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					
Broadband Service Provider Experience						
Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission						
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission						
Applicant and/or Project Partner has Experience:						
Delivering broadband service via fiber and/or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure						
Delivering broadband service via fixed wireless infrastructure						
Building and operating broadband networks in rural areas						
Operating broadband networks in low-moderate	te income areas					
Project Area Information						
Eligible County Impact						
Counties (list)	Cities/Towns/Municipalities (list)					
Households						
Businesses	Community Anchor Institutions					
Health Care Facilities	Educational Institutions					

Fixed wireless

Contiguous County Impact 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

Broadband Pricing Schedules or Tiers Indicate all rate tiers for wireline projects of at least 100/20 Mbps or fixed wireless at 50/5 Mbps or faster that will be offered to customers in the project area:							
Rates less than \$10/month Rates between \$10 - \$14.99/month Rates between \$15 - \$19.99/month	Rates between \$20 - \$24.99/month Rates between \$25 - \$34.99/month						
Project Timeline							
Project Start Date	Customer Premises						
Project Construction Activity Begins	Installations Begin						
Project Construction Activity Complete	Installations End						
,	Overall Project Completion Date						
Project Cost Information							
Total Project Cost	Average Cost per Location Served (all locations or structures)						
Upfront Cost Requirements							
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 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:

Print Name of Signatory:

Title of Signatory:

Date:

All questions and completed applications should be submitted to Broadband@ORS.SC.GOV

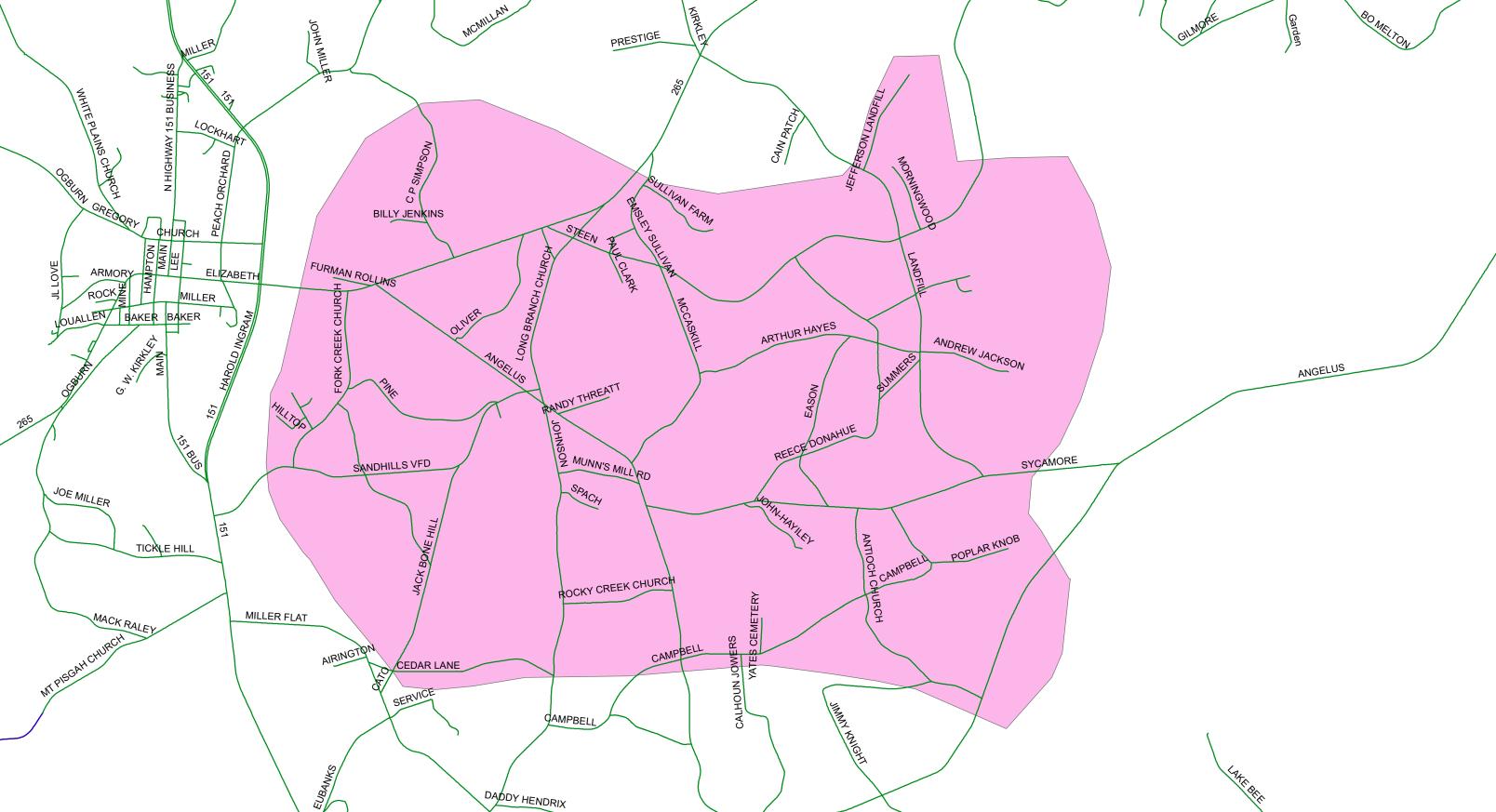
Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party.

