



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

May 4, 2010

Assistant Secretary Larry Strickling
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB, Room 4812
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Strickling:

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments and provide my input on Round 2 of NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I was particularly pleased to see North Carolina received three awards in BTOP Round 1, including two of the programs I recommended for funding. North Carolina has a long and impressive history in the area of broadband development, and the use of high speed internet for educational and economic development purposes. I hope we can continue our pioneering position in Round 2.

As in Round 1, to assist my review I relied upon an appointed review committee with members recommended by various public groups involved in rural broadband implementation across the state. The BTOP Review Committee reviewed all participating applications with a North Carolina service area and provided me with guidance and feedback on those applications in advance of my comments to you. The BTOP Committee divided itself into two subcommittees: the Subcommittee on Comprehensive Community Infrastructure and the Subcommittee on Sustainable Broadband Adoption and Public Computer Centers (PCC/SBA). The subcommittees made the following recommendations, in the three BTOP funding areas:

1. The Subcommittee on Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Applications recommends:
 - a. MCNC's North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiatives (NCRBI) program
 - b. MAIN's CCI program
2. The Subcommittee on PCC/SBA recommends, for the Public Computer Center category:
 - a. North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina State Library program
 - b. The PCC/SBA wishes to highlight, in the Public Computer Center category:
 - i. Winstonnet Inc.
 - ii. Renovation and repurposing projects
 1. Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corporation
 2. Greater Lansing Area Development
3. The Subcommittee on PCC/SBA recommends, for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption category:
 - a. MAIN's SBA Cloud Computer program
 - b. The PCC/SBA wishes to highlight, in the Sustainable Broadband Adoption category:
 - i. UNC-Pembroke's CIVC program
 - ii. Elauwit SBA program

Please find attached the full report from the BTOP Review Committee. The report includes information regarding the committee discussion of the above recommended projects, including discussion of North Carolina specific elements based on the committee membership's intimate knowledge of the state and its population. The report reflects the priorities I recommend for your consideration.

I would like to highlight one of the above programs that has the highest value to North Carolina, MCNC's North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative. MCNC's \$111 million program application builds upon its Round 1 grant, further extending NCREN (North Carolina Research and Educational Network) in rural North Carolina, and developing extensive public/private partnerships for the delivery of last-mile service to underserved and at-risk populations. The project is important in high unemployment areas for the immediate economic impact of jobs created by the project, and the future high speed infrastructure the program would establish as the foundation of high speed internet growth in North Carolina.

MCNC has created an application that has great impact to North Carolina, fulfills the goals of BTOP, and takes advantage of this once-in-a-generation opportunity to make an historic expansion of North Carolina's fiber infrastructure. MCNC has effectively run NCREN for more than 25 years and is an experienced handler of private and federal grant awards. MCNC has made every effort to enlist public and private partners in each geographic area of the 69-county project. The application has the support of numerous North Carolina institutions, was supported by a \$28 million grant for matching funds by North Carolina's Golden LEAF Foundation, and was endorsed by the entire North Carolina congressional delegation when submitted in March. In conclusion, I believe the MCNC BTOP application, of all the applications to BTOP with a North Carolina service area, best serves the needs of North Carolina.

Once again, I thank you for the opportunity to have input on this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bev Perdue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bev" and last name "Perdue" clearly distinguishable.

Bev Perdue

cc: Ian Martinez

Attachment

Office of Economic Recovery & Investment

THE GOVERNOR'S BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE

Report to Governor Perdue

April 2010

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INVESTMENT REPORT:

THE GOVERNOR'S BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE

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Report from the meetings of the Governor's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
(BTOP) Review Committee

1. Program Background

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was signed by President Obama on February 18, 2009. Part of the bill directed \$7.2 billion into two interrelated programs: the Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) and the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The programs were to be administered by the USDA Rural Utilities Service and the U. S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The statutory goal of these programs is to expand broadband access to unserved and underserved communities across the U.S., increase jobs, spur investments in technology and infrastructure, and provide long-term economic benefits.

In Round 1 the BIP/BTOP programs were jointly administered by the two federal agencies, and a single Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and application were released on July 1, 2009. The NOFA described a review process that allowed for input by Governors on BTOP, and Governor Perdue has received a list of the applications pertaining to North Carolina that are under consideration by NTIA. This process was designed to give the NTIA feedback from the Chief Executive's perspective on which projects would have the highest benefits to a given state, including economic impact, and to provide information on the working relationship between applicants and a given state.

The North Carolina Office of Economic Recovery and Investment, under the direction of Governor Perdue, established the BTOP Review Committee to review and provide a report to the Governor in advance of her comment to NTIA. The BTOP Review Committee reviewed all applications that were submitted to the committee, and made several recommendations to the Governor. The Governor accepted these recommendations and adopted these recommendations in her comments to NTIA, with a special emphasis on the MCNC middle-mile proposal.

North Carolina fared extremely well in Round 1 of BTOP funding. Both the primary recommendation of the Infrastructure, the MCNC proposal, and the Public Computer Center, the Mitchell County Courthouse project, subcommittees received full funding.

Round 2 Changes

The primary change in the BTOP program in Round 2 is the de-coupling of the BTOP and the BIP programs. In Round 2 the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and the Broadband Initiatives Program were no longer administered as a unified program with different funding sources. New NOFAs and application procedures were released for BTOP and BIP in Round 2. The changes primarily affect the Infrastructure program. Underserved and unserved last mile implementation was reserved for the BIP Grants, and the new BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Program focused on larger, multi area middle-mile applications.

The second major change in Round 2 is the matching requirement. Round 1 had a matching requirement of 20%, with programs receiving higher scores if they had an in-kind or in-cash

contribution of 30%. In Round 2, the statutory requirements of a 20% match has not changed, but the NTIA made clear in workshops and public statements that projects need to have A MINIMUM of 30% funding to be in a position to be funded. Projects with match of above 30% receive additional consideration, and as in Round 1, in-cash matches are considered more valuable than in-kind.

The final major change in Round 2 was the shift from smaller, localized or self-contained projects to fewer, larger or more comprehensive projects. The Round 2 focus was described in a quote from Larry Strickling, Assistant Secretary of NTIA and head of BTOP:

“The **strongest proposals** are the ones that have taken a truly comprehensive view of the communities to be served and have engaged as many key members of the communities as possible in developing the projects”

Similarly to Round 1, Governor Perdue is encouraged to provide a list and prioritization of recommended projects, along with an explanation of why the selected proposals meet the greatest needs of the state. States have been strongly encouraged to provide information to support their recommendations. Recommendations are due by May 3rd at close of the business day.

2. Committee Purpose and Process

Governor Perdue established a blue ribbon committee to assist her in the review and comment of North Carolina service area BTOP applications. The North Carolina BTOP Review Committee was comprised of leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors who are familiar with the connectivity challenges that exist in North Carolina. This eight-member committee self-selected on the basis of expertise and interest into two sub-committees, one with responsibility for reviewing applications in both the **Public Computing Center** and the **Sustainable Broadband Adoption** categories. The other subcommittee was responsible for the new **Comprehensive Community Infrastructure** category. Technical and Administrative Support was supplied by the e-NC Authority.

The NTIA provided the list of applicants, contact information for each applicant, and an executive summary for each project, *but did not provide access to the full application or other necessary documents*. The e-NC Authority used the list of North Carolina Service Area applications provided by NTIA to create a listserv of application contacts. Requests for information were sent to every applicant on the listserv for a copy of an applicant’s full BTOP application. Special consideration was given to confidential or proprietary information contained in applications, and applicants were asked to mark which portions of applications would not fall under North Carolina’s Public Records Law. The e-NC Authority placed the applications into a password-protected database that could only be accessed by members of the applicable sub-committee.

Members of each sub-committee reviewed applications using scoring sheets based on NTIA’s scoring sheets, which were developed through internal discussions during Round 1. The scoring sheets reflected the four main areas of review of BTOP applications, in all three funding

categories. The BTOP Review Committee analyzed each available application, scoring on the following categories based on the North Carolina impact of the program.

Project Purpose

A project should supply a narrative description of a project using three major factors:

1. Identify and explain a problem that exists
2. A solution is identified and how the problem will be solved is described, how this solution is different from previous attempts to solve the problem.
3. Explain why the applicant is uniquely suited to solve the problem/implement the solution, including proof that the application has the capacity to handle the project and reporting requirements.

Project Benefits

This is the description of benchmarks the applicant foresees as it solves the problem/implements the solution outlined in the Project Purpose. The applicant should provide a list of metrics involved with the project, and a strategic plan on delivering benefits at different points in the project implementation

Project Viability

This is data to support the viability of not only the project, but the applicant. The primary focus is on a comprehensive project plan, with details on the various components of the solution. A high-scoring BTOP project should have a series of models and test cases to act not only as a successful program, but to serve as a test case for future programs. A clear description of the program allows the reviewer to see how the program works and how it might be replicated elsewhere. Also important to the “applicant viability” is the experience of the management team of the project, the history of the organization, and the individual program management team.

Project Budget and Sustainability

A project should have a viable Budget and Audit section. Successful BTOP projects should outlive their initial grant investments, and provide benefits beyond the life of the grants. Applicants should have broad community support from public, private, and governmental entities, high level of cost match (in-cash if possible), credible assumptions about build/project costs and future maintenance costs, and a reasonable project scope for the funding requested.

Additionally, the NTIA highlighted specific “Keys to Success” for each of the three funding categories, which were reviewed by the BTOP Review Committee prior to the review process:

- Public Computer Center (PCC)
 1. Specific Training and Education Programs
 2. Compelling Outreach Plan
 3. Evidence of Appeal to Target Populations
 4. Technical Support Resources
 5. Explanation of Proposal's Impact on Center's Overall Mission

- Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA)
 1. Efforts to Educate, Train, Equip and/or Support New Broadband Subscribers
 2. Plan for Measuring the New Broadband Subscribership
 3. Evidence that Your Specific Approach Will Be Effective
 4. Confirm that Broadband Service is Available
 5. Illustrate On-Going Benefits of Building Capacity within Existing Community Support Organizations

- Comprehensive Community Infrastructure (CCI)
 1. Commitment to offer new/upgraded service to community anchor institutions
 2. Incorporate a public-private partnership
 3. Bolster growth in economically distressed areas
 4. Commitment to serve community colleges
 5. Commitment to serve public safety entities
 6. Last Mile: Either
 - a. Applicant includes Last Mile infrastructure in un/underserved areas as part of project (no more than 20% of the total project cost if Last Mile rural); or
 - b. Applicant provides commitments or non-binding letters of intent from one or more Last Mile broadband service providers

The Public Computer Center/Sustainable Broadband Adoption Subcommittee

Introduction

The PCC/SBA Sub-committee reviewed projects in two funding categories: The Public Computer Center Applications and the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Applications. While at the federal level the review process of these two funding categories do not overlap, the high rate of interconnectedness and project scope of the application types made the combining of these two program types necessary. Staff of the e-NC Authority provided administrative support to the Office of Economic Recovery and Investment (OERI) and, upon request, technical advice to the Infrastructure Review Committee.

a. Membership

Members of the SBA/PCC Sub-committee and their professional affiliation included the following:

- Cynthia Marshall—President, AT&T North Carolina

- Dr. Lee Mandell—UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government and Former North Carolina League of Municipalities Research Director
- Terry Bledsoe—Chief Information Officer for Catawba County
- Paul Tine—Chair of the Outerbanks Chamber of Commerce and Economic Developer

b. Process

A total of 10 Public Computing Center (PCC) applications were included in the list forwarded by the NTIA. Of that total, 9 applications responded to e-NC's request for application. The following applications were reviewed and scored by the PCC/SBA Subcommittee:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| • South Piedmont Community College | • Olive Hill Economic Development |
| • Elauwit Community Enhancement Foundation Inc | • Greater Lansing Area Development |
| • ClearTalk/NTCH Inc | • Surry Community College |
| • Winstonnet Inc | • County of Guilford |
| • NCDCCR/State Library Program | |

A total of 24 Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) applications were included in the list forwarded by the NTIA. Of that total, 21 applications responded to e-NC's request for application.

The following applications were reviewed and scored by the PCC/SBA Subcommittee:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Brinksman Consulting and Trading Group | • Communication Service For The Deaf Inc |
| • Socket Mobile INC | • University of North Carolina at Pembroke |
| • One Economy Corporation | • Broadband Alliance |
| • Union County Board of Education | • Ikoring LLC |
| • XW | • Mountain Area Information Network |
| • Communityvine Inc | • America 2.0 Inc |
| • Empirix Inc | • County Executives Telecommunications |
| • Network Foundation Technologie | • Elauwit |
| • CA Technology Inc | |

The Public Computer Center/Sustainable Broadband Adoption Sub-committee met on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at the North Carolina Rural Center to discuss applications. The sub-committee used the scoring sheet that had been developed in Round 1 to score applications based on the factors listed above, focusing only on an application's North Carolina impact. Unlike Round 1, where the number of applications forced the PCC/SBA to limit discussion to only top scoring applications, the limited number of Round 2 applications allowed for a discussion of the committee's ranking of every submitted application.

An announcement of the public meeting was placed on the OERI Web site www.ncrecovery.gov, and was open to the public. Since several of the applications were multi-state or national, the meeting was also the subject of a webinar with a call-in number. Sign-in directions were sent directly to applicants. Webinar information was also placed on the OERI Web site so that applicants and the general public could attend virtually and make comments online or over the phone.

The recommendations of the PCC/SBA Subcommittee are discussed in Sections 3 and 4.

Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Subcommittee

b. Introduction

The CCI Sub-committee reviewed projects in the newly created Comprehensive Community Infrastructure funding category. The changes to the Round 2 CCI programs from the Round 1 Infrastructure program reflect the NTIA's desire to see fewer, larger and more comprehensive programs. The structure of the CCI program favors Middle-Mile infrastructure projects that connect to a high number of community anchor institutions. While a CCI project may include a Last-Mile component, the Last-Mile component is a limited aspect of the program, and most Last-Mile only projects have been directed to the RUS Broadband Initiatives Program. Staff of the e-NC Authority provided administrative support to the Office of Economic Recovery and Investment (OERI) and, upon request, technical advice to the Infrastructure Review Committee.

c. Committee Members

Members of the CCI Subcommittee (and their professional affiliation) included the following:

- Michael Fenton – N.C. Information Technology Services
- Dennis Holton – Craven County Government
- James Lowery¹ – Private Businessman, High Point NC
- John McHugh – Policy Analyst, N.C. Office of Economic Recovery and Investment, Office of the Governor

d. Process

A total of 14 Comprehensive Community Infrastructure applications were included in the list forwarded by the NTIA. Of that total, seven applications responded to e-NC's request for application.

The following applications were reviewed and scored by the CCI Subcommittee:

¹ CCI Subcommittee Member James Lowery was unable to attend the meeting due to health concerns. However, he did receive all the committee materials, and he did submit his top recommendations for the CCI applications via email.

- City of Charlotte
- Oconee County, SC
- Mountain Area Information Network
- County Executives Telecommunications Network
- Skyport International, Inc.
- MCNC
- University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development

c. Process used for deliberations

The Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Sub-committee met on Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the North Carolina Rural Center to discuss applications. The sub-committee used the scoring sheet that had been developed in Round 1 to score applications based on the factors listed above, focusing only on an application's North Carolina impact. As in Round 1, applications were grouped for discussion and ranked by area impact and technology as follows:

1. Local Area Programs
2. State Programs
 - a. Satellite-based
 - b. Wireline
3. National Programs

An announcement of the public meeting was placed on the OERI Web site www.ncrecover.gov, and was open to the public. Since several of the applications were multi-state or national, the meeting was also the subject of a webinar with a call-in number. Sign-in directions were sent directly to applicants and also placed on the OERI Web site so that applicants and the general public could attend virtually, and make comments online or over the phone.

The recommendations of the CCI Subcommittee are discussed in Section 5.

Section 3

Public Computer Center Recommendations

Overview

The PCC/SBA made one primary recommendation for the Public Computer Center category: the **NCDCR State Library Program (NCSL)**. The sub-committee also wanted to highlight the **Winstonnet Inc.** project, and wanted to generally support the redevelopment and potential economic impacts of the **Olive Hill Community Economic Development** and the **Greater Lansing Area Development** projects.

Analysis

The consensus choice for recommendation in the Public Computer Center area was the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources State Library Program, described below.

The State Library of North Carolina (SLNC) is applying for a PCC grant of \$1.5M to improve public library connectivity and computing resources across 35 Tier I counties with unemployment rates well in excess of the national average.

The State Library Program has three primary elements:

1. To increase the connectivity at the branch facilities in the 35 targeted counties to increase the speed and reliability of the free wireless high-speed internet access the library already provides;
2. To fund local library purchase of 280 high-end laptops at the local level in order to:
 - a. eliminate long wait times for computer access and,
 - b. prevent usage time-limits that exist in several of the targeted facilities
 - c. allow patrons of the library to use computer for job search, job training, streaming video, webinar, and on-line job applications, and;
3. Develop a training program for library staff to assist in the implementation, administration, and success of the program.

The committee felt that the SLNC application was “a model program” for the Public Computer Center funding category. The committee thought the proposed project was exemplary, and represented the program that had, if funded, the potential for the highest impact in North Carolina, both to provide meaningful broadband service to an identified at-risk population in the short-term and also had potential for value added benefits over the long term.

