



*Sheep Lake*

2025



# IDAHO COUNTY

## BROADBAND STRATEGIC PLAN

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320 W. Main Street • Grangeville, Idaho 83530

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This plan was made possible through the dedicated volunteer efforts of the  
**Idaho County Broadband Coalition Members:**

**Ken Bock**

City of Cottonwood

**Conrad Banez**

Salmon River Joint School District #243

**Ellamae Burnell**

Prairie River Library District

**Jeannie Fancher**

Salmon River Chamber of Commerce

**Casey Forsmann**

Pacific Cabinets

**Terry Gamble**

City of Stites

**Ryan Hasselstrom**

Cottonwood Joint School District #242

**Tonya Kennedy**

City of Grangeville

**Cody Killmar**

City of Riggins

**Abner King**

Syringa Hospital & Clinics

**Ted Lindsley**

Idaho County Commissioners

**Carlos Martinez**

City of Kooskia

**Sandy Murphy**

City of White Bird

**Dominic Ponozzo**

CompuNet

**Michael Stevens**

Mountain View School District #244

**Brian Tarello**

St. Mary's Health

**Jerry Zumalt**

Idaho County Emergency Management

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Christine Frei**

Prime Point Consulting

**Alison Tompkins**

J-U-B ENGINEERS, Inc

**Chris Yake**

Gateway Mapping, Inc.



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*East Gospel Lake*

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*Lolo Creek*

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Idaho County Broadband Strategic Plan serves as an essential roadmap to advance the digital infrastructure and connectivity within and through Idaho County and the surrounding region. This strategic plan aligns with the broader Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan, ensuring a cohesive strategy for broadband development across the state. It emphasizes the execution of high-priority projects that enhance community engagement, digital literacy, and equitable access to technology, alongside the development of robust middle mile and last mile infrastructure.

Since 2005, Idaho County has engaged in regional broadband initiatives, supporting the buildout of middle mile infrastructure led by entities such

as the Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA) and the District II Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB2). These initiatives are critical in overcoming the county's challenging terrain and ensuring reliable communication networks for emergency responders and residents alike.

Recent successes include securing an \$11.58 million Capital Projects Fund grant in 2024, which supports the design and construction of a middle-mile fiber optic line from Grangeville to Orofino, and a last-mile fiber-to-the-premise in the City of Nezperce. This project promises to enhance connectivity and stability across the five counties in District 2. Additionally, a \$36,500 BEAD Regional Coordination and Planning Grant was awarded in 2024 to establish a county-wide broadband coalition dedicated to leading and implementing the strategic plan.

The Idaho County Broadband Coalition, a group of 15-25 individuals formed in the fall of 2024, is committed to developing and supporting the implementation of a 5-year Broadband Action Plan. This coalition underscores the importance of open-access broadband for education, healthcare, economic development, public safety, and community empowerment.

In summary, the Idaho County Broadband Strategic Plan is poised to significantly improve the quality of life and economic prosperity in Idaho County by fostering a digitally inclusive community where every resident has access to reliable, high-speed internet.



# 01

## INTRODUCTION

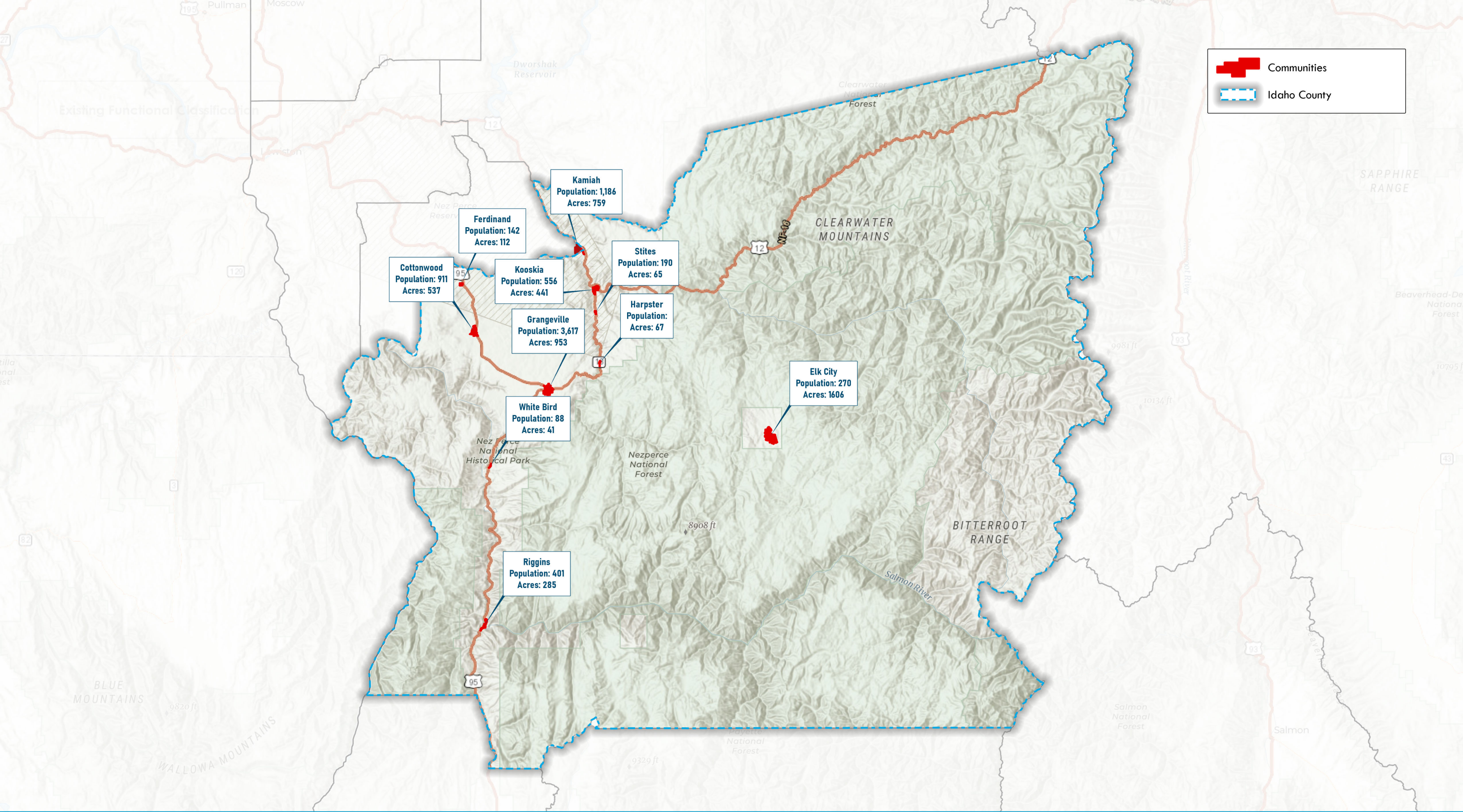


*Gospel Peak*

The Idaho County Broadband Strategic Plan is a comprehensive roadmap designed to enhance the digital landscape of Idaho County, Idaho (Figure 1: Idaho County Map). This plan aligns with the broader Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan, ensuring a cohesive and integrated approach to broadband development across the state. Our strategic plan focuses on implementing high-priority projects that foster community engagement and education, promote digital literacy and equity, and develop robust middle mile and last mile infrastructure.

By addressing critical areas, the plan aims to significantly improve business communication, education, healthcare, and telework opportunities within Idaho County. This will be achieved through the development of a planning document that guides future broadband projects and their implementation. The vision of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition is to create a digitally inclusive community where every resident has access to reliable and high-speed internet, thereby enhancing the overall quality of life and economic prosperity in Idaho County.





**FIGURE 1: IDAHO COUNTY MAP**



0 5 10 20  
Miles





# 02

## HISTORY



St. Mary's Health Clinic

Since 2005, Idaho County has participated in regional broadband initiatives led by Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA) and the District II Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB2)<sup>1</sup> to build middle mile infrastructure. Idaho County has supported private service provider wireless buildouts to serve end users in very rural parts of the county. . In 2020, Idaho County was awarded \$850,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding for wireless system buildout in the county. The project allowed AirBridge Broadband to complete 28 fixed wireless sites underserved areas in the county. In 2021, Idaho County received an additional \$496,509 through another round of CARES funding which allowed AirBridge Broadband to complete another 17 fixed

wireless sites. These projects improved access by residents, businesses, and anchor institutions.

In 2020, through a grant written by CEDA to the US EDA, Idaho County procured services and completed a \$120,000 feasibility analysis for middle-mile broadband fiber between Grangeville and New Meadows. With this information, an initiative between the non-profit Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON) and private sector Intermountain Infrastructure Group (IIG), their partnership secured a \$20 million grant award from the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board to build open access middle mile broadband over 198 miles from Grangeville to Star.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, Idaho County supported a middle-mile projects by the Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON) linking Idaho County to Star, Idaho, and by the Port of Lewiston linking Grangeville to Lewiston and Moscow. These middle mile projects are critical to Idaho County, which encompasses 8,502 square miles and includes steep, rocky canyons with terrain that makes connectivity/communication difficult. The middle-mile line will provide redundant, backup connectivity for the regional communication network utilized by emergency responders. It also creates opportunities to develop new, high-speed, last-mile connections along the route.

### OPEN ACCESS NETWORK\*

Physical broadband network infrastructure that provides dark fiber access to municipalities, community institutions, rural cooperatives, and nonprofit and communications companies utilizing a cost recovery-based model of operations and maintenance.

\* As defined in the Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan

<sup>1</sup> DIGB2 is made up of the 5 counties in District 2 including Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce as well as the Nez Perce Tribe.

<sup>2</sup> Reported in the CEDA Annual Report, April 2023.

In 2024, Idaho County was the recipient of a \$11.58 million Capital Projects Fund grant supported by the District II Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB2) with match dollars<sup>3</sup> and project support commitments provided by DIGB2 members and the cities of Nezperce and Grangeville. The DIGB2 project includes the design and construction of a middle-mile fiber optic line from Grangeville to Orofino and last-mile fiber-to-the-premise in the City of Nezperce, providing benefits to all five counties in District 2. When completed, this fiber path will help ensure stable communication connectivity of northern and southern Idaho within state lines by providing a redundant loop within the five DIGB2 counties.

Additionally, Idaho County received a \$36,500 Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Regional Coordination and Planning Grant in 2024. This grant was used to organize and build a sustainable, county-wide, broadband coalition representative of the people of Idaho County and committed to leading the development and implementation of the 2025 Idaho County Broadband Strategic Plan.



*Riggins Idaho*

<sup>3</sup> Source funding for match dollars was provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).



# 03

## THE IDAHO COUNTY BROADBAND COALITION

The Idaho County Broadband Coalition is a group of 15-25 individuals organized by the County in the fall of 2024 to develop and support the implementation of a 5-year Broadband Action Plan. The coalition aims to support the building of future-proof broadband infrastructure within Idaho County and is committed to working together to find the best solutions for the county. The coalition understands the importance of affordable broadband access for education, healthcare, economic development, public safety, and community.

Ensuring that every Idaho County resident has reliable and affordable broadband is a key component of modern life and future development. The representative coalition is comprised of people representative of the county who have interest in improving the wellbeing of the county, municipalities, and unincorporated areas through better broadband services. The Idaho County Broadband Coalition acts in an advisory capacity to the county and to other stakeholders on broadband development of infrastructure and services. It plays a critical role in the dissemination of information back to Idaho County communities and rural residents.



*Elk City*

# 04

## VISION, MISSION, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES



*Camas Prairie*

At the inaugural meeting of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition on November 4, 2024, coalition members developed vision and mission statements that are specific to Idaho County’s unique and diverse needs while aligning with the guiding principles of the ***State of Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan***. The vision and mission are guided by the County’s vast acreage, varied topography, and distinct differences between population centers and remote rural areas.

