

## **State of Nevada Broadband Task Force**

The State of Nevada Broadband Task Force represents rural health and hospitals, rural K-12 school districts, rural libraries, distance higher education, telecommunications, cable, wireless, local and county government, transportation, economic development, and Native Americans.

The task force adopted criteria for the three types of applications, comprehensive community infrastructure, sustainable adoption, and public computing centers. Task force members scored the full applications when provided by applicants. One applicant did not provide the full application, and was scored using the information on BroadbandUSA.gov at the time of scoring. Scores were the basis of recommendations, but not the only factor.

The task force looked only at applications that would serve Nevada and at most three other states. In round 1, the task force found it difficult to see what portion of a highly multi-state application would serve Nevada. The task force also considered whether a project would overbuild, providing additional broadband service where broadband service is already offered.

### **A Little About Nevada**

Nevada is a large frontier state with over 110,000 square miles. It could contain all of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, with wide open spaces left over. In 2000, over half of Nevada's counties had fewer than 2 people per square mile. Getting broadband service to such an isolated and far-flung population is a challenge.

### **Recommendations on Applications**

#### **Public Computing Centers**

The task force highly recommends

Lyon County School District

The task force recommends

Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs

Comments include the 19% unemployment rate in Lyon County, with many people unable to afford internet service at home, leading to high need for public computing. The application would help hard hit rural areas. The Cultural Affairs application would help Nevadans statewide, including Lyon County through their library, and will serve underserved urban areas.

#### **Comprehensive Community Infrastructure**

The task force highly recommends

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

The task force recommends

#### Nevada Department of Information Technology

Some sections of both applications would overbuild, providing additional broadband service where broadband service is already offered. However, all the comprehensive community infrastructure applications the task force considered included some amount of overbuild.

Both recommended applications would serve substantial areas without service. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe application would bring broadband to unserved Nixon and Sutcliffe. In addition, the application would allow the tribe to extend their existing middle mile infrastructure into Level3's Network Operations Center in Reno, Nevada giving them tier 1 access into the Internet backbone.

In the case of the Nevada Department of Information Technology, the task force appreciated that it would serve public safety, including first responders, and emergency personnel, in some of the vast stretches of rural unserved Nevada, potentially saving lives.

#### **Sustainable Broadband Adoption**

The task force does not recommend any sustainable broadband adoption applications that propose to serve Nevada.

**Scoring:** Points awarded based on direct service to Nevada populations and institutions

#### **Comprehensive Community Infrastructure**

Middle mile component – 1 pt.

Community anchor institution involvement – (max. 3)

Schools

Libraries

Medical and Healthcare Providers

Public Safety Entities

Community Colleges

Other Institutions of Higher Education

Other community organizations/agencies that provide support to vulnerable population

Vulnerable populations impacted – (max. 3)

Hispanic

Black/African-American

Asian

Native American or Native Alaskan

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Disabled

Low Income

Unemployed

Senior Citizen (55 or older)

Youth

Rural

Other (provide explanation)

Public – private partnership – 1 pt.

Unserved/underserved impact – 1 pt.

Match more than or equal to 30% - 1pt.

### **Public Computing Center**

Vulnerable populations impacted – (max. 3)

Hispanic

Black/African-American

Asian

Native American or Native Alaskan

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Disabled

Low Income

Unemployed

Senior Citizen (55 or older)

Youth

Rural

Other (provide explanation)

Number of public computer centers impacted – 1 pt. for each (max. 3)

20% or more increase in number of computers – 1 pt.

10% or more increase in computer training available – 1pt.

10% or more increase in number of individuals impacted – 1pt.

### **Sustainable Broadband Adoption**

Community anchor institution involvement – (max. 3)

Schools

Libraries

Medical and Healthcare Providers

Public Safety Entities

Community Colleges

Other Institutions of Higher Education

Other community organizations/agencies that provide support to vulnerable populations

Vulnerable populations impacted – (max. 3)

Hispanic

Black/African-American

Asian

Native American or Native Alaskan

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Disabled

Low Income

Unemployed

Senior Citizen (55 or older)

Youth

Rural

Other (provide explanation)

10% or more increase in computer training available – 1pt.

10% or more increase in number of individuals impacted – 1pt.

Ability to measure and sustain the expected increase in broadband adoption rates after grant period – 2 pt.