In the committee’s opinion, the NCSL application presented the most compelling narrative for success of a PCC program. NCSL identifies facilities in need that serve high-unemployment and low-wealth at-risk populations in 35 Tier I North Carolina counties, often in facilities that are the only source of free high-speed internet available in a given county.

The committee commented that the State Library system is a valuable resource in rural North Carolina; often it is the first, and sometimes only, resource available to the unemployed for internet access and job retraining opportunities. Additionally, the NCSL application puts the resources in the hands of the local library administrators, who know the specific needs of the community and what type of outreach is necessary.

The committee felt that the project scope was appropriate, with 35 of the 40 Tier I economically disadvantaged counties involved in the program. The committee thought the program goals were proven and in great need for the targeted at-risk population. High-speed internet and computer access is a resource that is already stretched to the limit in some of the targets’ facilities, and the NCSL program directly addressed this problem with a solution that will reduce or eliminate wait times and increase the utility of the service. The program leverages the existing state broadband infrastructure, and would take advantage of the BTOP Round 1 award to MCNC to expand the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN). The program would also find synergies with MCNC’s BTOP Round 2 CCI application, if it is funded.

The committee felt that the list of partners and supporters of the NCSL application was extremely impressive, and spoke to the high value of the program. The application was created in a partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a nonprofit and world leader in

education outreach and technology. The foundation also provided funding for a large portion of the program's in-cash match. The NCSL program includes letters of support from MCNC, the North Carolina Community College System, the North Carolina Employment Security Commission and the North Carolina Division of Workforce Development (administrator of the ARRA Workforce Investment Funds and a frequent collaborator with the State Library System). The program was endorsed by Rep. Bill Faison, a legislative leader in the area of rural broadband deployment. NCSL also received support from the North Carolina Golden LEAF Foundation, a non-profit corporation established by North Carolina to promote social welfare and provide economic impact assistance to economically affected or tobacco-dependent regions of North Carolina. Golden LEAF endorsed the NCSL application and assisted with a grant of \$200,000 for matching funds.

With program partners The Gates Foundation and Golden LEAF providing match funds, the NCSL program has an almost 35% match, nearly all of which is in-cash. The broad base of support, the proven history of the State Library system, and the current high rate of utilization of the system were all factors that led the committee to believe the NCSL PCC application has high viability and sustainability and, if funded, a high probability of success.

While the PCC/SBA Sub-committee officially recommends only one proposal to Governor Perdue for Round 2, the sub-Committee did want to highlight the Winstonnet PCC Program.

Winstonnet is applying for a PCC grant of \$926,000 to expand a county-wide network of 40 public access computer labs in Forsyth County. The current program serves about 40% of the Forsyth County area and has about 59,000 users.

The sub-committee felt that the Winstonnet Program was notable in that it is an established model for the delivery of service that has been successfully in operation since 2003. It has a history of applying for and handling grant funds. Winstonnet's established model, high level of local support, and 42% in in-cash and in-kind match spoke well of the viability and sustainability of the program. The committee also liked the focus on a growing Hispanic population in the Winstonnet service area through Spanish-language computer training.

However, the committee was concerned that the business model of Winstonnet depends on the donation of time, funds, and equipment, which may currently be at historically-low levels. The dependence on donated equipment also means that the training would be on older computers running Windows XP, which raised the concern among the committee members that utility of the training is somewhat limited. Additionally, the PCC application represents only a modest increase in service and is geographically isolated in a single-county service area. Overall, the sub-committee felt that the Winstonnet application was an important program for the area, but did not represent the level of state-wide impact of the NCSL program.

The PCC/SBA Sub-committee wished to make a special mention of two similar programs: the Olive Hill Economic Development Application and the Greater Lansing Area Development Application. In Round I, the PCC/SBA Sub-committee recommended the Mitchell County Courthouse PCC application as the primary recommendation in the PCC category, and that application eventually received a grant award. The Olive Hill and Greater Lansing Area

Programs are similar in that they center on the renovation and repurposing of an existing facility for economic development and retraining purposes.

The Olive Hill Economic Development Project in particular scored very highly with sub-committee members and had a strong Public/Private partnership aspect. The Greater Lansing Area Development also scored highly and had a strong focus on public safety, as it centered on firefighter training. Both programs have a match of 22%, above the required 20% but below the higher match of the NCSL application.

The sub-committee feels that this model of program has the potential for high economic development for a locality. The programs make the best use of existing facilities and tend to be highly tailored to suit local at-risk populations. However, the sub-committee was concerned that these types of programs, which bring high value to their given areas, do not represent a large state impact and do not fall in line with the NTIA's "comprehensive" focus for BTOP Round 2.

Section 4

Sustainable Broadband Adoption Recommendations-

Overview

The PCC/SBA made one primary recommendation for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption category, the **Mountain Area Information Network (MAIN) Cloud Computing Program**. The sub-committee also wanted to highlight the **UNC-Pembroke** and the **Elauwit SBA** projects.

Analysis

The consensus choice for recommendation in the Sustainable Broadband Adoption area was the MAIN Cloud Computing Program Library Program.

The Mountain Area Information Network is a non-profit service provider located in Asheville, North Carolina. The MAIN SBA program is a \$2.4 million program that would establish the nation's first cloud-computing platform for broadband adoption in Asheville, North Carolina. "Cloud-computing" is a system allowing a user to operate programs via remote servers rather than on the user's local hardware system. The MAIN program would allow rural users, small businesses, non-profits and students to access powerful applications that otherwise would not be supported by local hardware, and has the potential to "even the playing field" by allowing end-users access to not only the internet but also to a powerful software toolkit.

The MAIN program targets at-risk populations by distributing their wireless network in 10 public-housing neighborhoods in Asheville. The targeted neighborhoods have traditionally housed the working-poor, elderly, immigrants, minorities, and at-risk youth, and have seen a recent rise in a growing cohort of well-educated but underemployed young people, most of whom work in subsistence service-industry and tourism jobs while pursuing "creative class" careers in fields such as green-building, sustainable-living, Web development, digital media, and related fields. The wireless "cloud" would support not only broadband access and remote

program applications, but also job retraining and digital literacy training programs. The training programs developed through this project will be available in English and Spanish.

The sub-committee felt that the MAIN application represented an extremely innovative program utilizing an exciting public/private partnership with Red Hat. While the immediate impact of this program is limited to the Asheville area, the MAIN application is the perfect example of a “test case” project that, if funded, could be used as a prototype to replicate cloud-computing networks in at-risk areas nationwide. The sub-committee felt that the MAIN program, more than any other SBA application, met the NTIA’s desire to fund projects that could be successful on their own terms and establish an exportable model for future programs.

The committee commented that MAIN is a long-standing and valuable resource in western North Carolina. MAIN has been providing information services in western North Carolina for 15 years, and has a history of successfully using federal grant money, as the NTIA funded a MAIN Technology Opportunities Program in the mid-1990s. MAIN has an in-depth understanding of the targeted at-risk population, and a long history of serving the area. They have partnered with Red Hat, a North Carolina company and a world technology leader in the area of networking and cloud-computing. They have the support of many key local partners, including the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, ERC, Western Regional Services Alliance (WRESA), the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA), the City of Asheville, Buncombe County Library System, Buncombe County Health Department, the YMCA and the long-standing YMA.

In the sub-committee’s opinion, one of the greatest strengths of the MAIN program is the availability of human resources in the City of Asheville. The MAIN program is an innovative program supported by an extremely diverse and influential group of local partners. The “creative class” referenced in the MAIN application creates a very fertile environment for this type of innovative program that relies on active community participation for its open-source model. Asheville has a long reputation as a city with a creative and innovative spirit, and in the sub-committee’s opinion MAIN could not ask for a better location for this program.

The sub-committee had concerns that the MAIN proposal was dependent on parallel applications for BTOP CCI and a BIP funding. However, Wally Bowen, who joined the meeting via conference call, assured the sub-committee that the other applications were synergistic rather than interdependent.

The MAIN program provided a match of more than 31%. The broad base of support, the proven history of the organization, the innovative nature of the project and its ability to be replicated elsewhere if successful were all factors that influenced the choice of MAIN as the overall recommendation in the Sustainable Broadband Adoption category.

While the PCC/SBA sub-committee officially recommends only one proposal to Governor Perdue for Round 2, the sub-committee did want to highlight the UNC-Pembroke and Elauwit SBA Applications.

The UNC-Pembroke SBA application is a \$2,055,843.89 project that seeks to establish the Community Interactive Video Collaborative (CIVC) to create interactive video teleconferencing

capabilities that will bring new learning plus personal and economic development activities into five community colleges and two local community sites in a six-county region of Southeastern North Carolina. The UNC-Pembroke application is being submitted as a complementary proposal with MCNC's successful Round 1 and potential Round 2 applications. The UNC-Pembroke has partnerships with Bladen County, the City of Fayetteville, Sandhills Community College, Robeson Community College, and Brunswick Community College.

The sub-committee felt that this project had a high potential impact for an extremely economically depressed area, and this program scored highly among members of the sub-committee. However, the sub-committee felt that the impact would not be felt state-wide.

The sub-committee felt that because the NTIA put a strong emphasis on service to at-risk populations, and in particular to Native America populations, the sub-committee should comment. UNC-Pembroke was established as the Nation's first public university to serve Native Americans. Additionally, Robeson County, in the service area of the CIVC program, has a large population of Lumbee Indians.

The sub-committee felt that the Elauwit program was another application worth highlighting. The Elauwit program is a \$ 14,405,725 project to establish wireless networks in low-income housing developments in southeastern North Carolina. The program would deliver recycled donated computers to housing developments for the purposes of high-speed connectivity, retraining, and computer literacy.

The program has a high level of support from Rocky Mount, NC Public Housing Authority; Greenville, NC Public Housing Authority; Lumberton, NC Public Housing Authority; Statesville, NC Public Housing Authority; Goldsboro, NC Public Housing Authority; Fairmont, NC Public Housing Authority; Pembroke, NC Public Housing Authority; Beaufort, NC Public Housing Authority; Wilmington, NC Public Housing Authority, and the NC Public Housing Authority.

The Elauwit Program had a high level of match, at 30.7%. However, the sub-committee had some concerns over some of the in-kind matches, which included future advertising revenue and a loan agreement. The sub-committee also had concerns over project sustainability, based on the projected up-take rates in the program area.

Representatives of Elauwit commented over the phone, saying that the projects are based on market research, and a similar Elauwit program has been implemented in South Carolina. These financial documents were submitted to NTIA, but were not submitted to the e-NC and were not reviewed by the sub-committee. While the sub-committee thought the Elauwit program had the potential for high-value impact in an economically-disadvantaged area and the potential for both immediate and long-term economic impact, the sustainability issues were enough to keep them from making this program an official recommendation.

Section 5

Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Programs

Overview

The CCI Sub-committee made two recommendations for the Comprehensive Community Infrastructure category. The primary recommendation was **MCNC's North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative Program (NCRBI)**. The secondary recommendation was the **MAIN CCI Program**.

Analysis

The consensus choice for the primary recommendation in the Comprehensive Community Infrastructure area was the MCNC's NCRBI Program.

MCNC is an independent non-profit established by the state of North Carolina. It operates the North Carolina Research and Education Network, which connects critical anchor institutions such as the state K-12 public schools, charter schools, North Carolina's community college system, the 16 campuses of the University of North Carolina, and the state hospital system. MCNC was a grant awardee in BTOP Round 1, receiving a \$28 million grant to complete a \$40 million expansion and upgrade to NCREN. MCNC's BTOP Round 1 Application has been cited as a model by the NTIA.

MCNC's NCRBI proposal is an \$111,654,323 1802 middle-mile infrastructure traversing 69 counties in four regions of NC. When combined with NCREN's current and planned fiber network, funding of the NCRBI will create a CAI network that spans the entire state with owned dark fiber. The NCRBI program traverses all North Carolina Tier I counties. In 48 of the 69 counties, the per capita income is 80% or less than the national average. Thirty-one counties meet the NTIA definition of economically distressed, which combines unemployment with low per capita income.

The proposal includes direct fiber builds to 45 community college main/satellite campuses, 58 K12 school districts, seven universities, 54 libraries and 14 county/municipal health and public safety agencies in the four region build areas. NCREN already serves community colleges, universities, K12 school districts and county public health and safety agencies. The direct fiber builds will replace bandwidth-limited, leased last-mile circuits. Direct fiber will allow these community anchor institutions to substantially upgrade their connections to the state's public sector intranet, the commercial Internet, and advanced research networks such as Internet2 and National LambdaRail.

While the NCRBI program is middle-mile only, further expanding NCREN, MCNC has been a national leader in forging public/private partnerships with last-mile internet service providers (ISP). MCNC has sought out partners in every area of the Round 2 proposed build area, and has been one of the few applicants who has found a way to make the NTIA's goal of public private partnership a reality.

The MCNC proposal has a large and significant amount of support across North Carolina. Of the 972 pages of the submitted Round 2 applications, more than 260 pages are partnerships and letters of support. The NCRBI received not only an endorsement by Golden LEAF, but the organization supported the MCNC application with matching funds with a \$28 million grant. That grant, with an additional \$5 million in land and fiber donations, brings the total match for NCRBI to just above 30%. NCRBI also leverages the MCNC Round 1 award by expanding on the work to increase the size, speed and stability of NCREN.

The NCRBI is the virtual keystone for North Carolina BTOP programs. The project supports several projects in both the BTOP and BIP programs, including the NCSL program, US UCAN, the Town of Red Oak, the Counties of Surrey and Rockingham BIP proposal, and the various MAIN proposals. The NCRBI includes the proposed service area of the ERC Round 1 proposal, which was a recommendation of the Governor in Round 1.

The sub-committee felt that the NCRBI proposal, if funded, improves the broadband infrastructure for the entire state. NCRBI has the capability to lower broadband prices for the entire state as it demonstrates how to solve the problems of public-private partnerships. The program would help stabilize the cost of providing stable, high-speed internet to all public educational institutions in the state and would have the secondary effect of helping to stabilize the ever-increasing broadband costs in the state budget.

The sub-committee felt that the size, scope, and potential impact of the MCNC application placed it head and shoulders above all other applications in the CCI category. The NCRBI program should act as a model for other states for the establishment of a truly comprehensive and integrated network. The sub-committee feels that the MCNC proposal represents the future of public broadband infrastructure in North Carolina.

The secondary recommendation made by the CCI Sub-committee was the MAIN CCI proposal.

The MAIN proposal is a middle-mile \$7.5 program to extend MAIN's existing fiber network to 42 community-anchor sites in 10 public-housing and low-income neighborhoods in Asheville, North Carolina. The MAIN CCI proposal has a strong public-safety aspect, serves 12 fire stations, and provides streaming security video to at-risk communities.

As in the SBA proposal, the MAIN CCI proposal has a broad base of support within the community and state wide. Supporters include ERC, MCNC, technology partner Red Hat, the City of Asheville, the Land of Sky Council of Government, and long-standing community institutions. The program serves a low-income area of Asheville, which is unlikely to see another ISP. MAIN's CCI proposal is independent of, but highly synergistic with, the MAIN SBA program recommended above.

The sub-committee had three primary reservations with the MAIN CCI program. The first was that the MAIN CCI proposal is a regional program, centered in a single county in North Carolina. However, the sub-committee recognizes the high-value impact the MAIN program would have in the area and that it would set the stage for the innovating SBA program.

Additionally, the MAIN CCI project has the support of MCNC and ECR, two long-time advocates for rural broadband implementation.

The second concern is the MAIN CCI match. The MAIN CCI proposal asks for a \$6.477 million grant and only provides a 14.1% in-kind match of \$1.05 million. While this is below the program requirements, MAIN does include the necessary waiver requests. While this is well below the 30% match recommended by NTIA in outreach documents, the sub-committee recognizes that MAIN only listed in-kind match of actual equipment and did not, as was the case on other BTOP applications, attempt to “game” the application by including salaries of managers and program income as part of the match.

The final concern is that MAIN is currently delinquent in Federal Payments. The narrative of the MAIN application explains how the delinquency occurred, and MAIN acted in good faith once the delinquency was discovered. MAIN is now current with payments, but is appealing late fees and penalties involved with the delinquency. The sub-committee felt that the factors that the delinquency was not the fault of MAIN, that MAIN acted in good-faith to settle the delinquency, and the importance of the MAIN middle-mile proposal for the Asheville area and the MAIN SBA proposal was enough reason to overcome these concerns and recommend the MAIN proposal to the Governor.

Section 6

Conclusion

The BTOP Review Committee would again like to thank the Governor for the opportunity to provide review and comment for this important ARRA Recovery project. The committee feels that high speed broadband development, the increase in the availability of public computing centers and public broadband access, and the establishment of new and innovative access programs is not only important for immediate economic and educational impact, but critical to move North Carolina’s economy from an agricultural and manufacturing base to a robust and competitive 21st Century Economy.

If there was a central theme to the two sub-committee meetings, it was that what was best for North Carolina was the development of programs and investments *in* North Carolina. The recommendations from both sub-committees reflect a clear preference for the development of comprehensive and innovative programs that provide a platform for future growth in broadband outreach and demand in North Carolina.

