

UW-System Network fiber projects status as of 9/24/2019:

A UW-Green Bay | Marinette – contracting work is complete with Marinette County. County hired a reputable consulting/engineering firm, Multimedia Communications & Engineering (MC&E) to oversee the project. Fiber construction bids will be opened on 9/24/19 with construction slated to begin in October 2019. County has promised the 1st construction segment will be a lateral from UW-Green Bay | Marinette to existing County fiber at intersection of Pierce/University Drive. Upon completion of the lateral, SysNet will immediately turn up a 10Gbps point-to-point fiber connection and share a UW-Superior to UW-Green Bay 10Gbps circuit given poor BadgerNet service for this site. Redundant fiber path construction including additional underground and aerial work will continue until February 2020. SysNet will connect campus with a redundant 10Gbps fiber path by 4/15/19.

B UW – Platteville | Baraboo – Sauk County – SysNet finalizing contracts with WI Independent Network (WIN)/TDS Telecom and Sauk County to obtain physically diverse fiber paths 3 blocks south of the campus to SysNet network nodes in WI Dells and UW-Madison. A fiber segment from WI Dells to Lake Delton is nearly complete. Stretch goal is to complete fiber construction by 12/31/19 with lit service by 2/15/2020 though additional contracting delays and impending winter weather may result in fiber construction completion and production service implementation in spring 2020.

C UW – Green Bay | Manitowoc – beginning contract phase with Manitowoc Utilities. Manitowoc Utilities will construct a 3000' lateral from their existing, predominantly aerial fiber infrastructure to campus in late spring/summer 2020. Manitowoc Utilities fiber from campus will then be connected into existing SysNet backbone along I-43 as part of the SysNet2020 network upgrade project.

D I-41 fiber path (Appleton – Milwaukee) – Irrefutable Right-of-Use or IRU contract with WIN for fiber between Appleton and Milwaukee is complete. Engineering work to connect fiber path to campuses along I-41 is in process with estimated completion by summer 2020. Tentative plans for campus connections include:

Appleton

IRU fiber terminates (ends) at existing location (10 S. College Ave) where fiber from UW – Oshkosh | Fox Valley exists

Oshkosh

Physically diverse fiber connectivity to UWO using existing fiber on the north side of the city as well as approaching the Oshkosh School District to lease fiber from them for a south side of Oshkosh connection

Fond du Lac

Redundant fiber lateral are built and ready for use

West Bend

Exploring opportunity with Windstream Communications to acquire either a point-to-point or (preferably) a physically diverse fiber path to connect UW-Milwaukee | Washington County to the I-41 fiber path. A least preferred alternative would be for SysNet to build a 7 mile cable along Hwy 33 perhaps in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT).

Milwaukee

Discussing use of City of Milwaukee fiber from 324 E. Wisconsin St (Wells Building) to SysNet node at 809 N. Broadway in downtown Milwaukee.

Final fiber path optical and packet engineering and production turn-up are included in the scope of SysNet2020 (next generation) network project.

E UW-Green Bay | Sheboygan fiber path – struggling to revive contract negotiations with entities in the SINC (Sheboygan Internetworking Community Area Network). A point-to-point fiber path from UW-Green Bay | Sheboygan to SysNet’s I-43 intercity fiber path exists while another path being built by a local hospital in 2020 may be available for use. Assuming contract negotiations are successful, this connection would be turned up as part of the SysNet2020 next generation network project.

F La Crosse – Richland Center – Fitchburg (Madison) fiber path – as part of an ongoing search with commercial telecommunication carriers for fiber paths to provide UW-La Crosse and UW-Platteville with fiber geodiversity, we uncovered a prospective low network latency fiber build Zayo Broadband may undertake from Minneapolis, MN to Chicago, IL via La Crosse, Richland Center and Fitchburg, WI (Madison area). Google and perhaps Facebook are likely to build new data centers in the northwest suburbs of Minneapolis and may likely build this path to connect to their Chicago national backbone.

This fiber path would allow SysNet to stop buying commercial circuits and instead provide more scalable and likely more reliable network connectivity to UW-La Crosse and UW – Platteville | Richland Center. In addition, a redundant Internet network path from the OneNeck commercial data center facility utilized by UW-Madison and potentially UW-System Shared Services would be possible.

Zayo anticipates this build could start in the summer of 2020 with final segments being completed by fall of 2021. We continue to discuss this opportunity with Zayo and are working on an IRU agreement in the event the build occurs so we can seize this opportunity.

G Platteville – Janesville and perhaps Madison fiber path – again, as part of an ongoing search with commercial telecommunication carriers for fiber paths to provide UW-La Crosse and UW-Platteville with fiber geodiversity, we recently uncovered a fiber path from Dubuque, IA through northern Illinois to Janesville and Madison. The Windstream Communications path would enable SysNet to stop buying commercial circuits for UW-Whitewater and UW-Platteville and instead provide more scalable and reliable network connectivity to both campuses. In addition, UW – Whitewater | Rock County would also benefit from additional redundant network connectivity. We are currently waiting on pricing and additional route information on this path at this time.