13Q1_Supplemental Answers_Alaska

Connected Nation, Inc.
Grant Number 02-50-M09071
Reporting Period End Date 03-31-13

14a_Data Collection_Attachment

2. Describe any additional project milestones that have been accomplished over this reporting period (Ex. Updates to state broadband maps and websites, map outreach activities)
Connect Alaska (CAK) submitted a semi-annual update of the broadband dataset to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) under the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) grant program. The submission included datasets for 96.3 percent of the Alaska provider community, or 26 of 27 total providers. Of the 26 participating providers, 13 supplied an update to their network or coverage area, while 13 reported no change. The remaining provider not represented in the submission was non-responsive to multiple contact attempts.

The interactive mapping web application, called My ConnectView, continues to be maintained on the program website (http://www.connectak.org/interactive-map). The application is housed in a highly available, monitored, and managed environment. There were a total of 310 visits to the interactive map between January 1, 2013, and March 31, 2013.

During this quarter, My ConnectView underwent an upgrade to the server software and the application programming interface (API), as well as additional enhancements to improve the user experience. The server was upgraded to ArcGIS for Server 10.1 and the ArcGIS API for Flex was upgraded to version 3.0. A new button to create permanent links allows users to develop a customized display of My ConnectView with various data layers turned on with a specific zoom level and then send the permanent link to another user, who will then get the same display in the interactive map setting. A date display was also added to the legend to inform the user of the current nature of the broadband data. Lastly, the pop-up window style was enhanced to allow users to scroll through multiple record selections, as well as view a better display of the record's information.

From program initiation through this reporting period, field validation testing has been completed against 19 companies (out of a universe of 27 viable providers) totaling 70.37 percent within the state of Alaska.

During this quarter, broadband growth maps were developed and made public on the program website. The analysis behind these maps shows where broadband coverage has changed in comparison to the October 2010 datasets: where coverage 1) has been added where it already existed in October 2010, 2) has been removed, and 3) has been added in previously unserved areas.

4. Provide any other information or statistics that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your broadband data collection, Validation and publication activities.

During this quarter, maps and tables were completed and made public on the Connected Nation website, http://www.connectednation.org/fcc-maps, displaying the analysis of census blocks eligible for Phase I of the Connect America Fund broadband subsidy program in comparison with the most recent October 2012 SBI broadband data collection. The maps and analysis published reflect the Federal Communication Commissions (FCC) data release of eligible census blocks on January 4, 2013.

In Q1 2013, Connect Alaska partook in a public safety campaign to generate excitement and educate stakeholders about the role of broadband in the public safety sector. There has been and will continue to be a focus on establishing key relationships with sector leaders that can help reach the most Community Anchor Institutions (CAI). However, the Alaska SBI program has seen unique success by directly contacting municipalities for support.

14a_Capacity Building_Attachment

2. Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.

Broadband Capacity Building Milestones Year 4, Quarter 1 per approved project plan:

Milestone: Year 4, Quarter 1 Connect Alaska program office administration.
This milestone was met. The Program Office in Anchorage is fully staffed and interacting with stakeholders. Program staff meets weekly with representatives from the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) to discuss the status of the project and provide briefings to the Alaska Broadband Task Force (AKBTF). The program team provided administrative support to the Task Force this quarter and participated in one regularly scheduled Task Force meeting during the quarter.

Milestone: Year 4, Quarter 1 Meeting of the Alaska Broadband Task Force/Advisory Committee complete.
This milestone was met. Program staff participated in Alaska Broadband Task Force meetings during the month of January where broadband issues directly related to Alaska were discussed, including the status and development of a Broadband Plan by the Task Force and conducting a broadband summit in Alaska in conjunction with the release of the Plan.

