Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Carrie Bird
Applicant ID	APP-004754
Company Name	Clearwater County
Recipient Address	Clearwater County Court House 150 Michigan Ave Orofino, ID 83544
Phone	(208) 476-5615
Email	cbird@clearwatercounty.org
Amount Requested	\$1,484,999.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Fiber to the Premise Orofino to Pierce

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Clearwater County Rick Winkel, Chairman PO Box 585, Orofino, ID 83544 commissioners@clearwatercounty.com 208-476-3615 **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Rural Clearwater County Census Blocks City of Orofino - recently annexed area City of Pierce

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Christina St Germaine Director Community & Economic Development cstgermaine@clearwatercounty.org 208-476-9829

Project Requirements

2.Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

🗹 Yes			
🗆 No			

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

The project will build off of a fiber optic line placed to serve Joint School District 171 in 2019. The fiber was laid along City, County, Highway District and State roadways from Orofino to Timberline School and into Pierce. the mainline fiber was part of the Joint School district E Rate fiber to schools construction project; its purpose is to connect the schools.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

The current communications infrastructure serving parts of the Proposed Service Area (PSA) is very old copper. In parts of the PSA (Cascade Drive) no wired infrastructure is in place and fixed wireless options are non-existent. The very low density and very high-cost infrastructure deployment in this very rural area of the county has been a challenge. CARES Act funding paired with the existing E-Rate built backbone offers this project economic feasibility. This fiber to the premise project will provide the ability for residents to access the internet at speeds capable of teleworking, remote learning, accessing telemedicine and simply accessing the vast informational resources and entertainment provided today across the World Wide Web. Youth

living in the PSA will gain access to the world through the enhanced connectivity Fatbeam will offer.

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

The proposed project to deploy a fiber to the premise capable network meets the CARES Act criteria by:

Being a broadband infrastructure (wireline) investment; Through enabling connectivity at speeds up to 1/1Gbps; Facilitating greatly enhanced access to telework, telemedicine, distance learning and public safety; and, providing service in a currently unserved area.

A fiber optic deployment across the PSA will offer future proof connectivity.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

\checkmark	Yes
	No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

The project will activate an existing fiber cable infrastructure, previously constructed to serve the needs of JSD171 for interfacility connection from Pierce to Orofino. With the mainline trenching work done the private sector provider return on investment is more reasonable. The project scope of work is focused on the Point of Precense, and electronics required to light the fiber backhaul thus enabling to the premise services. This project will provide a cost effective deployment of a future proof network to rural Clearwater County. The PSA traverses some of the least populated area of Clearwater County which, to date, has been deemed very high cost. Funding from the Idaho CARES Act will offset the extreme high cost for deployment of a fiber to the premise location and offer rural Clearwater County residents internet connectivity options comparable to the most urban places.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

Fatbeam has pledged the costs to connect the fiber to the World Wide Web; and PoP site location. Match valued at 6%.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

1579999.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

1006

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

1570

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

1/1 Gbps

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

County and Road District right of way permitting may be required to reach end users. ITD Utility permit will be required along State Hwy 11 to reach end users.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

Fatbeam, a private provider of fiber-based network solutions. Headquarters in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater County Economic Development Director, Chris St Germaine will oversee project administration, be the providers liaison to County, and track the deliverables/accomplishments. Provider upon completion will provide Clearwater County Board of Commissioners proof of network performance and document end user connections made by the project deadline 12-15-21.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

According to the FCC RDOF Phase 1 Results https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/rdof-phase-i-dec-2020/ some of the PSA had been awarded CAFII (Frontier) and RDOF (Space Ex) funds. However, much of the PSA did not. Attached is a clip from the FCC Phase 1 results map for the PSA.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

No

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered

for funding.

We believe this project will serve as a model for leveraging E-Rate funded middle mile infrastructure. We look forward to sharing the positive outcomes and lessons learned with others who may have E-Rate infrastructure to leverage for community good.

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

<u>Thomas Screenshot.pdf</u> (7/15/2021 5:38 PM) <u>Speed Tests Fiber path.docx</u> (7/15/2021 5:30 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

PierceOrofinoArea.pdf (7/16/2021 3:11 PM) GIS files Dropbox link.docx (7/15/2021 5:30 PM) Households along Fatbeam fiber path.kmz (7/10/2021 5:24 PM) Fatbeam fiber path.kmz (7/10/2021 5:24 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Fiber Budget.xlsx (7/14/2021 5:39 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Fiber Schedule.xlsx (7/15/2021 5:31 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

County Priority letter.pdf (7/12/2021 5:00 PM) County Cert-Fiber.pdf (7/12/2021 4:59 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

Letter of Support JSD171.pdf (7/16/2021 3:52 PM) Support-Cochrell Elec.pdf (7/16/2021 3:42 PM) Support- Leachman.pdf (7/16/2021 3:42 PM) Thomas-Fiber support.pdf (7/12/2021 5:00 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

Anchor Institutions.docx (7/15/2021 5:40 PM)

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

Clwtr County Broadband Plan.docx (7/15/2021 5:31 PM)

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

No Attachments

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Carrie Bird

Question: Type your title.

County Clerk

Question: Type the submission date.

7-15-2021

Anchor Institutions

There are no community anchor institutions within the Proposed Service Area.

Broadband Plan – Clearwater County Economic Development

Mission: Leverage all available resources and partnership with providers to build resilient, redundant telecommunications capacity across Clearwater County.

History

In 2003 at the regional Think Like a Region Economic Development Summit the lack of broadband access was deemed the regions' highest concern for community sustainability.

In 2006 Orofino convinced Verizon a fiber backhaul was needed to replace the microwave link that provided all communications within Clearwater County. A 46 strand fiber cable was run from Moscow to Orofino and on up to Weippe.

In 2007, the Clearwater Library District leveraged Idaho Commerce & Labor broadband finds with Gates Foundation funding to work with First Step Internet to build fixed wireless to Weippe. The Elk River Free Library District was awarded USDA Community Connect funds to become the ISP and deployed a fixed wireless mesh network; with backhaul from First Step Internet Elk River was connected. And, a small private ISP, QRO Internet deployed a fixed wireless network in Pierce with a T1 from Frontier.

In 2010 the Nez Perce Tribe secured American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to deploy a Reservation wide fixed wireless network. Clearwater County provided infrastructure (rooftops) and interconnected all county government facilities using the Tribes network.

In 2017 Frontier indicated a plan to run fiber to Pierce to serve the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy (IDYCA). This project never came to fruition.

2019 the Joint School District 171 leveraged E Rate funding to construct a fiber connection from Orofino schools to Timberline k-12 and into Pierce for the IDYCA.

2020 secured ID CARES Act funding to deploy fiber to premise in Orofino, Weippe-Pleasant Acres-SE unincorporated areas; and fixed wireless to Elk River.

The Strategy

Build partnerships that enable connectivity for all places across Clearwater County.

P.O. Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone: (208) 476-3615 Fax: (208) 476-8902



Commissioners Rick Winkel, Chair Mike Ryan Vince Frazier

> State of Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act Certification

State of Idaho Clearwater County

The undersigned, Rick Winkel, representing Clearwater County Board of Commissioners, PO Box 586, Orofino, ID 83544, hereby swear (affirm) that:

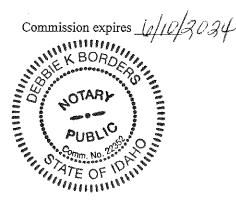
- 1. I am Chairman of the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners and thereby authorized t make these statements.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto.
- The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Criteria <u>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf</u>
- 3.
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions
- b. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

The Clearwater County will contract with a telecommunications provider to build a fiber optic network with capacity to delivery 1/1 Gbps to each household within the rural unincorporated area from Pierce to Orofino along SH 11, Jhalmar-Johnson, Upper Fords Creek Rd, Cascade Drive and Harmony Heights Rd.

Signature

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN before me on this $\frac{\beta^{4}}{\beta}$ day of July, 2021

Notary Public for Idaho Residing at



P.O. Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone: (208) 476-3615 Fax: (208) 476-8902



Commissioners Rick Winkel, Chair Mike Ryan Vince Frazier

Tom Kealey Director Idaho Department of Commerce 700 W State St PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

RE: Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act funding

Dear Director Kealey,

Clearwater County has identified three project areas that can be completed by the private sector to connect rural places. Recognizing the funding is limited, we have submitted each of these three and assign the following priority for consideration:

- 1 Fiber Orofino to Pierce
- 2 Fraser Fixed Wireless
- 3 North Weippe Fixed Wireless

We appreciate the opportunity to seek funding to close the digital divide in rural areas of our County.

5. Winter corely,

Rick Winkel Chairman

Clearwater County Fiber to the Premise - Orofino to Pierce					
Activity	ID CARES	Fatbeam			
Engineering	\$16,582				
Permitting	\$1,500				
Equipment	\$96,120				
Point of Presence location		\$20,000			
Fatbeam backhaul		\$75,000			
Construction	\$1,370,797				
TOTAL	\$1,484,999	\$95,000			

Clearwater County Fiber to the Premise - Orofino to Pierce

Clearwater County Fiber to the Premise - Orofino to Pierce

Activity	Start Date	Completion Date		
Contract	8/2/2021	8/9/2021		
Engineering	8/9/2021	9/26/2021		
Pole Attachmetn - Joint Use Agreements	9/26/2021	10/10/2021		
RoW Permitting	9/26/2021	10/10/2021		
Construction	10/17/2021	12/15/2021		

GIS files Fiber Orofino – Pierce Dropbox link

https://www.dropbox.com/t/WsbFHSb5hvvZk0g0



JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 171 1051 Michigan Ave. P.O. Box 2259 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone (208)476-5593 Fax (208)476-7293 Orofino Elementary School, Orofino Jr/Sr High, Timberline School; Cavendish Elementary, Peck Elementary, Idaho Youth Challenge Academy

07/15/2021

ID CAREA Act Broadband;

Joint School District 171 supports the Clearwater County Commissioners' effort to expand broadband access across rural Clearwater County. During the 2020 pandemic, broadband access became a critical infrastructure and for the majority of rural County residents the lack of access brought challenges. The lack of access to broadband affected students' ability to do school work, employees struggled to stay connected and functional at work and those needing access to healthcare without connectivity were in some cases left with limited options.

I know firsthand that internet access is critical to the success of our students and communities. In my choice of residency, I have limited internet access which can be very frustrating and delay the relaying of critical information to our community patrons.

During the 2020 spring COVID shutdown, our district experienced a great deal of learning loss with our students due to lack of connectivity and internet reliability. I am certain there would have been a more positive outcome if our county and region had better infrastructure.

As a district, we are learning to overcome some of the challenges associated with unreliable internet connectivity. The reality is that we shouldn't have to make the sacrifices just because we live in a rural area.

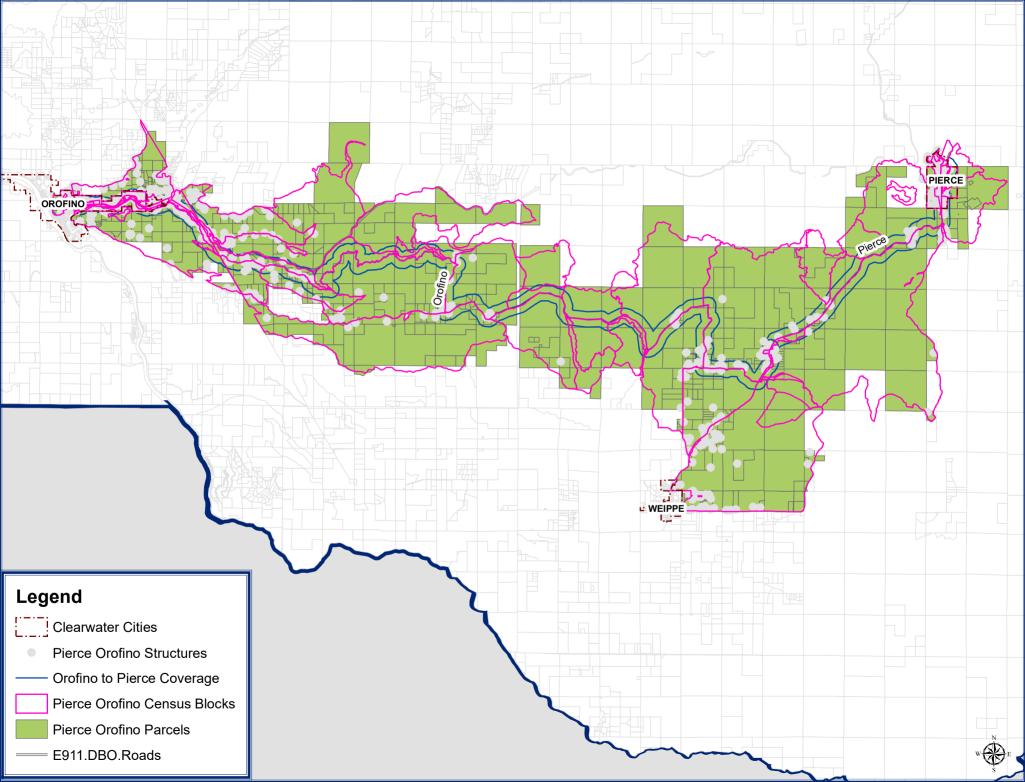
We appreciate your support of rural growth.

If you have any questions or would need further information please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael C. Garrett

Dr. Michael C. Garrett Superintendent, JSD171



Fiber path

Bonner – Upper Fords



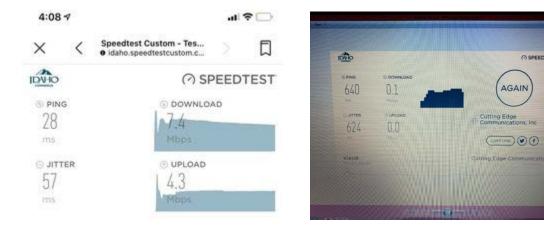
Anderson - Outside Pierce



Steiner – Upper Fords

Routh- Upper Fords

() SPEEDTEST



fiber

Barbara A. Leachman <baleachman@lcsc.edu>

BL Mon 7/12/2021 12:18 PM To: Chris St. Germaine

> You may have outstanding tasks for baleachman@lcsc.edu. Would you like to review now? See my tasks Feedback on this suggestion

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

X

Hi Chris,

My husband and I own a home at 27488 Highway 11, Pierce, Idaho 83546. It is between Pierce and Weippe. The only internet we can get is through our cell-phones.

Every month, we use the internet for more than a quick email or Facebook check, it seems we get a notice that we are using up all our data. Some of the things we would like to be able to use the internet more for include Zoom meetings for work, family, and various appointments; shopping online, downloading documents, research, streaming music and movies. Although we have installed a cell signal booster, we often receive notices that the connection is slow. We do not have any satellite dishes.

We are hoping for better internet access.

Thanks.

Barbara Leachman

Barbara Leachman, Region 2 Director

Idaho Small Business Development Center at Lewis-Clark State College www.LCSC.edu/sbdc www.idahosbdc.org



We are here to help with COVID 19. The Idaho SBDC remains open to provide consulting support for Idaho businesses during this time. Some of our consulting will be held virtually, but our expert staff across the state can still help you navigate this situation.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. Unless you are the intended recipient, you may not use, copy or disclose the information in this message. If you have received this message in error, please reply to <u>baleachman@lcsc.edu</u> and fully delete this message.

Reply Forward

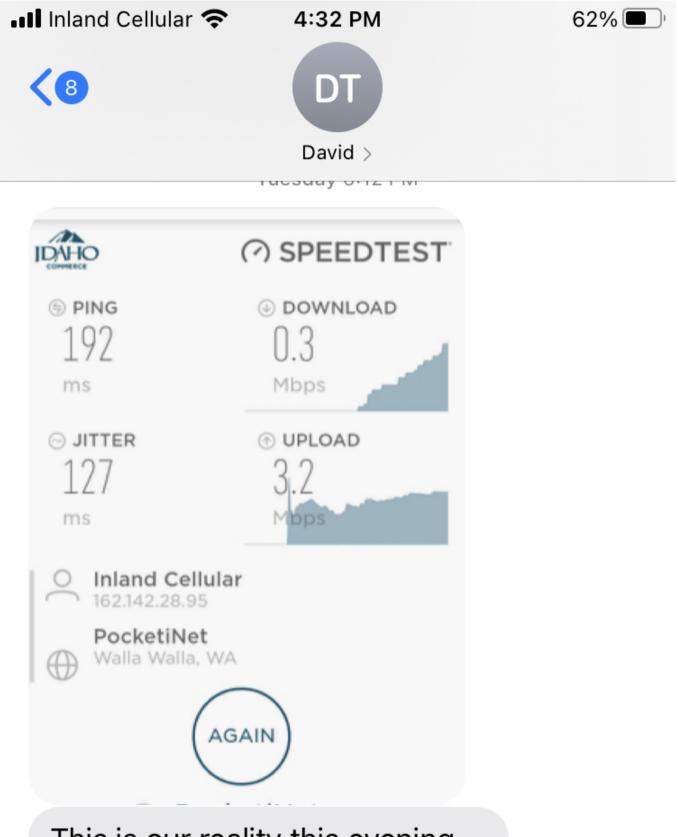
7/15/2021

Clearwater County Commissioners,

Thank you, Clearwater County Commissioners for applying for grant funds to activate fiber that runs past our home at 27531 Highway 11, Pierce, Idaho. My current connection is mediocre at best. Operating an Electrical Contracting business requires a dependable and speedy connection to research products, purchase produces, locate schematics, and information to repair and install products. The Idaho Department of Building Safety Electrical Division requires me to acquire CEU certificates to renew my Journeyman and contractor Licenses. The online training is exceptional. Permits and Licenses renewals with IDBS is accomplished with a reliable web connection. My current connection to the internet is slow at times and fails frequently in the middle of acquiring permits or training.

My wife is a Registered Traveling Nurse for Option Care Health out of Spokane, WA and has to do all her charting and other communication with the Corporation via internet. Having such an unreliable signal strength make is hard to accomplish. There are also many Continuing Education opportunities that are only available online and have timed testing that she has to go to the Weippe Library so that she is not in the middle of a timed (limit of two attempts) to pass test so that her signal is not disrupted during these test and causing her to fail a needed class. She also work for Clearwater Valley Hospital and Clinic and she is required to do CEU for them also that is hard to accomplish with the slow internet speed and interrupted connection.

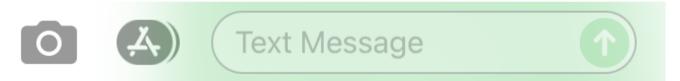
Thank you, Nolan and Cristie Cochrell 27531 Highway 11 Pierce, ID 83546 208-464-2880



This is our reality this evening. Can't believe it works at all. I can't understand why download is so much worse than upload.

Thank you, David Thomson <u>59</u> Bighorn Dr., Weippe, Idaho.

Yesterday 9:39 AM



Re: Help internet grant

David Thomson <datsit@aol.com>

Mon 7/12/2021 9:05 AM

To: Chris St. Germaine <cstgermaine@clearwatercounty.org>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Yes we will. We use to be with Wild Blue/Exede, and that could not keep up. Currently been with Inland Cellular using a hotspot router for approximately 4 years. At best we see 1.86 Mbps, but often we only see .67 Mbps download and .3 upload. We are on an unlimited plan, but obviously very "limited" Gradi is now home schooling Cassidy. We have seen a substantial decrease in service since Covid began, (The New Mediocracy Aceptance Plan) Zipply says I can't get Fiber even if they run their line to Pierce, I will only be able to get DSL over copper. I am currently on the beta list with Elon Musk Starlink, but I am worried he will crash his rocket in the woods and start a fire, and with heavy winter weather I think it will fail. Would love another option. I will get the screen shots as soon as possible.

Thank you, David Thomson 59 Bighorn Drive Weippe, Idaho 83553 (Left out of the Rural Infrastructure Internet Development)

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Kathy Ackerman
Applicant ID	APP-004758
Company Name	Idaho County
Recipient Address	Idaho County Court House 320 W Main Grangeville, ID 83530
Email	kackerman@idahocounty.org
Amount Requested	\$500,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Idaho County Fixed Wireless Broadband Project II

Applicant Information

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1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Kathy Ackerman Idaho County Clerk 320 W Main St Grangeville, ID 83530 kackerman@idahocounty.org 208-983-2751 **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Communities of Pollock, Whitewater Wilderness Subdivision, Westlake, Caribel, Glenwood, and rural areas east and south of Kooskia.

Census Tracts: 16049960400 (Population = 1,556, Households without internet access = 41.10%, Median Speedtest = 8.14/0.97) 16049960100 (Population = 2,255, Households without internet access = 29.5%, Median Speedtest = 11.31/4.24) 16049960300 (Population = 2,160, Households without internet access = 29%, median Speedtest = 13.18/4.03) **Census Blocks:**

https://broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba2dcd585f5e43cba41b7

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Dodd Snodgrass Development Manager CEDA dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org 208-746-0015

Project Requirements

2.Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
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Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

\checkmark	Yes						
	No						
-	_						

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

🗹 Yes

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

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4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

Historically residents of Idaho County have experienced some of the worst internet in the State of Idaho. Broadband Now had reported that only 3.6% of residents had broadband (2020)

Challenging topography, rural nature, and the fact that Idaho County is the largest geographic county in Idaho (8485 sq miles) have presented serious obstacles that have prevented providers from building out modern broadband infrastructure in a cost effective manner.

In 2020, Idaho County received a State of Idaho Broadband Grant to build-out 22 sites designed to provide coverage to 2,000 homes at an average cost of \$425 per location. This project was extremely successful in that 28 total sites were built out within budget for one of the lowest cost-per-locations among all of the State broadband grants awarded in 2020.

Prior to submission, the 2020 project was trimmed back due to the tight 4-month timeline allowed for completion. Key areas that were trimmed back prior to submission include the areas detailed in this grant application. These areas include the often forgotten and overlooked areas since they are on the extremities and farther out from population centers. These are the areas that will never have broadband infrastructure built out save for a grant due to challenging ROI.

This broadband project for 2021 is designed to expand upon what was accomplished in 2020

and to reach further out into rural Idaho County, and to finally provide broadband access to a number of forgotten and overlooked areas.

This project will provide coverage to 600 homes for an average cost of \$833 per location covered. It should be noted that the increase in cost-per-location from \$425 to \$833 can be accounted for due to increases in construction costs in 2021, and more importantly, the increasing difficulty of reaching homes and businesses that are not economically feasible for ISPs to provide service. This is due to the fact that any given site in a remote area will serve a fraction of the homes as a site in a populated area will, yet they will still cost the same to build out. Dividing a \$40,000 site by 100 covered homes gives you roughly \$400 hard costs per home.

It should be noted that this project offers the following advantages:

Extendibility: infrastructure put into place in 2021 will be utilized to continue expanding out even further in future years

Upgradability: sites built out in 2021 can be upgraded in the future to offer ever faster speeds as new technology emerges

ISPs in the region that can provide fixed wireless service include AirBridge Broadband, First Step Internet, and Inland Cellular. The County published request for proposals for ISP (twice in the Idaho Free Press) to build, deliver and own this project. RFPs were due on 7/14 and the County received one proposal from AirBridge.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

Satellite is currently the only option for a number of the homes that this project will cover.

Having satellite as the only option is by definition inadequate and has serious negative impacts on the community as satellite is neither cost effective nor does it adequately support video conferencing - which is necessary for telehealth, education, public safety, or economic development.

The broadband provider for this project will promote equal access to promote economic development, public safety, telehealth, education for the following reasons:

(1) cost per account is the same whether a business or a home (businesses are not charged more just because they are a business)

(2) free internet will be provided for all first responder facilities, fire departments, community centers

(3) provider does not differentiate or discriminate, but installs all locations as quickly as possible and in the order in which they are requested

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

This project brings real broadband internet (up to 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps with no data caps) to homes and businesses that do not currently have access to the bare minimum internet.

This project will enable telehealth, education, public safety, and economic development both

now and into the future as new technology emerges and the sites are correspondingly upgraded.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?



Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

In the past, most of these rural communities were overlooked due to the time and expense of putting in the necessary infrastructure to serve them. It simply is not cost effective to do a \$500,000 build-out (traditional cell phone tower) to serve only 100 homes. Fiber to the home would be ideal and most desirable, but is not feasible given topography, costs and easements/ROW, especially given the timeframe of the project deliverable. This lack of investment in broadband infrastructure has had a negative impact on Idaho County economically, but these shortcomings have become even more apparent in light of COVID-19 as residents do not have access to broadband capabilities that enable social distancing, telework, and distance learning. This project meets the broadest level of need for a feasible price in the timeframe required.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

None by the county. Although the private entity will not be providing a match, it will be covering approximately \$110,000 of the total project costs in overhead (labor, etc).

Question: Estimated total project cost?