APPENDICES

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Document 2: List of Applications provided by NTIA

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 - MCNC's North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiatives (NCRBI) program
 - MAIN's CCI program
2. The Subcommittee on PCC/SBA recommendations, for the Public Computer Center category:
 - North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina State Library program
 - The PCC/SBA highlights, in the Public Computer Center category:
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 - Renovation and repurposing projects
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 - Greater Lansing Area Development
3. The Subcommittee on PCC/SBA recommends, for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption category:
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Document 14-18: Draft/Sample Scoring Sheets

1. Infrastructure
 - a. Draft Scoring Sheet
 - b. Sample Scoring Sheet, MCNC
2. SBA/PCC
 - a. Draft Scoring Sheet
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 - c. Sample Scoring Sheet, Olive Hill Community Economic Development

Document 19-25: Copies of Ethics Forms



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Assistant Secretary for Communications
and Information
Washington, D.C. 20230

MAR 24 2010

Al Delia
Senior Advisor
Office of the Governor
116 West Jones Street
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27899-0301

Dear Mr. Delia:

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is responsible for implementing the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), which provides grants for deploying broadband infrastructure, enhancing broadband capacity at public computer centers, and promoting sustainable broadband adoption. In so doing, BTOP advances the objectives of the Recovery Act to spur job creation and stimulate long-term economic growth and opportunity.

As in the first funding round, NTIA invites states, territories, possessions, and the District of Columbia ("states") to provide comment on those geographic areas within the state for which NTIA should give priority in selecting projects for funding. States may, if they wish, comment on specific BTOP applications that propose to serve areas within their jurisdiction and provide specific information as to why certain applications meet the greatest needs of the state.

If you do choose to comment on specific applications, please indicate whether they align with state priorities and meet specific economic and geographic needs within your state. As we expect to receive a large volume of applications, it is not necessary for you to comment on all of the applications in your state; a narrow list of high-priority projects would be more valuable in our selection process. It is most helpful to us if you place those proposals that best match your state's priorities into either a "recommend" or a "highly recommend" category. When providing this input, please also provide the Easygrants ID, applicant organization, application type and name of the application(s).

In order to receive your input as soon as possible, NTIA has provided the publicly available information describing all the BTOP applications that propose to serve areas of North Carolina. The information is based on proposed funded service areas, and does not necessarily reflect the location of applicant offices or headquarters. To access the list, visit the link below or search the Applications Database on www.broadbandusa.gov:

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/applications/results.cfm?org=&keywords=&grantround=2&id=&program=BTOP&state=&projstates=NC&status=>

As required by the Recovery Act, NTIA is making the following project information available in a publicly accessible database: the name and location of the applicant organization;

the name, phone number, and email address of the primary point of contact; the project title and description; the proposal's executive summary; the total federal grant request and total match amount; and which state(s) the applicant proposes to serve.

Please note that the link above may include applications for projects that propose to serve only Tribal Lands. NTIA is inviting tribal leaders to comment upon such applications in an effort to fund projects that best advance their broadband technology objectives. Accordingly, while you need not comment on applications proposing to serve tribal communities, if you choose to do so, we urge you to consult first with the relevant tribal government.

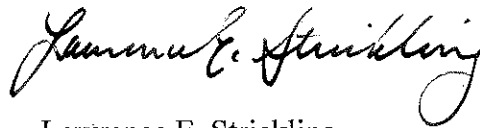
If you would like to review additional information regarding applications proposing to serve areas of your state, please request such information from applicants directly using the contact information provided in the database. We have advised applicants to be as cooperative and forthcoming as possible in their exchange of information with states.

We ask that you return any written comments you wish to provide in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format to imartinez@ntia.doc.gov **no later than Monday, May 3, 2010**. NTIA will make all state and tribal comments publicly available at <http://www.broadbandusa.gov>.

We highly value the input of states and will take into consideration the comments you provide before making final awards. As in the first funding round, the input of states is consultative in nature and, while extremely valuable, constitutes only one of several factors NTIA weighs when evaluating applications.

Thank you once again for your assistance in helping to expand broadband capabilities in the United States, create jobs, and lay a new foundation for economic growth. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me or Ian Martinez, Senior Adviser and Director of Outreach, at (202) 482-3027.

Sincerely,



Lawrence E. Strickling

CC: John McHugh, ARRA Policy Director

Appendix Document II: List of NC Service Area Applications

Applicant	MCNC RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC
Application ID	4218
Contact	Patricia Moody pmoody@mcnc.org
Project title	North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative
Program	BTOP
Proposed Project Area	NC
Project type	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round	Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request	\$ 77,977,126
Status	Application Received
Description	The North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative (NCRBI) would build middle mile infrastructure and direct fiber connections to community colleges, libraries, schools, health and safety facilities and other community anchor institutions in 69 of the most rural, economically disadvantaged counties in North Carolina. This is a proposal led by MCNC, which was awarded BTOP round 1 funding.
Executive Summary	Executive Summary (pdf)
Tribes Served	Tribes Served (pdf)
<hr/>	
Applicant	MOUNTAIN AREA INFORMATION NETWORK ASHEVILLE, NC
Application ID	4300
Contact	Wally Bowen wallyb@main.nc.us
Project title	Middle-Mile/Last-Mile Broadband Access for Public Housing Neighborhoods in Asheville, N.C.
Program	BTOP
Proposed Project Area	NC
Project type	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round	Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request	\$ 6,477,093
Status	Application Received
Description	The nonprofit Mountain Area Information Network (MAIN) will extend middle-mile fiber to 42 community-anchor sites in 10 public-housing and low-income neighborhoods in Asheville, N.C. From this middle-mile fiber, MAIN will expand its existing last-mile wireless network to provide affordable broadband for at-risk and vulnerable populations in these public-housing and low-income neighborhoods.
Executive Summary	Executive Summary (pdf)

Applicant NETWORK FOUNDATION TECHNOLOGIE
RUSTON, LA

Application ID 4458

Contact Marcus Morton
marcus@niftytv.com

Project title A Sustainable Online Broadcast Network Connecting High Schools to their Local Communities

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 10,392,600

Status Application Received

Description This project, led by Network Foundation Technologies, aims to deploy Internet broadcast technology, including camera and production / distribution equipment, nationwide to approximately 2,000 high schools over the next two years. The project incorporates an innovative, green technology enabling cost effective utilization of existing broadband infrastructure.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FOR ADVANCED INTERNET DEVELOPMENT
ANN ARBOR, MI

Application ID 4589

Contact Nili Tannenbaum
kaj@internet2.edu

Project title United States Unified Community Anchor Network (U.S. UCAN)

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, NA, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 62,540,162

Status Application Received

Description Internet2 and NLR, both non-profit organizations, propose the creation of the United States Unified Community Anchor Network (U.S. UCAN). This national-scale network will construct the middle mile essential to connect all community anchor projects funded by BTOP with each other, and with more than 66,000 other anchors, to ensure a seamless national fabric of high-performance, open networks.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant CA TECHNOLOGY INC
JENSEN BEACH, FL

Application ID 4630

Contact oleg tretiakoff
oleg@catechnology.net

Project title Broadband for the Blind
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 600,000

Status Application Received

Description The "Broadband for the Blind" project will allow blind - or visually impaired people - to access and use broadband data. To achieve this goal, C.A.Technology will put on the market the necessary hardware (Tactile Graphic Displays developed previously with a grant of the NSF) and the required data acquisition and analysis software.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant WINSTONNET INC
WINSTON-SALEM, NC

Application ID 4634

Contact Johannes Boehme
jboehme@wfubmc.edu

Project title WinstonNet Enhanced Community Computer Centers for Forsyth County
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 926,537

Status Application Received

Description WinstonNet operates over 40 public computer labs integrated with a nationally recognized training program located in mostly underserved areas. The purpose of this project is to provide new equipment for existing labs, better serve the large Hispanic population in our area, open new labs in low-income areas, and to expand computer training, job training, and educational resources.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant GREATER LANSING AREA DEVELOPME
LANSING, NC

Application ID 4741

Contact Wendy Painter
painteratwork@gmail.com

Project title Northwest Public Computer and Business Developmeny Center

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 854,285

Status Application Received

Description GLAD and the rural mountain community of Northwestern Ashe County are developing the Northwest Public Computer and Business Development Center in Lansing, N.C. The 4,218 sq. ft. Center will be located in an historic downtown building and will house a state of the art technology center and business incubator. The Center's focus will be technology education and business development and support.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant XW
DALLAS, TX

Application ID 4773

Contact Dennis Robbins
drobbins@xtendwave.com

Project title Xtendwave Technology Solution for Backhaul Network Congestion

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 7,420,000

Status Application Received

Description XW, LLC, dba Xtendwave, will deliver initial production quantities of chipset components enabling a 2X to 6X+ improvement in throughput on the nation's existing copper backhaul infrastructure. These components, employing Xtendwave's patented technology, will be used by telecom equipment makers to provide a quicker, far less expensive solution to backhaul congestion than new fiber optic builds.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant SKYPORT INTERNATIONAL, INC
HOUSTON, TX

Application ID 5012

Contact Robert Kubbernus
robert.kubbernus@skyportglobal.com

Project title SEON (Satellite Emergency Operations Network)

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 10,000,000

Status Application Received

Description SEON is a comprehensive, interoperable, satellite communications network designed to meet the Broadband needs of Public Safety organizations and Emergency Management Teams in the Gulf Coast Region. SEON provides Public Safety officials the broadband emergency communications capacity needed when they need it, when all land-based communications capabilities have failed.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant GUILFORD, COUNTY OF
GREENSBORO, NC

Application ID 5246

Contact Sharon Harrison-Pope
spope@co.guilford.nc.us

Project title Broadband All Access: Guilford County Community Computer Centers

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 829,478

Status Application Received

Description Broadband All Access: Guilford County Community Computer Centers program proposes to provide broadband access to the public in existing service locations throughout Guilford County. By providing broadband access to citizens in areas which they must already visit (health department, social services, etc.) this innovative idea makes available broadband access 'doors' to vulnerable populations.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, NC

Application ID 5247
Contact Gregory Clinton
gclinton@nccu.edu
Project title NCCU School of Law Virtual Justice Broadband Project
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area NC
Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 1,978,526
Status Application Received
Description The NCCU School of Law Virtual Justice Broadband Project will increase broadband adoption by establishing fully immersive remote learning centers in four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), using videoconferencing and other broadband applications to provide critical legal resources to underserved populations across the state.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant SOCKET MOBILE, INC.
NEWARK, CA

Application ID 5335

Contact Micheal Gifford
btop@socketmobile.com

Project title Mobile Broadband Health Platform
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 3,858,038

Status Application Received

Description In partnership with the University of California and others, launch a versatile, scalable, and accessible broadband healthcare delivery technology platform to be utilized remotely by healthcare professionals, administrators, insurers, and patients; and which creates high value and permanent broadband adoption, economic growth, and "shovel ready" U.S. jobs.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant UNION COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONROE, NC

Application ID 5636

Contact Christopher Araya
Chris.Araya@CrystalWorksGETS.com

Project title UCPS TEAM 21 Educational Technology Program

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 1,920,000

Status Application Received

Description To develop 21st Century professionals to work in the Union County Public Schools who will demonstrate the infusion of technology into the Standard Course of Study & create learner-centered classrooms where technology is a tool for instruction & learning; including the purchase of equipment, the participation in training for technology infusion, and the impact of technology on student learning.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant MOUNTAIN AREA INFORMATION NETWORK
ASHEVILLE, NC

Application ID 5676

Contact Wally Bowen
wallyb@main.nc.us

Project title Community Cloud Computing for Broadband Adoption and Job Creation

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 2,481,555

Status Application Received

Description The Mountain Area Information Network, a 15-year-old nonprofit Internet service provider in Asheville, N. C., will create the nation's first grassroots, cloud-computing platform for broadband adoption, job creation, and digital literacy training for at-risk populations. The project will be designed and implemented in partnership with Red Hat, the NC-based global leader in cloud computing.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant BROADBAND ALLIANCE
COLLINSVILLE, IL

Application ID 5697

Contact Robert Paarlberg

6189780399
rpaarlberg@broadbandalliance.org

Project title Bi-lingual Broadband Education
Program BTOP
AK, AL, AR, AS, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, FM, GA, GU, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MH, MI, MN, MO, MP, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, PW, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VI, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Proposed Project Area

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 2,188,620

Status Application Received

Description In support of Broadband USA, we will be developing bi-lingual education programs to identify and assist rural, senior and disadvantaged subscribers. To optimize learning we will use a variety of mediums to educate; including videos, and self paced on-line learning. This will be done with the support and cooperation of leading universities.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant BLACK ENTERTAINMENT TELEVISION LLC
NEW YORK, NY

Application ID 5740

Contact G. Thomas Reynolds
tom.reynolds@bet.net

Project title BET Networks National Sustainable Broadband Adoption Project
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area AL, AR, CA, DC, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 24,893,565

Status Application Received

Description BETN will lead a coalition of partners in driving significant incremental broadband adoption within the African American community US-wide. The approach involves (1) a 2-year targeted multimedia campaign to generate awareness and demand; (2) a targeted broadband-enabled LIFE PORTAL to increase the relevance of broadband; and (3) a community outreach effort to increase overall digital literacy.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE
PEMBROKE, NC

Application ID 5789

Contact Robert Orr

Project title robert.orr@uncp.edu
Program Community Interactive Video Collaborative
Proposed Project Area BTOP
Project type NC
Funding Round Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Grant request Round 2 - Winter 2010
Status \$ 1,611,183
Description Application Received
Life happens on line in the global economy. To position current and future generations of southeastern North Carolinians for success, while reversing existing patterns of economic marginalization and intergenerational poverty UNCP will expand distance learning opportunities and bring new learning and personal and economic development activities into community colleges and local community sites.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DOBSON, NC

Application ID 5791

Contact Greg Smith
smithg@surry.edu

Project title Surry Community College Public Computing and Workforce Development Center

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 552,650

Status Application Received

Description Surry County Community College's two new satellite computing centers will expand broadband availability to low income, disabled, and unemployed persons, as well as the public at large. They will provide increased access to workforce development training, educational support, job searches, GED, and resume writing assistance, as well as general web-based resources and computer literacy classes.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant OLIVE HILL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MORGANTON, NC

Application ID 6021

Contact Beverly Carlton
olivehcedc@live.com

Project title Valdese Public Computer Center

Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area NC
Project type Public Computer Center
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 448,742
Status Application Received
Description This project establishes a public computer center in downtown Valdese, NC targeting assistance to disadvantaged businesses, the unemployed, and individuals seeking higher educational attainment. Clients and the public will receive training through collaborative services with the local community college, the county library system, Town of Valdese, and traditionally disadvantaged businesses.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant CULTURAL RESOURCES, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF RALEIGH, NC

Application ID 6023

Contact Mary Boone
mary.boone@ncdcr.gov

Project title North Carolina Public Library Computer Centers

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 1,488,598

Status Application Received

Description The State Library of North Carolina is applying for a PCC grant of \$1.5M to improve public library connectivity and computing resources across 35 counties with unemployment rates well in excess of the national average. These resources are intended to decrease workstation wait times, increase usage time limits, and better support the state's leading employment and workforce development programs.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant BRINKSMAN CONSULTING & TRADING GROUP
PITTSBURGH, PA

Application ID 6081

Contact Keith Brinksman
bctgroup@bctgroup.com

Project title Planning Guideline for Broadband Access Implementation

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM,

NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 500,000

Status Application Received

Description The objective is to create a planning guideline for the small telco that has no strong technology/business planning organization. With this guide, the owner/manager can develop overall plans for the deployment of Advanced Architectures in the Access Plant area. The USDA will provide the guide to winning bidders for development of projects under the Broadband Infrastructure Applications awards.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant DUVAL & JULES LLC
KANSAS CITY, MO

Application ID 6095

Contact Fedy Duval
fedy707@gmail.com

Project title NetLifeTV

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 6,500,000

Status Application Received

Description Giving the rural community acces to broadband broacast with out using a PC. This will solve their problem with lack of access to cable television.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant CHARLOTTE, CITY OF
CHARLOTTE, NC

Application ID 6251

Contact James Baucom
dbaucom@ci.charlotte.nc.us

Project title CharMeck Connect

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 16,996,490
Status Application Received
Description CharMerk Connect is a public-private partnership to deploy middle mile broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas. Funds will provide broadband access to residents, businesses, community anchor institutions, community colleges and public safety entities.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant AMERICA 2.0, INC.
SANTA CRUZ, CA

Application ID 6439
Contact Mike Mathiesen
america2inc@gmail.com

Project title Broadband for TeleMedicine
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 800,000

Status Application Received

Description We will enroll high risk patients for Doctors, Hospitals and Clinics to provide basic health care services to patients via Broadband WebCam and other Internet Devices. Doctors need to "See more patients". This innovative technology will allow doctors and other health practitioners to literally SEE more patients and thus alleviate the high cost of Health Care in America.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant SOUTH PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
POLKTON, NC

Application ID 6504
Contact Charlene Broome
cbroome@spcc.edu

Project title Anson Going Global with South Piedmont Community College (SPCC)
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Public Computer Center

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 995,507
Status Application Received
Description SPCC's project is a public computer center (PCC) program in rural, economically disadvantaged Anson County and in rural, lower-income areas of neighboring Union County. The project includes a fixed-site PCC developed in renovated space of an SPCC facility and a mobile unit for remote areas. Labs and classes will improve computer, Internet utilization, and employability skills of residents.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant AIRCELL LLC
BROOMFIELD, CO

Application ID 6529
Contact Timothy Twohig
ttwohig@aircell.com

Project title Expansion of Inflight Broadband Communications for Public Safety
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 60,100,000

Status Application Received

Description Accelleration of equipment installation aboard commercial airlines to enable advanced inflight communications capabilities for public safety agencies.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant Broadband Alliance
COLLINSVILLE, IL

Application ID 6672
Contact Robert Paarlberg
6189780399
rpaarlberg@broadbandalliance.org

Project title Software Wizard to recommend broadband service based on user needs and budget.

