

ORDINANCE 2021-14

**OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA**

An Ordinance to Establish La Porte County, Indiana
as a Broadband Ready Community

WHEREAS La Porte County seeks to promote private investment in broadband infrastructure;
And

WHEREAS La Porte County seeks to be designated as a Broadband Ready Community
pursuant
to IC 5-28-28.5;

**THEREFORE, LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA, BY AND THROUGH ITS BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS, ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

La Porte County herein establishes a procedure to review applications and issue permits for
broadband projects, subject and in conformity with the following provisions:

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "permit" means any local permit, license, certificate,
approval, registration, or similar form of approval required by policy, administrative rule,
regulation, ordinance, or resolution with respect to a project.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "project" means the construction or deployment of wireline or
wireless communications facilities to provide communications services (as defined in IC 8-1-
32.5-3) in a unit.

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of La Porte County's ordinances, regulations,
policies or practices, the following shall apply to a project:

La Porte County shall:

- (a) appoint a single point of contact for all matters related to a project;
- (b) establish procedures to allow all forms, applications, and documentation related to a
project to be filed or submitted and signed by electronic means;
- (c) review and approve or reject all applications for a permit related to a project within ten
(10) business days after an application is filed or submitted;
- (d) assure that after an application is approved pursuant to subsection (a)(3), any inspections,
including any additional necessary approvals, related to a project will occur in a timely and
expeditious manner.

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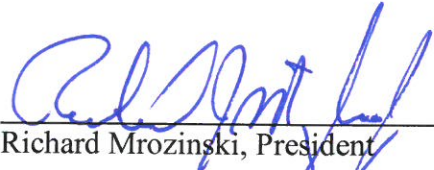
Sec. 4. La Porte County shall adopt adequate processes and procedures to implement the provisions of Sec. 3. Processes and procedures established hereunder may not do the following:

- a) Require an applicant to designate a final contractor to complete a project;
- b) Impose a fee to review an application or issue a permit for a project;
- c) Impose a seasonal moratorium on the issuance of permits for a project;
- d) Discriminate among communications service providers or utilities with respect to any action described in this section or otherwise related to a project, including granting access to public rights-of-way, infrastructure and poles, river and bridge crossings, and any other physical assets owned or controlled by the County.

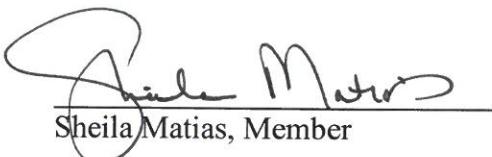
This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Adopted by unanimous vote this 17th Day of November 2021.

La Porte County Board of Commissioners

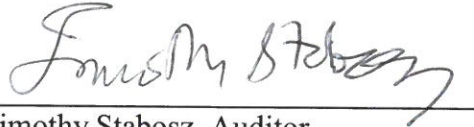

Richard Mrozinski, President


Joseph Haney, Vice-President


Sheila Matias, Member

1st Reading }
2nd Reading } 11-17-2021

ATTEST:


Timothy Stabosz, Auditor

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