### Idaho County’s Vision

Communities in and around Idaho County have access to affordable and reliable broadband infrastructure by 2030.

### Idaho County’s Mission

To expand broadband access across Idaho County, prioritizing unserved and underserved, rural communities to support economic development, public safety, healthcare, education, and improve the quality of life in rural Idaho.





Following development of the vision and mission statements, coalition members formulated goals and objectives to guide policies, partnerships, projects, and priorities for broadband in Idaho County.

## IDAHO COUNTY'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. **Provide county-wide, redundant, middle mile fiber**
  - a. High capacity, high-speed, reliable
  - b. Open access
  - c. Partner with ISPs, government, education, business, EMS
2. **Provide community level training and support**
  - a. Support/provide accessibility to internet services and devices
  - b. Continue to coordinate with libraries and other community anchor institutions (CAIs)
3. **Sustainably operate, manage, and maintain an open access network**
  - a. Ensure a secure and reliable fiber network with stable, high-quality connectivity
  - b. Support scale-ability and longevity of fiber network – “future proof”
4. **Establish and maintain a map of existing and planned fiber assets (routes, points of presence (PoPs), and CAIs)**
5. **Identify and prioritize capital improvement projects**
  - a. Generate match or in-kind commitments for funding opportunities/implementation
  - b. Prioritize locally invested businesses/entities
6. **Reach remote areas of Idaho County at an affordable rate using the most reliable medium available**
  - a. Partner with ISPs, government, education, business, EMS
  - b. Solicit partnership interest
  - c. Perform a feasibility study
  - d. Align strategies and partnerships
  - e. Prioritize affordable and accessible service

# 05

## INVENTORY & MAPPING



*Pacific Cabinets, Inc.*

This plan is intended to be a living document and tool to inform and guide the growth and development of broadband infrastructure in Idaho County for years to come. Open-access broadband infrastructure is a relatively new concept in the State of Idaho, and broadband service to-date has primarily been provided by privately owned and managed internet service providers (ISPs).

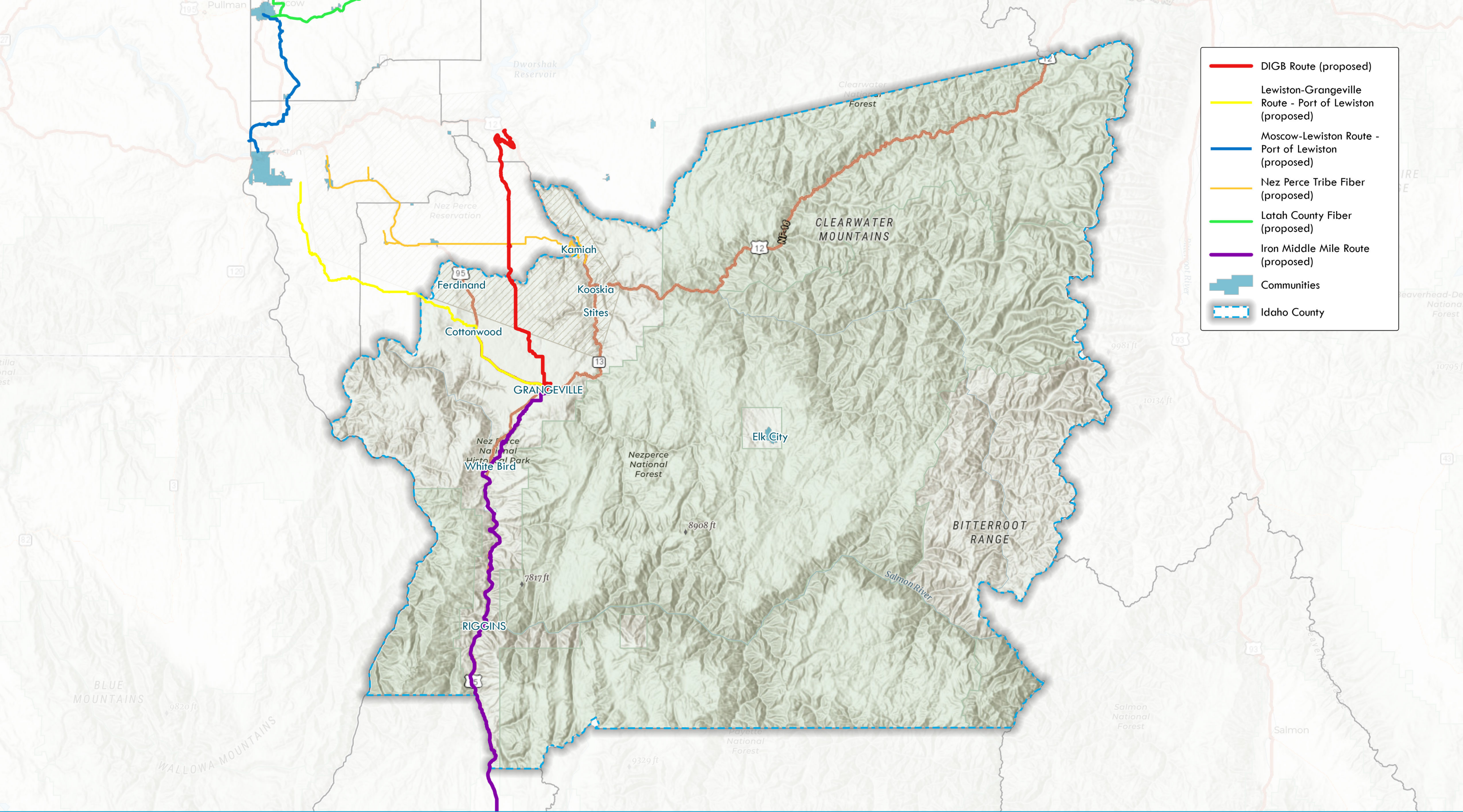
Mapping broadband infrastructure (both publicly and privately owned) is crucial for effective project planning and identifying gaps in service. It helps in understanding the current state of broadband availability, which is essential for making informed

decisions about where to invest in new infrastructure. This allows Idaho County to pinpoint areas that are underserved or unserved, ensuring that resources are allocated to the communities/locations that need them most.

However, in Idaho County, the mapping of broadband coverage is generally limited to new, publicly developed, open-access routes since ISPs generally do not make their data publicly available. Recently funded projects providing open-access broadband in the five-county region are mapped in **Figure 2**. This creates challenges in obtaining a comprehensive view of the existing broadband infrastructure. This lack of publicly accessible data hinders the ability to accurately map and plan for broadband expansion in partnership with ISPs, making it difficult to address all service gaps effectively.

Despite these limitations, efforts are being made to leverage available data and collaborate with ISPs to improve the mapping process. This is evident in the ***State of Idaho BEAD Broadband Map*** generated by the Idaho Office of Broadband, which uses Federal Communications Commission (FCC) data to represent internet service speeds available in Idaho and classify Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) as served, underserved, or unserved.





# FIGURE 2: PROPOSED OPEN-ACCESS BROADBAND ROUTES

Construction Anticipated 2025-2026



0 5 10 20 Miles





# 06

## CAPITAL

# IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



*Kooskia Opera House*

The Idaho Broadband Coalition developed a 3-tier methodology to prioritize where and how to implement future capital improvement projects. (Figures 3-11 - Project Prioritization)

**Tier 1: High Priority Projects.** This tier focuses on broadband fiber deployment in incorporated cities with a 1/2-mile buffer. It also includes CAIs in the vicinity, even if they are outside the 1/2-mile buffer. The goal is to ensure that key urban areas and essential community facilities have access to high-speed internet, which is crucial for economic development, education, healthcare, and other public services. Idaho County includes the incorporated cities of:

- Cottonwood
- Ferdinand
- Grangeville
- Kamiah
- Kooskia
- Riggins
- Stites
- Whitebird

A detailed list of CAIs by community is included in Appendix A.

**Tier 2: Moderate Priority Projects.** In this tier, the focus shifts to unincorporated communities with a 1/2-mile buffer and CAIs in the vicinity, even if they are outside the 1/2-mile buffer. Where last-mile fiber connections are not feasible, wireless internet service may be used. This approach aims to extend broadband access to smaller communities and important institutions, ensuring that they are not left behind in the digital divide.

- Clearwater
- Dixie
- Elk City/South Fork Junction
- Fenn
- Glenwood
- Greencreek
- Harpster
- Lucile – future location of Idaho Department Lands
- Mt. Idaho
- Pinehurst – campground
- Pollock
- Rapid River
- Slate Creek – Ranger Station
- South Kamiah
- Woodland



**Tier 3: Long-term Projects.** This tier addresses the remaining areas of Idaho County that are not covered by Tier 1 or Tier 2. These areas primarily consist of rural and remote Broadband Service Locations (BSLs) where residential, business, agricultural, and forestry uses exist and are accessible by roads<sup>1</sup>. In these locations, satellite internet service may be considered where last-mile fiber connections or wireless service are not feasible. The objective is to provide basic broadband access to the most remote parts of the county, recognizing that some uninhabited and remote areas may not need broadband service except to facilitate emergency response, in which case satellite service is acceptable.



*Oscars at Grangeville*

- Battle Ridge
- Big Cedar
- Camas Prairie Ranches
- Clear Creek
- Joseph and Doumeccq Plains
- Lamb Grade
- Leitch Creek
- Luke’s Gulch
- Powell – Ranger Station
- Red Fir
- Selway River Road – 3 Rivers, Fenn Ranger Station
- Seven Devils Community
- Skokumchuck RV Park & Community
- Syringa
- Warren
- White Water Ranch

The tiered methodology is designed to prioritize broadband service in locations that will maximize benefits to the Idaho County economy and public health, safety, and welfare. It aims to use the most efficient and feasible methods possible to bridge the digital divide and enhance connectivity across the county. It is also designed to ensure that no areas are excluded from consideration, even if they fall outside the immediate priority zones. This approach is similar to the Idaho Transportation Department's "Dig Once" policy, which aims to coordinate infrastructure projects to minimize disruption and maximize efficiency.