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AK, AL, AR, AS, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, FM, GA, GU, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MH, MI, MN, MO, MP, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, PW, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VI, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 672,260
Status Application Received
Description Bi-Lingual Software Wizard to recommend broadband service based on user needs and budget. On-line application will match user requirements with real-time data from state, federal and private sources to recommend and build confidence in subscribers' choice.
Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)
Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant XW
DALLAS, TX
Application ID 6677
Contact Dennis Robbins
drobbins@xtendwave.com
Project title Broadband Ubiquity via Adaptive Filter Bank Modulation
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 9,240,000
Status Application Received
Description Xtendwave technology will enable broadband service, to those most challenging to reach, more cost effectively than any other solution being considered. The technology utilizes existing networks and systems, providing unserved broadband with the same economics afforded areas with greater population density.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant ELAUWIT COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FOUNDATION NC, LLC
COLUMBIA, SC
Application ID 6760
Contact Russell Cann
ecefnc@elauwitnetworks.com
Project title North Carolina Public Housing Computer Centers Project
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area NC
Project type Public Computer Center
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 5,987,984
Status Application Received

Description Elauwit Community Enhancement Foundation NC, LLC plans to provide 345 computer work stations in 32 public computer centers in Public Housing Authority Communities in North Carolina. Including both community residents and users from adjacent communities, over 15,000 users per year will be served by these computer centers and associated broadband adoption programs.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant ELAUWIT COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FOUNDATION NC, LLC
COLUMBIA, SC

Application ID 6773

Contact Russell Cann
ecefnc@elauwitnetworks.com

Project title North Carolina Public Housing Broadband Adoption Project
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 9,983,184

Status Application Received

Description Elauwit Community Enhancement Foundation's ("ECEF's") North Carolina Public Housing Broadband Adoption Project plans to design, construct and operate a broadband wireless mesh network utilizing 207 wireless access points at 64 Public Housing Authority projects. The Public Housing Authority broadband wireless networks will serve 64 communities, and 5,749 housing units, with 11,395 residents.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant COMMUNICATION SERVICE FOR THE DEAF, INC.
SIOUX FALLS, SD

Application ID 6814

Contact Patty Kuglitsch
pkuglitsch@c-s-d.org

Project title Project Endeavor
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 14,988,657

Status Application Received

Description Project Endeavor goals: promote broadband adoption and educate 200,000

deaf/hard hearing consumers about benefits of having broadband through an awareness and outreach campaign; sign up 16,000 broadband users, offer discounted mini-notebooks and broadband connections to income-eligible consumers; employ 60 tiered support staff in specialized CSD contact center.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)
Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant COMMUNITYVINE, INC.
DENVER, CO
Application ID 6883
Contact chris roussy
jroussy@aol.com
Project title Broadband and Computers for Seniors
Program BTOP
AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Proposed Project Area
Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 4,218,299
Status Application Received
Description CommunityVine is providing wireless broadband access, individual computers, computer education, and ongoing support to approximately 9,100 underserved senior citizens in 120 public housing facilities over three years. Education components will include computer use, email and eCommerce applications, fraud prevention, and extensive training in eHealth technologies.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant NTCH, INC
HERMOSA BEACH, CA
Application ID 6905
Contact Eric Steinmann
erics@cleartalk.net
Project title NTCH Inc., North Carolina Netbookmobile Program
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area NC
Project type Public Computer Center
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 3,674,012
Status Application Received
Description This Program will bring the internet, and the technology to access it,

directly to people that live in communities too small or too remote for direct access and to people that are unable to drive to the nearest large community to have functional access. A bookmobile for the modern age - the Netbookmobile ' will be deployed, each one covering roughly 5 counties within the proposed area.

Executive Summary

[Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant

GENOA SERVICES
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Application ID

6911

Contact

Ed Gallagher
edgepr@comcast.net

Project title

Broadband Enabled Remote Guidance Systems For The Visually Impaired ("InSight Platform")

Program

BTOP

Proposed Project Area

AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type

Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round

Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request

\$ 2,265,600

Status

Application Received

Description

In partnership with the Rotary Club of SF to launch an nationwide BB enabled web platform where home bound (e.g. physically disabled) "Remote Guides" lend their sight to the blind utilizing a 3G wireless head mount web cam and audio ensemble worn by blind persons with the resulting audio/video streamed to sight enabled Remote Guides based anywhere in the U.S. who then provide assistance as needed.

Executive Summary

[Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served

[Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant

ONE ECONOMY CORP.
WASHINGTON, DC

Application ID

6935

Contact

Moustafa Mourad
cgray@one-economy.com

Project title

HUD Broadband Adoption Initiative

Program

BTOP

Proposed Project Area

AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type

Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round

Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 52,105,490
Status Application Received
Description One Economy will lead a consortium of Internet Service Providers, computer companies, and nonprofit partners to tackle key barriers to adoption among residents of Department of Housing and Urban Development multi-family developments by offering digital literacy training, awareness of broadband benefits, discounted broadband service, and discounted computers.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant EMPIRIX INC.
BEDFORD, MA

Application ID 6960

Contact Kent Johnson
kjohnson@empirix.com

Project title Assuring Quality of Service for American Broadband Consumers

Program BTOP
AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Proposed Project Area

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 15,000,000

Status Application Received

Description High quality delivery of broadband service is essential for consumers. And the American taxpayer needs to know that funds that have been used to provide high quality service. This proposal will provide the tools and processes for operators to deploy these services successfully and for Americans to see reporting that holds recipients of funding accountable for effective allocation of these funds.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant AZTRONIX, LLC
NASHUA, NH

Application ID 6977

Contact Michael Russo
mike@aztronix.com

Project title Aztronix BTOP SBA UZAP Global Online Marketplace Project

Program BTOP
AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Proposed Project Area

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 2,000,000
Status Application Received
Description "AZTRONIX LLC is working with the New Hampshire State Library including Community Colleges working as a public private partnership in the spirit building local communities as indicated in the BTOP SBA phase 2 "communities" initiatives. We will provide the UZAP™ platform and technology to remove barriers for businesses and individuals to increase economic activity and create great jobs.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant ONE ECONOMY CORP.
WASHINGTON, DC

Application ID 7025

Contact Moustafa Mourad
cgray@one-economy.com

Project title Fostering Broadband Adoption for Senior Citizens, Rural Americans and Native Americans

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, LA, MD, MN, NV, NM, NY, NC, ND, OR, SC, SD, TX, VA, WA, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 35,932,606

Status Application Received

Description One Economy Corporation and the Broadband Opportunity Coalition will overcome barriers and increase broadband adoption rates in low-income senior, rural and Native American populations through a comprehensive and integrated digital ecosystem program that includes access, online content, technology and digital literacy training, and public education.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant COUNTY EXECUTIVES TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE
WASHINGTON, DC

Application ID 7027

Contact Michael Griffin
mgriffin@countyexecutives.org

Project title County Executives Telecommunications Network (CETN), formerly County Executives Television Network.

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 14,954,765
Status Application Received
Description CETN promotes the use of broadband to standardize best practice training and certification around the country by empowering every county leader to provide state of the art training to police, fire, health, public works, NGO's and others. This program will be a tool for workforce improvement and information sharing. It will bridge the gap between urban and rural and will improve skill sets.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)
Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant WORLD NETWORK INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, INC
SUNNYSIDE, NY

Application ID 7042
Contact walter iwachiw
iwachiw@wnis.org

Project title BTOP Mega Broadband by Rail
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, NA, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 150,000,000
Status Application Received

Description BTOP application for a combined 45 million in awards, \$33. Million in Middle Mile Awards grants to build, deploy and improve connections to communities lacking sufficient broadband access by deploying a fiber-optic ring to deliver gigabit broadband speeds with interconnection points along underground subways tracks and above ground Rail tracks with 12 million additional for Last mile connections.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)
Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant COUNTY EXECUTIVES TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE
WASHINGTON, DC

Application ID 7108
Contact Michael Griffin
mgriffin@countyexecutives.org

Project title County Executives Telecommunication Network (CETN) formerly the County Executives Television Network
Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 53,715,757

Status Application Received

Description CETN will provide the middle mile broadband connectivity for county governments. This initiative provides the broadband communications network which currently does not exist, linking anchor institutions during times of emergency. This comprehensive community infrastructure can be accessed for best practices, state of the art first responder training, information sharing and workforce improvement.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant SCHENECTADY CNTY CMNTY COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY, NY

Application ID 7181

Contact David Hennessy
5183811374
haynespaj@gw.sunysccc.edu

Project title Association of Regional Emergency Agencies at Schenectady County Community College (AREA@SCCC)

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AK, AL, AR, AS, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, FM, GA, GU, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MH, MI, MN, MO, MP, MS, MT, NA, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, PW, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VI, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Project type Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 5,872,843

Status Application Received

Description AREA@SCCC proposes linking First Responder and private sector agencies in a ten county region through a distributive learning network organized by a community college. Cost effective training is provided through online, video-conference, and in-person sessions. The broadband component of the network is an emergency communication link to government at all levels during an all hazard event.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant OCONEE, COUNTY OF
WALHALLA, SC

Application ID 7461

Contact Mike Powell

mpowell@oconeesc.com

Project title Oconee FOCUS (Fiber Optics Creating Unified Solutions)

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area NC, SC

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 10,689,572

Status Application Received

Description Oconee County , SC seeks funding assistance for the construction of the Oconee FOCUS Project which is a mid mile and last mile fiber optic communications network in northwestern South Carolina. This 245 mile fiber optic backbone will provide this 70% unserved region with broadband capacity that will meet immediate and future communications needs while economically strengthening the county.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served](#) (pdf)

Applicant UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN, IL

Application ID 7502

Contact Walter Knorr
GCOAward@illinois.edu

Project title Broadband Training Expansion at the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute.

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, NA, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 2,541,026

Status Application Received

Description This grant will enable the IFSI to create and provide online services to fire departments and districts throughout the state and nation with online courses and other online training delivery methods, support during actual emergencies and connectivity with national programs to include the National Fire Academy.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary](#) (pdf)

Applicant PHILADELPHIA, CITY OF
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Application ID 7519

Contact Andrew Buss

andrew.buss@phila.gov
Project title Digital Philadelphia Broadband Initiative
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, NA, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 8,150,000
Status Application Received
Description Philadelphia is a major urban area that lacks sufficient Internet connectivity at a block level. To address these problems, the City proposes to leverage and further enable its wireless infrastructure to bring connectivity to anchor institutions and create a broadband strategy called the Digital Philadelphia Broadband Initiative.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant LOGICLINK, INC.
IRVINE, CA

Application ID 7542

Contact Kim Kao
kkao@logiclink.com

Project title Computer Services to Justifying Sustainable Middle and Last Mile Infrastructure to Rural Areas

Program BTOP

Proposed Project Area AL, AK, AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MA, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY

Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010

Grant request \$ 11,900,544

Status Application Received

Description The implementation of 500+ Community Business Centers and associated broadband infrastructure shall promote trial, adoption and sustainability of broadband services and utilization to rural underserved counties. Emphasis shall be based on social/political information community dissemination, medical/health services and job creation networking activities.

Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant TEV ENTERPRISES LLC
HINSDALE, IL

Application ID 7701

Contact Eric Bergquist

Project title bergquist.services@comcast.net
Program Emergency Alert Broadcasts to PCs
Proposed Project Area BTOP
 AL, AK, AS, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FM, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MH, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, MP, OH, OK, OR, PW, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VI, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 1,950,000
Status Application Received
Description One compelling reason for a commitment to serve public safety entities that have expressed a demand or indicated a need for access or improved access to broadband service is a comprehensive communities project to provide emergency & community messages to support safety, health and welfare. We seek funding to develop and distribute software for broadband-connected PCs to receive broadcast emergenc
Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)
Tribes Served [Tribes Served \(pdf\)](#)

Applicant Cooperative Economics International, Inc.
 TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, AL
Application ID 7818
Contact LaTrease Stegall
 3345461646
 lrstegall@charter.net
Project title The eTech AAA Network™ Academics, Arts and Athletics Network™
Program BTOP
Proposed Project Area AL, GA, MS, NC, SC
Project type Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
Funding Round Round 2 - Winter 2010
Grant request \$ 82,756,828
Status Application Received
Description The e Technology Academics, Athletics and the Arts Network and Data Centers (e-Tech Net), an open-access designed and planned regional area network deployment is a collaboration between three minority women-owned and operated companies, Cooperative Economics International, Inc.(CEI), an Alabama based consulting and development company and its partnered private school the Exploratory Academy a subs
Executive Summary [Executive Summary \(pdf\)](#)

**BTOP Review Committee,
Subcommittee on Sustainable Adoption/Public Computer Centers Applications
Agenda
April 21, 2010
9:00am-2:00 pm
Room 144
North Carolina Rural Center**

9:00—Welcome and Introductions

1. Introduction of members and staff
2. Review of ethics forms
3. Changes in Round 2
4. Public Comment

9:30-10:30—Public Computer Center Application Review

1. Application Discussion
 - South Piedmont Community College
 - Elauwit Community Enhancement Foundation Inc
 - NTCH Inc
 - Winstonnet Inc
 - North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
 - Olive Hill Economic Development
 - Greater Lansing Area Development
 - Surry Community College
 - County of Guilford
2. PCC Recommendations

10:30-11:30—Sustainable Broadband Adoption Review

1. Application Discussion
 - Brinksman Consulting and Trading Group
 - Socket Mobile INC
 - One Economy Corporation
 - Union County Board of Education
 - XW
 - Communityvine Inc
 - Empirix Inc
 - Network Foundation Technologie
 - CA Technology Inc
 - Communication Service For The Deaf Inc
 - University of North Carolina at Pembroke
 - Broadband Alliance
 - Ikoring LLC
 - Mountain Area Information Network
 - America 2.0 Inc
 - County Executives Telecommunications
 - Elauwit
2. SBA Recommendations

11:30-12:00—Public Comment

12:00-1:00—Lunch

1:00-2:00—Discussion and Recommendations

2:00—Adjourn

**BTOP Review Committee,
Subcommittee on Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Applications
Agenda
April 22, 2009
9:00am-2:00 pm
Room 151
North Carolina Rural Center**

9:00—Welcome and Introductions

1. Introduction of members and staff
2. Review of Ethics and non-disclosure forms
3. Changes in Round 2
4. Public comment

9:30-10:30—Local Area Programs

1. City of Charlotte
2. Onocee County, SC
3. Mountain Area Information Network

10:30-11:30—State Programs

1. Satellite Based
 - County Executives Telecommunications Network
 - Skyport International, Inc.
2. Wireline
 - MCNC

11:30-12:00—National Programs

1. University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:00— Discussion by Subcommittee, Ranking

2:00--Adjourn

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: MCNC

Project Title: North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative

Project Type: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Executive Summary

There are three distinct regions in North Carolina: mountain, eastern and Piedmont. The Piedmont that has for 300 years been the center of much of the state's urban growth. In the 1800's, the Piedmont's unique topography and resources fueled growth in agricultural and textile industries, leading to infrastructure investments in roads, sewer, water and electricity. As the economy moved to a knowledge base, the Piedmont continued to receive most infrastructure investment. Evidence of this was investment in the incubation of Research Triangle Park (RTP) in the heart of the Piedmont. In the late 1950's, NC leaders set aside 7000 acres of prime land and equipped it with modern infrastructure to attract jobs. Today over 40,000 jobs are attributed to entities with major presences in RTP. Outside the Piedmont area, NC is a rural state. Census data shows NC has the nation's second largest rural population. In the state's rural areas, farms are folding, jobs are leaving and the brightest students seek opportunity elsewhere. In 1999, the NC Rural Prosperity Task Force, led by now University of NC President Erskine Bowles, ranked building broadband infrastructure in rural NC as the most direct way to address the rural/urban prosperity gap. Several national studies confirm that broadband investment is a catalyst for educational attainment and economic prosperity. In 1980, the state incubated MCNC, a private non-profit company. The main mission of MCNC was to build and manage the NC Research and Education Network (NCREN), a communications infrastructure for all K20 public education. NCREN is the backbone of an equitable education for NC citizens and enables our research institutions to contribute innovations in many fields. In BTOP round 1, due to available match funding, MCNC focused solely on the middle mile infrastructure in high needs areas. MCNC crafted a round 1 proposal to build middle mile infrastructure in areas where its education mission was being impeded by a lack of dark fiber. On January 20, 2010, US Commerce Secretary Gary Locke announced a \$28.2M grant to MCNC to build middle mile infrastructure in 37 counties. This middle mile has begun to disrupt wholesale markets in the round 1 service area with prices falling by 10-30% after the announcement. To further address this digital divide, NC leaders encouraged MCNC to form the necessary partnerships to submit a BTOP round 2 proposal. The result is a Comprehensive Community Infrastructure proposal named the North Carolina Rural Broadband Initiative (NCRBI). The NCRBI bridges the prosperity gap by delivering broadband infrastructure to rural NC. The NCRBI addresses the gap by building both middle mile infrastructure and direct connections to Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) in the rural northeast, north central, northwest and south central portions of NC. Three factors compelled MCNC to focus on this strategy. First, the round 2 NOFA prioritizes CAI direct connections. Second, the NCRBI covers the remaining areas of extreme rural poverty in NC. CAIs are the place where many in these areas access bandwidth hungry applications to increase educational attainment, access better health care or conduct a job search.