500000.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

600

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

\$833

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

100/20

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

Yes

Necessary permits, permissions, and zoning requirements for Idaho County will be obtained in order to complete the project by the December 31, 2021 deadline.

In 2020, all required permits and permissions were obtained with time to spare to build out 28 sites.

In 2021, the same processes will be utilized to obtain required permits and permissions for approximately 10 sites. In addition, Antenna Site Registration (ASR) will be obtained per FCC guidelines/TCNS/

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

The County published a Request for Proposal on 6/30 and 7/7, which was due 7/14. One ISP responded, Airbridge Broadband. The County will make its formal selection on 7/20. (RFP attached)

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA), the regional planning district, is supporting the county with project administration. This includes preparing and advising the county with Request for Proposals for the broadband service provider and compliance with the Commerce contract. The county has received and internally managed many public grant awards and has internal controls for financial management and accounting. CEDA will support the county with the close-out procedure with Commerce. The county selected CEDA for this role on 6/20. Administrative expenses of \$5000 is included in the budget.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

Idaho County has not received CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect funding RDOF auction awards were made to SpaceX/Starlink over some areas of Idaho County

Residents of Idaho County will not get any benefit from SpaceX/Starlink as a result of these RDOF funds that any other resident throughout the rest of the State of Idaho - or throughout the entire United States - will not equally receive.

Although there are homes scattered throughout Idaho County who will benefit from SpaceX/Starlink since it will be superior to traditional satellite options, the 600 homes this grant is targeting will benefit from having a wireless internet option that will be both affordable and that

will come with local service.

Most residents who will benefit from this grant do not have the \$500 to order SpaceX/Starlink, the \$99 for the monthly payment, and do not have the expertise or know how to self install the SpaceX/Starlink.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

Idaho County received CARES1 funding for an \$850,000 project and successfully completed the work by December 31, 2020.

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

Not Answered

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Idaho County Speed Tests x 10.pdf (7/14/2021 4:43 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

<u>Idaho County.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:40 PM) <u>Idaho County.kmz</u> (7/14/2021 4:40 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Idaho County Broadband Budget.pdf (7/14/2021 4:41 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Idaho County Schedule.pdf (7/14/2021 4:41 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

IDAHO COUNTY CARES ACT CERTIFICATION.pdf (7/14/2021 4:41 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

Idaho County Broadband Letter of App.pdf (7/16/2021 10:02 AM) Landmark support letter.pdf (7/14/2021 4:42 PM) Killmar Grant Letter.pdf (7/14/2021 4:42 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

No Attachments

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

Idaho County Broadband Design Build RFQP.pdf (7/14/2021 5:29 PM) Advertising Notice Broadband Idaho County.pdf (7/14/2021 5:29 PM)

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Dodd Snodgrass

Question: Type your title.

Development Manager, CEDA

Question: Type the submission date.

7/16/2021

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

Idaho County is requesting proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve approximately 600 households in the area from Riggins to Pollock, east and south of Kooskia, and west of Cottonwood in Idaho County.

The county is applying to the state of Idaho Broadband Grant Program to fund the project.

A copy of the RFQ/P can be obtained from project manager Dodd Snodgrass of Clearwater Economic Development Association at <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the following criteria. The maximum point value of each criterion is shown in the parentheses:

Capability to Perform Project	(20 pts)
Relevant Project Experience	(15pts)
Qualifications of Project Team	(20 pts)
Benefits of the Project to the Community Served	(25pts)
Project Approach and Schedule	(20 pts)

Proposals are due by 5:00 pm PDT on July 14, 2021 , by email to Dodd Snodgrass; <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>. Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: Idaho County."

Idaho County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

R. Skipper Brandt - Commission Chair

Publish June 30 and July 7, 2021 *Idaho Free Press*

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars		Total
Totals			

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

PROJECTIdaho County, Idaho is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for**DESCRIPTION**assistance in the following:

DESIGN, BUILD AND OWN BROADBAND SYSTEM

SCOPE OF WORK Idaho County is seeking proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve approximately 600 households in the area from Riggins to Pollock, east and south of Kooskia, and west of Cottonwood in Idaho County. The County is applying to the State of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant program.

Project requirements will include:

- System must deliver broadband speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.
- Project will serve underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service. Underbuilt areas are defined as locations (census blocks) where less than fifty percent (50%) of households have access to broadband speeds of the FCC minimum of 25/3.
- Project completed by December 31, 2021.

The project would be funded through the state of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant Program (funded by an allocation of the federal CARES Act). As such the goals of the broadband project is to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, facilitate distance learning, and improve public safety. Award announcement is anticipated around August 2, 2021.

The successful firm will be required to comply with all Idaho state building statutes, such as Idaho Public Works contractor licensing (Idaho Code Title 54, Chapter 19), purchasing by political subdivisions (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 28) and any county ordinances related to planning and building.

The firm must be sufficiently bonded and insured. The selected firm will be required to provide performance and payment bonds, each for 100% of the contract amount, issued by a surety company authorized to conduct business within the State of Idaho. The selected firm will also be required to supply evidence of insurance coverage (worker's compensation, contractor's public liability and property damage, and contractor's vehicle liability) and to ensure that subcontractors do not commence work until the subcontractors' insurance requirements have been met.

	Idaho County is exempt from sales taxes; however, per Idaho statutes, the contractor is responsible for sales tax on materials used within the project.
PROPOSAL CONTENT AND	The proposal must be organized in sections containing the following information, and evaluated according to these criteria:
EVALUTION	Capability to Perform Project The firm's history, areas of expertise, address of office that will manage project, length of time in business, firm's legal structure, firm's commitment to provide necessary resources to perform and complete project. (20 pts)
	Relevant Project Experience Description of other projects executed by the firm that demonstrate relevant experience. List of all public sector clients for whom you have provided services or performed similar work in the past five years, which should include name, address, and phone number of a person who can be contacted regarding the firm's performance on the project. (15 pts)
	Qualifications of Project Team Resumes for the key people assigned to the project including sub-consultants. Key personnel roles and responsibilities on this project. Identify project manager who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project tasks and will be primary point of contact. (20 pts)
	Benefits of the Project to the Community Served: A description of how you will ensure that the customers, specifically households and public entities, benefitting from this project will be served over the lifespan of telecommunications investment. The responder shall provide a concrete, measurable response including a pricing model over a five-year period for all customers served by this project, given the project is 100% grant funded. (25 pts)
	Project Approach and Schedule The tasks that must be accomplished to complete the project. How the firm proposes to execute the tasks. Unique aspects of the project and alternative approaches the owner might wish to consider. (20 pts)
PROPOSAL DEADLINE	Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm (PDT), July 14, 2021 by email to project manager Dodd Snodgrass, Clearwater Economic Development Association, <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u> . Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposals, including attachments should not exceed fifteen (15) pages in length. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: Idaho County."
SELECTION CRITERIA	Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria listed above.

Selected references may be contacted. The County may conduct such other investigations as the County deems necessary to assist in the evaluation of any proposal and to establish the responsibility, qualifications, and financial ability of the design-build firm or team.

Idaho County will seek to negotiate a contract, a detailed scope of work, fee schedule, etc. with the preferred firm.

This solicitation is being offered in accordance with OMB Circular A-102 and the Idaho statutes governing procurement of professional services. Idaho County reserves the right to negotiate an agreement based on fair and reasonable compensation for the scope of work and services proposed, as well as the right to reject any and all responses deemed unqualified, unsatisfactory or inappropriate.

SKIP BRANDT, FIRST DISTRICT KOOSKIA, IDAHO TED LINDSLEY, SECOND DISTRICT GRANGEVILLE, IDAHO DENIS B. DUMAN, THIRD DISTRICT COTTONWOOD, IDAHO



320 West Main Street, Grangeville, ID 83530

BOARD OF IDAHO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 15, 2021

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board 700 W State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0093

Phone (208)983-2751 FAX (208)983-1428

Dear Board Members:

The Board of Commissioners of Idaho County is pleased to apply for \$500,000 to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant program. Our proposal will provide 600 County households, currently unserved or underserved, access to affordable fixed wireless broadband service that will meet or exceed the FCC recommended speed of 25/3 Mbps with speeds up to 100 / 20 Mbps.

This project is essential to fill the gaps in service across Idaho County and importantly meet the needs of teleworkers, students, parents and educators that are dealing with the impacts of COVID-19, and the ongoing demand to have reliable and accessible broadband telecommunication service. According to the broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com website, the median speedtest in the Census Tracts where this project will take place is only 8.14 / 0.97 Mbps, 11.31 / 4.24 Mbps, and 13.18 / 4.03 Mbps respectively.

Fixed wireless is an ideal technology for our County. Some of the County is already serviced, it provides excellent coverage across difficult terrain, and is an affordable alternative to fiber. This proposal will install broadband equipment on ten (10) sites across the County. Willing site owners have agreed to siting facilities. A proven internet service provider has provided the specifications for a project that can be completed by the December deadline. The County completed a competitive procurement RFP process for an internet service provider and will make a formal decision on July 20. The County is partnering with the Clearwater Economic Development Association, which has prepared the application and will serve as project administrator, bringing seasoned experience to assist the County with this Commerce program.

As a sprawling rural county with 16,515 residents and 8,503 square miles, Idaho County has few provider options and no financial resources to pay for the broadband service required to survive in this economy and meet the challenges created by the pandemic virus.

We encourage your support for our grant application.

Respectfully,

R. Skipper Brandt, Chairman

TED LINDSLEY, SECOND DISTRICT **GRANGEVILLE, IDAHO**



Phone (208)983-2751 FAX (208)983-1428

320 West Main Street, Grangeville, ID 83530

BOARD OF IDAHO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

State of Idaho Broadband Grant **CARES Act Certification**

STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY OF IDAHO

The undersigned, Kathy M. Ackerman, Idaho County Clerk and Clerk for the Board of Idaho County Commissioners, representing Idaho County, 320 W. Main Street, Grangeville, ID 83530 hereby swear (affirm) that:

- 1. I am the Idaho County Clerk of the District Court, ex officio Auditor/Recorder and Clerk of the Board of Idaho County Commissioners duly elected and serving since January 11, 2011.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto.
- 3. This statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce that the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria to include:
 - Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in i. connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
 - Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance ii. with COVID-19 public health precautions.

The proposed broadband project will meet these criteria by providing rural households in the county that are currently unserved and underserved by broadband telecommunication services with access to a fixed-wireless service that meets or exceeds FFC recommended speeds for broadband. Thus, providing the distance learning and telework capabilities to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.

July 7, 2021

Kathy M. Ackerman, Idaho County Clerk

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 7th day of July, 2021.

Camdu Schaebea Notary Public for Idaho Residing at Grangeville, ID My Commission expires 12/9/25



Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date	
Select CEDA admin	County	6/20/2021	6/20/2021	
Publish RFP	County/CEDA	6/30/2021	7/7/2021	
RFP due	County/CEDA	7/14/2021	7/14/2021	
Select ISP	County	7/20/2021	7/20/2021	
Grant Due	County/CEDA	7/16/2021	7/16/2021	
Grant Awarded	Commerce	8/2/2021	8/2/2021	
Execute Contracts	Com/County/ISP	8/3/2021	8/31/2021	
Project Work	ISP	9/6/2021	12/15/2021	
Closeout	County/CEDA	12/15/2021	12/31/2021	

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

From:	David McKnight
To:	Dodd Snodgrass
Subject:	**[EXTERNAL]**Idaho County Speed Tests 8 included
Date:	Friday, July 9, 2021 4:02:11 PM
Attachments:	AirBridgeOfficialLogoNew.png

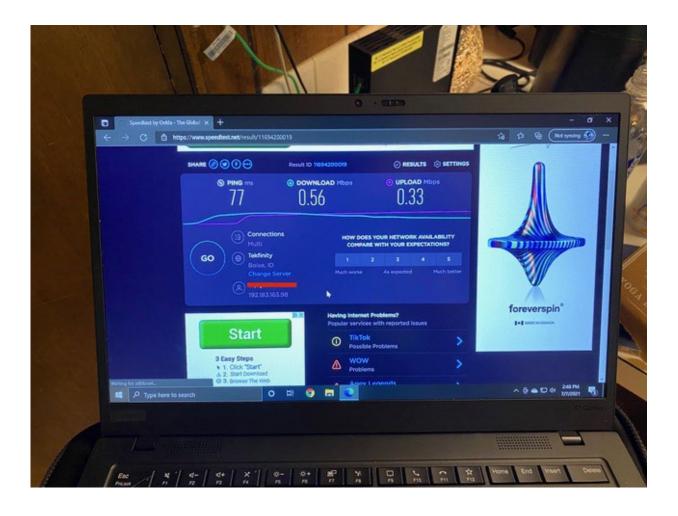
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

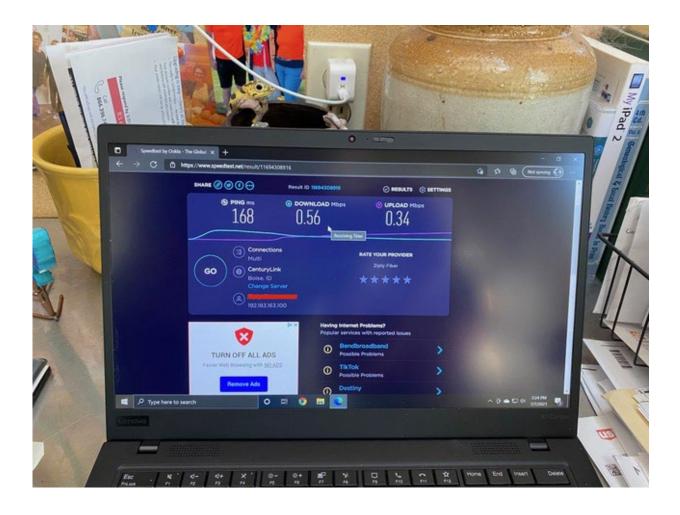
Dodd ... I have attached 8 speedtests for Idaho County ... I'll still get you 2 more.

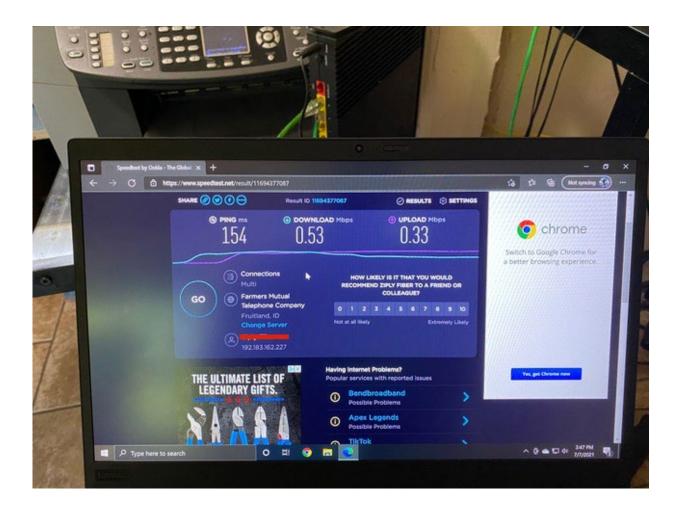
Thanks!

David McKnight Co-Owner

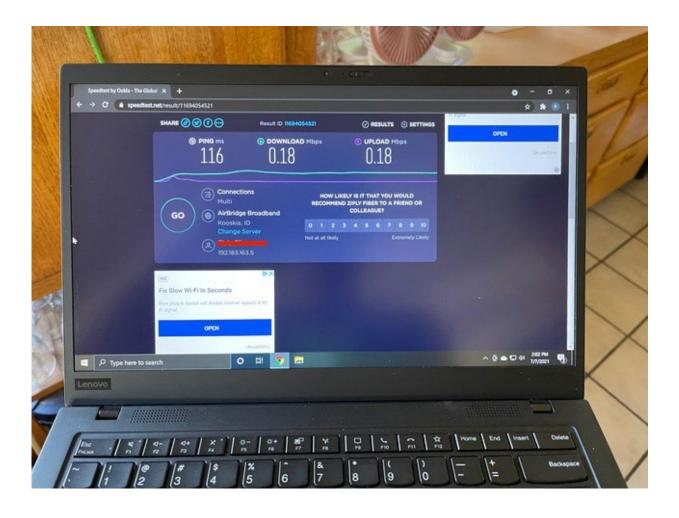
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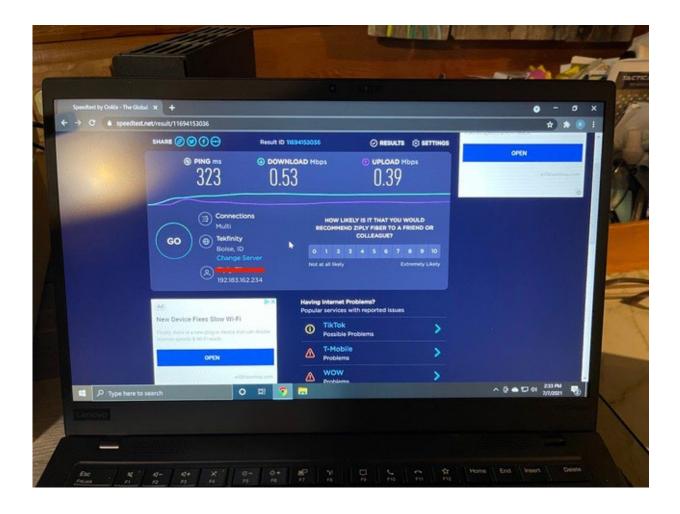


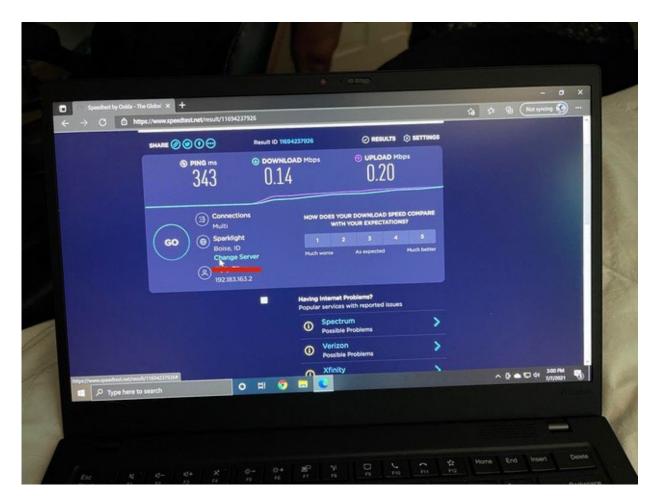




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Office: 208-494-4343 Email: david@airbridgebroadband.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

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From:	David McKnight
То:	Dodd Snodgrass
Subject:	**[EXTERNAL]**Idaho County Speed Tests X 2
Date:	Wednesday, July 14, 2021 8:36:40 AM
Attachments:	Screen Shot 2021-07-14 at 8.29.01 AM.png
	Screen Shot 2021-07-14 at 8.32.09 AM.png
	<u>AirBridgeOfficialLogoNew.png</u>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

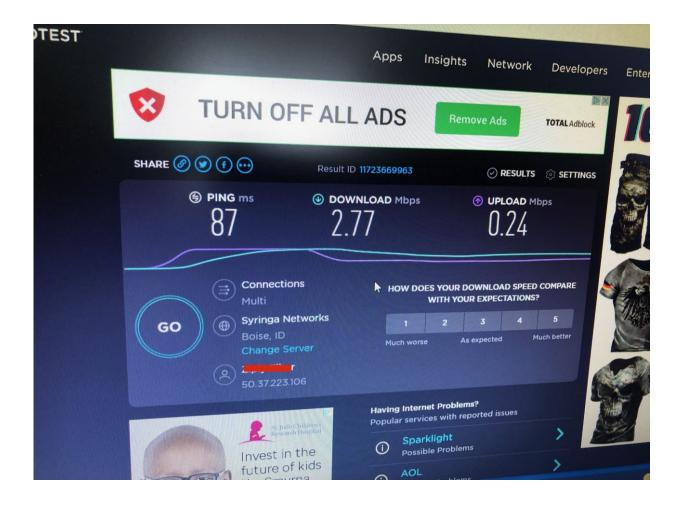
Dodd

I have attached the two speedtests I took in the Pollock area yesterday on my way back from New Meadows:

Thanks!

David McKnight Co-Owner

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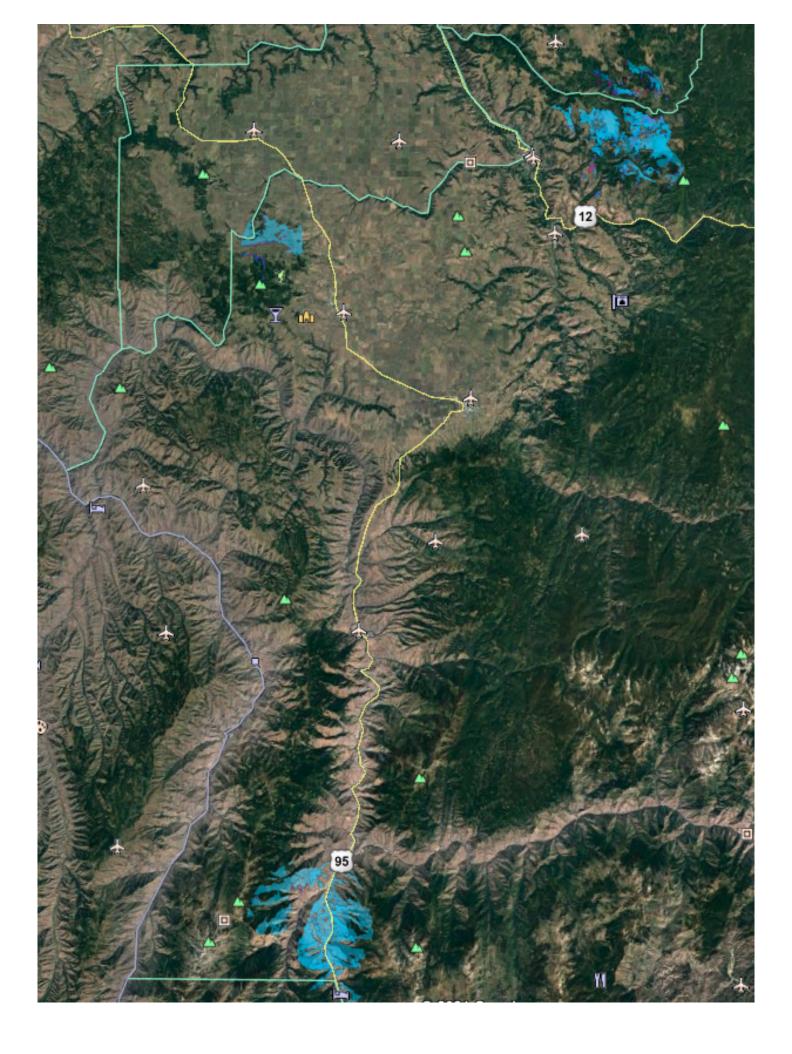




Office: 208-494-4343 Email: david@airbridgebroadband.com

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July 11th, 2021

Director of the Idaho Department of Commerce,

On behalf of the Salmon River Canyon Communities, I am writing to ask for your support for Idaho County's application for a grant to provide broadband internet service in our area.

I am currently the Assistant EMS Director and Education Program Manager for the City of Riggins Ambulance. Our ambulance covers the communities of Lucile, Riggins, Pollock, and Pinehurst. The Salmon River Canyon has always suffered from horrible internet service. I currently have an EMT who lives in Pollock and is continuing her medical education. She has three internet services at her house because nothing is reliable. She has a DSL service and two satellite services. There is no cell phone service in or near Pollock Idaho. She has to rely on three internet providers for her single home. Rural Emergency Medicine is already a hard job, it shouldn't be hard to continue our education because of poor internet service.

Having reliable high speed internet service for our canyon would help a lot of individuals who are already struggling with living in a rural location. The Salmon River Canyon does not even have reliable internet for our children to participate in educational zoom meetings.

I strongly encourage you to consider this grant application for Idaho County.

Cody Killmar

City of Riggins Ambulance (208) 983-9263 cdkillmar@gmail.com 7/9/21

To whom it may concern:

We write this letter to show our full support and enthusiasm for broadband service for our rural community of Glenwood. Presently, we have little or no options available to us to access the internet. As a family of 7, with 5 school age children, we are a significant disadvantage in this modern world. During the whole covid-19 situation, our kids could not even access the remote learning portals offered by the Kamiah School District.

Furthermore, as self-employed business owners, the advantage to having internet service at our home office is immeasurable. We will finally be allowed to communicate and work as most places in the country have been for years.

Rural communities have been for years left behind and nearly forgotten about. Without grants such as these, we will continue to be left 'in the dark'. Your consideration for our family's and our business's needs are greatly appreciated, and we really hope that this program is successful.

