## **APPLICATION**

## **South Carolina 2021 Rural Broadband Grant Program**



### **Applicant Information**

Applicant Name/Organization		
Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN)		
Primary Contact Name	Title	
Mailing Address	Phone Number	
City, State, Zip	Email	
<b>Broadband Service Provider Experience</b>		
Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission		
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submis	esion	
Applicant and/or Project Partner has Experience:		
Delivering broadband service via fiber and/or h	ybrid fiber-coax infrastructure	
Delivering broadband service via fixed wireless infrastructure		
Building and operating broadband networks in rural areas		
Operating broadband networks in low-moderat	e income areas	
<b>Project Area Information</b>		
Eligible County Impact		
Counties (list)	Cities/Towns/Municipalities (list)	
Households		
Businesses	Community Anchor Institutions	
Health Care Facilities	Educational Institutions	

**Contiguous County Impact** 

Fixed wireless

## Counties Cities/Towns/Municipalities (list) (list) Households **Community Anchor Institutions Businesses Educational Institutions Health Care Facilities 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 Hybrid fiber-coax Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds (symmetrical upload/download speeds) Hybrid fiber-coax Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds (non-symmetrical upload/download speeds)

Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds

Indicate all rate tiers for wireline projects of at least 100 Mbps or faster that will be offered to customers in the projects.	·			
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	HTC is participating in the EBB program (see Exhibit A)			
Project Timeline				
Project Start Date	Customer Premises			
Project Construction Activity Begins	Installations Begin			
Project Construction Activity Complete	Installations End			
The second secon	Overall Project Completion Date			
Project Cost Information				
Total Project Cost	Average Cost per Location Served			
Upfront Cost Requirements	(all locations or structures)			
Cost of Building and/or Extending Infrastructure to Customer Premises	Average Cost per Housing Unit			
	Average Cost per Business			
Project Funding Information				
South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program Funds	s requested (\$)			
Applicant-Provided Funding (\$)				
Non-Public Funding				
Amount (\$)				
Source(s)				

### **Additional Information**

1)	Describe Applicant's and/or project Partner's experience building and/or operating broadband networks.
2)	Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines."
3)	Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal. Please include letters of support from key community partners that indicate their awareness of your project.
4)	Provide documents that demonstrate your organization currently has the necessary funds (50% of total project cost) to complete this project/proposal. List documents here and attach documents to this proposal.
5)	List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.

### **Attachments and Exhibits**

Please attach the following items to application:

- Map of project area (PDF and Shapefile formats)
- Letters of support evidencing community need and strategic partnerships
- Any additional information evidencing community need for project
- Most recent FCC Form 477 filing

### **Certification and Signature**

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

Signature: Von Todd

**Print Name of Signatory:** 

**Title of Signatory:** 

Date:

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.







### Exhibit A HTC Marion Priority 1

### **Service Requests**

HTC has received 591 requests for service in this project area. This illustrates the existing need for services and the readiness of residents in this area to subscribe to service. A map illustrating a distribution of those requests is attached.

### **Student Households**

HTC has identified 274 student households in our project area and is committed to working with Marion County School District to support their student and teachers' online learning needs, including through community education program. A map of these student locations is attached.

### **Broadband Pricing Tiers**

HTC is participating in the FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, and will offer it to members in its project area for as long as funding is available. All HTC internet tiers and bundles are eligible for this discount; eligible households will be able to receive 300 Mbps / 300 Mbps of internet through our standalone Tier 1 package for less than \$10 per month through the EBB program. HTC is advocating for additional funding for the EBB program to become a permanent program.