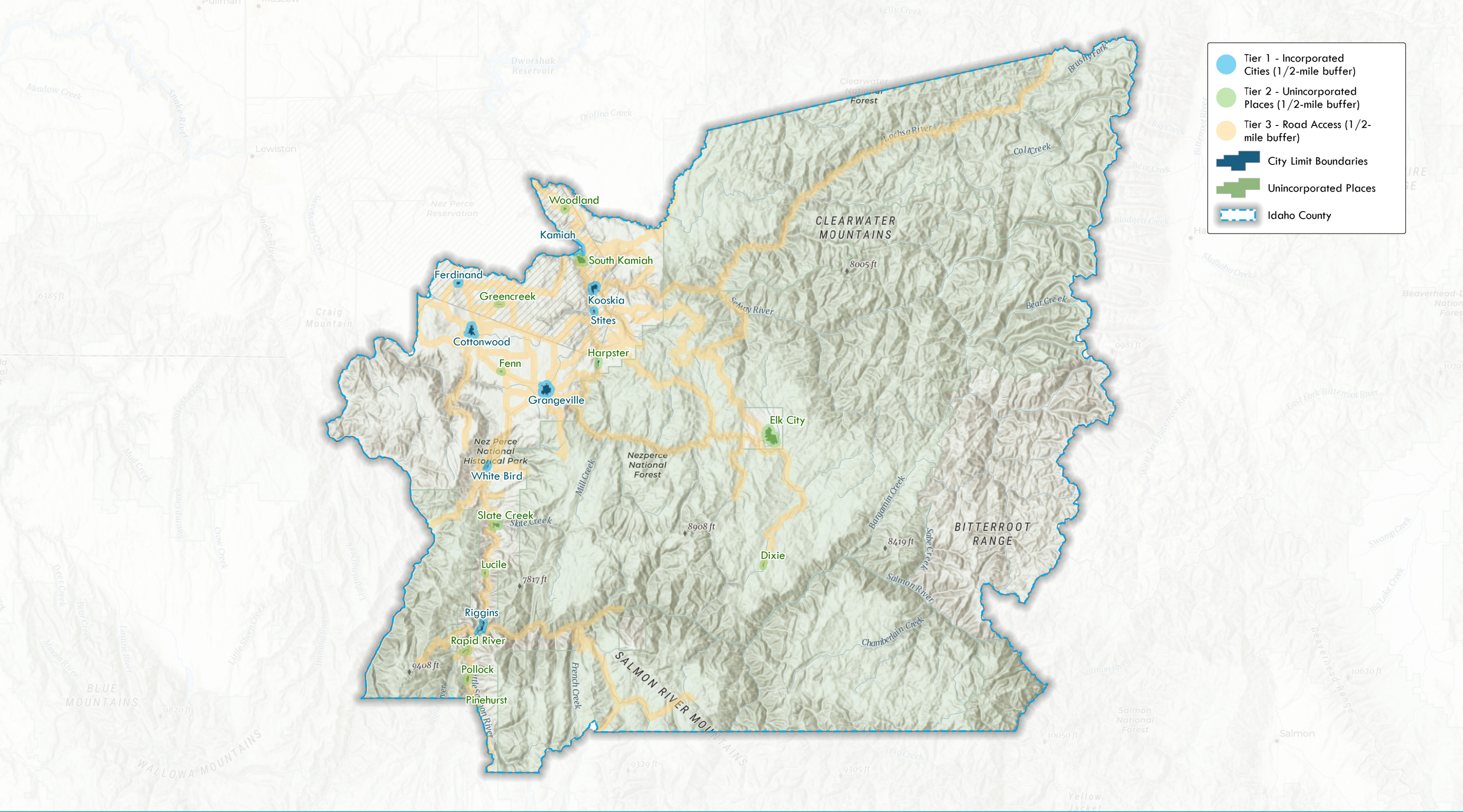


*Kooskia Cafe*

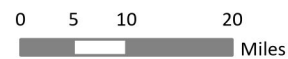
In essence, while the tiered methodology prioritizes certain areas for broadband development based on their immediate needs and potential impact, it does not preclude other areas from being included in broadband projects if there are concurrent construction activities planned. This means that if there are opportunities to integrate broadband infrastructure with other ongoing or planned construction projects, those areas can still be considered for broadband development. This approach ensures that resources are used efficiently and that broadband infrastructure can be expanded in a cost-effective manner, even in areas that might not be the highest priority under the tiered methodology.

<sup>1</sup> Mapping of Tier 3 locations include all roads, regardless of surface type and/or maintenance schedule.

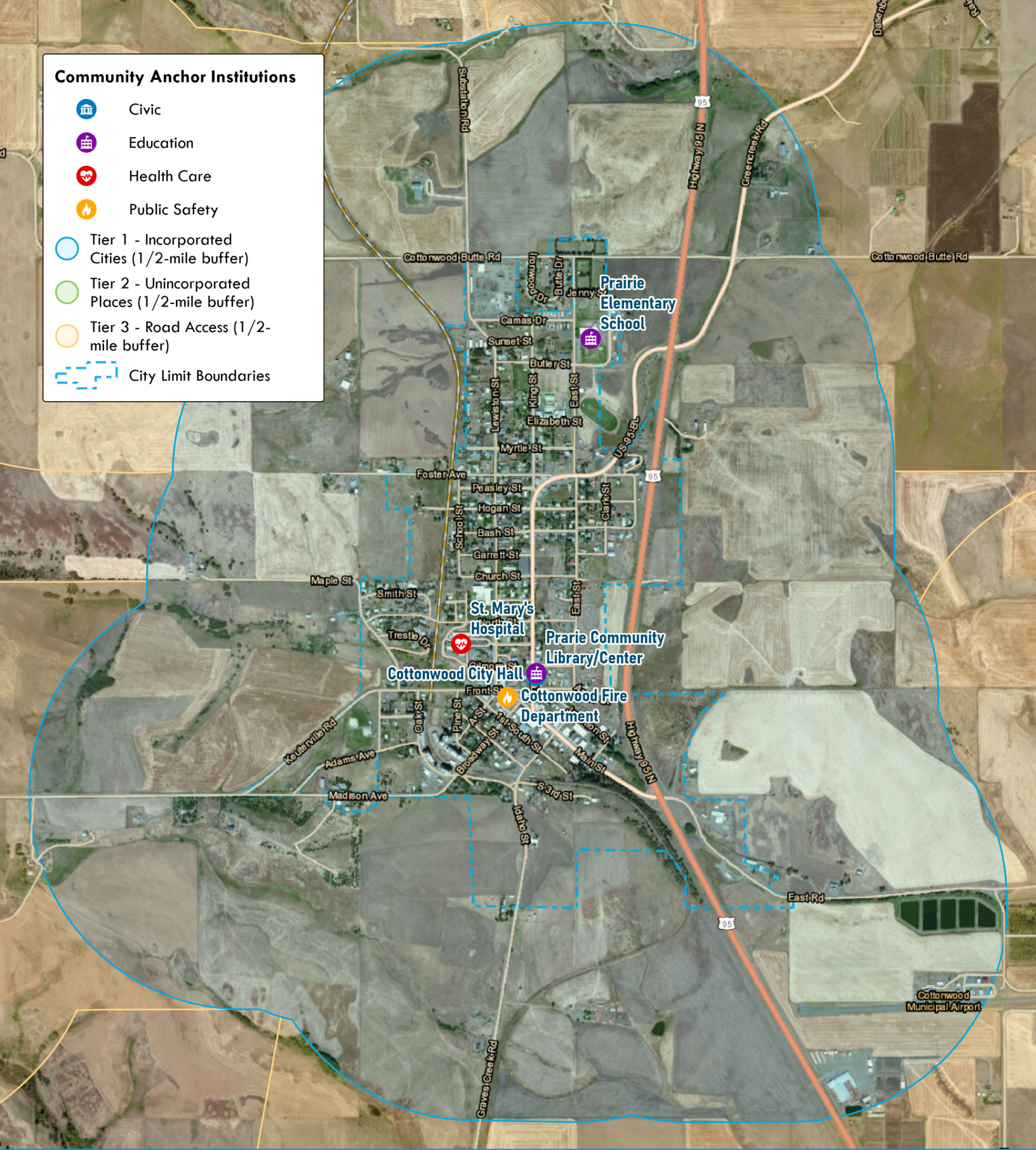




**FIGURE 3: PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**















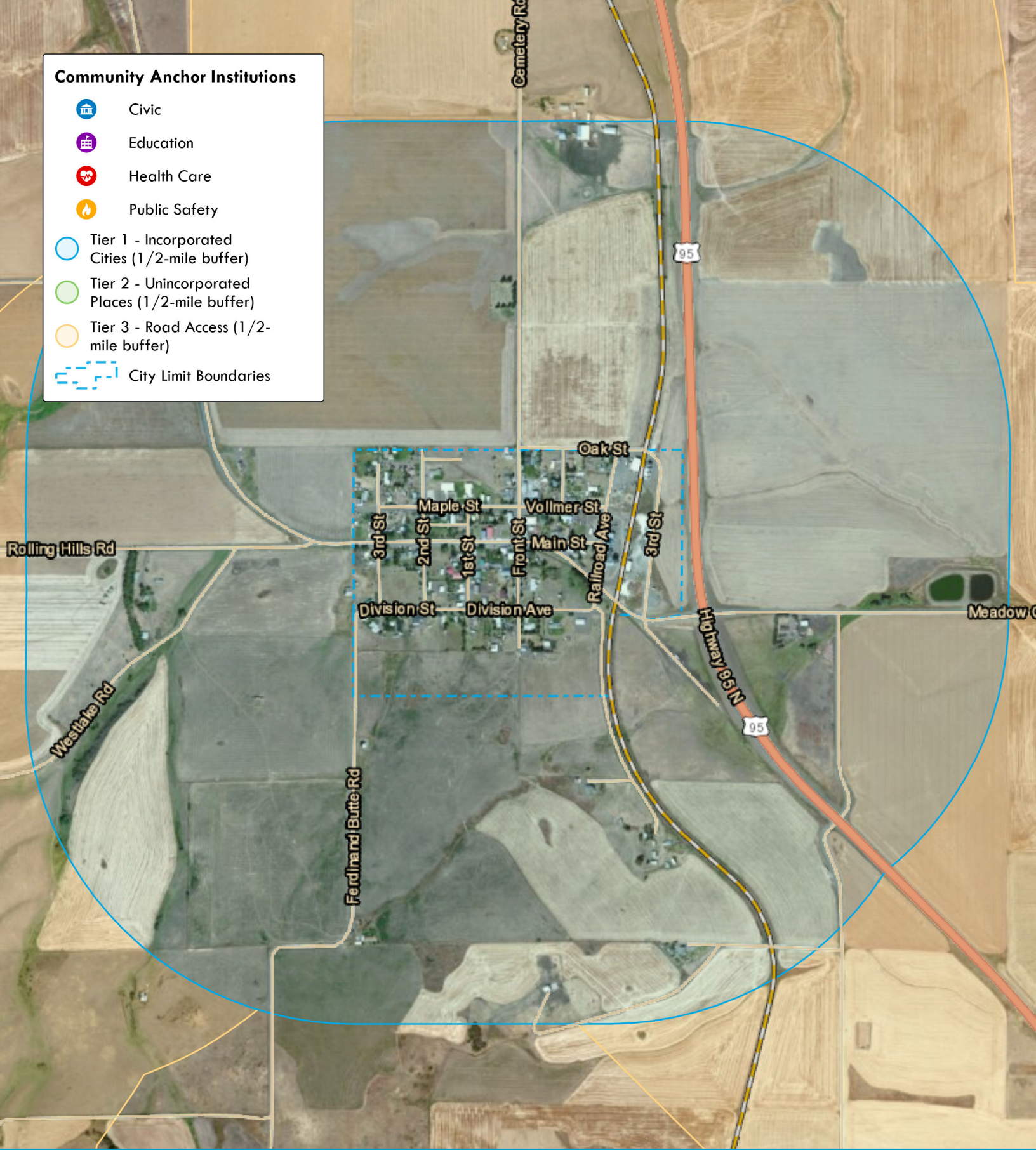
**FIGURE 4: Cottonwood**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries



