

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **0001886944**

Primary Contact Name **Brent Groome**

Title **CCO**

Mailing Address **3480 Highway 701 N**

Phone Number **(843) 369-8393**

City, State, Zip **Conway, SC 29526**

Email **brent.groome@htcinc.net**

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/01**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/19**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Horry**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Nichols**

Project Area Map Code **1**

13 Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*

0 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

0 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

0 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/21/20	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Begins	8/31/20	Project Completion Date	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/11/20		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$294,838.00	Average Cost per Housing Unit	\$714.72
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$20,638.66		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$274,199.34	Average Cost per Business	NA
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$22,679.85		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$147,419.00

Applicant-Provided Funding \$147,419.00

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, controlled environment from home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Horry County has an unemployment rate of 5.5%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Horry County is designated by the Department of Education as having a poverty rate of 64.2% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education), which reflects a community in need. In fact, 6,172 student households in Horry County have been identified as PIP status. This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. This project will support the needs of this community by supporting learning in these student households, facilitating telehealth, and increasing access to economic advancement through online opportunities.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with Horry County officials, Horry County Schools, local community leaders, and elected officials, to develop and lead a comprehensive community training program to educate residents on the benefits of having broadband access in the home. This program will cater to youth, seniors, and young families, and highlight the connection between internet access and educational and economic success. We have already begun discussions with Horry County leaders about plans for executing this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

Applicant-provided funding of \$147,419.00 will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

Applicant will also need one rail crossing to complete this project area. Application to cross this rail line will be submitted soon after project award, but completion of the project is dependent upon getting approval to cross rail line.

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: **Brent D. Groome** Digitally signed by Brent D. Groome
Date: 2020.08.14 12:49:54 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

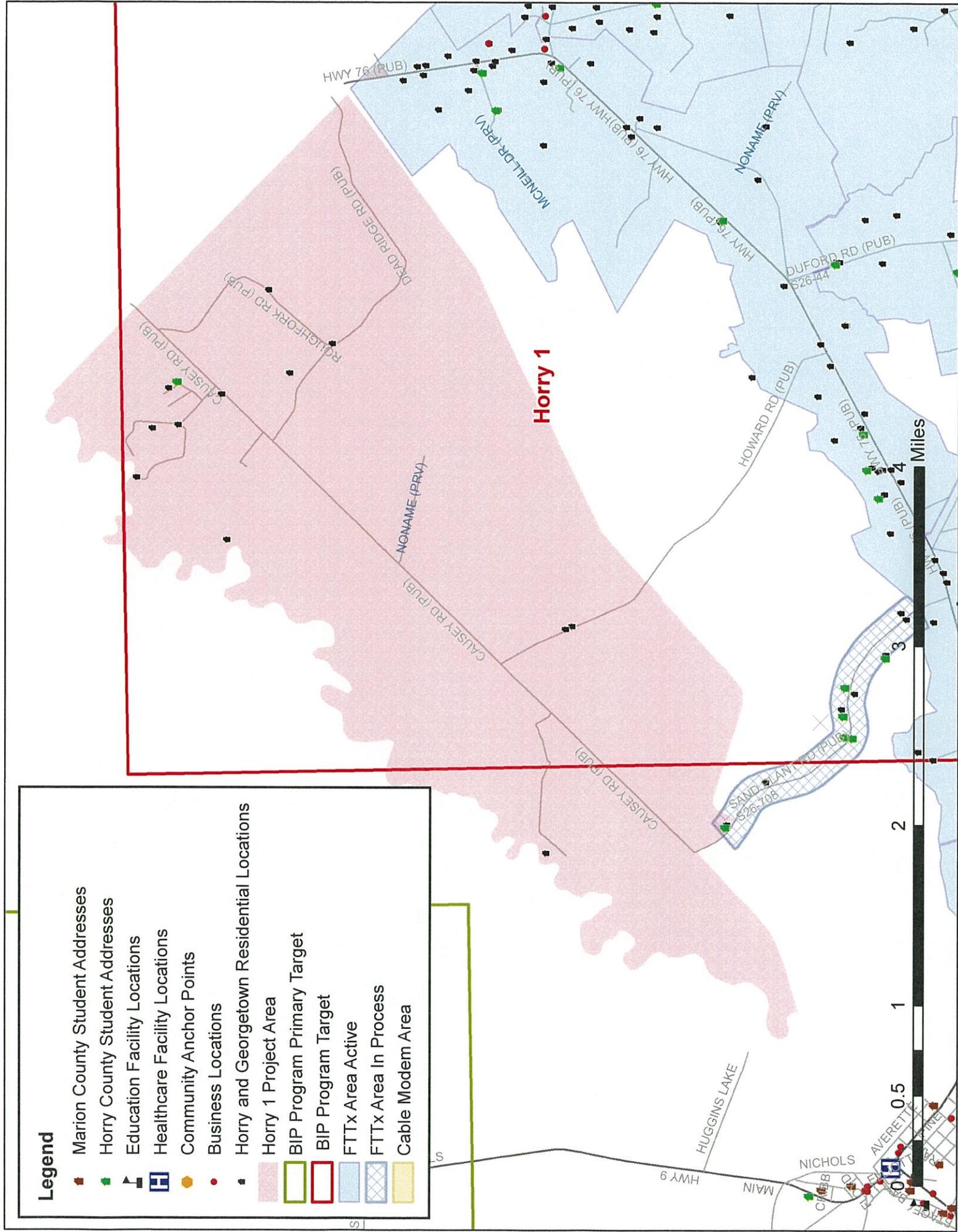
Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

Legend

- Marion County Student Addresses
- Horry County Student Addresses
- ▲ Education Facility Locations
- Healthcare Facility Locations
- Community Anchor Points
- Business Locations
- Horry and Georgetown Residential Locations
- Horry 1 Project Area
- BIP Program Primary Target
- BIP Program Target
- FTTx Area Active
- FTTx Area In Process
- Cable Modem Area



