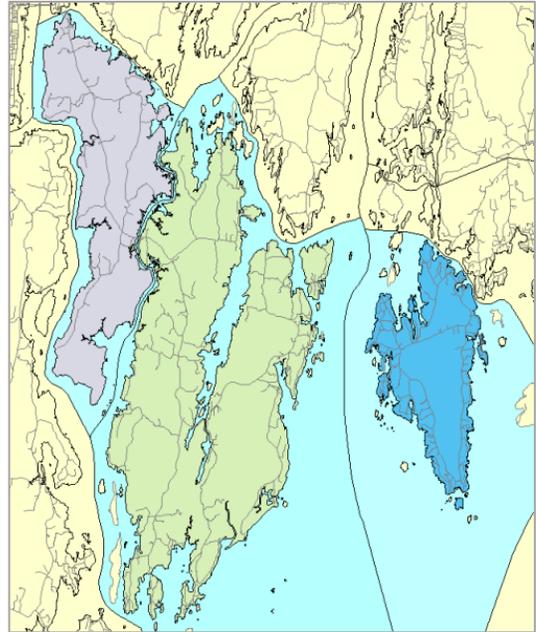


Arrowsic-Georgetown Broadband Update

Hi Arrowsic and Georgetown broadband followers. After a long winter, the broadband seeds are beginning to sprout! The major development is that the Arrowsic-Georgetown Broadband Initiative (AGBI) working group has joined forces with our neighboring bridged-island town, Southport, and with the Island Institute. We believe the broader coalition gives us a greater chance of attracting a provider and private investment to address our needs in a timelier fashion, and to leverage experiences from other bridged communities in Maine.

The Island Institute will facilitate efforts of the three towns to get an engineering and cost study prepared. The [Island Institute](#) is a non-profit that works to sustain Maine's island and coastal communities.



YEAR-TO-DATE ACTIVITY

During the winter months we continued surveying location information required for a broadband cost estimate for Arrowsic and Georgetown. This information is being recorded in a mapping system that visually shows the GPS locations of residents, anchor institutions, the roads network, and key broadband assets.

NEXT STEPS

The next step is to create a **Request for Information** (RFI) for a broadband engineering study which will define a firm project cost estimate, business model and an indication of the level of private investment. The Island Institute is preparing the RFI with input from Arrowsic, Georgetown, and Southport. We will then review the RFI with the town councils to get their input and support.

This schedule will allow us to begin fund raising early next year, and to put any necessary warrant proposals before the Town Meetings in the spring. As with most other broadband projects in Maine, we anticipate creating some sort of public-private partnership framework.

The broadband upgrade will have positive impact on issues that have arisen in the [Georgetown Comprehensive Plan](#) exploration discussions. The broadband group will be coordinating their efforts with the Comprehensive Plan committee going forward.

If you have an interest in participating in the broadband group activities, please send an email with your interests or particular expertise to mark.aukeman@ag-broadbanders.org. If you are a Georgetown resident please also consider participating in the Comprehensive Plan as a committee member.