



**Broadband Non-Infrastructure Application
Submission to NTIA – Public Computer Centers**

Submitted Date: 4/8/2010 2:43:24 PM	Easygrants ID: 6526
Funding Opportunity: Public Computer Centers	Applicant Organization: CITY OF BROWNSVILLE
Task: Submit Application - Public Computer Centers	Applicant Name: Mr. James Robert McCoy

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A. General Application Information

Applicant Information	
Name and Federal ID for Applicant	
DUNS Number	036772820
CCR # (CAGE)	3VAU2
Legal Business Name	CITY OF BROWNSVILLE
Point of Contact (POC)	PETE GONZALEZ [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Alternate POC	LUPE GRANADO III [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Electronic Business POC	PETE GONZALEZ [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Alternate Electronic Business POC	LUPE GRANADO III [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Name and Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:	
Prefix	Mr.
First Name	James
Middle Name	Robert
Last Name	McCoy



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Suffix	
Telephone Number	██████████
Fax Number	
Email	██████████
Title	Assistant Director

Additional Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:

Project Role	Name	Phone	Email
Secondary Point of Contact	Mr. Jerry , Hedgecock	██████████	██████████

Other Required Identification Numbers

Easygrants ID	██████
Funding Opportunity Number	500000
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number	BTOP CFDA Number: 11.557 BTOP CFDA Title: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Organization Classification

Type of Organization	City or Township Government
Is the organization a small business?	No
Does the organization meet the definition of a socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern?	No

Authorized Organizational Representative



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AOR	GONZALEZ, PETE
Result	Applicant Authorized

Project Title and Project Description

Project Title: Connect Brownsville

Project Description: The Library System is proposing an expansion to the public computing center. Expansion would allow space for 100 computers with internet access, a substantial increase from the mere 24 currently available. The Library has also partnered with United Way, Brownsville Literacy Center, and Texas Southmost College to provide Broadband Access and computers in efforts to better serve the community.

Other Applications

Is this application being submitted in coordination with any other application being submitted during this round of funding?

➤ No

Easygrants ID	Project Title
6526	Connect Brownsville

If YES, please explain any synergies and/or dependencies between this project and any other applications. This application does not have any dependencies on any other BTOP PCC, SBA, or CCI applications. After numerous conversations with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission(TSALC)(EasyGrants 6526), the Brownsville Public Library System has decided to submit an independent application. However, they will work very closely with TSALC to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to the delivery of training to end-users and library staff, the utilization of existing resources, and the sharing of best practices related to delivering PCC services. The Library System will participate in monthly online webinars hosted by the TSALC and face-to-face meetings that provide resources to assist in implementing the PCC programs.

Is the Applicant exempt from the Department of Commerce requirements regarding individual background screening in connection with any award resulting from this Application?



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- Yes, Applicant is exempt because it is a unit of a state or local government

If the answer to the above question is "No," please identify each key individual associated with the Applicant who would be required to complete Form CD-346, "Applicant for Funding Assistance," in connection with any award resulting from this Application:

Name	Title	Employer

B. Executive Summary, Project Purpose and Benefits

Essay Question

Executive Summary of the proposed project:

The City of Brownsville has an estimated population of 189,970 with 36% of its residents living at or below the Federal Poverty Level with a median income of \$24,468 (US Census 2006-2008 American Community Survey). Brownsville is home to a vulnerable Hispanic population (91.3 percent of the population is Hispanic US Census 2008) where barriers of language and literacy compromise educating residents about the use of broadband services. The poverty level, coupled with social and/or cultural barriers that also serve to isolate residents, results in substantial areas of the city where broadband services are underutilized. Low service usage may be attributed to economic factors, as well as to insufficient technical or literacy skills, or to lack of understanding of the services offered. As a result, a substantial percentage of residents do not have access to information and resources required to obtain and maintain meaningful employment, participate fully in activities designed to further their educational goals, obtain information to improve or maintain their health.

The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System) is a Texas State Library and Archives Accredited Public Library. The System has a State approved Technology Plan and has used technology to provide services to the residents of Brownsville since it first opened its doors in 1994. It has been successful in attaining and managing over \$7,389,000.00 in Grants since it opened in 1994. The System has been awarded over \$5,550,000.00 in Federal Grants from the Universal Services Administrative Company Schools and Library Federal E-rate program.



