Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Abbie Mace
Applicant ID	APP-004764
Company Name	Fremont County
Recipient Address	Fremont County 151 W 1st N St Anthony, ID 83445
Phone	(208) 624-7332
Email	amace@co.fremont.id.us
Amount Requested	$5,788,598.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	☐

Application Title: Fremont County-Island Park Phase 1 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

Fremont County
Abbie Mace, Fremont County Clerk
151 W 1st N, Suite 12
St. Anthony, ID 83445
amace@co.fremont.id.us
208-624-7332

Question: List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Island Park, Idaho
Census Block 160439701001

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.

Fremont County
Abbie Mace, Fremont County Clerk
151 W 1st N, Suite 12
St. Anthony, ID 83445
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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

☐ 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.

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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?

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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?

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

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

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

5788598.00

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.

approximately 1,390 locations

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.

$4,194.65

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

Up to 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, See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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

the accounting will be performed.

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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, funding has not been received. See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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, funding has not been received. See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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

See attached Fremont County Cares Act Application.

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).

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment C_Speed Tests.pdf (7/14/2021 2:16 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

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

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.

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment B_Mapping.pdf (7/14/2021 2:19 PM)
Fremont County_Island Park Phase I Project TMZ.kmz (7/14/2021 2:19 PM)
Fremont County CARES Grant Application no Attachments.pdf (7/14/2021 2:18 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.

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment E_Budget.pdf (7/14/2021 2:20 PM)

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

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment D_Project Schedule.pdf (7/14/2021 2:20 PM)

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

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment G_Certification.pdf (7/14/2021 2:29 PM)

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

Fremont County CARES Grant Application_Attachment A_Letters of Support.pdf (7/14/2021 2:21 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.

Fremont County CARES Grant Application.pdf (7/14/2021 2:22 PM)
Fremont County CARES Grant Application no Attachments.pdf (7/14/2021 2:22 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.

Abbie Mace

Question: Type your title.

Fremont County Clerk

Question: Type the submission date.

July 14, 2021

IDAHO BROADBAND FUND: BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATION

FREMONT COUNTY – ISLAND PARK PHASE I PROJECT

Cover Sheet

Applicant Name: Fremont County

Applicant Address: 151 West 1st North, Room 12, St. Anthony, ID 83445-1409

Applicant Phone Number: (208) 624-7332

Applicant Email Address: amace@co.fremont.id.us

Key Contact Person: Abbie Mace

Grant Administrator:

> Abbie Mace, Fremont County Clerk
> amace@co.fremont.id.us
> (208) 624-7332

Total Amount Requested: $5,788,598

Project Summary:

This project will have Fremont County partnering with Blackfoot Communications ("Blackfoot") to bring fiber-based, reliable, affordable broadband Internet access to a portion of Island Park. Blackfoot, a Montana-based cooperative with more than 65-years of proven experience building and operating communications networks, has committed to deliver fiber-based broadband and speeds of up to 1 Gbps to a portion of Island Park.

Because of Island Park's vast size and rough terrain and geography and the time limitations of the CARES Act grant program (e.g. projects must be complete by no later than December 31, 2021), it is not feasible to build-out fiber-based Internet to all of Island Park. Instead, Fremont County and Blackfoot are seeking a grant for only a portion of Island Park that they are confident they can complete by the end of the year. This portion includes approximately 1,390 locations. Importantly, based on the results of this and possible subsequent grant applications, Blackfoot has committed to use some of its own funds to

build-out fiber-based broadband to nearly every home and business in Island Park over the next few years. Put differently, since Blackfoot has "skin in the game" in the form of investing its own capital, it will be committed to serving all of Island Park to the best of its ability for decades to come.

The proposed project brings scalable, "future proof" fiber based broadband Internet access to Island Park. "Future proof" means that because this project is fiber-based, Blackfoot will be able to deliver increasing broadband speeds to Island Park homes and business for the next 25 to 30 years. This is an important consideration since while the Federal Communications Commission's definition of broadband today is 25/3Mbps, it may increase over time. Upon completion of this project, Blackfoot will be capable of delivering up to 1 Gbps speeds. Over time and as demand increases, Blackfoot will be able to increase its speeds over this project to 10 Gbps or more. Thus, awarding a grant for this project will have long-term benefits to Fremont County and the State of Idaho.

Project Narrative

Introduction

Fremont County's proposed project meets the CARES Act criteria by promoting equal access to economic development, public safety, telehealth, and education by expanding broadband into underserved areas. Fremont County understands that the State of Idaho will provide no funding and have no obligations for CARES funded projects that fail to be completed by December 15, 2021.

Proposed Service Area

This proposal will serve a portion of Island Park as show below:
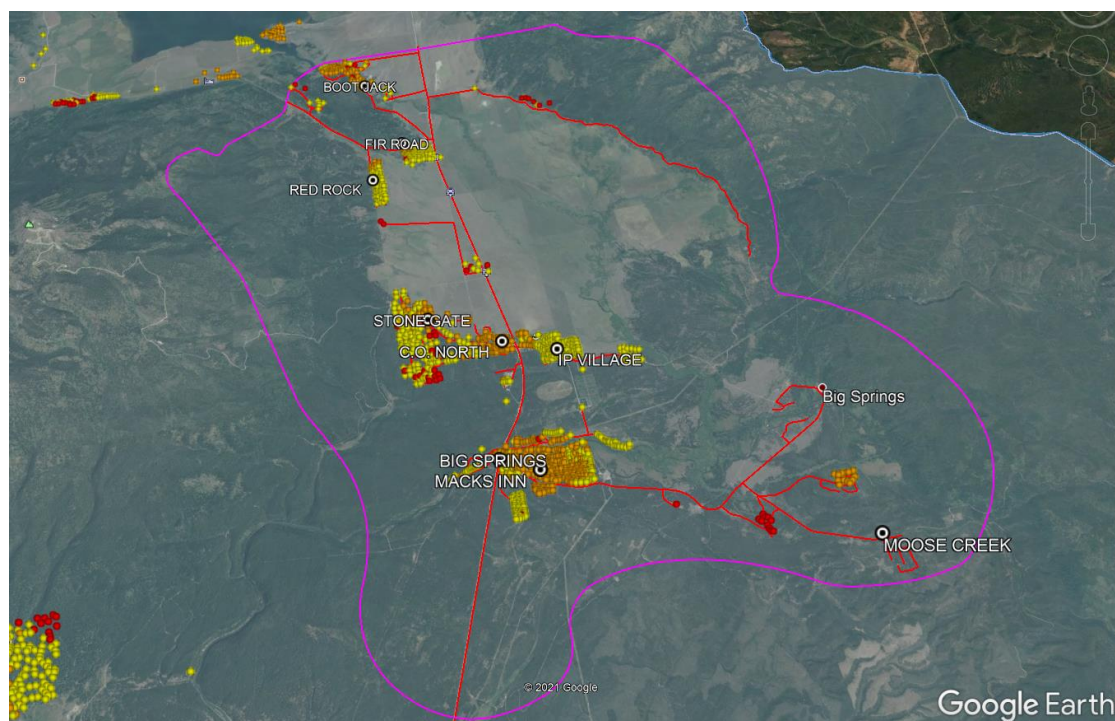
This area (Census block 160439701001) includes approximately 1,390 locations, including roughly 1,315 residential and 75 business locations.

Initially, it is important to point-out that while 25/3 Mbps is the Federal Communications Commission's definition of broadband today, pending federal legislation contemplates increasing the definition of broadband to something significantly faster. For example, the US Department of Treasury issued guidelines for the use of American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding which targets areas that currently lack a 25/3 Mbps "wireline connection", but suggests that projects awarded ARPA dollars should be for "projects that reliably deliver 100 Mbps download by 100 Mbps upload."[1] This proposal would meet these federal guidelines.

Specifically, the "Idaho BroadbandNow Map" shows that Fremont County only has 50.5% broadband coverage. Island Park resides entirely within Fremont County, meaning that according to this source, nearly half the residents in Fremont County lack access to broadband.

The "NTIA Indicator of Broadband Need Map" reports Fremont County's median broadband speeds are 8.27 Mbps/1.92 Mbps (M-Lab Speed Test) and 11.94 Mbps/2.59 Mbps (Ookla Speedtest). Using either standard, Fremont County falls well short of the current 25/3 Mbps standard. Below is a graphical representation of this. Fremont County is outlined in white, and the "light red" shading indicates that according to NTIA, all of Fremont County is unserved at 25/3 Mbps, including the portion of Island Park that is part of this grant request.

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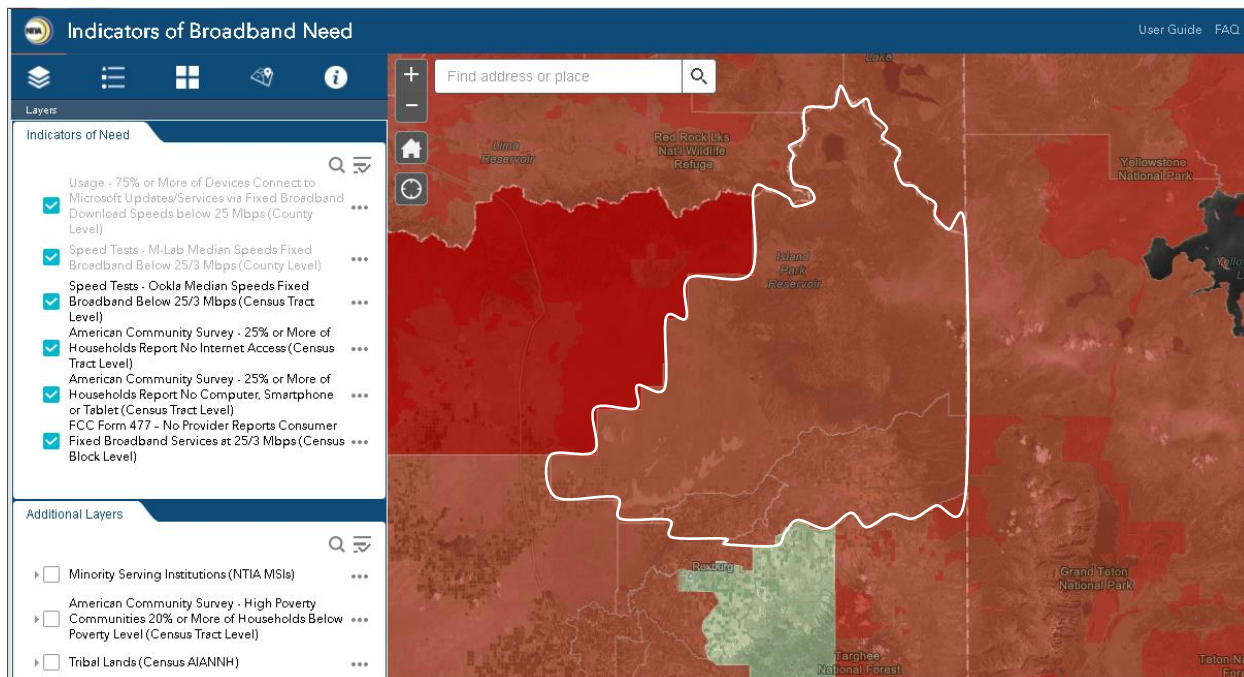
[1] Section 6.5, "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Frequently Asked Questions," US Department of Treasury (June 24, 2021); https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRPFAQ.pdf

This information is available on the Idaho Department of Commerce's web site: https://commerce.idaho.gov/broadband/

The map and data were found at https://broadbandusa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba2dcd585f5e43cba41b7c1 ebf2a43d0 by zooming in on Fremont County.

On the other hand, the FCC's broadband maps suggest that Fremont County, including the portion of Island Park that is subject to this grant application, already have access to 25/3 Mbps. The FCC's current maps are flawed, however, and not representative of the actual broadband penetration and coverage in Fremont County or Island Park.

For example, the snapshot below of Fremont County taken from the FCC's map purports there are five different providers offering broadband at speeds of at least 25/3 Mbps throughout all of Fremont County.
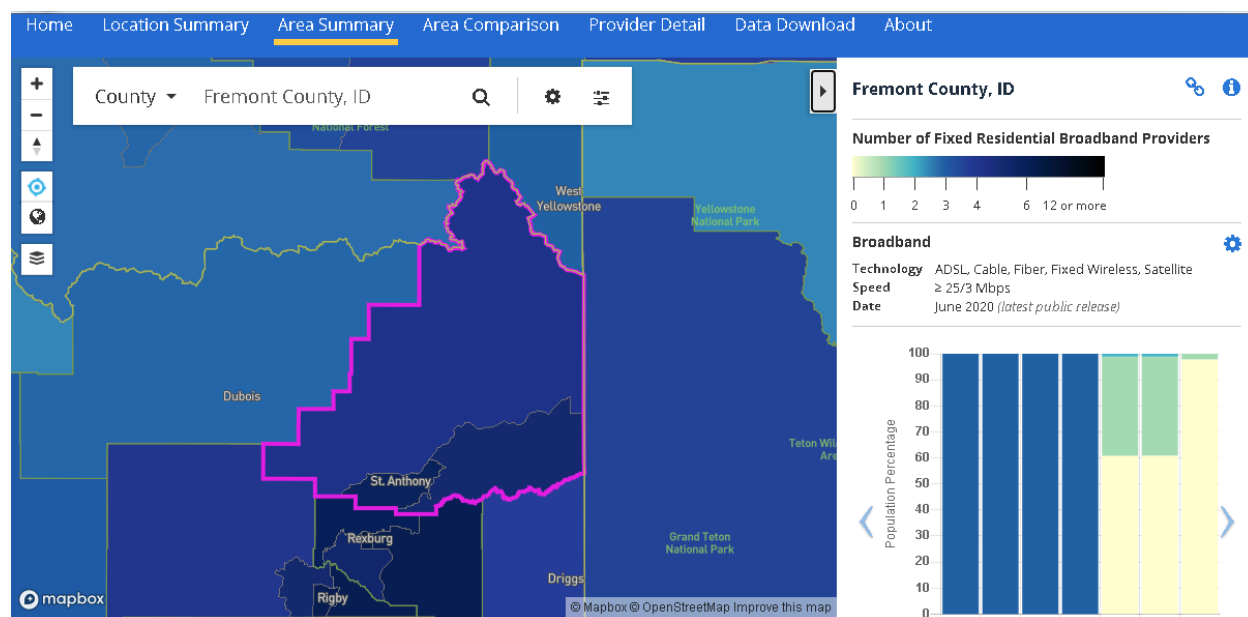
This map and data were found at https://go.usa.gov/x6VcF using the "Area Summary".

A closer look at this data shows this is not entirely accurate. The Census Block below indicated with the pink mark points out a location purportedly with access to five providers, three of which are satellite providers, one fixed wireless and one wireline DSL provider (Blackfoot is the existing wireline DSL provider). Four of the purported providers (three satellite and one fixed wireless) are not capable of providing ubiquitous coverage across the area as these technologies are limited by physics and "line of site" requirements. Blackfoot is only able to provide 25/3 Mbps DSL service today in limited circumstances, depending upon the availability and quality of its existing copper network, the location of the customer (e.g. distance from Blackfoot's central office) and other factors. Thus, the FCC map should be considered suspect in determining the availability of at least 25/3 Mbps broadband throughout Fremont County and Island Park.

Number of Fixed Residential Broadband Providers

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 12 or more |
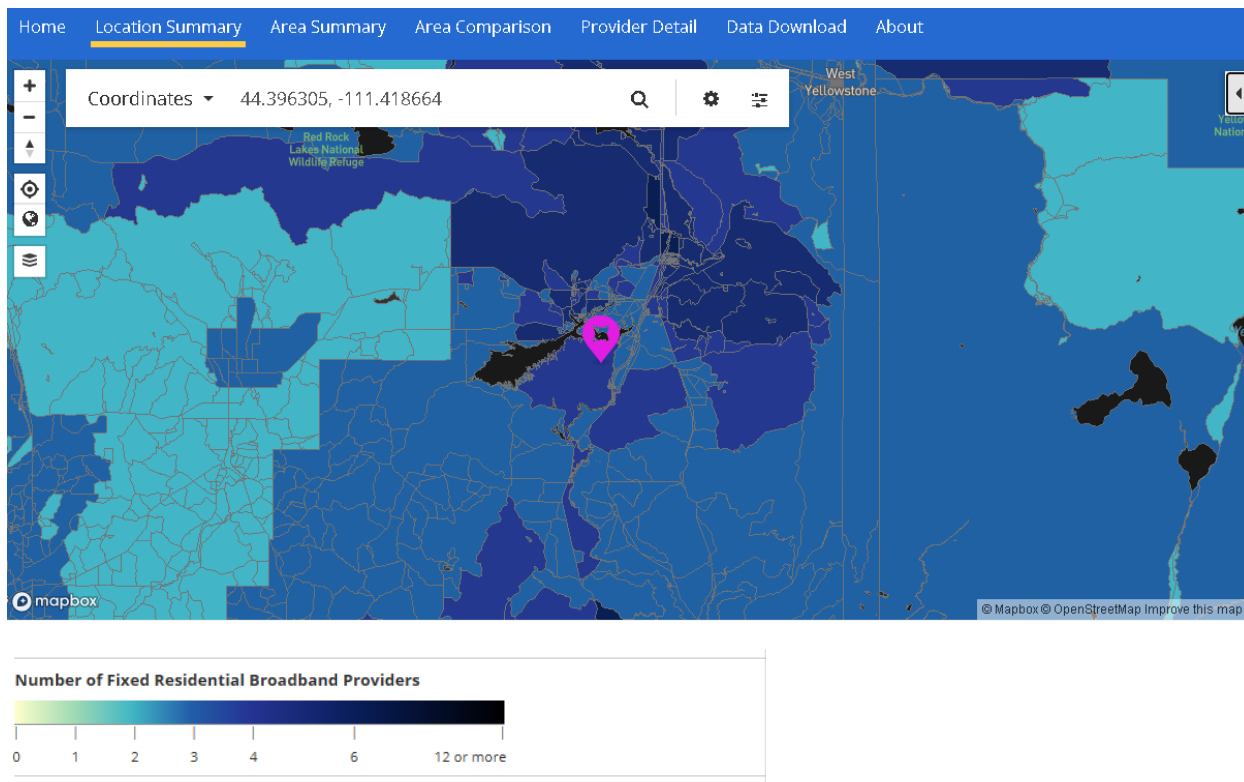
This map and data were found at https://go.usa.gov/x6Vxx using the "Location Summary".

