



Elissa Gertler  
Director

**PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING**  
2051 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Study Session Worksheet**

**Presentation Date:** March 23, 2010 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. **Length:** 15 min.

**Presentation Title:** Broadband Technology Opportunity Program Round Two Final

**Department:** Technology Services, Public & Government Affairs

**Presenters:** Dave Devore, Elissa Gertler, Debbie McCoy

**POLICY QUESTION**

Should Clackamas County continue the finalization process for the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program?

**ISSUES AND BACKGROUND**

The Clackamas Broadband Infrastructure Initiative (CBII) was created to provide middle-mile broadband fiber to underserved rural areas of the county in order to improve their telecommunications capacity. CBII is a partnership with local school districts, fire districts, public utilities, public safety agencies and traffic safety providers, connecting these public agencies using broadband fiber, reducing costs while improving services.

CBII recently entered into Round Two of the program and is applying for funds availability to implement this project. The funding in this round will focus on Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Projects bringing together key agencies within the county that have an essential need for fiber connectivity. The County and partners have collected many letters of support and are continuing to request these until the deadline of March 26, 2010.

**ISSUES TO CONSIDER FOR ROUND TWO FUNDING**

Limitations of the awards for Round two requires a much higher starting mark giving the 30% matching fund element a much higher consideration. Also working with our Grant Writers that already have written a successful First Round Application for Columbus County Georgia, it is their recommendation that elements within the grant be written

that will involve a much higher level of partnership and connectivity within the community in areas such as cities, fire districts, public safety agencies, cable companies, school districts, and utilities expanding the total anchor points within the grant to a much higher level. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Round is different from the 1<sup>st</sup> Round application in that at the completion of the build-out, the fiber will be lit (in operation). The grant request being considered for this Round 2 is for a total amount of \$11.1 million requiring a 30% match/in-kind contribution. County has secured an in-kind contribution for public sites for network gear in the amount of \$2,320,000 leaving \$1,024,649 as the total County contribution to meet the 30% match. \$505,580 would be met through in-kind staffing costs (percentage of project engineer, project manager and manager). The County contribution amount is less than the earlier request because of the in-kind matches.

#### OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Apply for \$11.1 million grant with a required 30% match/in-kind contribution from the County and/or partners for a total of **\$3,344,649**. The in-kind contributions would amount to \$2.3 million from the sites, \$505,580 from staffing costs incurred by the County over the three year project bringing the total in-kind contributions to **\$2,825,580**. The County's cash commitment would be **\$519,069** (less than had been proposed in the earlier study session on Round 2 in February).

Decide to not apply for the Round 2 BTOP stimulus funds.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff respectfully recommends that the county consider applying for the Round 2 BTOP grant with the financial responsibilities of the County's commitment to this grant request, additional partnerships and overall expansion of the fiber ring for the second round of the BTOP.

#### SCHEDULE FOR STUDY SESSION

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director/Head Approval Mary Serratt for Elissa Gerdler  
County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue, please contact Dave Devore at (503) 723-4996