Finally, connecting CAIs also drives fiber further into the regions of the build. This assists the private sector because more of the capital cost of the middle mile build is alleviated and wholesale price competition is increased. This relief of capex investment and greater wholesale competition allows the private sector providers to focus on building last mile deployments in these regions and these last mile builds occur at lower costs with the savings passed along to the consumers. The NCRBI also includes some direct fiber builds to CAIs in MCNC's round 1 award territory. The focus of these builds are in round 1 areas where the capital costs would be deterrents to last mile investments. Proposal Overview: MCNC's NCRBI proposal is an 1802 mile middle infrastructure traversing 69 counties in 4 regions of NC. When combined with NCREN's current and planned fiber network, funding of the NCRBI will create a CAI network that spans the entire state with owned dark fiber. In 38 of the 69 counties unemployment is 1% or more above the national average and in 48 counties the per capita income is 80% or less than the national average. Thirty-one counties meet the NTIA definition of economically distressed which combines unemployment with low per capita income. One of the most compelling documents in the NCRBI proposal is the "without BTOP" financial statements, included in supplemental materials. The substantial losses incurred but for BTOP are stark evidence these regions would never be served adhering to existing business model standards. The cost of the build is \$111,654,323. MCNC has raised, through private foundations and wholesale and retail service providers, a combined \$33,677,197 match composed of \$28,221,197 in cash and \$5,456,000 in existing conduit and land donations. The Golden LEAF Foundation, a NC private foundation focused on economic development in economically distressed counties, has provided the majority of the cash match. The proposal includes direct fiber builds to 45 community college main/satellite campuses, 58 K12 school districts, 7 universities, 54 libraries and 14 county/municipal health and public safety agencies in the 4 region build areas. NCREN already serves community colleges, universities, K12 school districts and county public health and safety agencies. The direct fiber builds will replace bandwidth-limited, leased last mile circuits. Direct fiber will allow these CAIs to substantially upgrade their connections to the state's public sector intranet, the commercial Internet and advanced research networks such as Internet2 and National LambdaRail. While MCNC will operate the public sector portion of the NCRBI, private sector partners are part of each region. In northeastern and north central NC, incumbent service provider CenturyLink has committed to lease fiber that will help complete its network. The proposed NCRBI network will enable CenturyLink to extend enhanced speed and triple play broadband services into these lightly populated and economically distressed regions. In addition, in the northeast, the Albemarle Pamlico Economic Development Corporation (APEC) has donated to MCNC \$4.75M worth of existing fiber optic conduit that had been built in the region but remained unused. The APEC fiber project exhausted funds in 2004 and now NCRBI, if funded, will help meet the original purpose of the conduit, to build a middle mile in the northeast. In the northwestern portion of the state, MCNC has built upon its decade long relationship with ERC Broadband (ERC). ERC will wholesale service to last mile providers in this region and will directly serve CAIs with the new network. ERC submitted an unsuccessful round 1 BTOP proposal combining last mile and middle mile elements. NCRBI includes similar middle mile elements to the ERC Round 1 proposal. This middle mile portion would not be possible without a BTOP award. In northwestern Graham County specifically, MCNC has built upon a 5 year relationship with network operator BalsamWest. BalsamWest operates a network whose owners includes the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. The build through Graham County will allow BalsamWest to offer wholesale services

to last mile operators in the region and to serve several CAIs with direct fiber. This build is supported by \$450K in matching funds from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee and BalsamWest. In the south central portion of the State, MCNC established IRU relationships with wholesale providers Zayo Bandwith (Zayo) and DukeNet to help fund the match for the proposal. Zayo has agreed to lease fiber on the new network in exchange for \$2,307,465M in cash. DukeNet has agreed provided \$792K in match in exchange for the IRUs. MCNC will serve CAIs along the route with direct fiber. Service Area: This proposal interconnects with MCNC's already existing NCREN infrastructure and BTOP1 infrastructure currently in process, to encompass 69 counties in the 4 regions in NC that remain underserved. Statistics: In these 69 counties there are 5.9M residents, and 67 of the 69 counties fully qualify as underserved per the NTIA definition or have smaller underserved pockets within them. There are a total of 4,066 CAIs, including 1,718 K12 schools, 61 community college main/satellite campuses and 33 baccalaureate degree granting 4 year colleges and universities. In addition there are 254 public libraries, and 1,887 municipal, county and state public safety facilities. A comprehensive set of economic, education and public health statistics are included in the upload section. Support: The application includes over 120 support letters from elected officials, education leaders, members of the governor's cabinet and counties along the build.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: MOUNTAIN AREA INFORMATION NETWORK

Project Title: Middle-Mile/Last-Mile Broadband Access for Public Housing Neighborhoods in Asheville, N.C.

Project Type: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Executive Summary

The nonprofit Mountain Area Information Network (MAIN) will extend middle-mile fiber to 42 community-anchor sites in 10 public-housing and low-income neighborhoods in Asheville, N.C. From this middle-mile fiber, MAIN will expand its existing last-mile wireless network to provide affordable broadband for at-risk and vulnerable populations in these underserved neighborhoods. The majority of the city's vulnerable populations are concentrated in these neighborhoods, several of which are partially served by MAIN's current mesh network. This existing operational network ' which includes fiber network services from a nonprofit partner ' will allow MAIN to quickly and cost-effectively implement this CCI project. This project is synergistic with a Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal ' 'Community Cloud Computing for Broadband Adoption and Job Creation' -- submitted by MAIN and a coalition of community partners, including the City of Asheville, the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville, Buncombe County Libraries, Buncombe County Health Department, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, et al. MAIN was launched in 1995 via a TOP grant from NTIA to provide Internet access via a local phone call in 12 mountain counties, when residents in most of these counties had to call long-distance to reach the Internet. This TOP project also created the first public access to the Internet in the region's public libraries. This project also deployed the region's first broadband wireless link for Internet access in 1996, connecting a rural public library and a community college facility in remote Graham County, N.C. In 2003, via a N. C. Rural Internet Access Authority grant, MAIN launched its current four-county wireless network. MAIN also was instrumental in creating three nonprofit fiber networks to serve the region's middle-mile needs. With both nonprofit fiber and nonprofit last-mile networks, the region has become a national model for rural broadband 'self-help' initiatives. As a national advocate for universal broadband, MAIN worked to win a 5-0 vote last year at the FCC for unlicensed use by mobile devices of vacant TV channels (the 'white spaces'). MAIN also led a decade-long effort to create the first public access TV channel west of Charlotte, and in 2003 launched the region's first LPFM radio station. Earlier this year, MAIN published the 'Local Network Cookbook' to help other community media become local broadband providers. Since 1996, MAIN has served as a technology partner for a wide range of nonprofits, micro-enterprises, and local government agencies. As a non-profit ISP, MAIN is a long-time advocate for 'net neutrality,' privacy, and open-source/open network protocols. MAIN is also committed to application-neutral bandwidth-allocation and to the prevention of spam and denial-of-service attacks. MAIN permits re-selling of its services. With six years of wireless broadband experience in challenging environments, MAIN can move quickly to extend middle-mile fiber to 42 community-anchor facilities and last-mile wireless broadband service to the

public housing facilities and neighborhoods. The proposed funded service-area (PFSA) encompasses approximately 12,000 households, 2,000 businesses, and 196 critical community and anchor institutions, including 12 fire stations, 11 community centers, two apartment buildings for 250 low-income elderly and disabled residents, two historically African-American institutions, and the city's only high school and middle school. The PFSA is home to the city's largest concentration of vulnerable populations (homeless, low-income, unemployed, underemployed, elderly, African-American, at-risk youth, etc). Not surprisingly, it has the city's highest concentration of renter-occupied households. The area qualifies as 'underserved' for multiple reasons. According to recent data from the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA), public-housing residents have multiple risk-factors for broadband adoption and computer use. More than 70 percent of HACA's 3,149 residents live below the federal poverty line. Half of these households include children. Of 1,440 households, 47 percent are single parent. The population is 69 percent black, 27 percent white, and 4 percent Hispanic. Only two broadband options ' cable and DSL ' are available in these neighborhoods. But half of all HACA residents have no landline telephone service (HACA Landline Survey). Like growing numbers of low-income Americans, they have dropped landline service for cell phones (46 percent); almost 5 percent have no phone service. Similar changes in phone usage ' accelerated by the economic downturn ' are occurring in the low-income neighborhoods around the 10 public HACA properties. In addition to the city's largest percentage of rental occupancy, the PFSA also has the largest concentration of African-Americans (Maps 6-7). Aggravating the PFSA's economic distress is that Asheville's housing costs are among the fastest rising in the nation, and the economic downturn and housing mortgage collapse have further pushed up rents. As the Pew 2009 survey of broadband costs found, residents with only two broadband options face an average monthly rate of \$42.80 ' IF they can qualify for a one or two-year contract. This PFSA is also home to an influx of 20-something 'cultural creatives' who survive via seasonal employment in the region's tourism and service sectors while pursuing entrepreneurial goals. This cohort is the focus of a local job-creation effort called The Hub (www.ashevillehub.com), which is developing job-creation 'clusters,' four of which ' digital arts, creativity/design, sustainability, knowledge-based firms ' rely heavily on this cohort. Many of these transient, underemployed service-industry workers -- with huge job-creation potential ' cannot afford place-bound landline contracts. MAIN can quickly and cost-effectively extend its 'mesh' Wi-Fi cloud to help unleash the job-creation and economic development potential in these neighborhoods, thereby advancing The Hub's goals and the statutory purposes of ARRA/BTOP. Recent federal data show that less than 30 percent of families earning under \$15,000 a year have broadband access. For families earning under \$25,000 a year, broadband use is only 35 percent. Today's minimum-wage worker earns only \$15,080 a year. With this PFSA's high concentration of vulnerable populations, unemployment, and low-income households, broadband subscribership is no higher than 30-35 percent. This PSFA also includes a pilot public-safety, video-camera network at Hillcrest, a HACA neighborhood with an alarming spike in crime, street-level drug sales, and emerging gang activity in recent years. This network will enable real-time coordination between HACA staff, residents and public safety officials. The Asheville City Schools (ACS) also supports this PFSA, as it will reach at-risk students where they live. Likewise, Buncombe County Public Libraries (BCPL) is a supporting partner because the project will provide immediate relief for waiting-lines and time-limits currently imposed at the library system's main branch in downtown Asheville, the only current public broadband access site in this PFSA. As noted earlier, the project also provides infrastructure for a complementary Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal

submitted by MAIN and our community partners to expand public broadband access and digital skills training. This project extends middle-mile fiber to many valuable community-anchor sites, but one in particular stands out -- the YMI Cultural Center at the heart of Eagle Street, Asheville's only African-American business district, which has been economically-distressed for decades. For more than 100 years, 'The YMI' has been the center of Asheville's African-American civic, business, and cultural life. The project's fiber/wireless service to YMI and Eagle Street will support recently-launched academic programs from UNC-Asheville and Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, enable even more academic and job-training programs, and make the center's meeting facilities competitive with better-known downtown meeting destinations. Overall, the project's middle-mile expansion will create a wealth of nonprofit fiber capability in Asheville's most economically-distressed neighborhoods and commercial districts. This middle-mile fiber also addresses public-safety needs by linking the city's 12 fire stations. The fiber expansion also provides a robust platform for expanding MAIN's existing last-mile network to reach the majority of Asheville's vulnerable populations with broadband service that can be purchased -- without a contract -- by the hour, day, week, or month. The first 20 minutes is free each day. We estimate total project subscribership at 2,200, a figure that could be much higher if the Sustainable Broadband Adoption project is funded. The project will create or save an estimated 750 jobs.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: CULTURAL RESOURCES, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF

Project Title: North Carolina Public Library Computer Centers

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

The State Library of North Carolina (SLNC) is applying for a PCC grant of \$1.5M to improve public library connectivity and computing resources across 35 carefully selected counties with unemployment rates well in excess of the national average. These resources are intended to decrease workstation wait times, increase usage time limits, and better support the state's leading employment and workforce development programs. This project leverages SLNC's unique assets and capabilities as the state's support organization for public libraries. North Carolina is facing growing employment challenges amidst a rapidly transitioning state economy. Unemployment has remained persistently high, and despite coordinated statewide efforts, it continues to grow steadily. As the state with the 7th highest unemployment rate in the US, NC's average 2009 unemployment rate was 10.8%, compared to an average 2009 U.S. unemployment rate of 9.3%. As public job search centers scale back their availability due to budget cuts, public libraries are increasingly becoming the main provider of Internet-enabled computers and employment resources for job seekers in NC. In fact, according to the American Library Association (ALA), 70% of NC public libraries report that the library is the only place in their community with free public computer and Internet access services. As unemployment rates climb, public libraries around the state have reported an increase in job seekers using public access computers, particularly as most job listings, applications, and employment services are now available primarily online. In fact, library surveys show an 18% increase in NC public library traffic in fiscal year 2009 over fiscal year 2008. This increased demand for online resources puts a strain on libraries' public access computing capacity and creates bottlenecks on existing Internet connections. However, as state and local budgets are cut in response to the recent economic crisis, most libraries do not have funds to add workstations or upgrade connections. Local librarians, faced with providing employment resources to a growing pool of job seekers, find themselves in need of additional tools and training. In direct response to these growing needs, the project aims to improve public access to online and in-person employment and workforce development resources in 35 particularly hard-hit counties. The SLNC aims to accomplish this through three key activities: 1. Public Internet-Enabled Workstations: The target libraries currently have wait times for Internet workstations of up to 60 minutes and as a result have instituted usage time limits as low as 30 minutes. In fact, 33 target libraries reported usage time limits of 60 minutes or less and 24 libraries reported five or more patrons waiting for computer access during their busiest hours. Since many online job and workforce development resources are more effective when users are able to engage in uninterrupted use, it is our goal to provide enough workstations to each library to reduce wait times and extend usage time limits to enable patrons to fill out job applications. The project would provide 280 laptop computers to 35 public libraries. 2. Internet Connectivity Upgrades: Many target

libraries will receive connectivity upgrades to accommodate increased patron use of Internet-enabled computers for employment purposes. Current access speeds per workstation among the target libraries range as low as 100 kbps, with download speeds at many locations below the 768 kbps definition of broadband as outlined in the NOFA. We plan to increase speeds in 17 of 35 target libraries to at least 1 Mbps per workstation. This will support webinar training, streaming video, and other bandwidth intensive services, and will sustain libraries' ability to support online employment services for years to come.