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Project: Connect Brownsville Will increase Public Computer Access and Broadband awareness in 6 Ways:

Broadband Connection:

The City of Brownsville Public Library System has a 190' tower already in place at the Central Blvd. location that will provide a mounting point for the hardware necessary to connect all members of the Connect Brownsville project through the use of Sky Pilot Wireless Networking Hardware to be installed on the tower and at the remote locations. The System will then provide a 70MBPS dedicated fiber connection to the Internet for Broadband access.

Expand Central Branch Library Public Computer Center:

Currently, public computing resources offered by the two public library locations are insufficient to meet the demand of Brownsville and the surrounding areas that the Library System serves. The Southmost Branch Library has a lab equipped with 42 internet computers and serves 187,393 residents annually (2008 Annual Report for the Public Information Services Department. The Central Branch Library serves nearly twice as many residents and has only 24 computers with internet access. The average internet sessions per week is 3463 with 72% of users having to wait up to one hour to initiate an internet session. An expansion of the Public Computing Center would increase the number of internet sessions by 120%, projecting to 4156 internet sessions per week.

An increase in computers would increase the number of users. Often residents are put on a waiting list that can last up to an hour; and, when given access their time is limited to just one hour of usage. Expanding the Central Branch Library with the purchase of an additional 183 computers would allow more residents internet access at one time. This project will be managed by the Public Information Services Department and the Library Automation Department that has over 43 years of combined experience in maintaining the security, reliability and usability of computer networks.

Texas Southmost College Mobile Computer Lab:



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Texas Southmost College(TSC) is a community college that serves 17,000 students and has over 1,500 staff members. In collaboration with the System, TSC is proposing a mobile lab computing center that will be available to the public. The mobile lab will consist of 30 laptop computers that will operate mainly through the college's wireless network. In addition, the 30 laptop computers will be available for check-out to campus users as well as other community users with valid identification. The mobile lab will also be used in other locations throughout the region in which the college operates. This is especially true for the International Technology Center for Economics and Commerce, or ITEC Center, which is operated by the University of Texas at Brownsville to improve the economy of the region with economic development and job training activities.

United Way Public Computer Center:

United Way of Southern Cameron County works to build stronger communities by empowering people to help one another to mobilize the caring power of our communities. In collaboration with the System, United Way will receive 5 new computers, equipment, and upgraded broadband access to better serve the community by providing easily accessible resources to jobs opportunities, expansive health information, and increasingly accessible government websites,among others.

Brownsville Literacy Center Mobile Computer Lab

The Brownsville Adult Literacy Center (Center) is a non-profit organization committed to expanding adult literacy and furthering the goal of bringing adult education to the public. In the past, the Center has received grant funding that established the Mobile Learning Lab – an outstanding service that has helped many in desperate need of reading and writing skills. In order to improve these efforts, the Center has partnered with the System to replace 12 new computers, and upgrade broadband access. This project will allow community members to benefit from services such as basic math and reading, GED preparation, keyboarding, and English-as-a-second-language (ESL) classes.

The Brownsville Public Library System has partnered with Workforce Solutions – Cameron to create economic growth and enhance the quality of life for the citizens and employers of Cameron County. With the additional Broadband stations, increasing numbers of community patrons will have access to career and training information.



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The project will create 65 indirect jobs, 50 induced jobs, and save over 100 jobs for staff from the system, Texas Southmost College, United Way of Southern Cameron County, Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, and Workforce Solutions-Cameron. The project will service more than 187,000 residents and visitors of Brownsville and provide them with the necessary resources to obtain job training, literacy skills, improved job skills and college preparation. The overall cost of implementing this project is \$1,257,818.00.

Project purpose:

The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System,) along with the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, United Way of Southern Cameron County and Texas Southmost College propose the expansion of Broadband and public computer center access to the community of Brownsville, Texas in order to raise the quality of life through exposure to increased career, education, government, social, health and related service awareness. The System has successfully garnered over \$7,000,000 in federal grants and with the assistance of additional funds through Connect Brownsville, it will be allowed to utilize the full potential of the network infrastructure that has been built over the past several years. Working with strong community partners further expands service to Brownsville, Texas-a community in desperate need of reliable and free access to Broadband service.