Further, the data collection the FCC utilizes to create the above maps contains flaws that make it unreliable for determining actual broadband speeds available to Island Park residents. Specifically, the FCC map reflects maximum speeds deployed in any given census block and does not reflect actual speeds available at a specific location. Additionally, the maps are misleading when considering competition because if a provider serves a single location in a Census Block they are reported as serving the entire Census Block for FCC data collection purposes. Thus, if a provider can serve 25/3 Mbps broadband at a single location within a census block, the FCC counts that census block as entirely served regardless if the provider can actually provide 25/3 Mbps service to all locations within the census block.

Fremont County takes the position that the BroadbandNow and NTIA data provided above more accurately represent its experience and the need for broadband in Island Park. In fact, the random speed tests, from the Phase I Project area, attached to this application further support Fremont County's position. These sources clearly demonstrate that a large portion of Fremont County, including the portion of Island Park that is subject to this grant application, are unserved and qualify for CARES Act grant dollars.

Total population, number of residents who are rural and urban

According to the Idaho 2010 Population and Housing Unit Counts (the most recent available census data), Island Park CCD had a population of 1,492 individuals. Seventy-two percent (72%) of Fremont County is rural. *See* https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/cph-2-14.pdf.

The rural nature of our community means that we have unique needs that the CARES Act seeks to address in response to COVID-19. Expanding broadband into Island Park will promote equal access to economic development, public safety, telehealth, and education.

Percent of individuals in your proposed service area who are living in poverty

The Idaho Commerce's "ESMI Second Quarter 2021 Community Indicators Map Data Set" indicates that there is a 7% poverty rate in census tract 16043970100. That census tract includes Island Park and the Phase I project area. Fremont County believes that poverty level most likely holds true for the Phase I Project area as well. This data was provided by the Idaho Commerce via an Excel file labeled "Community_Indicators_Map_5998.xlxs".

Medically underserved

Fremont County has been designated as medically underserved by the Health Resources and Services Administration. *See* https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/mua-find.

data.HRSA.gov

Discipline	MUA/P ID	Service Area Name	Designation Type	Primary State Name	County	Index of Medical Underservice Score	Status	Rural Status	Designation Date	Update Date
Primary Care	07401	Warm River Service Area	Medically Underserved Area	Idaho	Fremont County, ID	61.2	Designated	Rural	03/16/2004	03/16/2004

Component State Name	Component County Name	Component Name	Component Type	Component GEOID	Component Rural Status
Idaho	Fremont	9701	Census Tract	16043970100	Rural
Idaho	Fremont	9702	Census Tract	16043970200	Rural

As a medically underserved area, access to telehealth options is critical for the health and safety of the public workers and residents. It is important to remember that it is not enough to build broadband to the anchor institution serving patients; patients needing assistance must be able to connect to the anchor institution using broadband supported telehealth options to increase safety during COVID-19 and future health emergencies. Expansion of broadband will give our residents access to medical services using telehealth options and will increase public safety during the COVID-19 and future similar emergencies.

Population Information:

According to the US Census Bureau 2019 survey, the majority of Fremont County's population (82.5%) is under 62 years of age; 24.7% are under 18 years of age. Nearly ten percent (9.9%) of Fremont County residents are disabled which includes those who experience difficulty living independently or ambulatory difficulty. More than 85% (86.6%) of residents have a high school degree or equivalent with 21.7% having a bachelor's degree or higher.

The 2019 survey does not provide estimates associated with residents working from home or engaged in distance learning. The 2019 estimates do indicate that 88.8% of Fremont County households have a computer and 80.2% have some level of connectivity to the Internet.

The 2019 survey reports the median household annual income at $58,065 and the per capita income at $23,577. As of the 2019 survey, Fremont County's unemployment rate was 2.3%.

See https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/fremontcountyidaho/PST045219 and https://data.statesmanjournal.com/unemployment/fremont-county-id/CN1604300000000/2019-november/.

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Broadband needs:

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Fremont County occupies 1,877 square miles or about 1,201,300 acres. Public lands predominate. Only 31.9 percent (599 square miles) of the county's land is in private ownership. About 821 square miles (43.7 percent of the total area) in the northern and eastern portions of the county are in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. Another 220 square miles (11.8 percent of the total area), mostly in the western part of the county, is administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The state of Idaho manages about 175 square miles in parcels scattered throughout the county.

Over the last several years, Island Park has seen significant growth with many new home starts as well a new businesses coming into the area. Fremont County is trying to keep up with the growth and the infrastructure needs of the community. One thing we continue to hear resoundingly from residents and businesses is a need for better access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband Internet. The business community, represented by the Island Park Chamber of Commerce, city government and the schools have all told us how they struggle with slow and, at times, non-existent broadband connection in their facilities. During COVID-19, Fremont County had reports of office workers who tried to work from home but slow or non-existent Internet made productivity difficult.

Fremont County operates on a budget of $45,754,502, which pays for roads, bridges, law enforcement, court house operations, assessor's office, weed patrol, ambulance services, sewer systems, solid waste operations, probation, elections, park and recreation, along with a salary for the whole county.

Fremont County does not have the funding to meet Island Park's growing broadband needs. The lack of broadband connectivity impacts Fremont County's ability to respond to Island Park residents. A lack of broadband connectivity in Island Park impacts search and rescue, law enforcement, sewer system operations, trail groomers and solid waste operations. Fremont County conducts more search and rescue operations than any other county in Idaho with many of those operations occurring where there is no broadband connectivity; broadband connectivity would improve the safety of those operations as well as speed up the search and rescue process. Reliable broadband connectivity is an urgent need for law enforcement as they attempt to serve the community and ensure residents' safety. In Island Park, the county operates a sewer system with 46 lift stations that are currently served by land lines. Its ability to improve the sewer technology is limited, in part, by its lack of broadband connectivity. County staff are often called to serve in areas where broadband connections are unavailable creating a safety concern for the staff. Solid waste operations are impacted by a lack of broadband as well. In short, improved broadband connectivity in Island Park would greatly improve health and safety of the community by supporting each of the aforementioned county departments.

Island Park does not have a public school requiring busing of students up to an hour and a half away to a neighboring school system located in Ashton. Island Park is also home to a Charter School which was

specifically founded to provide an option to busing students so far from home. During the COVID-19 pandemic, students and families living in Island Park had difficulty with remote learning from their homes because of slow and unreliable Internet access, forcing many in the community to leave their homes to connect to broadband "hot spots" throughout the community. This experience was consistent whether the students attend the public school in Ashton or the Charter School in Island Park.

With only one primary healthcare provider in Fremont County, residents need better access to healthcare in the home, as made possible by broadband connections to remote physicians. However, without adequate, affordable access to broadband in the home, residents cannot easily access remote health care.

Fremont County has never received a broadband grant or loan in the past.

Project Overview and Scope of Work

Administration:

Fremont County has no experience or desire to become a broadband Internet provider. Fremont County does, however, have experience in hiring and managing contractors and consultants, managing budgets, and completing projects on time. Our administrator handles a budget of $45.7 million. Fremont County has expertise in business relations, forming and convening committees, and meeting the needs of Fremont County.

Fremont County will administer the grant through our auditor's trust account. Plus, Fremont County has an annual outside audit done.

Internet Service Provider relationship needs:

Since Fremont County does not plan to become a broadband Internet provider, it has partnered with Blackfoot Communications, a Montana-based cooperative that has a local office and employees located within Fremont County, to submit this grant application and provide a portion of Island Park with affordable, reliable, high speed internet access. All of Blackfoot's Idaho operations are based out of Fremont County. Blackfoot has the experience, financial stability and work-force necessary to complete the project contemplated by the grant application on time and on budget.

More importantly, Blackfoot is committed to serve Fremont County and Island Park for the long-term. As the incumbent voice and copper DSL provider, Blackfoot and its predecessors have been offering voice and data service to residents of Fremont County since November 1996. Blackfoot is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the state of Idaho and receives annual ACAM support of $1.4 million to help build out broadband to its entire Idaho service area which is made up predominantly of Fremont County along with a small portion of Madison County. This proposed project is only one aspect of Blackfoot's multi-phased, multi-year plan to bring fiber-based Internet service to all homes and businesses within Island Park. Blackfoot plans to invest more than $17 million in broadband infrastructure throughout Fremont County in the next four to five years. Blackfoot will initially offer

fiber-based broadband products to residential and business customers as follows and will eventually add 1 Gbps and even 10 Gbps offerings as demand increases.

- Residential - 50 Mbps/50 Mbps for $50.00 a month, no data caps.
- Residential – 100 Mbps/50 Mbps for $65.00 a month, no data caps.
- Business - 50 Mbps/50 Mbps for $70.00 a month, no data caps.
- Business - 100 Mbps/50 Mbps for $90.00 a month, no data caps.
- Business – 200 Mbps/100 Mbps for $100.00 a month, no data caps.

Because of this significant investment, Fremont County has confidence Blackfoot is committed for the long-term to improve the quality of life for residents of Fremont County by providing reliable, affordable, high speed broadband.

The first phase of Blackfoot's multi-phased, multi-year project in Island Park is "shovel ready" and capable of being completed by December 15, 2021. This "Phase 1" build includes approximately 520,000 feet (100 miles) of mainline fiber. Phase 1 will give last mile fiber access to approximately 1,390 homes and businesses. These connections will be capable of delivery up to 1 Gbps speeds.

Blackfoot has already completed the engineering and design work for Phase 1 as well as has purchased materials and lined-up construction contractors to complete this work. While Blackfoot has already begun this project, the majority of the work remains to be completed.

Completion defined:

For purposes of this grant application request, successful completion of the project will be demonstrated by completed middle mile and last mile build objectives for all of Phase 1. As part of deeming the project complete and eligible for grant funding, Fremont County and Blackfoot request that it will have met its Phase 1 commitment so long as Blackfoot can install fiber-based broadband to any of the customer locations within Phase 1 within ten (10) business days of a customer request. That said, Fremont County and Blackfoot would only seek grant dollars for actual costs incurred. This means that any customer locations installed by Blackfoot after December 15, 2021 would not qualify for the grant dollars requested in this application. However, since Blackfoot would be able to install new service within ten (10) business days of a customer request, it will be considered completing Phase 1 and the grant funding requested through this application.

See the attached Blackfoot maps demonstrating the multi-phase project to bring broadband throughout the Island Park area.

Financial needs:

Fremont County operates on a budget of $45.7 million, which pays for roads, bridges, law enforcement, court house operations, assessor's office, weed patrol, ambulance services, sewer systems, solid waste operations, probation, elections, park and recreation, along with a salary for the whole county of just over $9 million. Fremont County does not have the funding to meet Island Park's growing broadband needs, and a grant like this in conjunction with Blackfoot's support could speed expansion of broadband services to our businesses and homes in that community.

While Blackfoot is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the state of Idaho and receives annual ACAM support of $1.4 million to help build out broadband to its entire Idaho service area, those funds do not begin to cover the cost of deploying a "future proof" network capable of supporting existing and future public emergency needs in Idaho. Although Blackfoot plans to invest more than $17 million in fiber-based broadband infrastructure over the next four to five years in Fremont County, there are a variety of outside factors that could disrupt those plans. Changes to the economy, inflation, increases in material costs, labor expenses, demand for lower prices by customers and any number of other factors beyond Blackfoot's control could delay or derail their planned investment. A grant of this type early in Blackfoot's multi-year project will give Blackfoot's multi-year project a financial boost to ensure the project gets off on the right track. More specifically, this grant will enable Blackfoot to potentially accelerate its deployment of fiber based broadband infrastructure in Island Park and/or expand the number of locations in Fremont County that it plans to connect to fiber.

For Fremont County, this is the best opportunity to gain timely expansion of broadband in Island Park, as the funds needed to do this cannot be found in our current budget. Also, we have a competent, willing partner in Blackfoot Communications that is also bringing money to the table to make this project a success.

Community relationship needs:

Fremont County holds a public hearing meeting once every week during which business leaders and community leaders are invited to present ideas, plans, and updates for Fremont County residents. There is a Facebook page that posts information about Fremont County, including updates from leaders. This proposal embodies the needs and requests of these leaders, as all support the idea of improving broadband for the purpose of improving educational attainment, e-commerce, safety, and healthcare purposes.

Description of plan

With this support, we plan to achieve the following:

➢ Engineering and design for fiber-to-the-premises to approximately 1,390 locations within the area on the maps attached hereto and labeled Phase 1.
➢ Deployment of approximately 520,000 feet (100 miles) of mainline fiber and up to 245,000 feet (46 miles) of fiber drop within the area labeled Phase 1;
➢ Provide all homes and businesses living within the Phase 1 areas access to fiber-based broadband Internet access within ten (10) business days of a customer request.

Final Products:

➢ Island Park Phase I middle mile complete
➢ Approximately 1390 locations in Island Park with access to new Phase I fiber middle mile

Budget

Line Item	Requested Grant Dollars	Budget
Construction and Materials	$5,400,000	$5,400,000
Engineering and Permitting	$275,000	$275,000
Broadband Infrastructure Equipment and Installation	$108,958	$108,958
Grant Administration	$5,000	$5,000
Total	$5,788,958	$5,788,958

Budget Narrative

While Fremont County is presenting a grant request for the full budget amount of $5,788,958, neither the county, nor Blackfoot, wish for this request to be treated as an all nor nothing request. Any amount the Broadband Advisory Board is willing to award for the Island Park Phase I project combined with Blackfoot's resources will help speed broadband deployment in the Island Park area.

Supporting documents

Attachment A – Letters of Support

Attachment B – Mapping

Attachment C – Speed Tests

Attachment D – Project Schedule

Attachment E – Budget

Attachment F – Additional Resources

Attachment G - Certification

ATTACHMENT A – LETTERS OF SUPPORT

June 28, 2021

Fremont Telcom Co. DBA Blackfoot Communications
ATTN: Corey Packer
110 East Main Street
St. Anthony, ID 83445

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Corey,

Thank you for stopping by and letting us know about Blackfoot Communications' exciting fiber project.

As a new Charter School, we are pleased to offer this letter of support to Fremont County and Blackfoot Communications as you seek to obtain access to funding to support the buildout of fiber for broadband connectivity in Island Park.

Fiber based broadband will help our small rural school in many ways.

During COVID-19, some students and staff were unable to work from home due to slow or non-existent Internet which made productivity difficult. Many tried to use their cell phone plan but that was not then and is not now sufficient. While Island Park is home to a new Charter School it does not have its own school system. Students are bused up to an hour and a half away to a neighboring school system located in Ashton and our school was opened in the hope that we could get kids "off the bus" and closer to home. Increased broadband availability due to the fiber deployment will improve educational opportunities to safely learn during the COVID-19 emergency should it continue to this upcoming year. We have been able to access Covid funding to improve technology in the classroom with Chromebooks, IPads and more but that won't help if we don't have a broadband system that can handle the usage.

With only one primary care provider in our county, our residents need better access to healthcare, as made possible by broadband connections to remote physicians. Without adequate, affordable access to broadband in the home, our residents cannot easily access telehealth care.

Our school, businesses and residents stand to benefit from improved broadband. We feel these improvements will most specifically spur economic development in our community and the ability for our residents to participate in business transactions, online learning, and healthcare.

Sincerely,

Collette Rinehart
Collette Rinehart
Island Park Charter School
Business Manager

July 1, 2021

Fremont Telcom Co. DBA Blackfoot Communications
ATTN: Corey Packer
110 East Main Street
St. Anthony, ID 83445

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Corey,

Thank you for stopping by and letting us know about Blackfoot Communications' exciting fiber project.

As a community leader, we are pleased to offer this letter of support to Fremont County and Blackfoot Communications as you seek to obtain access to funding to support the buildout of fiber for broadband connectivity in Island Park.

Our chamber has supported the fiber program and was pleased to attend the Commissioners meeting where you presented your plans. Fiber based broadband will help our community.

During COVID-19, some workers were unable to work from home due to slow or non-existent Internet which made productivity difficult. We had people moving into our area during Covid-19 as they may have been from California, as an example, but found they could relocate to Island Park and work remotely providing the internet was adequate.   Small businesses struggled to switch to an online sales environment because of poor connectivity or lack of broadband. The increased broadband availability with fiber deployment will help our economy and businesses safely survive the COVID-19 emergency.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, students and families have been largely forced to use the community broadband "hot spots" to access online curriculum during school closures. While Island Park is home to a Charter School it does not have its own K-12 school system. Students are bused up to an hour and a half away to a neighboring school system located in Ashton. Increased broadband availability due to the fiber deployment will improve educational opportunities to safely learn during the COVID-19 emergency.

With only one primary care provider in our county, our residents need better access to healthcare, as made possible by broadband connections to remote physicians. Without adequate, affordable access to broadband in the home, our residents cannot easily access telehealth care.

Our businesses and residents stand to benefit from improved broadband. We feel these improvements will most specifically spur economic development in our town and the ability for our residents to participate in online learning and healthcare.