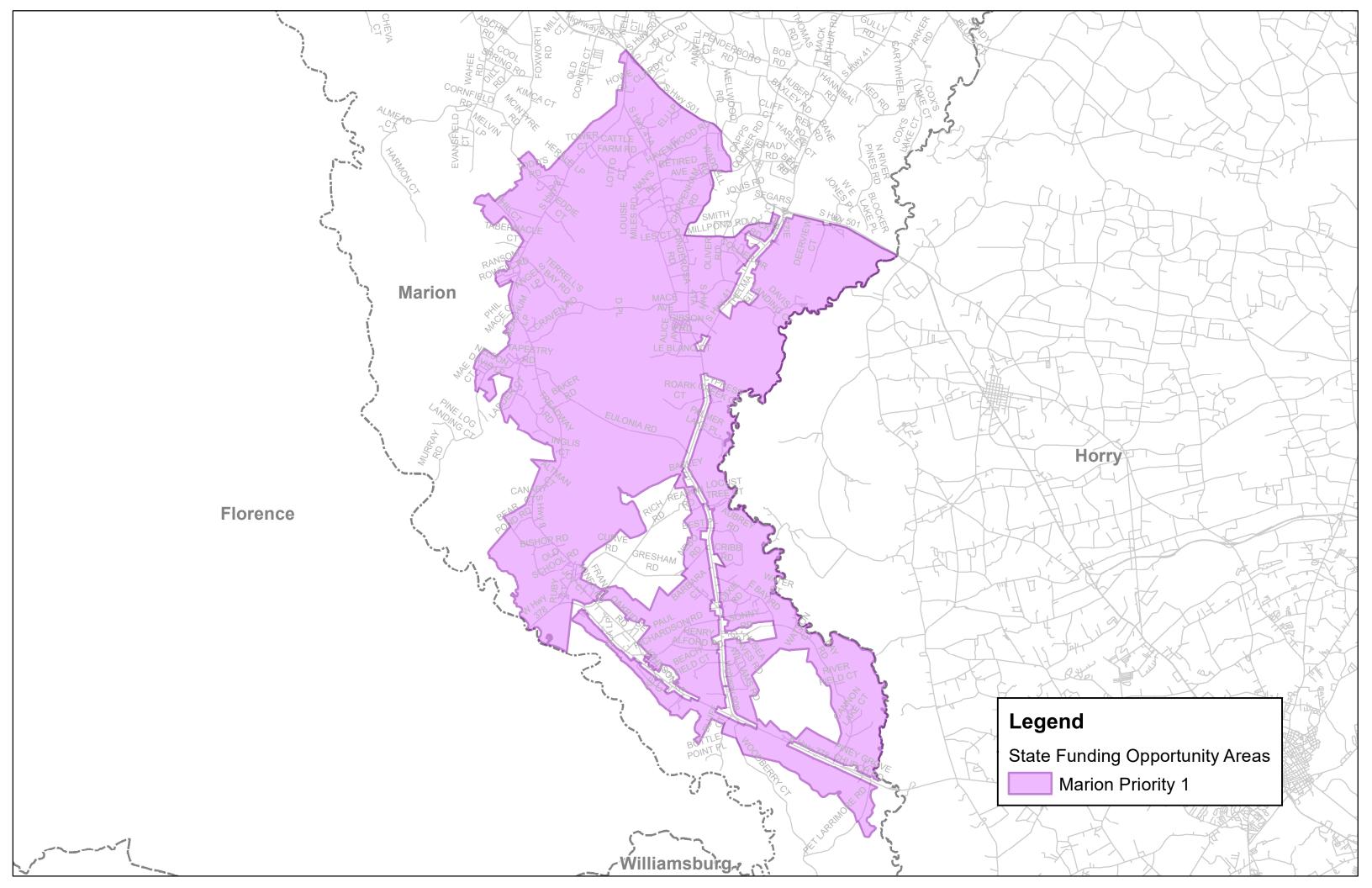
### The Cooperative Advantage

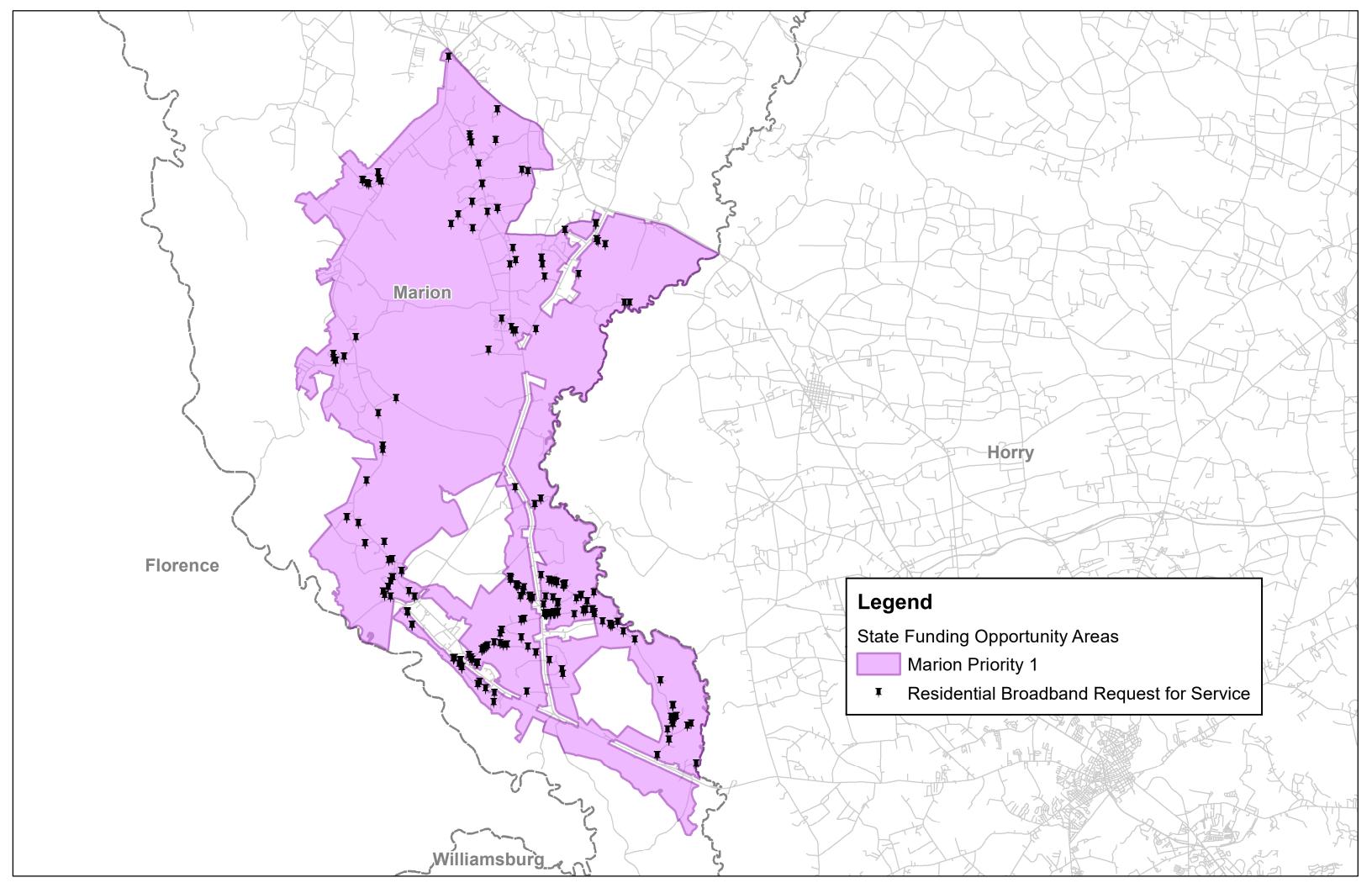
As a cooperative, the core of our mission is the commitment to improve the lives of the communities we serve through connectivity. Because HTC is a not-for-profit entity, our decisions are driven by what benefits the Cooperative and our community, not by shareholders. Our profits are reinvested into our network and allocated back to our members in the form of capital credits. All the residents and businesses that we serve with this grant project will enjoy the full benefits of an HTC membership.

