

## WHAT IS A COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT (CUD)?

A Communications Union District (CUD) is a municipal organization made of two or more towns for the purpose of building, or causing to be built, communication infrastructure together. CUDs may plan, contract, build, and manage the infrastructure that will provide high speed internet. The main function of the CUD would be to deliver public funds to the providers to build the network and to provide public oversight to ensure broadband service is provided to underserved locations at speeds of at least 100/100 Mbps in accordance with Act 71. By working together, municipalities are more likely to attract a provider and leverage financial resources. After the formation of the CUD, other municipalities can join with a vote of the Selectboard.

Approximately 3% of house sites (E911 addresses) in the region do not have high-speed internet. 75% have cable internet, but would be better served by fiber internet. Fiber internet service is becoming increasingly necessary with multiple devices connected for online uses such as school, telework, telehealth, and more. Only 30% of commercial sites in the region have fiber high speed internet. A Communications Union District (CUD) is a municipal organization made of two or more towns for the purpose of building, or causing to be built, communication infrastructure together. CUDs may plan, contract, build, and manage the infrastructure that will provide high speed internet.

The CCCUD Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 3pm

Visit <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/vt-community-broadband-board-vcbb/ver...> for more information

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