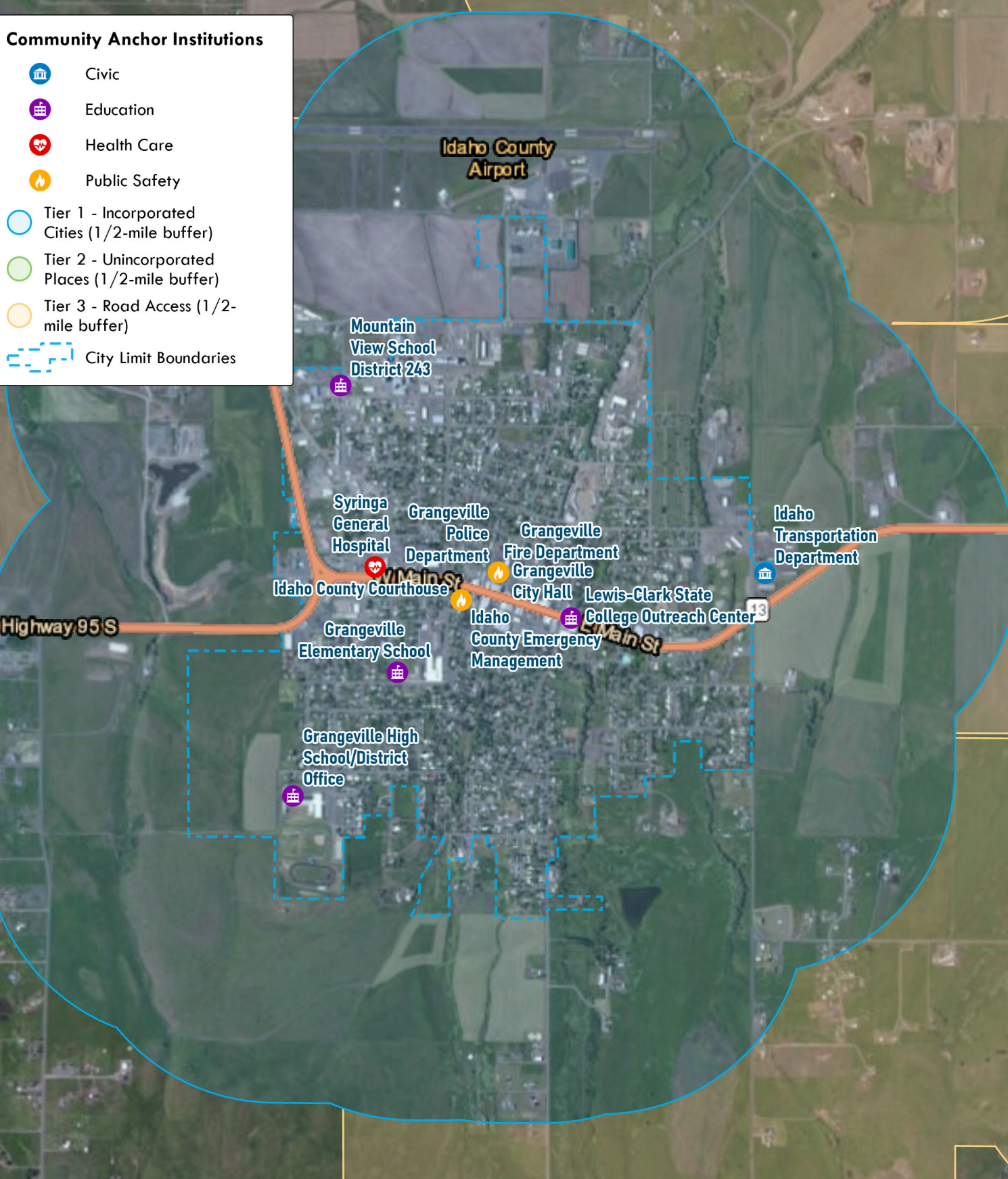
**FIGURE 5: Ferdinand**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries



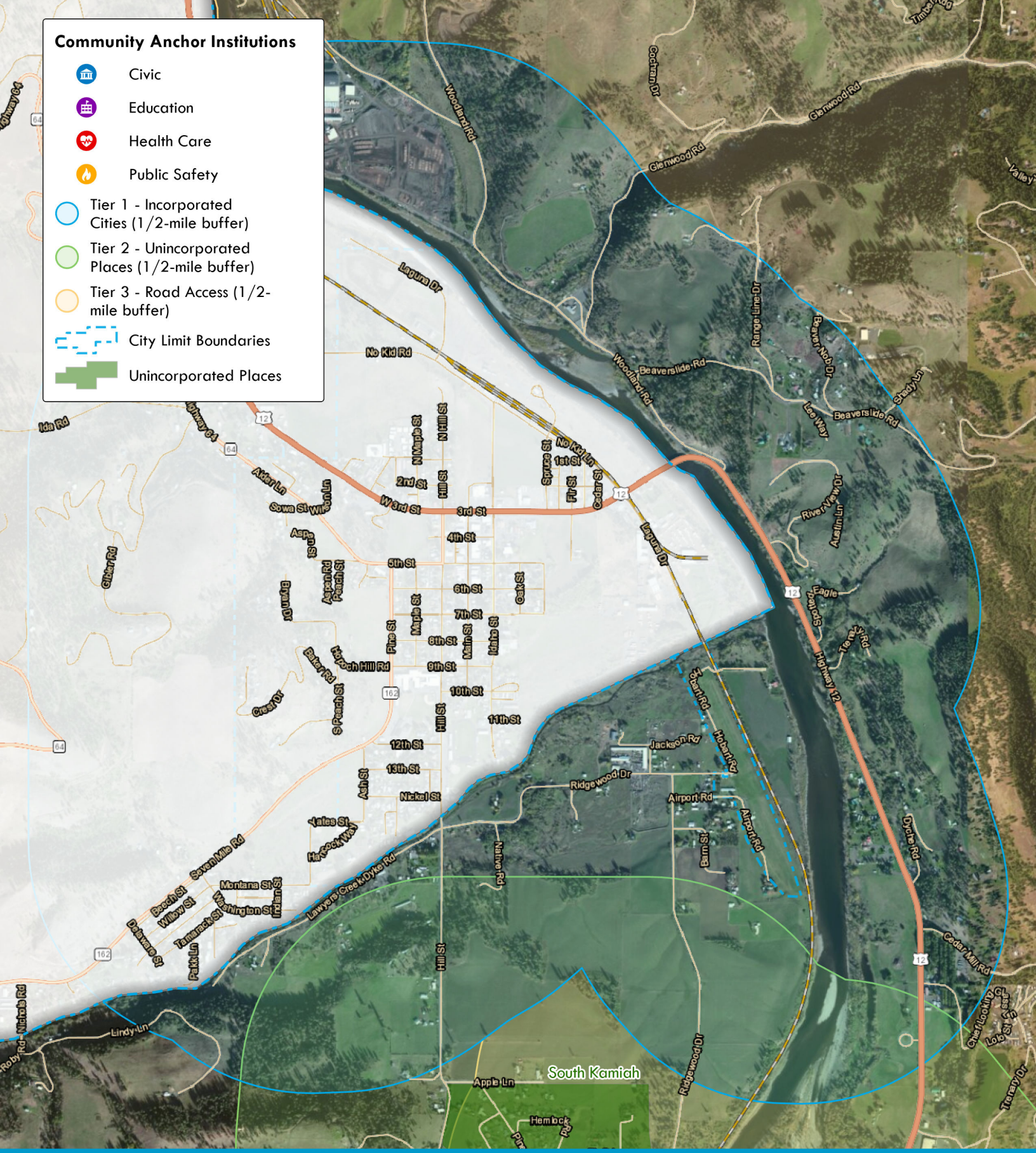
**FIGURE 6: Grangeville**





### Community Anchor Institutions

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries
-  Unincorporated Places



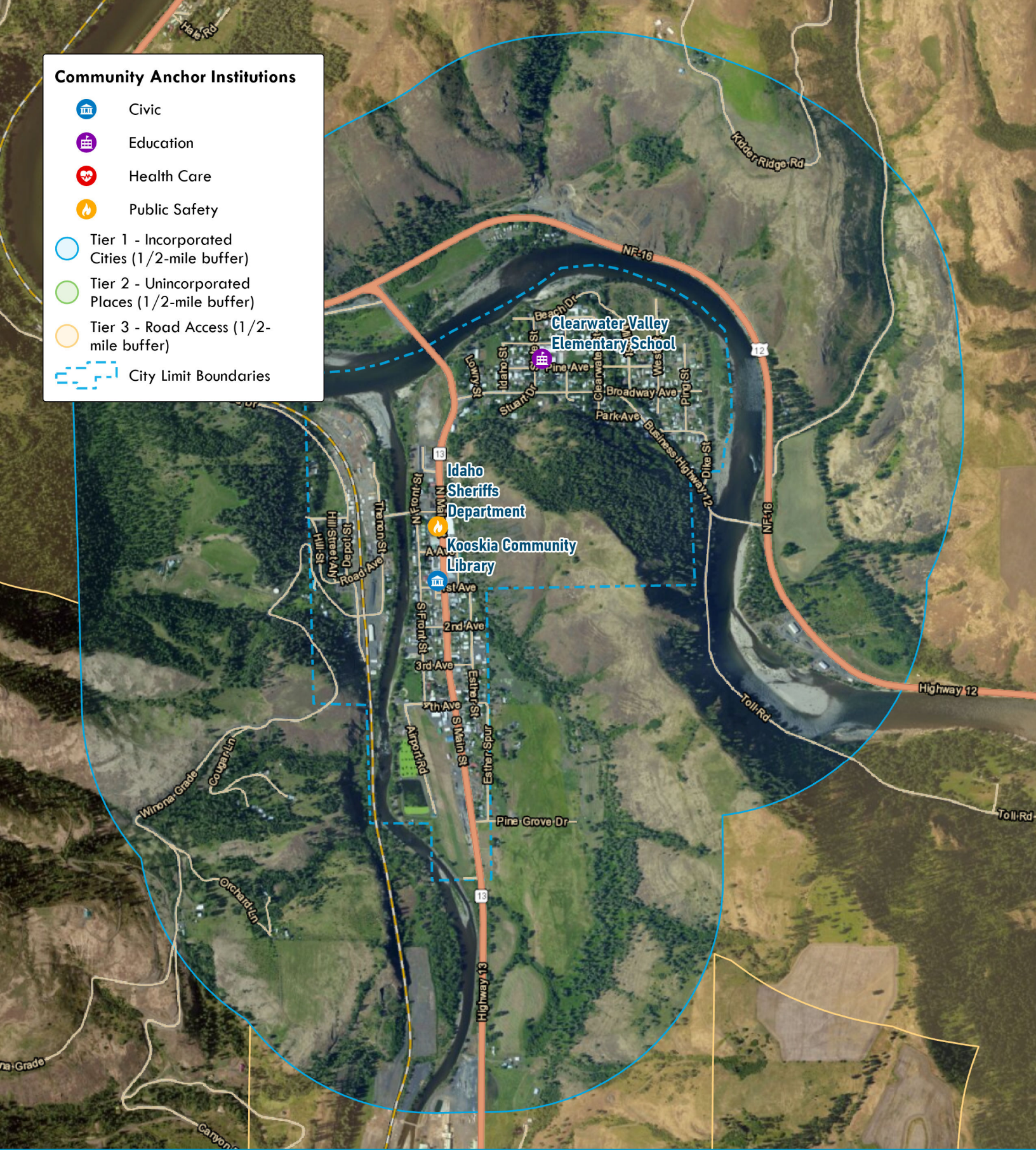
**FIGURE 7: Kamiah**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries




