



STATE OF NEW YORK

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR

May 3, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Governor David A. Paterson, I would like to thank the National Telecommunications Information Administration for the opportunity to comment on Broadband Technology Opportunities Program ("BTOP") applications proposing to serve communities within New York State. The State supports and recommends funding for all projects which seek to increase access for New Yorkers to high-speed, affordable broadband services.

New York State is well positioned to leverage all broadband stimulus funding with a strongly supportive business community that encourages broadband infrastructure investments and public/private partnerships throughout the State. During the past year, we have had several accomplishments to advance broadband capabilities for New Yorkers, including the creation of the New York State Broadband Development and Deployment Council, which serves as the State's chief advocate for broadband development.

In order to facilitate the review and evaluation of the BTOP Round 2 applications, the Office of the Chief Information Officer/Office for Technology ("CIO/OFT"), in partnership with the Governor's Economic Recovery Cabinet, organized review teams comprising representatives from multiple State agencies, county and local governments, and the NYS Broadband Development and Deployment Council. Three review teams were created based on NTIA's three major funding categories: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure ("CCI"), Sustainable Broadband Adoption ("SBA"), and Public Computer Centers ("PCC"). The teams were created to ensure no individual reviewer would be responsible for reviewing applications in a funding category for which their agency or government entity submitted an application. All applications were evaluated by multiple reviewers.

For CCI applications, projects were first evaluated and scored based upon the seven federal priorities stated in the Notice of Funding Availability for BTOP Round 2 funding. Those criteria are:

Federal CCI Priority Criteria:

1. Offers new or substantially upgraded service to community anchor institutions;
2. Incorporates a public/private partnership among government, nonprofit and for profit entities, and other key community stakeholders;
3. Bolsters growth in economically distressed areas;
4. Commits to serve community colleges;
5. Commits to serve public safety entities;
6. Includes a Last Mile infrastructure component in unserved or underserved areas or, provides commitment letters from one or more Last Mile broadband service providers; and
7. Contributes a nonfederal cost match that equals or exceeds 30 percent of the total eligible costs of the project

All applications were evaluated and scored based upon how the proposed project would advance the strategic goals of the New York State Universal Broadband Strategy. The NYS Universal Broadband Strategy is a comprehensive and balanced mix of broadband infrastructure expansion and community outreach programs to stimulate demand, promote digital literacy, and educate disadvantaged, disenfranchised, and uninformed populations for sustainable adoption. Those goals are:

NYS Universal Broadband Strategy Goals:

1. Provide New Yorkers with access to high-speed, affordable broadband services;
2. Close the digital divide and increases digital literacy levels;
3. Foster economic development;
4. Accelerate the use of e-government services;
5. Increase adoption rates; and
6. Achieve and maintain speed and coverage goals aligned with State and Federal policies

I am pleased to report that we have no shortage of very strong BTOP applications from New York. Each and every application reviewed by our evaluation teams would advance the goals of New York's broadband strategy by building critical broadband infrastructure and closing the digital divide. The results of our evaluation and review process are included herein and marked as Attachments "A" through "C". In these attachments, we have listed the projects submitted in each of the three funding categories. They are presented in rank order, with the highest scoring projects listed first, based upon the criteria as stated above. For CCI projects, scores and ranking are based upon both the federal criteria and the goals of the New York State Universal Broadband Strategy. We have also included for your reference a map demonstrating the geographic coverage of each of the projects in the CCI category.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this important process and to help our Nation reach its full economic potential. We look forward to hearing from you when final funding decisions are made. Meanwhile, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy J. Gilchrist', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Timothy J. Gilchrist
Senior Advisor to the Governor