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- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Marion**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Centenary**

Project Area Map Code **9**

38 Number of Households in Project Area (Target code)

0 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

0 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

2 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

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Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/21/20	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Begins	8/31/20	Project Completion Date	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/11/20		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$363,591.00	Average Cost per Housing Unit	\$714.72
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$25,451.37		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$338,139.63	Average Cost per Business	NA
Average Cost per Location Served (all locations or structures)	\$9,568.18		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$181,795.50

Applicant-Provided Funding \$181,795.50

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, controlled environment from home, as Marion County Schools will begin the 2020-2021 school year in a hybrid virtual/in-person environment. Students currently without access have to rely on Wi-Fi hotspots in parking lots or unreliable wireless hotspot connections at home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Marion County has an unemployment rate of 10.6%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Marion County is designated by the Department of Education as having a poverty rate greater than or equal to 86%: 89.7% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education). This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. There are 14 student households and two educational facilities within our project area. This project will support the telehealth, virtual learning, and teleworking needs of these rural Georgetown communities who currently cannot take advantage of these opportunities, now deemed a necessity.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with the South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development (SCACED) to offer The SC Broadband Community Champion Training Initiative (attached). The program partners with community stakeholders and leaders – the County Broadband Working Group - to ensure buy-in at all levels. This three-part training program is designed to educate the community on the benefits of broadband and ultimately, increase broadband adoption. We have already begun conversations with the SCACED on delivering this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

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HTC's proposed Marion projects, which serve targets 9, 10, 11, and 12, will create a fiber corridor to serve this community. Establishing this corridor is dependent upon HTC being awarded funding for all four project targets. For example, HTC cannot reach Marion target 10 without receiving funding for targets 11 and 12. HTC is committed to pursuing additional state and federal funds to continue to build from this backbone in and expand even further in to Marion County.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

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Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
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Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: **Brent D. Groome**

Digitally signed by Brent D.

Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:50:43 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

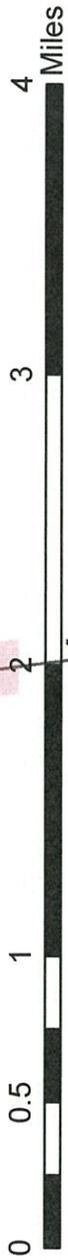
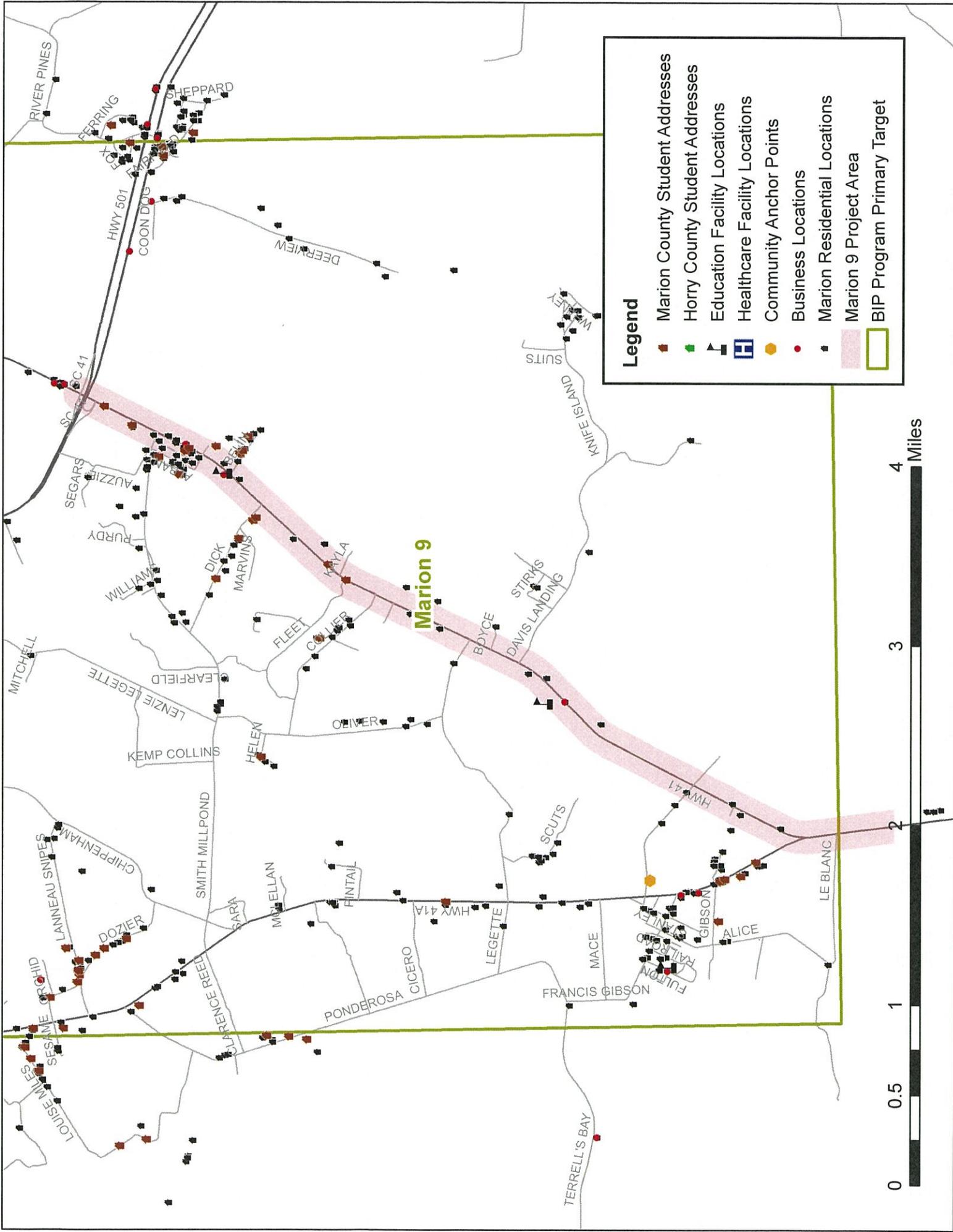
Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