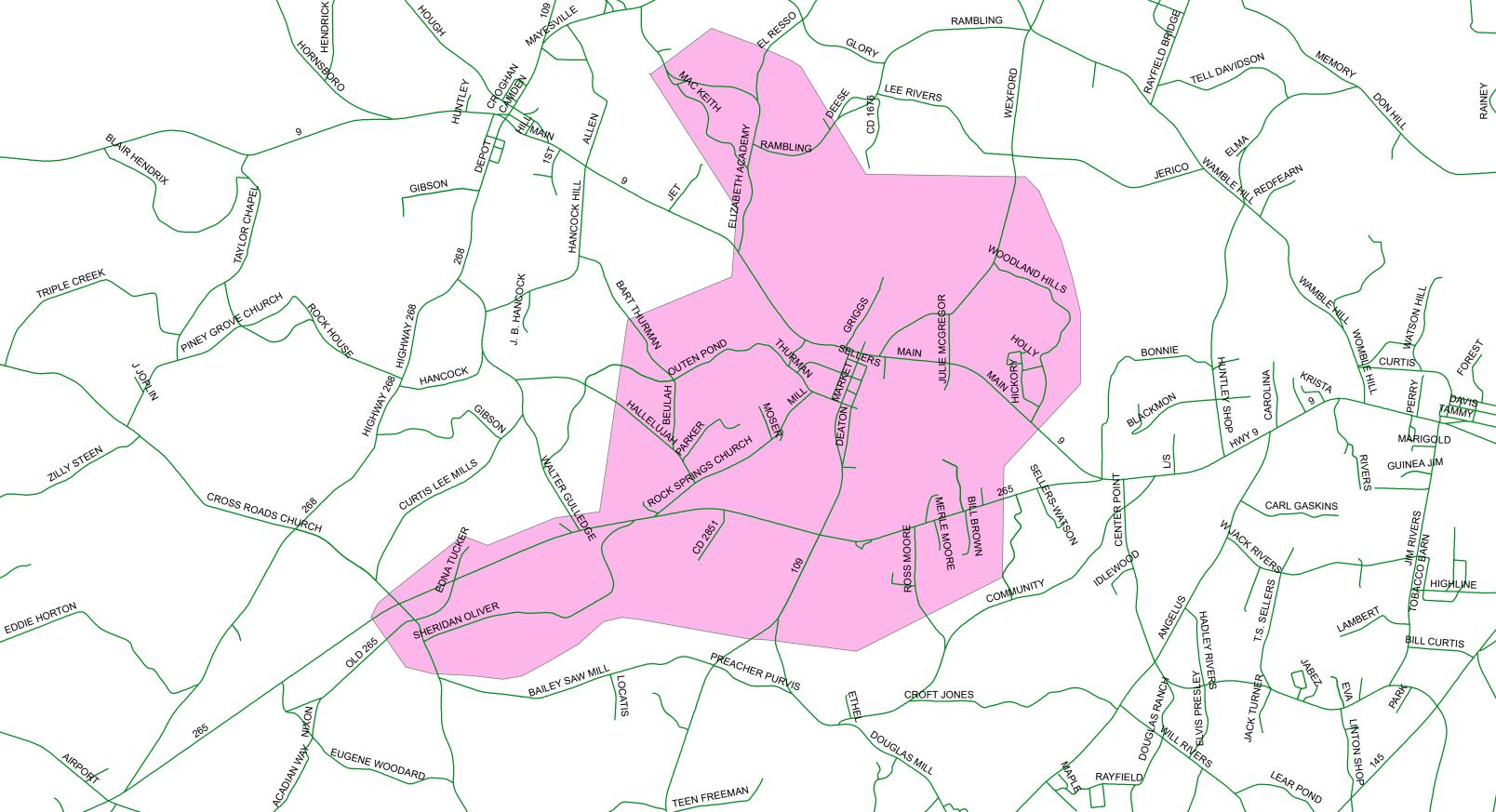


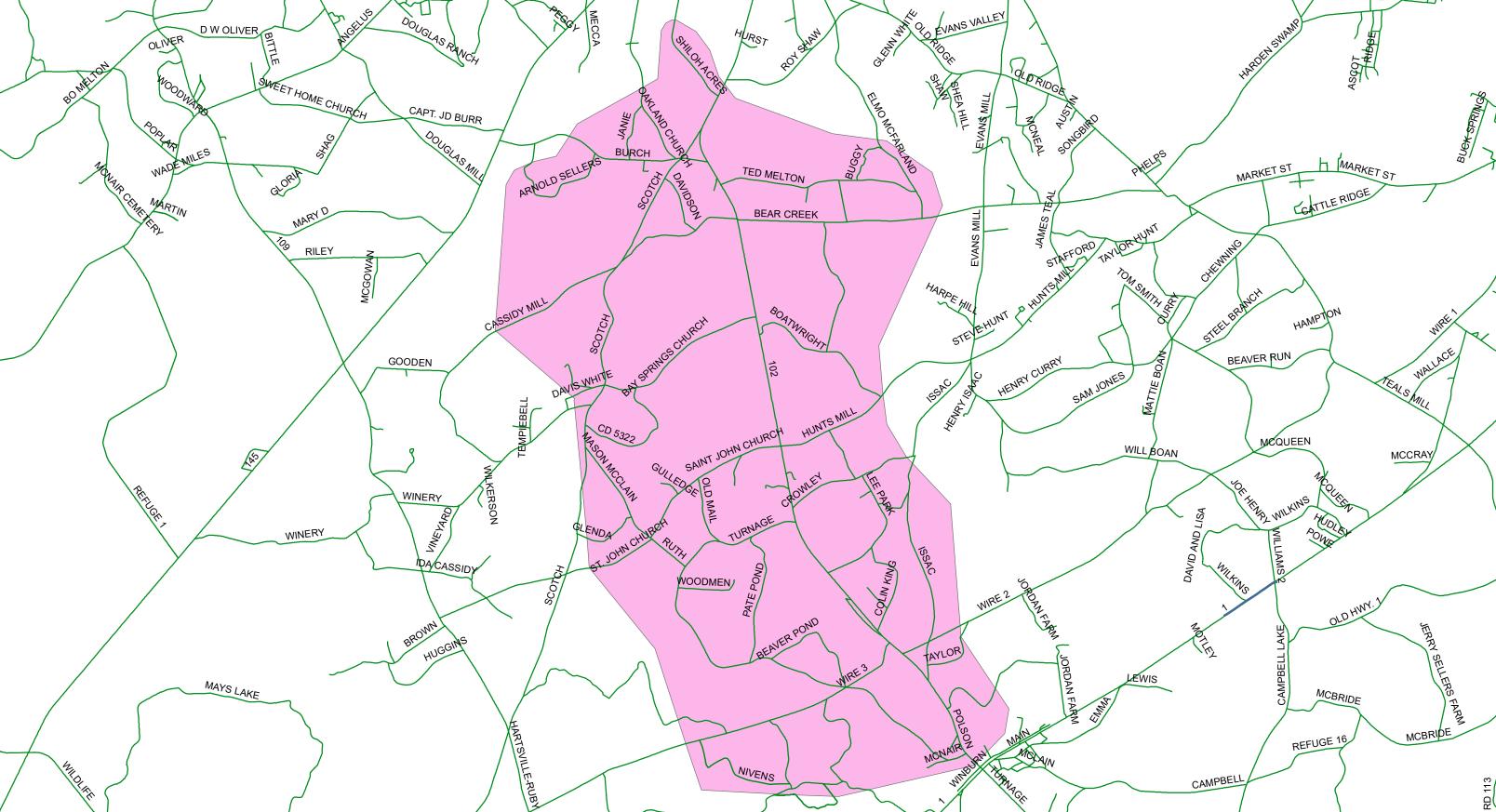


CARES II Chesterfield County Zones

<u>Zone</u>	Description	Rooftops	Miles	Cost/Home	Total Cost
1	Jefferson Rural	559	42.69	\$1909	\$1,067,250
2	Ruby	519	27.44	\$1321	\$686,000
3	Hwy 102	569	48.53	\$2132	\$1,213,250







Kim Burch, Executive Director
Economic Development Board
P. O. Box 192
700 W. Blvd.
Chesterfield, SC 29709
843-623-6500
kburch@chesterfieldcountysc.com



Cherry McCoy, Sr. Project Manager Economic Development Board P. O. Box 192 700 W, Blvd. Chesterfield, SC 29709 843-307-2922 mccoy275@shtc.net

March 29, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is in support of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative and the service they provide to Chesterfield County. Without Sandhill Telephone Cooperative's determination to continually provide Chesterfield County's citizens with quality phone, internet, broadband, fiber, IPTV, security, and other technical services, we would still be in the dark ages. CEO/General Manager, Lee Chambers, and the Sandhill Telephone Cooperative's Board have had the foresight to keep Chesterfield County on track by upgrading and acquiring the most updated technology available to its customers.

Chesterfield County is moving forward in its economic development and because of this growth we depend upon Sandhill Telephone Cooperative to supply the county's needs.

The western portion of the county is growing at a fast pace, adding housing developments, apartment complexes, a spec building, and new industry; all of which will be using the services of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative.