NYS ROUND 2 BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATIONS
RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST
COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE		
RATING	EASY GRANT ID #	PROJECT TITLE
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	5417	STE-STC Region Fiber Backbone Initiative
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6412	CBN Connect
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	7244	Mamakating Broadband Initiative
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6054	NYC Comprehensive Community Broadband Lifeline Network
RECOMMEND	7234	Rural Upstate Broadband Actualization Network
RECOMMEND	4237	The Brooklyn Broadband Project
RECOMMEND	7524	North Country Connectivity
RECOMMEND	6587	Tech Valley Community Convergence Project
RECOMMEND	4471	Village of Sherburne
RECOMMEND	7421	ION-MIDTEL-Rural ILEC
RECOMMEND	4546	Brooklyn NY 4G Broadband Infrastructure
RECOMMEND	7334	Broadband Oswego County
RECOMMEND	7306	Lighthouse Network Wireless Broadband Initiative
RECOMMEND	5764	Campus Wireless Project
RECOMMEND	4357	The South Central New York Rural Broadband Alliance - CCI Application
RECOMMEND	6224	5G Wireless



**NYS ROUND 2 BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATIONS
RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST
SUSTAINABLE BROADBAND ADOPTION**

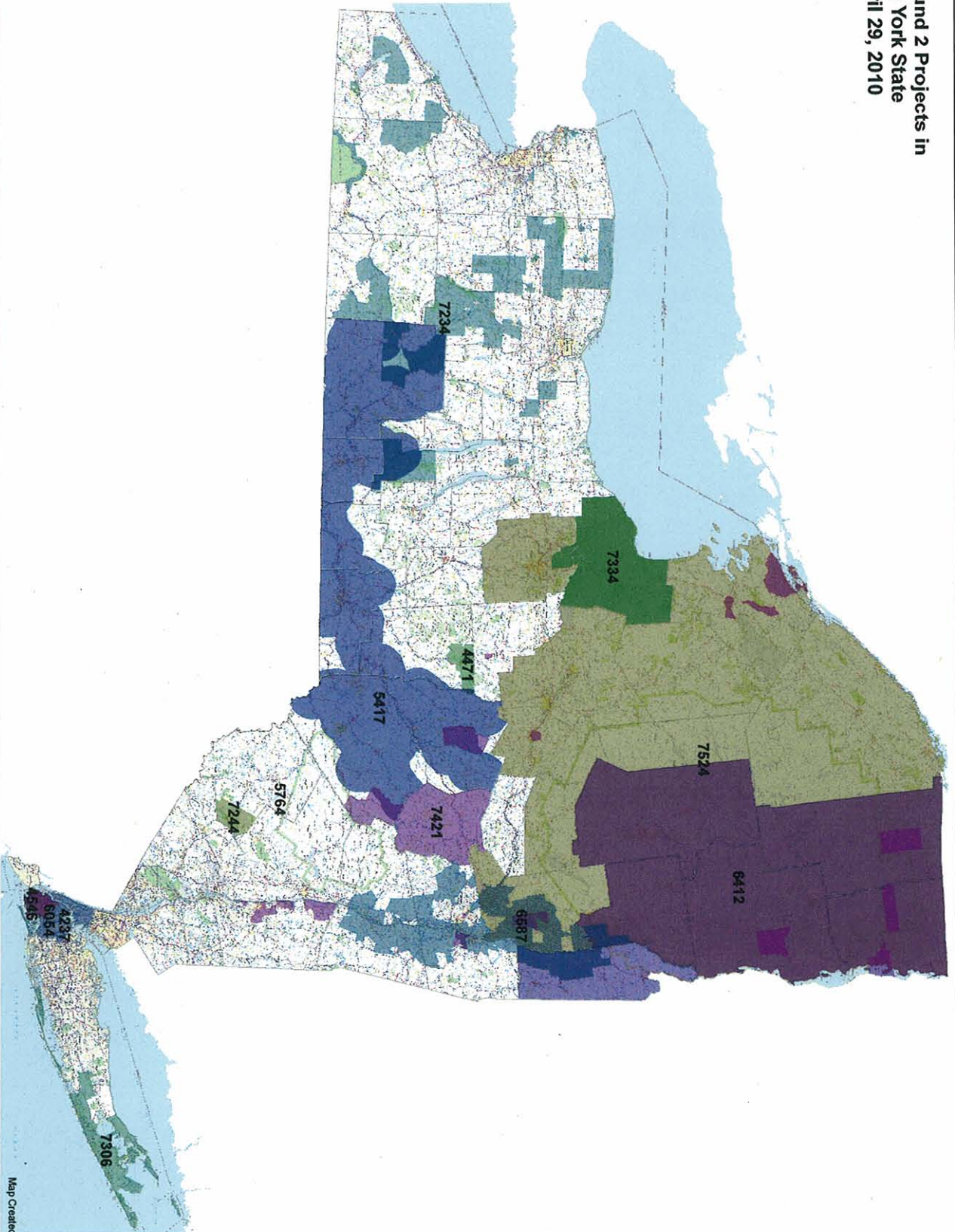
RATING	EASY GRANT ID #	PROJECT TITLE
SUSTAINABLE BROADBAND ADOPTION		
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	7137	Bronx WINS - South Bronx Community
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	7034	Akwesasne Broadband Adoption
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6347	NYC Connected Foundations
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6608	CWE CUNY NYC Training-Adoption
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6448	Broadband for NYS Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children
RECOMMEND	6763	Closing the Broadband Gap
RECOMMEND	6500	NYC Work Connections for Older Adults
RECOMMEND	5360	HITN CBO Connect
RECOMMEND	6748	Adirondack North Country Initiative
RECOMMEND	6676	Cornell Cooperative Ext Associations of NY Education Network
RECOMMEND	6904	SUNY IT Community College Technology Network
RECOMMEND	6870	NYS Broadband and Renewable Energy Training
RECOMMEND	6709	City of Hudson Target WiFi
RECOMMEND	5135	Wildwood Programs
RECOMMEND	7181	Association of Regional Emergency Agencies at Schenectady County Community College (AREA@SCCC)
RECOMMEND	6238	Broadband Telemedicine and Telepsychiatry
RECOMMEND	7801	Next Generation EMS Communication
RECOMMEND	5783	Developing Electronic Healthcare Systems
RECOMMEND	4343	South Central NY Rural Broadband Alliance
RECOMMEND	4345	Mid-Hudson Valley Rural Broadband Alliance
RECOMMEND	7086	Sustainable Adoption Mega Broadband