Thank you Sincerely Zack and Jackie Landmark Glenwood area, Kamiah Idaho

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Justin Mcleod
Applicant ID	APP-004768
Company Name	Lewis County
Recipient Address	Lewis County 510 Oak St Rm 1 Nezperce, ID 83543
Phone	(208) 791-1040
Email	jmcleod@lewiscountyid.org
Amount Requested	\$200,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Lewis County Fixed Wireless Broadband Project II

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Justin McCleod Lewis County Commissioner 510 Oak St Nezperce, ID 83543 208-937-9234 jmcleod@lewiscountyid.org **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Central Ridge, Craig Junction, rural areas south and east of Winchester

Census Tracts: 16061940002 (Population = 2,132, Households without internet access = 23.70%, Median Speedtest = 10.80/2.37) 16061950300 (Population = 48, Households without internet access = 45.00%, Median Speedtest = NA / NA)

Data Source:

https://broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba2dcd585f5e43cba41b7

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Dodd Snodgrass Development Manager CEDA dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org 208-746-0015

Project Requirements

2.Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

\checkmark	Yes						
	No						
-	_		_				

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

🗹 Yes

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

Historically residents of Lewis County have experienced some of the worst internet in the State of Idaho. Broadband Now had reported that 21.5% of the residents had broadband (2020)

Challenging topography coupled with the fact that Lewis County is one of the least populated counties in the State of Idaho have presented serious obstacles that have prevented providers from building out modern broadband infrastructure in a cost effective manner. Lewis County is also a very fiscally challenged county, with a diminishing tax based competing with demand for services.

In 2020, Lewis County received a State of Idaho Broadband Grant to build-out 16 sites designed to provide coverage to 1,000 homes at an average cost of \$470 per location. This project was extremely successful in that all 16 sites were built out within budget for one of the lowest cost-per-locations among all of the State broadband grants awarded in 2020.

Prior to submission, the 2020 project was trimmed back due to the tight 4-month timeline allowed for completion. Key areas that were trimmed back prior to submission include the areas detailed in this grant application. These areas include the often forgotten and overlooked areas since they are on the extremities and farther out from population centers. These are the areas that will never have broadband infrastructure built out save for a grant due to challenging ROI.

This broadband project for 2021 is designed to expand upon what was accomplished in 2020 and to reach further out into rural Lewis County, and to finally provide broadband access to a number of forgotten and overlooked areas. According to the broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com website, the median speedtest in the Census Tract where this project will take place is only 10.80/2.37 Mbps.

This project will provide coverage to 220 homes for an average cost of \$909 per location covered. It should be noted that the increase in cost-per-location from \$425 to \$909 can be accounted for due to increases in construction costs in 2021, and more importantly, the increasing difficulty of reaching homes and businesses that are not economically feasible for ISPs to provider service. This is due to the fact that any given site in a remote area will serve a fraction of the homes as a site in a populated area will, yet they will still cost the same to build out. Dividing a \$40,000 site by 100 covered homes gives you roughly \$400 hard costs per home.

It should be noted that this project offers the following advantages:

Extendibility: infrastructure put into place in 2021 will be utilized to continue expanding out even further in future years

Upgradability: sites built out in 2021 can be upgraded in the future to offer ever faster speeds as new technology emerges

ISPs in the region that can provide fixed wireless coverage include AirBridge Broadband, First Step Internet, and Inland Cellular. The County published a request for proposal twice (in the Lewis County Herald) for ISPs to build, deploy and own the project. Only AirBridge submitted a proposal and was selected by the Commission at its 7/14 meeting

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

Satellite is currently the only option for a number of the homes that this project will cover.

Satellite as the only option is by definition inadequate and has serious negative impacts on the community as satellite is neither cost effective nor does it adequately support video conferencing, which is necessary for telehealth, education, public safety, or economic development.

The broadband provider for this project will promote equal access to promote economic development, public safety, telehealth, education:

(1) cost per account is the same whether a business or a home (businesses are not charged more just because they are a business)

(2) free internet will be provided for all first responder facilities, fire departments, community centers

(3) provider does not differentiate or discriminate, but installs all locations as quickly as possible and in the order in which they are requested

(4) cost per household is a benefit for the level of service offered

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

This project brings real broadband internet (up to 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps with no data caps) to homes and businesses that currently have satellite as their only option, or satellite plus other options that do not offer speeds sufficient to enable stable video conferencing, etc.

This project will enable telehealth, education, public safety, and economic development both now and into the future for homes that are otherwise forgotten or overlooked as new technology emerges and the sites are correspondingly upgraded.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

V	Yes
	No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

In the past, most of these rural communities were overlooked due to the time and expense of putting in the necessary infrastructure to serve them. It simply is not cost effective to do a \$500,000 build-out (traditional cell phone tower) to service only 100 homes. Fiber to the home would be ideal and most desirable, but is not feasible given topography, costs and easements/ROW, especially given the timeframe of the project deliverable. This lack of investment in broadband infrastructure has had a negative impact on Idaho County economically, but these shortcomings have become even more apparent in light of COVID-19 as residents do not have access to broadband capabilities that enable social distancing, telework, and distance learning. This project meets the broadest level of need for a feasible price in the timeframe required.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

There is no project match for this project (other than approximately \$30,000 in overhead and labor costs that will be borne by the private entity that are not included in the total project cost).

Question: Estimated total project cost?

200000.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

220

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

\$909

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

100/20

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

Yes

Necessary permits, permissions, and zoning requirements for Lewis County will be obtained in order to complete the project by the December 15, 2021 deadline.

In 2020, all required permits and permissions were obtained with time to spare to build out 16 sites.

In 2021, the same processes will be utilized to obtain required permits and permissions for approximately 5 sites.

In addition, Antenna Site Registration (ASR) will be obtained per FCC guidelines / TCNS.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

AirBridge Broadband was selected by the Lewis County Commission through a competitive RFP process. (RFP attached)

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA), the regional planning district, will support the county with project administration. This includes preparing and advising the county with Request for Proposals for the broadband service provider and compliance with the Commerce contract. The county has received and internally managed many public grant awards and has internal controls for financial management and accounting. CEDA will support the county with the close-out procedure with Commerce. Administrative expenses of \$2,000 is included in the budget.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

Lewis County has not received CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect funding RDOF auction awards were made to SpaceX/Starlink over some areas of Lewis County

Residents of Lewis County will not get any benefit from SpaceX/Starlink as a result of these

RDOF funds that any other resident throughout the rest of the State of Idaho - or throughout the entire United States - will not equally receive.

Although there are homes scattered throughout Lewis County who will benefit from SpaceX/Starlink since it will be superior to traditional satellite options, the 220 homes this grant is targeting will benefit from having a wireless internet option that will be both affordable and that will come with local service.

Most residents who will benefit from this grant do not have the \$500 to order SpaceX/Starlink, the \$99 for the monthly payment, and do not have the expertise or know how to self install the SpaceX/Starlink.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

Yes. Lewis County secured \$470,000 in Idaho CARES broadband funding for fixed wireless service that was completed December 31, 2020.

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

Not Answered

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Lewis County Speedtests X 10.pdf (7/14/2021 4:32 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

Lewis County.pdf (7/14/2021 4:35 PM) Lewis County.kmz (7/14/2021 4:35 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Lewis County Broadband Budget.pdf (7/14/2021 4:36 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Lewis County Schedule.pdf (7/14/2021 4:36 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

Lewis Co signed certification.pdf (7/14/2021 4:37 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

<u>WInchester support.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:38 PM) <u>Chamber support.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:38 PM) <u>Lewis Co signed support letter.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:37 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

No Attachments

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

Lewis County Broadband Design Build RFQP.pdf (7/14/2021 5:30 PM) Advertising Notice Broadband Lewis County.pdf (7/14/2021 5:30 PM)

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Dodd Snodgrass

Question: Type your title.

Development Manager, CEDA

Question: Type the submission date.

7/16/2021

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

Lewis County is requesting proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve approximately 300 households in the area between Winchester and Forest and the Central Ridge area of Lewis County. The County is applying to the state of Idaho Broadband Grant Program to fund the project.

A copy of the RFQ/P can be obtained from project manager Dodd Snodgrass of Clearwater Economic Development Association at <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the following criteria. The maximum point value of each criterion is shown in the parentheses:

Capability to Perform Project	(20 pts)
Relevant Project Experience	(15pts)
Qualifications of Project Team	(20 pts)
Benefits of the Project to the Community Served	(25pts)
Project Approach and Schedule	(20 pts)

Proposals are due by 5:00 pm PDT on July 8, 2021, by email to Dodd Snodgrass; <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>. Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: Lewis County."

Lewis County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Greg Johnson - Commission Chair

Publish June 24 and July 1, 2021 Lewis County Herald

CRAIGMONT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO BOX 365

CRAIGMONT, ID 83523

JULY 7,2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

THE GREATER CRAIGMONT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTS AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGES YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE LEWIS COUNTY'S APPLICATION CONCERNING A GRANT TO PROVIDE BROARDBAND SERVICE TO THESE REMOTE AREAS OF THE COUNTY. THIS PROJECT WILL PROVIDE BASIC NEEDED SERVICE TO THE RURAL, REMOTE AREAS SOUTH AND EAST OF WINCHESTER, CENTRAL RIDGE AND CRAIG JUNCTION.

A PROJECT SUCH AS THIS WILL GREATLY ENHANCE THE FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF THE AREA WHILE PROVIDING ACCESS TO REMOTE LEARNING, TELEHEALTH, REMOTE WORKING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE OUT OF REACH FOR THESE RESIDENTS.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATIONS.

SINCERLY,

Long All

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date	
Select CEDA admin	County	6/21/2021	6/21/2021	
Publish RFP	County/CEDA	6/24/2021	7/1/2021	
RFP due	County/CEDA	7/8/2021	7/8/2021	
Select ISP	County	7/14/2021	7/14/2021	
Grant Due	County/CEDA	7/16/2021	7/16/2021	
Grant Awarded	Commerce	8/2/2021	8/2/2021	
Execute Contracts	Com/County/ISP	8/3/2021	8/31/2021	
Project Work	ISP	9/6/2021	12/15/2021	
Closeout	County/CEDA	12/15/2021	12/31/2021	

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule



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COMMISSIONERS: Greg Johnson, Chairman Justin McLeod, Member Mike Ponozzo, Member

510 Oak St., Rm #1 Nezperce, Idaho 83543-5065 Phone: (208) 937-2661 Fax: (208) 937-9234

State of Idaho Broadband Grant **CARES** Act Certification

STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY OF LEWIS

The undersigned, Greg Johnson, representing Lewis County 510 Oak Street, Nezperce, ID hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am Chairman of Lewis County Commission and thereby authorized to make these statements.

2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto. 3. The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce that the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Eligible expenses meeting the criteria include:

i. Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.

ii. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

This proposed broadband project will meet these criteria by providing rural households in the county that are currently unserved and underserved by broadband telecommunication services with access to a fixed-wireless service that meets or exceeds FCC recommended speeds for broadband. Thus, providing the distance learning and telework capabilities to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.

allison

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this $\frac{12}{12}$ day of July 2021

ALESIA WINNER COMMISSION #30553 NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF IDAHO MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

Alonal **Ålesia** Winner Notary Public for Idaho Residing at Nezoev Commission expires C



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COMMISSIONERS: Greg Johnson, Chairman Justin McLeod, Member Mike Ponozzo, Member 510 Oak St., Rm #1 Nezperce, Idaho 83543-5065 Phone: (208) 937-2661 Fax: (208) 937-9234

July 16, 2021

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board 700 W State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0093

Dear Board Members:

The Board of Commissioners of Lewis County is pleased to apply for \$200,000 to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant program. Our proposal will provide 220 County households, currently unserved or underserved, access to affordable fixed wireless broadband service that will meet or exceed the FCC recommended speed of 25/3 Mbps with speeds up to 100 / 20 Mbps.

This project is essential to fill the gaps in service across Lewis County and importantly meet the needs of teleworkers, students, parents and educators that are dealing with the impacts of COVID-19, and the ongoing demand to have reliable and accessible broadband telecommunication service. According to the broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com website, the median speedtest in the Census Tract where this project will take place is only 10.80/2.37 Mbps.

Fixed wireless is an ideal technology for our County. Some of the County is already serviced, it provides excellent coverage across difficult terrain, and is an affordable alternative to fiber. This proposal will install broadband equipment on five (5) sites across the County. Willing site owners have agreed to siting facilities. The County has completed a competitive RFP process and selected an internet service provider with proven success in the County who has provided the specifications for a project that can be completed by the December deadline. The County is partnering with the Clearwater Economic Development Association, which has prepared the application and will serve as project administrator, bringing seasoned experience to assist the County with this Commerce program.

As a small rural county with 3,861 residents, Lewis County has few provider options and no financial resources to pay for the broadband service required to survive in this

economy and meet the challenges created by the pandemic virus. We encourage your support for our grant application.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

nsm 11 Greg Johnson, Chairman 1

Justin McLeod, Member

Mike Ponozzo, Member

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars		Total
Totals			

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

PROJECTLewis County, Idaho is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for**DESCRIPTION**assistance in the following:

DESIGN, BUILD AND OWN BROADBAND SYSTEM

SCOPE OF WORK Lewis County is seeking proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve approximately 300 households in the area between Winchester and Forest and the Central Ridge area of Lewis County. The County is applying to the State of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant program.

Project requirements will include:

- System must deliver broadband speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.
- Project will serve underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service. Underbuilt areas are defined as locations (census blocks) where less than fifty percent (50%) of households have access to broadband speeds of the FCC minimum of 25/3.
- Project completed by December 31, 2021.

The project would be funded through the state of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant Program (funded by an allocation of the federal CARES Act). As such the goals of the broadband project is to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, facilitate distance learning, and improve public safety. Award announcement is anticipated around August 2, 2021.

The successful firm will be required to comply with all Idaho state building statutes, such as Idaho Public Works contractor licensing (Idaho Code Title 54, Chapter 19), purchasing by political subdivisions (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 28) and any county ordinances related to planning and building.

The firm must be sufficiently bonded and insured. The selected firm will be required to provide performance and payment bonds, each for 100% of the contract amount, issued by a surety company authorized to conduct business within the State of Idaho. The selected firm will also be required to supply evidence of insurance coverage (worker's compensation, contractor's public liability and property damage, and contractor's vehicle liability) and to ensure that subcontractors do not commence work until the subcontractors' insurance requirements have been met.

	Lewis County is exempt from sales taxes; however, per Idaho statutes, the contractor is responsible for sales tax on materials used within the project.
PROPOSAL CONTENT AND	The proposal must be organized in sections containing the following information, and evaluated according to these criteria:
EVALUTION	Capability to Perform Project The firm's history, areas of expertise, address of office that will manage project, length of time in business, firm's legal structure, firm's commitment to provide necessary resources to perform and complete project. (20 pts)
	Relevant Project Experience Description of other projects executed by the firm that demonstrate relevant experience. List of all public sector clients for whom you have provided services or performed similar work in the past five years, which should include name, address, and phone number of a person who can be contacted regarding the firm's performance on the project. (15 pts)
	Qualifications of Project Team Resumes for the key people assigned to the project including sub-consultants. Key personnel roles and responsibilities on this project. Identify project manager who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project tasks and will be primary point of contact. (20 pts)
	Benefits of the Project to the Community Served: A description of how you will ensure that the customers, specifically households and public entities, benefitting from this project will be served over the lifespan of telecommunications investment. The responder shall provide a concrete, measurable response including a pricing model over a five-year period for all customers served by this project, given the project is 100% grant funded. (25 pts)
	Project Approach and Schedule The tasks that must be accomplished to complete the project. How the firm proposes to execute the tasks. Unique aspects of the project and alternative approaches the owner might wish to consider. (20 pts)
PROPOSAL DEADLINE	Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm (PDT), July 8, 2021 by email to project manager Dodd Snodgrass, Clearwater Economic Development Association, <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u> . Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposals, including attachments should not exceed fifteen (15) pages in length. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: Lewis County."
SELECTION CRITERIA	Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria listed above.

Selected references may be contacted. The County may conduct such other investigations as the County deems necessary to assist in the evaluation of any proposal and to establish the responsibility, qualifications, and financial ability of the design-build firm or team.

Lewis County will seek to negotiate a contract, a detailed scope of work, fee schedule, etc. with the preferred firm.

This solicitation is being offered in accordance with OMB Circular A-102 and the Idaho statutes governing procurement of professional services. Lewis County reserves the right to negotiate an agreement based on fair and reasonable compensation for the scope of work and services proposed, as well as the right to reject any and all responses deemed unqualified, unsatisfactory or inappropriate.

From:David McKnightTo:Dodd SnodgrassSubject:**[EXTERNAL]**Lewis County Speedtests X 10Date:Wednesday, July 14, 2021 8:53:35 AMAttachments:AirBridgeOfficialLogoNew.png

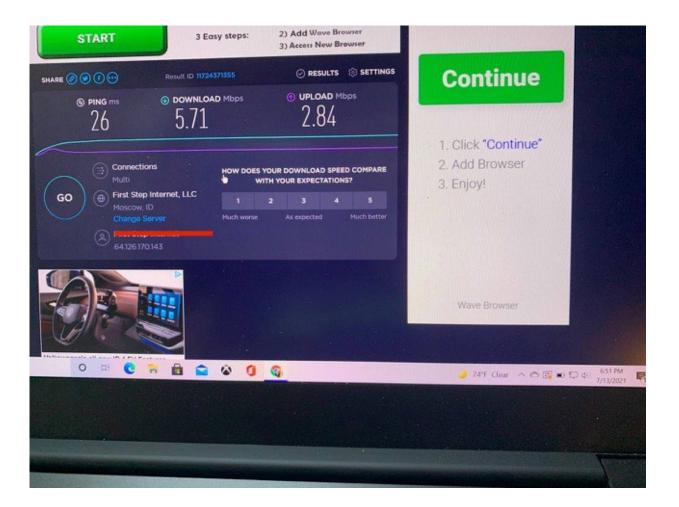
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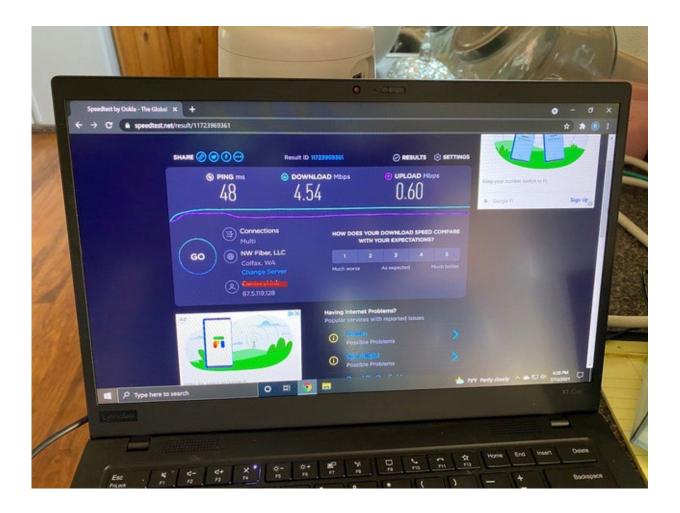
Dodd

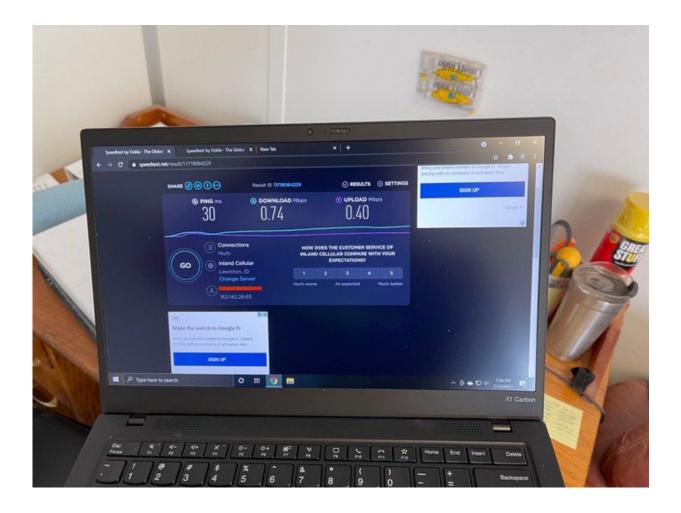
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Thanks!

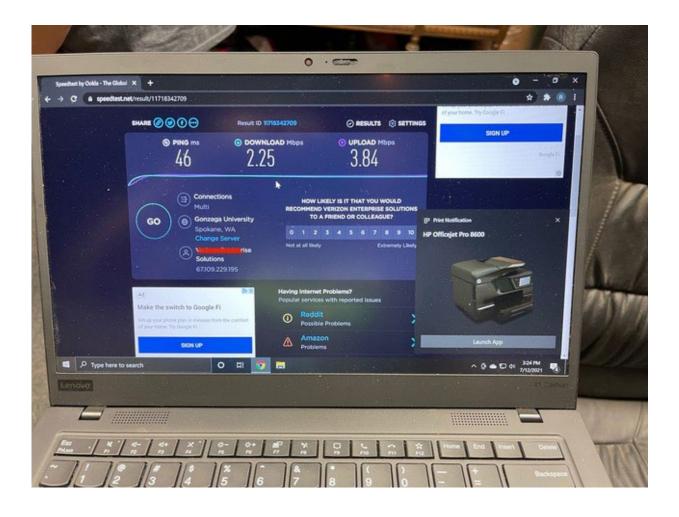
David McKnight Co-Owner

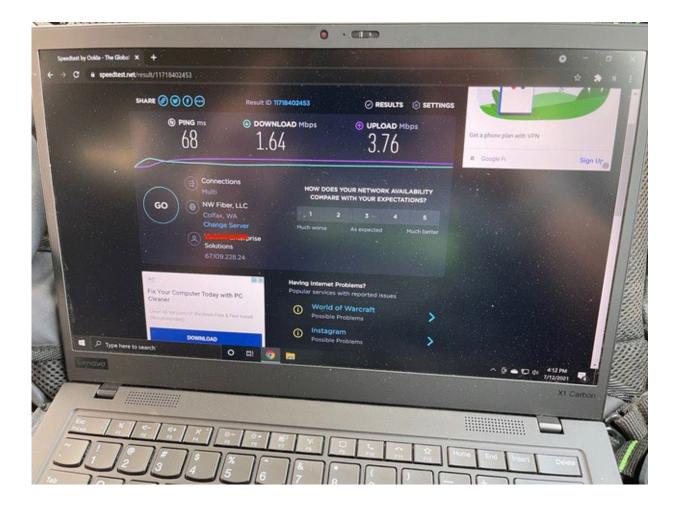




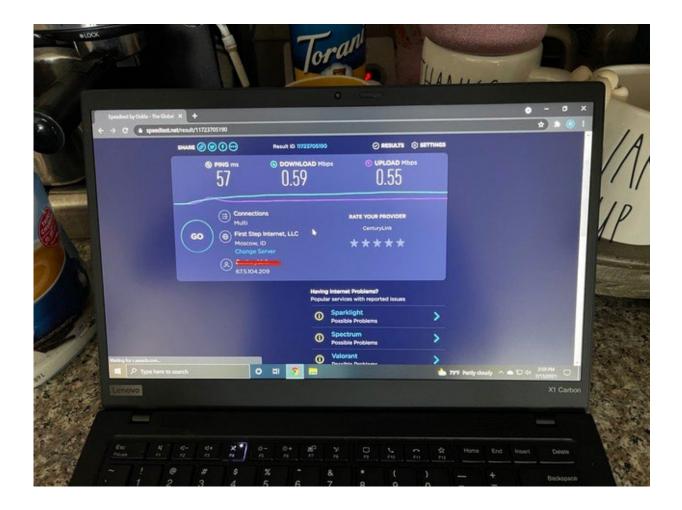


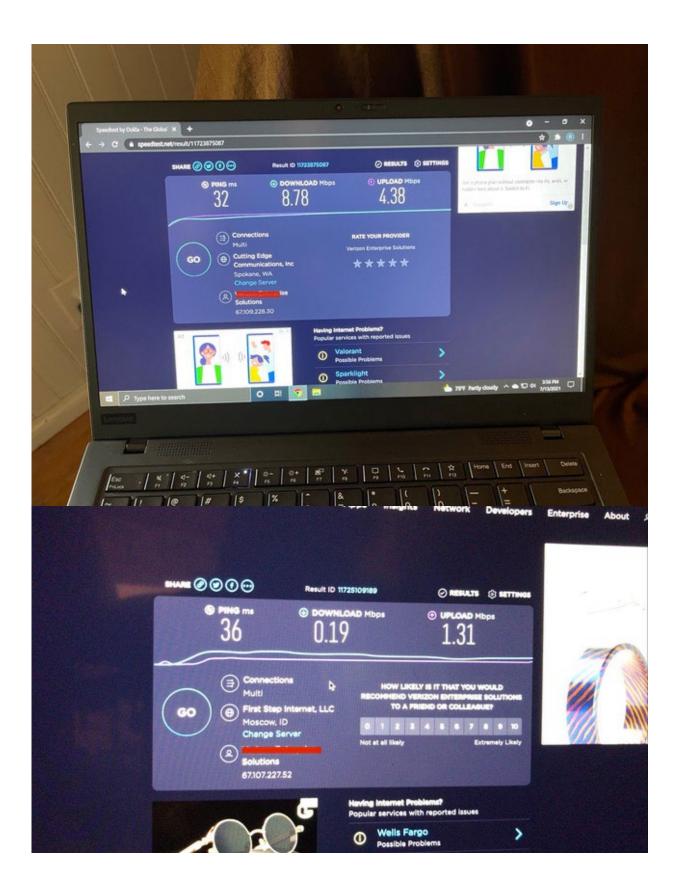
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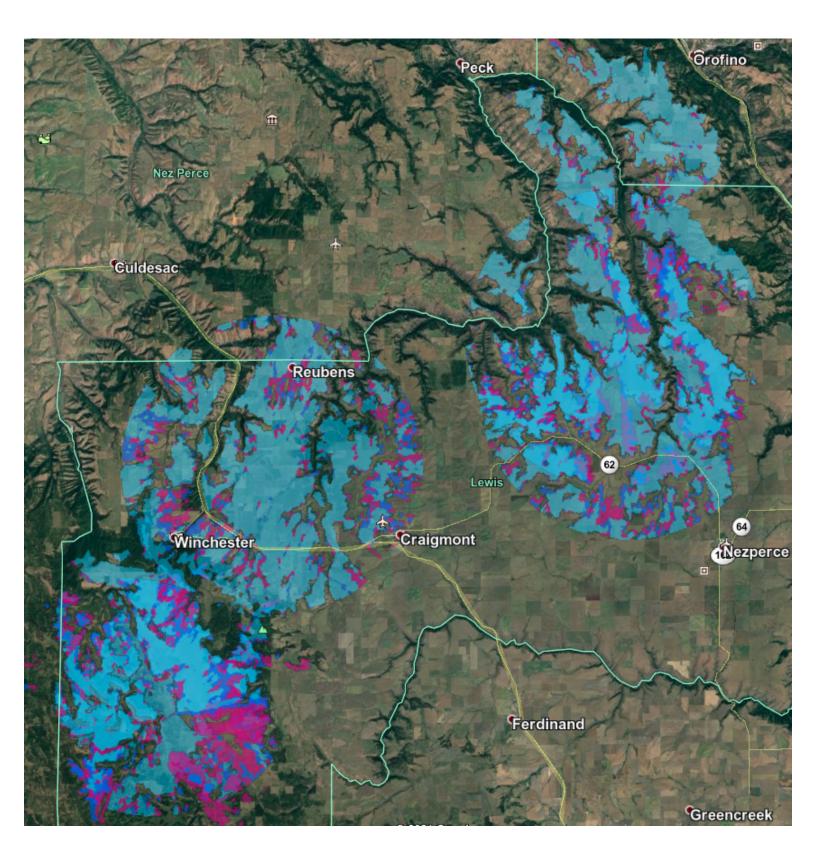




