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 Submis	esion	
Applicant and/or Project Partner has Experience:		
Delivering broadband service via fiber and/or h	nybrid 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	

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

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	
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 Fund	ds 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:

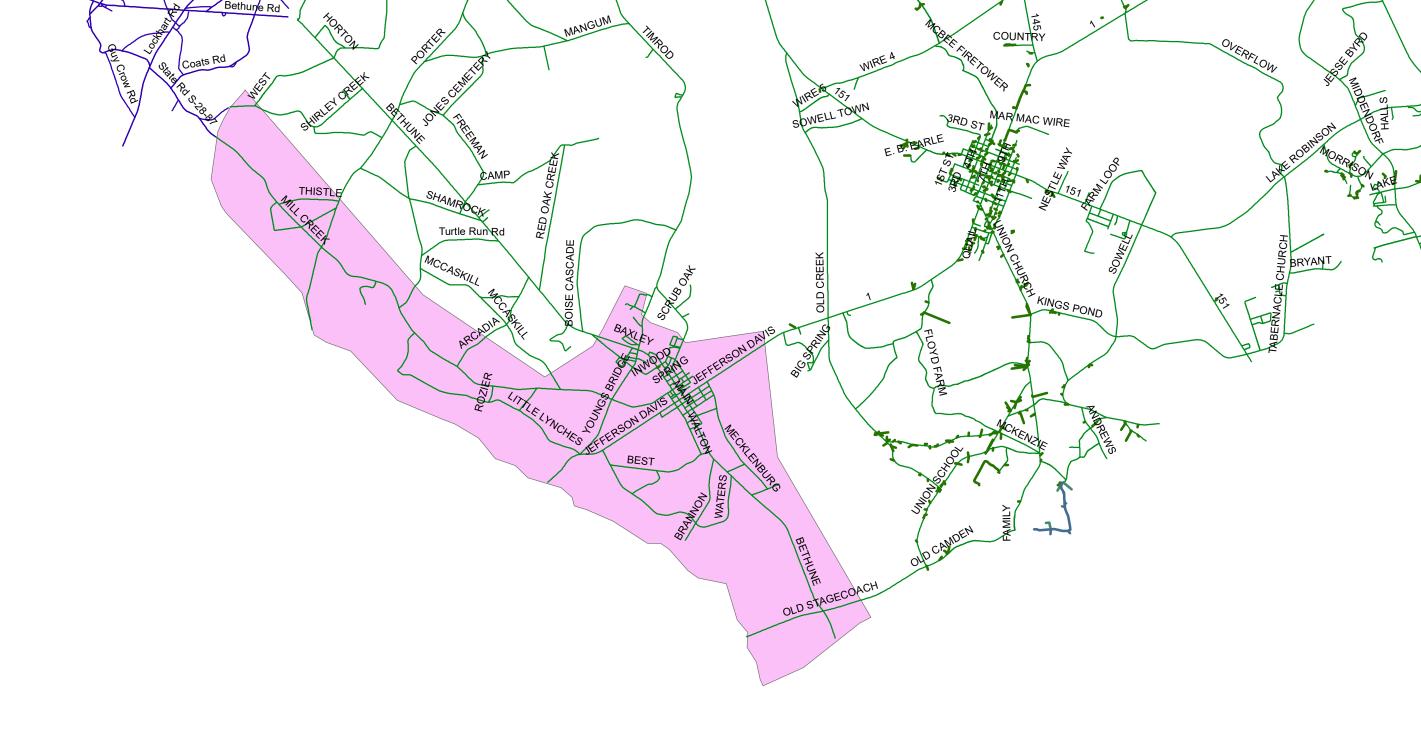
Date:

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.







Town of Bethune

Council Members: Don Witham John Heflin Cynthia Hunter Susan Trimnal Holley

April 15, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as full support of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative's application for CARES Act funding for broadband infrastructure extension in Marlboro County.

As the Mayor for the Town of Bethune, I have witnessed and listened to the frustrations of the citizens, business owners, as well as educators due to lack of broadband service both within the town limit and rural areas of our community. The statistics speak for themselves.

It is well past the time that our citizens receive the 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 a "technology desert".

I humbly ask that Sandhill Telephone Cooperative be awarded the long overdue funding to assist in obtaining broadband service.

Yours in Service,

Charles E. McCoy

Mayor

Town of Bethune

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Sincerely,

Donald Witham