Q1 2013 Challenges and Mitigation:

The Alaska Broadband Task Force cancelled its scheduled meetings for February and March due to continued deliberations regarding broadband development in the state. Program staff coordinated with DCCED, members of the Alaska Broadband Task Force, and the University of Alaska Anchorage Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) to assist with the preparation of the Alaska Broadband Task Force Report draft, which is due to be reviewed during the next scheduled Task Force meeting in April.

Capacity Planning Planned Major Activities for Next Quarter:
Year 4, Quarter 2 Connect Alaska program office administration
Year 4, Quarter 2 Meeting of the Alaska Broadband Task Force/Advisory Committee complete

14b_Technical Assistance_Attachment

2. Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.

Technical Assistance Milestones Year 4, Quarter 1 per approved project plan:

Milestone: Conduct Alaska Broadband Summits
This milestone was not met. Discussions surrounding an Alaska Broadband Summit have taken place with DCCED, but the review of those discussions by the Alaska Broadband Task Force has been delayed due to the Task Force meeting cancellations. However, the early consensus from stakeholders is that a broadband summit should take place in conjunction with the release of the Alaska Broadband Task Force's Broadband Plan for the state, which is entering its final stages of development and should be released in either Q2 or Q3 2013.

Milestone: AASB Technical Assistance Planning
This milestone was met. The program received approval from NTIA on an amended Project Plan allowing CAK to plan and finalize a partnership with the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) to conduct local workshops and research on a local level in Alaska through AASB. Residential technology survey topics were discussed with AASB, and survey questions were developed by program research staff. Localized research surveys were initiated during the quarter, ahead of schedule, by AASB in the communities of Chevak and Metlakatla. This is a residential adoption survey looking at Alaska native member usage patterns in the community and barriers to broadband usage. Survey questions also addressed access issues confronting those in the rural community who are not subscribed to broadband.

Community technology workshops were also initiated during the quarter, ahead of schedule. AASB utilized a sponsoring educator within the local schools of each community. In rural areas of Alaska, the school is the center of the community, and

information can be disseminated very easily. The sponsoring educator assisted with the organizational logistics and helped disseminate information regarding the AASB community workshops. Each of the workshops began with a discussion on e-government in Alaska, this discussion also allowed AASB to highlight the Connect Alaska e-government assessment in the communities. The local technology workshops discussed using broadband strategies for e-commerce and communication with others in rural areas. The events were well attended with a dozen or more participants at each workshop within the small rural communities. In Chevak, a Village Elder, Maggie Atcherian participated in the workshop and was able to utilize the Internet to create an online crafts slideshow for the community. It is viewable online at http://chevak.weebly.com/a-sample-elders-slideshow.html. Additional workshops are scheduled to occur in Q2.

Technical Assistance outstanding milestones (not met or partially met) from previous quarters:

Year 3, Quarter 1, Upon approval from Alaska stakeholders and NTIA, initiate 2012 statewide residential survey research;
Year 3, Quarter 2, Analyze 2012 statewide residential survey research results;
Year 3, Quarter 3, Peer Review of the 2012 statewide residential survey;
Year 3, Quarter 3, Finalize and distribute 2012 statewide residential survey research results;
Year 3, Quarter 4, Analyze 2012 statewide business survey research results;
Year 3, Quarter 4, Peer Review of the 2012 business survey.
In Q1 2013, the program received approval, from NTIA, of a revised Project Plan. Within the newly approved Project Plan, these outstanding milestones were replaced and rescheduled with AASB Technical Assistance activities, including localized research activities in rural Alaska, in lieu of statewide residential and business surveys. As a result of the adjustment, additional reporting on the AASB activities is included in the Year 4, Quarter 1 milestones. Localized research conducted by AASB is underway in rural Alaska.

