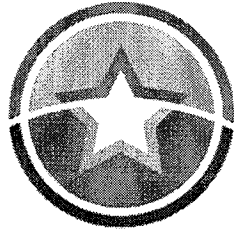


OFFICIAL SUBMISSION TO  
THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
FOR THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

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CONNECT  
Minnesota<sup>SM</sup>

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STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

July 1, 2010

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## PROJECT ABSTRACT

Current Funding: \$1,708,864 (mapping = \$1,213,564 & planning = \$495,300)

**Approved Activities:** The State of Minnesota, through the Connect Minnesota program, has applied for and received federal SBDD funds to support broadband mapping and planning activities statewide. Approved mapping activities include collection, development, and verification of broadband datasets as required by the NTIA as well as implementation of a web-based, interactive tool to inform and solicit feedback from state and local government officials, consumers, broadband providers, community development organizations, researchers, and other stakeholders regarding reported broadband availability, including location and type of service. Approved planning activities include state level survey research and analysis of supply and demand side data to inform the development of broadband strategic recommendations.

Connect Minnesota proposes funding for four SBDD projects:

**\$1,676,159: Data Collection Total**

Year 2: \$61,682 Year 3: \$517,195 Year 4: \$537,907 Year 5: \$559,375

Description: Broadband data collection will continue to effectuate complete and up-to-date datasets and broadband maps during the remainder of the five year program period. Leading practices for broadband data collection and verification will be identified and implemented.

**\$2,273,948: State Broadband Capacity Building Total**

Year 2: \$547,614 Year 3: \$551,101 Year 4: \$579,290 Year 5: \$595,943

Description: A central state level program office and broadband task force will be established to ensure broadband related strategies and activities are developed as part of a cohesive and comprehensive statewide initiative. The program office and task force will develop and lead a coordinated initiative for broadband capacity building, continued broadband inventory mapping, local and regional technology planning, technical assistance, and ultimately, increased broadband adoption and digital literacy.

**\$1,743,323: Technical Assistance Program Total**

Year 2: \$452,046 Year 3: \$376,067 Year 4: \$394,144 Year 5: \$521,066

Description: Technical assistance tools and resources for broadband expansion will be developed and made available to communities across the state. Tools and resources include technical engineering assistance, aggregated and shared best practices across regions through the Connect Minnesota web portal, and local level research on technology usage, needs, and barriers to adoption.

**\$1,242,655: Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams Total**

Year 2: \$400,618 Year 3: \$412,077 Year 4: \$212,625 Year 5: \$217,335

Description: Connect Minnesota will form Local Technology Planning Teams at the county level to leverage the program's technical assistance tools to establish specific technology adoption goals, recommendations, and action plans across community sectors. These plans will be assimilated at a state level to support the ongoing state strategic planning process of the program office. An associated Connected Corps initiative will partner with Minnesota universities and community colleges to recruit college students as technology ambassadors for their communities while simultaneously creating local jobs for students.

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## PROJECT NARRATIVE

Current Award: \$1,708,864  
New Award: \$ 6,936,085  
Total Award: \$8,644,949

**Currently Funded Activities:** The State of Minnesota, through the Connect Minnesota program, has applied for and received federal SBDD funds to support broadband mapping and planning activities statewide. Approved mapping activities include collection, development, and verification of broadband datasets as required by the NTIA as well as implementation of a web-based, interactive tool to inform and solicit feedback from state and local government officials, consumers, broadband providers, community development organizations, researchers, and other stakeholders regarding reported broadband availability, including location and type of service. Approved planning activities include state level survey research and analysis of supply and demand side data to inform the development of broadband strategic recommendations.

### DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION, VERIFICATION AND DISPLAY (DATA COLLECTION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES)

Current Award: \$1,213,564  
New Award: \$1,684,148  
Total Award: \$ 2,897,712

On April 30, 2010, Connect Minnesota, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Commerce, submitted the state's initial SBDD dataset representing participation from approximately 83% of the Minnesota provider community, or 100 of 120 total providers identified at the time of submission. Of the 20 providers that were not represented in the source data, 2 had either refused to participate in the voluntary program or have remained unresponsive to the numerous attempts at contact by Connect Minnesota. The remaining 18 providers are currently in some form of progress toward data submission but were not able to either submit or verify coverage areas at the time of this submission.