Recovery Act and Other Governmental Collaboration:

- There are no Recovery Act, or other federal or state developmental program, funds being leveraged with this project.

Technology Strategy:

The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System) will use CAT 6 cable drops to provide Broadband access to its Central Blvd. location. The Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, the United Way of Southern Cameron County and Texas Southmost College will be connected to the Central Blvd. library via a Sky Pilot mesh network Topology. The Central Blvd. library has in place a multi gigabit network to support Internet Traffic, an APC silicon battery backup system along with a backup generator. The System has been providing Internet services since the inception of its first public computer center in 1994 and continues to look for ways to expand Broadband services to the public. This project will allow the System to provide the service it currently offers and expand broadband service to the residents of the ever-growing community of Brownsville. Strong collaborative efforts with the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, the United



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Way of Southern Cameron County and Texas Southmost College can be replicated in any community in need of increased Broadband and public computer center access. Results of said project include an increased quality of life through higher numbers of community members accessing valuable career, education and social services, among others.

Public Availability:

The public computer centers at the City of Brownsville Public Library System, Texas Southmost College United Way of Southern Cameron County, and the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center will be available to all members of the community; there is no cost involved.

Restrictions on Center Use:

- The City of Brownsville Public Library System and its project partners will remain compliant with the Childrens Internet Protection Act (CIPA.)

Involvement of Community College:

The City of Brownsville Public Library System is in collaboration with Texas Southmost College on the Broadband and public computer center project. The mobile computer center that Texas Southmost College will be operating will be available for use by any community patron visiting the University Blvd. Library, along with any campus outreach program that is needing mobile public computer center services.

Is the applicant is seeking a waiver of the Buy American provision pursuant to section x.Q of the NOFA?

- No

Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt?

- No
- If Yes, justification for delinquency:

Are you seeking a waiver of any requirement set forth in the NOFA that is not mandated by statute or applicable law?

- No

C. Partners



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Are you partnering with any other key institutions, organizations, or other entities for this project?

➤ Yes

If YES, key partners are listed below:

Project Role: Sub-recipient Name: Acevedo, Suzanne Email: [REDACTED] Address 1: 80 Fort Brown St. Address 2: Address 3: City: Brownsville State: Texas Zip Code: 78520 Organization: Texas Southmost College Organization Type: Other Small business: No Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient Name: Wickett, Traci Email: [REDACTED] Address 1: 634 E. Levee St. Address 2: Address 3: City: Brownsville State: Texas Zip Code: 78520 Organization: United Way of Southern Cameron County Organization Type: Non-profit Institution Small business: No Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Sub-recipient Name: Rivera, Victor Email: [REDACTED] Address 1: 1235 E. Jefferson St. Address 2: Address 3: City: Brownsville State: Texas Zip Code: 78520



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Organization: Brownsville Adult Literacy Council, Inc. Organization Type: Non-profit Corporation Small business: No Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No
Project Role: Third party in-kind contributor Name: Najera, Nelda Email: [REDACTED] Address 1: 301 Mexico Boulevard Address 2: Address 3: City: Brownsville State: Texas Zip Code: 78520 Organization: Workforce Solutions - Cameron Organization Type: State or State Agency Small business: No Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern: No

Description of the involvement of the partners listed above in the project.

The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System) is collaborating with the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center to provide High Speed Wireless Internet Access and replace the 12 obsolete computers in the Mobile Learning Lab. This lab travels around the community conducting job training, assisting residents in filling out job applications, and conducting literacy programs for the underserved residents of Brownsville.

The System is collaborating with the United Way of Southern Cameron County to provide High Speed Wireless Internet Access and 5 computers that would be used for job training, financial counseling, job searches and filling out job applications.

Texas Southmost College will expand their University Blvd. public computer center through a mobile computer lab utilizing Broadband access. Expansion will include the purchase of a mobile lab equipped with 30 laptop computers that will be available for access to campus outreach programs and community patrons. The Library, and TSC staff will provide college preparation activities, including financial aid research and career training.



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D. Congressional Districts

Applicant Headquarters

- Texas

Project Service States

Texas

Project Service Areas

Texas - 27

Will any portion of your proposed project serve federally recognized tribal entities?

