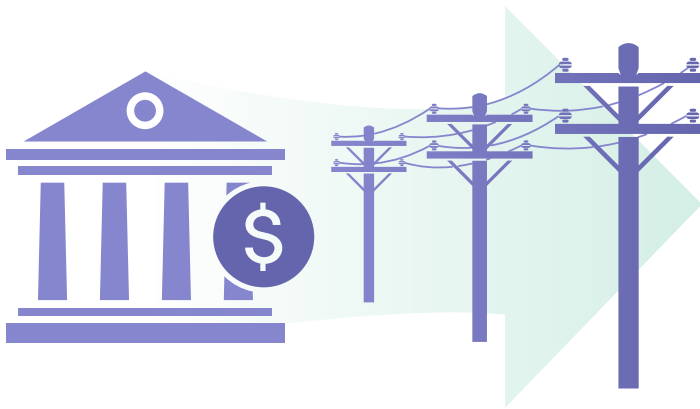


# Quicker Pole Replacements & Access = Quicker Broadband Builds

**Case Study:**  
Getting Dubois  
County, IN  
Connected Faster

**Dubois County, IN:** A public-private partnership is using critical, limited public funds to accelerate broadband deployment by addressing a key concern – pole replacements and access. Here's how it worked.



The local community identified that pole issues were preventing the residents of Dubois County from quickly receiving the benefits of reliable, high-speed internet service. As a result, they devoted \$2.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding toward the \$4.35 million needed for pole “make-ready” work (permitting and engineering studies, renting equipment, replacing old poles) before new broadband infrastructure could be deployed to bring connectivity to the community.

**RESULT:** Unconnected residents and small businesses in Dubois County will receive reliable, high-speed internet **more quickly** than without this funding allocated toward pole costs.

Because of this investment, the owner of the utility poles – Dubois Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) – **will expedite make-ready work** on the remaining 20,000 poles, which will help connect nearly 6,000 Hoosier homes and small businesses across 451 miles.

## TIMELINE FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION

**NORMAL WORK PACE:** 7 years



**WITH INVESTMENT:** 2 years



## MILES COMPLETED PER 2 YEARS

**NORMAL WORK PACE:** 66 miles

**WITH INVESTMENT:** 451 miles



Dubois County's smart use of public funds to support pole costs serves as a model for other communities across the country looking for ways to accelerate broadband deployment and speed up broadband access for their residents.

**CONNECT  
THE FUTURE**

Learn more at [ConnectTheFuture.org](https://ConnectTheFuture.org)