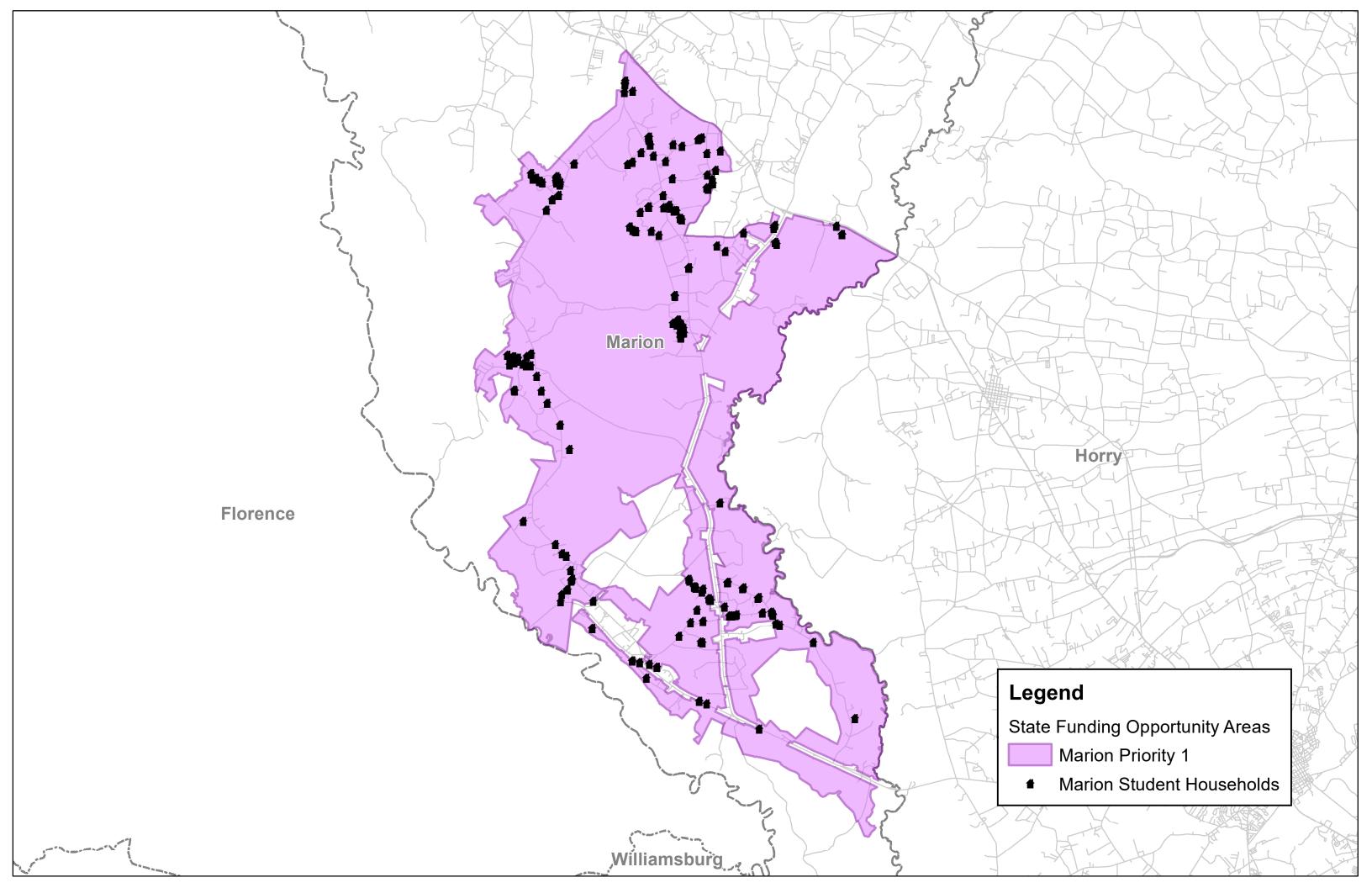
HTC's track record in Horry County and our recent success in the SCBIP project in Marion and Georgetown Counties demonstrate that the Cooperative is well positioned to help the state continue to bridge the digital divide in the Pee Dee region as quickly, and efficiently, as possible. We completed our SCBIP projects ahead of schedule, and even committed to additional expansion with only one month remaining before the CARES Act funding deadline. HTC would like to keep the momentum going and continue to expand broadband access in Marion and Georgetown, and we believe allocating these funds to successful BIP recipients that can efficiently extend off existing networks in unserved and underserved areas would be the most effective use of these funds.

#### The Fiber Advantage

HTC will install fiber to the premise for every location in this project area, which means that the residents and businesses throughout this area will benefit from HTC's future-proof, state-of-the-art fiber network and have access to speeds up to 1 Gig to support seamless telehealth, remote learning, and telework experiences.







# TOM RICE 7TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY



# Congress of the United States **House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515-4007

March 10, 2021

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 460 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 TEL: (202) 225–9895 FAX: (202) 225–9690

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

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

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 Rural Broadband Grant Program offered by the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff and South Carolina Department of Commerce. This funding will allow HTC to install and deliver broadband throughout Marion County.

Horry Telephone Cooperative works to invest in its network and fulfill its mission to connect rural and unserved residents. The Rural Broadband Grant Program will allow HTC to connect the majority of southern Marion County, including Brittons Neck, Gresham, and Centenary. The project will allow approximately 1,000 residents, 30 businesses, and 264 student households to be digitally connected.

HTC has a track record of success in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and is clearly committed to helping bridge the digital divide in South Carolina.

As southern Marion County faces a deep digital divide, I would request that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff and South Carolina Department of Commerce 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

TR/BF

### KENT M. WILLIAMS

SERVING MARION, DILLON, FLORENCE, MARLBORO AND HORRY COUNTIES SENATORIAL DISTRICT 30

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES BANKING AND INSURANCE ETHICS FINANCE FISH, GAME AND FORESTRY LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



COLUMBIA ADDRESS:
608 GRESSETTE SENATE BLDG
POST OFFICE BOX 142
COLUMBIA, SC 29202
TEL: (803) 212-6000
FAX: (803) 212-6299
EMAIL: KENTWILLIAMS@SCSENATE.GOV

HOME ADDRESS:
POST OFFICE BOX 1514
MARION, SC 29571
TELEPHONE: (843) 423-8237

March 25, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I'm reaching out to express my support for Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in its pursuit of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. Marion County faces a deep digital divide, and HTC has shown steadfast commitment to bringing broadband services to our unserved areas.

