



## Operating Principles

- All public investment should support a network that will meet the needs of our communities, including for universal service.
- Build an organization and finance creation and operation of a network in a manner that will be sustainable and self-supporting for the long run.
- Make informed decisions about how to implement reliable and extensible technology based on what is available now, while leaving the door open to adapting to future changes in the technology landscape.
- FTTP delivers the most reliable and extensible service which meets the current 100/100 mbps state goal with capabilities for improvements over time. As such, this technology should be prioritized for deployment over other wired or wireless technologies where appropriate. Wireless should be reserved for point-to-point applications that connect a small number of addresses where costs and topography make fiber prohibitive.
- Mixing supported technologies (e.g., FTTP and wireless) introduces additional operational complexity and overhead.
- We may do concurrent projects, including with different partners, to provide service sooner and/or more economically.
- Network resiliency is a critical requirement for reliable, quality service. As such, investment in a well-designed network infrastructure is paramount. This means:
  - o Use best-of-class established network design architecture, to ensure minimal single points of failure.
  - o When relying on partners, require exceptional Service Level Agreement provisions and/or proof of resilient architecture to ensure reliable backhaul service.
- Make decisions based on existing technology. Evaluate emerging technology as it is developed and/or adopted in other communities so that we can plan for migration should it be justified.
- Champion education, economic prosperity, workforce development, civic health, freedom of information exchange, competition, privacy, and innovation through:
  - o Support of strong net neutrality policies.
  - o A network design and service structure that will allow entities other than the CUD to use or provide services over the network to the extent such a structure or design does not impair the CUD's ability to meet its primary goals.
  - o Pursuit of mutually beneficial partnerships with other like-minded organizations including local utilities and other communications providers.

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- o Modeling our commitment to these principles through transparent operation of the Lamoille FiberNet CUD and related enterprises, inclusive governance, and encouraging competition to improve service and drive costs down where appropriate and possible.
- Do our part to assure full participation of all members of our communities by using inclusive business practices.
  - o When effective in terms of cost, quality, reliability and timeliness, the Lamoille FiberNet CUD will use businesses with local ties for construction and operation.
  - o Revenues from Lamoille FiberNet CUD will be reinvested in the network or used to support community initiatives that align with our mission.