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APPLICATION

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Project Area Information

County **Marion**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Gresham**

Project Area Map Code **10**

49 Number of Households in Project Area (Target code)

5 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

0 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

0 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
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Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

Rates less than \$10/month

Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month

Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month

Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month

Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date 8/21/20

Customer Premises
Installations Complete 12/18/20

Project Construction Activity Begins 8/31/20

Project Completion Date 12/18/20

Project Construction Activity Complete 12/11/20

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost \$503,457.00

Average Cost per Housing Unit \$714.72

Upfront Cost Requirements \$35,241.99

Cost of Building and/or Extending
Infrastructure to Customer Premises \$468,215.01

Average Cost per Business \$857.67

Average Cost per Location Served \$9,323.28
(all locations or structures)

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$251,728.50

Applicant-Provided Funding \$251,728.50

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

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Brent D. Groome

Digitally signed by Brent D.
Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:51:28 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

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Project Area Information

County **Marion**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Gresham**

Project Area Map Code **11**

282 Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*

18 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

1 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

6 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
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Installations Complete **12/18/20**

Project Construction Activity Begins **8/31/20**

Project Completion Date **12/18/20**

Project Construction Activity Complete **12/11/20**

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost **\$951,434.00**

Average Cost per Housing Unit **\$714.72**

Upfront Cost Requirements **\$66,600.38**

Cost of Building and/or Extending
Infrastructure to Customer Premises **\$884,833.62**

Average Cost per Business **\$857.67**

Average Cost per Location Served **\$3,171.45**
(all locations or structures)

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested **\$475,717.00**

Applicant-Provided Funding **\$475,717.00**

Third-Party Funding Amount **\$0.00**

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, controlled environment from home, as Marion County Schools will begin the 2020-2021 school year in a hybrid virtual/in-person environment. Students currently without access have to rely on Wi-Fi hotspots in parking lots or unreliable wireless hotspot connections at home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Marion County has an unemployment rate of 10.6%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Marion County is designated by the Department of Education as having a poverty rate greater than or equal to 86%: 89.7% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education). This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. There are 70 student households, six educational facilities and one community anchor facility within our project area. This project will improve 18 businesses' ability to compete in the marketplace by giving them access to a future-proof, high speed internet connection. This project will support the telehealth, virtual learning, and teleworking needs of these rural Georgetown communities who currently cannot take advantage of these opportunities, now deemed a necessity.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with the South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development (SCACED) to offer The SC Broadband Community Champion Training Initiative (attached). The program partners with community stakeholders and leaders – the County Broadband Working Group - to ensure buy-in at all levels. This three-part training program is designed to educate the community on the benefits of broadband and ultimately, increase broadband adoption. We have already begun conversations with the SCACED on delivering this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

Applicant-provided funding of \$475,717.00 will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

HTC's proposed Marion projects, which serve targets 9, 10, 11, and 12, will create a fiber corridor to serve this community. Establishing this corridor is dependent upon HTC being awarded funding for all four project targets. For example, HTC cannot reach Marion target 10 without receiving funding for targets 11 and 12. HTC is committed to pursuing additional state and federal funds to continue to build from this backbone in and expand even further in to Marion County.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

Applicant will also need one rail crossing at the western most edge of this project area. This rail crossing will be needed to complete the far west portion of the project area, but will only affect a small portion of the project area should approval to cross the rail line be delayed.

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature:

Brent D. Groome

Digitally signed by Brent D.
Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:52:17 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