Year 3, Quarter 1 ARDOR Partnership Activities;
Year 3, Quarter 2 ARDOR Partnership Activities;
Year 3, Quarter 3 ARDOR Partnership Activities;
Year 3, Quarter 4 ARDOR Partnership Activities.
Connect Alaska experienced difficulty in formalizing partnerships with the Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) for the purpose of the program's Technical Assistance project. In Q1 2013, the program received approval, from NTIA, of a revised Project Plan. Within the newly approved Project Plan, these outstanding milestones were replaced with AASB Technical Assistance activities, including local technology workshops. As a result of the adjustment, additional reporting on the AASB activities is included in the Year 4, Quarter 1 milestones.

Year 2, Quarter 4 Milestone: Plan Alaska Broadband Summit.

In Q1 2013, Connect Alaska received NTIA approval of an amended Project Plan. Within the newly approved Project Plan, this milestone is now reflected in Year 3, Quarter 4. Discussions of an Alaska Broadband Summit took place in Q1 2013 with DCCED and the Alaska Broadband Task Force. Stakeholders agree that a broadband summit should take place in conjunction with the release of the Alaska Broadband Task Force's Broadband Plan for the state. The Broadband Plan has entered its final stages of development; however, no timeline has been reached for the release of the report. Summit planning is expected to commence in Q2 2013 after a discussion surrounding the topic is held during the April Task Force meeting.

Year 3, Quarter 1 Milestone: Conduct Alaska Broadband Summit.
In Q1 2013, the program received NTIA approval of a revised Project Plan. Within the newly approved Project Plan, this milestone is now reflected in Year 4, Quarter 1. As a result of the adjustment, additional reporting is included in the Year 4, Quarter 1 milestones.

Q1 2013 Challenges and Mitigation:
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance Planned Major Activities for Next Quarter:
Year 4, Quarter 2 AASB Technical Assistance Activities
Plan Alaska Broadband Summits

14b_Application Development & Usage_Attachment

2. Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.

Application Usage & Development Milestones Year 4, Quarter 1 per approved project plan:

Milestone: Year 4, Quarter 1 Initiate the e-government assessment
This milestone was met. The e-government assessment commenced during the quarter. The survey will be used to examine how Alaskans, both urban and rural, utilize government services and determine the future of application development projects, initiated by DCCED and Connect Alaska, in order to streamline the government applications and bring government to the fingertips of Alaskans. The survey is available online through the program website and the survey will be distributed in rural Alaska by AASB during their local technology workshops.

Milestone: Year 4, Quarter 1 Administration of the Application Development Fund
This milestone was met. Connect Alaska participated in several meetings with state stakeholders to discuss viable Application Development Fund uses. Results of the e-

government assessment will factor into the ongoing administration of the Application Development Fund. Initial consultations indicated an e-government initiative from DCCED that focused on improving rural economic activity by means of an e-government mobile phone application and/or web portal that highlighted DCCED business databases to assist Alaskan manufacturers in marketing their products in the various commercial sectors, such as the seafood industry sector or the tourist industry sector.

Milestone: Year 4, Quarter 1 Monitor application development projects
This milestone was met. DCCED and the Alaska Broadband Task Force are currently developing a scope of work to commence an application development project that will update several state of Alaska e-government web portals. Final results of the e-government assessment will factor into the development decisions.

Application Usage & Development Outstanding Milestones (not met or partially met) from previous quarters:

Year 2, Quarter 4 Initiate the E-Government Assessment;
Year 3, Quarter 1 Continuation of the E-Government Assessment;
Year 3, Quarter 2 Continuation of E-Government Assessment;
Year 3, Quarter 3 Finalize the E-Government Assessment.
In Q1 2013, Connect Alaska received NTIA approval of a revised Project Plan. Within the newly approved Project Plan, these milestones are now reflected beginning in Year 4, Quarter 1. As a result of the adjustment, additional reporting is included in the Year 4, Quarter 1 milestones.

Q1 2013 Challenges and Mitigation:
Nothing to report.

Application Use Planned Major Activities for Next Quarter:
Finalize the E-Government Assessment
Year 4, Quarter 2 Administration of the Application Development Fund
Year 4, Quarter 2 Monitor application development projects