

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Earlier this week, Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan announced the 2023 Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant recipients. The grants total \$67 million for 30 broadband infrastructure projects across Minnesota which will provide roughly 13,100 residents and businesses with access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet.

KMTelecom is pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant of \$1,931,046 for a project in SE Minnesota. This project will bring 75 miles of fiber with synchronous broadband speeds up to 1GB to approximately 221 households and businesses in the rural areas of Olmsted County's Kalmar and Salem Townships. KMTelecom will also be matching \$1,931,046 of the total project costs. Construction is tentatively set to begin in the summer of 2025.

"There is extraordinary momentum behind our work to connect more Minnesotans to broadband," said Governor Tim Walz. "Broadband is an essential component of our state's infrastructure and it's a lifeline for Minnesota students, workers, small businesses, families, and communities. We're making big investments in the future of our economy and workforce, while ensuring Minnesotans stay connected to the people who matter most."

We extend our thanks to the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development and to all the residents and businesses in the project area who were instrumental in helping us receive this grant. We can't wait to get started!