Office: 208-494-4343 Email: david@airbridgebroadband.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

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CITY OF WINCHESTER PO Box 245 Winchester, ID 83555 (208) 924-5358

6 July 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

On behalf of the City of Winchester I am writing to ask for your support for Lewis County's application for a grant to provide new broadband service to our area. The residents in this part of Lewis County suffer from lack of high speed and reliable telecommunications service. We have 2 internet providers in our City, neither one of them provides "high speed" internet. Both services have bogged down even more since Covid-19. The impacts by the pandemic virus has impaired our ability to respond to needs/work remotely and provide distance education.

Thank you for giving the application your full consideration.

Sincerely, autimare wit

LeAnn J. Trautman, City Clerk City of Winehester, ID

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Carol Spencer
Applicant ID	APP-004771
Company Name	Culdesac
Recipient Address	Culdesac 100 6th St Culdesac, ID 83524
Phone	(208) 843-5483
Phone Email	(208) 843-5483 cofcul@idaho.net
Email	cofcul@idaho.net
Email Amount Requested	cofcul@idaho.net \$300,000.00

Application Title: City of Culdesac Fixed Wireless Broadband Project

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Carol Spencer Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer City of Culdesac 100 6th St cofcul@idaho.net 208-843-5483 **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Culdesac, rural area surrounding the city of Culdesac

Data Source:

https://broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba2dcd585f5e43cba41b7

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Dodd Snodgrass Development Manager Clearwater Economic Development Association dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org 208-746-0015

Project Requirements

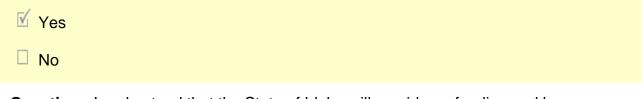
2.Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?



Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

Yes Yes

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

Historically residents in and around Culdesac have experienced some of the worst internet in the State of Idaho.

Challenging topography and the rural nature of Culdesac and surrounding areas have presented serious obstacles that have prevented providers from building out modern broadband infrastructure in a cost effective manner.

Although infrastructure investments have been made in the more urban areas of Nez Perce County, Culdesac is often overlooked and forgotten.

After seeing the success that Idaho and Lewis Counties had with broadband expansion in a cost effective manner via the 2020 State Broadband Grants (under \$500 per location), it was better understood that Culdesac and surrounding homes could also have broadband infrastructure built-out in a cost effective manner.

This project will build out approximately 5 sites at a total cost of \$300,000. It will provide speeds up to 100 Mbps / 20 Mpbs to around 340 homes at an average cost per location of \$882.

This project offers the following advantages:

Extendibility: infrastructure put into place in 2021 will be utilized to continue expanding out even further in future years

Upgradability: sites built out in 2021 can be upgraded in the future to offer ever faster speeds as new technology emerges

ISPs in the region providing fixed wireless include AirBridge Broadband, First Step Internet, Inland Cellular, and the Nez Perce Tribe. The City completed an RFP process for an ISP, publishing a legal notice twice in the Lewiston Morning Tribune, and selected AirBridge at its July 12 council meeting.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

Since this project will target a number of forgotten and overlooked areas of Nez Perce County, where real investment is modern broadband infrastructure has proven to be elusive, residents will finally be able to have access to video conferencing capabilities, which is necessary for telehealth, education, public safety, and economic development.

The broadband provider for this project will promote equal access to promote economic development, public safety, telehealth, education for the following reasons:

(1) cost per account is the same whether a business or a home (businesses are not charged more just because they are a business)

(2) free internet will be provided for all first responder facilities, fire departments, community centers, city hall

(3) provider does not differentiate or discriminate, but installs all locations as quickly as possible and in the order in which they are requested

(4) Cost per household is a benefit with the level of service provided

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

This project brings real broadband internet (up to 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps with no data caps) to homes and businesses that currently have satellite as their only option, or satellite plus other options that do not offer speeds sufficient to enable stable video conferencing, etc.

This project will enable telehealth, education, public safety, and economic development both now and into the future for homes that are otherwise forgotten or overlooked as new technology emerges and the sites are correspondingly upgraded.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

V	Yes
	No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

In the past, most of the rural communities were overlooked due to the time and expense of putting in the necessary infrastructure to serve them. It simply is not cost effective to do a \$500,000 build-out (traditional cell phone tower) to service only 100 homes. Fiber to the home would be ideal and most desirable, but is not feasible given topography, costs and easements/ROW, especially given the timeframe of the project deliverable. This lack of investment in broadband infrastructure has had a negative impact on Culdesac economically, but these shortcomings have become even more apparent in light of COVID-19 as residents do not have access to broadband capabilities that enable social distancing, telework, and distance learning. This project meets the broadest level of need for a feasible price in the timeframe required.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

None by the City. Although the private entity will not be providing a match, it will be covering approximately \$40,000 of the total project costs in overhead (labor, etc).

Question: Estimated total project cost?

300000.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

340

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

\$882

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

100/20

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

Yes

Necessary permits, permissions, and zoning requirements for Nez Perce County will be obtained for the approximate 5 sites needed in order to complete the project by the December 15, 2021 deadline.

In addition, Antenna Site Registration (ASR) will be obtained per FCC guidelines / TCNS.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

AirBridge Broadband was selected by the City of Culdesac through a completive RFP process (RFP attached)

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA), the regional planning district, will support the county with project administration. This includes preparing and advising the county with Request for Proposals for the broadband service provider and compliance with the Commerce contract. The county has received and internally managed many public grant awards and has internal controls for financial management and accounting. CEDA will support the county with the close-out procedure with Commerce. Administration expense of \$3000 is included in the budget.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

Culdesac has not received CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect funds RDOF auction award was made to SpaceX/Starlink for the Culdesac area in the last auction (satellite)

Residents of Culdesac will not get any benefit from SpaceX/Starlink as a result of these RDOF funds that any other resident throughout the rest of the State of Idaho - or throughout the entire United States - will not equally receive.

Although there are homes scattered throughout Culdesac who may benefit from SpaceX/Starlink since it will be superior to traditional satellite options, the 340 homes this grant is targeting will benefit from having a wireless internet option that will be both affordable and that will come with local service.

Most residents who will benefit from this grant do not have the \$500 to order SpaceX/Starlink, the \$99 for the monthly payment, and do not have the expertise or know how to self install the SpaceX/Starlink.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

Culdesac has not received any of these funds

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

Not Answered

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Culdesac Speed Test Results _ 10 total.pdf (7/14/2021 4:47 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

<u>Culdesac.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:48 PM) <u>Culdesac.kmz</u> (7/14/2021 4:48 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Culdesac Broadband Budget.pdf (7/14/2021 4:50 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Culdesac Schedule.pdf (7/14/2021 4:50 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

City of Culdesac Certification Signed.pdf (7/14/2021 4:51 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

<u>Culdesac Letters of Support.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:55 PM) <u>City of Culdesac Letter Signed.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:54 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

No Attachments

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

<u>Culdesac Broadband Design Build RFQP.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 5:32 PM) <u>Advertising Notice Broadband Culdesac.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 5:31 PM)

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.Dodd SnodgrassQuestion: Type your title.Development Manager, CEDAQuestion: Type the submission date.

7/16/2021

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

The City of Culdesac is requesting proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve households in Culdesac and surrounding area.

The City is applying to the state of Idaho Broadband Grant Program to fund the project.

A copy of the RFQ/P can be obtained from project manager Dodd Snodgrass of Clearwater Economic Development Association at <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the following criteria. The maximum point value of each criterion is shown in the parentheses:

Capability to Perform Project	(20 pts)
Relevant Project Experience	(15pts)
Qualifications of Project Team	(20 pts)
Benefits of the Project to the Community Served	(25pts)
Project Approach and Schedule	(20 pts)

Proposals are due by 5:00 pm PDT on July 9, 2021, by email to Dodd Snodgrass; <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u>. Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: City of Culdesac."

The City of Culdesac reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Robert D.E. Sharp - Mayor

Publish June 25 and July 2, 2021 Lewiston Morning Tribune June 29, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

Regarding slow internet in Culdesac, Idaho.

It is incredibly slow. Seriously, astoundingly slow.

Our choices for internet are ridiculously limited. My household has Century Link that supposedly gives me 1mb but, in reality, is closer to .5 if we're particularly lucky and nobody else is using it. Century Link has deliberately oversold their network to the point where sometimes you simply cannot get on...for days at a time. Their customer service will tell you straight out that they have oversold it and if you leave Century Link you will not be able to rejoin. And they can't move you up to any higher, more expensive, faster level because they simply do not have room.

I've considered the Tribal Internet option. It's not ridiculously expensive though apparently you have to buy the equipment even though you will never be able to use it for anything else or get a refund should you leave their internet. However, right about the time I think about switching, someone on our local Facebook group is asking why their Tribal Internet is down. That can go on for days at a time as well.

Satellite is an option but it's so much more expensive and most of the time you also have to buy the equipment. Also, the many, many trees in our neighborhood limit our options for line of sight to the satellites. Hughs Net at least was unable to find a direction we could actually use from our house.

I was super excited to get a new phone through Verizon thinking I would be ablet to get highspeed internet with a phone hotspot. Imagine my disappointment, when I found out that Verizon voice works with Inland Cellular but the 5g does not. Instead, I get 1x which is actually slower than Century Link.

So yes, a decent internet option in our area would be amazing and frankly a necessity in this modern day. I can't imagine how hard it is for the local kids to do their homework or take advantage of the many online options offered by businesses and colleges with our slow, spotty internet options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jenny Kilby 605 Culdesac Ave Culdesac, ID 83524 Hi my name is Lorna I live in Culdesac Idaho. I currently have internet service through my home phone. Century Link . I use my computer for personal use. My internet service is sooo slow I sometimes give up waiting for it. Lately it worns me that it has shut down and needs to be refreshed. I just had my computer updated so it will load faster but that dosent help if the internet is slow. I would love love it if I could get a new high speed internet service in my area. Please help

Lorna

To Whom it may concern ...

Culdesac is a small town ... under 400 people ... with a poverty level above average. Unfortunately, we are in a demographic that is not popular to commercial infrastructure providers. With a substandard infrastructure, any chance to improve our community is limited if not impossible.

As our society falls further into the high-tech realm of cell phones and internet, we become more isolated and unable to grow. Our population depends on internet to stay connected and the choices are limited. We have a bank, library, a Quick Response Unit and City Government that needs to have higher speeds. Also the technology now available is line-of-sight and not available to a good portion of our households.

With the new technology now available, able to penetrate through trees that block signals and techniques that present multiple access points for broadcasting the signal, our chances to become part of the 21 century is much more possible.

Culdesac is a great little town and with improved infrastructure will become more attractive to people from the more populated areas who would like to have a slower life style and still be connected. In order to survive, we need this new broadband technology.

Larry Abele, Councilman

Publisher of the Culdesac Community Newsletter.

City of Culdesac

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Larry Abele [labele0635@aol.com] Wednesday, June 23, 2021 2:39 PM cofcul@idaho.net Letter in support of Broadband Technology Letter for Broadband.pub

To Whom it may concern ...

Culdesac is a small town ... under 400 people ... with a poverty level above average. Unfortunately, we are in a demographic that is not popular to commercial infrastructure providers. With a substandard infrastructure, any chance to improve our community is limited if not impossible.

As our society falls further into the high-tech realm of cell phones and internet, Culdesac becomes more isolated and unable to grow. Our population depends on internet to stay connected and the choices are limited. We have a bank, library, a Quick Response Unit and City Government that needs to have higher speeds. Also the technology now available is line-of-sight and not available to a good portion of our households.

With the new technology now available, able to penetrate through trees that block signals and techniques that present multiple access points for broadcasting the signal, our chances to become part of the 21 century is much more possible.

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1

Larry Abele, Councilman Publisher of the Culdesac Community Newsletter.



State of Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act Certification

STATE OF IDAHO, CITY OF CULDESAC

The undersigned, Robert D.E. Sharp, representing the City of Culdesac, 100 6th St, Culdesac, ID hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am Mayor of Culdesac and thereby authorized to make these statements.

2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto.

3. The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce that the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Eligible expenses meeting the criteria include:

i. Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.

ii. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

This proposed broadband project will meet these criteria by providing rural households in the City that are currently unserved and underserved by broadband telecommunication services with access to a fixed-wireless service that meets or exceeds FCC recommended speeds for broadband. Thus, providing the distance learning and telework capabilities to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.

Robert D. C. Sharp

Signature

7/12/2021

Date

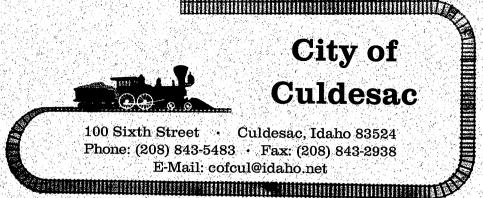
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 12^{44} day of July 2021

NOREEN DURANTE Commission #62918 Notary Public State of Idaho My Commission Expires: 1/21/2026 Noreen Durante

Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at <u>Culdesac</u>

Commission expires 1/21/2026



July 16, 2021

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board 700 W State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0093

Dear Board Members:

The Mayor and City Council of Culdesac are pleased to apply for \$300,000 to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant program. Our proposal will provide 340 city and surrounding households, currently unserved or underserved, access to affordable fixed wireless broadband service that will meet or exceed the FCC recommended speed of 25/3 Mbps with speeds up to 100 / 20 Mbps.

This project is essential to fill the gaps in service across the City of Culdesac and surrounding areas, and more importantly, meet the needs of teleworkers, students, parents and educators that are dealing with the impacts of COVID-19, and the ongoing demand to have reliable and accessible broadband telecommunication service. According to the broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com website, the median speed test in the Census Tract where this project will take place is only 6.19/2.54 Mbps.

Fixed wireless is an ideal technology for our City and surrounding areas. Fixed wireless provides excellent coverage across difficult terrain and is an affordable alternative to fiber. This proposal will install broadband equipment on five (5) sites across the city and the surrounding community. Willing site owners have agreed to siting facilities. The City has completed a competitive RFP process and selected an internet service provider who has provided the specifications for a project that can be completed by the December deadline. The City is partnering with the Clearwater Economic Development Association, which has prepared the application and will serve as project administrator, bringing seasoned experience to assist the City with this Commerce program.

As a small rural city with 201 households, Culdesac has few provider options and no financial resources to pay for the broadband service required to survive in this economy and meet the challenges created by the pandemic virus. We encourage your support for our grant application.

Respectfully,

CITY OF CULDESAC

Robert D.E. Sharp **Culdesac Mayor and City Council**

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars		Total
Totals			

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

PROJECTThe City of Culdesac, Idaho is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for
assistance in the following:

DESIGN, BUILD AND OWN BROADBAND SYSTEM

SCOPE OF WORK Culdesac is seeking proposals from private for-profit internet service providers to provide all services, equipment, and construction to deploy, own and operate a fixed wireless broadband system to serve approximately 340 households in Culdesac and the surrounding area. The City is applying to the State of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant program.

Project requirements will include:

- System must deliver broadband speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.
- Project will serve underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service. Underbuilt areas are defined as locations (census blocks) where less than fifty percent (50%) of households have access to broadband speeds of the FCC minimum of 25/3.
- Project completed by December 31, 2021.

The project would be funded through the state of Idaho Broadband Fund Grant Program (funded by an allocation of the federal CARES Act). As such the goals of the broadband project is to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, facilitate distance learning, and improve public safety. Award announcement is anticipated around August 2, 2021.

The successful firm will be required to comply with all Idaho state building statutes, such as Idaho Public Works contractor licensing (Idaho Code Title 54, Chapter 19), purchasing by political subdivisions (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 28) and any City ordinances related to planning and building.

The firm must be sufficiently bonded and insured. The selected firm will be required to provide performance and payment bonds, each for 100% of the contract amount, issued by a surety company authorized to conduct business within the State of Idaho. The selected firm will also be required to supply evidence of insurance coverage (worker's compensation, contractor's public liability and property damage, and contractor's vehicle liability) and to ensure that subcontractors do not commence work until the subcontractors' insurance requirements have been met.

The City of Culdesac is exempt from sales taxes; however, per Idaho statutes, the contractor is responsible for sales tax on materials used within the project.

PROPOSAL CONTENT AND	The proposal must be organized in sections containing the following information, and evaluated according to these criteria:		
EVALUTION	Capability to Perform Project The firm's history, areas of expertise, address of office that will manage project, length of time in business, firm's legal structure, firm's commitment to provide necessary resources to perform and complete project. (20 pts)		
	Relevant Project Experience Description of other projects executed by the firm that demonstrate relevant experience. List of all public sector clients for whom you have provided services or performed similar work in the past five years, which should include name, address, and phone number of a person who can be contacted regarding the firm's performance on the project. (15 pts)		
	Qualifications of Project Team Resumes for the key people assigned to the project including sub-consultants. Key personnel roles and responsibilities on this project. Identify project manager who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project tasks and will be primary point of contact. (20 pts)		
	Benefits of the Project to the Community Served: A description of how you will ensure that the customers, specifically households and public entities, benefitting from this project will be served over the lifespan of telecommunications investment. The responder shall provide a concrete, measurable response including a pricing model over a five-year period for all customers served by this project, given the project is 100% grant funded. (25 pts)		
	Project Approach and Schedule The tasks that must be accomplished to complete the project. How the firm proposes to execute the tasks. Unique aspects of the project and alternative approaches the owner might wish to consider. (20 pts)		
PROPOSAL DEADLINE	Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm (PDT), July 9, 2021 by email to project manager Dodd Snodgrass, Clearwater Economic Development Association, <u>dsnodgrass@clearwater-eda.org</u> . Email file size delivery cannot exceed 10 MB. Proposals, including attachments should not exceed fifteen (15) pages in length. Proposal should be titled "Broadband Proposal: Culdesac."		
SELECTION CRITERIA	Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria listed above.		
	Selected references may be contacted. The City may conduct such other investigations as the City deems necessary to assist in the evaluation of any		

proposal and to establish the responsibility, qualifications, and financial ability of the design-build firm or team.

The City of Culdesac will seek to negotiate a contract, a detailed scope of work, fee schedule, etc. with the preferred firm.

This solicitation is being offered in accordance with OMB Circular A-102 and the Idaho statutes governing procurement of professional services. The City of Culdesac reserves the right to negotiate an agreement based on fair and reasonable compensation for the scope of work and services proposed, as well as the right to reject any and all responses deemed unqualified, unsatisfactory or inappropriate.

June 29, 2021

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Regarding slow internet in Culdesac, Idaho.

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Satellite is an option but it's so much more expensive and most of the time you also have to buy the equipment. Also, the many, many trees in our neighborhood limit our options for line of sight to the satellites. Hughs Net at least was unable to find a direction we could actually use from our house.

I was super excited to get a new phone through Verizon thinking I would be ablet to get highspeed internet with a phone hotspot. Imagine my disappointment, when I found out that Verizon voice works with Inland Cellular but the 5g does not. Instead, I get 1x which is actually slower than Century Link.

So yes, a decent internet option in our area would be amazing and frankly a necessity in this modern day. I can't imagine how hard it is for the local kids to do their homework or take advantage of the many online options offered by businesses and colleges with our slow, spotty internet options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jenny Kilby 605 Culdesac Ave Culdesac, ID 83524 Hi my name is Lorna I live in Culdesac Idaho. I currently have internet service through my home phone. Century Link . I use my computer for personal use. My internet service is sooo slow I sometimes give up waiting for it. Lately it worns me that it has shut down and needs to be refreshed. I just had my computer updated so it will load faster but that dosent help if the internet is slow. I would love love it if I could get a new high speed internet service in my area. Please help

Lorna

To Whom it may concern ...

Culdesac is a small town ... under 400 people ... with a poverty level above average. Unfortunately, we are in a demographic that is not popular to commercial infrastructure providers. With a substandard infrastructure, any chance to improve our community is limited if not impossible.

As our society falls further into the high-tech realm of cell phones and internet, we become more isolated and unable to grow. Our population depends on internet to stay connected and the choices are limited. We have a bank, library, a Quick Response Unit and City Government that needs to have higher speeds. Also the technology now available is line-of-sight and not available to a good portion of our households.

With the new technology now available, able to penetrate through trees that block signals and techniques that present multiple access points for broadcasting the signal, our chances to become part of the 21 century is much more possible.

Culdesac is a great little town and with improved infrastructure will become more attractive to people from the more populated areas who would like to have a slower life style and still be connected. In order to survive, we need this new broadband technology.

Larry Abele, Councilman

Publisher of the Culdesac Community Newsletter.

City of Culdesac

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Larry Abele [labele0635@aol.com] Wednesday, June 23, 2021 2:39 PM cofcul@idaho.net Letter in support of Broadband Technology Letter for Broadband.pub

To Whom it may concern ...

Culdesac is a small town ... under 400 people ... with a poverty level above average. Unfortunately, we are in a demographic that is not popular to commercial infrastructure providers. With a substandard infrastructure, any chance to improve our community is limited if not impossible.

As our society falls further into the high-tech realm of cell phones and internet, Culdesac becomes more isolated and unable to grow. Our population depends on internet to stay connected and the choices are limited. We have a bank, library, a Quick Response Unit and City Government that needs to have higher speeds. Also the technology now available is line-of-sight and not available to a good portion of our households.

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1

Larry Abele, Councilman Publisher of the Culdesac Community Newsletter.



