

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

50-50-M09004

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

07-10-2012

1. Recipient Name

Vermont Center for Geographic Information, Inc.

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

N/A

3. Street Address

58 South Main Street, Suite 2,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Waterbury, VT 05676

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-01-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

09-30-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

06-30-2012

9a. If Other, please describe:

N/A

10. Broadband Mapping

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
38	38	10	0	37	37

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

A company called One Communications has not provided data this submission period. They were bought out by a larger firm and the new owners did not believe the coverage area being claimed by One Communications was correct. One Communications was a very small provider in the state. As a result there was no significant impact to the broadband coverage data submitted on April 1 to NTIA.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

Data Development Methodology: A variety of data source and data collection methods are used to identify the characteristics and geographic extent of broadband service in Vermont. Here is a quick breakdown

- Cable: Mapped to street/street-segment level
- DSL: Mapped as polygons (usually Exchange areas) or address points (list of addresses submitted by provider).
- Fiber Optic: Mapped as address points (list of address submitted by provider)
- Fixed Wireless (WISP): Mapped as polygons (propagation maps prepared by independent contractor using data provided by WISPs)
- Mobile Wireless: Mapped as polygons (data submitted by provider)
- Satellite: Mapped as polygons (data submitted by provider). Providers of satellite-based broadband services claimed that they covered the entire state.

The cable, DSL, fiber optic, and fixed wireless (WISP) layers were "intersected" with Vermont's E911 address point layer to determine broadband availability at the address-level. This information was then intersected with Vermont's 2000 Census Block layer to calculate availability at the block level. The April 1st, 2011 deliverable includes Census block-level data for Census Blocks less than or equal to 2 sq miles, and address level data for Census blocks greater than 2 sq miles.

Mobile wireless and satellite-based broadband polygons were submitted by providers to VCGI. They were formatted to match NTIA specification, but otherwise forwarded as-is.

Vermont's broadband providers submitted data which was used to populate a table listing maximum advertised and typical speeds by Metropolitan Statistical & Rural Service Areas (Cellular Market Areas). This information was used to populate the speed information contained in the submitted broadband, including speed information at the census block level. In numerous cases providers did not submit typical speed information.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

Future drive testing for mobile wireless availability verification is still under consideration for one or more times before completion of the contract. Current thinking is that we may do drive testing in summer 2012 and again in the summer of 2014. The results from that effort will be compared to the drive testing results received in 2010. A final decision on the 2012 drive testing will be made soon.

We are going to integrate the locations of residents that have voluntarily reported themselves as unserved on our BroadbandVT.org

website into the submitted SBDD data. These reported addresses with no service will be used to constrain or reduce the over-reporting of coverage we currently see in the provider submissions. For the June 30 data coverage requests to the providers we will be submitting a list of unserved address locations to be given to those providers that are claiming coverage at that location, and unless they can verify coverage their availability coverage will be reduced.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

Each broadband provider that supplies broadband service data in some manner to the VT broadband data inventory is given the option to view a final version of their data submission as it will be represented in the NTIA delivery. All of the providers that requested to see what was being submitted to NTIA representing their coverage area received either a copy of the data, a hardcopy map or digital map graphic in accordance with their preference.

The VT BB Mapping Team uses the data from surveys conducted by the UVM Center for Rural Studies (CRS) as verification for the data. This quarter the Center for Rural Studies completed a Community Anchor Institution Analysis for the state. A copy of the report is included as an attachment to this document. The summary of the report is as follows:

Through the March 2010 to March 2012 three year period, nearly 95% of Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) report having a Broadband Internet connection in Vermont. An upward trend in CAIs' Broadband Internet connectivity over time is apparent (89.5% in 3-2010 to 96% in 3-2012). WIFI public Internet access is highly utilized among CAIs, with 86% of those with public access reporting WIFI deployment.

Additional verification information is available through the BroadbandVT.org website. The site allows the public to submit unserved or underserved addresses to the Broadband Mapping Team and it locates the submitted address on the map for the public to see. The VT Dept. of Public Service keeps a record of every report submitted to the site and, if the submitter asks for more information, VT DPS will contact them and let them know when Broadband is scheduled to be available at their address based upon scheduled BTOP and RUS plans in the state.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

5.95

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

4-8 FTEs

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Pericle Communications - Project Manager - position maintained	0	01/01/2010
VCGI - Director of Enterprise GIS Services - position maintained	24	10/01/2009
VCGI - Support Staff - position maintained	49	10/01/2009
Applied Geographics - position maintained	21	06/15/2010
Univ. of VT/Center for Rural Studies - position maintained	32	10/01/2009
VT Dept. of Public Service - Telecommunications Infrastructure Specialist - position maintained	100	10/20/2009
VT Telecommunications Authority - Director of Broadband Information and Coordination - position maintained	100	10/01/2010

VT Telecommunications Authority - Support Staff - position maintained	10	09/28/2010
Northwest Regional Planning Commission - Planner - position maintained	100	12/01/2010
Northwest Regional Planning Commission - Support Staff - position maintained	59	12/01/2010
Marketing Partners - Marketing Specialist - position maintained	100	08/02/2010

