

Broadband Research, Real Work & Results in Rural Washington

Rural Telecommunications Congress Austin, Texas April 16, 2015



Washington State University (WSU)





History of WSU Program for Digital Initiatives

From 1989 to Present



From Traditional Telecommuting to All Things Digital

Work Beyond the Big Cities: WSU Began with Research

- *Rural Telework Project* USDA Fund for Rural America, 2000-03
- Olympic Coastal Region: Power of Connections State & Local Economic Development Funds, 2004
- *Rural e-Work Program* US EDA, 2004-06



Washington State Broadband Office Local Technology Planning Teams (LTPT)



WSU Program for Digital Initiatives LTPT Project Approach

- 1. Invited to work <u>with</u> a community or region
- 2. Form a team
- 3. Identify focus areas to increasing broadband
- 4. Customize work plan based on local needs
- 5. Leverage research/resources
- 6. Build local capacity
- 7. Share results



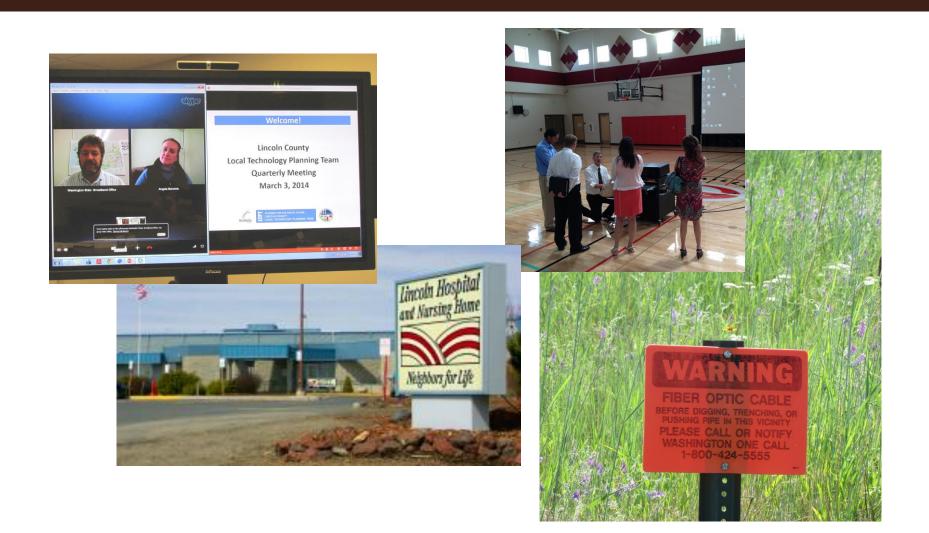
Colville LTPT Gadget Garage



Colville LTPT Tech Expo



Lincoln County LTPT Inventory, Assess & Evaluate



West Olympic Peninsula LTPT Tech Teams

- Three tribes presented broadband status reports and business cases to a group of resource providers. (2014)
- **Results to-date**: Build out to a school, one USDA CC app submitted and two state planning grants awarded.



Klickitat-Skamania LTPT 1 & 2 Impacts

- \$4M direct support & \$687,000 match
- 100 miles of fiber installed



- 426 community & 80 business survey responses
- 16 community broadband forums 208 attendees
- 52 publicly available WiFi hotspots IDed
- 12 community & 9 business trainings
- 1 mobile training lab with 6 laptops





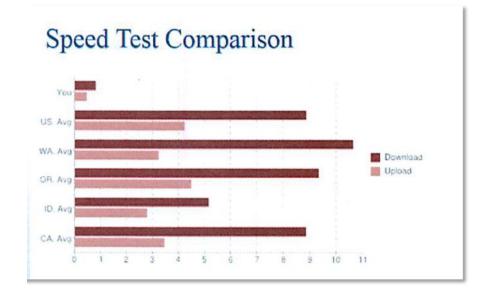
Headline: No More ARRA Funds WA State Broadband Office Closes

Are we there yet?



searching for service? The best places to find a cell signal on Sun Mountain Lodge grounds are right out in front by the flagpoles, on the lawns in front of the Gardner building, or up on the hill by the windswept pine tree next to the tennis courts. Our nearest tower is on McClure Mountain, about 10 miles down valley. You can see it by looking down over Patterson Lake to the south.

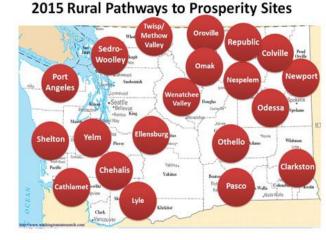
Sun Mountain–Award Winning Resort



WSBO Speed Test–Neah Bay

WA Rural Pathways to Prosperity

Broadband availability and a WSU Extension developed Distributed Conference Model enables a unique statewide conference to support entrepreneurs.







Small business is everybody's business!

First Responders Network Authority



A nationwide, wireless broadband, 4G/LTE data network *dedicated* to public safety









Tribal Efforts









Still Lots of Work to be Done!



For More Information

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WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION