUD, Tribes, County, Cities,...) to quickly have fast, reliable internet throughout the entire Whatcom County and be the best example in the country? Let's make this happen! What are our obstacles? How can we best work together? How are we going to do it? (I may not have the right terminology or understanding, but the bottom line is, how do we get each home in Whatcom County fast, reliable INTERNET?)
12. How can the County best support the Port-PUD partnership and be a more proactive partner?
13. How can we ensure nondiscriminatory open access in perpetuity for all publicly funded broadband projects?
14. Can you give us an update on the progress/timeline for Mosquito Lake Rd /Nooksack, N Ferndale, and N Lynden projects? Has there been any delays? What barriers exist for expedited construction timelines moving forward?
15. Have there been any changes made to the IRU with PogoZone? What is the plan for future IRUs?
16. Do you have any feedback on dig once or other related County policies?
17. Do you have any updates on past or pending feasibility studies?
18. Can we get an overview of the GIS work the PUD/Port has been working on?

19. Any updates on the LUD (local utility district) model? (like the Kitsap's model: LUD within a PUD)
20. Have there been any conversations or collaborations with the seven Cities on Broadband issues?
21. Any future projects on your radar that should be on ours?