CROOK COUNTY WORK SESSION

Administration Conference Room
203 NE Court Street, Prineville, OR

Tuesday July 26, 2022 at 9 a.m.
Members of the public and media are welcome to attend in person with social distancing or via WebEx 1-408-418-9388**; Access Code:** 2557 624 5694
Meeting Password: 37qgD2rbpy2
Public comment will take place at the beginning of the Work Session

	Requester	Discussion Matter	Packet Docs
1	Kelsey Lucas	Center for Rural Innovation	✔

	Requester	Executive Discussion Matter	Packet Docs
Exec #1		ORS 192.660(2)(e) For the purpose of conducting deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate **real property transactions**	✔
Exec #2		ORS 192.660(2)(e) For the purpose of conducting deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate **real property transactions**	✔

Items placed on the Work Session agenda are intended for discussion only, without making decisions or finalizing documents unless an emergency exists.

*The Court may add additional items arising too late to be part of this Agenda. Agenda items may be rearranged to make the best use of time.
*The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. If additional accommodations are required, please submit your request 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting County Administration at 541-447-6555.

*Requests to be placed on the Work Session agenda are
due by 5 p.m. the Thursday before the Work Session*

CENTER ON RURAL INNOVATION

Building the future of rural America

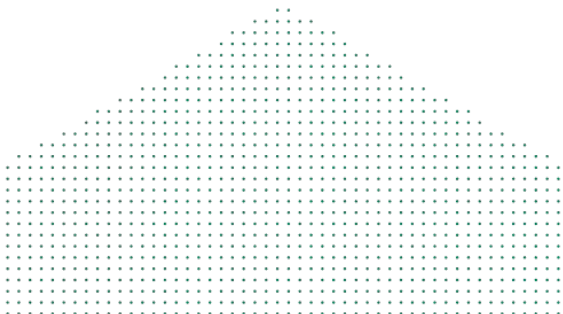Accelerating Digital Job Growth and Scalable Startups

CORI | Center on Rural Innovation

Advancing inclusive rural prosperity through digital economy ecosystems that support scalable entrepreneurship and tech job creation.

We need more rural digital jobs

4.3%

The innovation economy grew 4.3% faster than the overall economy from 1997-2017...

97%

of tech jobs were created in metro areas since 2010*

$88,240

is the median annual wage for tech jobs vs. $39,810 for all other jobs

Source: Brookings, BLS, *CORI analysis of BLS Occupational Employment Statistics data

CORI

Steps on the rural digital economy path

CORI

Assessment
Report on assets, challenges, early recommendations

Your Time:
~5 hrs/wk
8 wks

Strategy
Place-based five year vision and strategy for all Direct Drivers

Your Time:
~10 hrs/wk
7 wks

Funding
Federal grant proposal to implement part of strategy

Your Time:
~15 hrs/wk
12+ wks

Network
Community of practice, tactical support

Cost: 1st year included

The results so far

- **50** tech **startups** launched

- More than **180 jobs** created

- **$20M in equity** raised

- **150 adults trained** to code

- **1000 kids** participated in Youth Coding League

Funding the work

Cape Girardeau awarded an i6 grant in 2019 to

- Service startups
- Develop community connections
- Address local industry problems
- ...and more