Sincerely,

Angela Illum

Angela Illum, Island Park Chamber President

ATTACHMENT B – Mapping

Island Park Phase I
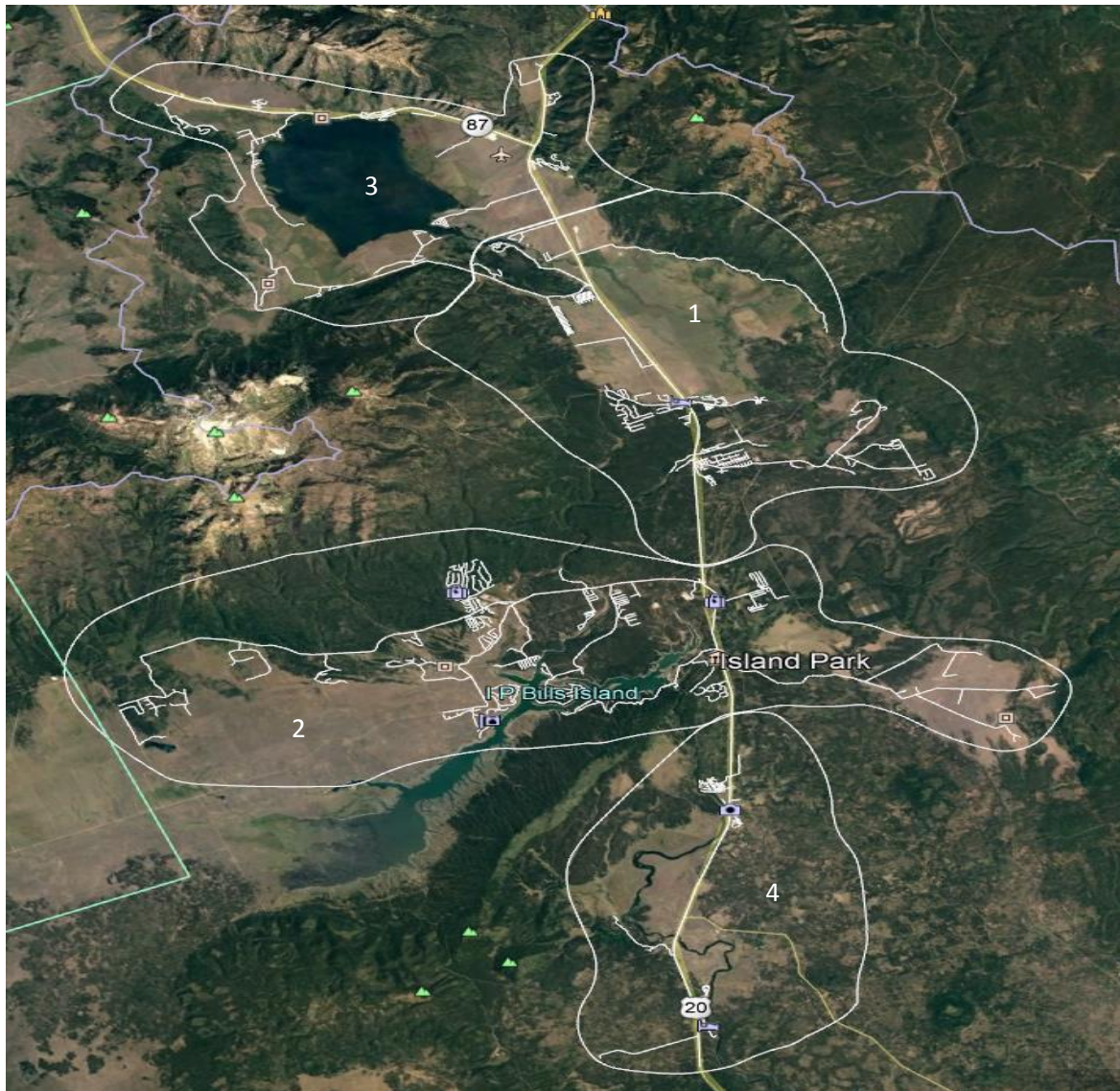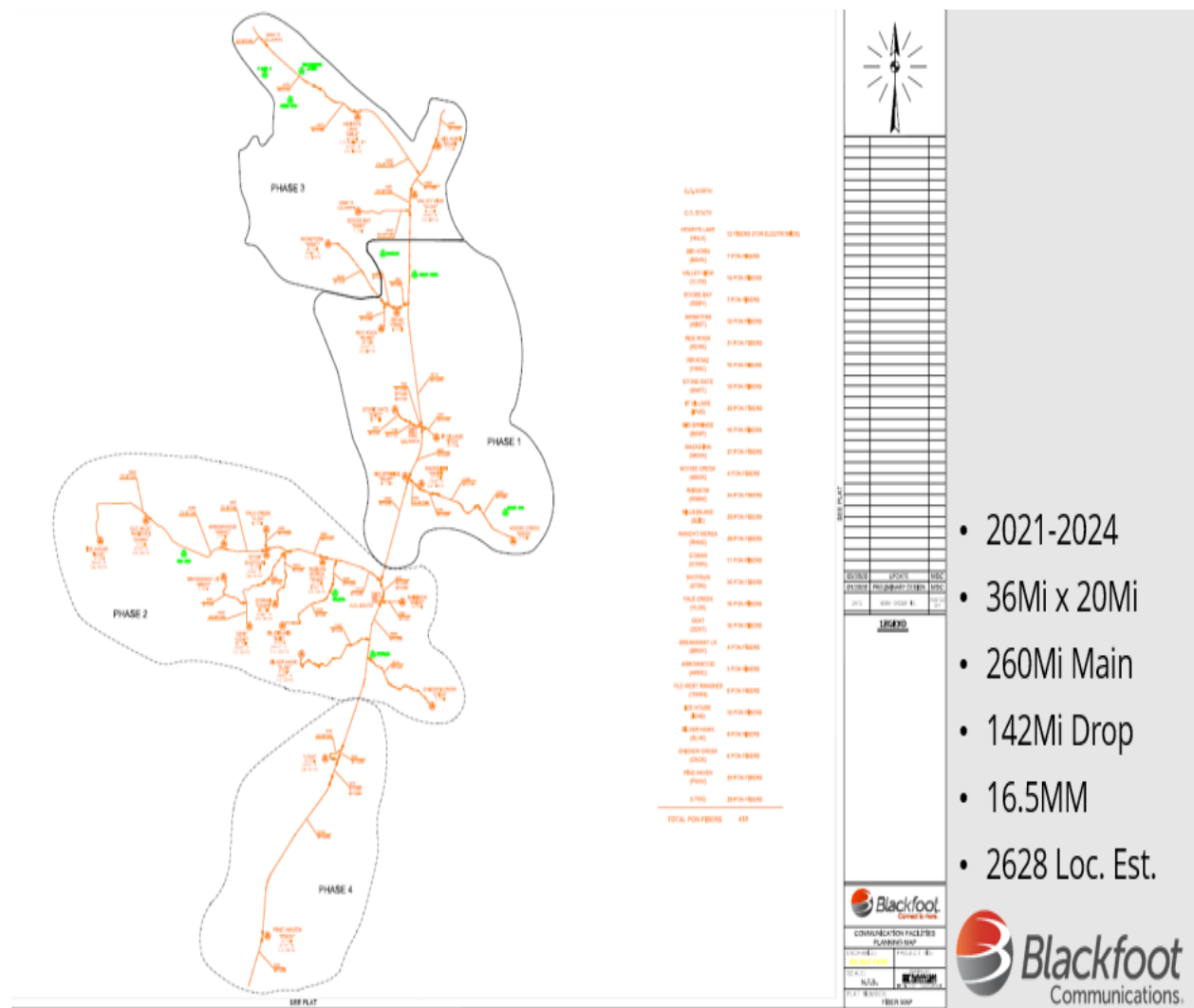
Census Block: 160439701001

Current Median Speeds: 8.27 Mbps/1.92 Mbps (M-Lab Speed Test) and 11.94 Mbps/2.59 Mbps (Ookla Speedtest) – Source NTIA

Future Broadband Speeds: Up to 1 Gbps

Following map shows Census Block 160439701001 with the Island Park Phase I Project area indicated with a pink boundary. Locations current speed capabilities are identified as follows:

- Less than 10 Mbps download are identified by red dots.
- Less than 25Mbps download are identified by yellow dots.
- Less than 100 Mbps download are identified by orange dots.
- Fiber locations are identified by green dots.
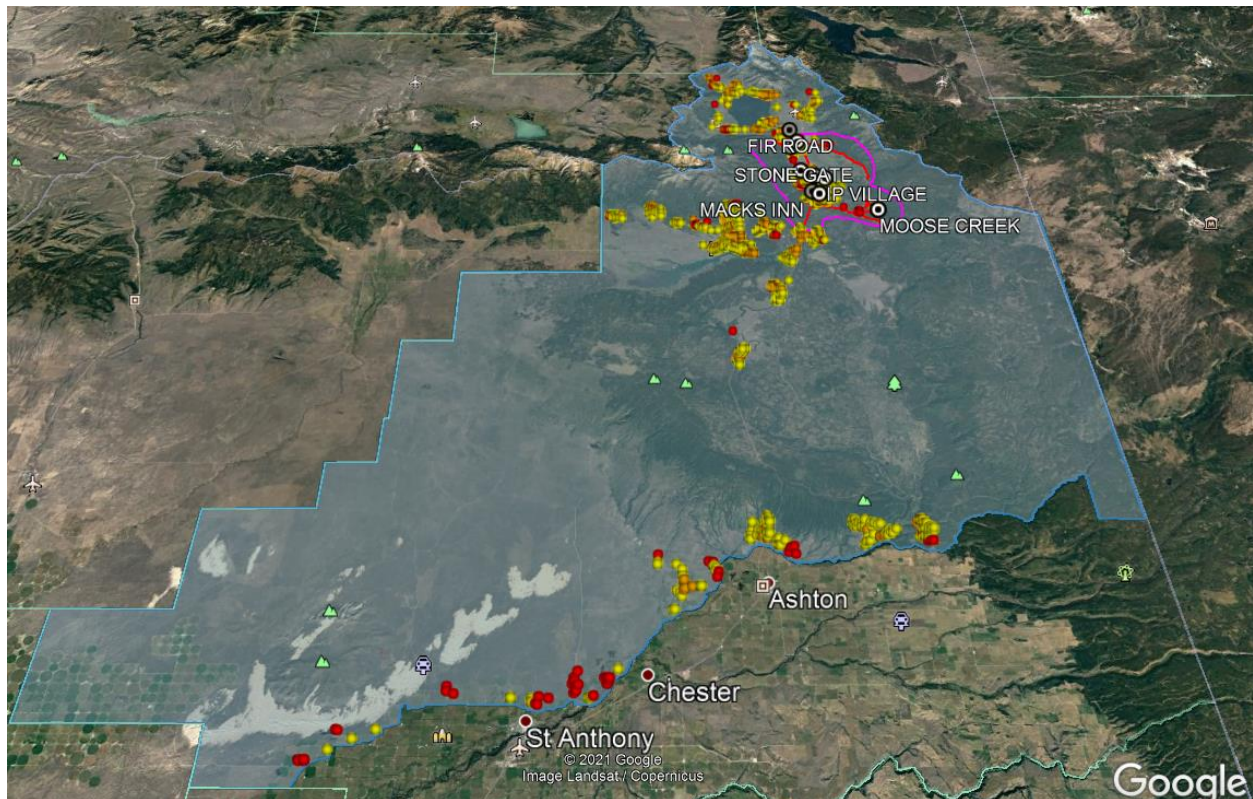
ATTACHMENT B – Mapping

Phase I:

Census Block: 160439701001

Current Median Speeds: 8.27 Mbps/1.92 Mbps (M-Lab Speed Test) and 11.94 Mbps/2.59 Mbps (Ookla Speedtest) – Source NTIA

Future Broadband Speeds: Up to 1 Gbps

Following map shows Census Block 160439701001 with the Island Park Phase I Project area indicated with a pink boundary. Locations current speed capabilities are identified as follows:

- Less than 10 Mbps download are identified by red dots.
- Less than 25Mbps download are identified by yellow dots.
- Less than 100 Mbps download are identified by orange dots.
- Fiber locations are identified by green dots.

ATTACHMENT B – Mapping

Phase I and future plans:

Census Block: 160439701001

Current Median Speeds: 8.27 Mbps/1.92 Mbps (M-Lab Speed Test) and 11.94 Mbps/2.59 Mbps (Ookla Speedtest) – Source NTIA

Future Broadband Speeds: Up to 1 Gbps

The following map shows all planned Island Park Phases.

ATTACHMENT B – Mapping

Phase I and future plans:

Census Block: 160439701001

Current Median Speeds: 8.27 Mbps/1.92 Mbps (M-Lab Speed Test) and 11.94 Mbps/2.59 Mbps (Ookla Speedtest) – Source NTIA

Future Broadband Speeds: Up to 1 Gbps

The following map shows all planned Island Park Phases.

Attachment C – Speed Tests

Location: 0003002044

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4187 TWO TOP RD, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429-5094, USA

| Data | Video | Vo |
| Social Broadband 15/1 ISP | -- | -- |

SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic Rep

WAN
3 of 3 tests passed 14 minutes ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.9 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:25 PM
Upload Max speed:0.9 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:25 PM

Run Speed Test

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed 15 minutes ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Location: 0003001865

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4789 BALSAM ST, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Data	Video	Voic
Social Broadband 15/2 ISP	--	--

SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traff

⚠ WAN
1 of 3 tests passed a few seconds ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Observation Frequent high bandwidth usage
Recommendation Consider upgrade to higher tier service

Download Max speed:12.7 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:43 PM
Upload Max speed:1.2 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:43 PM

Run Speed Test

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed a minute ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Location: 0003002240

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4413 TWO TOP RD, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Data	Video	Voi
Social Broadband 15/1 ISP	--	--

SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traf

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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.9 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:45 PM
Upload Max speed:0.9 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 04:45 PM

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed 3 minutes ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Location: 0003000869

4175 S BIG SPRINGS LOOP RD, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

Data
Social Broadband
15/1 ISP

Video
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Voice
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic Repo

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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.8 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:14 PM
Upload Max speed:0.8 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:14 PM

Run Speed Test

Gateway
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Additional Details >

Ad

Location: 0003001240

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	Data — Social Broadband 15/1 ISP	Video —	Voice —

SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic Rep[o]

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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.8 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:16 PM
Upload Max speed:0.8 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:16 PM

Gateway
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Additional Details >

Location: 0003002326

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4191 S BIG SPRINGS LOOP RD, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83433, USA

Data
Social Broadband
15/1 ISP

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Voice
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic Repor

✓ WAN
2 of 3 tests passed a few seconds ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.9 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:19 PM
Upload Max speed:1 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:19 PM

Gateway
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Additional Details >

W

Ad

Location: 0003002315

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4772 CARIBOU DR, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Data
Social Broadband
15/2 ISP

Video
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Vi
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Tra

WAN
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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.4 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:22 PM
Upload Max speed:1.5 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:22 PM

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed a few seconds ago

Additional Details >

Location: 0003000970

Redacted to protect
customer personally
identifiable information.

3946 FAWN RUN, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Data   Video

Surf Broadband 10/1   --

ISP

SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   T

WAN
2 of 3 tests passed a few seconds ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Observation Frequent high
bandwidth usage
Recommendation Consider
upgrade to higher tier service

Download Max speed:8.4 Mbps @
Jul 08, 2021 05:24 PM
Upload Max speed:0.9 Mbps @ Jul
08, 2021 05:24 PM

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed a minute ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Location: 0003000420

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4788 LODGEPOLE ST, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429-5021, USA

Data
Social Broadband
15/2 ISP

Video
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Voice
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic R

⚠ WAN
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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:10.1 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:26 PM
Upload Max speed:1.5 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:26 PM

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed a minute ago ⓘ

Additional Details >

Location: 0003001266

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.	4455 SANDSTONE ST, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429-5034, USA

Data
Social Broadband
15/2 ISP

Video
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Voice
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting   Traffic Re

(!) WAN
1 of 3 tests passed a minute ago ❶

Additional Details >

Observation Frequent high bandwidth usage
Recommendation Consider upgrade to higher tier service

Download Max speed:12.8 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:28 PM
Upload Max speed:1.5 Mbps @ Jul 08, 2021 05:28 PM

Gateway
0 of 0 tests passed 2 minutes ago ❶

Additional Details >

Location: 0003001915

Redacted to protect customer personally identifiable information.

4246 SHOUP ST, ISLAND PARK, ID, 83429, USA

Data
Social Broadband
15/2 ISP

Video
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SmartCheck   Configuration   System Tools   Troubleshooting

✓ WAN
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Additional Details >

Download Max speed:12.7 Mbps
@ Jul 08, 2021 05:30 PM
Upload Max speed:1.7 Mbps @ Jul
08, 2021 05:30 PM

Gateway
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Additional Details >

Attachment D – Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date
Construction and Materials	Blackfoot	6/9/2020	12/14/2021
Engineering and Permitting	Blackfoot	6/9/2020	12/14/2021
Broadband Infrastructure Equipment and Installation	Blackfoot	6/9/2020	12/14/2021
Grant Administration	Fremont County	8/2/2021	12/31/2021

Attachment E – Budget

Line Item	Requested Grant Dollars	Budget
Construction and Materials	$5,400,000	$5,400,000
Engineering and Permitting	$275,000	$275,000
Broadband Infrastructure Equipment and Installation	$108,958	$108,958
Grant Administration	$5,000	$5,000
Total	$5,788,958	$5,788,958

Attachment F – Additional Resources

Blackfoot plans to invest more than $17 million in fiber-based broadband infrastructure over the next four to five years in Fremont County, there are a variety of outside factors that could disrupt those plans. Changes to the economy, inflation, increases in material costs, labor expenses, demand for lower prices by customers and any number of other factors beyond Blackfoot's control could delay or derail their planned investment.

A grant of this type early in Blackfoot's multi-year project will give Blackfoot's multi-year project a financial boost to ensure the project gets off on the right track. More specifically, this grant will enable Blackfoot to potentially accelerate its deployment of fiber based broadband infrastructure in Island Park and/or expand the number of locations in Fremont County that it plans to connect to fiber.

Attachment G: Certification

Idaho Broadband Fund Broadband Grant CARES Act Certification

STATE OF IDAHO
COUNTY OF FREMONT

The undersigned, Abbie Mace, representing Fremont County 151 West 1st North Room 12, St. Anthony, ID 83445-1409, hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am Fremont County Clerk of Fremont County 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.
    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.

Applicant will meet the CARES act requirements through its partnership with Fremont Telcom Co. DBA Blackfoot Communications by deploying approximately 520,000 feet (100 miles) of mainline fiber and up to 245,000 feet (46 miles) of fiber drop fiber in Island Park, Phase I, capable of serving approximately 1,390 locations with up to 1 Gbps broadband. This project will facilitate distance learning, telework and telehealth capabilities for public employees and residents to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

Signature_____ Date _____

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this _____ day of _____

Notary Public for IDAHO

Residing at: _____

Commission expires: _____

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Wendy Mullins
Applicant ID	APP-004805
Company Name	Ririe
Recipient Address	Ririe 464 Main St Ririe, ID 83443
Phone	(208) 538-5548
Email	ririecityclerk@gmail.com
Amount Requested	$481,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	☐

Application Title: City of Ririe Fiber Optics for Broadband access

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

Eric Bennion
Ririe City Councilman
P.O. Box 68
Ririe, ID 83443
edbennion@gmail.com
(208) 403-4369

Question: List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Ririe, 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.

Eric Bennion
Ririe City Councilman
P.O. Box 68
Ririe, ID 83443
edbennion@gmail.com
(208) 403-4369

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.