The Broadband Infrastructure Projects completed by HTC in 2020 mandated a tight timeline that few providers could meet. HTC was ready. Prior to this funding, HTC had been planning, mapping, and developing plans for rural broadband in Marion County. To stop that progress now would be a disservice to our rural communities. With additional state funding, HTC can build the infrastructure needed to offer an essential service to all residents.

By completing several shovel-ready projects within the southern communities of Marion County, HTC will connect nearly 1,000 residents, 30 businesses, and 264 student households to reliable internet service.

The track record of success HTC has demonstrated in providing broadband access to rural communities in Marion County gives me great confidence in recommending that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff support the work HTC is proposing with financial backing through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program

Sincerely,

Kent Williams

Serving Marion, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro and Horry Counties

### Frank "Lucas" Atkinson

District No. 57 - Dillon, Horry and Marion Counties Post Office Box 583 Marion, SC 29571

### Committees:

Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Rules



333-D Blatt Building Columbia, SC 29201

Tel. (803) 212-6936 Lucas Atkinson@schouse.gov

### House of Representatives

State of South Carolina

March 24, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Edwards:

This letter is in support of the application submitted by Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in request of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. HTC serves as an unfailing resource for many Marion County communities and beyond.

HTC completed several Broadband Infrastructure Projects in 2020 within budget and in advance of the strict December deadline imposed by the CARES Act guidelines to offer internet service to unserved Marion County residents. I am convinced that other broadband providers would not have been prepared or as diligent in planning, mapping, and developing plans for rural broadband in District 57.

Marion County faces a deep digital divide, and HTC can build the infrastructure needed to offer an essential service to nearly 1,000 residents, 30 businesses, and 264 student households. HTC is committed to completing several shovel-ready projects within our community over the next 12 months.

The Cooperative's expansion into the region is a welcomed sight. Community members have long awaited broadband service powered by the expansive fiber-optic network managed by HTC professionals. I ask that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff strongly consider the application submitted by HTC and support the rural areas of Marion County.

Sincerely

Lucas Atkinson

Representative, District 57

LA:mr

Council Members

John Q. Atkinson, Jr. Chairman

> Elista H. Smith Vice Chairperson

Allen W. Floyd Oscar Foxworth Thomas Shaw

Milton W. Troy, II

Robin Turner

Office Of

## Marion County Council

2523 K. Hwy 76 A.G. Box 183 (843) 423-3904 • Fax (843) 423-8306 Marion, South Carolina 29571



G. Timothy Harper Administrator

Kent M. Williams Deputy Administrator

Sabrina Davis Clerk To Council

Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

March 20, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I'm writing to express my support for Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in its pursuit of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. HTC has shown extensive commitment and success in bridging the deep digital divide in Marion County, and continued efforts are needed.

HTC has served as an unfailing resource for our region, fulfilling the essential need for high-speed internet service in some of the county's most rural areas. The Cooperative delivered on its commitment in the fall of 2020 by completing South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Projects within budget and in advance of the strict December deadline imposed by the CARES Act guidelines.

Access to the state-of-the-art network managed by HTC is crucial to the success of many of communities, including Brittons Neck, Gresham, and Centenary. The South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program funding will allow HTC to power nearly 1,000 homes, 30 businesses, and 264 student households with broadband during this critical time.

With this in mind, I ask that the application submitted by HTC be thoughtfully reviewed and considered by the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff.

Sincerely,

Tim Harper

Marion County Administrator



719 North Main Street • Marion, South Carolina 29571 Telephone: 843.423.1811 • Fax: 843.423.8328 www.marion.k12.sc.us

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

March 20, 2021

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I am contacting you in support of the application submitted by Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in request of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. Marion County is challenged by a deep digital divide, and our students and teachers are among the most affected.

HTC delivered on its commitment in the fall of 2020 by completing South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Projects within budget and in advance of the strict December deadline imposed by the CARES Act guidelines. The Cooperative has demonstrated continued dedication to our unserved areas, specifically the communities of Britton's Neck, Gresham, and Centenary.