Federal Share: $746,000.00

Local Match: $1,483,600.00

Total: $2.2M project

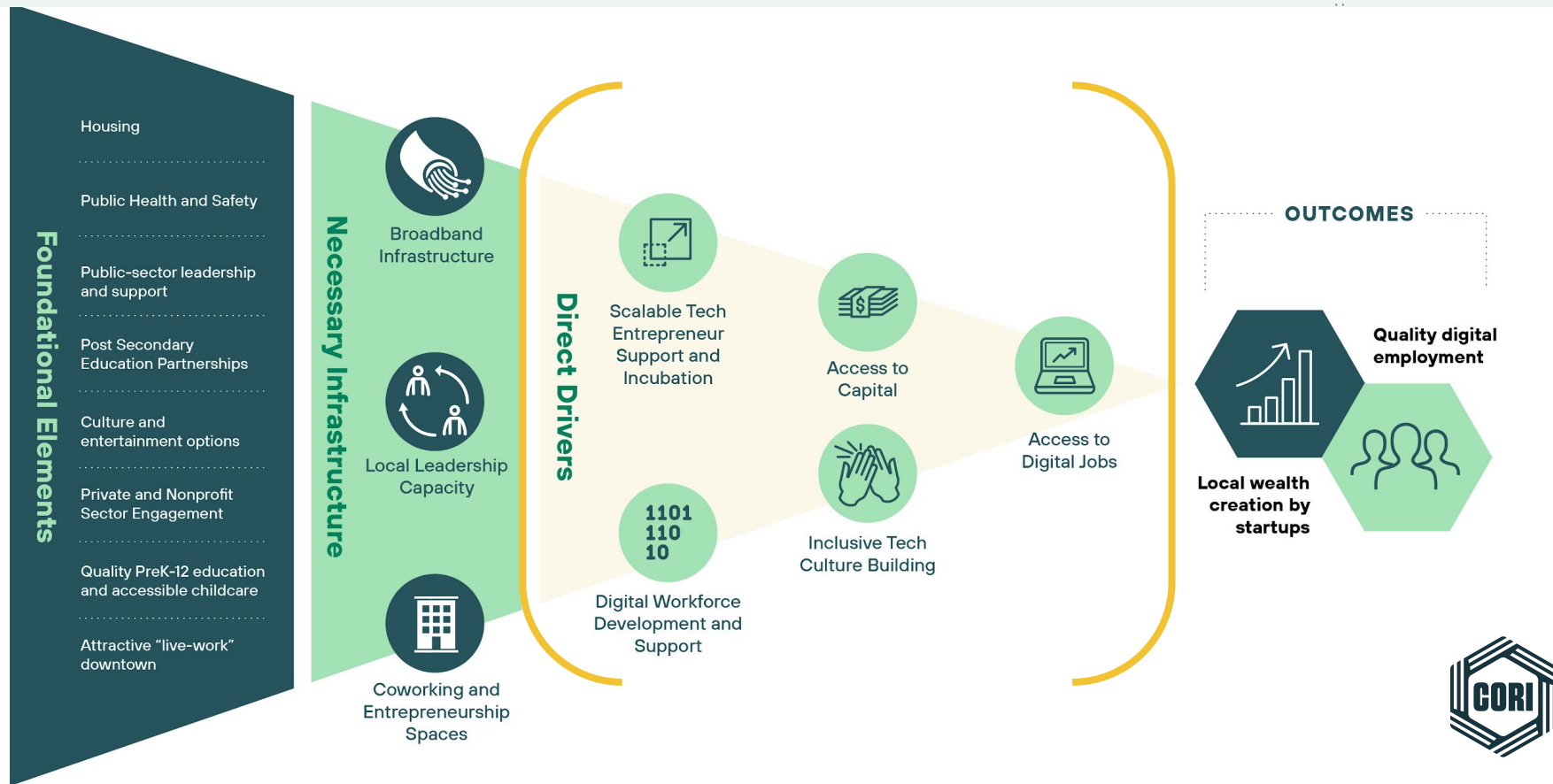**Build** to **Scale**

Formerly known as "i6 Challenge"

1:1 Match

3 year projects

Supports scalable tech company growth in communities

"Place-based, bottom-up, specific to your region's needs"

