

## #18...Apr 18, 2021

Blindsided! Here we are as a region of 8 towns, with broadband committees working cooperatively to solve our joint bad internet problem, and all of a sudden Stonington comes up with a separate deal they have negotiated with CCI (the phone and DSL company). We first learned about it in the paper. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is - there are some important details to be worked out. Also note, Stonington's average density of premises is much greater than Brooksville's, which makes the construction cost much lower than ours would be. <https://islandadvantages.com/news/2021/apr/16/stonington-to-get-nasa-level-internet-service/#.YHntZi33afA>

So, your Broadband Committee struggles on. Lots of activity right now on creating a financial model for an independent, non profit, public utility corporation, owned by member towns. (This is being done elsewhere in the state.) We are also working actively on strategies to lower the cost for low income subscribers. Legal documents have been drafted and are on hold, pending a decision on whether to recommend an Interlocal Agreement to our Selectboards. Happy to send the drafts if you are curious.

Your questions and opinions are always valuable and welcomed.