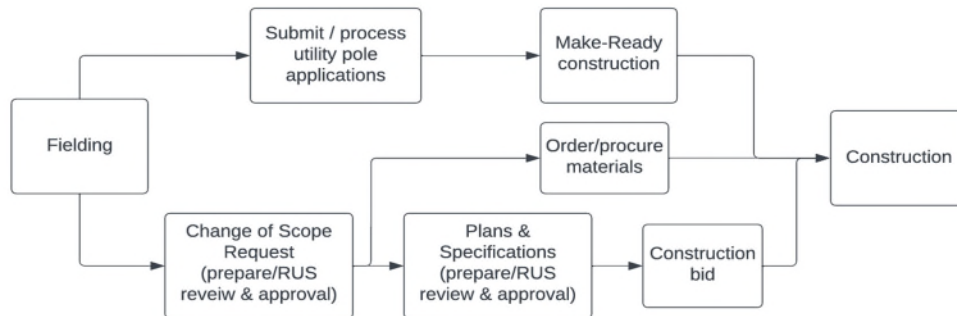


**Yates County Broadband Update – Marian Walrath / Jeff Ayers
Finance Committee 4/5/2022**

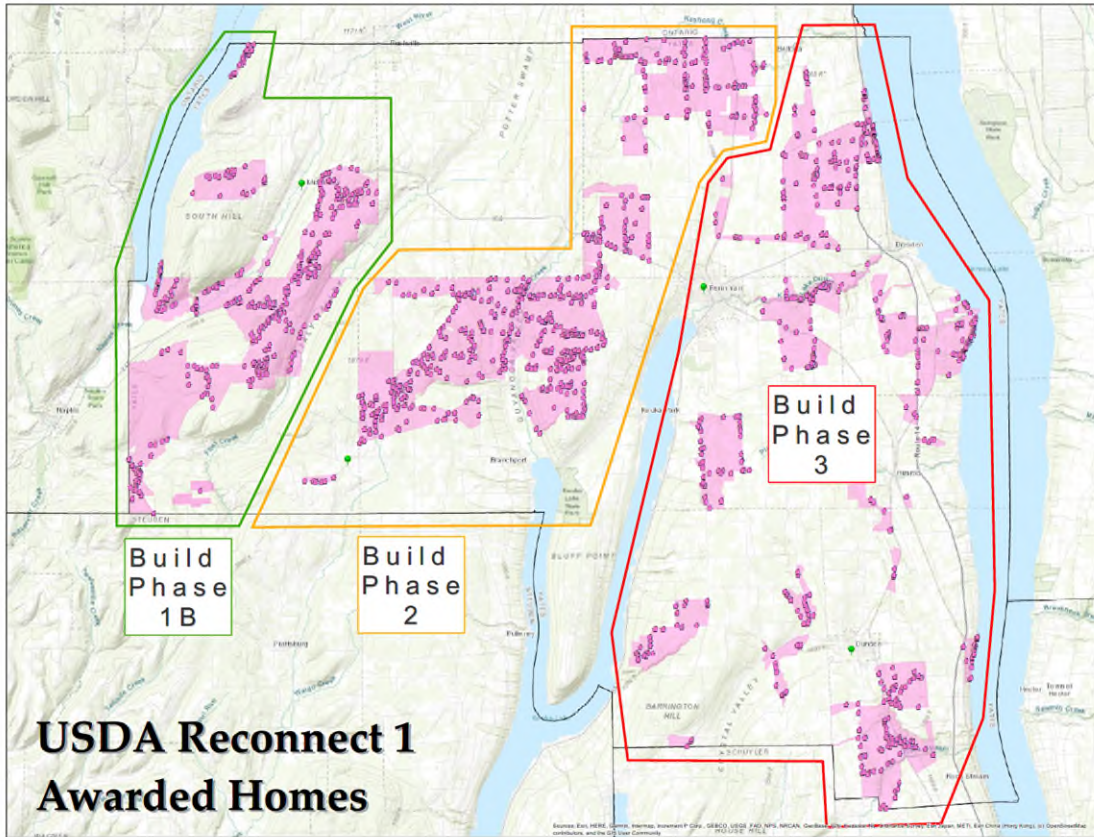
1. ReConnect 1 Engineering

- a. Below are the main paths of project activity leading to construction.



- b. Phase 1 design is complete. This includes the backbone (Phase 1A) and Middlesex and Italy distribution (Phase 1B) networks. Fielding of Phases 2 & 3 will start in April.
- c. The following RUS (Rural Utility Service) approvals in process:
- i. The Change of Scope Request for Phase 1A has provisionally passed RUS (Rural Utility Service) environmental and engineering approvals. Administrative approval in process.
 - ii. Preliminary Plans and Specifications (P&S) presentation for Phase 1A meeting took place on March 29. Impressive job by NYES preparing over 300 engineering drawings and the 167-page RUS Form 515 Telecommunications Construction Contract.
 - iii. Nokia Equipment Waiver Request still in process.
 - iv. We are preparing the Change of Scope and Budget Reallocation for Phase 1B for submittal to RUS.
- d. Make-Ready Applications
- i. NYSEG and Frontier pole applications for Phase 1A&B progressing well via the LaBella One-Touch process. Have identified additional utility poles to be added to Phase 1B → Resolution proposed for new One-Touch Make-Ready contract with LaBella completing Phase 1B.
 - ii. Verizon and Spectrum pole applications for Phase 1A&B are in process.
 - iii. Once applications approved and Make-Ready packages available will move into Make-Ready construction with approved utility approved contractors. We are still learning how this process works.
 - iv. Plans being developed to accelerate the pole application process for Phases 2 & 3.
- e. Material Procurement: Will proceed once RUS approves Change of Scope Phase 1A.
- f. Material storage options being evaluated e.g. airport, highway storage, etc.
- g. Job Postings – New York Engineering Services intends to hire 4 full time local employees. Job postings for the positions of Outside Plant Telecommunications

Inspector and Utilities Structure Technician are being posted via Yates County, Workforce Development and the Finger Lakes Economic Development Council.



2. ReConnect 1 Construction

- a. The goal is to start Phase IA construction in 2022 – summer. A more detailed 3-year plan is available.

3. Grant Applications: Yates County continues to apply for grants as announced. See table below.

Funding	Opportunity (Mbps download/upload)	Status
ReConnect 1 (current project) - \$10.4M with \$3.6M match	~1635 Premises <10/1 Mbps plus other USDA rules	Awarded 2020 Proceeding on schedule
ReConnect 3 Grant - Project \$8,255,064 (\$6,191,297 grant & \$2,063,766 – 25% County match)	Identified 681 Premises with <100/20 Mbps fixed broadband	Application submitted. Awards may start 3Q'22!

We are exploring a possible Northern Borders Regional Commission grant for a dedicated fiber run and equipment between the County Office building and the new Highway facility for the purposes of supporting a backup disaster recovery site initiative.