



# MARY FELZKOWSKI (CZAJA)

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## **Community Development and Broadband Grant Awards to the 35<sup>th</sup> District** *Improvements coming to Antigo and Oneida County*

**Madison-** State Representative Mary (Czaja) Felzkowski (R-Irma) released a statement this week in response to Governor Walker’s announcements that communities of the 35<sup>th</sup> district are grant recipients in the coming year. The City of Antigo will receive a [Community Development Block Grant](#) to improve its streets and infrastructure, while the Oneida County Economic Development Corporation will receive a [Broadband Expansion Grant](#) to build two additional towers in rural portions of Oneida County.

The Community Development Block Grants are targeted towards community projects that benefit low-to-moderate income residents. These funds help support infrastructure and facility projects for communities. Some examples of eligible projects include improvements, repairs, or expansions of streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers.

“Choosing fund recipients for this grant is a really competitive process and I applaud the City of Antigo for their diligence and hard work to prepare and apply for it. Their award will make strong improvements to Antigo’s roads, and I know it will be of great benefit to the community’s businesses and families,” said Rep. Felzkowski.

The Broadband Expansion Grant Program was created as a part of the 2013-15 biennial budget and has since pledged nearly \$4 million towards expanding broadband access. The Governor’s announcement dedicates an additional \$1.5 million towards projects around the state – specifically targeting underserved markets.

“In rural districts like mine, I am contacted every week by constituents who continue to have issues with access to quality broadband. This expansion program truly helps communities invest in connectivity and increased benefits for Wisconsin’s families and businesses,” said Rep. Felzkowski. “My colleagues and I have made finding a solution to this issue a strong priority, and I applaud Governor Walker’s dedication to expanding economic, health care, and educational opportunities to all.”

The Joint Committee on Finance has already adopted language into the proposed 2017-19 biennial budget that would provide \$16 million more for the Broadband Expansion Grant program over the next several years.

*Representative Felzkowski represents the 35th Assembly District which includes portions of Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, and Shawano Counties.*

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