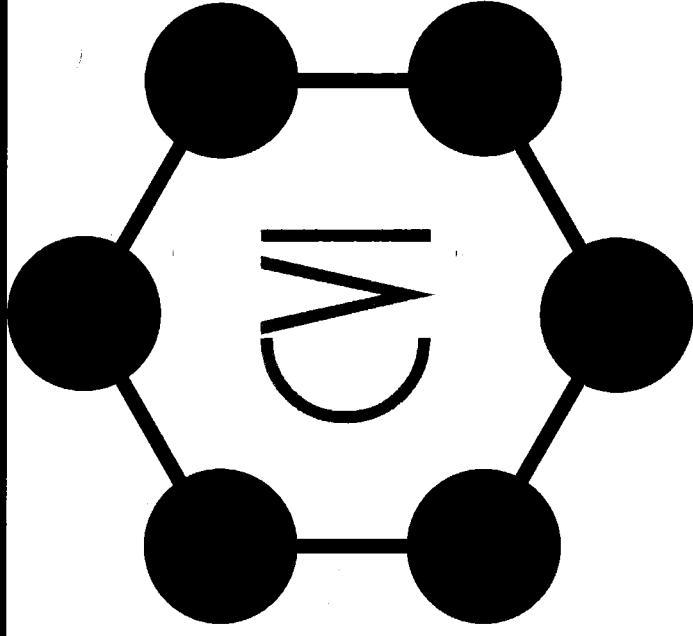


# CENTRAL VERMONT INTERNET

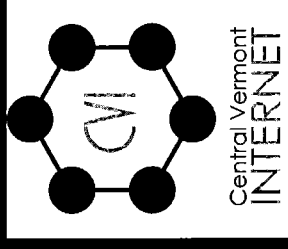
Presented by: Jeremy A. Hansen, Ph.D CISSP



Central Vermont  
**INTERNET**

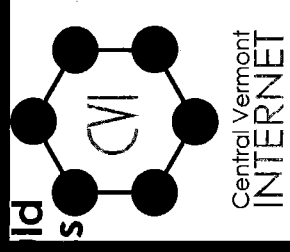
# ABOUT ME...

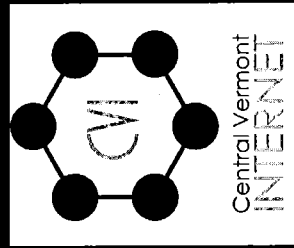
- PhD in Computer Science
- Associate Professor at Norwich University
- 10+ years in information technology & security
  - Experience in Fortune 500 down to 2 person organizations
- Selectboard member in Berlin since 2013



# WHAT I'M PROPOSING

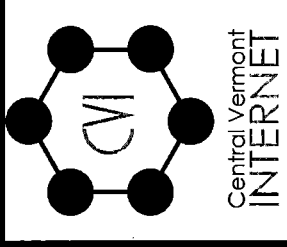
- Starting a community Internet Service Provider
  - Communications Union District: a municipal entity
- Connecting Central Vermont residences with extremely high-speed wired Internet service
  - Current FCC rules call "broadband" 25/3 Mbps, which few people have here
  - I'm talking about 100+/100+ Mbps
  - Vermont's Telecommunications Plan:





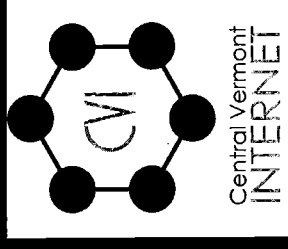
# WHAT I'M ASKING OF ROXBURY

- Add language to your Town Meeting ballot:
  - “Shall the Town of Roxbury enter into a communications union district to be known as Central Vermont Internet, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. Ch 82?”
- The member towns are totally insulated from the financial activities of the district. No tax money may be used!
- The statute requires: “Each member shall make available for lease to the district one or more sites for a communications plant or components thereof within such member municipality.”
- Appoint a CVI board member, an alternate, and that’s it!



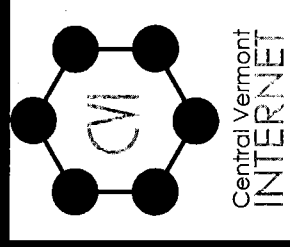
# WHY DO THIS?

- Existing ISPs have no motivation to provide truly high-speed Internet
- Local governance = local control = local accountability
- No profit motive + municipal bonding → cheaper rates
- Net neutrality
- Subscriber privacy concerns (tracking network activity & reselling)
- Economic development
- Indirectly drive prices of other offerings down and speeds up



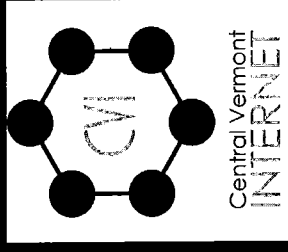
# WHO'S INVITED TO THE PARTY? (SO FAR)

- Barre City (5 Dec 2017)
- Barre Town (28 Nov 2017)
- Berlin (on Town Meeting ballot)
- Calais (on Town Meeting ballot)
- East Montpelier (on Town Meeting ballot)
- Elmore
- Marshfield (19 Dec 2017)
- Middlesex (on Town Meeting ballot)
- Montpelier
- Northfield (12 Dec 2017: petition drive)
- Plainfield (on Town Meeting ballot)
- Roxbury (18 Dec 2017)
- Williamstown (9 Jan 2018)
- Worcester



# CRITICISMS

- “I don’t want my taxes to go up for something I don’t want!”
- “I don’t want to be in the same position as Burlington Telecom.” and “Haven’t a bunch of these providers failed?”
- “If there was truly the demand, wouldn’t the market correct to provide the supply?”
- “Aren’t these towns covered by satellite/wireless broadband already?”
- “There’s no guarantee that you’ll actually provide cheaper service or faster speeds.”

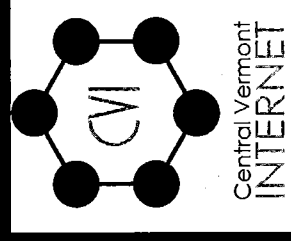




# NEXT STEPS & ROUGH TIMELINE

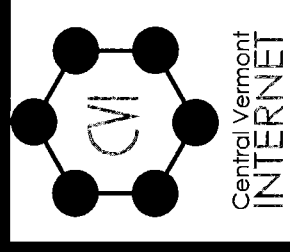
1. Get language on the 2018 Town Meeting ballot in the 10+ towns (by Jan 1)
2. Public outreach & awareness building (through Mar 6)\*
3. Win approval at Town Meeting (Mar 6)
4. Selectboards & City Council appoint representatives to the District (by Apr 30)
5. Identify sources of seed money and anchor institutions (ongoing)
6. First annual meeting (May 8)
  - i. Add additional members?
  - ii. RFP for & execution of feasibility study--\$ from VCDP Planning Grant?
  - iii. Draft business plan & budget, decide on initial coverage

\* By May 8 for Baire Town without a special Town Meeting



# LANGUAGE FOR THE BALLOT

“Shall the Town of Roxbury enter into a communications union district to be known as Central Vermont Internet, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. Ch 82?”



# QUESTIONS?

Feel free to contact me:

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802-279-6054