- No

Indicate each federally recognized tribal entity your proposed project will serve.

Have you consulted with each of the federally recognized tribal entities identified above?

- No

E. Demographics

Demographics

Will your proposed project be specifically directed to serve vulnerable population groups?

- Yes



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If "Yes" which vulnerable population groups will your proposed project serve? Check as many as apply:

Hispanic

English as Second Language (ESL)

Disabled

Low Income

Unemployed

Senior Citizen (55 and over)

Youth

Other:

Vulnerable Populations

The following partners, City of Brownsville Public Library System, Texas Southmost College, the Adult Literacy Center, and the United Way of Southern Cameron County, all follow specific affirmative steps prohibiting discrimination based on race, sex, ethnic origin, religion, disability and age.

Accessibility

The Library System and Texas Southmost College are in full compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and considers it a crucial part of their role in the community to be welcoming to all.

Expansion of the computer lab will have a universal design; in essence, it will be designed for a broad range of users including residents with a wide range of hearing, visual, mobility and learning impairments. All equipment will be accessible to wheelchair users, documents will be available in accessible electronic formats for those with visual impairments, and the lab will be



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equipped with at least one adjustable workstation/table. Further, large-print keytop labels, screen enlargement software and monitors at least 17 inches in size will be utilized.

The Texas Southmost College computer labs on campus are made accessible in various ways. Labs and many of their workstations are readily accessible by wheelchair users. In addition, when assistive technology is needed, the lab partners with UTB/TSC Disability Services to facilitate use of equipment. The library staff assists patrons with disabilities as needed, and the library aspires to accessibility in all of its services.

Other Languages

According to the US Census in 2008, 92 percent of the population in Brownsville is Hispanic or Latino and 88 percent of those residents speak Spanish. There is often a large language barrier within Brownsville and surrounding areas in Cameron County. Therefore, the City of Brownsville Public Library System, United Way of Southern Cameron County, and Texas Southmost College will offer training and outreach in both English and Spanish to better serve our community.

In addition, the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center will teach English-as-a-second-language (ESL) classes to serve students who are literate in their native language (Spanish for most students,) and who wish to become literate in English.

Outreach

Public Computing Centers Outreach

The following partners, City of Brownsville Public Library System, Texas Southmost College, the Adult Literacy Center, and the United Way of Southern Cameron County, will continue current outreach efforts in respect to providing access to expanded Broadband and computer center access throughout the community. Media outlets, such as Channel 12, the City of Brownsville website, the campus website and related media outlets, and additional partner websites will be fully utilized to ensure community members in Brownsville are aware of expanded services.



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The City of Brownsville Public Library System is open to all community members and visitors during the following hours: Monday – Thursday between 10 am to 9 pm, Friday and Saturday between 10 am to 6 pm, and on Sunday between 1 pm to 8 pm.

Texas Southmost College is open to students, staff, faculty and community patrons during the following hours: Monday – Thursday between 7:30 am to 11 pm, Friday 7:30 am to 5 pm, Saturday between 9 am to 5 pm and on Sunday between 1 pm to 10 pm.

The Adult Literacy Center Mobile Lab is available Monday through Thursday during regular business hours. Lastly, United Way of Southern Cameron County operate Monday to Friday during regular business hours.

How many total users do you expect to generate through the use of BTOP funds at your public computer center(s)?

➤ 854048

Training and Education

Peripherals and equipment

The City of Brownsville Library System is requesting 183 Dell Optiplex 760 Desktops with GB Ethernet cards with monitors that will be able to print to Dell 5210 color printers. 183 of these computers will be used in the public computer lab, 12 will be distributed to the Brownsville Literacy Center, and 5 will be given to the United Way office. These computers will be hooked up to the Library Systems existing Network and have access to the Internet with the shared Broadband speed of 70MBPS.

Texas Southmost College is requesting 30 Dell Latitude E640 Laptop computers and a LAP30ERBFR-GM 30-Unit Assembled Laptop Storage Cart with 8-inch Casters Front Electrical Unit(A0383375).

Workstation software

All computers at the City of Brownsville Public Library System will be equipped with Microsoft Office 2007 Pro, resume writing software, and access to the over 100 online databases that the Library System subscribes to in conjunction with the Texas State Library.



