

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

50-50-M09004

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

01-27-2011

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:

12-31-2010

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
0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Two providers, Great Awk Wireless and GlobalNet, have indicated that they were not willing to provide data for the 6/30/2010 data submission period. A few small and moderate sized providers have indicated to our liaison with the Providers that the request is a burden and they do not have the time or resources to collect and provide this information. They also indicated that, in their opinion, the effort provides no benefit to their business. So far, only the two companies indicated have refused to provide data.

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

A variety of data source and data collection methods were 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). Mobile wireless towers are also being located through existing in-state databases. One of the sources is data related to VT Act 250 which requires information be recorded for proposed facilities and structures being built in the state for environmental review.
- 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 October 1st, 2010 deliverable includes Census block-level data for all of Vermont, 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).

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement
 Future drive testing for mobile wireless availability verification is planned in years 3 and 5 of the contract. The actual coverage of drive testing that will be done is dependent upon the strategy we employ to use the funding in the most meaningful manner to improve data quality and the state's understanding of mobile wireless availability. It may be necessary to perform only one more drive testing exercise. A final decision will not be made this year.

The Team is also considering purchasing 3rd party data for verification from InfoGroup USA. A sample of their data has been requested and will be evaluated in the coming months.

Additionally, field verification and public survey methods will continue for the duration of the grant as described in our original and supplemental grant proposals.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

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

Our team has collected data for mobile wireless broadband test data covering ~3400 miles of Federal Aid roads in VT. The drive testing was completed by a contractor in June of 2010. The data from the drive testing was received in September of 2010. An assessment of fixed wireless provider coverage was also done by the same contractor. A final report from the contractor was received on November 30, 2010. A copy of the report will be included with this Quarterly Report package. The contractor's wireless broadband report summarizes the results of in-state verification for both mobile and fixed wireless. Most importantly, due to the methods used for verification, the resulting data is an assessment of broadband mobile wireless coverage that best matches the user experience.

The first round of survey verification was completed for both the long form and short form survey as identified in our original proposal. The results of those surveys are also being provided with this Quarterly Report package.

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?

4.39

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?

N/A

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
GIS Technician - VCGI - Maintained	35	12/07/2009
Telecommunications Infrastructure Specialist - DPS - Maintained	71	10/20/2009
3 Positions Maintained - Dept. of Public Service	9	
2 Partial Positions Maintained - VCGI	76	
Pericle Corporation - positions maintained	15	
University of VT, Center for Rural Studies positions maintained	32	
Applied Geographics - position maintained	21	
Marketing Partners - position maintained	100	

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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	12/31/2011	315,600	0
UVM/Center for Rural Studies	Customer Survey and Verification	Y	Y	10/01/2009	09/30/2010	80,742	0
VT Dept. of Public Service	Data Collection from Providers and Content Management of BroadbandVT.org	Y	Y	09/15/2009	09/30/2014	518,547	0
Applied Geographics Inc.	BroadbandVT.org Website Development	Y	Y	06/15/2010	12/30/2012	89,540	0
Marketing Partners Inc.	BroadbandVT.org Marketing Support	Y	Y	08/02/2010	06/30/2011	31,750	0
Vermont Telecommunications Authority	Employment of the Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination	Y	Y	09/28/2010	09/30/2014	525,420	0

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Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$676,421 10q. How much Remains? \$2,866,575
 10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$811,326 10s. How much Remains? \$74,424

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	\$1,335,669	\$195,484	\$1,531,153	\$179,507	\$121,060	\$300,567
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$431,624	\$0	\$431,624	\$54,335	\$0	\$54,335
Travel	\$20,200	\$0	\$20,200	\$1,592	\$0	\$1,592
Equipment	\$21,000	\$0	\$21,000	\$3,396	\$0	\$3,396
Materials / Supplies	\$55,775	\$0	\$55,775	\$1,371	\$0	\$1,371
Subcontracts Total	\$918,951	\$0	\$918,951	\$321,800	\$0	\$321,800
Subcontract #1	\$248,800	\$0	\$248,800	\$248,800	\$0	\$248,800
Subcontract #2	\$89,540	\$0	\$89,540	\$36,000	\$0	\$36,000
Subcontract #3	\$31,750	\$0	\$31,750	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Subcontract #4	\$17,000	\$0	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$0	\$17,000
Subcontract #5	\$531,861	\$0	\$531,861	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$14,000	\$690,266	\$704,266	\$358	\$690,266	\$690,624
Total Direct Costs	\$2,797,219	\$885,750	\$3,682,969	\$562,359	\$811,326	\$1,373,685
Total Indirect Costs	\$745,777	\$0	\$745,777	\$114,062	\$0	\$114,062

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Total Costs	\$3,542,996	\$885,750	\$4,428,746	\$676,421	\$811,326	\$1,487,747
% Of Total	80	20	100	45	55	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

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

The Team is still evaluating the need for the software identified in our proposals.

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

10y. If yes, please list

N/A

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

The most significant obstacle for the team at this point is the changing data model and the implications of those changes to our formal data processing routines. Each data model change requires us to modify our processing scripts prior to making a data delivery. As changes to the data model are made please pass those changes along to the states early as possible. I appreciate the dynamic nature of this project and the need to be flexible as new information is integrated into the project and new approaches are forged in response, but changes to the deliverable or project requirements impact our ability to support the project in a timely manner.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

The VT Broadband Mapping Team will be releasing our website in February of 2011. In order to drive the public to the site and increase awareness when it is released the Team is funding a formal Marketing effort for the site. The website will be called BroadbandVT.org. As planned in our proposal, we have contracted with a marketing firm to develop a marketing plan, do creative materials development and help with the media buys in support of the website awareness campaign. The VT Broadband Team worked with the marketing firm for several weeks to develop a marketing plan that met the needs of our project. The marketing firm supplied a final copy of the approved Marketing Plan on December 14, 2010. A copy of that plan is included with this Quarterly Report package that will be loaded to the PAM.

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

Activities of the Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination

1. Statewide BroadbandVT.org website content development
 2. Review and participation in eVermont grant community selection process which facilitates cross sector communications regarding state level resources that are being engaged in eVermont communities and will be emulated in others.
 3. Liaison with incoming Governor's transition team to share project plans development and seek guidance on the new Administration's priorities
 4. Introduction to and preparation of Regional Technology Planning teams
- a. Established timeline and vision for Planning Team development with Regional Planning Commission Management

5. Collaboration on data content of broadband maps

6. Meetings with telecom providers to introduce BroadbandVT.org website and invite private sector participation

7. Presentations and participation in panel discussions for regional development authorities and state libraries

The Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination has focused her efforts on three areas since early November: Government Coordination, Regional Planning and the development of web-based communications.

Communications with the Department of Public Service have been established through the development of the Broadband Mapping Initiative as well as with the former and new Commissioner of the Department. Due to space limitations the full report of the VT Director of Broadband Outreach and Coordination is not provided here. The full report will be included separately in the Quarterly Report package uploaded to the PAM.

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

The effort is in the early stages and no significant obstacles have been identified at this time.

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

N/A

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
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?

All subcontracting funds in the planning section are unobligated at this time

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)

02-10-2011