The Marion County School District is grateful for the partnership with HTC. Last fall the Cooperative connected 88 student households, and the shovel-ready projects within our area will expand broadband access to nearly 1,000 more homes, 30 businesses, and 264 student households.

Thanks to our ongoing partnership with HTC, the Cooperative understands the needs of our students, parents, faculty, and staff. Access to virtual learning through a reliable connection is essential to our communities. I urge you to support HTC in its mission to permanently close the digital divide in Marion County with requested funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Kandace Bethea, Ph.D.

Superintendent



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

April 26, 2021

Dear Ms. Edwards:

On behalf of the Northeastern Strategic Alliance (NESA), I am writing to express support for the applications submitted requesting funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program which benefit rural counties within our region.

The economic development of our counties will be made stronger with the benefits offered by these much needed broadband services.

Access to the fiber-optic network supports the regional counties' immediate and long-term plans for economic development by supporting existing business as well as attracting new ventures to our area. In turn the quality of life for our residents improves and the region's ability to tout itself as a place for strong economic development increases.

Our cooperative allies have served as an unfailing resource for our region, fulfilling the essential need for high-speed internet service. The track record of success of our regional cooperatives has demonstrated in providing broadband access to unserved communities gives me great confidence in recommending that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff support the work being performed in our counties with financial backing in the Rural Broadband Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Jeff McKay, Executive Director

Northeastern Strategic Alliance (NESA)



March 20, 2021

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

### Dear Ms. Edwards:

It is with great confidence that I support the application submitted by Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in request for funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. Broadband access offered by the fiber-optic network managed by HTC will breathe new life into the economic development of Marion County.

The residents, business owners, and educators of Marion County, specifically within the communities of Brittons Neck, Gresham, and Centenary, face a deep digital divide. What is considered a necessity in neighboring regions, has been designated a nicety for Marion County for far too long. Access to the fiber-optic network managed by HTC supports the county's immediate and long-term plans for economic development by supporting existing businesses and attracting new ventures to our area. Appropriate funding allocated to HTC by the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff would offer an estimated 30 businesses, 1,000 homes, and 264 student households broadband access. The quality of life for our residents improves and the county's ability to tout itself as a region for strong economic development increases.

Truly, your time and consideration of the application submitted by HTC is invaluable to the communities and economic development of Marion County. The track record of success HTC has demonstrated in providing broadband access to unserved communities gives me confidence that the Cooperative will fulfill these proposed projects with the same commitment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Julie M. Norman, CEcD, CWDP

**Executive Director** 

**Marion County Economic Development** 

it's just right!

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

March 20, 2021

Dear Ms. Edwards:

On behalf of the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments, I would like to voice my support for Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in its pursuit of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program.

HTC stands ready to bridge the digital divide that exists in Marion County. The southern portions of the region, specifically the communities of Brittons Neck, Gresham, and Centenary, will benefit most from the expansion of the HTC network. The shovel-ready projects will deliver HTC High-Speed Internet to nearly 1,000 residents, 30 businesses, and 264 student households.

With broadband access, these residents and business owners can connect to virtual education, telehealth appointments, and advance economic development within the area. Broadband access through HTC will also allow Marion County communities to attract outside companies to the region, expanding job opportunities and enticing young professionals to the area.

The track record of success HTC has demonstrated in providing broadband access to unserved communities gives me great confidence in recommending that the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff supports the work HTC is performing with financial backing through these proposed projects. With this in mind, I ask that the application submitted by HTC be thoughtfully reviewed and considered by the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff.

Sincerely,

Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments

July B. Bram



March 20, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I'm writing on behalf of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative in support of the application submitted by Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) in request of funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program. HTC serves as a reliable broadband resource for many Marion County communities and beyond.

HTC has a long-standing relationship with Pee Dee Electric in serving the residents of Marion County. Our partnership was instrumental in the success of the of South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Projects in 2020, and Pee Dee Electric stands ready to assist HTC in its efforts to expand broadband further into Marion County.

The work that can be completed by HTC in 12 months has the power to drastically change the education, skill sets, and connectivity of nearly 1,000 homes, 30 businesses, and 264 student households. Never has there been a more pressing time to equip residents of rural areas with broadband access.

Marion County students, workers, and healthcare professionals need the ability to connect in a way that benefits our communities and businesses. HTC can provide that reliable broadband connection. I ask you to support HTC in its mission to close the digital divide in Marion County with requested funding through the South Carolina Rural Broadband Grant Program.