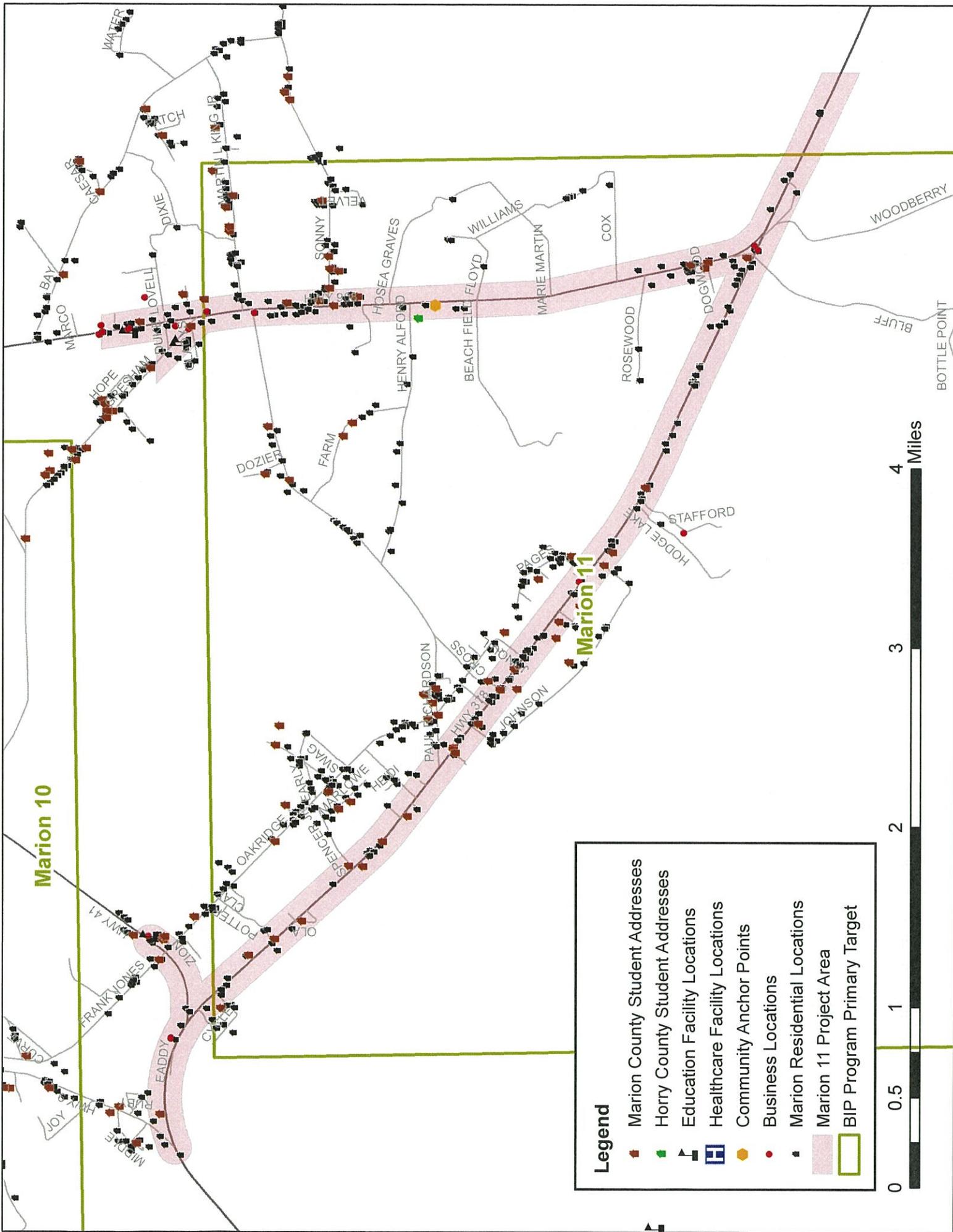
Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.



Marion 10

Legend

- Marion County Student Addresses
- Horry County Student Addresses
- Education Facility Locations
- Healthcare Facility Locations
- Community Anchor Points
- Business Locations
- Marion Residential Locations
- Marion 11 Project Area
- BIP Program Primary Target



Legend

- Marion County Student Addresses
- Horry County Student Addresses
- Education Facility Locations
- Healthcare Facility Locations
- Community Anchor Points
- Business Locations
- Marion Residential Locations
- Marion 11 Project Area
- BIP Program Primary Target

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **0001886944**

Primary Contact Name **Brent Groome**

Title **CCO**

Mailing Address **3480 Highway 701 N**

Phone Number **(843) 369-8393**

City, State, Zip **Conway, SC 29526**

Email **brent.groome@htcinc.net**

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/01**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/19**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Marion**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Gresham**

Project Area Map Code **12**

15 Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*

2 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

1 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

0 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/21/20	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Begins	8/31/20	Project Completion Date	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/11/20		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$384,631.00	Average Cost per Housing Unit	\$714.72
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$26,924.17		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$357,706.83	Average Cost per Business	\$857.67
Average Cost per Location Served <i>(all locations or structures)</i>	\$22,625.35		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$192,315.50

Applicant-Provided Funding \$192,315.50

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, controlled environment from home, as Marion County Schools will begin the 2020-2021 school year in a hybrid virtual/in-person environment. Students currently without access have to rely on Wi-Fi hotspots in parking lots or unreliable wireless hotspot connections at home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Marion County has an unemployment rate of 10.6%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Marion County is designated by the Department of Education as having a poverty rate greater than or equal to 86%: 89.7% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education). This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. This project will serve one community anchor facility. It will also improve two businesses' ability to compete in the marketplace by giving them access to a future-proof, high speed internet connection. This project will support the telehealth, virtual learning, and teleworking needs of these rural Georgetown communities who currently cannot take advantage of these opportunities, now deemed a necessity.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with the South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development (SCACED) to offer The SC Broadband Community Champion Training Initiative (attached). The program partners with community stakeholders and leaders – the County Broadband Working Group - to ensure buy-in at all levels. This three-part training program is designed to educate the community on the benefits of broadband and ultimately, increase broadband adoption. We have already begun conversations with the SCACED on delivering this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

Applicant-provided funding of \$192,315.50 will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

HTC's proposed Marion projects, which serve targets 9, 10, 11, and 12, will create a fiber corridor to serve this community. Establishing this corridor is dependent upon HTC being awarded funding for all four project targets. For example, HTC cannot reach Marion target 10 without receiving funding for targets 11 and 12. HTC is committed to pursuing additional state and federal funds to continue to build from this backbone in and expand even further in to Marion County.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature:

Brent D. Groome

Digitally signed by Brent D. Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:53:12 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