Fybercom is proposing to service Ririe Idaho population of 505 with fiber optics equipment. The main proposed area is Ririe City Hall(464 Main St Ririe ID), Ririe Public Library(464 Main St Ririe ID), Ririe Community Center/Senior Center/Food Bank(395 Main St Ririe ID). This proposed area meets the criteria for the CARES Act by helping supply these vital community buildings with the needed broadband. With this service City Hall will have the ability to have the only public WiFi location in the City. During the COVID-19 pandemic not having a public WiFi location left lots of students without any way to access learning materials due to their households not having internet. Another advantage of this grant is the City does not currently have an online portal for citizens to pay sewer/garbage/water bills. Finally the City will also have the bandwidth to manage five onsite water well locations remotely. This plan includes fiber to each location. Currently it is an onsite only location, in emergency situations this is extremely timely and costly to manage them site by site; with no bandwidth there is no security cameras at any of the locations and the City feels that its important to have a better monitoring system for each location. The required bandwidth will also help to host a website that has this portal will also include a great communication tool for the City; including announcements, senior citizen meals on wheels, food bank donations, contact information, library information, and vital County/City information. The Public Library with this grant would be able to allow citizens to

download and manage ebook subscriptions directly from the library. Most importantly the Community Center which is also the Senior Center and Food Bank will now be able to provide a location in the community that will provide a public WiFi location for its visitors. These locations inside of the Ririe Community are in need of bandwidth improvements to help them provide purposeful outcomes with distance learning, Telehealth, public safety, and overall well-being. This project will also help the underserved locations that are passed along the fiber build, including the town's bank, post office, city buildings, doctors offices, 131 homes and ???? businesses, this is a century old city with trees covering 70 percent of line of sight to fixed wireless providers. Fybercom proposes to use Fiber to the premise to supply 1000x1000 mbps to residential and businesses. Fiber will be ran from Fybercom's fiber line in Ririe located at 43°37'53.57"N, 111°46'13.12"W to the City Hall, five well/pump houses, and the Community Center. At the Community Center/Senior Center/Food Bank wireless AP's will be installed to help these community centers offer public WiFi. These locations are in FyberCom's FCC Broadband census blocks however due to line of sight of fixed wireless service and the tree's located at the City Hall they are unable to provide service. This is a similar situation to the other fixed wireless providers available. Currently the City uses Sparklight however the speeds promoted on FCC Broadband are not accurate and that service is not available throughout the city(check submitted speed tests).

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?

This project will promote economic development by allowing the City to host a website for its residents. This website alone will create a one stop portal for announcements, senior citizen meals on wheels, food bank donations, contact information, library information, and vital County/City information. Adequate bandwidth will need to be available for the City to host this platform. This project will also promote telehealth and education by creating a public wifi location for everyone to use. The nearest public wifi location is located 10.5 miles away in at the Rigby Library. Access to health and library resources during the COVID-19 Emergency was not available to those who do not have internet service. Cell service in the city is abysmal at best.

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

There are multiple things this project does to help mitigate future disruptions. First the access and security of water well sites throughout the city, if and when things go wrong the City has to dispatch someone to those locations, being a smaller city this job results down to one person. This can consume lots of time to make it to all the locations. Also the lack of security cameras there poses the issue of tampering with water supplies and the security is the most important thing over these city assets. Second, the ability to access doctors virtually is only available to those with broadband, having a central public WiFi creates a location for everyone in the city to have access to these types of telehealth. Lastly this creates a dedicated link for broadband in the City, fixed wireless is great were available however when it is not there, there are no service providers.

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?

Delivering a cost effective broadband to the community and the City is a main priority. Partnering with FyberCom on this project, they are a local company that has affordable broadband plans for any home or business that is passed. Being a local company they help create local jobs with this project , it is very impactful for our community.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

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

Not Answered

Question: Estimated total project cost?

481000.00

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.

$3,587

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

1000 x 1000 mbps

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, the City of Ririe will execute an encroachment agreement giving FyberCom the right to use the right of way for the purpose of installing fiber. All permits and permissions will be readily available to meet the required deadline.

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

FyberCom will own and operate the broadband services.

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

The project will be administered by the Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Ririe. Grants pledged and received will be tracked by the City's accounting department and available to the public upon request. The grant administrator and councilman will meet at least bi-weekly with service provider and perform site visits. The administrator will also collect and review invoices and complete reimbursement paperwork for the City of Ririe.

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.

No fiber optic cable connections are currently available in the City of Ririe. Other forms of internet access available are unreliable and expensive per cost of megabyte. When internet access is available most speeds are less that 20 Mbps download. When COVID restrictions were ordered the City found itself in dire need for broadband for telehealth and distance learning. Many internet providers at this time were 2 months out on installation time to get residents of Ririe internet access. Having no public WiFi locations requires every home to have internet, due to income based issues many residents could not acquire internet for these reasons.

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).

Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.18.32 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:41 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.17.50 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:41 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.16.59 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:41 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.16.06 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:40 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.15.17 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:40 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.11.29 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:39 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.10.42 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:39 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.09.30 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:38 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.08.41 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:38 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.07.42 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:38 PM)
Screen Shot 2021-07-08 at 2.06.55 PM.png (7/15/2021 2:37 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

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

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.

Ririe PDF copy.pdf (7/15/2021 2:54 PM)
Ririe Fiber KMZ.kmz (7/15/2021 2:47 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.

Grant Budget.pdf (7/15/2021 2:56 PM)

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

Project Schedule.pdf (7/15/2021 2:56 PM)

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

CARES Act Cert.pdf (7/15/2021 2:57 PM)

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

Ririe City Council Support.pdf (7/15/2021 3:01 PM)
Resident Support.pdf (7/15/2021 3:01 PM)
PT Support.pdf (7/15/2021 3:01 PM)
Bank Support.pdf (7/15/2021 3:00 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)

Service and Grant Commitment.pdf (7/15/2021 3:02 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.

Line of Site to Towers 4.jpg (7/15/2021 3:06 PM)
Line of Site to Towers 3.jpg (7/15/2021 3:06 PM)
Line of Site to Towers 2.jpg (7/15/2021 3:05 PM)
Line of Site to Towers 1.jpg (7/15/2021 3:05 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.

Eric Bennion

Question: Type your title.

Ririe City Councilman

Question: Type the submission date.

July 15, 2021

July 9, 2021

Idaho Department of Commerce

The Bank of Commerce would like to offer this letter in support of the City of Ririe's grant to bring Broadband access to our outlying communities and in upgrading our city's infrastructure. The last 18 months has been a trying time for our small community. With the Covid-19 pandemic so many people worked from home and our children from school being home created a huge demand for better internet service and a demand for public WI-FI. We have several people that are in a lower-income bracket that live in the City of Ririe. These people did not have access to the internet. We really need more public access for the residents of our city. We have seen an increase in our customers coming to the Bank to see if they could use our internet. Due to our privacy policies, we are not allowed to have a public WI-FI. I see a great need for a public spot in our city.

We are in great support for the City of Ririe's Grant to bring Broadband access to our city.

Sincerely,

Judy Byington
Vice President/Manager

State of Idaho Broadband Grant CARES Act Certification

STATE OF IDAHO

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

The undersigned, Eric Bennion, representing the City of Ririe, 464 Main St, Ririe ID 83443, hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am City Councilman of City of Ririe 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. 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.
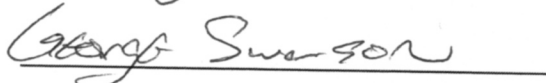
The main proposed area is Ririe City Hall located at 464 Main St Ririe, ID 83443. This proposed area meets the criteria for the CARES Act by helping supply the City Hall, food bank, senior center, library, and citizens with needed broadband service. With this public WiFi service the City will be able to facilitate distance learning and have technological improvements that will help them comply with future and current restrictions due to emergencies such as COVID-19. This service will also help 131 households have access to Fiber Optics.

_____
Signature

July 15, 2021
Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this _15_ day of _July, 2021_
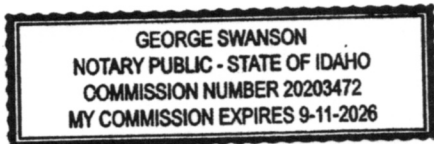
George Swanson
Notary Public for STATE

Residing at _3700 N Yellowstone ID 83401_

Commission expires _9/11/26_

GEORGE SWANSON
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF IDAHO
COMMISSION NUMBER 20203472
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 9-11-2026

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars	Total
Materials/Fiber/Conduit/Hand Holes	470,000	470,000
City Hall/Senior Center/Food Bank Public WiFi System	6,000	6,000
Grant Administration	5,000	5,000
TOTAL	481,000	481,000

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date

Chad Simmons
Hometown Physical Therapy
Chadr8@gmail.com
245 Main Street Ririe, ID
83443

July 13, 2021

Idaho Department of Commerce

On behalf of the community of Ririe, ID as well as Ririe School District #252 I would like to give my support on behalf of the City of Ririe's city building to have internet access through the available grant. As a small business in Ririe I know first hand how difficult it is to get good access to the internet as well as can see that a large percentage of the town is low income homes that do not have access to the internet outside of school or work.

With Ririe being a small rural community I see having internet access available to the general public being a very beneficial and great use of grant money to help a population in need of these public services.

Sincerely,

Chad Simmons
Doctor of Physical Therapy.

July 15, 2021

Idaho Department of Commerce

I would like to offer this letter in support of City of Ririe's grant to bring Broadband access to our outlying communities. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, it became necessary for me to begin working from home. I have upgraded my personal internet connection at home. As a resident, I feel that the ability to have more options for people to connect online is a good thing. At one point city offices city offices were closed and this restricted access for the help we needed from our City Clerk.

I feel that the citizens of Ririe and myself would benefit from the ability to have public web access to gather city information (Meeting agenda, meeting minutes, schedules), and pay bills online. A public access point for our citizens would also be a great benefit.

I would like to express my full support of The City of Ririe's grant to bring Broadband access to our outlying areas.

Sincerely,

Eric Bennion

Resident of Ririe

July 15, 2021

Idaho Department of Commerce

Ririe City Council would like to offer this letter in support of City of Ririe's grant to bring Broadband access to our outlying communities. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, it became necessary to close city offices and thus restrict access for our citizens to the help they needed from our City Clerk.

We found that we could benefit from the ability to have web access for our citizens so that they can gather information (Meeting agenda, meeting minutes, schedules), and pay bills online. This need for broadband / website services also gives us the opportunity to possibly provide a public access point for our citizens that may not have their own Internet access.

The Ririe City Council would like to express they are in full support of The City of Ririe's grant to bring Broadband access to our outlying areas.

Sincerely,

Ririe City Council

Eric Bennion – President

Will Jones

Robert Johnson

Howard Kimmel

-CITY BUILDINGS, LIBRARY & WELL PUMPS

-BUSINESSES

-RESIDENTIAL HOMES

-FIBER START

GREEN LINE IS FIBER RUN TO EACH WELL PUMP HOUSE.

SPEEDTEST

PING

10
ms

DOWNLOAD

8.7
Mbps

JITTER

1
ms

UPLOAD

1.8
Mbps

AGAIN

Sparklight
Idaho Falls, ID

COPY LINK

Sparklight
24.119.32.75

Sparklight
Idaho Falls, ID

⌁ PING

10
ms

⌄ DOWNLOAD

4.9
Mbps

AGAIN

⌢ JITTER

1
ms

�᷅ UPLOAD

1.1
Mbps

Sparklight ⌄
Idaho Falls, ID

COPY LINK

Sparklight
24.119.32.75

Sparklight
Idaho Falls, ID

PING

10
ms

DOWNLOAD

9.8
Mbps

AGAIN

Sparklight ⌄
Idaho Falls, ID

JITTER

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ms

UPLOAD

1.9
Mbps

COPY LINK

Sparklight
24.119.32.75

Sparklight
Idaho Falls, ID

FyberCom

208-403-0505 I
nfo@fybercom.net
3780 N Yellowstone Hwy
Idaho Falls ID 83401

July 15, 2021

Eric Bennion
City Councilman
464 Main St
Ririe ID 83443

Service and Grant Commitment

This letter is my commitment to utilize Fybercom's service if the State of Idaho Broadband Grant project is funded. The discussed service plan is for 250x250mbps for $159.99 monthly with a 36 month agreement.

Signature: _EB_____
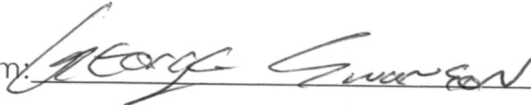
Print Name: _ERIC BENNION_____

Date: _July 15, 2021_____

Fybercom: _George Grimson_____

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Kim Keeley
Applicant ID	APP-004835
Company Name	Teton County
Recipient Address	Teton County 150 Courthouse Dr Driggs, ID 83422
Phone	(208) 354-2905
Email	kkeeley@co.teton.id.us
Amount Requested	$67,810.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	☐

Application Title: Teton County Alternate Care Site Fiber 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

a. Greg Adams
b. IT Director/Emergency Management Coordinator
c. 150 Courthouse Drive, Driggs, ID 83422
d. gadams@co.teton.id.us
e. 208-354-2703

Question: List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Teton County and Driggs

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.

a. Greg Adams IT Director/Emergency Management Coordinator
b. gadams@co.teton.id.us
c. 208-354-2703

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.

COVID-19 is deadly disease that has caused much sickness and death around the world and here in Idaho. In order to deal with the increased surge in medical treatment needs, alternate care sites may be required. The alternate care site that has been in place for our hospital is being repurposed for other uses, and in order for us to be able to maintain our ability to handle that critical need for our community we have been looking at other options. A leading candidate is the County fair building, but in order to be able to support those activities there we need to increase the phone and data network to that site. In order to be able to accomplish this we are seeking funding to finish a fiber optic connection to that site that will link it to the County network. We have already begun to build out this connection by burying about half of the conduit we will need for the connection and are seeking funding to finish installing the rest of the conduit and all of the fiber needed to complete the connection. The project will also include terminating the fiber and a new switch to be able to connect and direct phone and data traffic on the County network. Our local ISP Silverstar could potentially supply this connection to the County, but they would need to install part of it and the fees for installation and recurring costs are much more than the cost of us completing the project ourselves over the 30 to 50 year lifespan of the project.

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 project will be used to promote telehealth and provide for public safety at a site that can be used for our hospital alternate care site or a medical mass care shelter site.

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

The project is directly tied to responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, because it is preparing a response asset to be ready for the next wave of COVID-19. The Delta variant is proving to be more easily spread and our lack of progress on vaccination could lead us to another surge in cases and deaths across the State, and around the world.

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?

Our local Internet Service Provider could provide a connection like this, but their initial cost and recurring costs over the 30 to 50 year lifespan of the project is much more expensive then us setting up the connection ourselves.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

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

We already have half of the conduit needed in the ground and all of the expense of creating the phone and data paths and systems to use for the site.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

67810.00

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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

40 GB/second with our current equipment.

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, we will only need a right of way permit from the State for the project, that should only take a few weeks to get. The contractor for the installation of the conduit and fiber is already in the area and has committed to being able to complete this project before winter.

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

Teton County will own the broadband infrastructure and provide the service to the facility.

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

The Teton County IT Director will administer the project and the fiber termination contractor will test and verify the fiber optic run. The IT Director will oversee all of the expenses as well as the reimbursement process and all reporting requirements.

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?

I do not know if these types of funds have been used or will be used. However this project is necessary to combat the COVID-19 virus that we will continue to face.

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 Driggs did receive a CARES Act Broadband Grant, but that doesn't assist in the project we are applying for, because they do not accomplish our objective of supporting an alternate care site or a medical mass care shelter site in the most cost effective way possible.

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

This project will allow us to provide telehealth options at an alternate care site in the most secure and economically feasible way possible. Thank you for this opportunity.

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).

No Attachments

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

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

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.

Teton CARES Act Broadband Project.kmz (7/16/2021 1:01 PM)
Teton CARES Act Broadband Project.pdf (7/16/2021 1:01 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.

Teton-Cares-Act-Broadband-Grant-Budget.pdf (7/16/2021 9:59 AM)

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

Teton_Cares-Act-Broadband-Grant-Project-Schedule.pdf (7/16/2021 9:59 AM)

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

Teton CARES act letter notarized.pdf (7/16/2021 10:03 AM)

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.

Greg Adams

Question: Type your title.

IT Director / Emergency Management Coordinator

Question: Type the submission date.

7-16-2021

Teton CARES Act Broadband Project

Red is the current conduit location
Blue is the proposed project

Legend

- Anytime Fitness
- Best Western Teton West
- CARES Act Project
- County Annex Building
- Current Conduit Path
- Driggs Veterinary Clinic
- Driggs-reed Memorial Airport
- Feature 1
- Huntsman Springs
- Huntsman Springs Club House
- School
- SUBWAY® Restaurants
- Warbirds Cafe

County Annex Building

Google Earth

© 2021 Google

1000 ft

Teton County
Emergency Management

Greg Adams, Coordinator
(208)354-2703
gadams@co.teton.id.us

STATE OF Idaho COUNTY OF Teton

The undersigned, Greg Adams, representing Teton County Idaho, 150 Courthouse Drive, Driggs, Idaho, hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am the IT Director of Teton County Idaho 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.

This project will directly support our ability to operate an alternate care site at our fairgrounds to support our local hospital or a medical mass care shelter in our response efforts to combat the COVID-19 virus.

_____   7-15-21_____
Signature   Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this _15th_ day of July, 2021

_____
Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at Victor, Idaho

Commission expires 11/25/2025
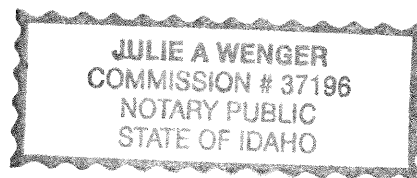
JULIE A WENGER
COMMISSION # 37196
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF IDAHO

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant – Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars				Total
Totals					

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	Jacque Beard
Applicant ID	APP-004849
Company Name	Tetonia
Recipient Address	Tetonia 3192 Perry Ave Tetonia, ID 83452
Phone	(208) 456-2249
Email	clerk@cityoftetonia.com
Amount Requested	$1,003,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	☐

Application Title: Idaho Broadband Grant Project-Tetonia Silverstar Fiber Optic 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

Jacque Beard
City Clerk/Treasurer
P.O. Box 57
Tetonia Idaho, 83452
clerk@cityoftetonia.com
208-456-2249

Question: List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

Tetonia, 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.