To: Whom It May Concern

My name is William Vorrasi I'm the pastor at Culdesac Community Church located in Culdesac Idaho. I was asked by the city to write this letter in concerning the possibility of being able to obtain a grant to help bring high-speed Internet to Culdesac. My family and I moved to Culdesac November 2020. Since we moved here we have seen how easy it is for technology and other new resources to overlook our small community. If we are given the opportunity to have a better more reliable high-speed Internet I feel that it would not only aid the community personally but also potentially help boost the economy here and Culdesac. While some people are still forced or wanting to work from home are unable due to the speeds and the quality of Internet coming to Culdesac. Most employers require certain speeds and reliability of an Internet provider before you can be hired and work from home for that company. The new Internet would also help homeschoolers, online college students and teachers. Even here Culdesac community church potentially we would be able to offer free Wi-Fi to guest and students.

Blessings,

1/ancer

Pastor William Vorrasi 208-790-6276 pastorwillculdesac@gmail.com Culdesac Community Church 900 Main St Culdesac Idaho 83524



We are in desperate need of good quality internet and technology services here in our small community. After schools being shut down and work places being closed last year due to Covid-19, students and parents were forced to work from home trying their best to do their tasks at hand with school work and daily work for their jobs . There were numerous people that couldn't process their work due to our outdated and limited resources . We are so close to town and feel that we as a community could succeed so much better with better tools to help us along the way.

200

Thank you for your consideration

City of Culdesac

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Beverly Gilliam [bevagilliam@gmail.com] Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:58 PM cofcul@idaho.net The Culdesac Quick Response Unit 6/23/2021

#9 North Main Street

Culdesac, Id 83524

We are supportive of Culdesac and the surrounding area to receive broadband service. We are a very rural area and our residents could benefit greatly from this service. Thankyou.

Beverly Gilliam Treasurer Gary Gilliam President



06-21-2021

To whom it may concern.

Our company supports the expansion of broadband to our community.

It is a needed resource.

President, Joshua Russell

Jolege - Eles

Dear Idaho Broadband Advisory Board,

My name is KaitLynn and I have resided in Culdesac my entire life. I recently moved into a house in the middle of town about 3-years ago. In doing so we have not been able to find an internet provider. We reached out to Tribal internet and was told that we could not receive it because of the location of our house, the trees around us block us from any site of their tower. So after talking with them and having multiple people come out and inspect our house, we reached out to Century Link. We were told they were over their limit and could not help us and that they could put us on a waiting list, but chances are they wouldn't be able to help us at all. My husband had reached out to Hughs Net and we were told that they could not help us because there is a agreement between Century Link and The Tribal Internet stating that they were the only two internet companies that could assist people in the town of Culdesac. I find it super unfair because neither of the two will help us, so we have been stuck without internet at our house since the day we moved. The only way to access internet is through our hotspots, and that isn't enough to stream all our devices. I really hope you guys are able to put tower up out here because it would definitely benefit my household. I am doing online school and with only my hotspot as access to the internet, it limits my ability to get my work done in a timely matter.

Thank you for your time,

Kaitlynn Connerley

City of Culdesac

From: Sent: To: Subject: reidcarefully@q.com Thursday, July 8, 2021 9:51 PM cofcul@idaho.net Broadband speed

To the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board

I am writing this email in regards to the slow internet speed my family and I live with here in Culdesac, Id. At the moment I am writing this I am receiving .62 mbps download speed and it won't even register an upload speed. I am also the only one using anything online. My son has to use it for school I have to use it for work and my wife has just signed up to get a few college courses to better herself and can't even check her emails on her new laptop. We need better internet service out here please. I feel like I'm living with dial up 2.0. Thank you.

Mitchell Reid.

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date
Select CEDA admin City		6/14/2021	6/14/2021
Publish RFP	City/CEDA	6/25/2021	7/2/2021
RFP due	City/CEDA	7/9/2021	7/9/2021
Select ISP	City	7/12/2021	7/12/2021
Grant Due	City/CEDA	7/16/2021	7/16/2021
Grant Awarded	Commerce	8/2/2021	8/2/2021
Execute Contracts	Com/City/ISP	8/3/2021	8/31/2021
Project Work	ISP	9/6/2021	12/15/2021
Closeout	City/CEDA	12/15/2021	12/31/2021

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

From:	David McKnight
То:	Dodd Snodgrass
Subject:	**[EXTERNAL]**Culdesac Speed Test Results 10 total
Date:	Friday, July 9, 2021 3:54:24 PM
Attachments:	<u>AirBridgeOfficialLogoNew.png</u>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dodd

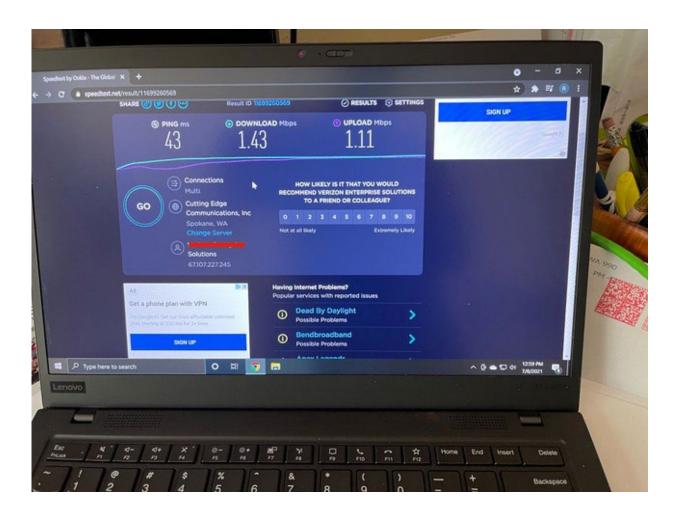
I have attached 10 Speedtest results with this email.

They were all taken yesterday ... and from the pictures ... one can tell that all results were plugged directly into a router (per an icon on the computer screen).

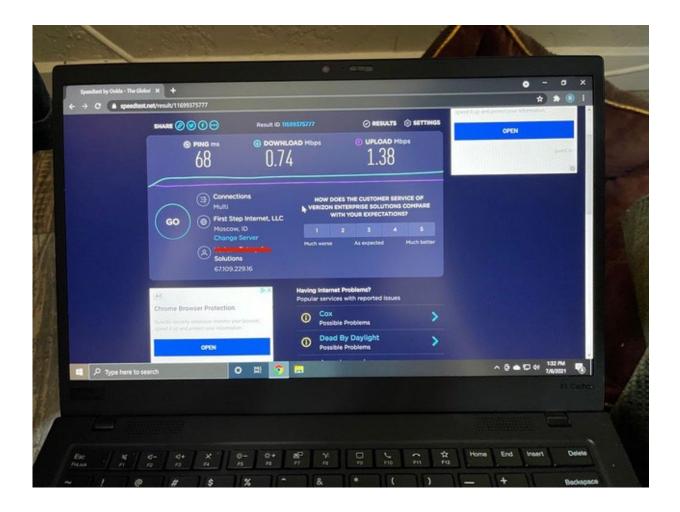
Please note I have blocked out the provider as Eric let me know was OK to do.

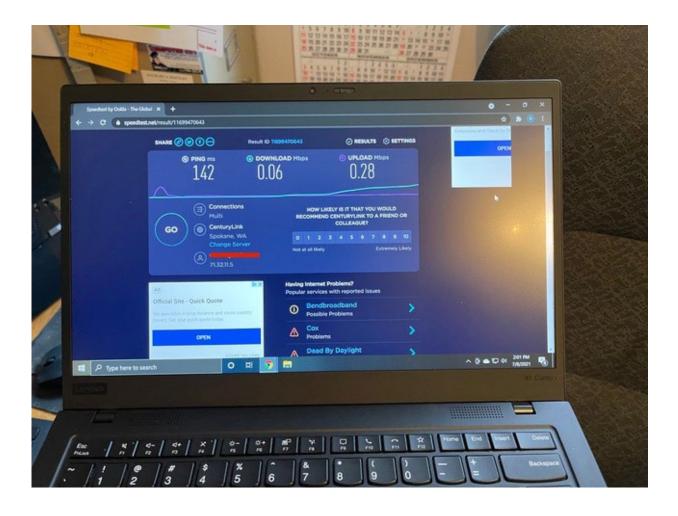
Thanks!

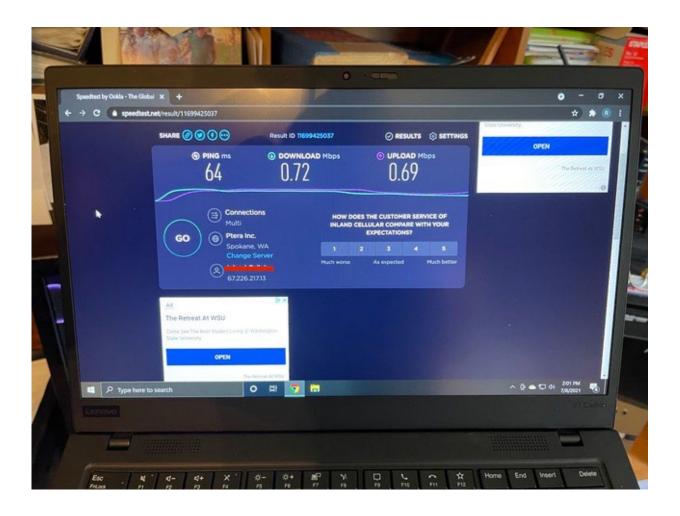
David McKnight Co-Owner

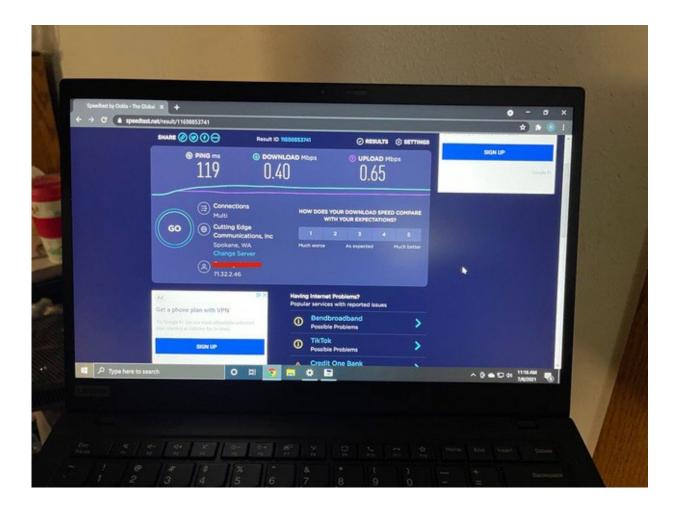


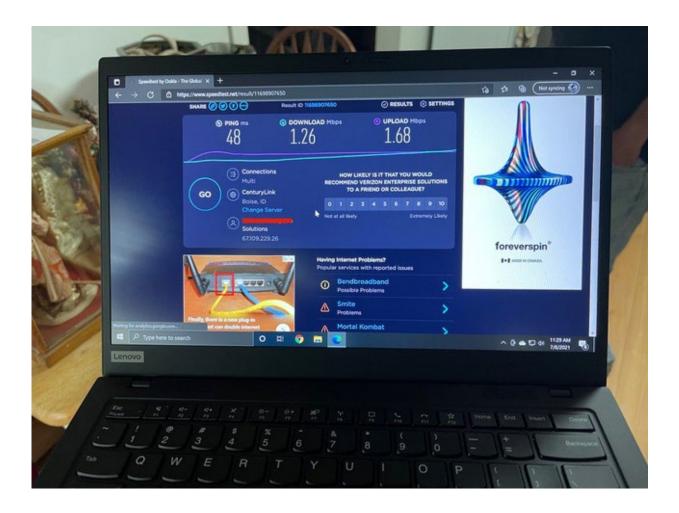
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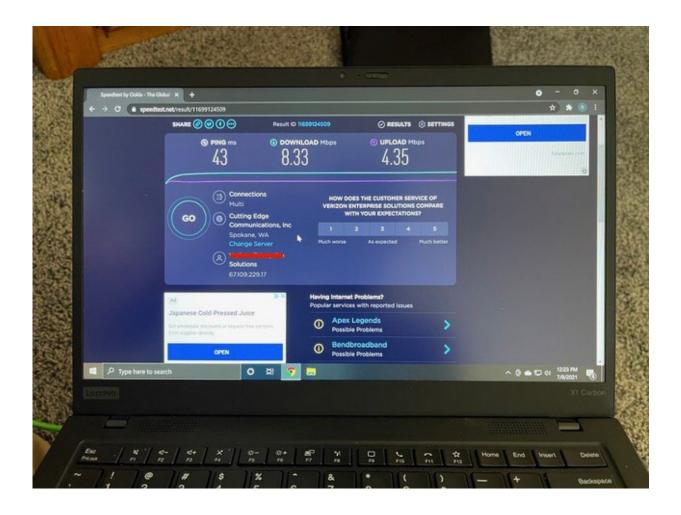


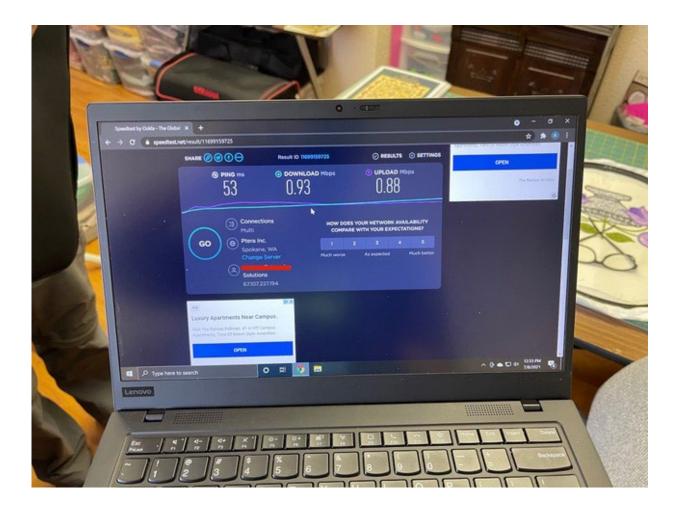


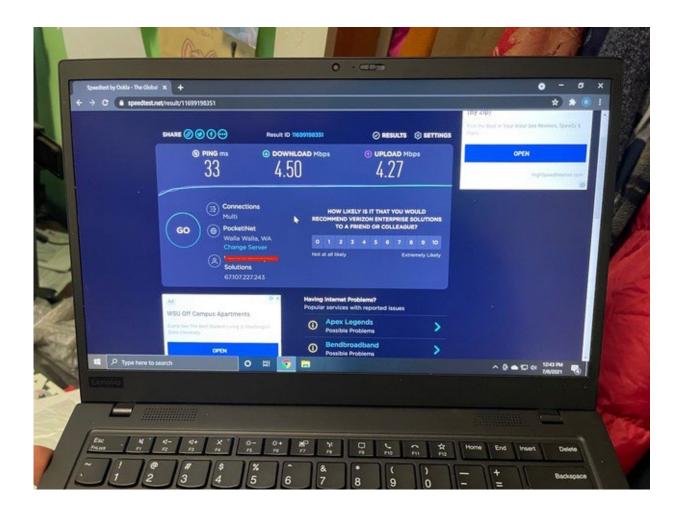










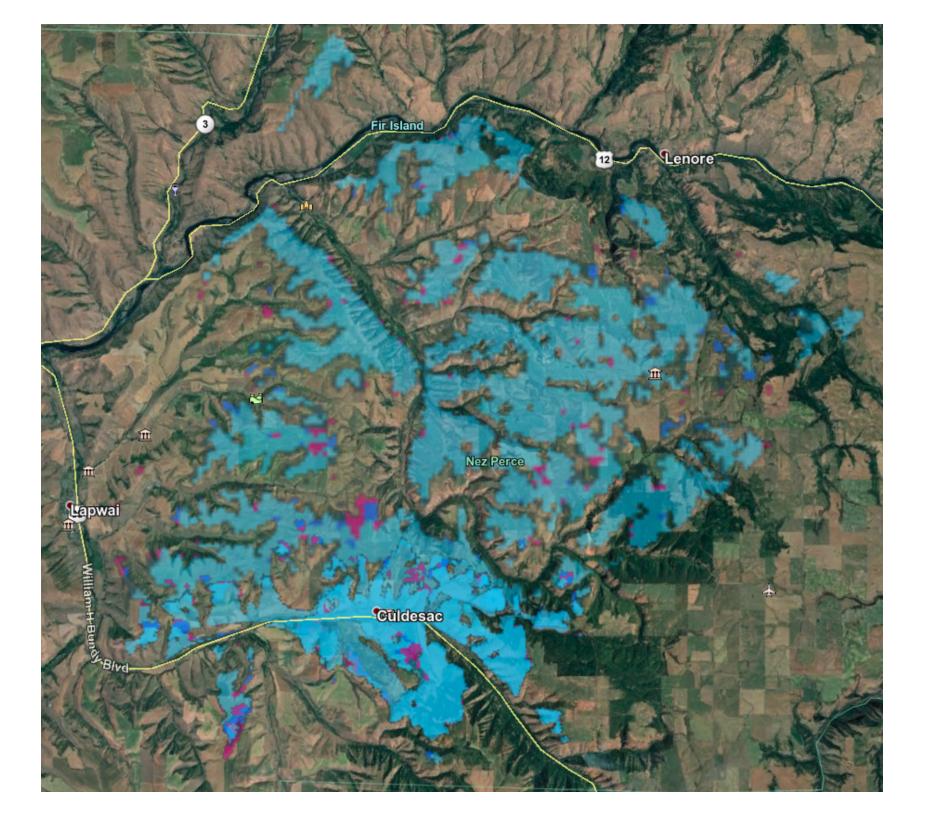




Office: 208-494-4343 Email: david@airbridgebroadband.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

The contents of this email message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information and may be legally protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient of this message or their agent, or if this message has been addressed to you in error, please immediately alert the sender by reply email and then delete this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, copying, or storage of this message or it attachments is strictly prohibited.



Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Carrie Bird
Applicant ID	APP-004816
Company Name	Clearwater County
Recipient Address	Clearwater County Court House 150 Michigan Ave Orofino, ID 83544
Phone	(208) 476-5615
Email	cbird@clearwatercounty.org
Amount Requested	\$180,433.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: North of Weippe Fixed Wireless

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Clearwater County Commission Rick Winkel, Chairman PO Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 208-476-3615 commissioners@clearwatercounty.org **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Clearwater county outside Weippe, Idaho

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Chris St Germaine Director, Economic Development cstgermaine@clearwatercounty.org 208-476-9829

Project Requirements

2. Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

🗹 Yes			
🗆 No			

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

🗹 Yes

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

A mobile carrier constructed a tower north of Weippe in 2017 to enhance cellular coverage in this rural area of Clearwater County. An Internet Service Provider (ISP) is proposing to connect the tower site to a fiber backhaul and add fixed wireless internet service eNodes at this site. This will provide broadband connectivity to residents in a currently unserved area of Clearwater County. In the proposed service area, the options for internet connectivity is limited to satellite service, Ziply provides DSL services across copper line but broadband speeds (25/3) are not available from any terrestrial providers. Although reported as served by a fixed wireless provider the proposed service area is not actually covered.

The proposed project will deploy licensed CBRS eNodes with PALS protections. This technology will provide the best case penetration through the areas evergreen forests and varied terrain.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

The low density and high-cost of infrastructure deployment in this rural area of the county has been a challenge. CARES Act funding offers this project economic feasibility. The deployment of a robust fixed wireless network will provide the ability for residents to access the internet at

speeds capable of teleworking, remote learning, accessing telemedicine and, enable access to the vast informational resources and entertainment provided today across the World Wide Web. Youth living in the PSA will gain access to the world through the enhanced connectivity.

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

The proposed project to deploy a fixed wireless broadband network meets the CARES Act criteria by: Being a broadband infrastructure (fixed wireless) investment; Through enabling connectivity at speeds up to 100/10 Mbps; Facilitating greatly enhanced access to telework, telemedicine, distance learning and public safety; and, providing service in a currently unserved area.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

4	Yes

🗆 No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

This project will provide a cost-effective deployment by utilizing existing mobile wireless infrastructure within the PSA. to each The project will build fiber to the tower enabling it to deliver broadband speeds to end users. The PSA covers sparsely populated areas of Clearwater County which, to date, has not been served due to cost of deployment, challenging terrain and sparse population.

The proposed licensed CBRS technology with PALS protection will offer residents in the PSA with the best technology available today in the fixed wireless industry.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

The County will establish scoring criteria in the RFP to provide providers willing to match grant funding points.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

180433.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

74

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

2,438

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

The maximum offering will be 50/5. The tiers of service are: 15/3 Mbps with monthly cost \$40 25/3 Mbps with monthly cost \$50 35/5 Mbps with monthly cost \$60 50/5 Mbps with monthly cost \$70

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

The permit to bury fiber along Clearwater Highway District roads will be approved in month 1.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

The county will select a for profit internet service provider to own, operate and maintain the deployed infrastructure.

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater County Economic Development Director, Chris St Germaine will oversee project administration, be the providers liaison to County, and track the deliverables/accomplishments. Provider upon completion will provide proof of network performance.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

According to the FCC, www.fcc.gov, a portion of the area is identified as part of an RDOF Phase 1 award to Frontier Communications

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

The City of Weippe received Idaho CARES Act Broadband funding in 2020. This proposal will compliment the connectivity provided in town by providing fixed wireless to places outside of Weippe currently underserved.

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced residents and students home for work and school as places of business and school facilities were closed. Residents' connectivity options were severely overloaded, and the students fell behind. According to our school district technology coordinator, for many students connectivity is an obstacle. Students at unconnected homes have a significant disadvantage to their connected peers who, have the world's knowledge within their reach. With connectivity, students can go far beyond their local environment to explore and learn. Additionally, enhancing connectivity will facilitate individuals' access to health care. The Clearwater Valley Hospital group has during COVID bolstered its telehealth delivery capacity, but access to it depends on the end user connectivity capacity. The proposed robust fixed wireless broadband network will facilitate enhanced connectivity for folks living and working across rural, Clearwater County.

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

North Weippe-Speed tests.docx (7/16/2021 12:43 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

WeippeArea.pdf (7/16/2021 3:16 PM) North Weippe GIS file dropbox link.docx (7/15/2021 5:17 PM) Weippe North PSA.kmz (7/10/2021 4:35 PM) Weippe Tower Coverage.kmz (7/10/2021 4:35 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Weippe North.xlsx (7/10/2021 4:35 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Schedule-Weippe North.xlsx (7/10/2021 4:46 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

<u>County Priority letter.pdf</u> (7/12/2021 4:58 PM) <u>County Cert-North Weippe.pdf</u> (7/12/2021 4:57 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

Letter of Support JSD171.pdf (7/16/2021 3:53 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

Anchor Institutions.docx (7/15/2021 5:44 PM)

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

Clwtr County Broadband Plan.docx (7/15/2021 5:18 PM)

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

No Attachments

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Carrie Bird

Question: Type your title.

County Clerk

Question: Type the submission date.

7-15-2021

Anchor Institutions

There are no community anchor institutions within the Proposed Service Area.

Broadband Plan – Clearwater County Economic Development

Mission: Leverage all available resources and partnership with providers to build resilient, redundant telecommunications capacity across Clearwater County.

History

In 2003 at the regional Think Like a Region Economic Development Summit the lack of broadband access was deemed the regions' highest concern for community sustainability.

In 2006 Orofino convinced Verizon a fiber backhaul was needed to replace the microwave link that provided all communications within Clearwater County. A 46 strand fiber cable was run from Moscow to Orofino and on up to Weippe.

In 2007, the Clearwater Library District leveraged Idaho Commerce & Labor broadband finds with Gates Foundation funding to work with First Step Internet to build fixed wireless to Weippe. The Elk River Free Library District was awarded USDA Community Connect funds to become the ISP and deployed a fixed wireless mesh network; with backhaul from First Step Internet Elk River was connected. And, a small private ISP, QRO Internet deployed a fixed wireless network in Pierce with a T1 from Frontier.

In 2010 the Nez Perce Tribe secured American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to deploy a Reservation wide fixed wireless network. Clearwater County provided infrastructure (rooftops) and interconnected all county government facilities using the Tribes network.

In 2017 Frontier indicated a plan to run fiber to Pierce to serve the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy (IDYCA). This project never came to fruition.

2019 the Joint School District 171 leveraged E Rate funding to construct a fiber connection from Orofino schools to Timberline k-12 and into Pierce for the IDYCA.

2020 secured ID CARES Act funding to deploy fiber to premise in Orofino, Weippe-Pleasant Acres-SE unincorporated areas; and fixed wireless to Elk River.

The Strategy

Build partnerships that enable connectivity for all places across Clearwater County.