The fiber optic grant would be a huge boost to the economic development of Chesterfield County by improving and increasing fiber service for the growth and expansion of our industries, local businesses and residential communities.

Sincerely,

Kim Burch



March 29, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative's application for CARES Act funding for broadband infrastructure extension in Chesterfield and Marlboro counties (South Carolina). These applications were prepared in partnership with Marlboro County Administrator, Ron Munnerlyn, and Chesterfield County Administrator, Tim Eubanks and have the full support of Northeastern Technical College.

Sandhill is an experienced, not-for-profit internet provided currently serving Chesterfield and Marlboro counties. Their experience and community-centered approach make them the perfect partner for this project.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sandhill Telephone Cooperative and Northeastern Technical College (NETC) have previously formed a partnership to provided free broadband service to NETC students who are now completed coursework through a virtual college concept. The circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted and increased the demand for broadband access for citizens in rural areas, such as Marlboro and Chesterfield counties.

The recently released 2020-2021 instructional plans for South Carolina Public School Districts (including Chesterfield and Marlboro County Schools) will rely heavily upon online instruction and will require significant upgrades to the broadband infrastructure of rural counties. These upgrades are vital to the educational success of students, as they directly impact academic accessibility and instruction for all Marlboro and Chesterfield county residents.

In closing, we extend our full support for Sandhill's grant application. You may contact me directly at (843) 921-6901 or via email at kwagner@netc.edu should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kyle Wagner, Ph.D.

President, Northeastern Technical College

fl. Wanes Ph.D.



Town of Cheraw

March 26, 2021

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as full support of Sandhill Telephone Cooperatives application for Cares Act Funding for Broadband Infrastructure Extension in Chesterfield County. As the Mayor of Cheraw, I have witnessed and listened to the frustrations of the citizens, business owners, as well as educators due to the lack of broadband service both within the city limits of Cheraw and rural areas of our county. The statistics speak for themselves. The Town of Cheraw falls well within the perimeters for meeting the much needed funding for broadband service. We are at the top of the list in our state underserved for this technology.

It is well past the time that our citizens receive this much needed technology to survive in today's world. The pandemic issues are only another added layer of frustration for folks having to work and utilize virtual technology, in a community known as the technology desert.

I humbly ask that we are awarded the long overdue funding to assist in obtaining broadband service.

Sincerely I Am,

Andy Ingram