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Laptop computers purchased for Texas Southmost College will also be equipped Microsoft Office software and will have the Aztec Software which helps users with work readiness skills. Aztec's multi-sensory approach contains English and Spanish audio, graphics, and innovative screen design that reinforces and enhances learning for secondary youth and adults.

Business related software and resources will also be provided for the computers as will software supporting technical instruction offered at the the on-campus computer lab. In addition, the TSC Language Institute, a center that teaches both English and Spanish skills, will provide language software.

The Brownsville Adult Literacy Center will be using proven educational software to offer basic math and reading skills, GED Preparation, Keyboarding, and English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL)classes.

Training and education programs

The following partners, Texas Southmost College, the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, and United Way of Southern Cameron County, will be conducting a variety of training and educational programs with their respective students, clients and community patrons. These programs are all being utilized in efforts to assist community members with reaching their academic and career potential, and to help improve their general quality of life. Training and related workshops will be conducted by countless numbers of partner staff members who have obtained various levels of educational achievement.

In their efforts to expand the reach of Broadband through accessible laptops, Texas Southmost College will be allowing use of their mobile computer center to campus outreach programs, many of which work with students in local school districts and who are working on obtaining college level credit work while still in high school. These programs will be focusing use of the mobile computer center on educating their student participants and parents on college entrance exams, the financial aid process and related areas. Various nationwide outreach programs, such as Upward Bound, are housed at Texas Southmost College. Upward Bound, along with related programs, fully utilize the "Choices" program to assist students with both career and educational resource options. It is important to note that the majority of program participants are considered "at-risk" because they come from low-income households and have parents/guardians who have not obtained a post-secondary education and are therefore at a disadvantage in assiting their child with such endeavors. However, programs such as Upward Bound place a high value on obtaining a post-secondary education and therefore facilitate the entire college entry process for



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students and their parents. The success of this and other programs is crucial to increasing current figures that place the number of area residents ages 25 and higher who have obtained a bachelor's degree at 13.4% - significantly lower than the national rate of 23.4%, as per United States Census figures. Initial estimates place the number of Upward Bound student participants taking dual enrollment college coursework at approximately 50%. With the added resource of the mobile computer center, community patrons, such as parents of Upward Bound student participants, will have free Broadband Internet access on campus and will be better able to assist their child with educational and career options.

The Brownsville Adult Literacy Center will continue their efforts in expanding adult literacy efforts and furthering the goal of bringing adult education opportunities to the public by providing such training and educational programs as GED preparation, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to serve students who are literate in their native language (Spanish,) Job search, basic Math and Reading instruction and keyboarding. United States Census figures show that 87.2% of households in the Brownsville area speak a language other than English, compared to the national rate of 31.2%. With the typical household averaging 3.2 members and most recent Brownsville Independent School District figures showing approximately 49,000 students it can be safe to assume that mostly every household in Brownsville houses at least one child of school age. Communication between parents and school staff, and subsequently student success, would increase with an increased number of parents being able to speak English well enough to participate in teacher – parent conferences, parent organization meetings and related school district conferences.

The United Way of Southern Cameron County will focus on furthering their goals of providing training and educational efforts in improving clients' financial stability, assisting youth to reach their potential and facilitating healthy life choices for many. As an example, the Infant and Family Nutrition Agency helps mothers gain knowledge about healthy eating habits and basic nutrition to prevent obesity related diseases, such as Diabetes and Heart Disease for their families. Prenatal and breastfeeding education, counseling and support is also provided in efforts to reduce the risk of health problems for babies. As per the Pan American Health Organization, Diabetes is 2 to 3 more prevalent in Hispanics than in non-Hispanics. Further, mortality rates along the U.S / Mexico border are significantly higher than in other areas. Additional Broadband and computer access to those individuals who need it most is sure to raise the quality of life closer to national standards.

If you are providing educational or training programs, how many people in total will these programs reach on an annual basis?



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- 850048

How many hours of training will be provided to each participant?

- 5

How many Full Time Employee (FTE) instructors or facilitators will you employ for these courses?

- 0

F. Project Budget

Project Budget	
Federal Grant Request	\$880,473
Total Match Amount	\$377,345
Total Budget	\$1,257,818
Match Percent	30.0%

Projects Outside Recommended Funding Range:

- The total project cost is not above or below the project size range recommended in the NOFA. The total project cost is \$1,257,818.

