South Carolina 2022 ARPA Grant Program
Application SFRF 1.0

Section 1.1 - Applicant Information

Legal Entity/Organization Name	CarolinaConnect Cooperative
Parent Organization (affiliate)	Newberry Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Entity Type (e.g. Corporation, non-profit, cooperative, governmental entity)	Cooperative
Primary Contact Name	Glenn Martin
Title	CEO
Mailing Address City, State, Zip	PO Box 1667, Lexington, SC 29071
Phone Number	803-210-5526
Email	glenn.martin@carolinaconnect.com
FCC Registration Number (FRN):	0025826207
Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number	118067621
Registered in the System for Award Management (SAM)	HDNAUL952PH9
SAM Number	91SB0
SC State Vendor Number	7000319695

Section 1.2 - Project Name/Number

Project Number (Format XXX-XX)	NEC-01
Project Name	Lakeview

Section 1.3 - Broadband Service Provider Context

Date of Applicant's Initial FCC Form 477 Submission	December 31, 2017
Date of Applicant's Most Recent FCC Form 477 Submission	6/30/2022
Applicant has experience delivering broadband service via fiber and/or hybrid fiber-coax infrastructure (YES/NO)	Yes

Section 1.4 - Broadband Infrastructure Information

Indicate the type(s) of broadband infrastructure technology to be deployed in the project service area. Projects must provide a minimum of 100/20 Mbps scalable to 100/100 Mbps. Applicant must explain in detail why the proposed project cannot provide 100/100 Mbps.	Fiber to the Premises Minimum Sustainable Download/Upload Speeds 100/100 Mbps

Section 1.5 - Proposed Broadband Pricing Tiers

Rates less than $10/month (YES/NO)	No
If yes to $10 month plan what are the upload/download speeds	
Rates between $10 - $14.99 (YES/NO)	No
If yes to $10 -$14.99 month plan what are the upload/download speeds	
Rates between $15 - $19.99 (YES/NO)	No
If yes to $15 -$19.99 month plan what are the upload/download speeds	
Rates between $20 - $24.99 (YES/NO)	No
If yes to $20 -$24.99 month plan what are the upload/download speeds	
Rates between $25 - $34.99 (YES/NO)	No
If yes to $25 -$34.99 month plan what are the upload/download speeds	Speeds Remain the Same

Do the above speed tiers include unlimited data? (YES/NO)	Yes
Is a Consumer-based Contract Required? (YES/NO)	No
Is the pricing fixed? (YES/NO)	Yes
What's the duration of the pricing? (In Months)	Yes

Section 1.6 - Project Timeline
(Maximum Timeline Allotted is 24 months)

Project Start Date	December 30, 2022
Project Construction Activity Begins	December 30, 2022
Project Construction Activity Complete	March 1, 2023

Customer Premises	93
Installations Begin	March 1, 2023
Installations End	December 30, 2024

Overall Project Completion Date	December 31, 2024
Will the project be completed within 24 months of official Notice to Proceed (NTP)?	Yes

Section 1.7 - Project Service Area Information

Estimated Miles of Fiber to be Installed	3
Estimated Percentage Underground	5
Estimated Percentage Aerial	95

Number of Counties to be Impacted	1
County Names	Newberry

Total Number of Census Blocks with Concentrations of K-12	1
Total number of Census Blocks in DDA's	0

Total number of Census Blocks NOT in DDA or K-12 Concentration	2
Total Number of unserved 2020 Census Blocks part of Proposed Project	2

Total number of housing units served	92
Total number of businesses served	1
Total number of other Public Facilities e.g. community centers, fire stations served	
Total Structures Served	93
Average Cost Per Structure Served	$ 4,220.00

Does the applicant plan to serve every structure in the proposed project service area?	Yes

If no, provide an explanation for why the Project will not Pass all Homes in the proposed project service area

Section 2.2 - Funding Details

Description	Comment	Amount
South Carolina ARPA Broadband Grant Program Funds requested		$ 392,520.00
Applicant-Provided Funding	Non-Member Area	$ -
Third-Party Funding Source (if applicable)		$ -
Total Project Cost		$ 392,520.00
Percentage Funds Requested from SC Broadband Office		100%
Percentage Funds from Applicant Match		0%
Percentage Funds from Third Party Funding Source		0%

Section 3.1 Confirmations

Applicant participates in the Affordable Connective Program (ACP) and will participate in the ACP for the life of ACP for the Project Service Area.	Agree
Applicant will provide at least one low-cost option without data usage caps and at speeds sufficient for households with multiple users.	Agree
The Project will comply with the requirements set forth in ARPA, South Carolina Act No. _____ of 2022, and other federal, state, and local laws, including environmental and permitting laws and regulations.	Agree
The Applicant will not use ARPA funds to procure or obtain certain telecom and video surveillance services or equipment as outlined in 2 CFR 200.216 and 2 CFR 200.471.	Agree
Applicant will not use ARPA funds to modernize cybersecurity for existing and new broadband networks.	Agree
Applicant will not procure telecommunications equipment or services from China.	Agree
The Project includes pre-project development uses or costs	Agree
If Yes to above, the pre-development uses or costs will be (1) tied to an eligible broadband project or reasonably expected to lead to such a project; and (2) obligated within the period between March 3, 2021, and December 31, 2024 and expended to cover such obligations by December 31, 2026.	Agree
Applicant will require its employees, contractors, and subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements in the South Carolina Underground Facility Damage Prevention Act pursuant to Title 58, Chapter 36 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended.	Agree
Applicant affirms that it will consult with the SC Department of Transportation, electric utilities as well as local water sewer utilities as to any possible efficiencies that can be achieved with a "dig once" approach.	Agree

