



MEDIA RELEASE

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KPUD Preliminary Awarded BEAD Funding as Part of Washington's \$1.2B Broadband Plan

Poulsbo, WA – Kitsap Public Utility District (KPUD) is proud to announce that it has been preliminarily awarded funding in the Washington State Broadband Office's (WSBO) Benefit of the Bargain (BotB) Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program, part of a \$1.2 billion statewide investment to close the digital divide.

KPUD's preliminary award covers seven of the eight project areas it applied for. When combined into a single large project, KPUD's award will bring high-speed broadband to almost 4,000 homes across Kitsap County via all fiber builds. The preliminary federal awarded results in \$14.98 million for KPUD.

"This is an exciting milestone for Kitsap," said Angela Bennink, KPUD General Manager. "High-speed internet is essential for education, healthcare, business, and daily life. This preliminary award represents a big step toward ensuring every resident of Kitsap County has access to reliable, affordable broadband."

About the Final Proposal. WSBO has released its [Final Proposal](#) for BEAD funding, which details provisional awards across the state, including KPUD's. The plan outlines how BEAD funding will be invested in broadband infrastructure to reach unserved and underserved communities across Washington. In this proposal, 35.6% of identified statewide Broadband Service Locations (BSLs) will support fiber builds.

Next Steps/Public Comment Period: The Final Proposal is now open for comment through September 1, 2025, at 5 p.m. PST. Public [comments](#) can be submitted online through the Washington State Department of Commerce State Broadband Office webpage at <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/final-broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-program-proposal-comment-period-opens-today/>.

Strengthening Kitsap communities through responsive and sustainable utility services.

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On September 4, 2025, WSBO will submit the Final Proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). NTIA has 90 days to review with final awards anticipated by late 2025. It is important to note that KPUD's award is preliminary until NTIA review is complete.

About BEAD: The [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) program](#) is a federal initiative providing more than \$42 billion nationwide to expand internet access. Washington received \$1.2 billion to connect unserved and underserved households and businesses. While BEAD funds the infrastructure build, residents will still subscribe to service through retail internet providers.

About Kitsap Public Utility District: KPUD provides drinking water, wastewater, and telecommunications services and infrastructure to communities throughout Kitsap County and maintains a county-wide water resource monitoring program. Since 2003, KPUD's fiber network has supported public schools, government buildings, naval bases, and public safety agencies and expanded to serving residents in 2015. Currently operating close to 950 miles of world-class fiber optic infrastructure, KPUD's open access model allows multiple ISPs to deliver service over a single community-owned network, giving residents and businesses the freedom to choose the provider that best fits their needs.

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For more information concerning KPUD's history, mission, vision, core values, and strategic goals, please visit our website <https://www.kpud.org/about-us/who-we-are/>.