Sustainability:

The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System) staff has line items in their budget for maintenance of equipment and for the staff needed to support the Public Computer Center. The Library also has the Network Infrastructure in place to handle the additional load that the new computers would put in the network. The System will maintain all computer equipment and training, as well as manage the circulation of computers. In addition, all maintenance on computers provided to United Way and the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center will be conducted through the System.

Texas Southmost College (TSC) will handle all maintenance on the mobile lab including repairs or replacements on all laptop computers; budget for such has been included in the TSC Operating Budget. In addition, TSC library facilities and library staff will instruct in the use of,



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as well as manage the circulation for, the laptop computers. TSC will also be providing the campus wireless network. In collaboration with Library, and TSC staff will also be providing instruction on college preparation including financial aid research, job skills training, and resume writing.

Matching Funds	
Applicant is providing matching funds of at least 20% towards the total eligible project costs?	Yes
Describe the matching contributions	<p>The total project cost for expansion of the City of Brownsville Public Library Computer Center is \$1,217,498.00. The City of Brownsville has approved a 30% cash match of \$365,249.40 from the FY2010 Library Maintenance and Operating budget.</p> <p>Texas Southmost College (TSC) is ready to commit both financial and in-kind support to this great collaborative project. The total cost of the mobile computing center is approximately \$40,319.20. TSC will provide a 30% cash match of \$12,096 from the library Maintenance and Operation budget. Texas Southmost College will make an additional in-kind match of library facilities and library staff who will instruct in the use of, as well as manage the circulation for, the laptop computers. The use of the campus wireless network is an added in-kind match.</p>
Unjust enrichment	This project is not receiving or applying for any Federal support for non-recurring costs
Disclosure of federal and/or state funding sources	<p>The City of Brownsville Public Library System has received over \$7,000,000.00 in Universal Service Funds for Network Infrastructure projects.</p> <p>While Texas Southmost College(TSC) receives federal and state funding for various functions, no funds are going directly to fund this project.</p>



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Budget Narrative	
Budget narrative	<p>Texas Southmost College Mobile Lab: \$40,320.00 Wireless Broadband Connections: \$125,000.00 Library Remodeling & Furniture: \$816,242.00 Computers for Library, Literacy Bus, and Untied Way: \$215,481.00 Software for Training: \$60,775.00</p> <p>Project Total: \$1,257,818.00</p>
Budget reasonableness	<p>The Library employed an architect to prepare a proposal for the remodeling/construction of the new Public Computer Center. The computer, printer, and software costs were obtained through Dell computers using the State of Texas Directory of Information Resources Master Contract. The furniture costs were obtained through State of Texas approved BUY Board Contract.</p> <p>Texas Southmost College(TSC) aquired a cost estimate from Dell Marketing LP for the purchase of 30 laptop computers and a laptop storage cart.</p>
Demonstration of need	<p>The Library has submitted a copy of the current fiscal year budget that shows there are not available line items to cover the expenses of an expansion to the Public Computer Center. Also included is a letter from the City of Brownsville Finance Director attesting to these budget shortfalls.</p> <p>Texas Southmost College(TSC) has committed to reserve 5% of the current budget projections for FY2011-FY2012 in response to the Legislative budget reduction target. TSC has developed a comprehensive strategy that will focus on reductions in maintenance and operation expenditures, reallocating existing resources, and allocating revenue received from tuition and fee due to higher than expected enrollment. This comprehensive strategy may impact the ability to provide normal maintenance operations and to adequately address the incremental cost of providing services to students and the public due to increased enrollment.</p>



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Funds to States/Territories

States	Amount of Federal Grant Request
Texas	880,473

Funds to States/Territories Total: \$880,473

G. Historical Financials

Matching Funds			
	2007	2008	2009
Revenue	80,229,330	78,750,508	83,760,457
Expenditures	78,892,750	83,845,714	84,499,047
Net Assets	17,803,831	18,583,316	17,031,239
Change in Net Assets from Prior Year	513,544	779,485	1,553,077
Bond Rating (if applicable)	A+	A+	A+

H. Public Computer Center Summary

Jobs	
How many direct jobs-years will be created from this project?	0
How many indirect jobs will be created from this project?	65
How many jobs will be induced from this project?	50

Methodology used to estimate jobs:

Project will be bid out to engineer and construction firms, thus creating jobs during the design and construction phase.