Sincerely,

President & CEO



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

April 7, 2021

Dear Ms. Edwards:

I am writing this letter in support of the Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC) Rural Broadband Grant Application. I am representing over 200+ residents in rural Marion County (Britton's Neck area) that share a similar desire: to have access to strong, reliable internet for their employment and school commitments. As you may be aware, the COVID pandemic has resulted in a devastating digital divide. There are those who have access to essential technology and those who have no choice but to relocate in order to properly respond to the demands of their employer(s) and family.

My fellow community members and I support HTC with their request for funding because we recognize that HTC's approved funding will serve approximately 1,000 residents within the Britton's Neck, Gresham, and Centenary communities, which includes over 250 student households and 30 businesses. We understand from experience that HTC's projects are shovel-ready and our community eagerly awaits the Cooperative's further expansion into the region. Finally, our rural community is confident that HTC will be committed to completing this project in 12 months as they have done so previously in earlier phases.

Our community is signaling solidary and strength in our supporting efforts with this vital project. Included with this letter is a list of names in support of HTC's application, many whom live within a three mile radius of the first phase of the project. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me via phone or email. We, the members of the Britton's Neck Community within Marion County, appreciate your continued commitment to bring broadband Internet access to rural South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daphne Carter-McCants, Ph.D.

Daphre Carty-Mc Canto

Director of Educational Outreach, The Deacon Clyde Graves Foundation for Community Service Faculty, Southern New Hampshire University 162 Martin L. King Jr. Drive,

Britton's Neck, SC 29546

cartermccants@gmail.com

(843) 687-5595

Enclosures: Britton's Neck Community Members in Support of HTC's Application as of April 6, 2021

Britton's Neck Community Members in Support of HTC's Broadband Internet Application as of April 6, 2021 \*These community members currently DO NOT have access to Broadband Internet

**Xavier Davis** Gloria Graves 120 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 299 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 845 Gresham Rd. Vanessa Moore Vernita Rogers Rev. Oliver Davis 330 Gresham Rd. 124 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 602 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Jimmie Moore Mazie Woodberry Lisa Graves 128 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 606 Martin L King Jr. Dr. 436 Gresham Rd. Ezel and Rilla Williams Rufus & Arlene Graves Keith & Cassandra Crosland 442 Gresham Rd. 152 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 628 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Levern & Darlene Woodberry Levant Davis & Mary Jones Robert L. Woodberry 158 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 633 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 516 Gresham Rd. Carolyn Hemingway Nathaniel and Ernestine Moore **Rocquel Graves** 153 Martin L. king Jr. Dr. 6716 Fawn Court 852 Gresham Rd. Jeremiah Hemingway **Shirley Willis** Charles & Vanessa Graves 6568 Dixie Rd. 163 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. 863 Gresham Rd. Jerome & Melissa Dozier Dr. Daphne Carter-McCants & LaSonya Willis Jean Carter 6562 Dixie Rd. 837 Gresham Rd. 162 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Markeysha Bacchus Lamont & Sherry Richardson 258 Paul Richardson Rd. Ester Mae Willis 818 Gresham Rd. 206 Martin L. King Jr, Dr. Pat Richardson Tynesha Graves Elaine Dennison 564 Paul Richardson Rd. 819 Gresham Rd. 210 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Dewayne & Myeisha Rogers Kenyatta Richardson Deana Hemingway 574 Paul Richardson Rd. 866 Gresham Rd. 214 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Sterlyn Richardson Mamie Rogers 576 Paul Richardson Rd. 706 Gresham Rd. Lorenzo Taylor 242 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Mardina & James Graves Breanna Middleton McMillan & Wanda Davis 558 Paul Richardson Rd. 710 Gresham Rd. 248 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. **April Taylor** Joel Rogers Julius & Annett Davis 7655 Bay Rd. 859 Gresham Rd. 254 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Rev. Ron Taylor Cassie Willis 227 Hope Court Ozella Pressley 7656 Bay Rd. 251 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Rickey & Carnell Taylor Mitchell Graves Kesha Gause 7673 Bay Rd. 6201 Heyward Rd. 265 Martin L. King Jr. Dr. Deciera Gause Montel Taylor

Marylin Rogers

Rev. James Gause 260 Martin L. King Jr. Dr.

Annette Moore

259 Martin L. King Jr. Dr.

290 Martin L. King Jr. Dr.

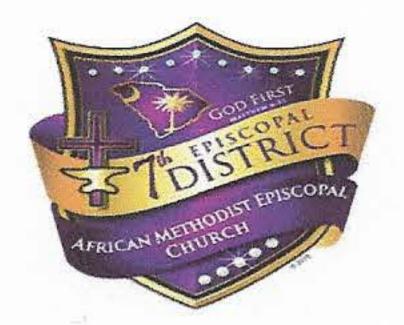
7683 Bay Rd. 536 Paul Richardson Rd.