Jacque Beard
City Clerk/ Treasurer
208-456-2249

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.

Tetonia City would partner with Silverstar Communications to enable 269 people within 106 residences within the City to be able to connect to reliable broadband as well as help meet the demand of a multiuse network.

If awarded these funds, Silverstar would construct 21,530 feet of fiber optic main cables and 31,800 feet of fiber optic end user drops. The broadband plan for Tetonia would be a phased approach to overbuild the entire community with fiber and thereby upgrading all broadband services to levels up to 10 gig speed if desired.

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?

We live in a small but thriving community. The recent pandemic has highlighted the need for improved internet throughout our community. During the pandemic there were many students who struggled to do their school work because of poor internet connections. We have also had an increased number of residents who have been required to work from home. Many students/parents needed to take turns working on their internet systems -- one at a time which was difficult and disruptive for these households. The community's dependence on the internet continues to be important and this need will continue to increase. Given that we live in a rural

area, many of our residents depend on the internet for communication with the outside which poses a safety concern for our vulnerable population.

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

Being a rural community, Tetonia's dependence on suitable internet is crucial for those citizens who have experienced severe challenges in attempting to participate in critical activities such as telehealth, distance online learning and teleworking. Many of our citizens are elderly and depend on telehealth services. Tetonia also hosts an elementary school and a fire station that depends on strong and reliable internet.

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?

Funding for this project will be used for the expansion of broadband to areas that are currently served with less that the quality of internet connections recommended by FCC Guidelines. All of our residents, elementary school and governmental entities would clearly benefit from this project.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

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

City of Tetonia does not currently have the budgeted financial resources to provide a match at this time.

Question: Estimated total project cost?

1003000.00

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.

106

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.

$3,845

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

The maximum speed of broadband would be 10 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.

Yes. The City of Tetonia staff and Silverstar personnel will work together to ensure that permitting and construction activities are prioritized to meet the project scheduled dates.

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

Silverstar Communications will be providing the broadband service as well as taking ownership of the broadband infrastructure.

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

This project will be administered by Tetonia City Clerk/Treasurer, Jacque Beard, as well as support by Silverstar Communications.

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?

This project has not received any funding nor has any funding been requested elsewhere.

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 state funds have been received in the past for this project.

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

We live in a small but thriving community. The recent pandemic has highlighted the need for improved internet throughout our community. During the pandemic there were many students who struggled to do their school work because of poor internet connections. We have also had an increased number of residents who have been required to work from home. Many students/parents needed to take turns working on their internet systems -- one at a time which was difficult and disruptive for these households. The community's dependence on the internet continues to be important and this need will continue to increase. Given that we live in a rural area, many of our residents depend on the internet for communication with the outside which poses a safety concern for our vulnerable population.

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).

[2021Grant_SpeedScreenShots (2).pdf](#) (7/16/2021 1:35 PM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

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

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.

[doc00653620210715202828.pdf](#) (7/15/2021 7:18 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.

[doc00653820210715202900.pdf](#) (7/15/2021 7:19 PM)

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

[doc00653920210715203106.pdf](#) (7/15/2021 7:20 PM)

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

[doc00654320210715204407.pdf](#) (7/15/2021 7:50 PM)

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

[doc00653720210715202844.pdf](#) (7/16/2021 9:57 AM)

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)

[mayor letter of support.pdf](#) (7/16/2021 1:35 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.

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.

Jacque M. Beard

Question: Type your title.

City Clerk/ Treasurer

Question: Type the submission date.

07/16/2021

Idaho Broadband Fund: Broadband Grant
Project: City of Tetonia, Silver Star Fiber Optic Expansion

Speed Tests

Test 1

Test 2

Test 3

8:42

Internet Speed Test | Silver Star Intern...

SILVER STAR
COMMUNICATIONS

⊘ SPEEDTEST

⊙ PING
60
ms

⊙ DOWNLOAD
22.2
Mbps

⊙ JITTER
7
ms

⊙ UPLOAD
4.3
Mbps

Rise Broadband
173.198.170.40

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

AGAIN

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

COPY LINK

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used under license.

Test 4

9:26
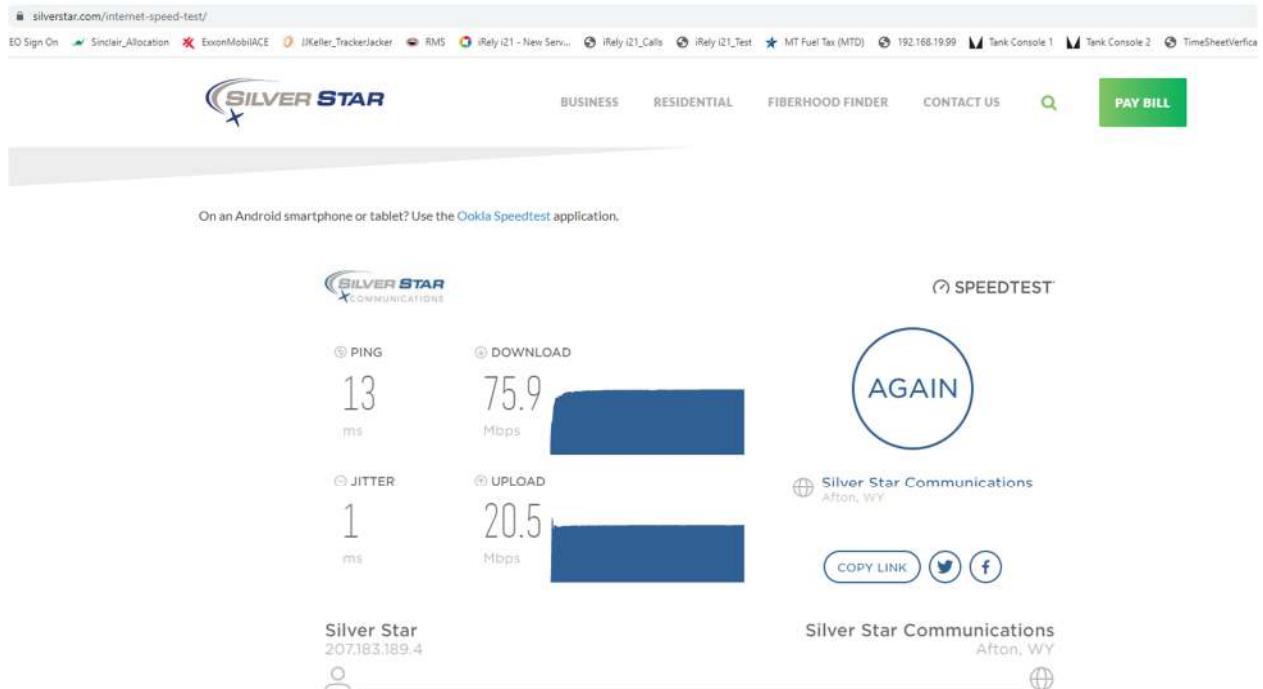
SILVER STAR
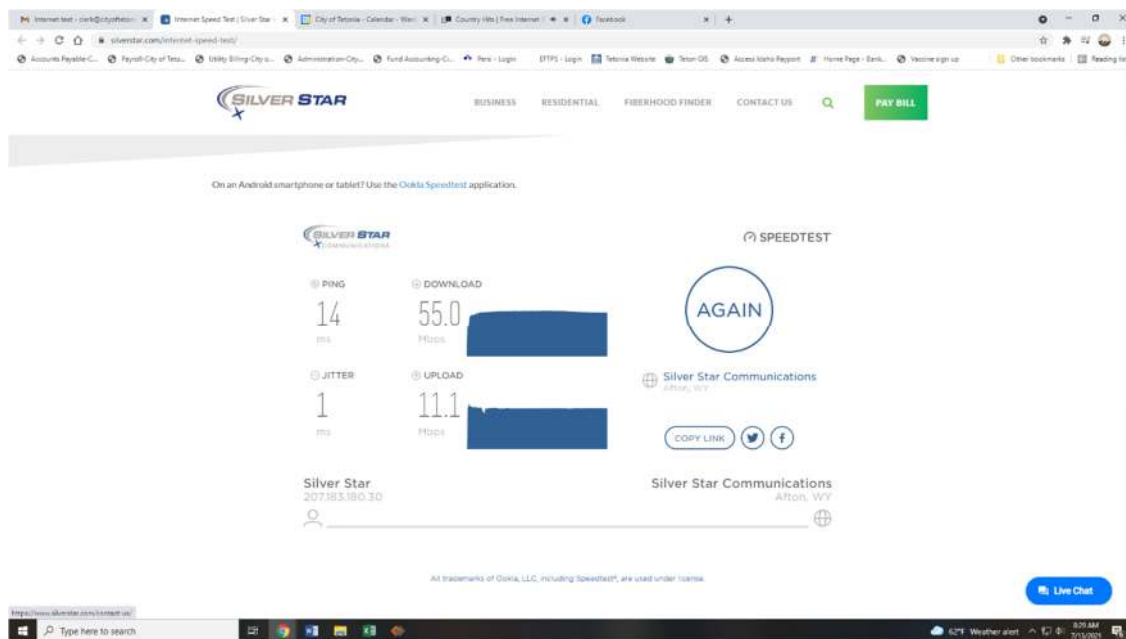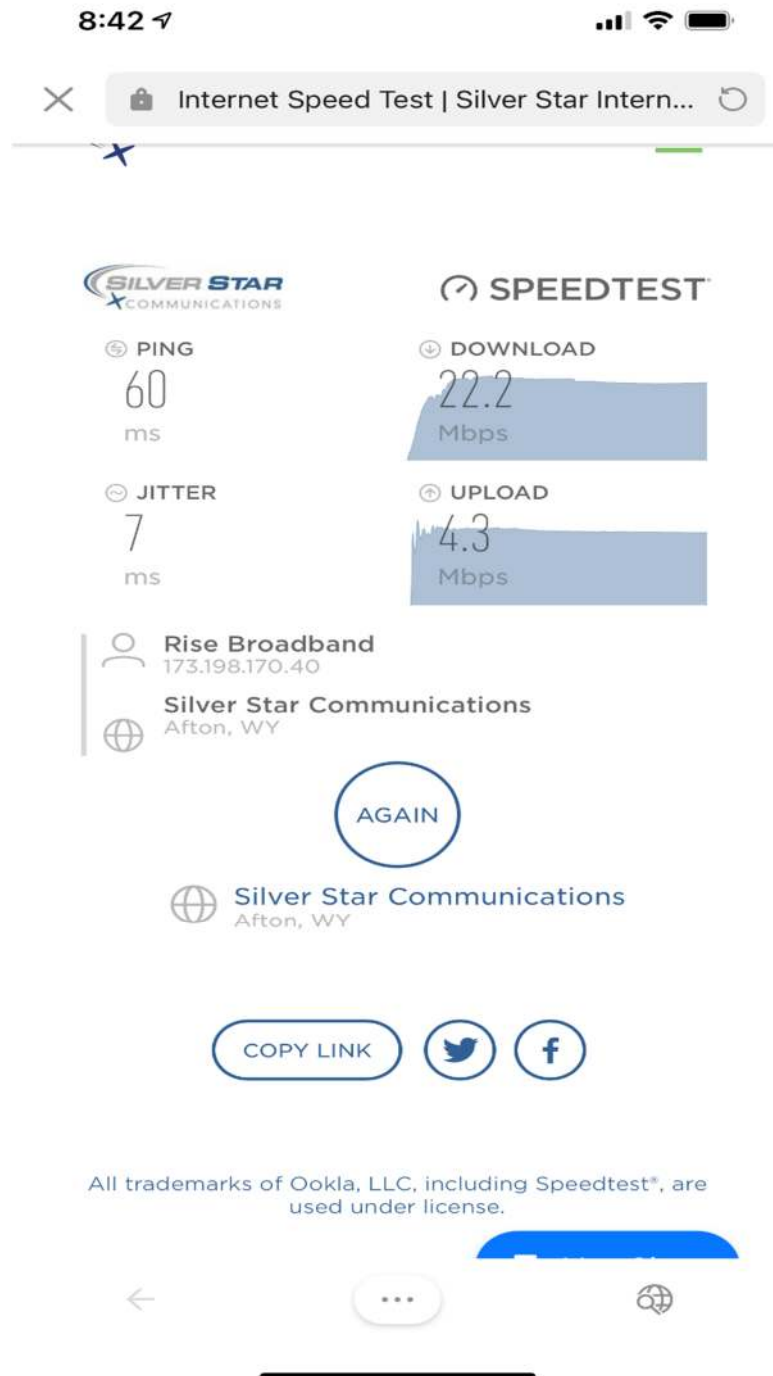
SILVER STAR
COMMUNICATIONS

⊘ SPEEDTEST

PING
17
ms

DOWNLOAD
3.9
Mbps

JITTER
455
ms

UPLOAD
1.6
Mbps

Silver Star
216.128.233.78

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

AGAIN

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

COPY LINK

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Test 5

B+ https://www.silverstar.com   🔥 🔲 ⋮

SILVER STAR
✕

☰

On an Android smartphone or tablet? Use the
Ookla Speedtest application.

SILVER STAR
COMMUNICATIONS

⦿ **SPEEDTEST**

Ⓢ PING

99
ms

⊙ JITTER

16
ms

⊙ DOWNLOAD

3.5
Mbps

⊙ UPLOAD

1.4
Mbps

○ **Verizon**
   174.204.16.82

⊕ **Silver Star Communications**
   Afton, WY

(AGAIN)

⊕ **Silver Star Communications**
   Afton, WY

(COPY LINK) 🐦 f

||| ◯   ⟨

Test 6

9:34

SILVER STAR

SILVER STAR
COMMUNICATIONS

SPEEDTEST

PING
10
ms

DOWNLOAD
30.5
Mbps

JITTER
2
ms

UPLOAD
6.4
Mbps

Silver Star
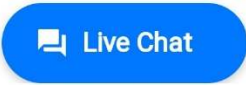217.147.189.126

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

AGAIN

Silver Star Communications
Afton, WY

COPY LINK

Live Chat

Test 7

⦿ No Location Selected

SILVER STAR

BUSINESS   RESIDENTIAL   FIBERHOOD   PAY BILL   CONTACT US

Internet Speed Test

On an Android smartphone or tablet? Use the Ookla Speedtest application.

SILVER STAR

⊘ SPEEDTEST

PING
8
ms

20.6   20.6

JITTER
1
ms

6.3   6.3

Silver Star
207.183.172.190

Silver Star Communications
Alton, WY

AGAIN

IP 192.168.1.160

Silver Star Communications
Alton, WY
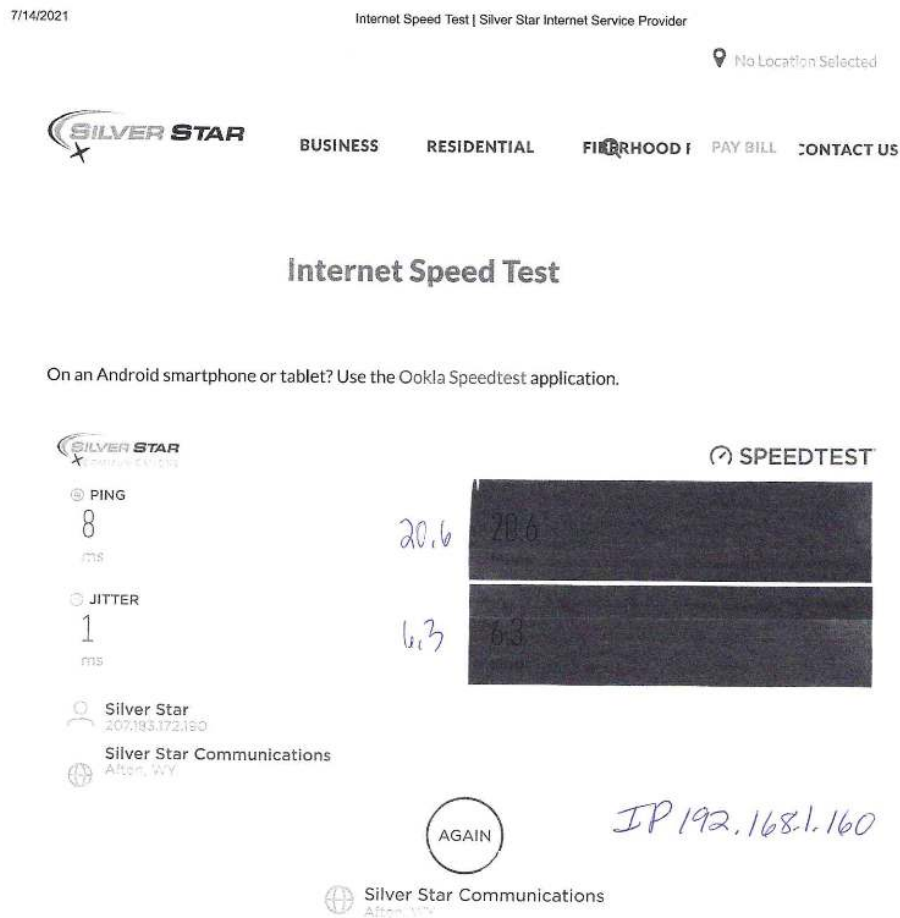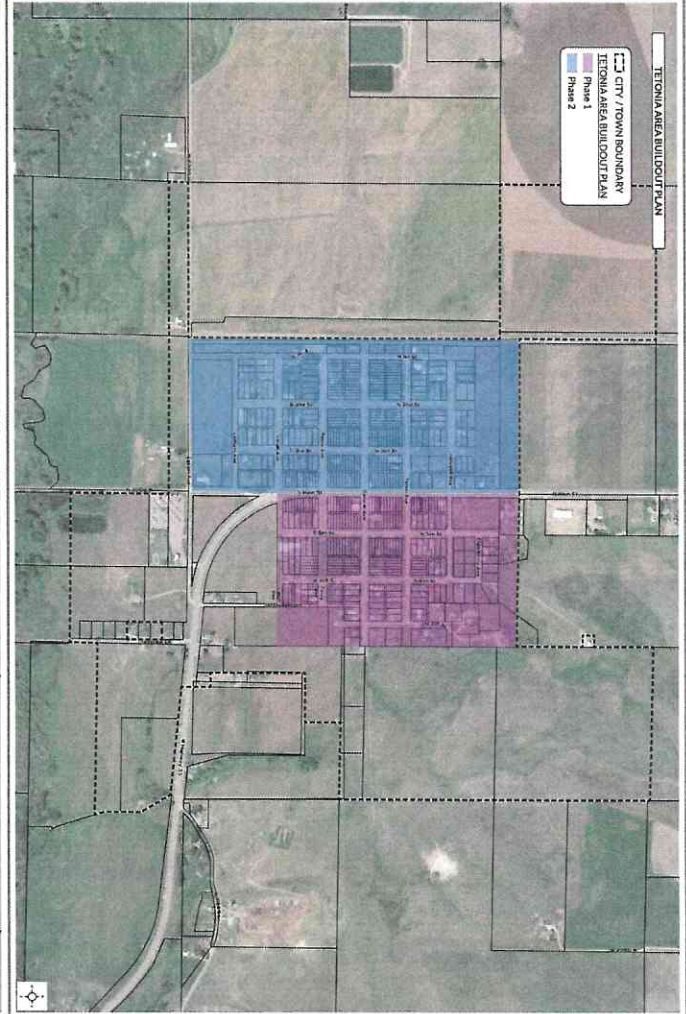