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Proposed # of Public Computer Centers	
Schools (k-12)	0
Libraries	1
Medical and Healthcare Providers	0
Public Safety Entities	0
Community Colleges	1
Public Housing	0
Other Institutions of Higher Education	0
Other Community Support Organization	2
Other Government Facilities	0

Total Proposed Public Computer Centers 4

Current Total Persons in Service Area 187437

Minority Serving Institutions	
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	0
Tribal Colleges and Universities	0
Alaska Native Serving Institutions	0
Hispanic Serving Institutions	1
Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions	0



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TOTAL MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS	1
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Weekly Usage Summary	
Total Current # of Persons Served per 120-hour Business Week	6040
Total Proposed # of Persons Served per 120-hour Business Week	12536
Total Current # of Persons Served per 48-hour Weekend	1296
Total Proposed # of Persons Served per 48-hour Weekend	3888

Broadband Workstation Summary	
Number of Current Workstations proposed to be upgraded	167
Total Current # of Broadband Workstations	24
Total Proposed # of Broadband Workstations	167
Average Current Facility Broadband Connection Speed	70.00 Mbps
Average Proposed Facility Broadband Connection Speed	70.00 Mbps

I. Project Readiness

Licenses and Regulatory Approvals

N/A



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Organizational Readiness

The following partners, City of Brownsville Public Library System, Texas Southmost College, the Brownsville Adult Literacy Center, and the United Way of Southern Cameron County, are ready to implement, operate and sustain the expanded Broadband and computer center access throughout the community. Key factors, such as organizational collaboration, core project philosophies, project mission, and administrative infrastructure have been carefully discussed and agreed upon.

Senior level management from the City of Brownsville, as well as at partner agencies, are fully aware of the Broadband and public computer center project. Through the strength of collaborative efforts, project partners, as well as the rest of the community's members will fully benefit from the increased number of individuals receiving systematic project services.

The City of Brownsville, and its partner agencies, are each fully competent in assisting their respective entities and each collaborating agency in respect to the Broadband and public computer center project. The strength of current collaborative efforts will help to provide a seamless delivery system that will ensure full project success through continual project benchmarks.

In efforts to keep with project goals, the City of Brownsville, and its partner agencies, all agree on the project mission of providing expanded Broadband and public computer access to the community of Brownsville; a community in dire need of any resource that will assist with career, education, training, social, health, government and related resource efforts.

The City of Brownsville, and its partner agencies, have discussed, and agreed upon, each entity's respective role in respect to meeting Broadband and public computer center project success.

Project Timeline and Challenges

Project: Connect Brownsville

Timeline: 18 Months

Months 1-2 Completed

- The City of Brownsville Public Library System (System) solicited support for the Connect Brownsville Project from community partners interested in participating on the BTOP Public Computing Center Application. System staff conducted several meetings with Texas Southmost College, United Way of Southern Cameron County, Brownsville Adult Literacy



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Center of Brownsville, and Workforce Solutions – Cameron and determined that a collaborative project would best serve community members with expanded Broadband and public computer centers.

Months 3-4 Completed

- System staff met with vendors to design the Broadband Network that would be used to support the remote locations. Computer vendors were then sought to obtain the most cost effective computer solution for the project. Meetings with an architect and engineering firm to design the remodeling of the Central Branch Library Computer Center for expansion efforts then took place.
- Hardware recommendations to Texas Southmost College, United Way of Southern Cameron County, Brownsville Adult Literacy Center of Brownsville, and Workforce Solutions - Cameron Works Workforce Center were made by System staff – with successful selection of the hardware that would be implemented upon grant award.

Month 5 Completed

- System and City of Brownsville staff worked and submitted the BTOP Public Computing Center Application with the support of our Community Partners.

Month 6 Pending

- Award notification from BTOP of successful funding of application.

Month 7-8 Pending

- Award of construction contract, and actual remodeling, for expansion of Central Library Public Computing Center.
- Purchase of Mobile Laptop Computers and Cart for Texas Southmost College.
- Purchase of Computer for Brownsville Adult Literacy Center Mobile lab.
- Purchase of Computers for United Way of Southern Cameron County.

