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The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) announced the 2021 Minnesota Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) recipients. The grants total \$37,600,868 as authorized by the United States' Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to respond to the growing effects of this historic public health crisis.

The City of Dodge Center, in partnership with KMTelecom, has been awarded a \$3,142,747 grant from the CDBG-CV program to help bring high-speed fiber internet to unserved residents within the city. KMTelecom is also investing an additional \$1,000,000 to help fund the fiber build. Construction is set to begin in the Spring of 2023. This build will bring high-speed internet with speeds up to 1 Gb to all residents and businesses within Dodge Center city limits.

This grant is great news for the City of Dodge Center, KMTelecom, and all the residents and businesses within Dodge Center. Affordable, high-speed broadband is becoming a necessity for work, education and play, and we are excited to help bring this technology to those in need.

Thank you to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and all who support us!