Jessica Ceasar
203 East Bay Rd. • Due to the pandemic, we

were not able to reach all residents, but many more 430 Gresham Rd. have expressed support of this project.

# Good Hope African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church

706 Tyndall Road – Location Post Office Box 393 – Mailing Address Centenary, SC 29519



March 29, 2021

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

Re: Rural Broadband Grant Program

Dear Ms. Edwards:

It gives me great pleasure to submit support for the Rural Broadband Grant Program. Since 1989, I have been a servant, Itinerant Elder (pastor), of the 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District AME Church, headquartered in Columbia, South Carolina. I have served churches in the counties of Dillon, Marion, and Horry. Residents of Marion and Horry are known as the Marion District in the Northeast Conference.

During these years, many district conferences were held at area churches in and near Marion. Presenters shared presentations by disseminating handouts rather than having the ability to present through technology. Between the years of 2005 and 2014, I rallied for a cellular tower install on Hwy 9, because as we left Hwy 501 onto Hwy 41A, cell phone connection died at T-Mart Store.

Then, serving from 2015 until currently, in Centenary, it seems like this community has been neglected and forgotten. In my opinion, families need an awakening. In the event, your office or HTC requires street names and businesses in the Centenary community, please let me know. Having previous experience in the field of education and social work, I am acquainted with working with families. The age range in Centenary is birth to 99. I believe broadband would be beneficial.

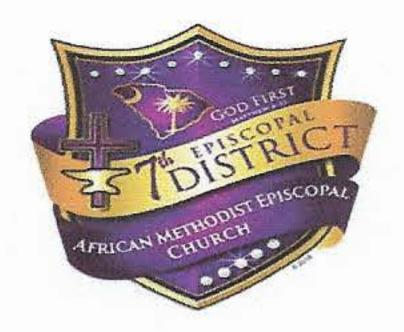
So, I hope that this summary contributes to the opportunity for many families along with businesses in the Brittons Neck, Gresham, and Centenary communities to gain access to broadband. Thank you for this opportunity to participate with like-minded supporters.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Dixon, BSW, MS

843-390-1220

## Good Hope African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church 706 Tyndall Road – Location Post Office Box 393 – Mailing Address Centenary, SC 29519



## Centenary Community Streets and Roads for Broadband Inclusion Known churches nearest to Centenary Avenue

Business	Address	Pastor	Owner	Telephone
Centenary Baptist Church	106 Davis St			
The House of God	5211 W Railroad Ave			
Good Hope AME Church	706 Tyndall Road	Geraldi	ne Dixon	TBD*
Centerville Baptist Church	5211 Pennell Rd			
T-Mart - Gas, Grocery, ABC Liquor	1909 S, SC-41 ALT, Marion, SC 29571	Katherine Turbeville		843-423-2143
Centenary (US) Post Office	4811 S Highway 41A, Centenary, SC 29519			843-362-2868

<sup>\*</sup>To be determined

# Members and Affiliates in Centenary

Name	Location	Telephone
C. Brunson	5124 Alice Drive, Centenary	843-362-3023
J. Davis	Hwy 41 A, Centenary	
C. Davis*	5322 Alice Avenue, Centenary	843-430-5103
S. Davis	Fulton Ave, Centenary	843-430-7269?
S. Davis*	3840 Ponderosa Road, Marion	843-615-0925
Q. Davis	4032 Ponderosa Road, Marion	843-423-4682
S. Davis	2412 Lanneau Snipes Road, Marion	843-431-9682
R. L. Davis	5130 Hwy 41 A, Marion	347-633-1517
M.A. Fling*	2423 Lanneau Snipes Road, Marion	843-430-0832
T. Graves	200 E Hwy 378, Gresham	904-601-8114
J. Legette	216 Gibson Road, Centenary	843-362-3060
K. Davis*	214 Gibson Road, Centenary	843-430-5098
F. Pee**	704 Centenary Avenue, Centenary	843-362-1085
K. Riley	Tyndall Road, Centenary	919-345-1338
D. White*	339 Dozier Road, Marion (off Lanneau Snipes)	843-423-3199
R. White**	5136 Alice Avenue, Centenary	843-362-3066

<sup>\*</sup>Has Children, grandchildren

<sup>\*\*</sup>Elderly