P.O. Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone: (208) 476-3615 Fax: (208) 476-8902



Commissioners Rick Winkel, Chair Mike Ryan Vince Frazier

State of Idaho

Clearwater County

The undersigned, Rick Winkel, representing Clearwater County Board of Commissioners, PO Box 586, Orofino, ID 83544, hereby swear (affirm) that:

- 1. I am Chairman of the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners and thereby authorized t make these statements.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto.
- The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Criteria <u>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf</u>
- 3.
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions
- b. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

The Clearwater County will contract with a telecommunications provider to build a fixed wireless network with capacity to delivery 100/10 Mbps to each household within the rural unincorporated areas across the North of Weippe.

Signature

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN before me on this $\frac{12}{31}$ day of July, 2021

Date

Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at Commission expires



P.O. Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone: (208) 476-3615 Fax: (208) 476-8902



Commissioners Rick Winkel, Chair Mike Ryan Vince Frazier

Tom Kealey Director Idaho Department of Commerce 700 W State St PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

RE: Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act funding

Dear Director Kealey,

Clearwater County has identified three project areas that can be completed by the private sector to connect rural places. Recognizing the funding is limited, we have submitted each of these three and assign the following priority for consideration:

- 1 Fiber Orofino to Pierce
- 2 Fraser Fixed Wireless
- 3 North Weippe Fixed Wireless

We appreciate the opportunity to seek funding to close the digital divide in rural areas of our County.

5. Winter corely,

Rick Winkel Chairman



JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 171 1051 Michigan Ave. P.O. Box 2259 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone (208)476-5593 Fax (208)476-7293 Orofino Elementary School, Orofino Jr/Sr High, Timberline School; Cavendish Elementary, Peck Elementary, Idaho Youth Challenge Academy

07/15/2021

ID CAREA Act Broadband;

Joint School District 171 supports the Clearwater County Commissioners' effort to expand broadband access across rural Clearwater County. During the 2020 pandemic, broadband access became a critical infrastructure and for the majority of rural County residents the lack of access brought challenges. The lack of access to broadband affected students' ability to do school work, employees struggled to stay connected and functional at work and those needing access to healthcare without connectivity were in some cases left with limited options.

I know firsthand that internet access is critical to the success of our students and communities. In my choice of residency, I have limited internet access which can be very frustrating and delay the relaying of critical information to our community patrons.

During the 2020 spring COVID shutdown, our district experienced a great deal of learning loss with our students due to lack of connectivity and internet reliability. I am certain there would have been a more positive outcome if our county and region had better infrastructure.

As a district, we are learning to overcome some of the challenges associated with unreliable internet connectivity. The reality is that we shouldn't have to make the sacrifices just because we live in a rural area.

We appreciate your support of rural growth.

If you have any questions or would need further information please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael C. Garrett

Dr. Michael C. Garrett Superintendent, JSD171 North Weippe GIS file dropbox link

https://www.dropbox.com/t/Rf0uVmOiJb4GT82Z

Sellers- Woodhaven Dr

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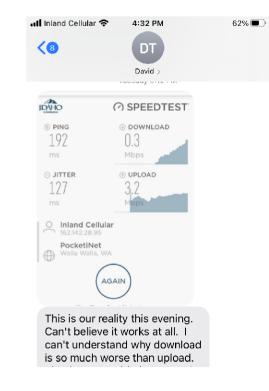
Jared – Jhalmar Johnson



We solicited for speed test but the majority of folks are using mobile device connectivity due to the lack of fixed infrastructure.



Thomas

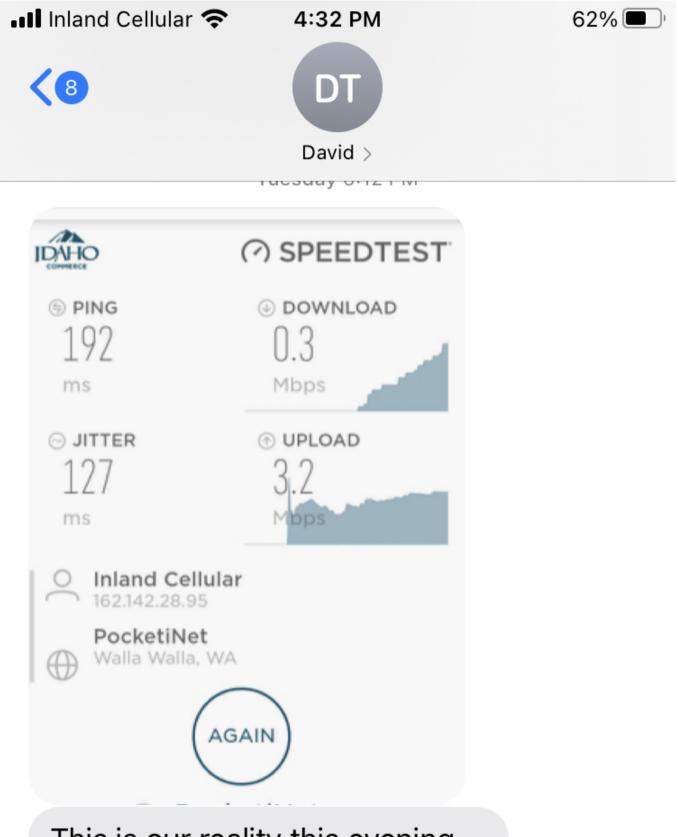


Jared – Jhalmar Johnson



North Weippe Fixed Wireless Network Deployment Schedule

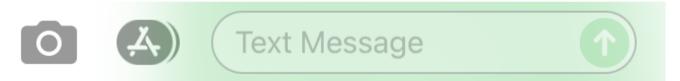
Activity	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible Party
Order Backhaul	8/3/2021	8/7/2021	Infrastructure Team
Order Routers	8/3/2021	8/7/2021	Routing Team
Fiber backhaul installation	8/3/2021	9/30/2021	Fatbeam
Backhaul equipment provisioning	10/1/2021	10/10/2021	Infrastructure Team
Router Provisioning	10/1/2021	10/10/2021	Routing Team
CBRS eNode Provisioning	10/1/2021	10/15/2021	Routing Team
CBRS Site installation	10/15/2021	10/31/2021	Infrastructure Team
Network testing	11/1/2021	11/15/2021	Product & Services Team
End User installation	11/15/2021	12/15/2021	Inland Cellular Technicians



This is our reality this evening. Can't believe it works at all. I can't understand why download is so much worse than upload.

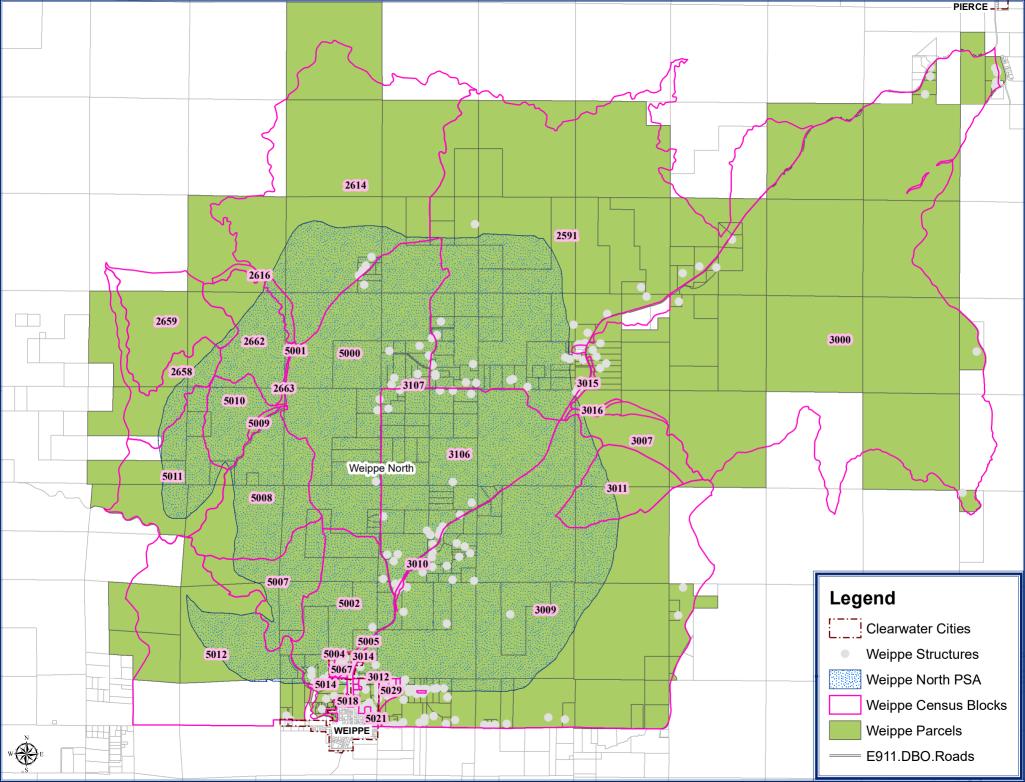
Thank you, David Thomson <u>59</u> Bighorn Dr., Weippe, Idaho.

Yesterday 9:39 AM



Budget Item	Cost	1
Fiber to Weippe Tower	\$145,433	Fiber backhaul connection to
Weippe Tower Nokia SAS-MXP	\$2,000	Router to support backhaul s
Cambium CBRS eNodes	\$21,000	3 sector eNodes to enable en
Backhaul installation	\$12,000	Labor cost associated with in
Total Broadband System	\$180,433	

Description	
> Weippe tower	
ervices	
d user connectivity	
nfrastructure installation	



Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Carrie Bird
Applicant ID	APP-004817
Company Name	Clearwater County
Recipient Address	Clearwater County Court House 150 Michigan Ave Orofino, ID 83544
Phone	(208) 476-5615
Email	cbird@clearwatercounty.org
Amount Requested	\$394,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Fraser Prairie Fixed Wireless

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Clearwater County Rick Winkel, Chairman PO Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 208-476-3615 commissioners@clearwatercounty.org **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Rural Clearwater County- Fraser Prairie Census Blocks: 16035 Tract 9701 Blocks: 3026, 3075, 3074, 3028, 3027, 3034, 3030; Tract 9400 Blocks 5084, 5087, 5086

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Chris St Germaine Director Economic Development cstgermaine@clearwatercounty.org 208-476-9829

Project Requirements

2. Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

\checkmark	Yes	

No

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

No

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

The project will deploy a robust fixed wireless broadband connectivity option for residents and businesses, in a rural, unincorporated area of Clearwater County. The proposed service area covers a sparsely populated swath of Clearwater County where copper telephone line and/or satellite are the only connectivity option. The project will provide up to 50/5 Mbps connectivity options to a currently drastically underserved area. There are three known fixed wireless providers who are capable of constructing this broadband network: Air Bridge; Emerge Technologies and First Step Internet.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced residents and students home for work and school as places of business and school facilities were closed. Residents' connectivity options were severely overloaded, and the students fell behind. According to our school district technology coordinator, for many students connectivity is an obstacle. Students at unconnected homes have a significant disadvantage to their connected peers who, have the world's knowledge within their reach. With connectivity, students can go far beyond their local environment to explore and learn. Additionally, enhancing connectivity will facilitate individuals' access to health care. The Clearwater Valley Hospital group has during COVID bolstered its telehealth delivery capacity, but access to it depends on the end user connectivity capacity. The proposed robust fixed

wireless broadband network will facilitate enhanced connectivity for folks living and working from the Fraser Prairie, Clearwater County.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

The current communications infrastructure serving parts of the Proposed Service Area (PSA) is very old copper. The low density and very high-cost infrastructure deployment in this very rural area of the county has been a challenge. CARES Act funding offers this project economic feasibility. The proposed robust fixed wireless deployment effort will provide the ability for residents to access the internet at speeds capable of teleworking, remote learning, accessing telemedicine and, enable access to the vast informational resources and entertainment provided today across the World Wide Web. Youth living in the PSA will gain access to the world through the enhanced connectivity.

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

The proposed project to deploy a fixed wireless broadband network meets the CARES Act criteria by: Being a broadband infrastructure (fixed wireless) investment; Through enabling connectivity at speeds up to 50/5 Mbps; Facilitating greatly enhanced access to telework, telemedicine, distance learning and public safety; and, providing service in a currently unserved area.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

V	Yes
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No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

The PSA covers sparsely populated areas of Clearwater County which, to date, has not been served due to low density and high cost of construction.

The project will build onto existing fixed wireless infrastructure within range of the PSA; each of the perspective providers has a backhaul connection accessible to new sites proposed to be constructed within the PSA. With access to three providers of fixed wireless, Clearwater County anticipates a competitive response to request for proposals that will result in a competitively priced and robust network build.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

In the RFP, the County will establish scoring criteria that give preference to providers who are willing to come to the project with match.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

394000.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

131

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

3007

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

the following are advertised speed tier maximums: AirBridge 100/20 Emerge Technologies 50/5 First Step Internet 8/4

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

New tower sites will need to secure conditional use permits. Clearwater County Planning & Zoning will expedite the process as much as possible.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

Clearwater County will vet the known providers capacity and proposed deliverable in a competitive offering in accordance with Idaho Code. The private for profit providers will own, operate and maintain the constructed fixed wireless network.

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Clearwater County Economic Development Director, Chris St Germaine will oversee project administration, be the providers liaison to County, and track the deliverables/accomplishments. Provider upon completion will provide proof of network performance.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

According to the FCC RDOF Phase 1 Results https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/rdof-phase-i-dec-2020/ some of the PSA had been awarded RDOF (Space Ex, Frontier) funds. Attached is a clip from the FCC Phase 1 results map for the PSA. The vast majority of area was awarded to Space Ex.

Although SpaceEx may launch enough satellites for connectivity on the Fraser Prairie we cannot assume the service is affordable. The Space Ex set up fee of \$ 500 and monthly fee \$100. For a low income family the fixed wireless options starting at \$ 40 monthly is more realistic.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

No

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

Not Answered

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Fraser Speed tests.docx (7/15/2021 4:54 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

<u>FraserArea.pdf</u> (7/16/2021 3:14 PM) <u>Fraser GIS files Dropbox link.docx</u> (7/15/2021 5:02 PM) <u>Greer Tower Coverage.kmz</u> (7/10/2021 5:45 PM) <u>Fraser Coverage.kmz</u> (7/10/2021 5:41 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Fraser Budget.xlsx (7/10/2021 5:47 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Schedule-Fraser.xlsx (7/10/2021 5:47 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

County Cert-Fraser.pdf (7/12/2021 4:52 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

Letter of Support JSD171.pdf (7/16/2021 3:54 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

Clwtr County Broadband Plan.docx (7/15/2021 5:05 PM)

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

No Attachments

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Carrie Bird

Question: Type your title.

County Clerk

Question: Type the submission date.

7-15-2021

Broadband Plan – Clearwater County Economic Development

Mission: Leverage all available resources and partnership with providers to build resilient, redundant telecommunications capacity across Clearwater County.

History

In 2003 at the regional Think Like a Region Economic Development Summit the lack of broadband access was deemed the regions' highest concern for community sustainability.

In 2006 Orofino convinced Verizon a fiber backhaul was needed to replace the microwave link that provided all communications within Clearwater County. A 46 strand fiber cable was run from Moscow to Orofino and on up to Weippe.

In 2007, the Clearwater Library District leveraged Idaho Commerce & Labor broadband finds with Gates Foundation funding to work with First Step Internet to build fixed wireless to Weippe. The Elk River Free Library District was awarded USDA Community Connect funds to become the ISP and deployed a fixed wireless mesh network; with backhaul from First Step Internet Elk River was connected. And, a small private ISP, QRO Internet deployed a fixed wireless network in Pierce with a T1 from Frontier.

In 2010 the Nez Perce Tribe secured American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to deploy a Reservation wide fixed wireless network. Clearwater County provided infrastructure (rooftops) and interconnected all county government facilities using the Tribes network.

In 2017 Frontier indicated a plan to run fiber to Pierce to serve the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy (IDYCA). This project never came to fruition.

2019 the Joint School District 171 leveraged E Rate funding to construct a fiber connection from Orofino schools to Timberline k-12 and into Pierce for the IDYCA.

The Strategy

Build partnerships that enable connectivity for all places across Clearwater County.

P.O. Box 586 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone: (208) 476-3615 Fax: (208) 476-8902



Commissioners Rick Winkel, Chair Mike Ryan Vince Frazier

State of Idaho

Clearwater County

The undersigned, Rick Winkel, representing Clearwater County Board of Commissioners, PO Box 586, Orofino, ID 83544, hereby swear (affum) that:

- 1. I am Chairman of the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners and thereby authorized t make these statements.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein and can testify completely thereto.
- The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Criteria <u>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf</u>
- 3.
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions
- b. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

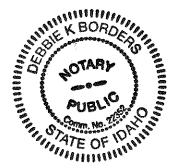
The Clearwater County will contract with a telecommunications provider to build a fixed wireless network with capacity to delivery 100/10 Mbps to each household within the rural unincorporated areas across the Fraser Prairie. \bigcirc

Signature

12July 21 Date

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN before me on this 1/3 day of July, 2021 Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at Utina. Commission expires



Budget Item	Cost	
Fraser tower construction	\$150,000	New tower construction nece
Weippe-Fraser backhaul	\$15,000	Licensed 11Ghz Radio Path
Greer tower construction	\$150,000	New tower construction nec
Greer-Fraser tower backhaul	\$15,000	Licensed 11 GHz Radio path
Fraser tower Nokia SAS-MXP	\$2,000	Router to support backhaul s
Greer tower Nokia SAS-MXP	\$2,000	Router to support backhaul s
Cambium CBRS eNodes	\$25,000	5eNodes to enable end user
Backhaul installation	\$15,000	Labor for backhaul, eNodes
Shelters	\$20,000	Equipment shelter cabinets f
Total Broadband System	\$394,000	

Description

essary for coverage across eastern half of Fraser (500Mbps) essary for coverage across western half of Fraser 1 (500 Mbps) ervices ervices connectivity 3 at Fraser; 2 at Greer that will enable user connectiivty or towers Fraser GIS files

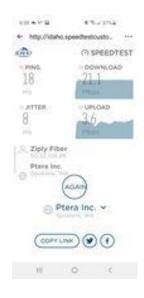
https://www.dropbox.com/t/IbiwP7jZrvW8abBB

Fraser Speed tests reported

Supak Mill Rd

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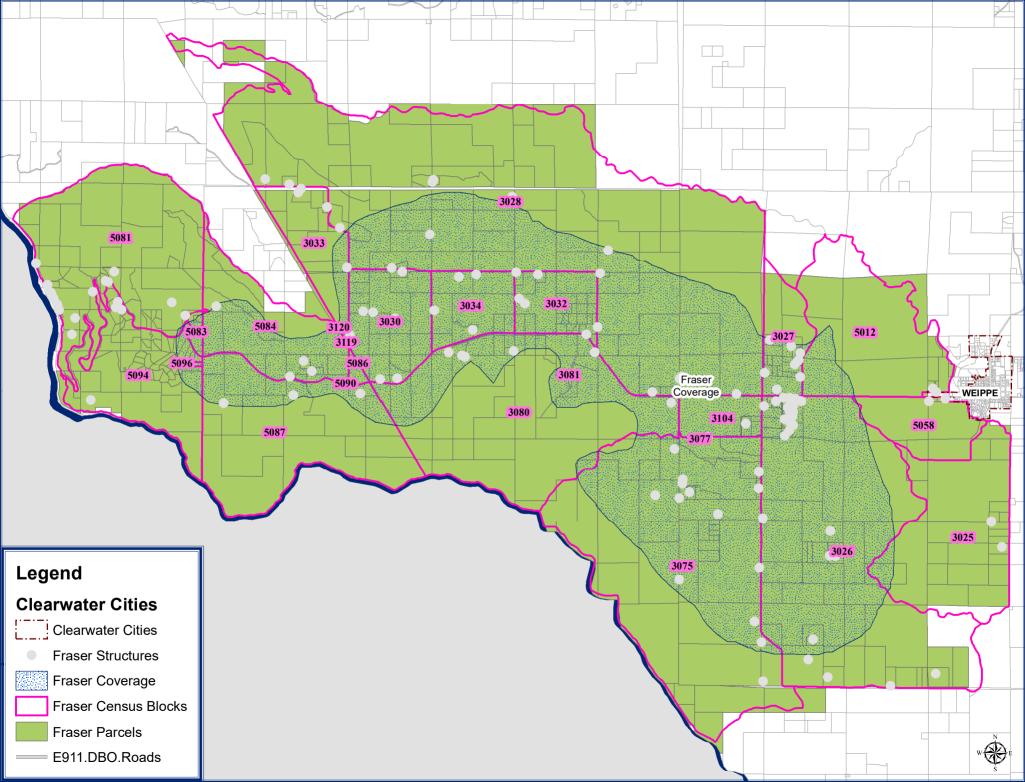
Cox Three Mile Rd



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JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 171 1051 Michigan Ave. P.O. Box 2259 Orofino, ID 83544 Phone (208)476-5593 Fax (208)476-7293 Orofino Elementary School, Orofino Jr/Sr High, Timberline School; Cavendish Elementary, Peck Elementary, Idaho Youth Challenge Academy

07/15/2021

ID CAREA Act Broadband;

Joint School District 171 supports the Clearwater County Commissioners' effort to expand broadband access across rural Clearwater County. During the 2020 pandemic, broadband access became a critical infrastructure and for the majority of rural County residents the lack of access brought challenges. The lack of access to broadband affected students' ability to do school work, employees struggled to stay connected and functional at work and those needing access to healthcare without connectivity were in some cases left with limited options.

I know firsthand that internet access is critical to the success of our students and communities. In my choice of residency, I have limited internet access which can be very frustrating and delay the relaying of critical information to our community patrons.

During the 2020 spring COVID shutdown, our district experienced a great deal of learning loss with our students due to lack of connectivity and internet reliability. I am certain there would have been a more positive outcome if our county and region had better infrastructure.

As a district, we are learning to overcome some of the challenges associated with unreliable internet connectivity. The reality is that we shouldn't have to make the sacrifices just because we live in a rural area.

We appreciate your support of rural growth.

If you have any questions or would need further information please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael C. Garrett

Dr. Michael C. Garrett Superintendent, JSD171 North Weippe Fixed Wireless Network Deployment Schedule

Activity	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible Party
Order Backhaul	8/3/2021	8/7/2021	Infrastructure Team
Order Routers	8/3/2021	8/7/2021	Routing Team
Construct Towers	8/3/2021	10/15/2021	Infrastructure Team
Backhaul equipment provisioning	10/1/2021	10/10/2021	Infrastructure Team
Router Provisioning	10/1/2021	10/10/2021	Routing Team
CBRS eNode Provisioning	10/1/2021	10/10/2021	Routing Team
Equipment Cabinets installation	10/15/2021	10/30/2021	Infrastructure Team
Electric Utility Connections	9/15/2021	9/30/2021	Contractor/Utility Co
Backhaul path installation	10/15/2021	10/31/2021	Infrastructure Team
CBRS Site installation	10/15/2021	10/31/2021	Infrastructure Team
Network testing	11/1/2021	11/15/2021	Product & Services Team
End User installation	11/15/2021	12/15/2021	Inland Cellular Technicians

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Christina Mangiapani
Applicant ID	APP-004825
Company Name	Latah County
Recipient Address	Latah County Latah County Courthouse 522 S Adams Moscow, ID 83843
Phone	(208) 310-0547
Email	grants@latah.id.us
Amount Requested	\$301,990.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Jones Road Residents

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Kathie LaFortune, Dave McGraw, Tom Lamar Latah County Board of County Commissioners 522 S Adams Moscow, ID 83843 bocc@latah.id.us 208-883-7208 **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Unincorporated community residents along Jones Rd. between Genesee and Juliaetta in census blocks 160570057003001 and 1605700570003041 in Latah County.

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Christina Mangiapani Grant Writer grants@latah.id.us 208-310-0547

Project Requirements

2. Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

\checkmark	Yes
	No

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

The Genesee Joint School District 282 and the Kendrick Joint School District 283 employ three essential, public employees that live along Jones Road (census block 160570057003001 and 1605700570003041) nine miles equidistant between the communities of Genesee and Juliaetta, Idaho in rural Latah County. One employee is Kendrick School District's technology director. The other two employees are certified educators that each work for one of the two school districts. Their ability to communicate from home to students and district personnel are critical to distance learning.

Ziply Fiber, an internet service provider (ISP), has a fiber line that runs along the Genesee-Juliaetta Road; but, the residents along the road are not connected to it. The only accessible broadband is satellite and service that does not provide dependable service of speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload.

The project scope of work includes the installation of approximately one mile of fiber and connecting equipment to four households.