Test 8

IP Address 192.168.1.128

Test 9

Test 10

SILVER STAR
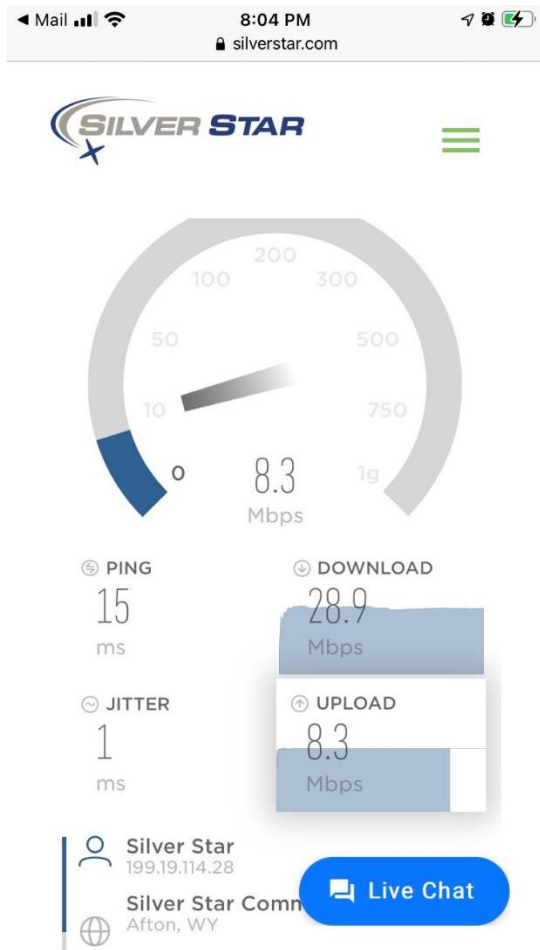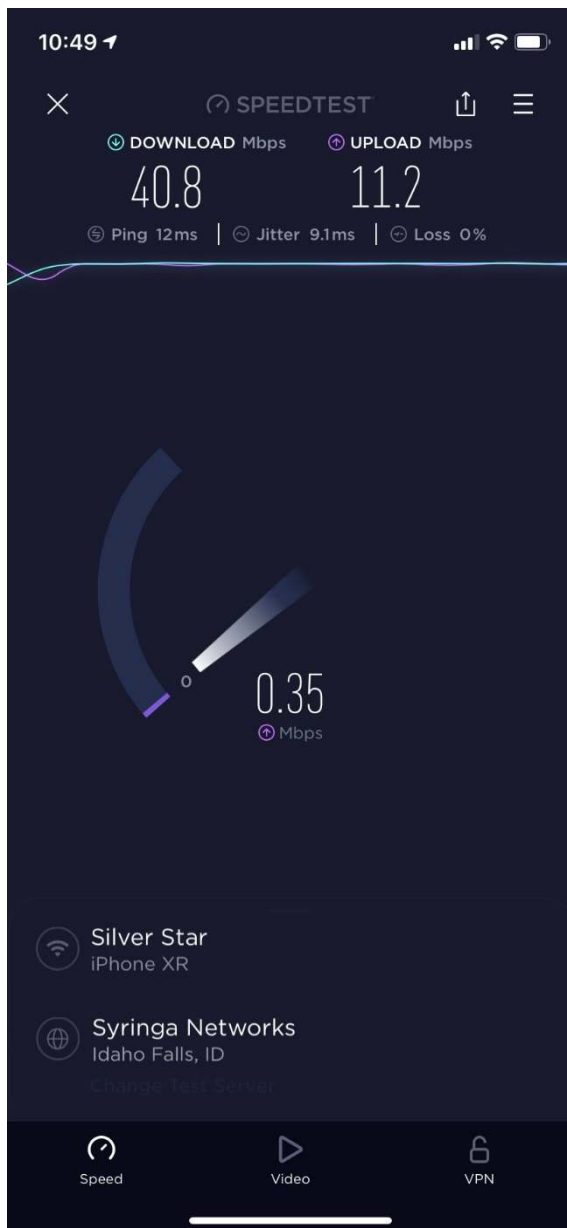
IDAHO BROADBAND GRANT
- CARES ACT -
TETONIA AREA
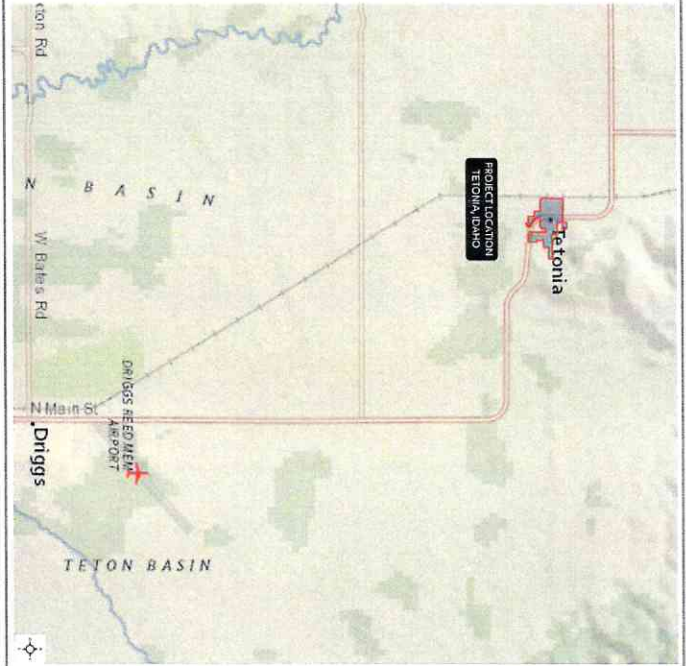
NUMBER OF LOCATIONS:
206

LOCATIONS CAPABLE OF OBTAINING 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps
206

LOCATIONS INCAPABLE OF OBTAINING 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps
0

A "Broadband" connection is defined by the FCC as a location that is capable
of receiving a minimum speed of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload.
(Mbps = Megabits per second)

PROJECT LOCATION
TETONIA, IDAHO

Tetonia

Driggs

N BASIN

W Bates Rd

N Main St

DRIGGS REED MEMORIAL AIRPORT

TETON BASIN

PROJECT AREA - EXISTING SPEED PROFILE

- CITY / TOWN BOUNDARY
- PROJECT AREA
- LOCATIONS
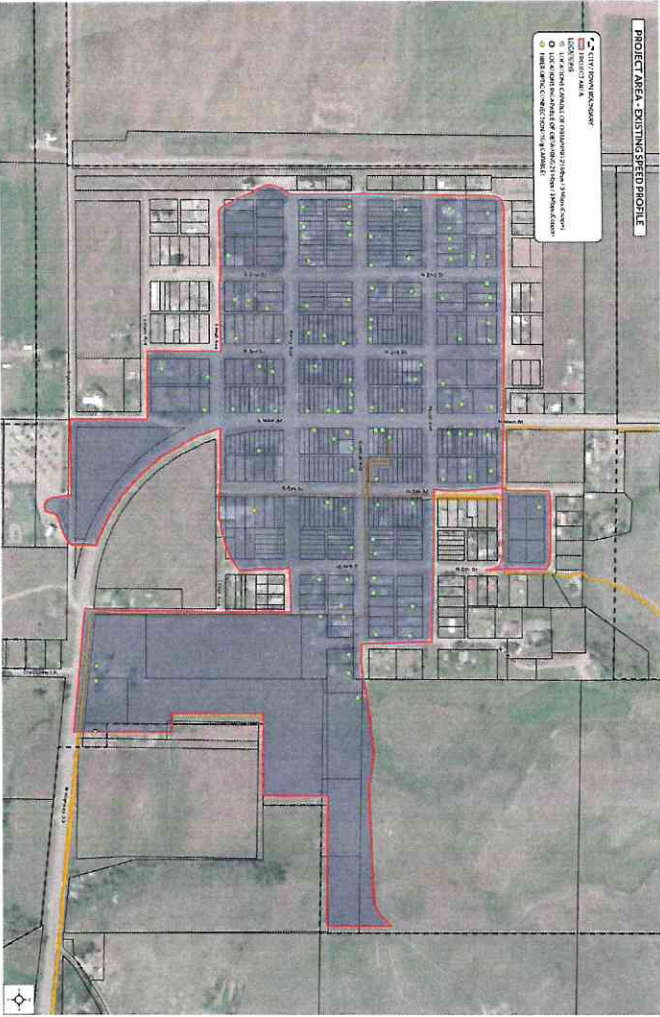
PROJECT AREA - FINAL SPEED PROFILE

- CITY / TOWN BOUNDARY
- PROJECT AREA
- FIBER OPTIC CONNECTION (1Gbps CAPABLE)

TETONIA AREA BUILDOUT PLAN

- CITY / TOWN BOUNDARY
- TETONIA AREA BUILDOUT PLAN
- Phase 1
- Phase 2
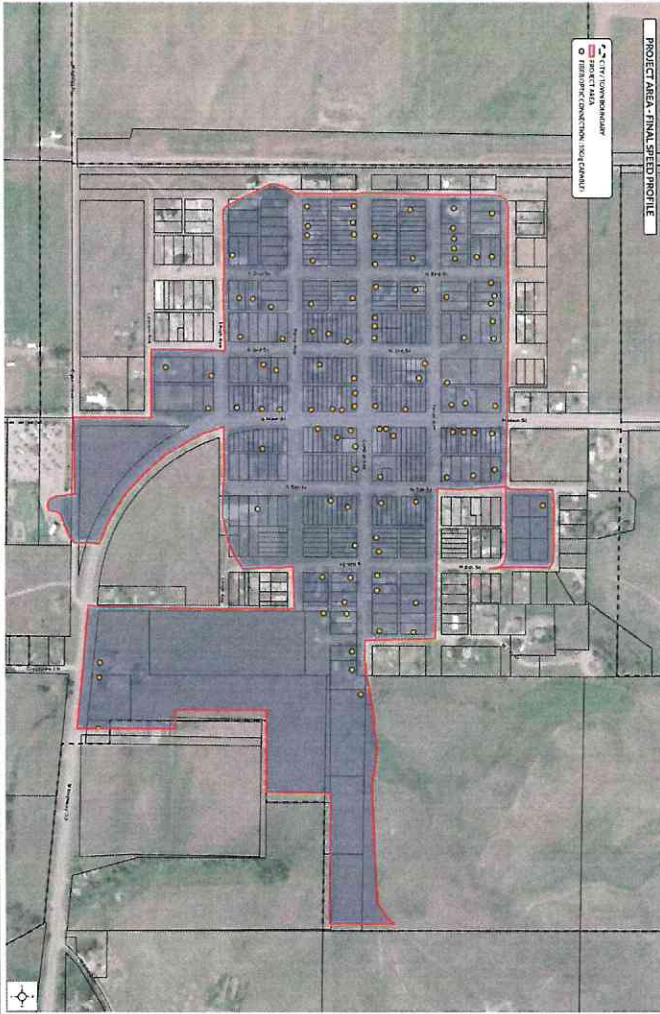
Idaho Broadband Fund: Broadband Grant Project: City of Tetonia, Silver Star Fiber Optic Expansion

Statement of Support

Columbine Telephone Company, Inc. dba Silver Star Communications ("Silver Star") is the local community telecommunications provider with over sixty-five years' collective experience building and operating a widespread, state-of-the-art communications network. Silver Star has designed, constructed and operates a robust broadband network consisting of over 1,200 miles of transport fiber optic cable in its local and competitive exchanges, supporting diverse and redundant circuits. Silver Star has served the Tetonia Community for nearly 25 years providing basic and advanced communications services, following its purchase of the local exchange from Qwest. Silver Star's role in the community ranges from that of a critical services provider, and investing millions of dollars in broadband infrastructure, to a community support organization, donating hundreds of hours each year toward community service projects.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light the urgent need for critical broadband infrastructure in order to provide high speed, reliable broadband services in rural, high cost serving areas. Working from home, learning from home, receiving medical care at home and consumer goods purchasing have all been integral to keeping income and revenues flowing and improving the public health and safety. These important life connections require high quality, redundant, low latency and high-speed connections. There is a long way to go to providing this level of quality connectivity to everyone; funding from the Idaho Broadband Fund, CARES Act Broadband Grant provides companies like Silver Star the additional support to expand fiber optic facilities in order to provide the critically needed broadband services that will help Idaho rebound from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Silver Star is pleased to work with City of Tetonia to bring this project to a successful close and to be a part of closing the digital divide that so often is a huge obstacle for rural communities to overcome. This project will expand broadband access to households in the rural Tetonia, Idaho community and deliver enhanced broadband services which will provide the Tetonia community the benefit of broadband speeds far exceeding 25/3, via a high speed, reliable

broadband network. These advanced broadband services will enable unrestricted access to educational services, medical services and economic opportunities. The expected benefits contribute to a higher quality of life, improving the health, safety, educational and economic opportunities of the entire Community.

Project Description

Silver Star will build, manage, and operate a new fiber optic to the home (FTTH) network to each dwelling within the project area located in Tetonia, Idaho, population 269. This project will impact **106** locations within the Tetonia Community, enabling broadband service up to 10 gbps.

The FTTH network will allow for high speed low, latency services that are critical to supporting work from home, access to telehealth services, and online educational opportunities along with any other video and data services. The network will be designed with the future in mind and be able to deliver 10 gig services so that customer demands can be met now and far into the future.

The network will be composed of new Central Office equipment, from Silver Star's long-term partner Calix, Inc. a US based global provider to telecommunications companies. We will use a next generation PON (passive optical network) service as the primary delivery method to allow up to 10Gig service levels. These services will be carried over ribbon fiber placed in the ground to each home and terminated inside the home to bring the full power of fiber optics to each customer. The end user experience will be delivered with an industry leading router that is WIFI6 capable and has built in network security and parental controls available so that content, websites, and applications can be restricted if desired.

Direct and indirect beneficiaries of this project are:

• **106** households
• Public school facilities (online distance learning, tele-education)
• Critical community facilities (emergency, state/local/federal government); telehealth (hospitals, physicians, community mental health centers and substance abuse clinics)
• Federal, State and local emergency response teams and related initiatives
• Existing and start-up businesses looking for network reliability, seeking to expand to other communities or connect offices using less costly, shorter transport and circuit routes
• Telecommuters, those working from home by choice (e.g., self employed) or as a requirement of their employer, and small business owners
• Educators, students, emergency personnel, out-of-state visitors

This proposed project delivers broadband service beyond the current FCC-recommended 25/3 and leverages existing middle mile facilities surrounding the project area. The broadband plan

for the Tetonia community is a phased approach to overbuild the entire Community with fiber and thereby upgrade all broadband services to levels up to 10 Gig speed if desired. The plan is to be primarily funded internally by Silver Star (federal and company operating funds) and be completed by 2028. An award from the Idaho Broadband Fund under the CARES Act Broadband Grat will expedite this plan, providing the identified locations almost immediately with access to broadband more than adequate to participate in telehealth, online education, and work from home opportunities.

Budget / Timeline

This project overbuilds fiber optic facilities in a portion of the rural community of Tetonia, Idaho, covering an approximate six-tenths of a square mile area of land, constructing 21,530 feet of fiber optic main cable and 31,800 feet of fiber optic end user drops. The project budget proposed in this application is $1,003,000. Silver Star expects project construction to begin in August 2021 and project completion prior to December 31, 2021, including household broadband access activation. Grant administration of the project will be overseen by Tetonia City Clerk/Treasurer, Jacque Beard.

Project Scope

See attached maps which illustrate the project scope and facilities construction build. Silver Star and Tetonia Planning/Roads department personnel will work together to ensure permitting and construction activities are prioritized to meet the project schedule dates.

Idaho Broadband Grant Project: Tetonia, Silver Star Fiber Optic Expansion

IDAHO BROADBAND FUND: BROADBAND GRANT BUDGET

Line Item	Grant Funds			Total
Main Fiber Optic Cable	$ 518,000			$ 518,000
Drops (Fiber Optic, including Optical Network Terminal Equipment)	$ 336,000			$ 336,000
COE (Central Office Equipment)	$ 68,000			$ 68,000
Project design, engineering, permitting and construction oversight/inspection	$ 66,000			$ 66,000
Grant Administration	$ 15,000			$ 15,000
Totals	$ 1,003,000			$ 1,003,000

Idaho Broadband Grant Project: Tetonia, Silver Star Fiber Optic Expansion

IDAHO BROADBAND FUND: BROADBAND GRANT - PROJECT SCHEDULE*

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date
Project Engineering/Design, Permitting, Construction Oversight/Inspection	Silver Star	7/25/2021	11/13/2021
Facilities Construction (upon grant award and signed contract)	Silver Star (construction contractor)	8/15/2021	11/3/2021
Facilities/Equipment Turn-up	Silver Star	8/15/2021	12/4/2021
Grant Closing Activities	City of Tetonia	11/13/2021	12/15/2021

*Design/Build Project; Start/End Dates estimated and may vary depending on weather, materials availability, etc.

State of Idaho Broadband Grant
CARES Act Certification
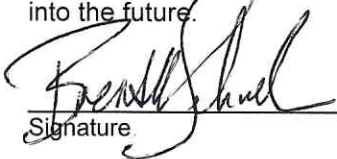
STATE OF Idaho
COUNTY OF Teton

The undersigned, Brent Schindler, representing City of Tetonia, 3192 Perry Avenue, Tetonia Idaho, hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am Mayor of City of Tetonia 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. 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.