3. Employment Services and Workforce Development: The SLNC has a history of collaboration with other NC entities to address job seekers' needs by supporting public library staff in their outreach to the unemployed. Leveraging the SLNC's strong track record in employment-related library services, we plan to develop and provide a range of employment and workforce development resources to public libraries. Local library staff would be trained so they can better support patrons with employment and workforce development services during the grant period and beyond. While the project is focused on 35 select library locations, the employment and workforce development software and databases provided at the state level will be available to all public, academic, and community college libraries across the state. Our project approach will help reduce unemployment in NC by providing job-seekers with public access to a range of online employment and workforce development resources and training. We plan to provide 280 new computers and 17 Internet access upgrades across 35 public libraries. As a result of the upgrades, each week these libraries will be able to serve an additional 10,154 people with state-of-the-art employment and workforce development services. In addition, the project will employ two full-time employees and six trainer contractors and will create five new job-years. The 35 target libraries are located in 35 economically challenged counties selected using 2008 ' 2009 unemployment data (most recent 24-month period). With 2009 average unemployment rates ranging from 11.2% to 16.8%, these counties are the hardest hit areas in NC and include 145,402 unemployed people, 37% of the entire state's unemployed population. These counties' annual average unemployment rates have been 1 to 2 percentage points above the national average every year since 2001. Most of these counties (21) contain census blocks that are unserved or underserved by broadband service providers. In addition, 16 of the target counties have been designated as significantly economically distressed and assigned 'Tier 1' priority by the NC Department of Commerce. The 35 libraries that would be upgraded, for less than \$1.5M in BTOP funds, serve counties with 3.0M citizens (32% of the total state population). Several key vulnerable populations are overrepresented compared to the 32% of NC's population that the targeted libraries serve, including: 480,746 people in poverty (36% of state total), 577,064 people with disabilities (38% of state total), 67,132 Native Americans (58% of state total), 401,296 elderly over the age of 65 (35% of state total), and 342,494 adults lacking basic literacy skills (36% of state total). In addition, the proposed group serves 535,634 African Americans (27% of state total) and 170,380 Hispanics (28% of state total). Targeting unemployed persons, rather than any specific demographic group, enables the project's computer and program resources to reach broadly across many vulnerable populations. For the planning and execution of the proposed project the SLNC has collaborated with a number of key partners:

- MCNC: The NC middle-mile operator MCNC has an existing operational fiber network (NCREN), approved Round 1 network, and proposed Round 2 network that we expect to utilize extensively for Internet connections to our proposed libraries.
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF): The BMGF, a highly respected philanthropic organization and long-time supporter of public libraries, has generously agreed to provide extensive funding support for both our application

preparation and BTOP funding cash match. In addition, there are many supporting partners whose participation and endorsement will be important to the project's success, including Golden LEAF, the NC Employment Security Commission, the NC Department of Commerce, the NC Community College System, and a wide variety of local partners. Finally, the partnering target libraries are the only established community anchors in well-known, often central, locations in each one of the NC counties with the greatest concentration of unemployed people. In many communities, the libraries are the only source of free public Internet access and have been forced to ration service due to an adverse combination of budget cuts and increased patron demand. Besides Internet access, NC libraries offer a range of existing programs and have an extensive track record of providing nationally recognized employment services. Local librarians will be supported by experienced SLNC staff that have repeatedly proven their ability to effectively manage and administer federal and private grant programs. The SLNC successfully manages over \$4M annually in federal and private grants for libraries. The project budget also includes a grant administrator, employment services manager, IT support firm, and E-Rate training for participating libraries in order to ensure project sustainability following the conclusion of the BTOP funding period.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: WINSTONNET INC

Project Title: WinstonNet Enhanced Community Computer Centers for Forsyth County

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

The application addresses a need to update, enhance and expand public computer center ('PCC') facilities and services in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County ('Forsyth' or 'County') North Carolina to better reach lower income, certain ethnic and disadvantaged populations with broadband access and train and educate them in its use. To address these needs, the application supports the acquisition of updated computer equipment, additional personnel for expanded training and new PCC locations. Currently over 40 free public access computer labs operate throughout Winston-Salem and Forsyth which have a combined population of 307,511 including locations in census tracts that contain more than 60% of the County's population with median annual household income under \$40,000. The labs have operated since 2003 using an innovative support model that relies on strong partnerships between local government, educational institutions, and community non-profit organizations. Specifically, the labs are supported through WinstonNet, a non-profit organization comprised of City and County governments, four universities, a community college, the public school system, and the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce. A portion of WinstonNet's membership fees pay for maintenance of the labs, while administrative oversight is through a part-time administrative director and volunteers. A majority of the labs are located in city recreation centers and public libraries. Partnerships with other non-profit organizations such as the YMCA, YWCA, churches, and organizations that serve special populations have enabled further expansion of the labs. Collectively, the labs provide computer access to hundreds of residents of the served areas every day. Although public use remains substantial, the goal of providing continued and enhanced computer access to the underserved is at risk and needs to be expanded. This is in part due to reliance on donated desktop computers with an average age exceeding 9 years. The computers operate as thin-client terminals connected to servers over broadband connections. Although sufficient when deployed, computers now struggle with serving multimedia and Web 2.0 Internet services. In the past, donations from WinstonNet members allowed replacement replaced on a three year refresh cycle, but the equipment now must be kept longer due to challenging economic times and are less likely to have much functional value when finally replaced. The grant will be used to provide new equipment, expand the partnership with Forsyth Technical Community College ('FTCC'), better serve Winston-Salem and the County's large Hispanic population, establish a relationship with the federally funded Housing Authority of Winston-Salem, and open six new labs in low-income areas. Funding will also help us create one new full-time position, four new part-time positions, and preserve two full-time positions. This would allow us to serve approximately 1,500 new lab users weekly and provide Spanish speaking computer training classes to approximately 160 new participants each month. . More specifically, it is proposed to provide all the labs with a combination of new thin-client

terminals specially designed for remote desktop services over the Internet and new desktop computers. The proposed enhanced technology architecture is very similar to the current delivery model, offering similar features for reducing management overhead and enforcing a standard operating environment, and operating on existing servers and the existing network infrastructure. In addition, FTCC proposes to provide six new publicly-accessible labs with new desktop PC's and new printers. A group of mobile devices will be used to bring computer access to public facilities in rural areas on a rotating basis. In addition, the grant will be used to expand a computer training program started in 2006 when WinstonNet partnered with the County to obtain a grant from the State of North Carolina to develop such a program in public libraries. Since then the 'Computer Training Bridge' has become a permanent program funded by the County that provides free computer training throughout the WinstonNet labs. Courses are taught by trained volunteers, focusing on computer literacy, work skills, and use of the Internet for personal needs. Students include, but are not limited to, children, the unemployed, the elderly, and the disabled. In the past 12 month period, 891 separate courses were taught to 4,464 attendees. All computer labs provide handicapped access and a few labs have special hardware and software for the blind. Grant funds will be used to expand the availability of special equipment and software for the physically disadvantaged, including support for a new lab within a non-profit organization focused on this special population. The computer training curriculum at six of the labs will be expanded to include courses in Spanish taught by a full-time instructor. The enhanced WinstonNet program will establish a close partnership with the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem. Because WinstonNet labs are located in disadvantaged areas, they are also located in proximity to low-income housing and near Housing Authority communities. Computer training programs targeted to the Housing Authority residents will be established. WinstonNet has successfully provided equipment and broadband Internet access to an entire community with focus on the underserved and disadvantaged populations. It has relied on a combination of volunteers, donated equipment, and cash contributions for maintenance and broadband services. This has proven to be a sustainable and successful model for over six years, and continues to operate even through difficult financial times. Grant funding will extend access into FTCC, add new computer labs into underserved areas, provide a focused program for residents of subsidized low income housing, and provide an extensive amount of focused training for Winston-Salem's growing Hispanic community. WinstonNet is asking for a total of \$926,537 for equipment and personnel. WinstonNet will contribute \$532,711 in cash during the project period and in-kind contributions totaling \$163,500 in volunteer trainer and administrator time, lab site supervisors time, administrative overhead, and software licensing.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: OLIVE HILL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Project Title: Valdese Public Computer Center

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

This project will provide comprehensive broadband access, academic classes, and training for job-skills development, educational attainment, and business creation to underserved and vulnerable populations in eastern Burke County, an area experiencing high unemployment (over 14 percent), low educational attainment (32.4 percent of adults have not graduated from high school), and poor social service infrastructure. The collapse of manufacturing industries in this region has plunged into poverty many families who previously enjoyed middle-class standards of living. Among the consequences of reduced income are decreased mobility, lower capacity to acquire home computers, and the inability to pay for high-speed broadband services, which generally cost in the neighborhood of \$40 per month. The area has experienced large-scale factory closures and low educational attainment for more than a decade and is lacking in public facilities such as a JobLink Center or large public library for job-skill development and public broadband access. Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) is a core member of a public-private partnership to redevelop the former Waldensian Mills textile plant in downtown Valdese, North Carolina. In addition to the public computer center, this 70,000-square-foot facility will house a business incubator, a teleconference center, a theater, educational programs, and low- and moderate-income apartments. The public computer center, with 45 workstations and SMART Board technology, will be a key component of the facility and will be a center of worker retraining, business development, educational certification, job seeking, and access to basic services, including tax preparation and bill paying. The center will be conveniently located within walking distance of many distressed neighborhoods and will allow educational programs from the area community college to be offered in a welcoming environment that is viewed as part of the fabric of the local community. The Waldensian Mills plant closed eight years ago and was a major employer for the region. The mill complex is in very good structural condition with an excellent roof, solid walls, and floors supported by steel I-beams. A \$400,000 grant to the Town of Valdese from the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center is being used to provide essential facility upgrades, including ADA access ramps, an elevator, bathrooms, and electrical refurbishments. Partners include the applicant, the Town of Valdese, Western Piedmont Community College, and the local Employment Security Commission. The facility is being redeveloped by Airlie LLC, a civic-minded developer focusing on adaptive reuse of factories and small-town revitalization. State support and technical assistance is provided by the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, JobLink, and the area Workforce Development Board. The target geographical area is eastern Burke County, with a year 2000 population of 38,500 over eight census tracts. For the county as a whole, median household income in 2000 was \$35,629, with per capita income of \$17,397 and a poverty rate of 10.7 percent. The unemployment rate in December 2009 stood

at 14.2 percent, and 32.4 percent of the population had not earned a high school diploma. The public computer center expects to serve 7,500 visits per year from 2,000 individuals from over 800 households. Olive Hill CEDC is an established community organization serving minority and other traditionally disadvantaged populations in Burke County and three adjacent counties. Our mission is 'to positively impact the social, physical, educational, and economic environment of area communities.' We help people increase their income and build assets with three main strategies: small-business ownership and job creation through business development and expansion, home ownership, and financial life skills. We have close relationships with funding organizations, including local and state foundations, state government grant-making entities, and federal programs targeting disadvantaged members of society. We have a full-time staff of five and one part-time administrative assistant. A seven-member board of directors from throughout the community brings a wide range of professional skills to guiding the organization in achieving its mission. Jobs will be created and saved in two important ways. First, the center will support the creation and/or expansion of an estimated six businesses owned and operated by low-income and traditionally disadvantaged individuals, including a recycling and demolition company that is a subsidiary of the applicant. In the first 24 months of operation, approximately 30 to 40 new jobs are expected to be created through business incubation. Second, online skill-development and educational-certification programs will help prepare the general public for re-entering the workforce, maintaining current jobs, or increasing income potential. Each year, more than 300 individuals using the center for broadband-accessed classes from Western Piedmont Community College will find new jobs or retain existing employment. The total cost of the project for a three year period is \$576,742, with \$448,742 in BTOP grant funds, \$70,000 in local cash match, and \$58,000 in in-kind support. Project partners will achieve long-term operational sustainability by incorporating the public computer center into Olive Hill CEDC's core operating budget. Post-grant operational funding will come from block grant appropriations to Burke County from the North Carolina Golden LEAF Foundation (as one of the most economically distressed counties in the state, Burke is eligible for \$2 million in grants every two years from Golden LEAF) and by establishing programs within the center that receive external financial support from local, state, and federal agencies.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: GREATER LANSING AREA DEVELOPME

Project Title: Northwest Public Computer and Business Developmeny Center

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

Greater Lansing Area Development (GLAD) Community Development 501(c)3 is developing the Northwest Public Computer and Business Development Center (the Center) in Lansing, North Carolina. The Broadband USA funding for the Center will bring economic growth through education and digital literacy to a small town with a rich cultural heritage and a wealth of natural resources yet generally isolated from the Information Technology Revolution and the economic benefits thereof. Lansing is the center of a low-income quadrant of Ashe County that sits in the northwest corner of the State in the heart of Appalachia. Ashe County has 25,000 residents, Lansing 151 and the service area includes 5,171. The service area population has income, education levels and home values well below that of the County, State and Nation. Drop out and Disability rates are higher. Vulnerable residents have not developed expertise in technology critical for education and employment opportunities. Internet access and equipment is not affordable for many, and the closest access can be as much as an hour away. Many have had little or no exposure to computers and the Internet. Residents are falling further and further behind the population of NC and the nation, becoming a more disadvantaged group due to digital illiteracy. As manufacturing jobs are lost or outsourced the community is depending more on successful small businesses development and tourism. The Center has a three-prong mission: Education Programs, Small Business Development and Business Growth. By building on the rich cultural and natural resources of the region while working with resources of key education, corporation and government partners, the economic benefits of technology training and education will be brought to the region. A renovated 1955 commercial building in downtown Lansing will serve as the home for the Center which will house public Internet access center, 30 computer workstations, a Webinar-Seminar-Video Conferencing facility, five affordable offices, retail space for local products, a business incubator, a small conference room, a business service center with copier, scanner, Basic and advanced computer skills, ESL, GED, Photoshop, PowerPoint, QuickBooks and Web Design will be taught. The Webinar-Seminar-Video Conferencing facility will be available to Local Fire Department and Hospital for basic education, and training activities. Small business development classes and support will be offered for those who are marketing local products, or utilizing local natural resources for their businesses i.e. outdoor recreation, heritage arts /crafts, produce farming, mountain music, oral traditions, and green economy promotions. The annual results of this broad-based community effort are expected to be: Creation of 4 new jobs Stabilization of 5 local small businesses Grow 5 new businesses Encourage and support the growth of 2 green businesses Increase computer literacy among people considered vulnerable populations Educate 400 people in basic and advanced computer skills, and basic education Provide public computer access to over 5,000 people Preserve a valuable historic building Support

increased employment opportunities Assist in job searches and successful employment Increase the number of tourists visiting the area by 10 percent Educate and train 31 local firefighters and first responders GLAD has brought together all of the resources needed to successfully implement the Broadband USA grant for a public computer center. Hundreds of volunteer hours have been contributed to the planning tasks of this grant. A grassroots effort of local residents aware of the advantages of digital literacy, tenuous local economy, and the wealth of opportunities natural resources provided, have worked tirelessly to bring together a solution to a problem. This small grassroots effort expanded from a handful to a roomful, to a community of people representing the local community college, the local internet provider, downtown business owners, the local hospital, local governments, small businesses, local volunteer fire department, and local corporations. There are 10 key partners in this effort; however the level of support goes beyond these few and beyond the boundaries of Ashe County. An experienced, motivated team has been assembled to create the new public computer center. GLAD is the funding applicant and will own, operate and staff the facility with employees, contract employees and volunteers. In operation since 2005 GLAD has managed 3 grants to make improvements in the Lansing business district, is managing the process to have downtown Lansing designated a National Historic District, and manages the Ola Belle Reed Music Festival, which is in its 5th year. A Board of Directors representing key partners has been created by the GLAD Board of Directors to oversee the development of the Center and the ongoing operation of the facility and report to the GLAD Board. Ashe Campus of Wilkes Community College will provide experienced and qualified instructors to teach basic computer skills, advanced computer skills, English as a second language, GED, web design, and a series of business development classes. ACWCC has volunteered the assistance of their Dean and IT Assistant/Instructor to assist with the planning of the Center, and will continue as regular advisors during project start up and operation. Skyline/Skybest will provide 6 megs of DSL broadband and WiFi to the center at no cost for the three year grant period. The Chief Regulatory Officer will be available to assist with planning and implementation and will sit on the BOD during the three-year grant period. The Lansing Volunteer Fire Department has provided cash contribution and will provide the instructors for classes to be held at the center for volunteer firefighters and EMS members. The N.C. Rural Center designated Lansing as a Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program (STEP) community. Lansing Aldermen have provided a large cash match from that grant in the amount of \$62,000. They have provided funds to the Town, which have provided funding for a consultant, Paul Combs Enterprises, Inc. to assist with project planning. Mr. Combs has 30 years of experience in economic development and will volunteer additional time to support the Center Board of Directors during the three-year grant period. GLAD will hire a Project Manager with over 30 years of experience in grants administration and construction and development. This is a local woman-owned small business who will manage the design, construction and up-fit of the facility and ensure that all grant requirements are met. High Country Council on Governments will administer a part of the grant. Center Director will be responsible for day-to-day operations, supervising employees /volunteers and seeking continued financial support for the facility. Highly qualified candidates have been identified and will be hired upon receipt of the grant. The Director will work with Project Manager, Contractor, and Skyline/Skybest during construction and up-fit to ensure the facility meets all program requirements, and with Ashe Campus of the Wilkes Community College to develop curriculum and scheduling of events. The Director will hire three local small businesses to provide technical support, marketing assistance, and building maintenance. A part-time

person and volunteers will staff the Center during hours of operation to provide general administrative support, greet the public and answer questions.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: MOUNTAIN AREA INFORMATION NETWORK

Project Title: Community Cloud Computing for Broadband Adoption and Job Creation

Project Type: Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Executive Summary