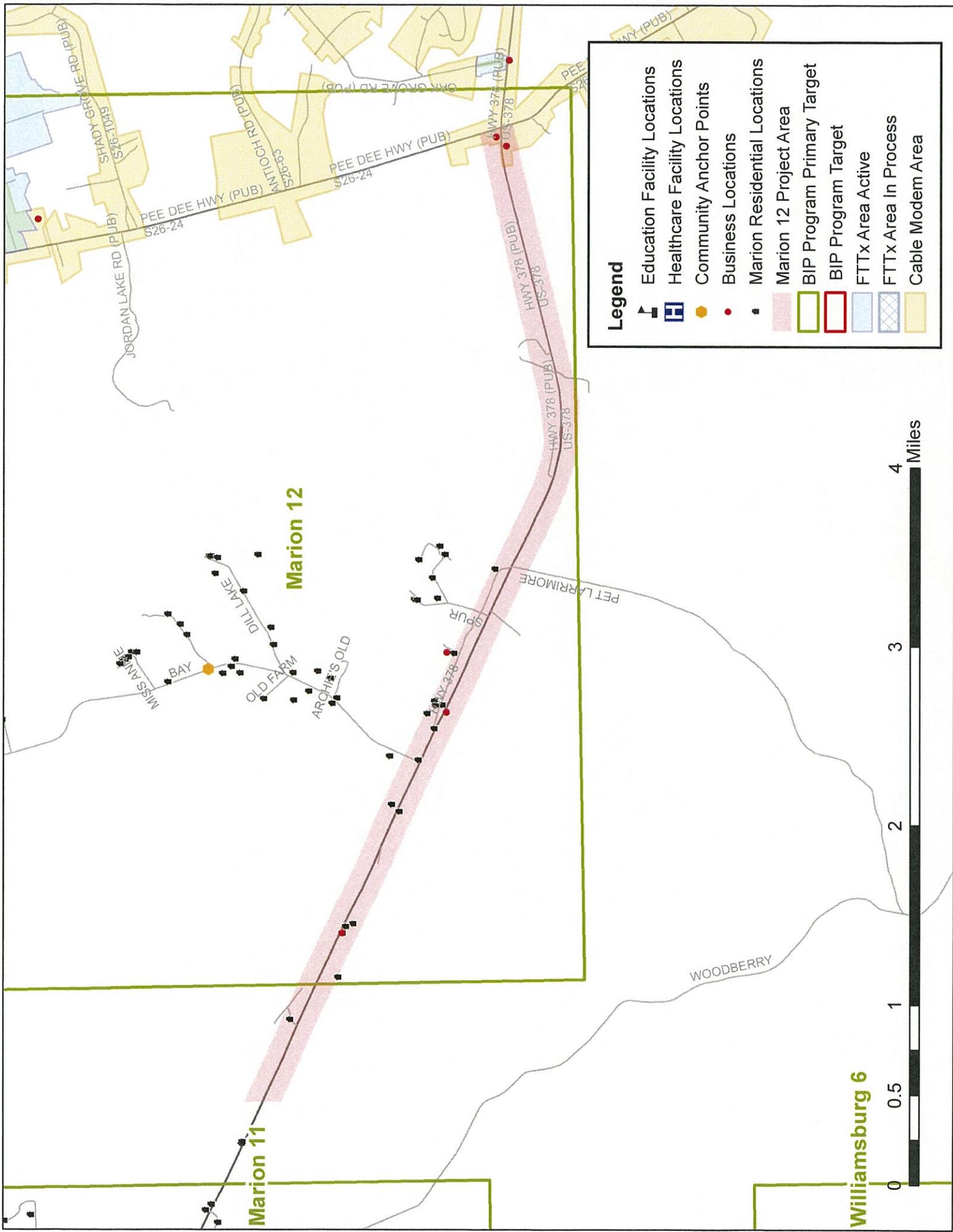
Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

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All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.



Legend

-  Education Facility Locations
-  Healthcare Facility Locations
-  Community Anchor Points
-  Business Locations
-  Marion Residential Locations
-  Marion 12 Project Area
-  BIP Program Primary Target
-  BIP Program Target
-  FTTx Area Active
-  FTTx Area In Process
-  Cable Modem Area



Marion 11

Marion 12

Williamsburg 6

MISS ANNE

BAY

DILL LAKE

OLD FARM

ARCHIE'S OLD

SPUR

PET LARRIMORE

WOODBERRY

JORDAN LAKE RD (PUB)

PEE DEE HWY (PUB)
S26-24

KATTOCH RD (PUB)
S26-23

PEE DEE HWY (PUB)
S26-24

HWY 378 (PUB)
US-378

HWY (PUB)

APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **0001886944**

Primary Contact Name **Brent Groome**

Title **CCO**

Mailing Address **3480 Highway 701 N**

Phone Number **(843) 369-8393**

City, State, Zip **Conway, SC 29526**

Email **brent.groome@htcinc.net**

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/01**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/19**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Georgetown**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Georgetown**

Project Area Map Code **14**

135 Number of Households in Project Area (Target code)

8 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

1 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month | |

Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/21/20	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Begins	8/31/20	Project Completion Date	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/11/20		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$673,417.75	Average Cost per Housing Unit	\$714.72
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$47,139.24		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$626,278.51	Average Cost per Business	\$857.67
Average Cost per Location Served (all locations or structures)	\$4,709.22		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$336,708.87

Applicant-Provided Funding \$336,708.88

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

With Georgetown County Schools beginning the 2020-2021 school year remotely, our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, comfortable environment from home. Students currently without access have to rely on Wi-Fi hotspots in parking lots or unreliable wireless hotspot connections at home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Georgetown County's unemployment rate is 10.9%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Georgetown County has a designated poverty rate of 68.1% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education), which clearly reflects a community in need, particularly when you consider the fact that the Waccamaw Neck causes the poverty rate to be lower than the rest of the county. This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. There are 27 student households, one educational facility, and one community anchor facility within our project area. This project will also improve eight businesses' ability to compete in the marketplace by giving them access to a future-proof, high speed internet connection. This project will support the telehealth, virtual learning, and teleworking needs of these rural Georgetown communities who currently cannot take advantage of these opportunities, now deemed a necessity.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with Georgetown County, Georgetown County Schools, local community leaders, and elected officials, to develop and lead a comprehensive community training program to educate residents on the benefits of having broadband access in the home. This program will cater to youth, seniors, and young families, and highlight the connection between internet access and educational and economic success. We have already begun discussions with Georgetown County leaders about plans for executing this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

Applicant-provided funding of \$336,708.88 will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: **Brent D. Groome**

Digitally signed by Brent D.
Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:45:43 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

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APPLICATION

South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Project



Applicant Information

Applicant Name/Organization **Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN) **0001886944**

Primary Contact Name **Brent Groome**

Title **CCO**

Mailing Address **3480 Highway 701 N**

Phone Number **(843) 369-8393**

City, State, Zip **Conway, SC 29526**

Email **brent.groome@htcinc.net**

Broadband Service Provider Experience

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/01**

Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission **12/31/19**

- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience delivering broadband service over fiber or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in rural areas
- Applicant and/or project Partner has experience building and operating broadband networks in low-moderate income areas

Project Area Information

County **Georgetown**

Rural or Urban **Rural**

Nearest City/Town **Georgetown**

Project Area Map Code **15**

111 Number of Households in Project Area *(Target code)*

5 Number of Businesses in Project Area

0 Number of Health Care Facilities in Project Area

0 Number of Community Anchor Points in Project Area

1 Number of Educational Institutions in Project Area

Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project area.