This proposed project delivers broadband service beyond the grant recommended 25/3 and leverages existing middle mile facilities surrounding the project area. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light a critical need for broadband services in rural, high cost serving areas. Working from home, learning from home, telemedicine and consumer goods purchasing have all been critical to keeping income and revenues flowing. These important life connections require high quality, redundant, low latency and high-speed connections.

Silver Star will build, manage, and operate a new fiber optic to the home (FTTH) network to each dwelling within the project area located in Tetonia, Idaho population 269. This project will impact **106** locations within the Tetonia Community, enabling broadband service up to 10 gbps.

The FTTH network will allow for high speed low, latency services that are critical to supporting work from home, Telehealth, and online educational opportunities along with any other video and data services. The network will be designed with the future in mind and be able to deliver 10 gig services so that customer demands can be met now and far into the future.

_____   15 July 2021
Signature   Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 15 day of July. Jacque M. Beard

Notary Public for STATE Idaho

Residing at Teton County, ID

Commission expires 10/12/2024

Page **1** of **1**

07/16/2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the mayor of the City of Tetonia. We are a wonderful city with old fashioned values and a wonderful and rich history. As such, we are proud of our heritage and our sense of community.

Despite our pride with regard to the historic nature of our community, we recognize that we need to move forward into the 21st century. This was very evident during our recent pandemic. We found that our internet connections were woefully lacking. I frequently talked to students who tried to connect to their virtual classrooms throughout the day in order to find a strong enough connection to do their work. Some of these students were never able to find a strong enough internet connection to successfully finish their courses. While we did what we could to help them connect -- it was very difficult.

As the mayor, I also worry about our aged citizens who depend on internet connections to discuss issues with their doctors and medical staff. These citizens are not computer savvy and tend to give up when they cannot reach their medical professionals.

As the future unfolds in front of us, we will need these internet connections more and more. Please consider our needs seriously for this grant. The health, safety and education of our citizens depend on a reliable and strong internet connection.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Mayor Brent W. Schindler

Idaho Broadband Fund: CARES Act Broadband Grant

Applicant	April Galbraith
Applicant ID	APP-004857
Company Name	Roberts
Recipient Address	Roberts 2872E Roberts, ID 83444
Phone	(208) 228-3220
Email	robertslibrary@gmail.com
Amount Requested	$772,000.00
Status	Submitted
Funded	☐

Application Title: City of Roberts Fiber Connections For All

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

April Galbraith
City of Roberts Library Director
P.O. Box 242
Roberts, ID 83444
robertslibrary@gmail.com
(208) 228-3220

Question: List the cities/communities in the census blocks where the project(s) will take place.

City of Roberts

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.

Mayor Robert (B.J.) Berlin
robertsmayorbj@yahoo.com
(208) 313-982

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.

Roberts, Idaho is a rural community. Our city have received a very little to know interest from high-speed Broadband providers. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought a vast need to increase access for broadband internet to all of the city's citizens. We have experienced a substantial increase in the number of residents who using remote learning, telehealth and telecommunication in their normal work every day. Our citizens very health, education, and livelihoods rely on consistent, reliable, highspeed, broadband internet. Our local employers have found it difficult to compete in a business environment that is becoming ever more dependent on Fiber optic internet. The current lack of fiber optic internet has stymied the growth of these local employers.
Roberts has one local emergency care center that is only open one day a week. The clinic does a
marvelous job of doing what they can to serve our community, however, our residents deserve better. They need better, and faster access to wider reaching healthcare services. For Roberts we believe the answer is
Fiber Optic internet. We believe fiber optic internet will allow our residents to access all kinds of medical
services via improved telehealth resources.
As with other communities are educational system was dramatically affected by the corona virus

shutdown. Unlike many other communities Roberts does not have a local high school or middle school. This fact makes the need for at home schooling even more burdensome. Due to the grossly inadequate internet services currently available in Roberts many of these students were required to commute to bigger communities to find adequate internet just so they could complete

homework assignments.
One of the major factors in a lack of interest from Fiber Optic providers in our community has been our proximity to existing, available fiber lines. Because we are so far from other, larger, communities the expense to construct the required fiber optic lines has been cost prohibitive. However due to a Jefferson School District project Direct Communications has just finished laying an active fiber optic line to our community. Due to this project we are able to pursue a public private partnership with Direct Communications. Direct has committed to making available

hard wired, terrestrial based fiber optic internet to every rooftop in our community as well as our area of impact. These services will be available to both residential and in the future commercial locations. They have committed to make available symmetrical speeds up to a gig available to all locations. We are confident that this fiber optic broadband public private partnership project will meet not only the requirements of this grant, but of the needs of our community for years to come.

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?

This project will take fiber optic service to the door of every rooftop, as opposed to cherry picking higher wealth neighborhoods, this will allow for equal access across social and economic strata's. The current service providers are inadequate. They either don't provide broadband speeds or rely on wireless equipment that is unable to meet the demands and creates a situation where only certain areas of town have access to their services. The median H.H. income is roughly $33,000. Residents with limited incomes simply cannot afford the exorbitant cost of premium services. Current infrastructure is a large factor in economic development in our area. Current providers have not shown the ability to provide broadband service that can meet the demands of commercial services in our community. The cost for a small business to provide e-commerce on a reliable system is too high, or unavailable, excluding Roberts as an option for businesses that rely on broadband services for success.

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

The COVID-19 pandemic sent kids home from school, people home from work and kept vulnerable populations isolated from family, friends and without access to needed interactions. Without reliable internet services, children cannot learn. This remote learning issue is especially in Roberts where are youth must travel 20 – 30 miles just to attend classes or to access reliable wi-fi. Without reliable fiber optic broadband, they are often unable to complete or submit assignments. Without high-speed internet people cannot work from home and large populations of Roberts were without the capability to access telehealth for safe interactions with their providers. Residents are required to travel nearly 30 minutes for emergency or preventative care. Access to high speed, affordable fiber will allow for remote learning, telework, and facilitate telehealth for the people of Roberts. It will also allow vulnerable populations to access services to keep them safe and involved.

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?

This project is a FTTP (fiber to the premises) build that will bring fiber directly to consumer and negating the need to pay for the infrastructure as an individual. It will also provide reliable services to the community for a third of the current estimates from satellite providers. This will allow the community of Roberts to access 50mbps symmetrical, which will be basic package that will be provided, for $59.95 a month, in comparison to other some companies that offer 12 mbps X 3 mbps for $149.99 a month.

Additional Requested Information (if applicable)

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

Direct Communications intends to provide a match consisting of 24,000 feet of Fiber valued at up to $60,000.00

Question: Estimated total project cost?

827000.00

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.

202

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.

$4.094.06

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

Residentially -- 1 Gig symmetrical
Commercially -- 5 Gig symmetrical

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.

Almost all construction on this project will be done within the city limits of Roberts. Because of this it will limit the number of permits that are required from outside agencies. The selected vendor has an existing relationship with the City and County that will streamline the process of permitting and easement access. They also have a very cooperative relationship with the State of Idaho. We have the utmost confidence that all permits, permissions, and zoning requirements will be obtained and work will be completed before December 31st.

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

Direct Communications will own the fiber in the conduit but the fiber and electronics necessary to light it only, which is necessary in order for them to tie the new fiber back to their existing network. In the interest of equal access, Direct Communications will agree with the city of Roberts to make available circuits and carrier services to competitive providers at a fair market rate. Upon funding, the City of Roberts and Direct Communications will have an MOU that outlines equal access and choices for the citizens within the impact zone.

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

Direct Communications will verify that all contractors have completed there work to industry accepted standards. Then the Roberts Maintenance will verify the overall completion of work. Direct will be responsible to pay contractors. The City of Roberts will pay Direct Communications when the work has been verified. All accounting will be audited through Jensen, Poulsen, & Company.

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.

Roberts should be an attractive, destination for both residential and commercial growth. We are ideally located at the intersection Interstate 15 and state highway 48. Our community is only a few short miles away from water access on the Snake River. Our children are educated in the Jefferson school district. We have both commercial and residential land available for development. However instead of experience growth and revitalization our community is struggling just to maintain. We strongly feel that a major factor in this lack of growth is the absence of high-speed fiber optic internet access. This struggle became even more difficult as we dealt with the isolation caused by Covid19. Without these support dollars we are afraid that it will become more and more difficult for our residents, and our community, to compete in an ever-growing digital society.

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).

ROBERTS- Speed Tests ver. 2.pdf (7/16/2021 12:44 AM)

Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

Upload Required Attachments & Additional Supporting Documents

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

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.

Roberts ver.2.kmz (7/16/2021 12:47 AM)
Roberts area.jpg (7/16/2021 12:47 AM)

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.

Roberts Broadband Grant Budget.pdf (7/16/2021 2:52 PM)
Roberts 21 Estimate ver. 2.pdf (7/16/2021 12:53 AM)

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

Project Schedule.docx (7/16/2021 1:37 AM)

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

IMG_20210716_0001.pdf (7/16/2021 11:42 AM)

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

Certified Match -- signed.pdf (7/16/2021 2:55 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)

IMG_20210716_0004.pdf (7/16/2021 2:15 PM)
IMG_20210716_0002.pdf (7/16/2021 2:14 PM)

[IMG_20210716_0003.pdf](IMG_20210716_0003.pdf) (7/16/2021 2:12 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.

Roberts services.png (7/16/2021 1:22 PM)
Phases.jpg (7/16/2021 1:21 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.

April Galbraith

Question: Type your title.

City of Roberts Library Director

Question: Type the submission date.

07/16/02021

Idaho Cares Act Broadband Grant

Match

Community: **unincorporated community of Nounan**

Contributor name (&title): _N/A_____
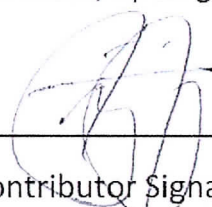
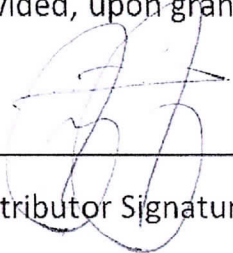Agency/Business: **Direct Communications**_____

DESCRIPTION OF DONATION:

Date: **7/15/2021**

Direct Communications will provide all required Fiber for completion of the Nounan Idaho Broadband Grant area, up to and not to exceed **47,000 feet** of fiber.

Total Amount Contributed to Project: up to and not to exceed **$117,500.00**

I hereby certify that the above listed contributions have been offered and will be provided, upon grant awarding, in the amount shown.

_____   7/16/2021

Contributor Signature   Date

Idaho Cares Act Broadband Grant

Match

Community: **City of Roberts**

Contributor name (&title): _N/A

Agency/Business: **Direct Communications**

DESCRIPTION OF DONATION:

Date: **7/15/2021**

Direct Communications will provide all required Fiber for completion of the Weston Idaho Broadband Grant area, up to and not to exceed **24,000 feet** of fiber.

Total Amount Contributed to Project: up to and not to exceed **$60,000.00**

I hereby certify that the above listed contributions have been offered and will be provided, upon grant awarding, in the amount shown.

_____
Contributor Signature

3/16/2021
Date

City of Roberts

PO Box 242
Roberts, ID 83444
208-228-3220
Fax 208-228-9492

State of Idaho Broadband Grant
CARES Act Certification

STATE OF Idaho
COUNTY OF
Jefferson

The undersigned, Robert (B.J.) Berlin, representing City of Roberts, 647 N. 2872 E, P.O. Box
Roberts, Idaho, hereby swear (affirm) that:

1. I am Mayor of City of Roberts 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.

   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.

By completing this project, the City of Roberts will have better broadband connections to our citizens and business,
which in turn will give them significantly better access to health care, education, job training, and job opportunities.
This expenditure has become vital due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019
(COVID–19).

_____
Signature

_____7/16/2021_____
Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this _16th_ day of ___July   2021___
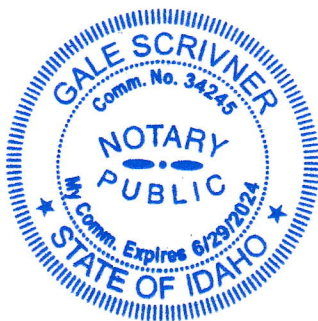
_____
Notary Public for STATE of Idaho
Residing at __Roberts, Idaho__
Commission expires _6/29/2024_

GALE SCRIVNER
Comm. No. 34245
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Comm. Expires 6/29/2024
STATE OF IDAHO

To Whom it May Concern,

As a City Council, we were aware of the need for improved broadband services in our area. As such, we have discussed our community needs with all interested parties. When we became aware that Direct Communications would be bringing Fiber Optic services to our community's elementary school, we reached out to them to discuss their plans for our area. With their help, we have developed a phased network design and established a base cost for construction. Our plan is to use this new fiber optic network to foster equal access, remote learning, better healthcare, job opportunities and job sustainment, throughout our city. Armed with this information we have been able to begin the process of finding federal and state support. We feel that the City of Roberts Fiber Connections for All project will be a tremendous benefit for our city.

Thank you for your consideration.

City of Roberts City Council
Submitted on behalf of the City Council by the City Clerk

Robert City Library
Enriching Our Community's Imagination, Education, and Literacy
P.O. Box 305 Roberts, Idaho 83444•(208) 228-2210•robertslibrary@gmail.com

To Whom It May Concern,

The "City of Roberts Fiber Connections For All" would bring a better more stable internet connection to our city citizens. Our city currently struggles with low connectivity speeds and very few options for citizens to choose from. At the library we provide internet to our patrons and citizens that do not have internet in their homes. Our patrons use our internet to attend telehealth meeting, work meetings, and for remote learning. Even here at the library our average download speed is between 1 & 3 kbps. The fiber connections would secure higher speeds and better our patrons' ability to seek education, employment, maintain employment, and have access to health care.

I truly hope that the "City of Roberts Fiber Connections For All" will be approved.

Thank you for your time.

April Galbraith
Roberts City library Director

Office of The Mayor
Robert(B.J.) Berlin
P.O. Box 242
647 N 2872 E
Roberts, Idaho 83444
208-228-3220
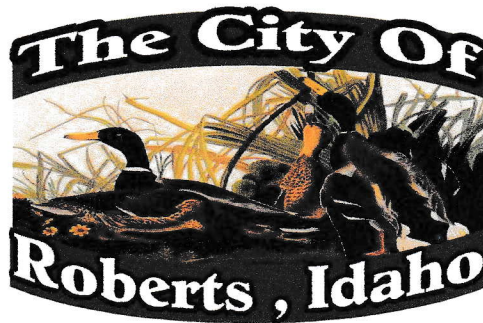
July 8, 2021

To Whom it may concern,
I fully support this project to connect all households in Roberts to a fiber connection.
Our community has many low to middle income families, who may not be able to access this important utility otherwise.

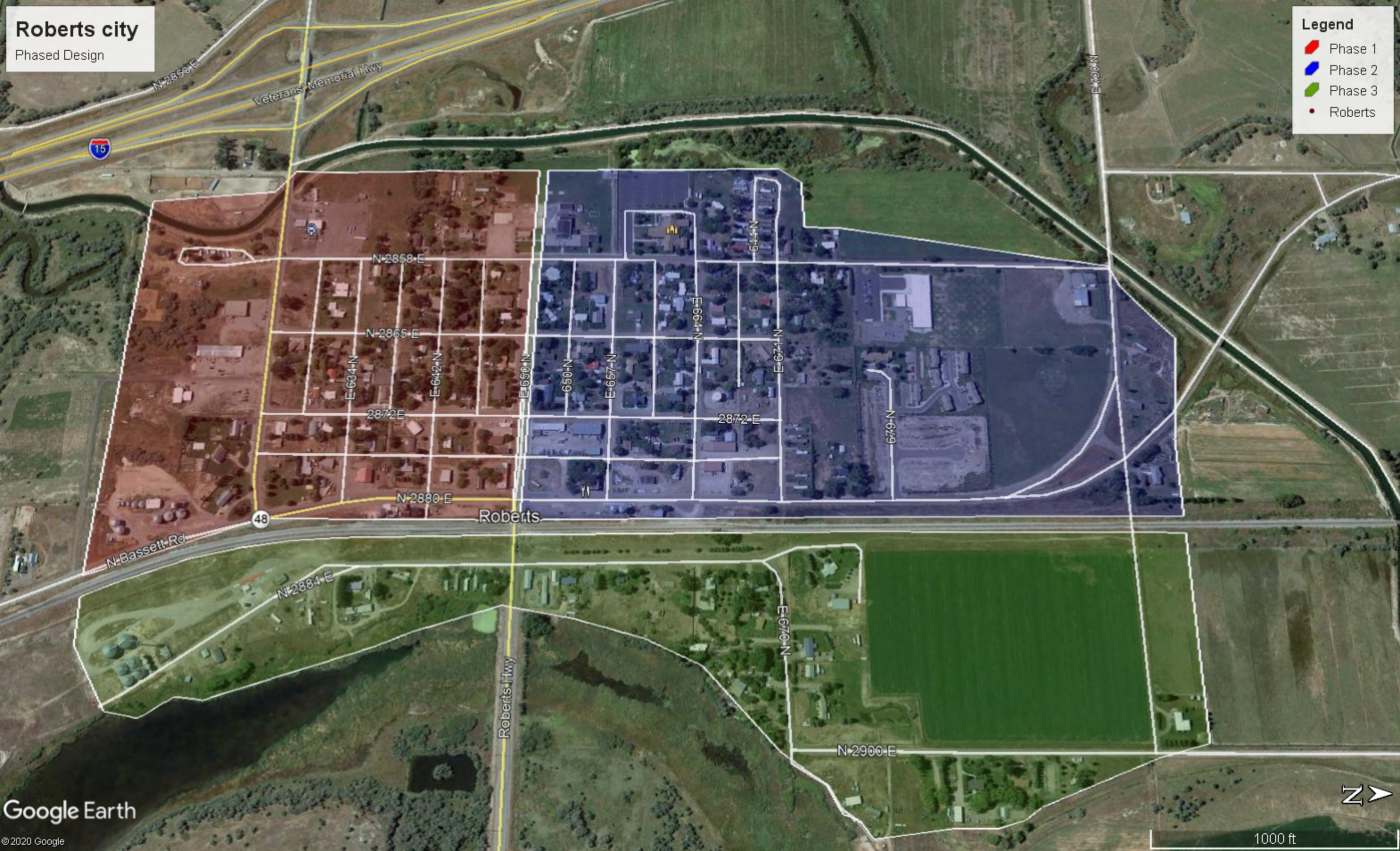With a population of lower to middle income families, this would greatly improve access to education, work and medical services.