Scope of Work:

- (1) Placement of a handhole at Jones Road and Genesee-Juliaetta Road
- (2) Place a hub with remote cascaded splitter
- (3) Placement of distribution fiber to homes along the route (10,000 feet)
- (4) Placement of a service fiber drop to homes

Once the fiber is installed and the system is operational, ISPs that could provide the proposed service include any and all that service the area, such as Inland Networks, TDS, First Step, Ziply, etc. However, because Ziply owns the fiber along the Genesee-Juliaetta Road, they can restrict any other service provider from building out and providing service on Jones Rd.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

For six years, residents have actively searched for a solution to their broadband needs. With the impact of COVID-19 on the school districts, it is imperative that this weakness in broadband capacity be addressed.

Even in 'normal' times, staff are expected to have connectivity at home in order to fully execute their job responsibilities. Specifically, our Technology Director is asked to monitor and troubleshoot technology issues that are occurring in the school district 24 hours a day. The school district regularly faces technology issued during 'off' hours where time can be critical.

With the pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these three school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes... If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services to not only employees of the district but also to students.

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

It is currently impossible to give educational access equity for learning to Kendrick and Genesee students living in this unincorporated community compared to other areas of Latah County, and it is impossible for public employees to perform their essential job duties from home without terrestrial broadband. The ability for multiple students and critical school district staff to have this capacity is hindered only by the the cost and funds necessary to bring fiber to these households.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

Yes

🗌 No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

Despite having a fiber corridor along the Genesee-Juliaetta Rd, the estimated cost to run fiber for 1 mile along Jones Rd. to connect to these 4 homes has skyrocketed from \$62,000 in the 2020 application to \$299,000 in this 2021 application. To ensure the most cost-effective solution,

Latah County will solicit bids from ISPs through an RFP process. But it should be noted that the rural residents of Latah County cannot be responsible for creating cost-effective broadband infrastructure — that's the job of the ISPs and/or broadband regulators providing oversight. The Jones Rd. residents would love your support in figuring out how to make this project cost-effective enough to be fundable and completed.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

Not Answered

Question: Estimated total project cost?

301990.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

4

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

\$75,000

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

1Gbps/1Gbps

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

Yes.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

Latah County will solicit bids from ISPs through a Request for Proposals. The winning bid and ISP will own the broadband infrastructure and provide the service.

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

Latah County Commission will work with Kendrick School District Technology Director Dan

Smith to oversee the project. A commissioner will act as the project manager with the Latah Commissioners Office managing the communication and fiscal side of the project. The Latah County Commissioners and Auditor's office will approve any expenditures and the request for funding. Latah County

will use Christina Mangiapani for grant administration. Latah County will meet all pertinent Idaho State Statutes and grant requirements. Latah County will execute a contract with an ISP and work with the ISP to address issues as they arise. Christina will work with Latah County to submit required reports and the final request of funds. Latah County will

meet with the ISP at the end of the project and visit the premise of each benefitting entity to ensure their broadband service is operational and that contracts for service are in place. The audit will be completed prior to the funding request and final report is complete.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

No

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

No

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

Not Answered

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Speed-Test Jones-Rd.png (7/13/2021 1:45 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

Households-Map.pdf (7/13/2021 2:25 PM)

Ziply-Scope-Cost.pdf (7/13/2021 1:57 PM) Project-Map.pdf (7/13/2021 1:56 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Budget.pdf (7/13/2021 2:06 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Project-Schedule.pdf (7/13/2021 2:09 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

<u>Certification.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 4:12 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

Support-Letters 1.pdf (7/13/2021 2:09 PM)

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

Support-Letters 2.pdf (7/13/2021 2:09 PM)

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

No Attachments

Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

<u>NTIA-Needs-Map.png</u> (7/13/2021 2:24 PM) <u>Fiber-Availability.pdf</u> (7/13/2021 2:24 PM)

Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.

Christina Mangiapani

Question: Type your title.

Grant Writer

Question: Type the submission date.

7/14/2021

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Item	Grant Dollars	Total
Project Cost	\$299,000	\$299,000
Grant Admin	\$2,990	\$2,990
Total	\$301,990	\$301,990

(Ziply would not respond to requests for a line item budget)

Latah County BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



P.O. Box 8068 + 522 South Adams + Moscow, Idaho 83843 (208) 883-7208 + fax (208) 883-2280 + e-mail bocc@latah.id.us Kathie LaFortune + Thomas C. Lamar + David McGraw

> State of Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act Certification

STATE OF IDAHO COUNTY OF LATAH

The undersigned, Kathie LaFortune, representing Latah County, hereby swear (affirm) that:

- 1. I am a Commissioner of Latah County and thereby authorized to make these statements.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein, and can testify completely thereto.
- The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce that the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Further guidance can be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.
 - Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
 - Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

If funded, Latah County will ensure that only eligible costs under the CARES Act will be incurred and that the tracking and reporting of those costs will be in line with CARES Act guidance and requirements.

Kathy Laters

Signature

Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 14 day of

Notary Public for Idaho

JENNIFER PIPER COMM. #20211098 NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF IDAHO

Residing at 522 Commission expires

7/14/21

Sincerely,

Chair

Kathe Later Kathie LaFortune

Tomlamar (vis Kathin) Thomas C. Lamar

Commissioner

David McGraw Commissioner

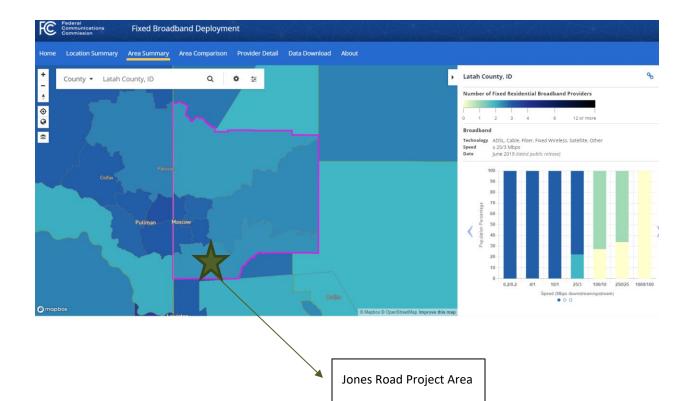
2 por Date: 7 14 21 Attest: Clerk/Deput

LATAH COUNTY – JONES ROAD FIBER PROJECT BROADBAND INSUFFICIENT AVAILABILITY OF BROADBAND SERVICE (25/3MBPS)

STATE OF IDAHO BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM - HOUSEHOLD

Here are some testimonies provided by residents:

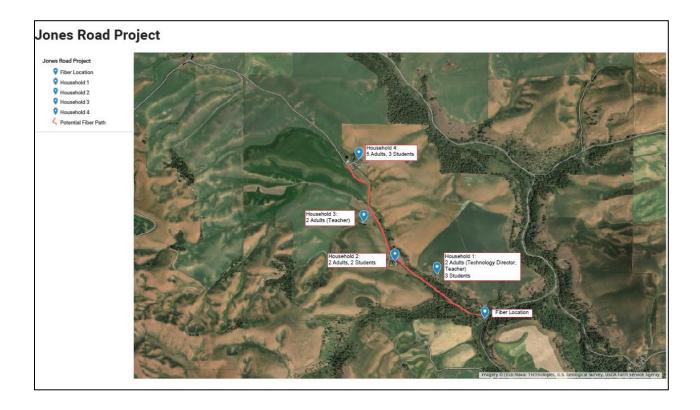
- 1. Dan Smith: "It took me 30 minutes to download a 120M file today." (July 13, 2020)
- 2. Kayla Brown: "In seven years we've had two telecommunication system provider options. Both of these options are satellite internet only providers that have proven to be very costly (\$90-\$100/month for internet only/no bundle), unreliable (internet fails during peak hours), and slow (speeds that are marketed at 5 mbps are actually 500 kbprs-1 mbps)."



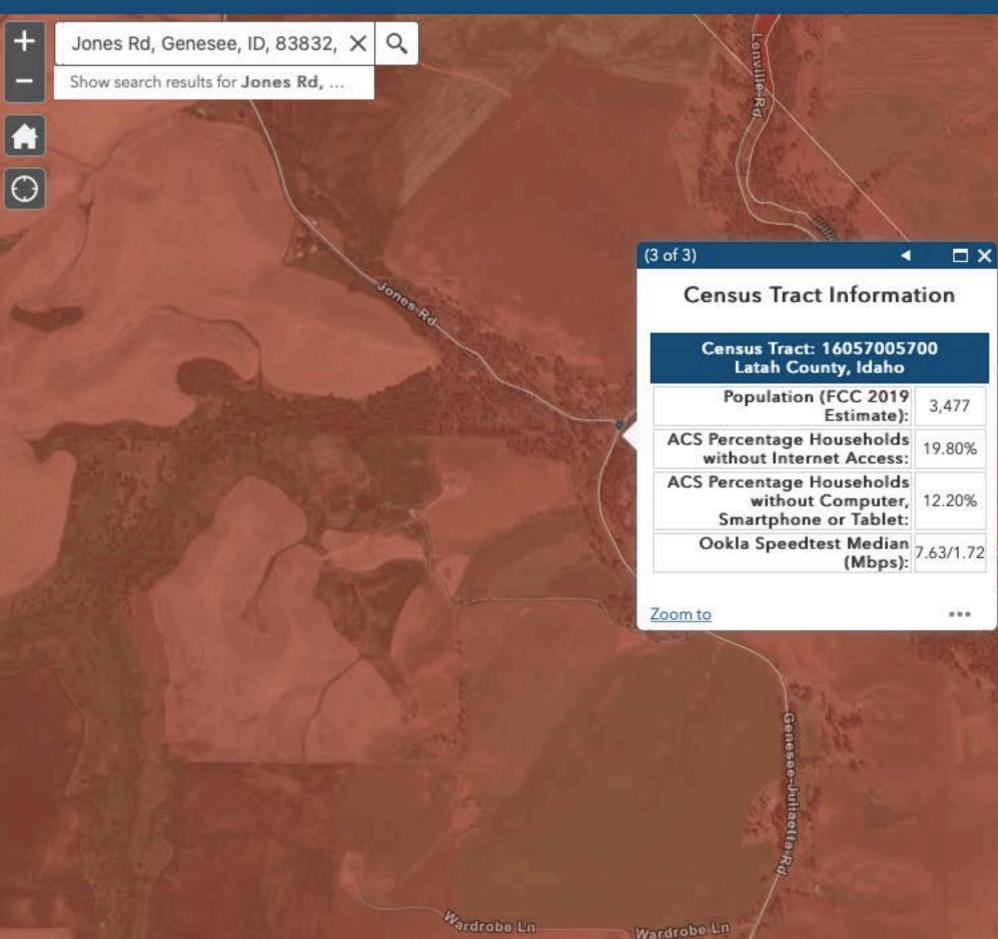
LATAH COUNTY – JONES ROAD FIBER PROJECT BROADBAND HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

STATE OF IDAHO BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM - HOUSEHOLD

Each household will receive 1Gpbs of service with fiber.



enesee-Juliaella Ro



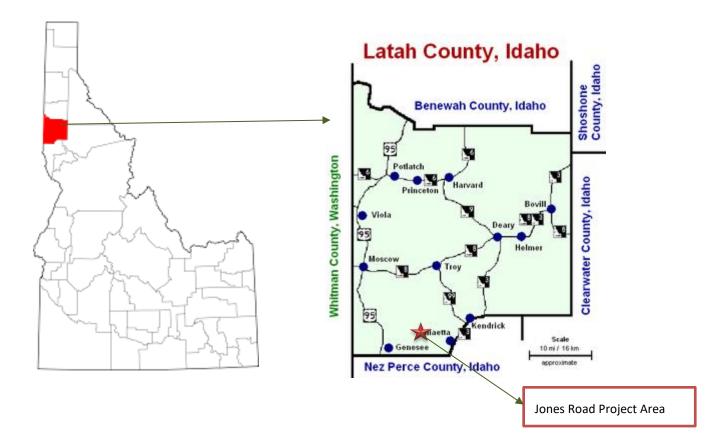
Wardrobe Ln

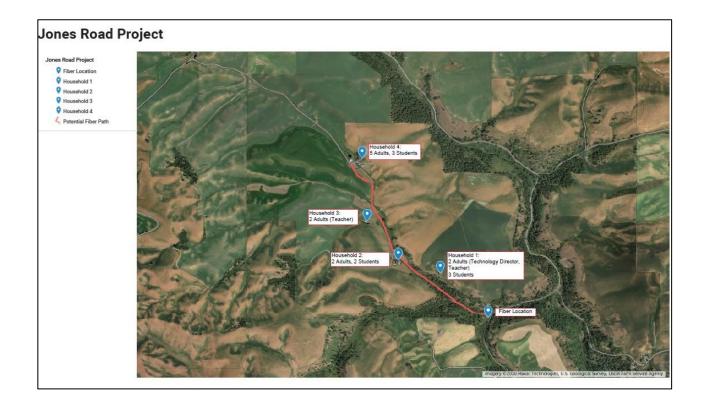
LATAH COUNTY – JONES ROAD FIBER PROJECT BROADBAND PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

STATE OF IDAHO BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM - HOUSEHOLD

Latah County seeks funding from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program to address unserved households and to support the needs of the Genesee School District and the Kendrick School District.

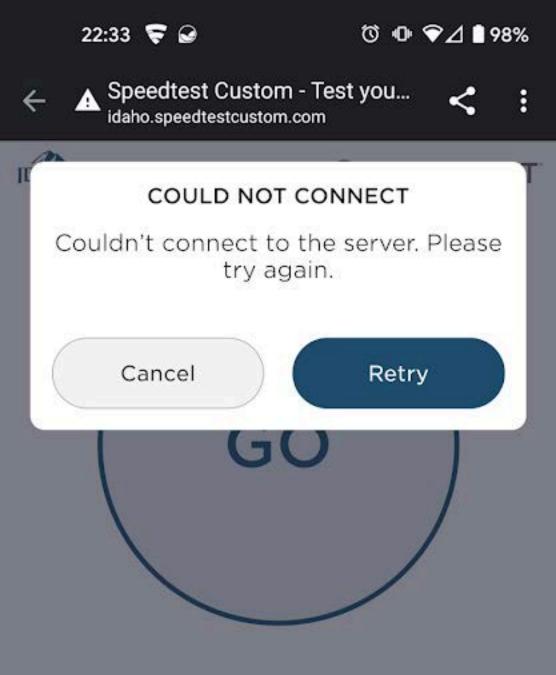
The four residences are located along Jones road approximately 9 miles equidistant between Genesee and Juliaetta, Idaho. Census Block Numbers for Jones Road:160570057003011 and 160570057003041.





Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date
Planning	ISP	8/3/2021	8/14/2021
Engineering Design	ISP	8/3/2021	9/3/2021
Site Walk	ISP	8/14/2021	9/3/2021
Order Materials	ISP	8/24/2021	9/17/2021
Permitting	ISP	9/3/2021	9/30/2021
Construction & Install	ISP	10/1/2021	12/1/2021
Audit	Latah County	12/1/2021	12/8/2021
Closeout	Latah County	12/8/2021	12/15/2021



Finding Optimal Server...

July 10, 2020

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant – CARES Act Resident Letter of Support

Dear Director Kealey:

As residents of 1101 Jones Road, Genesee, Idaho, both my husband Kyle and I (Kayla) Brown whole heartedly support the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project directly serves a non-incorporated community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. My husband and I have been grateful to be a part of that community for the past seven years. In those seven years we've had two telecommunication system provider options. Both of these options are satellite internet only providers that have proven to be very costly (\$90-\$110/month for internet only/no bundle), unreliable (internet fails during peak hours), and slow (speeds that are marketed at 5 mbps are actually 500 kbps-1 mbps).

I've directly researched and spoken with all local internet providers and no provider can provide us with service other than these satellite options. I've inquired to the Latah County Commissioner liaison for the State of Idaho Federal Communication Commission (FCC) about supporting a grant application for our part of rural Idaho and was told that one internet provider indicates that they can serve all of Latah County adequately and until this claim is accurately reported to the FCC that we may never get supported for a grant application. I've also directly spoken to the nearest owner of a fiber system that is less than ¼ mile away to see if there could be any drops made in that system and received feedback that a secondary conduit was not installed during trenching efforts from Genesee to Orofino and that the primary fiber line cannot be spliced for a residential drop. I'm sincerely hoping this effort is successful considering the wind has left my sails a few times during these efforts over the last 7 years.

Reliable internet is critical to my family for our ability to work from home, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am the Area Manager for J-U-B Engineers, Inc. Clarkston, Washington office and a civil engineer managing transportation projects. My ability to communicate with my staff of nine employees as well as additional communication with our 17 offices is critical to my job. I have two young sons. One who attends Genesee School District and who needs to be able to have internet access for school. The other is only two years away from attending school. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services.

If an improved broadband service is made available to us, we will use this service. Thank you for considering the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely,

Kayla Brown

Kayla and Kyle Brown Residents of 1101 Jones Road, Genesee, Idaho July 13th, 2020

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant – CARES Act

Dear Director Kealey:

Howard and Mary Jones support the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project directly serves a non-incorporated community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. For six years, residents have attempted find a telecommunication system that could provide affordable and reliable service. Critical to their needs is that three of the residents are employees of two school districts in Latah County. Two are education and the other is the technology director for the Kendrick schools. With the COVID-19 pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these three school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes.

This project addresses important capacity issues for the Kendrick Joint School District 283 and the Genesee Joint School District 282. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services.

We support this project because we have three grandchildren who are students in the Genesee School District that live with us who need reliable broadband access. We also are business owners, and as members of the Idaho Grain Growers Association and the Western Pulse Growers Association, access to broadband is now essential. Howard is also a Road District Commissioner for the South Latah Highway District and access would help him better serve his community.

If an approved broadband service was made available to use, we would use that service. Thank you for considering the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely,

Howard & Mary Jones

Residents of 1204 Jones Road

July 7th, 2020

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant – CARES Act

Dear Director Kealey:

Dan and Marianna Smith support the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project directly serves a non-incorporated community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. For six years, residents have attempted to find a telecommunication system that could provide affordable and reliable service. Critical to their needs is that three of the residents are employees of two school districts in Latah County. Two are education and the other is the technology director for the Kendrick schools. With the COVID-19 pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these three school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes.

This project addresses important capacity issues for the Kendrick Joint School District 283 and the Genesee Joint School District 282. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services. Dan is the Technology Director for the Kendrick Joint School District and Marianna is a K-12 teacher for the Genesee School District.

Our location has no access to broadband terrestrial Internet access due to the distance from Genesee, no cellular coverage, and no access to microwave options due to geography. The only option that we have is satellite Internet access which due to dramatically increased usage during the shutdown, made use impossible.

During the shutdown, because of these challenges, it was not possible for Marianna to teach her students remotely, our children were unable to attend virtual class meetings or get their assigned digital work completed, and Dan is unable to support the technology functions of his District remotely. Our children had to drive 40 minutes round trip and park in a car outside the school with their devices to try and get their assignments completed. This was also the case with many other students in our area.

Thank you for considering the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely,

Dan Smith Technology Director Kendrick Joint School District #283 Marianna Smith Teacher Genesee School District #282 July 9, 2020

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant – CARES Act

Dear Director Kealey:

We, Kyle and Donna Wommack, support the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project directly serves a non-incorporated community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. For six years, residents have attempted to find a telecommunication system that could provide affordable and reliable service. Critical to their needs is that four of the residents are employees of two school districts in Latah County. Two are education and one is a bus driver for Genesee School, and the other is the technology director for the Kendrick schools. With the COVID-19 pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes.

This project addresses important capacity issues for the Kendrick Joint School District 283 and the Genesee Joint School District 282. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services.

In particular, Donna is the fourth grade teacher and math specialist for grades 3, 4, and 5 for the Genesee School District. Our only access to the Internet is via satellite, and its capability is very limited. During the soft closure this spring, she had to travel nine miles to Genesee or 15 miles to Moscow in order to prepare lessons, communicate with students and families, and attend virtual meetings. Kyle also traveled to the Genesee bus garage to complete online training and keep up to date with current school information. It is critical that we are able to engage in live conversations with our students, families, and fellow colleagues in order to maintain crucial relationships, be informed on the most current information, and gain the knowledge needed to teach and learn in these uncertain times. We are passionate about providing quality education and are incredibly grateful for the technology that allows us to share information virtually. Driving from our rural location to a source of reliable service is unsustainable for a long duration. If an approved broadband service is made available to use, we would use that service.

Thank you very much for your consideration of the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely,

Nyhwommal Donna Wommach

Kyle and Donna Wommack, Homeowners Genesee School District Employees 1151 Jones Road <u>dwommack@sd282.org</u> 208.669.1262

Genesee Joint School District No. 282

P.O. Box 98 • Genesee, Idaho 83832 Phone (208) 285-1161 FAX (208) 285-1495

July 10, 2020

Trustees:

Kim Johnson Jim Hermann

Jennifer Parkins

Harlan Zenner

Superintendent: Wendy J. Moore

Principal: Kelly Caldwell

Counselor: Jon Scripter

Lezah Shinkle

Clerk:

Alan Krick

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant – CARES Act

Dear Director Kealey,

The Genesee Joint School District would like to extend its support the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project would serve a community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. For numerous years, residents in this area have attempted find a telecommunication system that could provide affordable and reliable service. Unfortunately, we are still struggling to obtain this basic service.

Residents of this specific area are currently employees of two school districts located in Latah and Nez Perce Counties. Two are certificated teachers and the other is the technology director for the Kendrick schools. All considered "essential" employees. With the COVID-19 pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these three school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes. This project addresses important capacity issues for both the Genesee Joint School District #282 and Kendrick Joint School District #283. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services to not only employees of the district, but to students as well.

In closing, we support this project because we believe that we will continue to see the need to educate students at home due to health concerns and it will be even more critical for teachers to be able to provide this service. This is an issue of equity in many different areas. Access to quality, stable internet is critical for staff and students to continue to provide the quality educational services that our students deserve during this critical time.

Thank you for considering the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely, Wendy Moore

Dr. Wendy Moore, Superintendent Genesee Joint Schools, Genesee ID

Kendrick Joint School District No. 283

P.O. Box 283

Kendrick. Idaho 83537-9701

Trustees Steven McDowell Shelby Silflow 2 Chad Heimgartner 3 Mark Feldman 4 5 Don Parks, Chair

Steve Kirkland, Superintendent Kim Taylor, Treasurer Amy Koopman, Clerk

July 10, 2020

Director Tom Kealey Idaho Department of Commerce 700 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

Re: Latah County – Jones Road Project State of Idaho Broadband Grant - CARES Act

Zone

1

Dear Director Kealey:

The Kendrick Joint School District supports the County of Latah's application for funding from the Idaho Broadband Grant program. This project directly serves a non-incorporated community of homes that are located along Jones Road between Genesee and Kendrick, Idaho. For six years, residents have attempted find a telecommunication system that could provide affordable and reliable service. Critical to their needs is that three of the residents are employees of two school districts in Latah County. Two are education and the other is the technology director for the Kendrick schools. With the COVID-19 pandemic, both school districts have been offering online courses and expect to continue this method of educational delivery. It is nearly impossible for these three school employees to assist students and district personnel from their homes.

This project addresses important capacity issues for the Kendrick Joint School District 283 and the Genesee Joint School District 282. If funded, this project will provide critical infrastructure and broadband services.

In particular, we support this project because connectivity is the greatest challenge facing our school district, especially in this time where staff and students are being asked to work from home in isolation. Even in "normal" times, staff are expected to have connectivity at home in order to fully execute their job responsibilities. Specifically, our Technology Director is asked to monitor and troubleshoot technology issues that are occurring in the school district 24 hours a day. The school district regularly faces technology issues during "off" hours where time can be critical. This project would help support our efforts in maintaining a technology infrastructure that allows staff and students to utilize the tools we give them.

Thank you for considering the Latah County Jones Road application.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Kirkland

Steve Kirkland, Superintendent Kendrick Joint School District #283

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Match

Community: County of Latah - Jones Road

Contributor name (& title): Christine Frei, Executive Director

Agency/Business: CEDA

DESCRIPTION OF DONATION:

Date: July 14, 2020

Grant Administration services.

Total Amount Contributed to Project \$620

I hereby certify that the above listed contributions have been made in the amount (s) shown.

Tree Sul

Contributor Signature

7/14/2020



06/25/2021

Dan Smith 1080 Jones Rd Genesee ID 83832

Re: Fiber to the location deployment on Jones Road in Genesee Idaho

Dear Mr. Smith,

This is in response to your request for Ziply Fiber to perform the following work: fiber extension to your home located at 1080 Jones Road, Genesee, ID. This project has several complexities and will require a substantial amount of network infrastructure to be installed. The following are high level details of the necessary network upgrades to bring fiber service to your home:

- Placement of a handhole at Jones Road and Genesee-Juliaetta Road
- Place a hub with remote cascaded splitter
- Placement of distribution fiber to homes along the route (10,000 feet)
- Placement of a service fiber drop to your home

We have estimated the cost of this work effort will be:	\$	299,000.00
Less Deposit:	<u>\$</u>	00.00
Balance due Ziply Fiber:	\$	299,000.00

This is the amount of the advance payment that you will be required to make. You must return this signed agreement, along with the full advance payment, before your work will be scheduled.