- Fiber to the Premises* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds **100/100 Mbps**
- Hybrid fiber-coax (symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Hybrid fiber-coax (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- Fixed wireless* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds
- VDSL (25/3 Mbps or faster)* Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers

Indicate all rate tiers for broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps or faster will be offered to customers in the project area:

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Rates less than \$10/month | <input type="checkbox"/> Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month |
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Project Timeline and Milestones

Project Start Date	8/21/20	Customer Premises Installations Complete	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Begins	8/31/20	Project Completion Date	12/18/20
Project Construction Activity Complete	12/11/20		

Project Cost Information

Total Project Cost	\$511,205.00	Average Cost per Housing Unit	\$714.72
Upfront Cost Requirements	\$35,784.35		
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	\$475,420.65	Average Cost per Business	\$857.67
Average Cost per Location Served (all locations or structures)	\$4,406.94		

Project Funding Information

South Carolina CARES Act Funding Requested \$255,602.50

Applicant-Provided Funding \$255,602.50

Third-Party Funding Amount \$0.00

Source(s) Applicant-provided funding will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

Additional Information

Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.

HTC has been operating as a telecommunications cooperative in Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina since 1952. HTC has expanded well beyond its telephone ILEC roots as a provider of telephone, cable TV, broadband, wireless, security, and business solutions in all of Horry and portions of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

HTC has built a state-of-the-art fiber optic network consisting of over 5,000 miles of fiber to deliver many of these services. As a result, 99.3% of Horry County has access to broadband today. HTC has the demonstrated capability of providing these services with its advanced network via its 650+ tenured employees. The 90,500 HTC Members subscribe to a total of over 266,000 services including over 87,000 internet subscribers.

HTC provides its own plant and network engineering, construction, installation and repair, sales, customer service, information services/technology, human resources, marketing, finance and accounting. HTC also has a network of quality vendors/contractors to supplement our operations during periods of high-volume.

HTC is in strong financial health with a long history of positive net income and a solid balance sheet. This financial health has allowed HTC to refund over \$139M in capital credits to its Members to-date.

Describe how your proposal meets CARES objectives as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

With Georgetown County Schools beginning the 2020-2021 school year remotely, our proposed project will help student families respond to the coronavirus pandemic by facilitating seamless virtual learning in a safe, comfortable environment from home. Students currently without access have to rely on Wi-Fi hotspots in parking lots or unreliable wireless hotspot connections at home. Our project will deliver a state-of-the-art, reliable fiber optic network to the student households to allow them to continue their education throughout the year, and ensure children don't get left behind as the community continues to navigate challenges caused by the pandemic.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the workforce has been forced to either work from home, or worse, have lost their jobs. Georgetown County's unemployment rate is 10.9%. Our project will help more employees work from home, particularly as children are forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Expanded access to high speed, reliable internet will allow the community's workforce to work from home, or apply for jobs, regardless of their location.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, the need for telehealth in rural areas was on the rise. The pandemic exacerbated the need for rural telehealth, particularly in areas where people lack access to transportation and at risk patients are more susceptible to the coronavirus. Increased broadband access in these communities will allow patients to receive medical care from the safety of their own home, and, in turn, free up resources in local hospitals for critically ill patients.

Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines." Use additional pages if necessary.

Georgetown County has a designated poverty rate of 68.1% (according to April 2020 enrollment data from the South Carolina Department of Education), which clearly reflects a community in need, particularly when you consider the fact that the Waccamaw Neck causes the poverty rate to be lower than the rest of the county. This project area does fall within an Area of Need published by the ORS. There are 19 student households and one educational facility within our project area. This project will also improve five businesses' ability to compete in the marketplace by giving them access to a future-proof, high speed internet connection. This project will support the telehealth, virtual learning, and teleworking needs of these rural Georgetown communities who currently cannot take advantage of these opportunities, now deemed a necessity.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Use additional pages if necessary.

HTC will partner with Georgetown County, Georgetown County Schools, local community leaders, and elected officials, to develop and lead a comprehensive community training program to educate residents on the benefits of having broadband access in the home. This program will cater to youth, seniors, and young families, and highlight the connection between internet access and educational and economic success. We have already begun discussions with Georgetown County leaders about plans for executing this program this fall.

Provide documents to establish proof that your organization has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.

Applicant-provided funding of \$255,602.50 will be sourced from cash on hand in Applicant's BB&T Business Investment Deposit Account. Attached to this application is the most recent July 2020 statement from this account as evidence to availability of funds.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

Applicant will need authorizations from SCDOT for encroachment work within SCDOT owned rights-of-way for the placement of underground facilities. Permit applications will need to be handled in an expeditious manner in order for work to be completed prior to the project completion date.

Applicant will also need coordination from other utilities who have facilities located inside the project corridor. This coordination includes timely response to underground locate tickets and encroachment permits for crossing utility owned rights-of-way.

