



# **Technology Services**

121 Library Court Oregon City, OR 97045

Date: August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

From: Dave DeVore

Technology Services Interim Director

To: Gary Schmidt

County Administrator

RE: CBX Proposal for Additional BEAD Broadband Funding

Good day Mr. Schmidt,

Clackamas Broadband eXchange (CBX) is proposing to delay any new ARPA construction of fiber expansion to unserved/underserved areas of Clackamas County for approximately 12 - 18 months. CBX would like to utilize the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as match to the new Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program (BEAD) as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). CBX has a remaining balance of ~\$8 million dollars from the ARPA funds allocated for broadband expansion in Clackamas County. Both the ARPA and BEAD rules allow for the ARPA funds to be utilized this way. Since match for BEAD can be as low as 25%, this would potentially allow CBX to recognize a funding source as large as \$24 million dollars that can be used to reach 3 times as many households in Clackamas County beyond just the ARPA dollars alone.

During the delay, CBX will continue to develop the fiber optic routes via engineering, permitting and material acquisition, to the approved ARPA sites as the BEAD funding is established and ready for disbursement. CBX will also continue to design and install the recently procured network gear in parts of the fiber ring to allow open access to ISP vendors thus increasing availability of services and competition for the customers.

Once the results of the BEAD grant awards are known, construction on the ARPA phases will continue along with any additional areas made available from the BEAD funding.

Thank you and have a wonderful week,

Dave DeVore

Dave DeVore, Interim Director Technology Services

Attachments: BEAD Notification of Funding Opportunity, BEAD Potential Fiber Expansion Areas

#### NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

#### BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# A. Federal Agency Name

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce

# **B.** Funding Opportunity Title

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program

## C. Announcement Type

Initial

# **D. Funding Opportunity Number**

NTIA-BEAD-2022

## E. Assistance Listing (CFDA Number)

11.035

#### F. Key Dates

Completed Letters of Intent must be received by NTIA through the application portal no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on **July 18, 2022**. Upon submission of the Letter of Intent, the Point of Contact for each Eligible Entity may request Initial Planning Funds through the application portal. The portal will provide additional information about submission requirements for funding, including but not limited to standard forms and a budget narrative. All supplemental information must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on **August 15, 2022**.

Eligible Entities that receive Initial Planning Funds (*see* Section IV.B.2) must submit a Five-Year Action Plan to NTIA within 270 days of receipt of Initial Planning Funds, as described in Section IV.B.3 below.

Eligible Entities will be notified of future submission deadlines following the Federal Communications Commission's (Commission's) release of the maps required by the Broadband

Eligible Entity funds and funds provided via other federal programs. As detailed below with regard to the subgrantee selection process for last-mile broadband deployment projects, Eligible Entities are also required to incentivize matches of greater than 25 percent from subgrantees wherever feasible (especially where expected operational costs and revenues are likely to justify greater investment by the subgrantee) by focusing on minimizing the BEAD funding outlay on a particular project, to the extent consistent with other programmatic goals described in this NOFO.<sup>21</sup>

NTIA will provide technical assistance to Eligible Entities to assist in making these determinations. Eligible Entities will be expected to explain in their Initial Proposals how they intend to ensure that subgrantees will offer the maximum feasible match for each project.<sup>22</sup>

### 3. Matches from Other Federal Programs and Entities

Except as expressly provided for in the Infrastructure Act, funds from other Federal programs (including funds from the Commission's Universal Service Fund programs) may not be used as matching funds. The Infrastructure Act expressly provides that matching funds for the BEAD Program may come from a federal regional commission or authority and from funds that were provided to an Eligible Entity or a subgrantee for the purpose of deploying broadband service under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116-127; 134 Stat. 178); the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat. 281), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182); or the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4), to the extent permitted by those laws. Eligible Entities are encouraged to consider terms and conditions that may be associated with potential sources of match funds and how those may impact the project overall. For example, if an Eligible Entity utilizes federal regional commission funding as a match, the project will need to comply with all BEAD programmatic requirements and any requirements imposed by the federal regional commission. Likewise, Eligible Entities that use funds from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds or Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund as the source of matching funds for the BEAD Program must comply with the requirements of both the BEAD Program and the relevant Treasury program. Loan funding issued through a federal agency, such as through the USDA ReConnect Program, may also be used as match funding.

#### 4. In-Kind Matches

Matching funds may be provided in the form of either cash or in-kind contributions, so long as such contributions are made consistent with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost

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supplant, the amounts that the Eligible Entity would otherwise make available for the purposes for which the grant funds may be used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See supra Section IV.B.7. If the Eligible Entity is considering competing proposals that are materially identical, and one includes a higher proposed total cost but a larger match, whereas the other includes a lower proposed total cost and smaller match, the key consideration for comparative purposes is the amount of the subsidy required, not the proportion of the stated cost that the prospective subgrantee is willing to match.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> See supra Section IV.B.7.

