

Report to the Taghkanic Town Board on August 8, 2016

Broadband Committee

We have set regular meetings of this committee for the fourth Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. at Town Hall.

We have put together the maps from Mid Hudson Cable and found two separate corridors served by it:

1. Route 82 from Livingston down past the TSP. This trunk also goes up Livingston Road and a tiny bit of Taghkanic Road. It extends down County Rout 10, a bit int Taghkanic Churchtown Road and down to the Wilzig property on Post Hill Road.
2. From Churchtown on County Route 27, continuing down Pumpkin Hollow to Camphill.

Our belief is that both the Wilzig and Camphill extensions were paid for independently by those property owners.

Pdf versions of the 13 map sheets have been made at Staples as have been two additional copies of the paper sheets. One of the paper copies will be sent to Dave Berman at Connect Columbia. He has already received the PDF file.

We will send representatives to the Connect Columbia meeting on Wednesday, August 17th. That group has not met within this past month.

We will also send representatives to the Columbia County Broadband Subcommittee later this month. They are planning to have executives from Internet companies present, so we hope to hear firsthand what these companies' plans are. At its past meetings they were getting closer to finding out just where are the service maps developed by a consultant several months to a year ago. They also assigned responsibility for inviting Internet companies to these meetings.

The newspapers have been full of statewide news on broadband.

Columbia County has been designated first for broadband expansion as a result of the Charter Communications merger. We may not be affected by this since we are not now in the Charter Communications service area.

Both Mid-hudson Cable and G-tel have been awarded first round state grants to expand their broadband offerings.

The Governor announced at the new Hudson library the week before last a new initiative to have substantially expanded service in our county in 2017 and full service in our county in 2018. We will find out then just how effective these plans have been executed.