**NYS ROUND 2 BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATIONS
RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST
PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTERS**

RATING	EASY GRANT ID #	PROJECT TITLE
PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTERS		
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	5466	One-Stop Broadband Education Access
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	5075	Mount Hope
HIGHLY RECOMMEND	6413	NYC Connected Communities
RECOMMEND	5377	Seed-Tech Connect
RECOMMEND	5026	Adirondack One Pass
RECOMMEND	6649	South Bronx Social Venture Center
RECOMMEND	6010	New York Constellation of Community Computer Centers
RECOMMEND	6082	Western New York Public Computer Center Project
RECOMMEND	7000	St. Regis Mohawk Tribe--5 Point Access Public Computer Ctrs
RECOMMEND	6508	NYC Public Computer and Technology Center
RECOMMEND	4648	Public Computer Centers
RECOMMEND	7043	Mega Broadband Public Computing
RECOMMEND	4391	South Central NY Rural Broadband Alliance

**BTOP Round 2 Projects in
New York State
April 29, 2010**



Map Created by NYS CIOIC





STATE OF NEW YORK

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR

May 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of Governor David A. Paterson, I would like to thank the National Telecommunications Information Administration for the opportunity to comment on additional Broadband Technology Opportunities Program ("BTOP") applications proposing to serve communities within New York State. A request from your office dated, May 18, 2010 asked the State to review the following applications:

- Proliteracy Worldwide, EGID 5236
- CBN Connect, Inc., EGID 6412
- Middleburgh Telephone Company, EGID 7421

For your information, we had already reviewed and evaluated *CBN Connect, Inc.* (EGID 6412) and *Middleburgh Telephone Company*, (EGID 7421), and included them in our original submission of May 3, 2010. We have now reviewed the *Proliteracy Worldwide* project (EGID 5236), which has been evaluated using the same criteria as the other Public Computer Center projects previously reviewed. We are pleased to give this project a "Recommend" rating relative to the other projects in the same category.

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to contribute to this important process. We look forward to hearing from you when final funding decisions are made. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Gilchrist".

Timothy J. Gilchrist
Senior Advisor to the Governor