If you agree to these terms, please sign below and forward this signed letter of agreement with a check for **\$299,000** made payable to **Ziply Fiber** and noted with **project # 50172-5507734** to:

Ziply Fiber Attn: Shelley Haugstad 1800 41st ST, N-100 Engineering Dept 2OS Everett, WA 98203

For your convenience and use, we have enclosed a self-addressed envelope. If you are signing for a company or other entity, then by signing below, you warrant that you are authorized to bind the company or entity to the terms of this letter agreement.

Upon receipt of your signed agreement and advance payment, your work order will be released to our Construction Department for scheduling.

Ziply Fiber shall not be responsible to the extent its performance is delayed or prevented due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to acts of God or the public enemy, terrorism, civil commotion, embargo, acts of government, any law, order, ordinance, regulation,



or requirement of any government, fires, explosions, weather, quarantine, strikes, labor disputes, lockouts, and other causes beyond the reasonable control of Ziply Fiber.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding these terms, please contact me at (208) 755-7394.

Please be advised that the price estimate quoted above is valid for sixty (60) days from the date of this letter. If this work request is cancelled after you have signed the agreement, you will be billed for any Engineering and Construction cost incurred after the date of signature that may include the cost to place and/or remove facilities.

If we do not receive this signed agreement and your full advance payment within this sixty (60) day period, we will assume that you do not want the work to be undertaken and the project will be **cancelled**.

Sincerely,

Brent Mulford, OSP Engineer

I agree to the terms of this agreement:

Accepted (Signature):		
Print Name & Title:		
Company:	 	
Billing Address:	 	
Telephone #:	 	
Date:		



Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Anthony Broncheau
Applicant ID	APP-004845
Company Name	Nez Perce Tribe
Recipient Address	Nez Perce Tribe 17500 Nez Perce Rd Lewiston, ID 83501
Phone	(208) 621-3832
Email	anthonyb@nezperce.org
Amount Requested	\$317,204.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	

Application Title: Nez Perce Tribe Broadband Expansion

Applicant Information

NOTICE: Grant applications, challenges, and responses to challenges will be posted to the Idaho Department of Commerce website

1.Program Description

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board is soliciting projects that meet the CARES Act funding criteria for the \$10 million appropriated to the Idaho Department of Commerce from the Federal COVID Relief Fund. These funds may only be expended to provide financial assistance in broadband infrastructure consistent with CARES Act criteria. The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board seeks to fund broadband projects across the state that are necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency, and may include assisting with or improving distance learning, telehealth, telework, and public safety. This Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant (the "Broadband Grant") is designed to meet the CARES Act criteria, helping Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Question: Applicant's contact information: a. Name b. Title/Position c. Mailing Address d. Email Address e. Phone Number

Danae Wilson, Manager Department of Technology Nez Perce Tribe PO Box 365 Lapwai ID 83540 208-621-3566 **Question:** List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Lapwai, Thunder Hill Road; 9400

Question: Grant Administrator a. Provide the name and title of the designated grant administrator. b. Provide the email address of the designated grant administrator. c. Provide the phone number of the designated grant administrator.

Melissa King, Director melissak@nezperce.org 208-621-3596

Project Requirements

2.Eligible Projects

A. To be eligible for funding under the Broadband Grant, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Projects must satisfy the CARES Act criteria, which is designed to address key areas of public health and safety by improving opportunities to telework, improving access to telehealth services, facilitating distance learning, and improving public safety (CARES Act Federal Register Guidance can be found here. Frequently asked questions can be referenced here.)
- Projects must be necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Projects must expand rural broadband capacity to assist with telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety. Projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for telework, telehealth, distance learning, and public safety have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and therefore would not be eligible uses of Broadband Grant funds. Projects must provide broadband service within the proposed project areas.
- Projects must be completed and operable and verified no later than December 31, 2021. **Projects** that are not completed, operable, and verified by December 31, 2021 will not be reimbursed.
- Include broadband infrastructure and equipment costs meeting CARES Act criteria. Satellite service is not eligible for grant award.

Eligible applicants may apply for multiple grants. County governments may apply for grants on behalf of unincorporated communities.

Question: Does your project meet the CARES Act criteria?

☑ Yes

Question: I understand that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 31, 2021.

🗹 Yes

Scored Criteria

Scored Criteria

1. Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide: the broadband service being sought, the required technologies and equipment, and the installation and operation of the new broadband service. (30 Points) a. Scope of Work: outlines the detailed plans of the infrastructure build. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: project area, type of infrastructure installed, locations of underserved households, known existing infrastructure, known existing anchor institutions (schools, hospitals, public facilities, etc.), potential middle-mile infrastructure that will be utilized, and locations of existing infrastructure.

2. Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community? (25 Points)

3. Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future? (20 Points).

4. Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000) (Y/N) (15 Points).

5. Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community (10 Points).

Question: Provide an overview of the project, including why the project is important and how it will address the broadband needs of the community. Include a scope of work description, along with a list of ISPs that can provide the proposed service.

The Nez Perce Tribe has prioritized broadband deployment and understands how critical infrastructure is to all aspects of education, health and welfare. While the Tribe has been able to deploy the existing network over many years adding communities and services as we expand, rural last mile fiber continues to limit capacity and deployment. Communities throughout Idaho are not concentrated in a central town or community but are sprawling beyond city limits which makes the last mile fiber deployment just out of reach for most residents and service provider.

This project will expand upon the Idaho Broadband grant completed with State funding earlier this year. The focus on the last State Grant was to deploy the middle mile connectivity to reach housing clusters. This grant will connect the sprawling homes along the middle mile that were not connected due to single run costs to individual homes. Work and school from home continue to be a significant demand and the ability to provide emergency response and health care connectivity.

Question: Explain how the project will promote equal access in economic development, public safety, telehealth, education, including why current infrastructure is inadequate or negatively impacts the community?

Thunder Hill Road outside of the Lapwai area contains approximately 46 homes. The fiber runs the road length from Lapwai to Spaulding. Along that road are farms and residents with school

age children. For some of these homes, the only service available to them is satellite because of the hillsides there is no line of sight for wireless internet. This project will add four fiber sheds along the path with home connection to each resident.

Question: Explain how your project meets Cares Act Criteria, is necessary for the public health emergency, and mitigates similar disruptions in the future?

While we were constructing the middle mile residents along the road were excited and eager to adopt service. One of these homes has medical equipment and daily automated medical equipment reporting for a household member. Currently these readings are automated and are conducted over what can only be called dialup service. The medical center calls at a specific time each day, the resident connects the live call to the medical equipment and transmission begins. Adjustments to medical care are made based on these calls. If they had broadband these medical readings could be done real time adjusting more frequently to meet the patient needs.

Question: Will this project deliver broadband infrastructure to a rural Idaho population (less than 25,000)?

4	Yes

No

Question: Explain how your project delivers a cost-effective broadband infrastructure solution to the community?

Nez Perce Network Systems is an authorized Emergency Broadband Benefit service provider. Residents that qualify for EBB can selected the Tribe as their provider and get subsidized residential service. Prior to EBB, during the first shelter is place mandates, the Tribe determined that they would not terminate or disconnect residential service due to nonpayment. The Tribe is committed to ensuring broadband access is available for work/school from home and telehealth. We've priced our service for our rural residents and have not based our rates on some national return on investment pricing metrics like the major telecom providers.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

Question: Please detail any project match included to complete this project.

While we are not qualifying any financial match, our investment is project management and deployment in-kind. Our staff will provide all the services necessary to ensure the project is completed in a timely manner to meet the grant deadlines.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

317204.00

Question: Number of households that will be connected to broadband service under the scope of the grant if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

46

Question: What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost if applicable? If not applicable please answer N/A.

Estimated average cost per household is \$6,895.74

Question: What is the maximum broadband speed that will be provided by the project?

120 MBPS; https://nezpercesystems.com/

Question: Are permits, permissions, and zoning requirements all obtainable in order for the project to be completed and paid for by December 31, 2021 if it is a CARES funded project? Please provide details.

This is an extension of a prior project completed this year. We have verified that all current permits and permissions are still valid and we will be able to complete the project by December 31, 2021.

Question: Please describe who will be providing the broadband service and ownership of the broadband infrastructure..

Nez Perce Network Systems is the service provider. The Tribe will retain all ownership of infrastructure and is willing to partner with any agency for emergency service or lease access to any other service provider.

Question: Describe how the project will be administered and audited for completion, and how the accounting will be performed.

The Department of Technology will be project manager and will work with all contractors to ensure completion of the project by the deadline. Speed tests from residents will be provided to qualify service delivery. The Tribes Finance Department will track all expenditures, invoices and checks.

Question: Has your project area received or been awarded any federal funds (CAFII/RDOF/USDA Reconnect) in the past two years, or will it receive federal funding over the next two years? If so, explain why additional funding was/is necessary in the project area?

We have not received any federal funds for this project area.

Question: Has your project area received state funds (Cares Act Broadband Grants, E-Rate, etc.) in the past two years? If so, please explain what state funds were received and why the additional state funding was necessary in the project area.

We did receive ID Cares Act Broadband Grant for fiber connection in the Lapwai area and the middle mile connection along Thunder Hill Road was part of that project. We did not apply for connection to the sprawling homes sites along the road because we were not able to complete the installation in the timeframes allowed. Under this project, we will only be focused on home connections to these sprawling locations and will be able to meet the timelines.

Question: Include any other relevant information as to why your project should be considered for funding.

This project will connect homes otherwise not able to receive broadband service. These homes need connectivity not only for work and school but for telemedicine options that don't currently exist.

Question: Submit 10 or more, recent, fixed location Speed Tests. Applicants can choose which speedtest application to use across the proposed project area (if applicable).

Timothy Holly - Thunder Hill Rd - Speed Tests.PNG (7/15/2021 4:35 PM) Breanne Speas - Thunder Hill Rd - Speed Test.PNG (7/15/2021 4:34 PM) susan kash kash - speedtest.png (7/15/2021 3:54 PM) Gayla Hendren - Thunder Hill Rd. - Speed Test.jpg (7/15/2021 3:54 PM) Billy York2 - speed test for Thunder Hill Rd..PNG (7/15/2021 3:54 PM) 20210715 leosmith.PNG (7/15/2021 3:53 PM) 20210715 franktaylor.PNG (7/15/2021 3:53 PM) 20200910 georgiasobotta.PNG (7/15/2021 3:52 PM) 20200108 natehinesspeed.jpg (7/15/2021 3:52 PM) 20191001 daveCarlinspd.PNG (7/15/2021 3:52 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Project Attachment Templates: <u>CARES Act Certification</u> <u>Grant Budget Template</u> <u>Project Schedule Form</u> <u>Letters of Support/Community match template</u>

Question: Project Area Identification Documentation: Applicant must upload supporting documents identifying the scope of work for the proposed project(s). Applicant must include 1Pdf &1Shape/Kmz map clearly showing the location and details of the proposed project.

<u>Thunder Hill FTTH.pdf</u> (7/14/2021 5:23 PM) <u>Thunder Hill FTTH Houses.kmz</u> (7/14/2021 5:20 PM)

Question: Grant Budget Template: Complete, upload, and attach to the application a completed Grant Budget Template for the project that outlines each of the various costs.

Idaho-Cares-Act-Broadband-Grant-Budget.pdf (7/15/2021 4:03 PM)

Question: Project Schedule Form: Complete, upload, and attach to the application the Project Schedule Form.

Idaho-Cares-Act-Broadband-Grant-Project-Schedule.pdf (7/14/2021 5:24 PM)

Question: CARES Act Certification: Upload and attach to the application a notarized CARES Act Certification that this project meets the CARES Act criteria.

Idaho Cares Act Certification.pdf (7/15/2021 3:50 PM)

Question: Letters of Support: Upload and attach to the application any Letters of Support or Community Match documentation. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Letters of Commitments from Anchor Institutions: Upload and attach to application letters of commitments from community anchor institutions or public safety networks which will utilize your service if the project is funded. (if applicable)

No Attachments

Question: Community Broadband Plan: Upload and attach a copy of your Community Broadband Plan (if applicable).

No Attachments

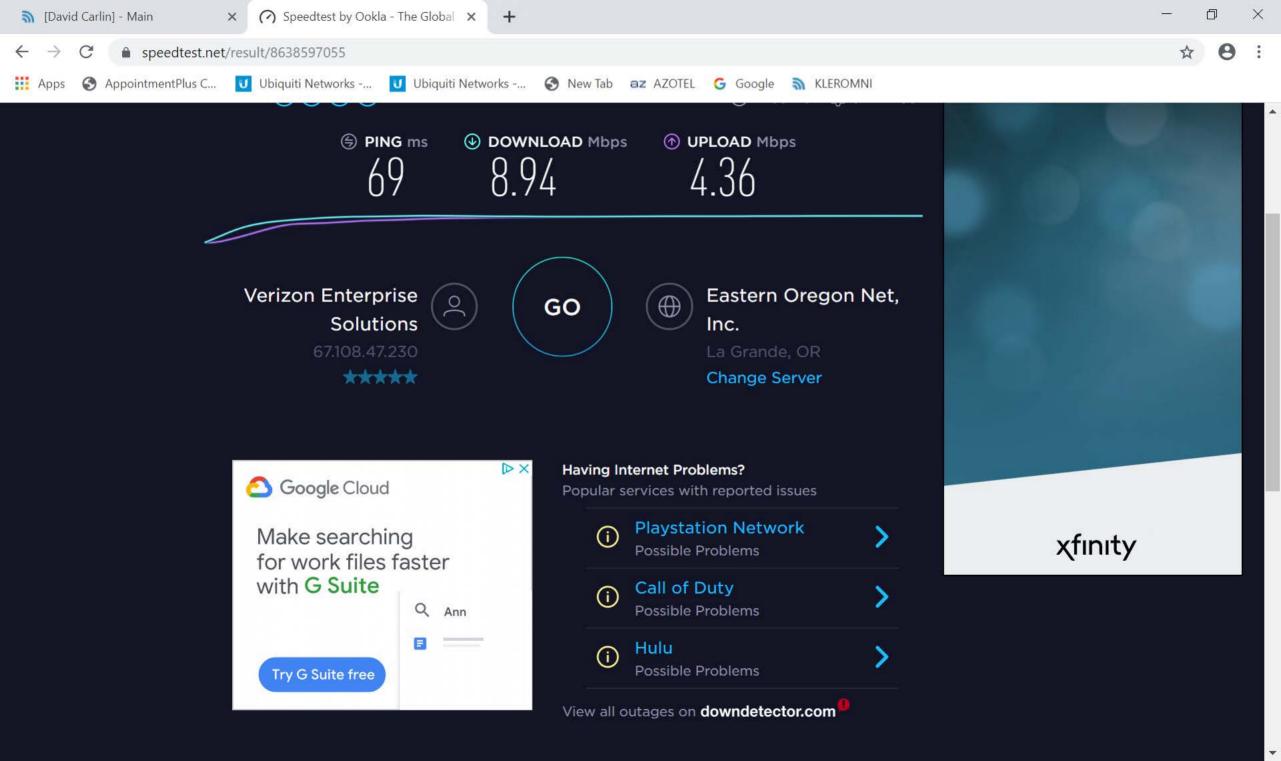
Question: Any applicable Site Plans, studies, or photographs.

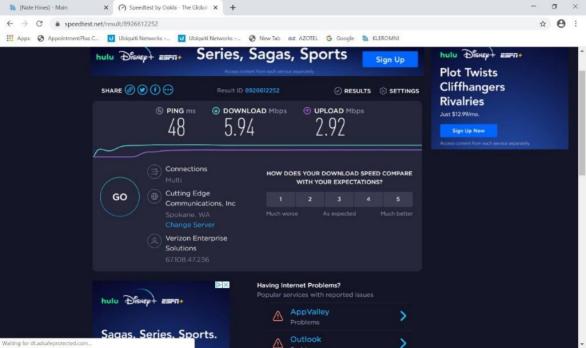
No Attachments

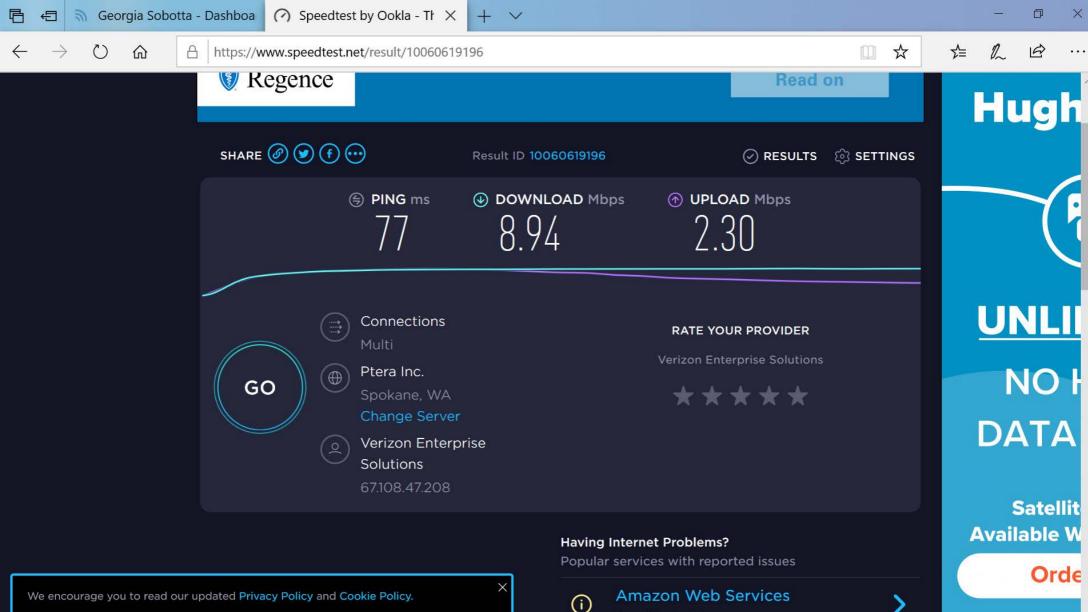
Signature

Your identity has been authenticated through the login process with a unique email address and password available only to you. You agree that by typing your name, title and date below, you are electronically signing the application. By electronically signing the application, you acknowledge and represent that you understand and accept all the terms and conditions stated within the application and declare that the information provided is true and that the documents you are submitting in support of your application are genuine and have not been altered in any way.

Question: Type your name.Danae WilsonQuestion: Type your title.ManagerQuestion: Type the submission date.07/15/2021



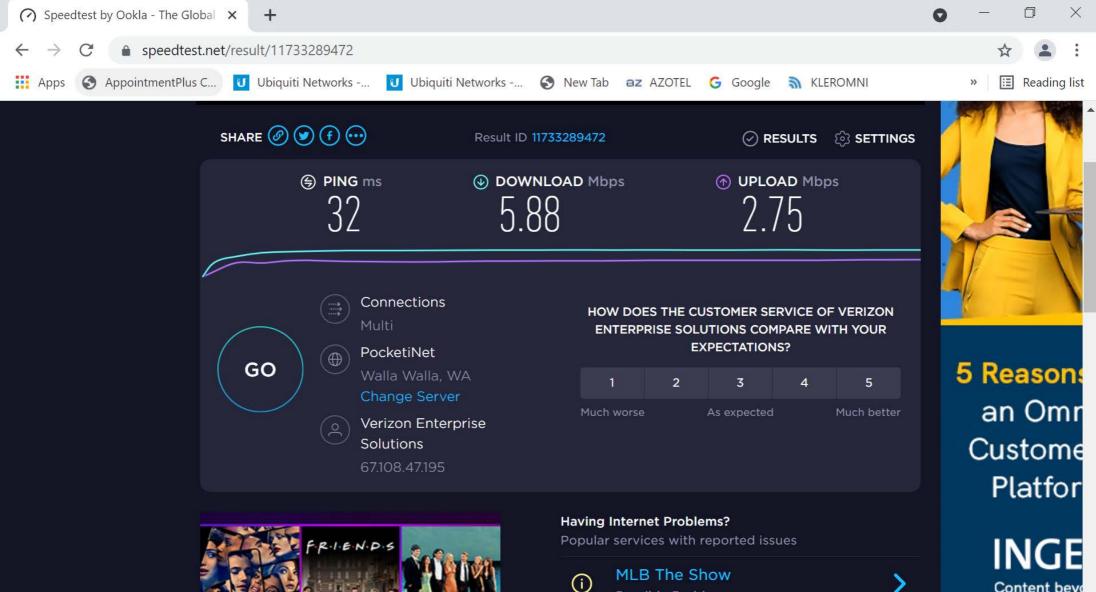




We encourage you to read our updated Privacy Policy and Cookie Policy.

(i)**Possible Problems**





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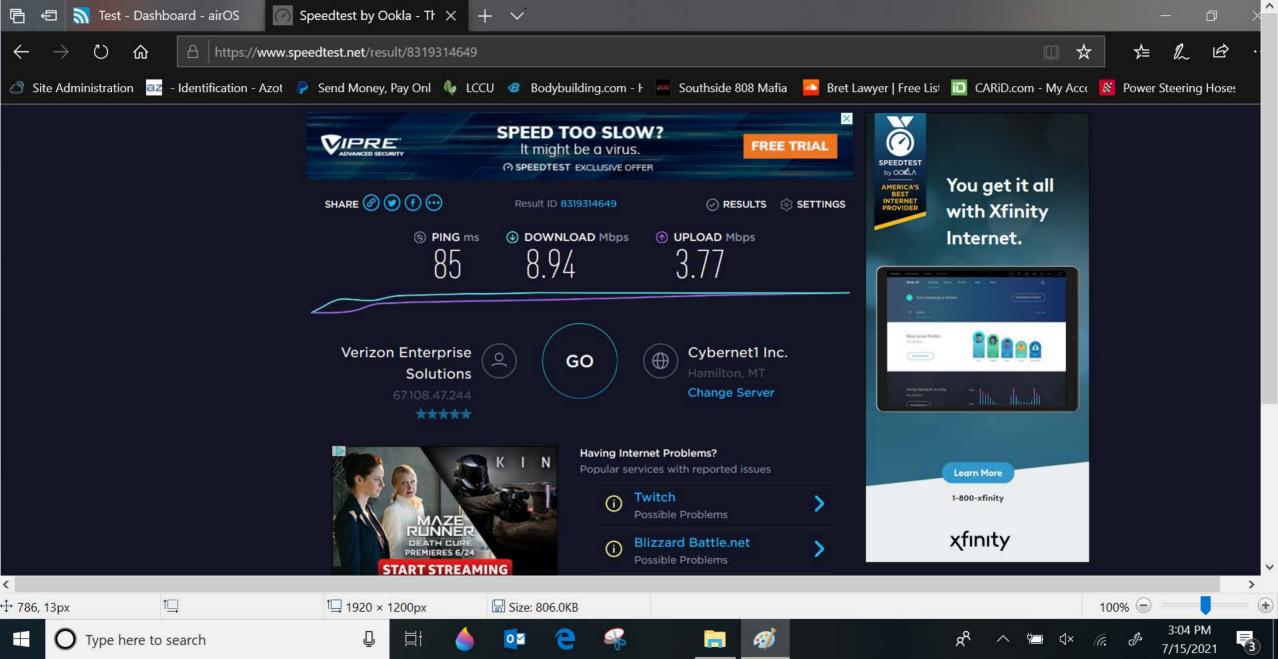
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State of Idaho Broadband Grant **CARES Act Certification**





BAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE P.O. BOX 305 . LAPWAI, IDAHO 83540 . (208) 843-2253

STATE OF Idaho COUNTY OF Nez Perce

The undersigned, Samuel N. Penney, representing Nez Perce Tribe, PO Box 365, Lapwai, ID, hereby swear (affirm) that:

- 1. I am Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee and am hereby authorized to make these statements.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein, and can testify completely thereto.
- 3. The purpose of this statement is to assure the Idaho Department of Commerce that the project will meet the CARES Act Criteria. Further guidance can be found here and here. i. Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions. ii. Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
 - The project meets the original design; i.
 - ii. The build has been completed;

The Nez Perce Tribe will meet the above CARES Act Criteria by providing last mile, home connections to thirty-one homes for work, school and telehealth.

Samuel N. Penney, Chairman

<u>7-15-21</u> Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 15th day of 5uly



Marie Bahazer	
Notary Public for STATE	
Residing at <u>NET Perce County</u>	
Commission expires March 10, 2026	

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars		Total
Totala			
Totals			

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars		Total
Totala			
Totals			

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date