**FIGURE 8: Kooskia**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries




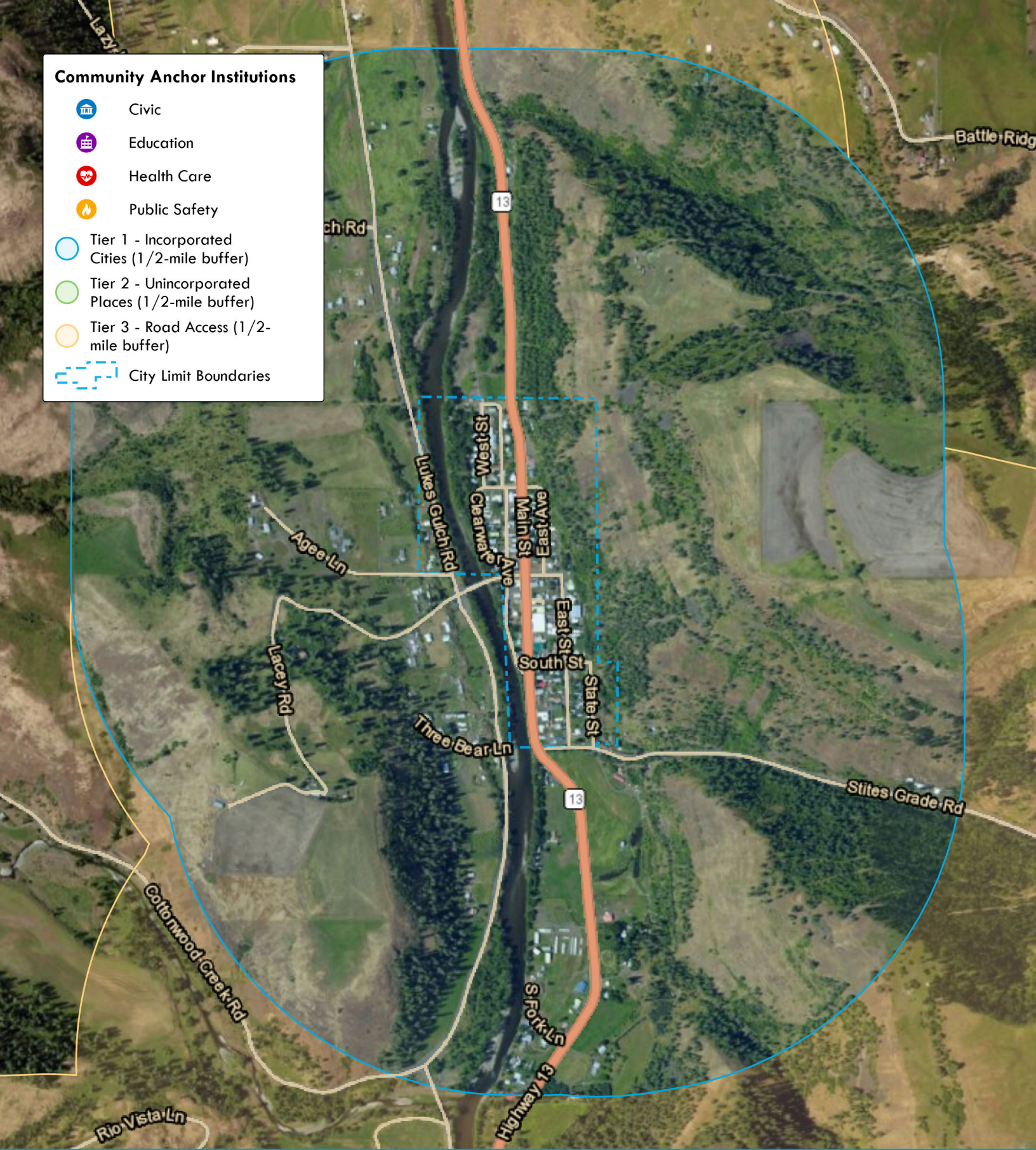
**FIGURE 9: Riggins**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries



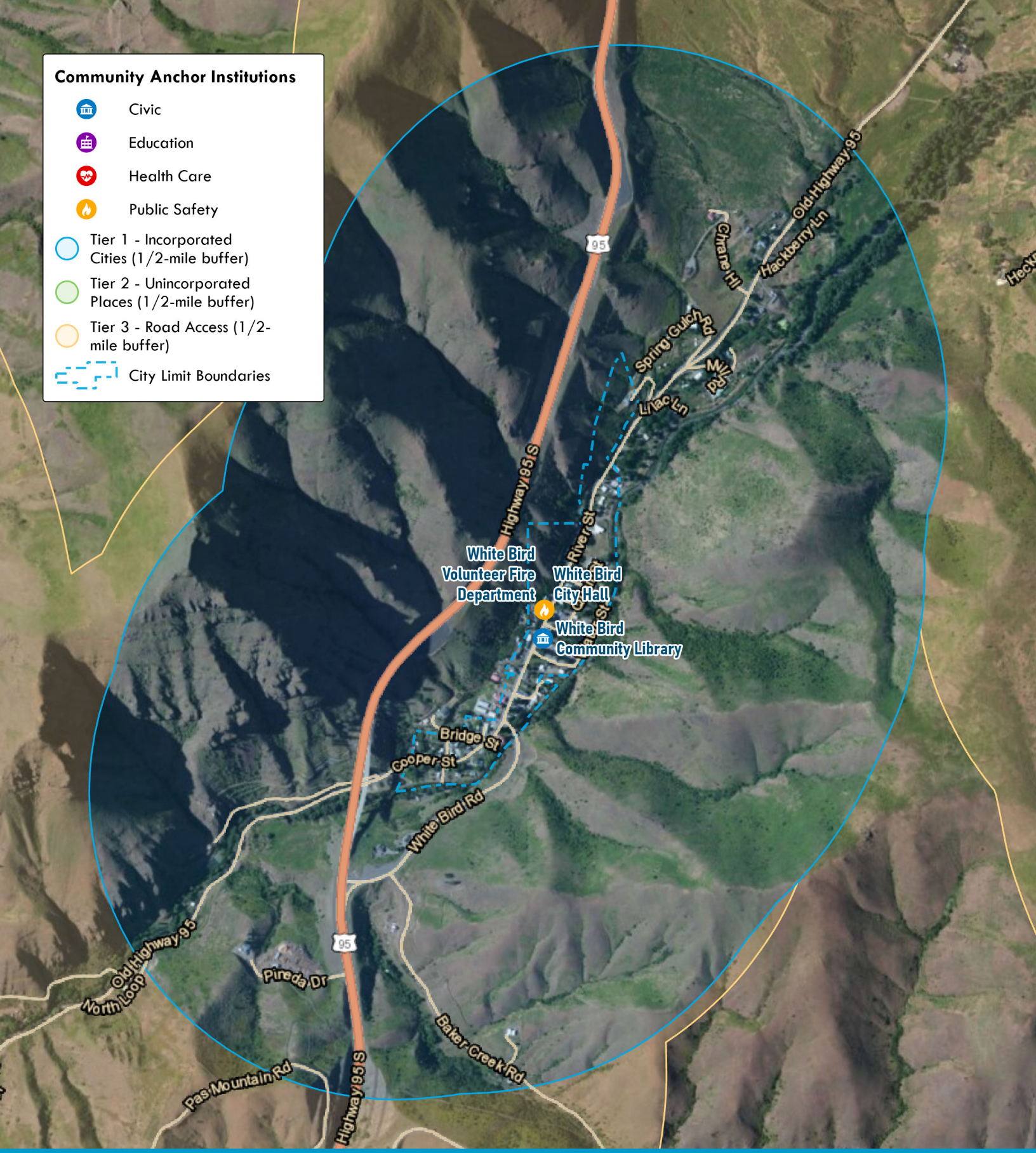
**FIGURE 10: Stites**





**Community Anchor Institutions**

-  Civic
-  Education
-  Health Care
-  Public Safety
-  Tier 1 - Incorporated Cities (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 2 - Unincorporated Places (1/2-mile buffer)
-  Tier 3 - Road Access (1/2-mile buffer)
-  City Limit Boundaries



**FIGURE 11: White Bird**







*Pioneer Park*

# 07

## PARTNERSHIPS & STRATEGIC FUNDING PLAN

Partnerships offer numerous benefits for broadband infrastructure projects, particularly in terms of project implementation, funding, and long-term maintenance and operations. Public-private partnerships (P3s) facilitate efficient project implementation by leveraging the expertise and resources of both public and private sectors. Public entities can provide regulatory support, facilities and/or equipment, and ensure alignment with community needs, while private companies bring technical know-how and operational efficiency.

In terms of funding, a P3 can access a broader range of financial resources. Public entities can secure grants and subsidies, while private partners can contribute capital investment. This combined funding approach can significantly reduce the financial burden on any single entity and accelerate project timelines. For long-term maintenance and operations, a P3 can ensure sustainability and reliability of service. Private partners often have the experience and capacity to manage and maintain broadband infrastructure effectively, conduct marketing, and administer billing, providing high-quality technical expertise and customer service.

Overall, P3s create a collaborative environment that maximizes the strengths of both sectors, leading to successful broadband infrastructure projects that are well-funded, efficiently implemented, and sustainably maintained. Coordinating and collaborating with ISPs and other broadband network administrators will be important to the long-term health maintenance and operation of broadband infrastructure in Idaho County.

### **FINANCIAL PLAN AND FUNDING SOURCES**

To support the implementation of this strategic plan, Idaho County will explore various funding sources. These include a combination of federal and state grants. Coordination and cooperation with private companies and local organizations will also be pursued to secure financial and in-kind contributions needed to meet match requirements of funding sources. By tapping into these diverse funding opportunities, Idaho County aims to ensure the successful execution of its broadband initiatives, ultimately bridging the digital divide and fostering a more connected and prosperous community.



# Broadband Grant/Loan Programs Based on limited project knowledge, further evaluation may be required

Potential Funding Source	Funding Information	Terms/Match Requirements	Application	Funding Timeline	Recommended Approach	Notes
<a href="#">Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)</a>	<p>Idaho Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) assists Idaho cities and counties with the development of needed public infrastructure. Only incorporated cities or counties with a population under 50,000 are eligible for apply for Idaho CDBG funds.</p> <p>Public Facility Construction and Improvements projects must meet one of the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Benefit at least 51% low-and-moderate income (LMI) persons</li> <li>Help prevent or eliminate slum and blight conditions for downtown projects</li> <li>Assist with resolving post-disaster infrastructure damage</li> <li>Projects can be for sewer and water systems, streets, fire stations, removal of architectural barriers, and other public infrastructure</li> </ul>	<p>A match is required, but there is no set amount.</p> <p><i>Public Facility Construction &amp; Improvements, Downtown Revitalization:</i> up to \$500,000</p>	<p><i>Public Facilities &amp; Infrastructure, Downtown Revitalization:</i> due Friday before Thanksgiving</p>		<p>Evaluate projects that may qualify for this funding, corresponding application deadlines, and review <a href="#">resource information</a> regarding successful grant opportunities.</p>	<p>Entitlement cities and government administrative offices do not qualify.</p> <p>Funds are awarded based on several factors including percentage of local match, overall need, impact of the project, and readiness to proceed.</p> <p>An <a href="#">income survey</a> may be required to determine if 51% low-to-moderate income threshold is met.</p>
<a href="#">Idaho Gem Grant (IGG)</a>	<p>This program aids rural communities for the planning and implementation of economic development projects. Rural Idaho Communities with populations under 10,000 are eligible to apply for a maximum of \$50,000 per project. Local and tribal governments are eligible applicants. Counties may apply on behalf of unincorporated communities.</p> <p>Eligible Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public infrastructure construction or engineering tied to a direct business expansion or attraction.</li> <li>Public infrastructure construction or engineering intended to make the community more attractive for future businesses, tourism, or workforce attraction.</li> <li>Studies to develop, grow or rehabilitate community owned assets.</li> </ul>	<p>All IGG grantees must provide a match equal to or exceeding 20% of the request.</p>	<p>Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a quarterly basis. Deadlines are anticipated to be in March, June, September, and December.</p>		<p>Call and discuss the competitiveness of project(s) with the <a href="#">Idaho Department of Commerce Rural Support Team</a>.</p>	<p>The procurement of goods or services purchased with Idaho Gem Grants funds must conform to Idaho Code.</p> <p>Application requires a resolution, a budget, and documentation of matching funds.</p>
<a href="#">Rural Community Investment Fund (RCIF)</a>	<p>The intent of this program is to provide state funded block grants to benefit rural communities and areas by providing or improving public infrastructure systems that enable communities to retain or create jobs.</p> <p>Eligible activities include construction or expansion of public infrastructure or publicly regulated utilities or infrastructure.</p> <p>Eligible applicants are cities and counties with a population less than 25,000. Counties may apply for unincorporated communities.</p>	<p>Grant limits are \$50,000 to \$500,000 - recent budget allocations have limited total RCIF funding to \$400,000 annually. Competitive applications will have a local match, but there is no required percentage.</p>	<p>Applications are accepted four times per year - the third Monday in March, June, September, and December.</p>		<p>If interested in applying, check the commerce website at <a href="http://www.commerce.idaho.gov">www.commerce.idaho.gov</a> or contact a <a href="#">regional community development specialist</a>.</p>	<p>Applications will be evaluated on impact to distressed areas, benefits of the project, community support, and the project's feasibility. A public hearing is required BEFORE submission of the application.</p>



