



The **New Hampshire Broadband Mapping and Planning Program (NHBMPP)** is a comprehensive program that seeks to understand where broadband is currently available in NH, how it can be made more widely available in the future, and how to encourage increased levels of broadband adoption and usage.

This project is managed by University of NH in partnership with each of the nine regional planning commissions (RPCs) in the state, NH Office of Energy and Planning, NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, NH Community Development and Finance Authority and UNH Cooperative Extension. Ultimately, each RPC will develop their own regional broadband plan that will be aggregated into one statewide broadband plan.

There are two primary components:

- **Broadband Mapping and Data Collection Map**
 - Identify broadband service availability by type of technology and speed. –
 - Display location of broadband access status of Community Anchor Institutes (CAI). These are institutions of local/regional significance such as hospitals, schools, governmental buildings, etc.
 - Town Broadband Profiles - Illustration of broadband technology with the fastest reported download speed for the selected community.

- **Planning and Technical Assistance**
 - Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) support
 - Formed Nashua Region Broadband Stakeholder Group (BSG)
 - Local and administrative support
 - Nashua Region Broadband Stakeholder Group
 - Composed of diverse regional stakeholders representing a variety of sectors such as health, education, economic development, public safety, local government, communications/media, etc
 - Identify barriers and needs to broadband service and solutions to barriers
 - Promote collaboration with service providers
 - Collect and analyze information on the use and demand for BB services
 - Facilitate information sharing the public and private sectors on the use and demand for services

- Sector Based Analysis: To better understand the current and future broadband needs/barriers of sectors in the Region, each RPC will be conducting either focus groups or interviews with representatives from the health, education, economic development, public safety, and local government sectors throughout the fall and winter of 2012.

To date the following tasks have been completed:

- The Nashua BSG has been meeting on a quarterly basis since the project started in Spring of 2011.
- The BSG has identified regional broadband needs and barriers. The next step in the planning project is to identify potential strategies to address barriers to broadband.
- At the state level, RPC staff have developed an outline of the regional plan's content that can serve as a guide.
- NRPC has held their first forum with the Rotary Club in August of 2012 to share an overview of the project to the public and receive input on the current broadband needs of community members. NRPC is scheduled to present at the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce in January 2013 along with meeting with local government boards.
- At the state level, RPC staff is working on the NHBMPP have been meeting on a quarterly basis since May of 2011 to discuss progress on the project, enhance coordination between RPCs and state partners, identify any issues or concerns, share information, and discuss next steps. These meetings have also served as an opportunity for RPCs to meet with and learn from the NHBMPP partners.