Kendall County Broadband Focus Groups/Town Hall Set for Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Kendall County, Illinois – July 28, 2022 – The community is invited to attend a day of focus groups and then a town hall meeting about the possibility of creating a new high-speed, broadband internet network in Kendall County.

The two focus group discussions will be held on Wednesday, August 10, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. followed by a town hall session for the general public from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Focus Group 1: Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

- Emergency Services
- Healthcare Industry
- County FEMA Representative(s)
- Utility Providers

Focus Group 2: Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

- K-12 and higher education institutions
- Library system
- Government agencies
- Chambers

Town Hall Meeting: Wednesday, August 10, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend

All the sessions will be held in the 2nd Floor County Board Room, at the Kendall County Office Building, 111 W Fox St. Yorkville, IL 60560 in Kendall County and include an overview of the assessment process now underway to determine the feasibility of creating a countywide fiber-based broadband network.

Kendall County is working on the broadband assessment process with Lit Communities, a consultant, builder, and operator of next-generation network infrastructure.

Focus group and town hall meeting participants will be asked for their input on existing internet availability and how increased speed and availability of broadband service would impact their organizations, businesses, communities, and family lives.

They also will be presented an overview of the community assessment process that is currently underway and scheduled to conclude in August.

"Now is the time for Kendall County to move forward with exploring and determining what a financially viable and technologically advanced municipal network could look like and to further our understanding of the connectivity challenges families, schools, businesses, and public agencies experience throughout the entire county," says County Administrator Scott Koeppel.

Residents are also being asked to participate in a survey about expanded broadband service in the community. It is <u>available online here</u> and will be conducted until September. The survey can be taken from anywhere you need connectivity such as your residence or place of business.

"We need your input on how best to achieve these goals. That's why we're encouraging participation in both the focus groups and town hall on August 10 and in the survey," says Koeppel. "Community input and this survey are vital components to making sure we get this right both financially and effectively."

For more information, contact Scott Koeppel at skoeppel@kendallcountyil.gov

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