Potential Funding Source	Funding Information	Terms/Match Requirements	Application	Funding Timeline	Recommended Approach	Notes
<a href="#">Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program</a>	<p>A federal program to expand high-speed broadband access. BEAD prioritizes underserved locations that have no internet access or limited access. A pre-qualification process will be used to identify eligible and qualified applicants. Eligible applicants include incorporated businesses or partnerships, nonprofit organizations, Idaho local or Tribal government, and local government entities. Pre-qualification will verify the entity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets basic financial, managerial, technical, operational, and other regulatory and disclosure requirements</li> <li>• A certification of applicant's history and planned continuance with relevant labor laws and disclosure of past violations</li> <li>• Certification of applicant's willingness to abide by certain BEAD requirements (such as BABA, EHP)</li> </ul>	Matching funds of 25% of the project's cost is required.	Pre-qualification applications are currently open. See <a href="#">website</a> for open office hours.	Pre-qualification is currently open. Funding applications will be open in Quarter 2 of 2025.	Evaluate eligibility of the entity and the pre-qualification requirements.	Several resources are available on the BEAD web page to evaluate eligibility and requirements.
<a href="#">Community Connect Program - USDA Rural Development</a>	This program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the broadband grant speed to all premises in rural, economically-challenged communities where broadband does not exist. Eligible applicants include state governments, local unity of government, and tribal organizations.	<p>Min award: \$100,00</p> <p>Max award: \$5M</p> <p>Required match of at least 15%</p>	Application period scheduled to open on February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 and close on April 21, 2025.	<p>6-9 months until award</p> <p>Projects should be completed within 3 years of award</p>	<p>Evaluate projects, determine eligibility, and start planning for application.</p> <p>Review SAM.gov registration to verify it is valid and active.</p>	
<a href="#">Broadband Technical Assistance (BTA) - USDA Rural Development</a>	BTA funding helps promote the expansion of broadband into rural areas. Eligible activities include project planning and community engagement, financial sustainability, environmental compliance, construction planning and engineering, accessing federal resources, and data collection and reporting. Eligible applicants include state or local governments, and tribes.	<p>Min award: \$50,000</p> <p>Max award: \$500,000</p>	Application period anticipated to open in Summer 2025.	<p>6-9 months until award</p> <p>Projects should be completed within 2 years of award</p>	<p>Evaluate projects, determine eligibility, and start planning for application.</p> <p>Review SAM.gov registration to verify it is valid and active.</p>	
<a href="#">Distance Learning &amp; Telemedicine Grants - USDA Rural Development</a>	This program helps rural communities use advanced telecommunications technology to connect to each other - and the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. Program is targeted to rural areas with populations of 20,000 or fewer. Eligible applicants include state and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations, and for-profit businesses.	<p>Awards range from \$50,000 to \$1M</p> <p>Required match of at least 15%</p>	Application period currently open and due by March 6, 2025.	<p>6-9 months until award</p> <p>Projects should be completed within 3 years of award</p>	<p>Evaluate projects, determine eligibility, and start planning for application.</p> <p>Review SAM.gov registration to verify it is valid and active.</p>	Contact a <a href="#">General Field Representative</a> to discuss project and eligibility. There may be limitations on funding for broadband facilities with this funding.
<a href="#">Rural Broadband Access Loan &amp; Loan Guarantee - USDA Rural Development</a>	This program offers financial assistance to eligible applications that will construct, improve, or acquire facilities and equipment needed to provide service at the broadband lending speed in eligible rural areas. Eligible applicants include corporations, a state or local government, and tribes. Eligible areas must be completely contained within a rural area or composed of multiple areas. At least 15% of households must not have access to broadband service.	<p>Loan Terms are limited to the expected composite economic life of the assets to be financed plus 3 years.</p> <p>Interest rates are set at the time funds are advanced.</p>	Application periods are announced on a periodic basis.		Contact a <a href="#">General Field Representative</a> to discuss project and eligibility.	



Potential Funding Source	Funding Information	Terms/Match Requirements	Application	Funding Timeline	Recommended Approach	Notes
<a href="#">Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans &amp; Loan Guaranteed - USDA Rural Development</a>	<p>Provides financing for the construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone and broadband in rural areas. Eligible entities include state and local governments, tribes, non-profits, and businesses. Eligible areas are towns with a population of 5,000 or less. Funds may be used for improvement, expansion, construction, or acquisitions of broadband capable telecommunications.</p>	<p>Cost-of-Money Loans from USDA Rural Utilities Service. Fixed rate depending on loan maturity at time of each advance.</p> <p>Loan Guarantees</p> <p>Hardship Loans</p>	<p>Applications are accepted year-round.</p>		<p>Contact a <a href="#">General Field Representative</a> to discuss project and ensure complete and eligible applications.</p>	



# **APPENDIX A**

## **Community Anchor Institutions**



Community Anchor Institution Name	Use	Street Address	City
BPC Volunteer Fire District	Public Safety	174 Main Street	Clearwater
Cottonwood City Hall	Civic	506 King St	Cottonwood
Cottonwood Community Hall	Civic	506 King St	Cottonwood
Cottonwood Fire Department	Public Safety	507 Main St	Cottonwood
Cottonwood Municipal Airport	Civic	Airport Road	Cottonwood
Cottonwood Office-Bureau of Land Management	Public Safety	2 Butte Drive	Cottonwood
Idaho County Fair	Civic	1500 King Street	Cottonwood
North Idaho Correctional Institute	Public Safety	236 Radar Road	Cottonwood
Prairie Elementary School	Education	1916 East St	Cottonwood
Prairie Jr/Sr High School	Education	453 Keuterville Rd	Cottonwood
Prarie Community Library/Center	Education	506 King St	Cottonwood
Saint Gertrude's Monastery	Civic	465 Keuterville Rd	Cottonwood
St. John Bosco Academy	Education	122 Substation Road	Cottonwood
St. Mary's Hospital	Health Care	701 Lewiston St	Cottonwood
Elk City Elementary	Education	100 School Drive	Elk City
Elk City Volunteer Fire Department	Public Safety	101 Sweeney Road	Elk City
St. Mary's Elk City Clinic	Health Care	131 Main	Elk City
Assumption Parish Hall	Civic	514 Maple Street	Ferdinand
Ferdinand City Hall	Civic	407 Main Street	Ferdinand
Ferdinand Community Hall	Civic	1710 Community Drive S	Ferdinand
Ferdinand Fire Department	Public Safety	407 Main Street	Ferdinand
Grangeville Centennial Library	Civic	225 W North Street	Grangeville
Grangeville City Hall	Civic	225 W North Street	Grangeville
Grangeville City Shop	Civic	720 Nez Perce Street	Grangeville
Grangeville Elementary School	Education	400 S Idaho Avenue	Grangeville
Grangeville Elks (used for community activity)	Civic	116 S Meadow	Grangeville
Grangeville Fire Department	Public Safety	225 W North Street	Grangeville
Grangeville High School/District Office	Education	910 S D Street	Grangeville
Grangeville Police Department	Public Safety	225 W North Street	Grangeville
Grangeville Senior Center	Civic	108 Grangeville Truck Route	Grangeville
Idaho County Airport	Civic	228 Airport Lane	Grangeville
Idaho County Courthouse	Civic	320 West Main Street	Grangeville
Idaho County Emergency Management	Public Safety	320 West Main Street	Grangeville
Idaho County Sheriff's Office	Public Safety	320 West Main Street	Grangeville
Idaho Transportation Department	Civic	303 Grangeville Truck Route	Grangeville
Lewis-Clark State College Outreach Center	Education	201 E Main	Grangeville
Mountain View School District 243	Education	910 N D Street	Grangeville
St. Mary's Health Clinic	Health Care	617 W. North Street	Grangeville
Syringa General Hospital	Health Care	722 W North Street	Grangeville
Syringa Primary Care Clinic	Health Care	722 W North Street	Grangeville
University of Idaho Extension, Idaho County	Education	320 West Main Street	Grangeville
Greencreek Hall	Civic	1062 Greencreek	Greencreek
Glenwood-Caribel Volunteer Fire District	Public Safety		Kamiah
Clearwater Valley Elementary School	Education		Kooskia
Clearwater Valley High School	Education		Kooskia
Idaho Sheriffs Department	Public Safety		Kooskia
Kooskia Community Library	Civic		Kooskia
Kooskia Community Library	Civic	26 South Main	Kooskia
Kooskia Emergency Services	Public Safety	401 Front Street	Kooskia
Kooskia Municipal Airport	Civic	Main Street	Kooskia
Lochsa-Powell Range District	Public Safety	502 Lowry Street	Kooskia
Red River Ranger District	Public Safety	300 American River Road	Kooskia
Syringa Kooskia Clinic	Health Care	022 N Main	Kooskia
Tahoe QRU	Public Safety	786 Leitch Creek Road	Kooskia
Ridge Runners Fire District	Public Safety	136 Red Fir Road	Kooskia
Moose Creek Ranger District	Public Safety	831 Selway Road	Lowell
Secesh Meadows Volunteer Fire District	Public Safety	105 Secesh Pioneer Cemetery	McCall
Salmon River Rural Fire District	Public Safety		Polluck
Riggins City Emergency Services	Public Safety	126 S Main	Riggins
Riggins City Hall	Civic	127 S Main	Riggins
Riggins Community Center	Civic	121 Lodge Street	Riggins
Riggins Police Department	Public Safety	126 S Main	Riggins
Salmon River High School	Education	711 Ace's Pl	Riggins
Salmon River Joint School District District 213	Education	711 Ace's Place	Riggins
Salmon River Public Library	Civic	126 S Main	Riggins
St. Luke's Clinic Salmon River Family Practice	Health Care	214 Main St.	Riggins
Salmon River Ranger District	Public Safety	304 Slate Creek Road	Slate Creek
Stites City Hall	Civic	213 S Main	Stites
Stites Fire Department	Public Safety	213 Main Street	Stites
White Bird City Hall	Civic	212 River Street	White Bird
White Bird Community Library	Civic	245 River Street	White Bird
White Bird Volunteer Fire Department	Public Safety	212 River Street	White Bird
Carrot Ridge/Woodland Fire District	Public Safety		



# **APPENDIX B**

## **Idaho County Resolution #2024-16 Establishing a Broadband Action Team**



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A BROADBAND ACTION TEAM (COALITION) FOR BROADBAND AND INFRASTRASTURE EXPANSION**

AN AGREEMENT (Memorandum of understanding, hereinafter referred to as “MOU”) having been made between Idaho County (“County”) and the City of Cottonwood, City of Ferdinand, City of Grangeville, City of Kooskia, City of Riggins, City of Stites, and City of White Bird collectively “parties,” each being a governmental entity of the State of Idaho;

WITNESS

**WHEREAS**, each of the parties to said MOU is a “public agency” as defined by Idaho Code 67-2327, and is therefore authorized to enter into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement under Idaho Code 67-2328; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the parties, as a “public agency,” entered into said MOU and, pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2328 and pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2328(b) each must adopt a resolution or ordinance to effectuate the MOU; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the parties hereto have an interest in providing high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved locations with fiber optic or future proof broadband infrastructure within their jurisdictions; and,

**WHEREAS**, the American Rescue Plan Act allocated State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and Capital Projects Funds to states and counties in the United States for specific purposes, including broadband expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act allocated Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment funds to states for the purpose of prioritizing fiber optic facilities in coordination with local governments to reach every unserved and underserved location in the US; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho County established a Broadband Coalition for the purpose of engaging stakeholders to prepare and plan for the above-named funding and future funding opportunities in or to build future-proof broadband infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Idaho County Broadband Coalition’s vision includes advancing of successful broadband implementation that meets the long-term needs of Idaho County residents, businesses, and public entities for economic development, healthcare, public safety, business development, and resident living.