Elements to enable tech economies in rural communities

What a digital economy looks like

CORI's Innovation Hub Model

Lofts and Living Space

Incubator / Accelerator Co-working Space

Digital Jobs Training / Future of Work

Arts, Culture Amenities

Coffee

GALLERY

HIGHER EDUCATION
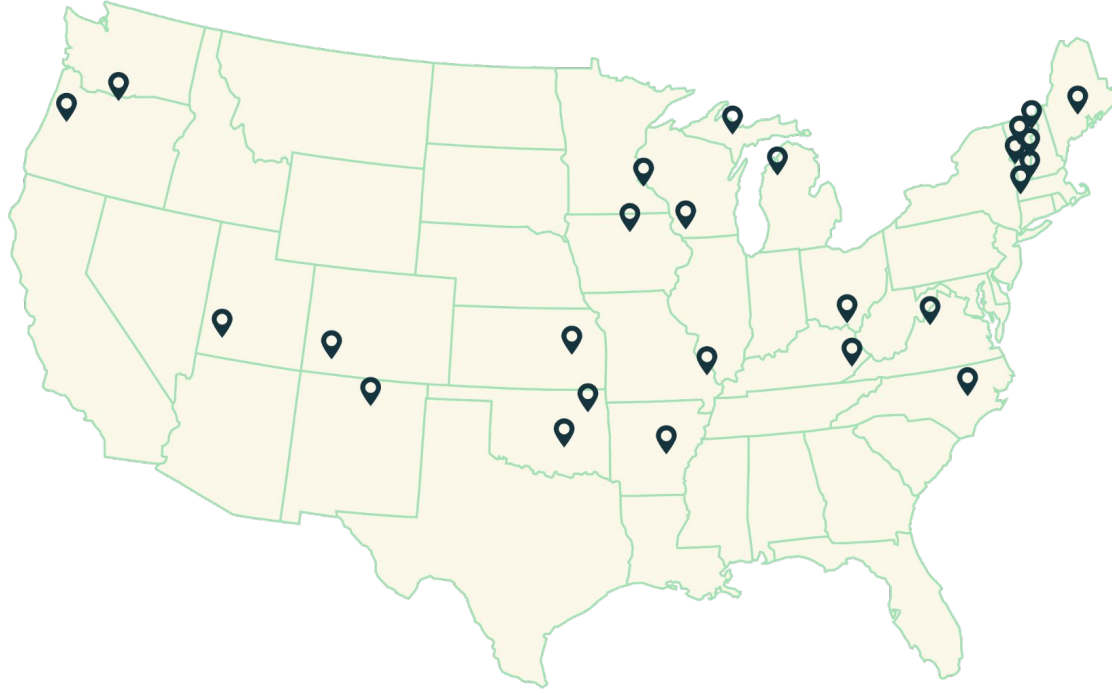
BROADBAND NETWORK

CAPITAL
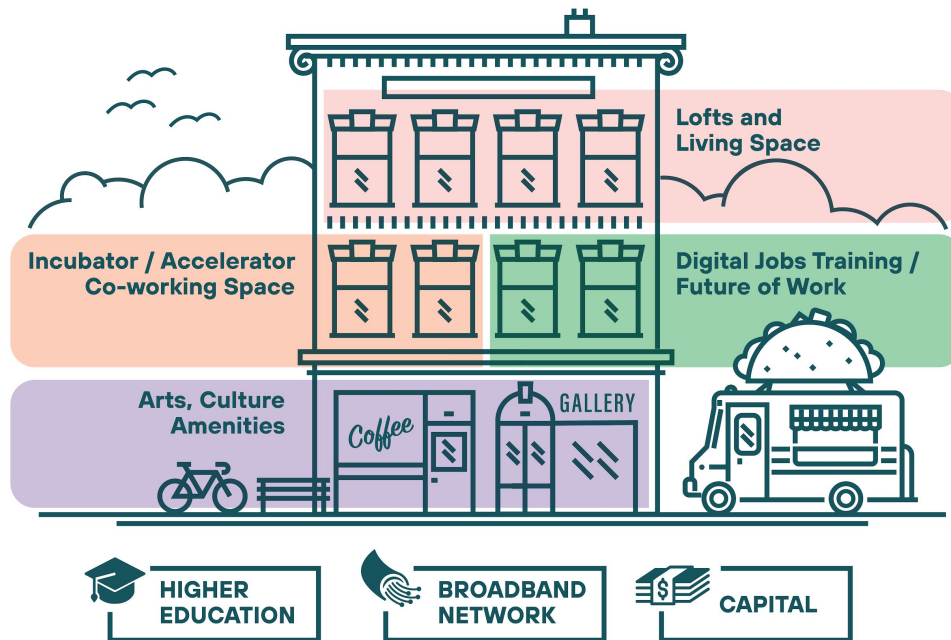
Connecting key assets in one centralized location

CORI's Rural Innovation Initiative

We've helped our communities raise more than $17M in federal funding and matching dollars through the highly competitive Economic Development Administration's Build to Scale Venture Challenge Grant.

CORI's Rural Innovation Network

28
28 communities across 21 states and four time zones

2,000,000
Covering a population of 2 million people, which is more than all but 4 US cities!

7,000
600 Network residents completed more than 7,000 hours of digital skills training in 2020

CORI

A Community of Practice

Knowledge & Coaching

❏ Creating spaces for you to learn together with other ecosystem builders
❏ Webinars, Working Groups, Toolkits, Resources, and more!

Exposure

❏ Support for local startups and increasing local tech talent
❏ Comprehensive approach to highlighting network communities

Connections

❏ Peer sharing and learning opportunities
❏ Annual Network Summit

*By creating a national **network** of innovation hubs for our members to access, we are able to **accelerate** their learning and **amplify** their work on the ground.*

CORI

Steps on the rural digital economy path

CORI

Assessment

Report on assets, challenges, early recommendations

Your Time:
~5 hrs/wk
8 wks

Strategy

Place-based five year vision and strategy for all Direct Drivers

Your Time:
~10 hrs/wk
7 wks

Funding

Federal grant proposal to implement part of strategy

Your Time:
~15 hrs/wk
12+ wks

Network

Community of practice, tactical support

Cost: 1st year included

Core team & partner engagement

Core Team: The 3-6 people involved in weekly check-ins, planning, and strategizing with the CORI team.

