



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Voters Approve \$15 Million Investment for Better Internet with ‘Yes’ Vote on Question 1

ROCKLAND – Maine voters today overwhelmingly approved Question 1 on the statewide ballot, authorizing a \$15 million bond investment to increase access to high speed internet in underserved and unserved areas of the state.

“Voters were clear. They understand that access to high speed internet is a necessity and that no community in Maine should be left behind,” said Nick Battista, co-chair of the Yes on 1 for Better Internet campaign. “Question 1 will help our economy to recover from economic hardships caused by COVID-19, strengthen Maine’s rural economy and help families to connect to their jobs, schools and loved ones. I want to thank all of our partners who supported this campaign, and the voters who made the decision to invest in better internet.”

The \$15 million investment will be matched by an additional \$30 million in private, local and federal funding for a total investment of \$45 million.

“For too long, Mainers in rural areas of the state have lacked the infrastructure for high-speed internet,” said Lori Parham, AARP Maine state director. “On behalf of our 230,000 members in Maine, we thank voters and our collaborative partners for recognizing how critical it is for every Mainer, no matter their age, to have access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet from every corner of the state.”

Question 1 was supported by nearly 120 organizations, towns, nonprofits, community organizations and businesses.

In addition to community partners, the Yes on 1 for Better Internet campaign also was endorsed by the Bangor Daily News, the Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram, the Kennebec Journal and the Morning Sentinel newspapers.

A list of endorsing organizations is [here](#).

The language of the [Question 1](#) reads:

“Do you favor a \$15,000,000 bond issue to invest in high-speed internet infrastructure for unserved and underserved areas, to be used to match up to \$30,000,000 in federal, private, local or other funds?”

Paid for by Yes on 1 for Better Internet
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