The Mountain Area Information Network (MAIN) is a 15-year-old nonprofit Internet service provider serving Asheville, N. C. and the surrounding mountain region, an area roughly the size of Vermont. MAIN launched in 1995 via a Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) grant from NTIA. MAIN proposes to create the nation's first community-based, cloud-computing platform for broadband adoption, job creation, community collaboration and social capital formation, and digital literacy/job-skills training for at-risk populations. The cloud will be designed in partnership with Red Hat, the NC-based global leader in cloud computing. Red Hat will produce a case study and assist MAIN in developing a replicable model to share with other communities. MAIN has a proven record as a technology partner for nonprofits, local businesses, government agencies, and underserved populations. Cloud hardware will be co-located with ERC Broadband, our sister nonprofit fiber network housed in the federal building in Asheville (also home to the National Climatic Data Center). This existing infrastructure, technology experience, and regional ties position MAIN for successful project execution. Cloud computing allows a user to operate software and services via remote servers rather than their own computer. MAIN's cloud computing platform will level the playing field for individuals, rural schools, local businesses, and nonprofits, which 'unlike Fortune 500 companies' do not have affordable access to advanced IT expertise and infrastructure. The cloud will support digital literacy and job-skills training for vulnerable populations, including public-housing residents, at-risk students, citizens with disabilities, and special-needs students. The project is supported by a growing coalition of community partners which will conduct SBA training and outreach. Training will be supported by cloud-based tools, applications, and training modules, thereby reducing project operating costs, promoting coordination and cost-sharing among partners, and boosting project sustainability. Rugged 'thin-client' laptops will be configured for use only when connected to the cloud via MAIN's Wi-Fi network. The laptops include IP-based tracking so that participants can use them with a reduced concern for theft. SBA training will be conducted in public libraries, community centers, public housing, or anywhere MAIN's Wi-Fi signal is available. The cloud will spur job-creation and small-business incubation by providing advanced services like 'capacity on demand' bandwidth and computational power, as well as routine data-backup to prevent the catastrophic loss of business or personal data. In partnership with local banks and credit unions, we are exploring a 'buy local' rewards program 'tied to the banks' merchant credit-card service' to encourage support of locally-owned businesses (this would be in phase-two of the project). While many of the cloud utilities we will offer are well-known to IT professionals, our cloud will cater to 'mom and pop' businesses, 'lone eagle' entrepreneurs, and small nonprofits which lack the expertise to use cloud services. More importantly, this community-based cloud will be an engine for 'social-capital formation,' an innovation and job-

creation driver often overlooked by economic development planners. Social capital is most often created where we live. While we may innovate in virtual spaces with colleagues thousands of miles away, innovation more often comes from ideas hatched over a beer after work, or on the sidelines at a youth soccer game. Seeds of innovation are planted years in advance when professionals share their expertise in their children's classrooms (see Malcolm Gladwell on Bill Gates in 'Outliers'). With digital technologies more affordable, powerful, and easier to use, innovation and social capital formation are no longer limited to communities with research universities or high-tech firms. This community cloud will provide a 'collaboration' platform for local job-creation in fields such as digital media production, web programming, and climate science. Local videographers can collaboratively edit 'shared-source video' using cloud-based editing and production tools. Web developers can form short-term collaborations to compete for projects otherwise beyond their reach. Greg Wilson is a climate scientist and entrepreneur who works from his mountaintop home in Madison County, N.C., where he is launching a venture to capture and market low-altitude weather data beyond the reach of National Weather Service Doppler radar. An independent entrepreneur, Greg has limited access to government or university IT infrastructure. The cloud will provide the capacity-on-demand and advanced services he needs ' and allow him to collaborate with high school science classes across the region. While the cloud will mainly offer open-source applications, it will also provide ' via multi-user licenses ' proprietary programs upon request, such as fundraising software, payroll processing, and tools for students with disabilities. By aggregating demand region-wide, we will offer rural schools advanced applications used by affluent school systems. As concerns over privacy grow, this local cloud will be increasingly valued as a privacy oasis. A 2009 Aspen Institute study, 'Identity in the Age of Cloud Computing,' noted the growing threat of 'data-mining' and other ways third-parties capture our personal information. The study asked: 'Is personalization something that is done to you or done for you?' It concluded that the future of our privacy rights will depend on 'user-centric' tools that allow us to determine the personal information we disclose based on context, such as health, business, education, or social networks. Red Hat's design will enable 'user-centric' control of personal information; it will also allow agencies to isolate and secure sensitive data (e.g., health and student information) as needed. This SBA project also includes three community-engagement projects: WNC Data Library, Healthy Living Portal, and Video-Conferencing-in-a-Box. * Western North Carolina is home to a wealth of GIS professionals, many of whom donate countless hours to regional environmental preservation efforts. For years, these GIS professionals have envisioned a regional data library that aggregates state and federal data, supplements it with local and regional data, and puts community-mapping in reach of small nonprofits and citizens. More recently, this vision includes 'crowd-sourced' data from citizens and local groups. For example, scientists watched in alarm as the woolly-adelgid infestation spread to virtually all the Hemlock trees in Southern Appalachia. Early on, scientists proposed a 'crowd-sourced' photo survey to track the infestation using the region's 4-H Clubs. But IT infrastructure for this effort was not available. This SBA project will make such rapid-response efforts possible. * Every four years, all public health departments in North Carolina must conduct a community health assessment. The Buncombe County Health Department, via its Health Partners coalition, envisions this quadrennial study as a 'living document' that deeply engages the community ' especially at-risk populations ' rather than sitting on the shelf for four years. Planners envision crowd-sourcing and community-mapping to deepen community engagement. With this SBA project, the planners will make their vision a reality. Red Hat will build the Healthy Living

portal around two major goals: helping at-risk populations gain access to healthy food, such as local produce; and access to physical activity, such as walking trails and exercise classes. The portal will include interactive maps and crowd-sourcing; training will introduce 'readiness-to-change' strategies. The Buncombe County Medical Society will coordinate outreach to physicians' offices and medical facilities so that doctors and nurses can engage patients during appointments to map healthy food and physical activity opportunities near where they live and work. * Western North Carolina has a wealth of nonprofits and public-interest agencies serving the entire mountain region. However, the region's size and rugged terrain makes region-wide travel and collaboration difficult, especially during winter months. Even under ideal conditions, the drive from Murphy in the west to Boone in the northeast can take six hours. As a result, regional initiatives are inevitably handicapped. To make matters worse, deep cuts in the state's travel budget prevent WNC representatives on statewide boards from attending meetings in other parts of the state. Our SBA project will demonstrate a 'video-conferencing in a box' solution for key regional organizations using a personal computer, video camera, and the open-source program, Ekiga. As early-adopters, these organizations will, in turn, help spread the use of these broadband technologies.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE

Project Title: Community Interactive Video Collaborative

Project Type: Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Executive Summary

The whistles of textile mills once employing 505,000 workers in North Carolina have gone silent. Hundreds of thousands of jobs are but a memory. The Community Interactive Video Collaborative (CIVC) of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) and its community partners will harness the synergies of MCNC's BTOP \$40 million middle mile network grant to attack high illiteracy, high unemployment, low per capita income, and a depressed standard of living. CIVC will create interactive video teleconferencing capabilities bringing new learning plus personal and economic development activities into five community colleges and two local community sites in a six county region of Southeastern North Carolina. MCNC operates the education gateway for the Internet in North Carolina as well as the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) connecting most higher education institutions. It has four physical gigE links to the Internet, one each from Level 3 and Qwest both in Charlotte and the RTP area. This also includes 10Gbps access to both Internet2, and National Lambda Rail, and private peering with several content/provider sources. Video traffic linking other locations to sites within NCREN and CIVC will experience both high availability and performance. The partners in this project with UNCP's Division of Information Technology and the Distance Education department include Community Colleges Sandhills, Bladen, Brunswick, Robeson, and Central Carolina, along with Cape Fear Regional Medical Center, the Regional Center for Economic, Community, and Professional Development and several UNCP schools. These are Business and Education along with two College of Arts and Sciences departments, Social Work and Sociology and Criminal Justice. UNCP is partnering with MCNC's North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) for broadband capacity and additional interactive video capabilities. UNCP's enriched technology-driven programs enhance employability for graduates preparing for the modern workforce. CIVC will open avenues of interaction supporting both graduate and undergraduate degree programs offered by UNCP to community partner sites while providing interactive technology fostering local program development and delivery. All CIVC sites can participate in programs from outside the region providing an even broader range of curriculum offerings and enhanced cultural enrichment opportunities to this economically challenged area. UNCP seeks and serves vulnerable populations and has been rated the most diverse campus in the Southeast. Student demographics reflect the diversity of students served by Student Support Services, funded and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. Support priority is given to low-income, disabled, or first generation college students. Tutoring and advising services are also available. Disability Support Services provides individuals with necessary adaptive technology tools to accomplish their educational goals. Special programs are available in support of veterans. Many similar services are available at the CIVC Community College partners. Two classrooms in the Business

School will be retrofitted, along with one in the School of Education, and a third at UNCP's community location, the Center for Economic, Community, and Professional Development. Six community partners committed space to install interactive video capabilities. Each CIVC classroom will be a fully equipped teaching facility offering an instructor computer, cameras, microphones, and a video monitor connected to a Polycom video codec/processor placing HD video and audio signals onto the NCREN network to interconnect another site or connect with a multi-connection bridge. The multi-connection bridge along with companion scheduling and Web conferencing technology will be located on NCREN allowing the CIVC facility to connect with virtually any similarly equipped site or up to 20 sites concurrently. Programs may be digitally archived for later viewing from any computer with a broadband connection. Importantly, the archiving infrastructure also provides scheduling and Web conferencing capabilities for up to 100 concurrent users. Using Federal formulas, the project will create 10 direct jobs, 8 indirect jobs and 8.76 induced jobs in this six county area as a result of this investment. We begin with 1500 baseline subscribers currently enrolled in UNCP video courses. We will have 6,610 new subscribers, a very conservative 1% estimate of the six-county total population. The cost for each new subscriber is \$311.02. An estimated 108 instructors from both UNCP and community partners will teach courses using CIVC over a three year period. Faculty and instructors for the distance courses offered by UNCP must meet the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities faculty credentials guidelines. Engagement of the local population by CIVC community partners generated activities is assured, however those gains have not been used to determine the grant's generated benefits. Strategic planning at Sandhills and the projected enrollment numbers from UNCP make up the anticipated 4000 broadband users outside the home. The six additional community partners' users will be in addition. The total budget is \$2,055,843.89. We are asking for \$1,611,183.20 from NTIA BTOP and UNCP will match with \$444,660.69 of campus or other dollars. It is extremely important to note that no matching funds are use from the community partners. However, each community partner will certainly commit resources; potentially for marketing, content delivery, and technical support for their local CIVC facility usage. Without grant provided start-up funding, CIVC cannot be built. The project scale is required to build sustained funding. UNCP contributions of \$444,660.69 provided over a three year period come from state funding or student fees based on enrollment in DE courses and \$5,000 from Polycom. State funding provides salaries of \$268,017.72 and benefits of \$57,349.97 for existing UNCP positions serving as CIVC project administrators, management, operations, and support staffing. These matching funds are already allocated locally and should not be impacted by further budget reductions as they are deemed instructional related. The University of North Carolina system has directed that instructional fund be held harmless, if possible. UNCP also received \$5,000 from PolyCom for grant preparation with another \$3,000 provided by UNCP. Limited budget availability and spending taxpayer money requires ultimate care. Personnel costs reflect NC position descriptions with salary and benefits based on state standards. A comprehensive review of staff, needed to foster success given the projected hours of operation, produced the minimum cost while ensuring success. Equipment needs are the minimum established by NCREN expertise designed to provide necessary services, scaled to match the number of CIVC sites. All sites share the same technology architecture achieving economies of scale while providing standard features. Because each room must remain functional and outages minimized, spare components are included in the budget building an equipment reserve to swap malfunctioning technology creating sufficient repair time. There are no environmental concerns associated with this project. All room

renovations will be minor in nature and will require the mounting of necessary technology coupled with the installation of interconnecting wiring. Some rooms may require additional local area network connections and/or addition AC outlets and associated wiring. The CIVC facilities will be sustained with funding generated by activities delivered by the technology along with an additional allocation of state resources. Sustainability is enhanced as the two university departments providing leadership; Distance Education and the Division of Information Technology currently receive state funds as well as student fee dollars. The projected enrollment increases will provide fee-based funding to sustain success. Enrollment in classes generates funds to sustain the two staff positions and yearly operational costs. University funding is already flowing into the campus Interactive Video Facility to sustain operations. Funding for each site's connectivity to NCREN is locally provided as well. UNCP is extremely qualified, highly experienced in program development, successful in sustaining video conferencing and ready to engage. For over 16 years, the campus interactive video facility has been serving the university, local communities, and small business. The facility has proven to be an innovative tool for the teaching and training of the U.S. Military ROTC program with Fort Bragg and has served local chapters of 4H, NC Parks & Recreation, NC State Forestry. The project timeline calls for CIVC to become operational in six months with continued activities for three years.

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: ELAUWIT COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FOUNDATION NC, LLC

Project Title: North Carolina Public Housing Broadband Adoption Project

Project Type: Sustainable Broadband Adoption

Executive Summary

Public Housing Authorities represent large populations of underserved households, disconnected from the benefits of broadband adoption. The project is designed to address the major overlapping obstacles to broadband adoption in low-income, vulnerable communities: absence of affordable broadband services, education (computer literacy), perceived lack of relevance, and a lack of computer ownership. According to Pew Research Center, high education and income level remain the strongest predictors for broadband adoption. The recent stagnation in broadband adoption and Internet use is most pronounced in low income populations or areas of low population density, though in the case of many communities it can be measured in terms of city blocks. The marketplace is no longer working to bring new users on-line. In fact, as FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn stated on March 10, 2010, 'just as we are in the process of proposing steps to ensure that more people are comfortable signing up for broadband service, providers of that very service are raising prices.' As we can see, broadband access does not necessarily equate to broadband adoption, otherwise there would not be 93 million Americans who do not currently have broadband at home to get on-line. In the recent FCC Survey, 36% of non-adapters, or 28 million adults, said that they do not have home broadband because of affordability. ECEF's North Carolina Public Housing Broadband Adoption Project is designed to provide affordable, sustainable broadband service to one of America's most vulnerable, disenfranchised group of citizens. The North Carolina Public Housing Broadband Adoption Project Summary: ' ECEF intends to diminish adoption barriers through the introduction of long-term, sustainable broadband Wi-Fi access. We have agreements with major equipment manufacturers to design and implement the installation of wireless broadband mesh networks engineered for outdoor and indoor use. Mesh protocols automatically determine the best route through the network and can dynamically reconfigure the network if a link becomes unusable. ECEF plans to utilize local area network products based on IEEE 802.11 standards. ' ECEF shall adhere to the four principles contained in the FCC's Internet Policy Statement (FCC 05-151, adopted August 5, 2005) to ensure that broadband networks are widely deployed, open, affordable, and accessible to all consumers. ' ECEF shall adhere to a policy of Net Neutrality with respect to connection to the public internet ' ECEF also addresses the complementary issue of public safety within the community, giving Housing Authorities the option of requesting Broadband-integrated security cameras. Over the Internet, police and other first responders will be able to view the camera feeds in real-time or call up past recordings, giving them an advantage currently unavailable. ' Broadband wireless Internet shall be delivered at speeds of 6 Mpbs download, and 512 Kbs upload ' ECEF has incorporated three years of free broadband access and maintenance into our Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal. Bandwidth, maintenance and staffing costs beyond the three-year period will be maintained through a

combination of savings to existing internal Housing Authority telecommunications budgets , web advertising and the eventual subscription contributions of individual community members. After the initial three-year period, Elauwit will provide subscription Internet service to the community at approximately 50% of the cost compared to the current price of national providers. ' Individual Wi-Fi subscriptions will begin at \$9.95/month in year four, increasing to \$14.95/month in year five and eventually reaching \$19.95/month. There will be no terms and conditions to the subscriptions and they will not require a commitment. The subscription offer is intended as an enhancement to the managed access afforded at the Public Computer Centers and represents a substantial savings when compared to private options. At their peak, the subscription cost to the individual will be approximately one half of that of local cable companies' current costs. ' ECEF will implement and oversee a 'computer recycling program' in every community served, partnering with local business, government and private agencies. Our recycling program will take donated computers from local businesses and reformat them as netPCs capable of performing as usable Internet network computers, great for web surfing, email and basic computer functions. The computers will be fitted with a full suite of web-based free office software.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW OF PROJECT We are requesting \$9,983,184 in federal grant funds for this project. The total costs for the entire project is \$14,405,725. The \$4,422,540 difference (30.7%) will be funded by a cash match from ECEF, a cash and in-kind match from project partners, and projected program revenues. ' Our project will leverage a 30.7% match to maximize the use of federal funds. ' Our project is forecast to create 157 jobs, of which 100 are direct and indirect, and 57 are induced.

STATEMENT OF NEED ECEF has partnered with Housing Authorities to provide affordable in-home broadband access to one of the most currently underserved populations in North Carolina. The population served by the Housing Authorities has the following characteristics: ' North Carolina Public Housing households face high levels of unemployment. 73% of the North Carolina Public Housing households earn below 30% of the median annual income, 16% earn 50% of the median, and 5% earn 80% of the median (Source: HUD Resident Characteristics Report, As of February 28, 2010). ' Minority populations are overrepresented in North Carolina Public Housing households. 80% of North Carolina Public Housing households are African American, while 17% are Caucasian (Source: HUD Resident Characteristics Report, As of February 28, 2010). ' 32% of the low-income housing population is disabled (according to HUD). Of the disabled population, only 38% report Internet use, but only 19% say that their disability makes Internet use difficult. This means that four out of five members of the disabled community are not using the Internet for reasons unrelated to their disability. ' 41% of Housing Authority households include children. The dense population of school-aged individuals highlights the need for Public Computer Centers and educational programs. ' 31% of Housing Authority residents are elderly. The elderly report a high level of negative perceptions concerning the Internet. ' Only 35% of American households with annual incomes of \$20,000 or less enjoyed the benefits of life online ('Home Broadband Adoption 2009').

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY Elauwit Community Enhancement Foundation is a nonprofit formed to leverage its expertise in providing cost-effective broadband solutions to vulnerable populations. Our executive team has previously applied for and implemented approximately \$100 million in grant awards for 50 non-profit entities. In addition, we are one of the few providers experienced in deploying wireless mesh networks for Housing Authorities. We have also designed and managed computer centers in a K-12 public education environment. By adopting this consortium strategy, ECEF will be able to negotiate superior purchasing arrangements, eliminate significant on-site management costs and concentrate

accountability in a single, private entity. PROJECT PARTNERS Rocky Mount, NC Public Housing Authority
Greenville, NC Public Housing Authority Lumberton, NC Public Housing Authority Statesville, NC Public
Housing Authority Goldsboro, NC Public Housing Authority Fairmont, NC Public Housing Authority
Pembroke, NC Public Housing Authority Beaufort, NC Public Housing Authority Wilmington, NC Public
Housing Authority

N.C. BTOP Infrastructure Scoring Sheet

Applicant Name: _____

Project Title: _____

A. Selection Criteria	<u>Strong</u> 10 pts	<u>Moderate</u> 6 pts.	<u>Weak</u> 2 pts.	<u>Not</u> <u>Applicable</u> 0 pts.
Provides robust middle mile solutions that are both high value (serving the greatest number of people at an acceptable cost) for the state and serve as a basis for future projects.				
Provides a capacity for 1) public-use infrastructure for the State (access, education, training, equipment and support to community anchor institutions - schools, public safety, libraries, medical facilities or organizations nad agencies serving vulnerable populations) and 2) immediate and future economic development through job creation, workforce training or support for North Carolina-based businesses and entrepreneurs				
Provides last mile solutions targeting unserved or underserved regions of the state and individuals or vulnerable populations without access to high-speed Internet				

N.C. BTOP Infrastructure Scoring Sheet - Page 2

Applicant Name: _____

Project Title: _____

Strengths: In the following space please note any factors that stand out as compelling strengths arguing for sending this proposal forward for further consideration.