**WHEREAS**, Idaho County was awarded funding to develop a five-year broadband action plan and plans to coordinate with local municipalities and others to apply for subsequent broadband funding opportunities to fund the broadband action plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Idaho County, State of Idaho, pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2327 and 67-2328 that it agrees to and acknowledges the provisions in the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly exercise their powers for broadband expansion with grant funds.

PASSED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

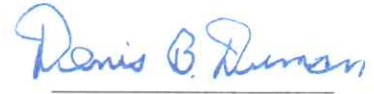
**Idaho County Board of Commissioners**



R. Skipper Brandt, Chairman



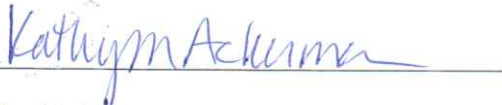
Ted Lindsley



Denis B. Duman

ATTEST:

By:



Kathy M. Ackerman

Idaho County Clerk



# **APPENDIX C**

## **Memorandums of Understanding Between Participating Communities**

Cottonwood

Grangeville

Kooskia

Riggins

Stites

Whitebird

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Idaho County and the City of Cottonwood

Under this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), Idaho County, Idaho (“County”) and Cottonwood, Idaho (“Entity”), jointly “Parties,” agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County (“Broadband Project”).

### **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

### **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

#### **COUNTY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
2. Coordinate with the entity through the entity’s designated broadband coalition representative.
3. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
4. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

#### **ENTITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity’s interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
2. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
3. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community’s representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

County Contact	Entity Contact
Jerry Zumalt	
Idaho County Disaster Management	
<a href="mailto:jzumalt@idahocounty.org">jzumalt@idahocounty.org</a>	
(208)983-3074	

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:

1. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
2. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
3. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
4. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

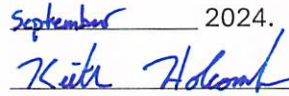
The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
August, 2024.



R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this 9 day of  
September 2024.

  
Keith Holcomb, Mayor  
City of Cottonwood

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Idaho County and the City of Kooskia

Under this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), Idaho County, Idaho (“County”) and Kooskia, Idaho (“Entity”), jointly “Parties,” agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County (“Broadband Project”).

### **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

### **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

#### **COUNTY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

13. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
14. Coordinate with the entity through the entity’s designated broadband coalition representative.
15. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
16. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

#### **ENTITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

10. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity’s interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
11. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
12. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community’s representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

County Contact	Entity Contact
Jerry Zumalt	Carlos Martinez
Idaho County Disaster Management	City of Koostra
jzumalt@idahocounty.org	KoostraPW@gmail.com
(208)983-3074	208 935-8260

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:

- 13. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
- 14. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
- 15. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
- 16. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this 9 day of

October 2024

Christina Ulmer  
Mayor

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Idaho County and the City of Riggins

Under this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), Idaho County, Idaho ("County") and Riggins, Idaho ("Entity"), jointly "Parties," agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County ("Broadband Project").

### **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

### **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

#### **COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
2. Coordinate with the entity through the entity's designated broadband coalition representative.
3. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
4. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

#### **ENTITY'S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity's interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
2. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
3. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community's representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

<b>County Contact</b>	<b>Entity Contact</b>
Jerry Zumalt	
Idaho County Disaster Management	
jzumalt@idahocounty.org	
(208)983-3074	

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:

1. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
2. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create, a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
3. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
4. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

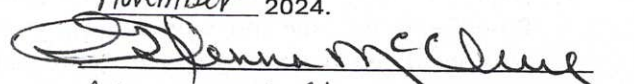
The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

---

R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

  
Glenna McClure - Mayor  
City of Riggins

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Idaho County and the City of Grangeville

Under this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), Idaho County, Idaho (“County”) and Grangeville, Idaho (“Entity”), jointly “Parties,” agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County (“Broadband Project”).

### **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

### **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

#### **COUNTY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

9. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
10. Coordinate with the entity through the entity’s designated broadband coalition representative.
11. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
12. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

#### **ENTITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

7. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity’s interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
8. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
9. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community’s representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

County Contact	Entity Contact
Jerry Zumalt	Tonya Kennedy
Idaho County Disaster Management	City Administrator
jzumalt@idahocounty.org	kennedy@grangeville.us
(208)983-3074	208-983-2851

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Wyatt Perry  
wperry@grangeville.us

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:

9. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
10. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
11. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
12. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.


The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.



R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this <sup>17<sup>th</sup></sup> day of October 2024.

  
 Mayor  
 City of Grangeville

# Memorandum of Understanding

Idaho County and the City of Stites

Under this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), Idaho County, Idaho (“County”) and Stites, Idaho (“Entity”), jointly “Parties,” agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County (“Broadband Project”).

## **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

## **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

### **COUNTY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
2. Coordinate with the entity through the entity’s designated broadband coalition representative.
3. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
4. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

### **ENTITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity’s interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
2. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
3. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community’s representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

County Contact	Entity Contact
Jerry Zumalt	TERRY GAMBLE
Idaho County Disaster Management	COUNCILOR
jzumalt@idahocounty.org	tgamble@socket.net
(208)983-3074	318-780-1811

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:


1. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
2. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create, a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
3. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
4. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

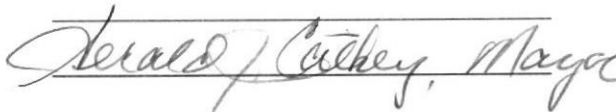
The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024.

  
 R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
 Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this 15 day of October 2024.

  
 Gerald C. Coker, Mayor

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Idaho County and the City of White Bird

Under this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), Idaho County, Idaho (“County”) and White Bird, Idaho (“Entity”), jointly “Parties,” agree for joint and cooperative action with respect to providing a coordinated effort to obtain continuous and completed high-speed internet access solutions for coverage in unserved and underserved areas in certain incorporated and unincorporated areas of Idaho County (“Broadband Project”).

### **BACKGROUND**

The provision of high-speed internet access for unserved and underserved areas of the United States is a high priority. In this regard, various funding sources, including but not limited to those under the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, and the Idaho Department of Commerce are being made available as an option to finance this priority in whole or in part. The Parties believe a coordinated effort through the Broadband Project can best accomplish this priority.

### **PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the terms of this MOU, the Parties understand and agree as follows:

#### **COUNTY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

25. Set up and manage a voluntary, advisory broadband coalition and execute the same MOU with other municipalities and participants on the coalition to ensure the highest level of coordination of effort and most comprehensive outcome of enhanced broadband services.
26. Coordinate with the entity through the entity’s designated broadband coalition representative.
27. Directly engage in broadband projects that are appropriate at a county level and support project development as needed at community levels.
28. Maintain regular contact with the Idaho Office of Broadband to support coordination from State to County to Community.

#### **ENTITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

19. Designate and maintain an individual to participate as a member of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and maintain regular communication to ensure the entity’s interests are considered in planning and implementation of projects.
20. Keep the Idaho County Coalition informed of work at the community level to improve high-speed internet services.
21. Encourage local service providers or other person, entities, and organizations communicating with the Entity in conjunction with the Broadband Project to communicate with the Idaho County Coalition through the community’s representative on the Coalition.



**PARTIES' CONTACTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

County Contact	Entity Contact
Jerry Zumalt	CITY OF WHITE BIRD
Idaho County Disaster Management	HOMER BROWN, MAYOR
<a href="mailto:jzumalt@idahocounty.org">jzumalt@idahocounty.org</a>	SANDRA L MURPHY, CITY CLERK
(208)983-3074	WHITEBIRDCITY@OUTLOOK.COM

**GENERAL MOU TERMS**

Consistent with the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2326, 67-2327, 67-2328, etc., authority for such services and agreements is granted. As such, the Parties agree and acknowledge as follows:

- 25. Duration: The terms of the MOU shall commence as of the date of the last signatory and run until terminated by any party for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.
- 26. Separate Legal Entity: This MOU does not create, nor seek to create a separated legal entity pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2828. Administration of this joint/cooperative undertaking shall be provided by the County.
- 27. Responsibilities: See provisions above.
- 28. Financing: County will provide general oversight and administration of the Idaho County Broadband Coalition and the planning project. Funding and matching requirements for any specific Broadband Project shall be addressed in subsequent agreements between parties, if applicable.

The County's execution of this MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The Entity's execution of the MOU shall act as its agreement with all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but such counterparts shall constitute one and the same.

Reviewed and Agreed to this 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
August, 2024.

R. Skipper "Skip" Brandt, Chair  
Idaho County

Reviewed and Agreed to this 10 day of  
OCTOBER 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_, MAYOR

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_, CITY CLERK

# **APPENDIX D**

## **Idaho County Resolution #2024-19 Adopting Coalition By-laws and Coalition Members**



IDAHO COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2024-19

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Idaho County Commissioners pursued and obtained a Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Planning Grant through the Idaho Department of Commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of the grant, Idaho County is developing a county-wide 5-year action plan to provide high-speed internet to unserved and underserved areas of the county; and

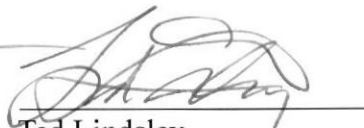
**WHEREAS**, the formation of a coalition to work with a professional planner to create a county broadband plan is needed in order to facilitate said plan; and

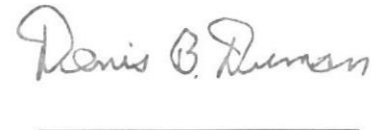
**WHEREAS**, bylaws are needed to guide coalition members towards the formation and finalization of the county broadband plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the attached Idaho County Broadband Coalition Bylaws and roster of Idaho County Broadband Coalition Members are **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED** this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.


BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR IDAHO COUNTY, STATE OF IDAHO

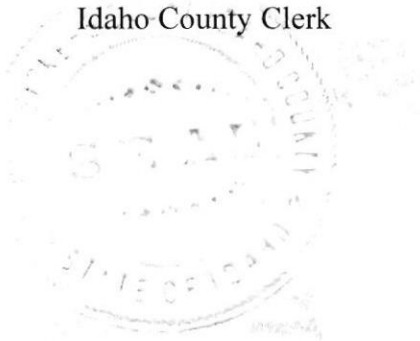
  
R. Skipper Brandt, Chairman

  
Ted Lindsley

  
Denis B. Duman

ATTEST:

  
Kathy M. Ackerman,  
Idaho County Clerk



# Idaho County Broadband Coalition Bylaws

Idaho County  
320 Main Street  
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

## BYLAWS

<b>Article I:</b>	Name and Purpose
<b>Article II:</b>	Composition of the Council
<b>Article III:</b>	Operations of the Council
<b>Article IV:</b>	Officers
<b>Article V:</b>	Officer Duties
<b>Article VI:</b>	Recording of Meetings
<b>Article VII:</b>	Changes in Bylaws

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### Article I: Name and Purpose

**Section 1. Name.** The name of the organization shall be the Idaho County Broadband Coalition (ICBBC). Organized in 2024, the ICBBC is an all-volunteer advisory council formed by the Idaho County Commissioners, Idaho County, Idaho.

