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Organization:	Appalachian Valley Fiber Network
Project Name:	Appalachian Valley Fiber Network
Project Type:	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
States:	Alabama, Georgia
Federal Award:	\$21,286,914

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The **Appalachian Valley Fiber Network (AVFN)** is a public-private partnership designed to bring a middle-mile fiber network to 12 counties across the lower Appalachian Valley in northwestern Georgia and eastern Alabama. Most of the community anchor institutions located in the area report either inadequate access to broadband or a lack of affordable, high-capacity service from existing providers. The project proposes constructing 182 new miles of fiber and leasing 287 miles of dark fiber to complement existing resources held by the two service providers who have collaborated to form AVFN.

Appalachian Valley Fiber Network also proposes to:

- Connect as many as 185 community anchor institutions with speeds of up to 1 Gbps, including 16 K-12 public schools, 46 public safety facilities, 40 medical facilities, and 48 other government facilities. The network will also connect the Georgia Northwestern Technical Colleges (which now encompass the former Coosa Valley Technical College and Northwestern Technical College campuses) as well as Chattahoochee Technical College.
- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for approximately 144,000 households and 8,300 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project's open network.
- Interconnect with as many as five regional last-mile providers who have committed to using the new network to bring affordable high-speed service to rural and underserved households and businesses in the region.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Appalachian Valley Fiber Network is a partnership between Blue Streak Cable and Telecommunications and Parker Fibernet, whose combined experience providing communications services throughout the southeastern United States spans more than 70 years. Founded in 1936 as Beauchamp Construction Company, Blue Streak is based in Coral Gables, Florida and is a leading commercial construction contractor for, among others, Comcast, AT&T, the Department of Defense, Level (3) and Sprint. Parker, founded in 1985, is a leading broadband technology provider in northwest Georgia. The companies have installed over 14,000 miles of fiber.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
- Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute
- East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission
- Trenton Telephone Company of Trenton, Georgia
- Alabama Broadband Initiative
- Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority
- Floyd County Board of Commissioners
- Citizens for a Digital Future

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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