Attachments and Exhibits

Please attach the following items to Application:

1. Map of Project Area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
2. Letters of support evidencing community need for project
3. Any additional information evidencing community need for project

Certification and Signature

CERTIFICATION: The Applicant certifies that information included in this application is factual to their knowledge.



Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable requirements and conditions contained in Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Signature: Brent D. Groome

Digitally signed by Brent D.

Groome

Date: 2020.08.14 12:49:00 -04'00'

Print Name of Signature: Brent Groome

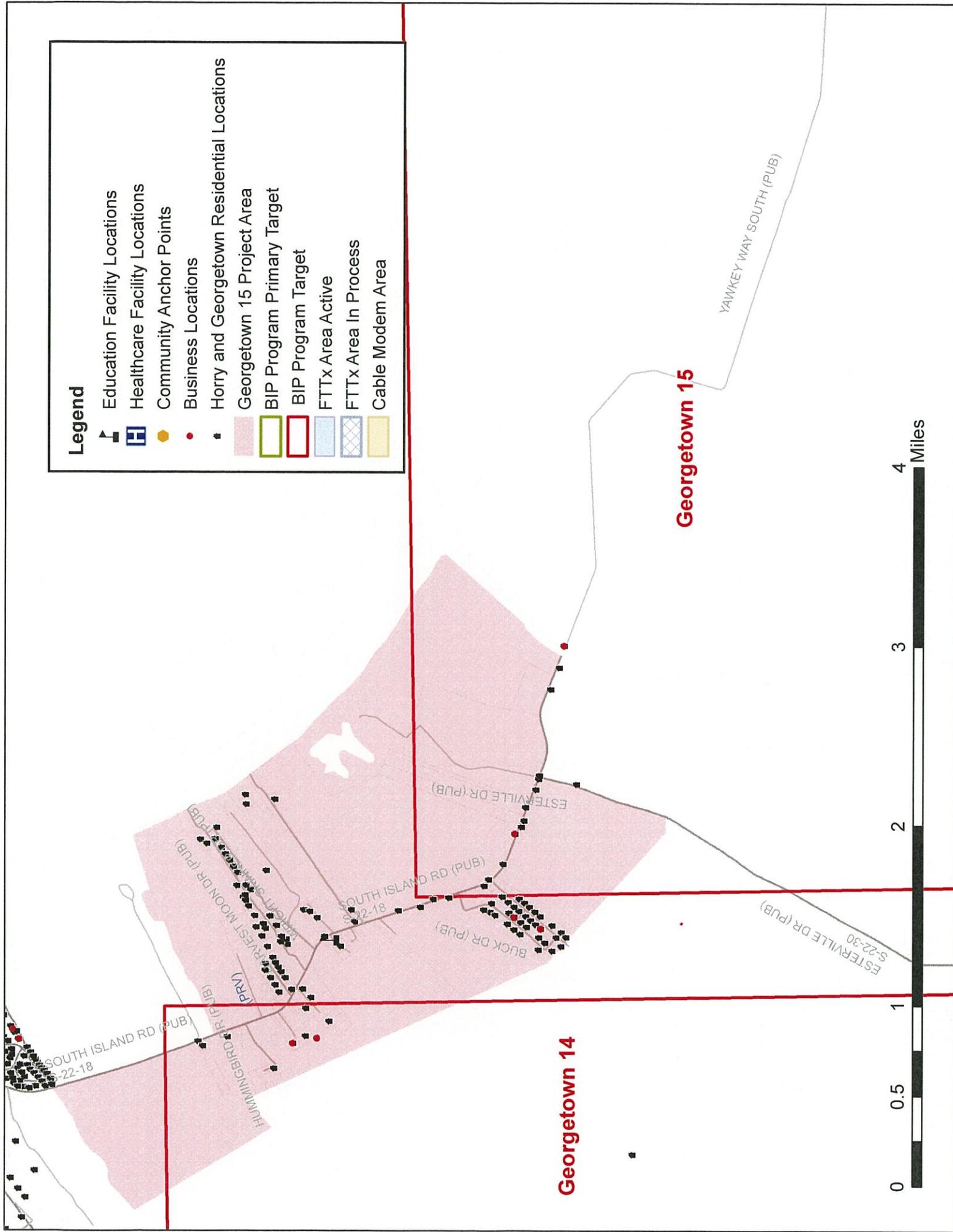
Title of Signatory: CCO

Date: 8/14/20

Renewal Terms. *Contingent upon extensions for the expenditure of CARES Act funds provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the State of South Carolina, this Agreement may be renewed as evidenced by written approval of both parties.*

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

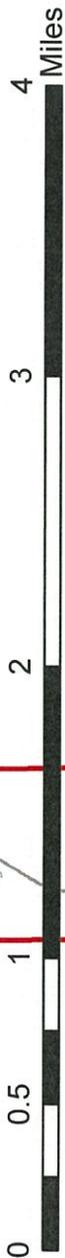


Legend

- Education Facility Locations
- Healthcare Facility Locations
- Community Anchor Points
- Business Locations
- Horry and Georgetown Residential Locations
- Georgetown 15 Project Area
- BIP Program Primary Target
- BIP Program Target
- FTTx Area Active
- FTTx Area In Process
- Cable Modern Area

Georgetown 15

Georgetown 14



TOM RICE
7TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
512 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL: (202) 225-9895
FAX: (202) 225-9690

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE
MEASURES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

August 13th, 2020

Nanette S. Edwards
Executive Director
SC Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Ms. Edwards,

I am writing to express my interest in Horry Telephone Cooperative's (HTC) application for the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) Broadband Infrastructure Program. This funding will allow HTC to install and deliver broadband infrastructure to unserved areas of Horry, Georgetown, and Marion Counties.