4.1 - Additional Information

(max 2000 character limit per item)

Provide a Summary Narrative that describes your project
Newberry Electric Cooperative Proposes to build a G-PON Fiber to the home network in the Lake View Sub Divison and the unserved areas we pass to get to this community. Our G-Pon Network will provide this community with speeds of at least 350Mb/350Mb. We will build to this community by utilizing our previously built FTTx Cable. 3 miles of cable will be built in order to feed this community from the existing line.
Describe how your proposal meets the needs of the community to be served as described in the "Guidelines."
Newberry Electric Cooperative's proposal meets the needs of the community by offering a minimum speed of 350Mb/350Mb to 1G of data speeds. To 100% of this community census blocks.
If the proposed Project is in an area that is subject to an existing federal or state funding commitment for reliable speeds of 100/20 Mbps, explain why there is an identified need for additional broadband investment that is not met by existing federal or state funding commitments.
The proposed grant area is not subject to existing State or Federal funding.

Describe any plans or programs you have developed to improve adoption in the community described in this proposal.
We will market to the areas by email and direct market mailer to increase awareness of our high speed internet offerings. Additional marketing collateral like yard signs, flyers, and door hangers will also be used. A free month service promotion will be used to increase interest and take rates.
As part of the Project, explain how the Applicant will make efforts to increase digital literacy, for example, support through online training?
As part of our customer serrvice and technical support, customers will be assisted with general education about our service, and hands on training when appropriate in regard to online streaming, email address creation, wi-fi speed versus hard wired connection.
As part of the Project, identify any areas that the Applicant would be willing to provide public Wi-Fi in a central or community location to improve access for all South Carolinians and for what period of time.
Not at this time; however, this can be revisited at a later date.
List documents that demonstrate your organization currently has the necessary funds to complete this project/proposal. Attach documents to this proposal.
To be provided following grant approval.

List any lease, franchise agreement, interconnection agreement, authorization, permit, or other items needed to complete this project.
Joint Use Agreement with Dominion.

Will the Project deliver broadband in the approved Project Service Area that meets or exceeds symmetrical download and upload speeds of 100/100 Mbps?	Yes

If no to above, explain and provide support demonstrating why the Project will not deliver such speeds and provide an affidavit that 100/100 Mbps symmetrical download/upload speeds are not practicable.

Explain how the Applicant will consult with the community in the Project Service Area on the general affordability needs of the target markets.
Access to high speed interent will unlock access to commerce, allow remote work opportunites, and improve education.

Will the Project (1) prioritize investments in fiber-optic infrastructure wherever feasible and focus on projects that deliver a physical broadband connection by prioritizing projects that achieve last mile connections or ensure funded middle mile projects have commitments in place to support new and/or improved last mile service; (2) include affordability options and shall participate in ACP for the life of ACP; and (3) prioritize support for local networks owned, operated, or affiliated with local governments, nonprofits, and cooperatives.	Yes

If no to above, explain.

If awarded, will the Grant funds be used to overbuild another existing broadband provider or to reimburse expenses related to overbuilding another broadband provider?	No
If yes to above, explain.	
Is there an identified need in the Project Service Area for additional broadband infrastructure that is not met by existing federal or state funding commitments?	No
If so, explain whether service to households and businesses in the Project Service Area should require a holistic approach that provides service to a wider area in order to make ongoing service of certain households or businesses within the service area economical.	

5.1 - Project Sponsors

Entity Name

Entity Type
(.e.g. Corporation, non-profit, cooperative, governmental entity)

Role within proposed project

Primary Contact Name

Title

Mailing Address City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email

5.2 - Project Sponsors

Entity Name

Entity Type
(.e.g. Corporation, non-profit, cooperative, governmental entity)

Role within proposed project

Primary Contact Name

Title

Mailing Address City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email

5.3 - Project Sponsors

Entity Name

Entity Type
(.e.g. Corporation, non-profit, cooperative, governmental entity)

Role within proposed project

Primary Contact Name

Title

Mailing Address City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email

5.4 - Project Sponsors

Entity Name

Entity Type
(.e.g. Corporation, non-profit, cooperative, governmental entity)

Role within proposed project

Primary Contact Name

Title

Mailing Address City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Email

<u>6.1 - Attachment Checklist</u>
(Please attach the following items to application)

GIS Shapefiles

Proposed 2020 Census Blocks	Select one
Proposed Service Areas	Select one
Proposed Fiber/Cable Lines	Select one
Proposed Structures Served by Type	Select one
Proposed Network Junctions	Select one

6.2 Signed affidavit certifying grant application is complete and accurate	Select one
Partners for financial support related to proposed project or non-cash support provide associated documentation.	Select one
Letters of support evidencing community need and strategic partnerships	Select one
Copies of Applicant's Current Fee Structure for all Internet Speed Tiers	Select one
Certificates of Insurance	Select one
Certificates of Bonding, as described in CFR § 200.326 Bonding requirements.	Select one
Any additional information evidencing community need for project	Select one