Weaknesses: In the following space please note factors that may negatively impact the proposed project, affecting its viability and/or sustainability.

N.C. BTOP Infrastructure Scoring Sheet

Applicant Name: MCNC

Project Title: _____

A. Selection Criteria	<u>Strong</u> 10 pts	<u>Moderate</u> 6 pts.	<u>Weak</u> 2 pts.	<u>Not</u> <u>Applicable</u> 0 pts.
Provides robust middle mile solutions that are both high value (serving the greatest number of people at an acceptable cost) for the state and serve as a basis for future projects.	✓			
Provides a capacity for 1) public-use infrastructure for the State (access, education, training, equipment and support to community anchor institutions - schools, ✓ public safety, libraries, medical facilities or organizations nad agencies serving vulnerable populations) and 2) immediate and future ✓ economic development ✓ through job creation, workforce training or support for North Carolina-based businesses and entrepreneurs	✓	✓		
Provides last mile solutions targeting unserved or underserved regions of the state and individuals or vulnerable populations without access to high-speed Internet		✓		

24

Applicant Name: MCNC

Project Title: _____

Strengths: In the following space please note any factors that stand out as compelling strengths arguing for sending this proposal forward for further consideration.

- Like the breadth of the project and inclusion of public/private entities.
- NC Based
- Putting a lot of fiber in place for usage 1800+ miles?
- Be sure to open up to private type companies — public/private partnership

Weaknesses: In the following space please note factors that may negatively impact the proposed project, affecting its viability and/or sustainability.

- Offer more CAI's in Counties the opportunity to connect which may not be considered underserved.
- Can this project - along with the one awarded in BTOP 1 - be completed on time / budget?

NC Broadband Technology Opportunities Grant Program Grant Review

A. QUALIFYING QUESTION: FIT WITH STATUTORY PURPOSE

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has stated that only applications that address at least one of five core purposes defined in Section 6001 of the Recovery Act and the Broadband Technology Opportunities NOFA. For the proposal that you are reviewing please indicate which of the following core purposes is addressed, noting that a proposal may address more than one purpose. Please indicate whether the match between the proposal and a given purpose is strong, moderate, weak or not applicable.

A. Statutory Purpose	<u>Strong</u> 10 pts	<u>Moderate</u> 6 pts.	<u>Weak</u> 2 pts.	<u>Not Applicable</u> 0 pts.
To provide access to broadband service to consumers residing in unserved areas of the state				
To provide improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in underserved areas of the state				
To provide broadband access, education, awareness, training, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions (e.g., schools, libraries, medical facilities), or organizations and agencies serving vulnerable populations (e.g., low income, unemployed, aged), or job creating strategic facilities located in state- or federally designated economic development areas				
To improve access to, and use of, broadband service by public safety agencies				
To stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth, and job creation				

A. Total Statutory Points: _____

WEIGHTED APPLICATION REVIEW

B. Project Purpose	30 Total Points
Significance of Problem	
Effectiveness of Solution	
Replicable Solution	
Service Enhanced to Unserved Areas	
Service Enhanced to Underserved Areas	
Enhanced Service of Healthcare, Education or Children	
Enhanced Service to Census Blocks w/ < 40% Uptake.	
Involvement of Socially or Economically Disadvantaged Businesses/Populations	
Collaboration with partners	

B. Total Points Purpose: _____

NC Broadband Technology Opportunities Grant Program Grant Review

C. Benefits: Choose from the following tables the one appropriate to the proposals category

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Public Computing Center	25 Points
Enhanced public access (increased hours, equipments, lower user fees)	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Staff Qualifications	
Training and education programs	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Infrastructure – Last Mile	25 Points
Technical feasibility	
Cost effectiveness	
Performance	
Affordability	
Non-discrimination	
Interconnectivity	
Allows choice of provider	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

NC Broadband Technology Opportunities Grant Program Grant Review

C. Benefits: Middle Mile	25 Points
Impact on Service Area (e.g. Number of connections)	
Need in service area	
Network Capacity	
Affordability	
Expanded service to unserved areas	
Expanded service to underserved areas	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

D. Project Viability	25 Total Points
Technical Feasibility (Infrastructure and Public Computing Center Projects)	
Operating Feasibility (Sustainable Broadband Building Projects)	
Organizational Capability	
Community involvement and support	
Cooperation with other Recovery Programs	
Federal grant history	
Shovel Ready	
Feasible Timeline	
Staff Qualifications	

D. Total Viability Points: _____

E. Project Budget and Sustainability	20 Total Points
Reasonableness of budget – clarity, appropriateness, detail, adequacy	
Sustainability	
Leverage of Outside Resources/Match	
Audit Information	

E. Total Budget/Sustainability Points: _____

Total Proposal Points: _____

(A+B+C+D+E)

A. QUALIFYING QUESTION: FIT WITH STATUTORY PURPOSE

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has stated that only applications that address at least one of five core purposes defined in Section 6001 of the Recovery Act and the Broadband Technology Opportunities NOFA. For the proposal that you are reviewing please indicate which of the following core purposes is addressed, noting that a proposal may address more than one purpose. Please indicate whether the match between the proposal and a given purpose is strong, moderate, weak or not applicable.

A. Statutory Purpose	<u>Strong</u> 10 pts	<u>Moderate</u> 6 pts.	<u>Weak</u> 2 pts.	<u>Not Applicable</u> 0 pts.
To provide access to broadband service to consumers residing in unserved areas of the state	10			
To provide improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in underserved areas of the state	10			
To provide broadband access, education, awareness, training, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions (e.g., schools, libraries, medical facilities), or organizations and agencies serving vulnerable populations (e.g. low income, unemployed, aged), or job creating strategic facilities located in state- or federally designated economic development areas	10			
To improve access to, and use of, broadband service by public safety agencies			0	0
To stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth, and job creation	10			

A. Total Statutory Points: 40

WEIGHTED APPLICATION REVIEW

B. Project Purpose	30 Total Points
Significance of Problem	4
Effectiveness of Solution	4
Replicable Solution	4
Service Enhanced to Unserved Areas	4
Service Enhanced to Underserved Areas	4
Enhanced Service of Healthcare, Education or Children	4
Enhanced Service to Census Blocks w/ < 40% Uptake.	
Involvement of Socially or Economically Disadvantaged Businesses/Populations	4
Collaboration with partners	4

B. Total Points Purpose: 30

C. Benefits: Choose from the following tables the one appropriate to the proposals category

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Public Computing Center	25 Points
Enhanced public access (increased hours, equipments, lower user fees)	14
Increases digital literacy	05 14
Impact on greatest number of citizens	M
Staff Qualifications	H
Training and education programs	M

C. Total Benefits Points: 20

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Infrastructure – Last Mile	25 Points
Technical feasibility	
Cost effectiveness	
Performance	
Affordability	
Non-discrimination	
Interconnectivity	
Allows choice of provider	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Middle Mile	25 Points
Impact on Service Area (e.g. Number of connections)	
Need in service area	
Network Capacity	
Affordability	
Expanded service to unserved areas	
Expanded service to underserved areas	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

D. Project Viability	25 Total Points
Technical Feasibility (Infrastructure and Public Computing Center Projects)	H
Operating Feasibility (Sustainable Broadband Building Projects)	
Organizational Capability	H
Community involvement and support	H
Cooperation with other Recovery Programs	H
Federal grant history	H
Shovel Ready	H
Feasible Timeline	H
Staff Qualifications	H

D. Total Viability Points: 25

E. Project Budget and Sustainability	20 Total Points
Reasonableness of budget – clarity, appropriateness, detail, adequacy	H
Sustainability	H
Leverage of Outside Resources/Match	EXCELLENT - MOSTLY CASH
Audit Information	H

E. Total Budget/Sustainability Points: 20

\$136,000 - Golden Leaf

ORIGINALLY - \$200,000. Lap tops. 30.7% → 34% + - Cash.

Positives

1. Good experience
2. High support from State Gov. (resources)
3. Lot of credible partners
4. Cash match @ high percentage
5. Nice cost/benefit (39 counties)

Total Proposal Points: 135 (public safety removed + much higher score.)
(A+B+C+D+E)

Negatives

1. state entity run - lot of LOCAL SUPPORT.
2. No public safety (don't think it should count that high)

PCC - Olive Hill Community Economic Development

143
PK

\$448,742 - BTOP (22% match)
+ 5716K total

NC Broadband Technology Opportunities Grant Program Grant Review

DRAFT

A. QUALIFYING QUESTION: FIT WITH STATUTORY PURPOSE

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has stated that only applications that address at least one of five core purposes defined in Section 6001 of the Recovery Act and the Broadband Technology Opportunities NOFA. For the proposal that you are reviewing please indicate which of the following core purposes is addressed, noting that a proposal may address more than one purpose. Please indicate whether the match between the proposal and a given purpose is strong, moderate, weak or not applicable.

• High Poverty
• Redevelop textile plant
45 work stations
SMART board
800 households, 2000 people, 7500 visits
• 30-40 new jobs

A. Statutory Purpose	<u>Strong</u> 10 pts	<u>Moderate</u> 6 pts.	<u>Weak</u> 2 pts.	<u>Not Applicable</u> 0 pts.
To provide access to broadband service to consumers residing in unserved areas of the state	10			
To provide improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in underserved areas of the state	10			
To provide broadband access, education, awareness, training, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions (e.g., schools, libraries, medical facilities), or organizations and agencies serving vulnerable populations (e.g., low income, unemployed, aged), or job creating strategic facilities located in state- or federally designated economic development areas	10			
To improve access to, and use of, broadband service by public safety agencies	10			
To stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth, and job creation	10			

A. Total Statutory Points: 50

WEIGHTED APPLICATION REVIEW

B. Project Purpose	30 Total Points
Significance of Problem	✓
Effectiveness of Solution	✓
Replicable Solution	✓
Service Enhanced to Unserved Areas	✓
Service Enhanced to Underserved Areas	✓
Enhanced Service of Healthcare, Education or Children	✓
Enhanced Service to Census Blocks w/ < 40% Uptake.	✓
Involvement of Socially or Economically Disadvantaged Businesses/Populations	✓
Collaboration with partners	✓

B. Total Points Purpose: ~~27~~ 28

78 CGM

C. Benefits: Choose from the following tables the one appropriate to the proposals category

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Public Computing Center	25 Points
Enhanced public access (increased hours, equipments, lower user fees)	✓
Increases digital literacy	✓
Impact on greatest number of citizens	✓
Staff Qualifications	?
Training and education programs	✓

C. Total Benefits Points: ~~20~~ 23

C. Benefits: Demand Building	25 Points
Enhanced public access	
Increases digital literacy	
Impact on greatest number of citizens	
Sustainability in census blocks w/ < 40% uptake	
Innovation	
Job creation capacity	
Workforce development	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

C. Benefits: Infrastructure – Last Mile	25 Points N/A
Technical feasibility	
Cost effectiveness	
Performance	
Affordability	
Non-discrimination	
Interconnectivity	
Allows choice of provider	

C. Total Benefits Points: ~~20~~ 23

C. Benefits: Middle Mile	25 Points N/A
Impact on Service Area (e.g. Number of connections)	
Need in service area	
Network Capacity	
Affordability	
Expanded service to unserved areas	
Expanded service to underserved areas	

C. Total Benefits Points: _____

D. Project Viability	25 Total Points
Technical Feasibility (Infrastructure and Public Computing Center Projects)	✓
Operating Feasibility (Sustainable Broadband Building Projects)	✓
Organizational Capability	✓
Community involvement and support	✓
Cooperation with other Recovery Programs	✓
Federal grant history	✓
Shovel Ready	✓
Feasible Timeline	✓
Staff Qualifications	✓

D. Total Viability Points: 22

E. Project Budget and Sustainability	20 Total Points
Reasonableness of budget – clarity, appropriateness, detail, adequacy	✓
Sustainability	✓
Leverage of Outside Resources/Match	✓
Audit Information	2.

E. Total Budget/Sustainability Points: ~~20~~ 20

Total Proposal Points: 143
(A+B+C+D+E)

Handwritten calculations:

$$\begin{array}{r} 78 \\ 23 \\ \hline 101 \\ 42 \\ \hline 143 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ 25 \\ \hline 250 \\ 100 \\ \hline 150 \end{array}$$

**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
ETHICS POLICY DECLARATION**

I agree to comply with the requirements of North Carolina General Statute § 143-Article 33C, as well as the disclosure requirements and provisions of the State Government Ethics Act found at Chapter §138A of the General Statutes. I further acknowledge that I have been provided copies of the documents cited above and have had the opportunity to ask questions about how the legal requirements contained in them apply to me and my actions as a member of the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Review Committee (BTOP Review Committee).

I affirm that I have reviewed the list of proposed BTOP projects and that, to the best of my knowledge and understanding, I do not have any financial, professional, or other economic interest in any application being considered on the BTOP Review Committee for which I have not filed a written disclosure and recused myself from action for that particular application. To accomplish the goal of this paragraph, I have made a good faith effort to identify any applications that may present a conflict or appearance of conflict and have otherwise taken all steps necessary to comply with G.S. §138A-36.

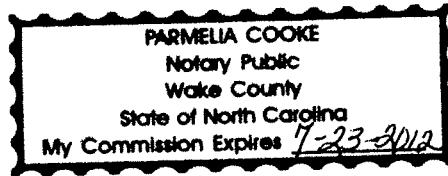
Cynthia H. Marshall
BTOP Review Committee member

4-21-10
Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
This, the 21st day of April, 2010.

Parmelia Cooke
Notary Public

My commission expires: 7-23-2012



**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
ETHICS POLICY DECLARATION**

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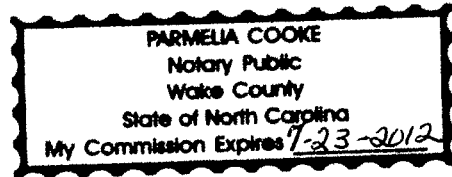
William H. Bell
BTOP Review Committee member

4/21/2010
Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
This, the 21st day of April, 2010.

Parmelia Cooke
Notary Public

My commission expires: 7-23-2012



**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
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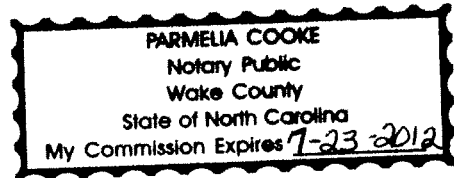
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[Signature]
BTOP Review Committee member

4/21/2010
Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
This, the 21st day of April, 2010.

[Signature]
Notary Public



My commission expires: 7-23-2012

**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
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Paul M. Jones

BTOP Review Committee member

4/20/10

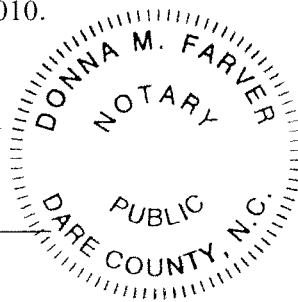
Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME

This, the 20 day of April, 2010.

Donna M. Farver
Notary Public

My commission expires: 2-12-11



**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
ETHICS POLICY DECLARATION**

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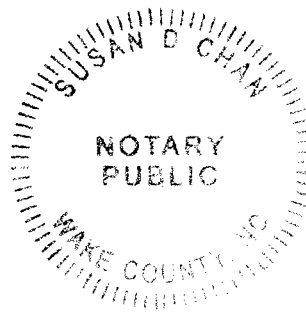
Susan D. Chan
BTOP Review Committee member

21 APRIL 2010
Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
This, the 21 day of April, 2010.

Susan D. Chan
[Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires: Nov, 9, 2013



**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
ETHICS POLICY DECLARATION**

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BTOP Review Committee member

Date

4/21/2010

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME

This, the 21 day of April, 2010.

Candice H Connor

Notary Public

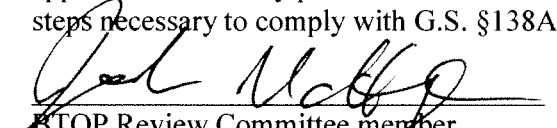
My commission expires: 12/28/2013



**NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
ETHICS POLICY DECLARATION**

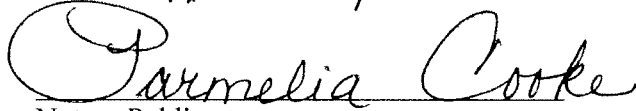
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BTOP Review Committee member
4/22/2010

Date

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME
This, the 22nd day of April, 2010.


Notary Public

My commission expires: 7-23-2012