Horry Telephone Cooperative works to invest in its network and fulfill their mission to connect rural and unserved residents. The Broadband Infrastructure Program will allow HTC to move forward with their shovel-ready projects. HTC's proposed broadband infrastructure projects will benefit over 1,000 residences and businesses throughout 50 route miles, and provide broadband service to educational and essential community facilities. These projects will allow unserved communities to respond to COVID-19 in a more effective manner, as well as address the challenges COVID-19 has already presented. Additionally, the installation and delivery of broadband infrastructure to unserved areas will support economic development, teleworking, virtual learning, and Telehealth.

Broadband infrastructure is an invaluable and needed resource that will greatly benefit the unserved areas of the Seventh Congressional District of South Carolina.

I would request that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff give the application full and careful consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Grants Specialist, Brittany Ferrigno, at (843) 445-6459.

Sincerely,

Tom Rice
Member of Congress

GRAND STRAND REGIONAL OFFICE:
2411 NORTH OAK STREET, SUITE 405
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577
TEL: (843) 445-6459
FAX: (843) 445-6418

WWW.RICE.HOUSE.GOV
FACEBOOK.COM/REPTOMRICE
TWITTER.COM/REPTOMRICE
YOUTUBE.COM/REPTOMRICE
INSTAGRAM.COM/REPTOMRICE

PEE DEE REGIONAL OFFICE:
1831 WEST EVANS STREET, SUITE 300
FLORENCE, SC 29501
TEL: (843) 679-9781
FAX: (843) 679-9783



August 13, 2020

Nanette S. Edwards
Executive Director
SC Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Ms. Edwards,

On behalf of Georgetown County, I am reaching out to you to relay our support for Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.'s (HTC) application through the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff's Broadband Infrastructure development project.

HTC's proposed Georgetown project would connect numerous residences, businesses, and educational facilities that would benefit tremendously from this project. In addition, it would support our community's virtual learning needs and facilitate multiple telehealth opportunities that today cannot even be explored.

The employees at HTC have the knowledge, experience, and skills necessary to successfully execute this project by the required deadline while also meeting the needs of our community. Its existing state-of-the-art fiber optic network and its commitment to provide speeds up to 1 Gbps will help make Georgetown County a thriving, competitive economy.

HTC has been the only provider that has expressed genuine concern in meeting the needs of our rural population and worked with us to bring a solution to close the technology divide.

The COVID-19 pandemic further illuminated the need for rural broadband access, and Georgetown County is no exception. We, along with our community partners, stand ready to support HTC's efforts to expand broadband access for rural South Carolinians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Tucker', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Brian Tucker
Director of Economic Development



Our mission: We help people live better lives through better health.
Our vision: We will be our region's first choice for health and wellness.
Our purpose: Better health begins here.

606 Black River Road • P.O. Box 421718 • Georgetown, SC 29442
Phone: 843-527-7000 • Fax: 843-520-8510 • tidelandshealth.org

Nanette S. Edwards
Executive Director, SC Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201

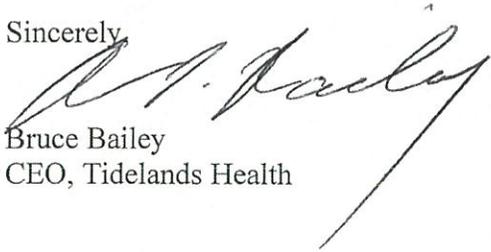
Dear Ms. Edwards,

On behalf of Tidelands Health, I am writing to support Horry Telephone Cooperative's (HTC) Broadband Infrastructure Development application.

Tidelands Health is the leading telehealth provider in our region, and we have adapted to expand these offerings in response to the coronavirus pandemic. However, not all of our patients are able to take advantage of telehealth options because they do not have access to internet. Delivering HTC broadband to the residents of the HTC's proposed Georgetown project areas would allow many of our patients, particularly older patients who are at high risk of severe illness caused by COVID-19, to receive the healthcare they need right from home.

HTC has been a trusted community partner for decades. This infrastructure program will allow them to expand their reach and serve our neighbors who need it most.

Sincerely,


Bruce Bailey
CEO, Tidelands Health

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

Economic Development Alliance for Georgetown County

Board of Directors

- A. It is the policy of the Alliance for Economic Development for Georgetown County (Alliance) that board members of the Alliance will not disclose confidential information belonging to, or obtained through their affiliation or responsibilities with the Alliance to any person, including their relatives, friends, and business and professional associates, unless the Board has authorized disclosure. This agreement covers information regarding potential economic development projects, prospective company visits, contractual negotiations and other similar topics that would generally be considered sensitive or privileged. This policy is not intended to prevent disclosure where disclosure is required by law; however, it is intended to highlight and embolden the board with respect to non-disclosure especially when such an instance may be supported by law, i.e. S.C. Code of Laws 30-4-40, et. al.
- B. Confidentiality is the preservation of privileged information. Board members are cautioned to demonstrate professionalism, good judgment, and care at all times in handling any information related to the Alliance to avoid unauthorized or improper disclosures of confidential information.
- C. While board and committee members are expected and encouraged to discuss the organization with one another and targeted publics, they shall not report opinions expressed in meetings, nor shall they report independently on board actions, or engage in any communication that has not been approved by the Board.
- D. At the end of the board or committee member's term or upon his/her retirement, resignation or removal from the Board of Directors or committee, he/she shall return, at the Chairman's request, all documents, papers, and other materials, regardless of medium, which may contain or be derived from confidential information, in his/her possession.
- E. It is expected that board and committee members will not use trade secrets, client lists, or other confidential information acquired by virtue of being on the board or committee, even after they complete their service.

Certification: I have read this Confidentiality Agreement. I agree to abide by the requirements of the agreement and to inform the Board Chair immediately if I believe any violation (unintentional or otherwise) of the Agreement has occurred by myself or another director.

Signature



Name

Bruce L. Bailey

Date

8/12/20