Months 9-14 Pending

- Remodeling of Central Library Public Computing Center continues.
- Training sessions for community members, performed by principal and partner staff members, utilizing expanded Broadband service at United Way of Southern Cameron County, Brownsville Adult Literacy Center and Texas Southmost College take place.



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Months 15-18 Pending

- Completion of Central Library Public Computing Center remodeling; community is invited to visit and use expanded Broadband service.

Months 19-Future Pending

- City of Brownsville budget funds sustain the BTOP Public Computing Center.
- Continuous collaborative efforts involving principal agency and an increasing number of partner agencies lead to additional grant opportunities and improved services for community members.
- A quality of life comparable nationwide results from a better trained and educated workforce within the community.

SPIN Number

J. Environmental Questionnaire

Does this PCC application have construction or ground disturbing activities?

No

If no, please answer the questions below. If yes, please do not answer the questions below and instead proceed to the next page to answer the expanded environmental questionnaire.

Does the proposed action involve the procurement of materials? If so, will the materials be installed, stored or operated in an existing building or structure? If yes, please click "Add" to include the list of equipment and peripherals to be procured.

Yes

Equipment purchased, such as Dell Optiplex 760 Desktops, GB Ethernet cards, and monitors will be operated at all project partner locations, including the City of Brownsville Central Blvd. library.

Does the proposed action involve procurement of electronic equipment? If yes, will the equipment be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner at the end of its useful life?

Yes



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Does the proposed action involve construction, remodeling, or renovation? If so, will these activities be limited to only minor interior renovations to a structure, facility, or installation? If yes, click "Add" to include a description of the proposed renovations with your project summary.

Yes

In order for the Central Library's public computer center to remain open during renovation and expansion, work will proceed in intervals. Materials will be moved and current public computer center facilities will be minimized while work is completed.

Does the proposed action involve the production and/or distribution of informational materials, brochures, or newsletter?

Yes

Does the proposed action involve training, teaching, or meeting facilitation at an existing facility or structure? If yes, click "Add" to explain.

No

N/A

Does the proposed action involve ground or surface disturbance to accommodate new fiber optic cable? If yes, please click "Add" to include a description of the extent of service upgrade, a list of the permits required, and linear footage of underground fiber optic cabling required.

No

N/A

Does the proposed action involve an upgrade of broadband service to an existing facility or structure? If yes, please include a description of the extent of service upgrade, a list of the permits required, and linear footage of underground fiber optic cabling required?

Yes

Expansion of Broadband service throughout the community of Brownsville involves the purchase of Sky Pilot mesh network topology.



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K. Environmental Questionnaire – Part 2

Project Description

Property Changes

Buildings

Wetlands

Critical Habitats

Floodplain

Protected Land

Coastal Area

Brownfield



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Uploads

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name	File Name	Uploaded By	Uploaded Date
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Letter of Support - Cameron II.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Letter of Support Workforce Solutions - Cameron.PDF	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Letter of Support Adult Literacy.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Resume Wickett.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Resume - Hedgecock.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Resume - Rivera.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Management Team Resumes and Organization Chart	Org chart BTOP Applicants.PDF	McCoy, James	03/15/2010



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Government and Key Partnerships	Resume McCoy.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Government and Key Partnerships	Resume - Hawthorne.docx	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Government and Key Partnerships	Letter of Support - COB.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Government and Key Partnerships	Letter of Support - Congressman Ortiz.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Government and Key Partnerships	Letter of Support - Texas State Library.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Government and Key Partnerships	Letter of Support Library Board.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Historical Financial Statements	COB Historical Financial Statement.pdf	McCoy, James	03/12/2010
Public Center Detail	PCC Detail.xls	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Detailed Budget	detailed budget.xls	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Detailed Budget	detailed budget.xls	McCoy, James	03/15/2010



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BTOP Certifications	Certification.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
SF424 Budget (A or C)	Project Budget.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
SF424 B and D Assurances	Assurances Construction Programs.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
SF424 B and D Assurances	Assurances Non Construction Programs.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010
Supplemental Information	Detailed Budget.pdf	McCoy, James	03/15/2010