**Section 2. Mission.** The purpose of the Coalition is to develop a 5-year, county-wide, Broadband Action Plan, make recommendations to the county on plan adoption and implementation, and advise Idaho County and county stakeholders on broadband infrastructure and service development.

**Section 3. Vision.** The Coalition aims to identify and support the building of future-proof broadband infrastructure that is reliable, affordable and recognized countywide as a key component of modern life and future development.

### Article II: Composition of the Coalition

**Section 1. Membership and Expectations.** The Coalition shall consist of a minimum of 10 members and shall be appointed by the Idaho County Commissioners.

**Section 2. Composition.** The Coalition members shall be Idaho County residents representing the county, municipalities, industry, civic and trade associations, public safety, healthcare, education, libraries, state and federal agencies, and the general citizenry.

Each Idaho County municipality will have one designated representative appointed to the council by their stakeholder and their appointments ratified by the Idaho County Commissioners.

**Section 3. Terms.** A coalition member will serve a minimum of a two-year term starting upon appointment and continue through two, full calendar years with the term ending December 31 of the second full year. At the onset, coalition members representing the



county and municipalities will serve three-year terms and then drop to two-year terms after the first three years.

**Section 4. Reappointment.** Members may be re-appointed as mutually agreed to by the member, the stakeholder they represent, and the county commissioners.

**Section 5. Resignations.** Members who decide to resign should submit their resignation in writing within 30 days of termination to the Idaho County Commissioners and the stakeholder they represent.

### **Article III: Operations of the Coalition**

**Section 1. Rules.** The Coalition will make decisions through motions. The Officer in charge of the meeting will call for a vote with decisions made by a simple majority. The Coalition may choose to operate with a simplified version of Robert's Rules of Order. (motion, second, discussion, call for the vote, vote, recording of the vote).

As an advisory coalition under the Idaho County Commissioners, it is understood that any decision that obligates the County and/or any stakeholder in any way must be proposed to the County Commission and/or stakeholder as a recommendation. Recommendations will be presented by the coalition member representative of the County and/or stakeholder.

**Section 2. Meetings.** The Coalition shall meet at least two times per year at a time to be determined by the coalition. Additional meetings, if needed, will be called by the Coalition Chair.

**Section 3. Conduct of Meetings.** The Coalition will conduct its business in open, in-person or virtual meetings. The Coalition will follow Idaho Code Section 74-201 to 74-208.

A Coalition majority present will constitute a quorum for the transaction of Council business.

In cases of no quorum, an electronic voting is acceptable as long as the vote is called for by the acting Chair, the subject is discussed in a regular meeting, there is a motion called for at the meeting, the results of the vote are announced to the coalition electronically after a majority has voted, and the vote is recorded in the meeting minutes of the next regular meeting.

**Section 4. Meeting Agenda and Recording of the Meetings.** A meeting agenda and packet will be distributed at 48 hours prior to the meeting. The Chair will create the agenda and work with the Secretary to create the meeting documents. The Secretary shall be responsible for posting the agenda and distributing it.

The Secretary will record the meeting actions and distribute a draft of the minutes no more than seven (7) calendar days from the date of the meeting where the action was taken. The Coalition will approve by motion the minutes at the next meeting.

### **Article IV: Officers**

**Section 1. Officers.** The officers of the Coalition shall be elected by the members and will include the Council Chair and Vice-Chair. Terms begin at the next meeting following the conclusion of the vote.

**Section 2. Terms of Officers.** An Officer will serve a minimum of a two-year term and continue through two, full calendar years with the term ending December 31 of the second full year. Officers may serve consecutive terms of office.

**Section 3. Interim Officer Appointments.** An officer who wishes to resign his or her position before the end of a term should submit the resignation in writing to the Coalition. If the Coalition Chair resigns, the Vice-Chair will serve as Chair until a vote can be taken at the next meeting of the Coalition.

#### **Article V: Officer Duties**

**Section 1. Council Chair.** The Chair heads the Coalition. He or she provides leadership and helps the Coalition to make recommendations or actions that advance the mission of the Coalition. The Chair is responsible for:

- a. Preparing the meeting agenda
- b. Convening and presiding at meetings
- c. Appointing committees, if necessary
- d. Acting as spokesperson for the Coalition and liaison with other organizations
- e. Acting as the receiving and dispersing point for Coalition correspondence
- f. Determining the date/time of the next meeting in consultation with the Coalition

**Section 2. Vice-Chair.** If the Chair cannot carry out the duties of office, the Vice-Chair assumes the Coalition Chair's responsibilities.

**Section 3. Secretary.** The Secretary provides recording and correspondence duties for the Coalition.

- a. Recording, editing and distributing the minutes of the Coalition
- b. Posting the agenda and minutes of Coalition meetings
- c. Preparing Coalition correspondence and other documents as required

#### **Article VI: Changes in Bylaws**

The County Commissioners may amend the Bylaws as needed. The Coalition may make recommendations to the County Commissioners on proposed changes.



# Idaho County Broadband Coalition

## Training Workshop

FRIDAY, November 1, 2024

9 am – 3 pm

Super 8 by Wyndham

801 W. South First Street, Grangeville, Idaho

*Lunch Provided*

### **I. Welcome**

*Jerry Zumalt, Disaster Management Coordinator  
Idaho County*

- a. Purpose of the workshop
- b. Introduction of coalition members & guests

### **II. Getting Started with the Day**

*Christine Frei, Prime Point Consulting*

- c. Review of the agenda/schedule
- d. Mileage Reimbursement
- e. The Coalition Resource Binder

### **III. Getting the Coalition on the Same Page with Broadband Basics**

*Jaynie Bentz, General Manager  
Idaho Regional Optical Network*

### **IV. Idaho County Broadband -What Do We Need It For? What Challenges Do We Have?**

*Facilitated Discussion*

### **V. BREAK**

### **VI. Idaho County Broadband Players - How are They Making a Difference**

*Introductions by Representatives*

- a. Idaho Office of Broadband/Idaho Broadband Advisory Board & LinkUp Idaho
- b. District 2 Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB2)
- c. Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON)
- d. Port of Lewiston
- e. Nez Perce Tribe
- f. Imagine Idaho
- g. Clearwater Economic Development Association
- h. Internet Service Providers operating in Idaho County

**VII. Critical Grant Resources & Project Preparation**

*Dodd Snodgrass, CEDA*

**VIII. The BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program) Grant Application**

**The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Map: What Information Does it Provide Idaho County**

*Krista Baker, Project Manager*

*Idaho Office of Broadband*

**IX. Lunch**

**X. Organizing the Idaho County Coalition for Success**

*Facilitated by Christine Frei, Prime Point Consulting*

**XI. State of Idaho 5-Year Plan and the Idaho County 5-Year Plan**

*Alison Tompkins, J-U-B Engineers*

**XII. Break**

**XIII. Idaho County's Broadband Planning: Vision & Goals**

*Facilitated by Alison Tompkins, J-U-B Engineers*

**XIV. Adjourn**



# Idaho County Broadband Coalition Members

- 1. City of Cottonwood**  
Ken Bock, Clearconnect, LLC CEO
- 2. City of Ferdinand**  
Meeting to decide participation 10/29
- 3. City of Grangeville**  
Tonya Kennedy, City Administrator
- 4. City of Kooskia**  
Carlos Martinez, Public Works  
Superintendent
- 5. City of Riggins**  
Cody Killmar, City of Riggins Ambulance  
Director/Salmon River Ambulance District  
Chief
- 6. City of Stites**  
Terry Gamble, Councilor
- 7. City of White Bird**  
Sandy Murphy, City Clerk
- 8. CompuNet**  
David Ponozzo, Senior Account Executive
- 9. Cottonwood School District #242**  
Ryan Hasselstrom, IT Technician
- 10. Idaho County**  
Ted Lindsley, County Commissioner
- 11. Idaho County**  
Jerry Zumalt, Disaster Management  
Coordinator
- 12. Mountain View School District #244**  
Michael Stevens, IT Technician
- 13. Pacific Cabinets**  
Casey Forsmann, General Manager
- 14. Prairie River Library District**  
Ellamae Bullard, Director
- 15. Salmon River Chamber of Commerce**  
Jeannie Fancher, President
- 16. Salmon River Joint School District #243**  
Conrad Banez, IT Technician
- 17. St. Mary's Health**  
Brian Tarello, Sr. Network Engineer,  
Kootenai Health
- 18. Syringa Hospital & Clinics**  
Abner King, CEO

# **APPENDIX E**

## **Idaho County Broadband Coalition Job Description**



# Idaho County, Idaho

## Broadband Coalition Member Job Description

### Coalition Overview

The Idaho County Broadband Coalition is a group of 15-25 individuals organized by the County to develop and support the implementation of a 5-year Broadband Action Plan. The coalition aims to support the building of future-proof broadband infrastructure within Idaho County and is committed to working together to find the best solutions for the county. The coalition understands the importance of affordable broadband access for education, health, economic development, public safety, and community. Ensuring that every Idaho County resident has reliable and affordable broadband is a key component of modern life and future development.

The representative coalition is comprised of people representative of the county who have interest in improving the wellbeing of the county, municipalities, and unincorporated areas through better broadband services. The Idaho County Broadband Coalition acts in an advisory capacity to the county and to other stakeholders on broadband development of infrastructure and services.

### The Coalition Member

A coalition member is a volunteer community member who seeks to work with others within Idaho County to improve high speed internet access and affordability and who represents the interests of their community or stakeholder group on the Idaho County Broadband Coalition.

### Responsibilities and Expectations

1. Learn about the broadband needs in your community and share what you know with the coalition.
2. Represent the coalition and help connect the coalition with the larger community.
3. Share opportunities with stakeholders and community members.
4. Help the coalition with planning and priority setting. Bring forth challenges and brainstorm solutions.
5. Help build partnerships to improve infrastructure, services, access and affordability.
6. Attend and/or participate in regular meetings of the coalition.
7. Complete any tasks that you have agreed to independent of meetings.

### Qualifications

1. Commitment to improving your community members' quality of life as it relates to broadband.
2. Willingness to share your knowledge and experiences with the coalition.
3. Willingness to learn from other coalition members.
4. Ability to dedicate sufficient time to coalition meetings.

## Meeting Requirements

- One, 6-hour in-person training session with the coalition.
- Monthly, 60-minute virtual meetings during the 4-month process to create the Idaho Broadband 5-Year Action Plan.
- At least 60-minute virtual meetings of the coalition on a quarterly basis during the implementation process.

## Terms

- Two-year with the option to renew each year for a period of five years starting October 1, 2024.

## Termination of Participation

A coalition member may opt out of participation at any time with a 30-day written notice to the coalition through the Idaho County Office of Disaster Management and the municipality or stakeholder group they represent.

## Contact Information

Jerry Zumalt, Disaster Management Coordinator  
Idaho County  
Idaho County Courthouse  
320 W. Main Street  
Grangeville, Idaho 83530  
Office: 208-983-3074  
Cell: 208-983-5854