



OH GIG INFORMATIONAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.

UNION LOCAL MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Ohio GIG, in partnership with the Union Local School District, will host an Informational Meeting regarding a new county wide Broadband initiative for Belmont County. The Belmont County Port Authority has been focused on Broadband for the last 5 years and they have facilitated this exciting project.

Further details may be found at the following links:

<https://www.timesleaderonline.com/news/local-news/2021/05/broadband-providers-pitch-their-plan-to-townships/>

<https://wtov9.com/news/local/could-improved-broadband-be-on-its-way-to-belmont-county>

<https://www.timesleaderonline.com/news/local-news/2021/04/broadband-coming-to-belmont-county/>

In the last 6 months progress has been rapid and has included:

- * The completion of a full county design to bring fiber county wide
- * Collaboration with Belmont College to access and upgrade existing fiber infrastructure
- * The creation of a ten-phase construction build-out plan at a total construction cost of \$125 million
- * Initial funding commitments of \$20 million into Ohio GIG
- * Discussions with the Union LSD regarding how they might support the initial phases of construction
- * Designating the month of July (this year) for project groundbreaking!

Belmont GIG plans to activate its initial subscribers in the 3rd quarter of 2021. An anchor Internet utility business will be built in Belmont County employing over 50 people at the end of construction. Belmont County Gig will invest \$131.6 million to deploy underground fiber-optic broadband infrastructure throughout Belmont County impacting over 30,000 homes and businesses by 2029.