Sincerely

Mayor Robert(B.J.) Berlin

Office of The Mayor
Robert(B.J.) Berlin
P.O. Box 242
647 N 2872 E
Roberts, Idaho 83444
208-228-3220
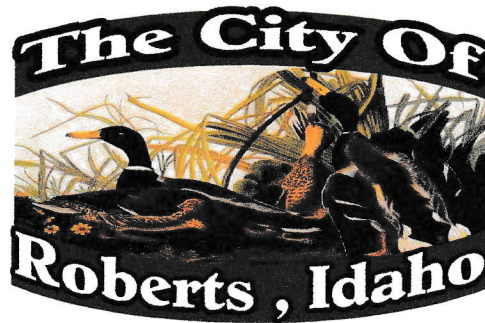
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Sincerely

Mayor Robert(B.J.) Berlin

Roberts city
Phased Design

Legend
Phase 1
Phase 2
Phase 3
Roberts
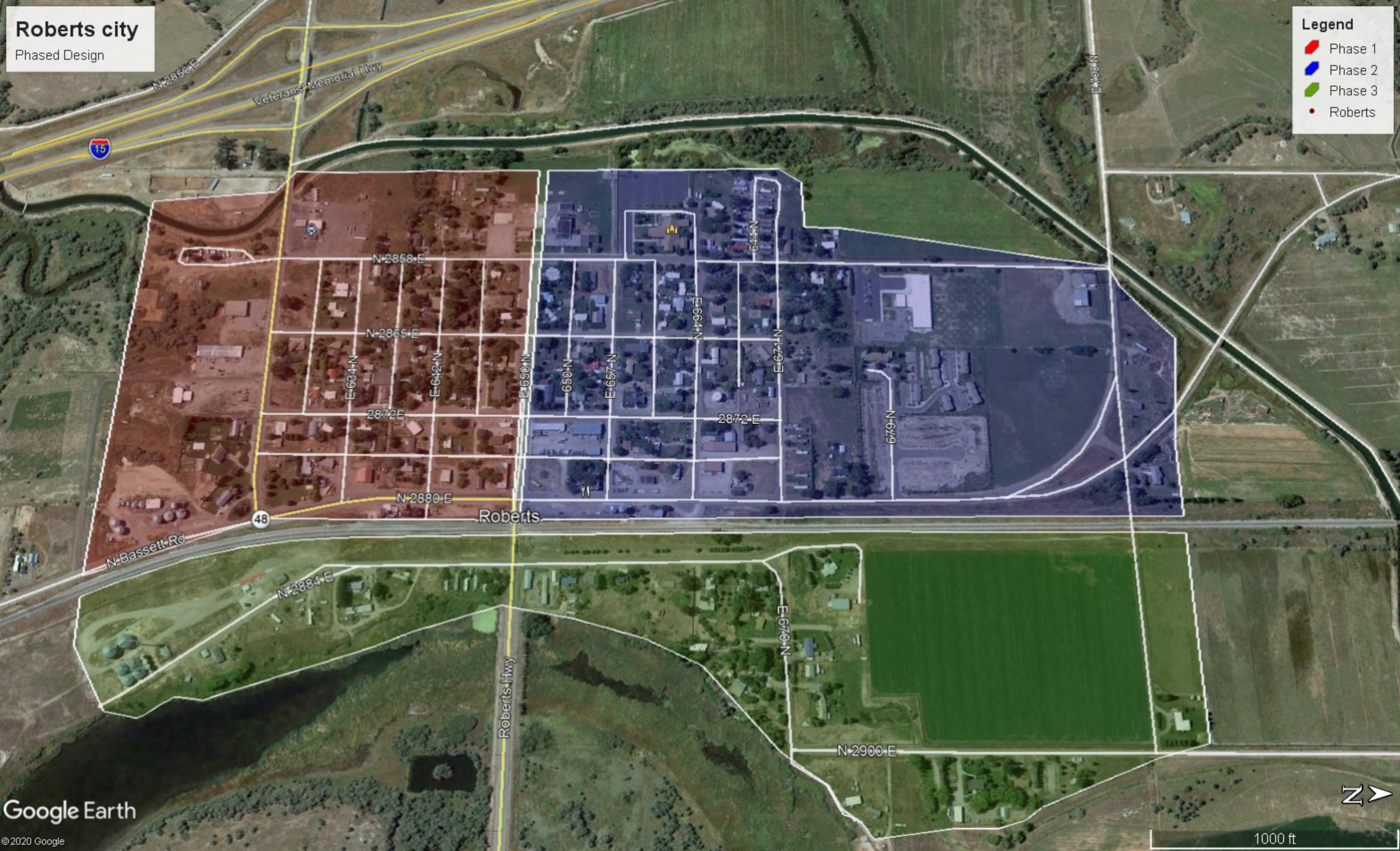
Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant -- Project Schedule

Activity	Responsible Party	Start Date	End Date
Grant Submission	Roberts	N/A	7/16/2021
Materials Acquisition	Direct	7/26/2021	8/30/2021
Permit Procurment	Direct	7/26/2021	8/30/2021
Construction	Direct	8/2/2021	12/18/2021
Certification of Completion	Roberts	12/20/1931	12/29/2021
Request for Funds	Roberts	N/A	12/29/2021

HH		Per foot
70	$ 52,500.00	$ 2.19
Bore		
4000	$ 100,000.00	$ 25.00
Trench		
1000	$ 20,000.00	$ 20.00
Plow		
19000	$ 142,500.00	$ 7.50
Duct		
24000	$ 48,000.00	$ 2.00
Fiber		
24000	$ 60,000.00	$ 2.50
Locations		
202	$ 404,000.00	$ 2,000.00
Total Feet	24000	
Total Construction	$ 719,000.00	
Total Cost	$ 827,000.00	

Build out Estimate	$	827,000.00

$ 4,094.06

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars	Match			Total
Direct Communications Network Construction	$ 767,500.00				$ 767,500.00
Direct Communications Match		$ 60,000.00			$ 60,000.00
Cirt of Roberts Grant Administration	$ 5,000.00				$ 5,000.00
					$ -
Totals	$ 772,500.00	$ 60,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 832,500.00

Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	Grant Dollars	Match			Total
Direct Communications Network Construction	$ 767,500.00				$ 767,500.00
Direct Communications Match		$ 60,000.00			$ 60,000.00
Cirt of Roberts Grant Administration	$ 5,000.00				$ 5,000.00
					$ -
Totals	$ 772,500.00	$ 60,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 832,500.00

10MBPS - CENTURYLINK

1.5MBPS - CENTURYLINK

Roberts

FYBERCOM, RISE, AND SAFELINK ARE ALL WIRELES PROVIDERS IN THE AREA.
BECAUSE OF LINE OF SITE FROM THE BUTTE, THEY AVG 7/8MBPS

ROBERTS, ID

Speed Tests
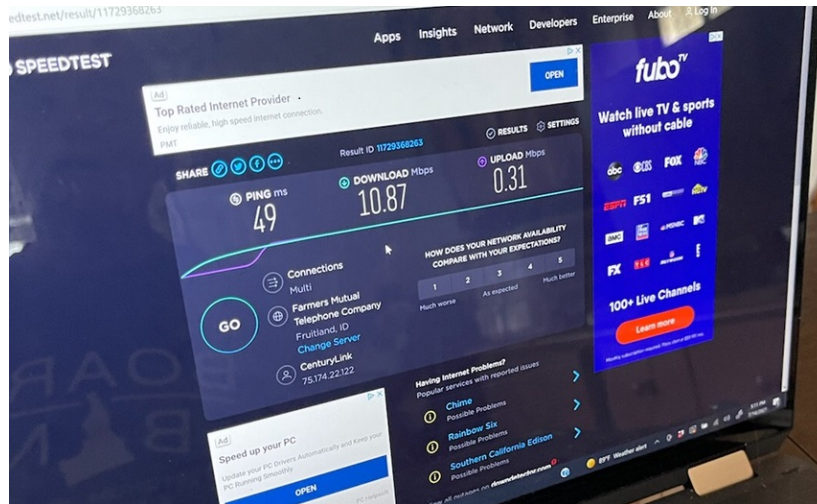
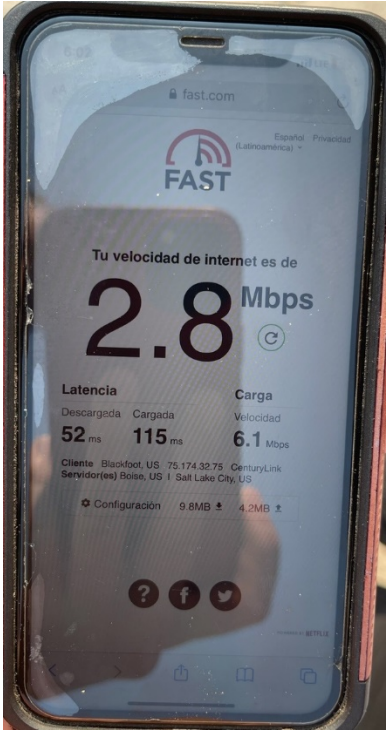2869 E 671 N
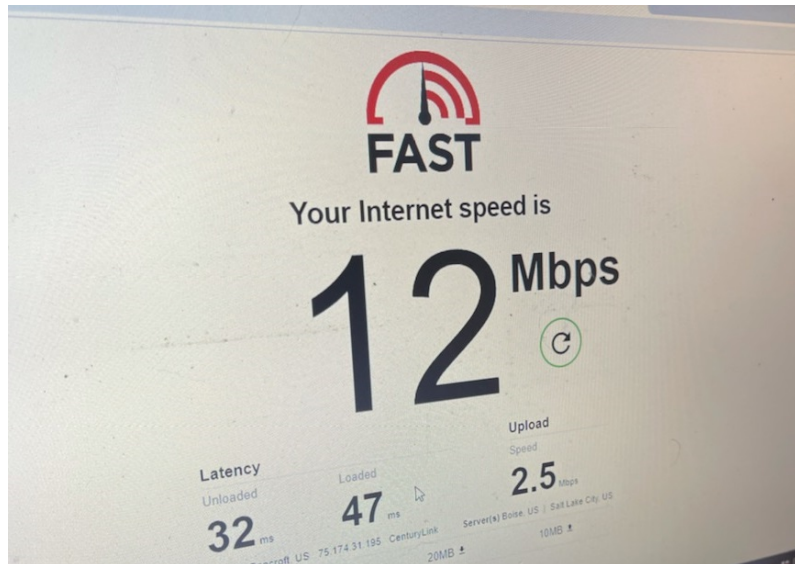
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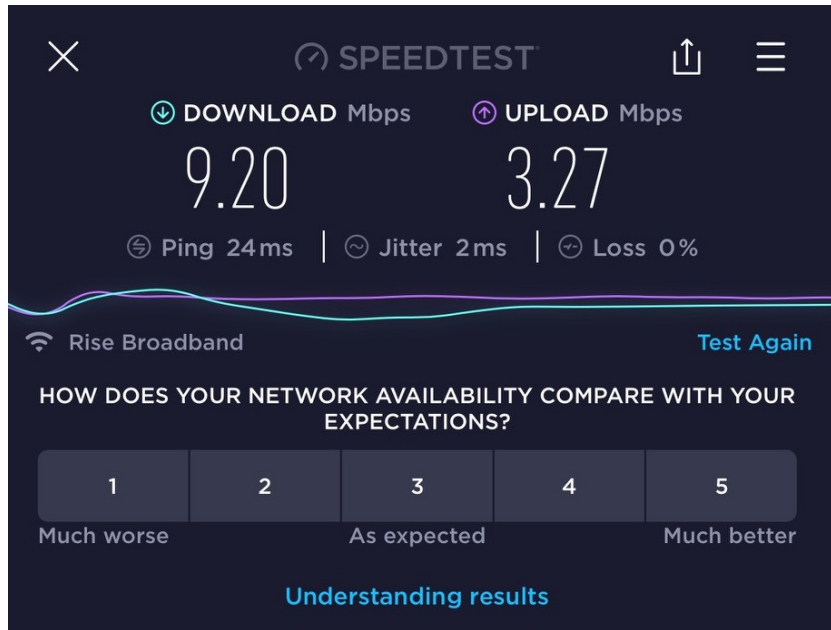
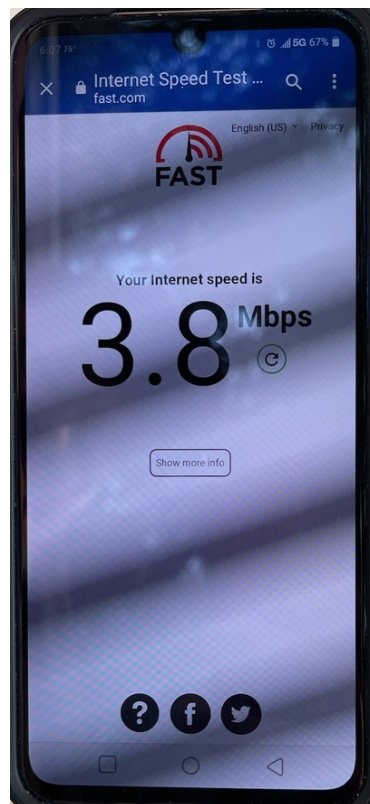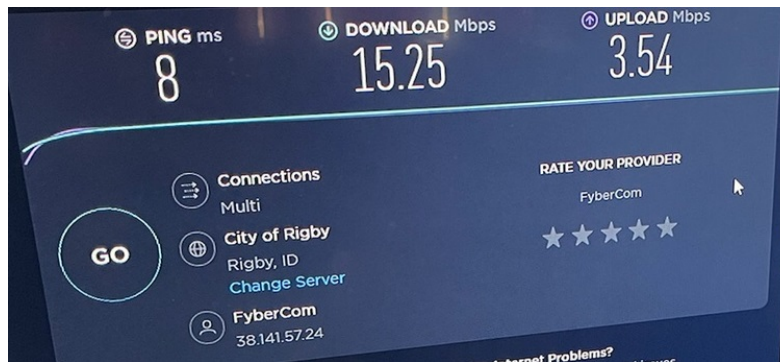672 N 2858 E
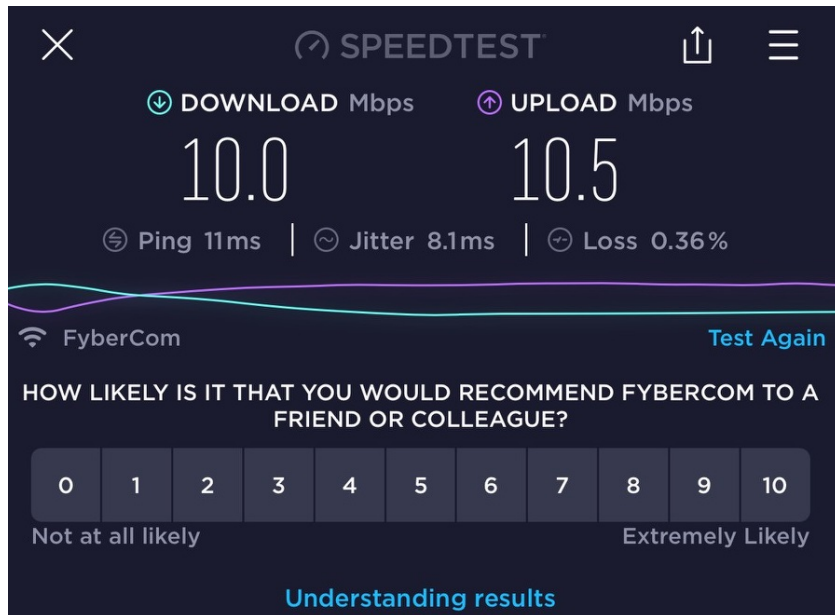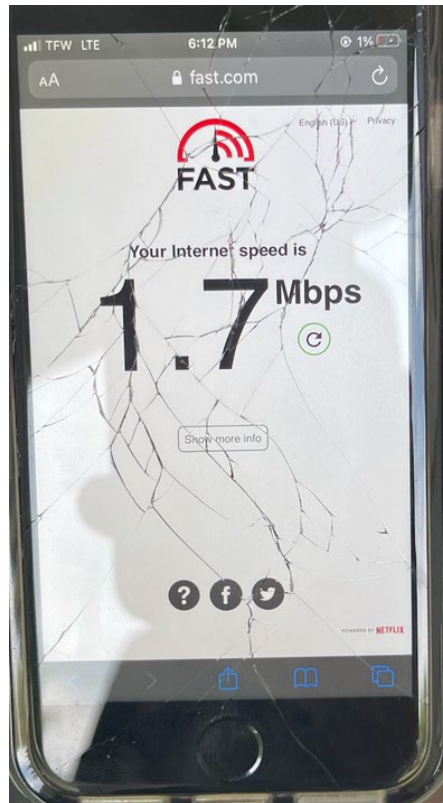

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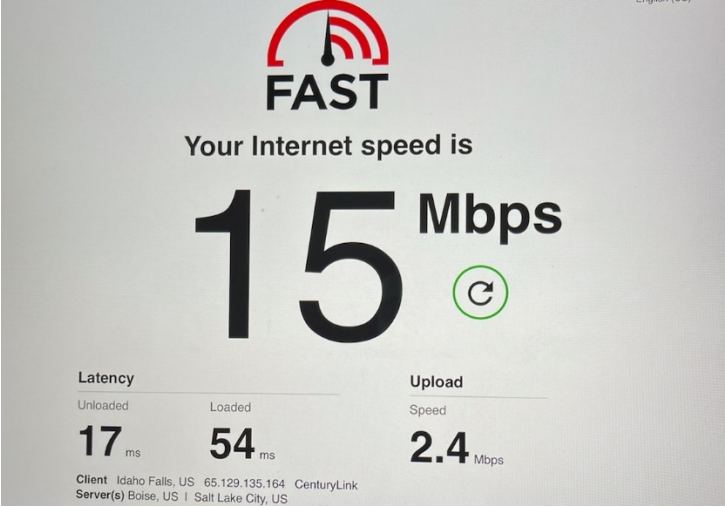
664 N

661 N

662 N

663 N

2868 E 664 N

2870 E 664 N

646 N 2658 E

647 N 2865 E

642 N