Add Row

Remove Row

Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Pericle Communications	Propagation mapping and drive testing	Y	Y	01/01/2010	09/30/2014	307,240	0
UVM/Center for Rural Studies	Customer survey and verification	Y	Y	10/01/2010	09/30/2014	254,445	0
VT Dept. of Public Service	Data collection from providers and content management of broadbandvt.org	Y	Y	09/15/2009	09/30/2014	486,255	0
Applied Geographics, Inc.	Broadbandvt.org website development	Y	Y	06/15/2010	12/31/2012	103,890	0
Marketing Partners, Inc.	Broadbandvt.org marketing support	Y	Y	08/02/2010	09/30/2012	121,750	0
VT Telecommunications Authority	Employment of the Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination	Y	Y	09/28/2010	09/30/2014	525,420	132,975
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Contract management and participation in the Regional Broadband Plan development	Y	Y	12/01/2010	11/30/2012	250,034	62,509

Add Row

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Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,631,829 10q. How much Remains? \$1,911,167

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$847,698 10s. How much Remains? \$38,052

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$342,105	\$0	\$342,105	\$148,096	\$0	\$148,096
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$254,844	\$0	\$254,844	\$109,272	\$0	\$109,272
Travel	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$6,334	\$0	\$6,334
Equipment	\$21,000	\$0	\$21,000	\$3,396	\$0	\$3,396
Materials / Supplies	\$55,275	\$0	\$55,275	\$23,919	\$0	\$23,919
Subcontracts Total	\$2,382,224	\$195,484	\$2,577,708	\$1,143,936	\$157,432	\$1,301,368
Subcontract #1	\$307,240	\$0	\$307,240	\$258,280	\$0	\$258,280
Subcontract #2	\$254,445	\$0	\$254,445	\$93,028	\$0	\$93,028
Subcontract #3	\$486,255	\$0	\$486,255	\$238,130	\$0	\$238,130

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Subcontract #4	\$103,890	\$0	\$103,890	\$102,825	\$0	\$102,825
Subcontract #5	\$1,230,394	\$195,484	\$1,425,878	\$451,673	\$157,432	\$609,105
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$6,000	\$690,266	\$696,266	\$1,100	\$690,266	\$691,366
Total Direct Costs	\$3,069,448	\$885,750	\$3,955,198	\$1,436,053	\$847,698	\$2,283,751
Total Indirect Costs	\$473,548	\$0	\$473,548	\$195,776	\$0	\$195,776
Total Costs	\$3,542,996	\$885,750	\$4,428,746	\$1,631,829	\$847,698	\$2,479,527
% Of Total	80	20	100	66	34	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

1 workstation - Dell T7500 - \$3396.00
GeoCortex Application Development Software plus training - \$4252.00

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

N/A

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

Connectivity Data from InfoGroup USA that contains the following information; Contact id, service provider, connection type, update date, address, address2, city, state, zip, zip4, connection isp, IP, Longitude, Latitude. This data was received in July 2011.

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

N/A

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

There are no significant obstacles at this time.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project
VT SBDD project management held a mid-project review with all Team partners and most of the sub-contractors on June 7. Areas of review included data collection, verification, marketing, outreach/website, planning, For each of those areas we reviewed the following:

1. Funding - spent/unspent/unallocated to date and remaining for all sub-contractors, VCGI and the grant as a whole.
2. Goals and methodology review and suggestions for improvement for each area of the grant performance.
3. Allocating unspent/unallocated funding to future priorities
4. Supporting the future needs and goals of the state broadband efforts in all areas.
5. Project plan modifications.

Project partners did presentations on the progress, success and difficulties in their area of responsibility. Recommendations were also

made in relation to the remaining years on the grant. Team partners provided feedback and the team as a whole is much better informed on the roles they each play and how it integrates with others.

Discussions about change to the plan subsequent to this meeting are still going on among team members and there are some possible additional changes driven by the Governor's Broadband team. We expect to finalize these changes by Sept. 1 and VT project management will document and submit any proposed project modifications to NTIA SBDD project management for review and approval prior to implementation.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

The Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination continues to focus on four key areas of activity and communication. Over the past three months communications have included the following: 1) Village Visits, ongoing coordination with Vermont Housing agencies, Bennington Community leaders 2) Broadband Information Panel taping and airing on local channels and online, press releases and updates to the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) and BroadbandVT.org websites and Twitter 3) Support to ConnectVT (Governor's office) of statewide Target Community information sessions, Digital Literacy and Adoption efforts 4) Working with regional tech and innovation teams to finalize plans that identify strategies and resources to encourage, support and broaden use of broadband at municipal and regional levels.

Digital Inclusion is an important aspect of broadband adoption. Recently, the leaders of four public housing organizations including a deputy commissioner from Vermont's Agency of Commerce and Community Development invited the Director to support their request to be identified on broadband maps in Vermont as Community Anchor Institutions. This work is considered a valuable tool for both broadband providers and housing leadership. As Vermont begins implementation of its Blueprint for health, new healthcare services will be offered directly at some housing locations. This will require that each unit has a high quality and always-on broadband connection. The Director worked through the VTA to make the map available for use in a Request for Services that will be issued collectively by the Housing agencies.

A full description of the activities of the VT Broadband Outreach Coordinator in the past quarter is included as an attachment to this PPR. See the document called VT_Director_Outreach_Report_Q2_2012.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

N/A

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning? Yes No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

See 10cc above in reference to possible future changes to the project plan.

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0

11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

N/A

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

N/A

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

N/A

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

David F Brotzman

Executive Director

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

802-882-3003

12d. Email Address

davidb@vcgi.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

07-30-2012