To consult: Other subject matter experts or stakeholders, local or external to region. *e.g. entrepreneurs, affinity groups or organizations etc.*

Keep informed: Not directly involved in effort, but important to keep updated. *e.g. state representatives*

Examples of core team members

- **Economic Development Organizations**

- **Entrepreneurship** or small business **organizations** (e.g. SBDC, entrepreneurship centers, chambers of commerce)

- **Post-secondary institutions** (e.g. entrepreneurship, computer science, continuing education programs)

- **Workforce development boards**

- **Makerspaces & coworking spaces**

- Local **tech employers** and **anchor employers**

- Local **government** (e.g. city managers, planners)

- **Organizations that support underrepresented groups** (e.g. Hispanic Business Association, Boys & Girls Club, Women's groups etc.)

- **Organizations trusted by the demographic**/ cultural group you **want to reach** (e.g. Churches/Faith Leaders, Local leadership/Community representatives)

Next steps

We would love work with you if you are interested!

- Want to build a digital economy strategy? kaitlin.klaustermeier@ruralinnovation.us

- Want to learn more about our broadband work? alex.kelley@ruralinnovation.us

Thank you!

RURAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES, INC.

Broadband Planning: Crook County, OR

July 2022

RURAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES, INC.

AGENDA

01.   INTRODUCTIONS

02.   BROADBAND LANDSCAPE TODAY

03.   GOALS AND PROCESS

04.   EXAMPLES OF WORK

05.   NEXT STEPS & ACTION ITEMS

Rural Innovation Strategies, Inc.

RISI uses data-driven strategies, leading-edge geospatial tools, and digital economy expertise to help partners and clients advance inclusive economic prosperity in small towns across rural America.

Broadband is critical infrastructure

It supports the foundation of 21st-century life:

Education → **Commerce** → **Healthcare** → **Communication** → **Education**

(Of course. We all know this!)

And, everyone is focused on it.

There has been an incredible increase in public spending on broadband since the start of the pandemic.

- <u>In 2019</u>: Less than <u>$600M</u> in federal grants and loans designated for broadband

- <u>Since then</u>: Close to <u>$130B</u> available for broadband deployment over the next seven-plus years

CORI

The surge in investment has changed the game

- There's an increasing emphasis on fiber, as well as adoption/affordability

- Grant programs are seeing major oversubscription — there's more competition than ever before

- Grant programs are prioritizing projects that demonstrate community involvement, public/private cooperation

- Digital opportunity and adoption is increasingly woven into all aspects of this work - there will be funding for almost every aspect of broadband

CORI

The bottom line?

We're looking at, potentially, the best (and last) chance to connect rural places with this significant public funding opportunity.

Work done this year and next will have a impact on communities for decades.

CORI

Our goals

- Facilitate future-proof broadband in rural America

- Help communities harness once in a lifetime opportunities for connectivity

- Support digital economic growth and entrepreneurship

Process

Flexible community support is cornerstone of strategy
- ○ Unique rural communities
- ○ Complex processes: infrastructure planning and deployment

Assessments will provide clear guidance on needs, and how to proceed
- ○ Research / stakeholder alignment
- ○ Data / GIS work
- ○ Evaluation of assets and partner opportunities
- ○ Grant and funding landscape
- ○ Output: Step by step plan to efficiently achieve broadband goals

Execution support _as needed_ to build on assessment phase
- ○ Feasibility work
- ○ High level network designs
- ○ Financial modeling
- ○ Fundraising support

Selection of past projects can give you an idea of what's possible

1. Qualitative and quantitative assessment of community broadband challenges (lack of infrastructure, affordability, lack of competition, service quality, etc)

2. Feasibility study and business plan for new network deployments (municipally owned, PPP, utility-owned, etc)

3. Broadband subsidy enrollment campaign

4. Community survey (and/or pre-subscription campaign)

5. Analysis of municipal actions to improve viability of private investment

6. Broadband workforce needs analysis

7. Digital equity and digital adoption planning / analysis

8. Grant-writing and fundraising

9. Assistance with RFP process and/or vendor selection

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. **Follow-up conversations**

   Who do we need to talk with to get a deeper understanding of broadband challenges in your community?

2. **Check-in meetings**

   Proposed at every other week

3. ***Other items from today's discussion***