In compiling this initial data set, Connect Minnesota and all its principals expended all commercially reasonable efforts to account for 100% of the known Minnesota broadband provider community.

#### *Data Gathering Methodology*

Beyond the initial broadband data collection and submission to NTIA, provider outreach will continuously occur to ensure that the most up-to-date and accurate service area information is being collected and displayed on inventory maps. For each semi-annual update period, each viable broadband provider in the state will be contacted, via e-mail, phone, etc. to inquire about infrastructure or system updates and expansion. In some cases this may include, but would not be limited to, providers who offered services below the FCC's definition of broadband but have since upgraded their facilities.

For providers who have previously submitted data to the mapping project, pre-populated information spreadsheets, electronic copies of the provider's footprint (pursuant to the initial data submission) and the most recent version of the provider's service area map can be returned to them for their review and

approval. Any changes that have occurred since the last update can be indicated spatially on the map or through the information spreadsheet.

Providers who have not participated before can fill in a new information spreadsheet and supply data to Connected Nation. Service area data can be submitted in a variety of formats, including but not limited to ESRI shapefile, CAD file, PDF, spreadsheet, hard-copy maps, text files and several others. Providers that have previously refused to participate or were non-responsive will be contacted again. Refusing providers will be directed to the state's broadband website so they can view the published maps and see how service data is used and displayed for the project. This map view also allows providers to visually understand the impact of the refusal to participate.

Connected Nation will also continue to review broadband documents, including the FCC 477 reports, Directory of Round 2 BIP Applications and Public Notice Responses and other relevant public documents to ensure that any new providers are also accounted for and contacted. Additionally, Connected Nation received data sets from providers that were unable to provide "approval" of the coverage plots and confirm the validity of the data in time to meet the initial submission. Pending approval, these data sets will be incorporated in subsequent submissions.

#### *Process for Data Integration*

Connected Nation will employ the tactics described in the "Data Gathering Methodology" section to continuously seek out new information from providers that participated in the initial submission to NTIA, process the data from providers that submitted information but were unable to provide approvals before the initial submission to NTIA, and will strive to break the barriers with those providers that were non-responsive and/or refused to participate in the initial data submissions to NTIA. This will include using the guidelines provided in NTIA's letter of June 10, 2010, titled "State Broadband Data & Development Program – Initial Submission – Technical Notes".

Connected Nation will continue to collect and process any data format available, as broadband providers maintain their service area data in many different formats, all in varying levels of complexity and granularity. In order to ensure that the data required by the NTIA is standardized across all providers and that it is as accurate as possible, Connected Nation translates and formats the data that providers are able to supply into a GIS shapefile. While several data formats have been submitted by providers and successfully translated up to this point, there is always the possibility of new data formats being introduced; in that case, Connected Nation will work closely with the provider(s) to ensure the supplied data are correctly translated into a GIS format. All provider data supplied to Connected Nation will be processed and maps returned to the providers for their review and approval. Following the NTIA requirements for provider data submission, Connected Nation will format and structure the spatial data into the appropriate feature classes of the NSGIC Model version 2.0. The geodatabase of provider information will make up the bulk of the data submission to NTIA.

#### *Verification Methodology*

Connected Nation's Engineering & Technical Services staff will be devoting a portion of their time on validation processes such as (a) random spectrum analysis studies, (b) identifying pre-selected vertical assets and cross referencing provider submitted data against the Federal Communications Commission databases such as Antenna Structure Registration and/or the Universal Licensing System, (c) validating

site information against data collection such as the physical coordinates using a handheld Garmin eTrex Summit GPS unit, (d) locating physical wire-line attributes (such as remote terminals, CATV plant, etc.); and (e) digital photography which would capture images of transmit locations, head-ends, remote terminals, central office equipment, etc.

Time will be allocated for cross referencing public documents such as the Federal Communications Commission Form 477 data and conducting “on site” visits with pre-selected providers in order to both validate broadband distribution platforms and to build upon the relationships developed during the initial submission period to ensure continuous provider support and participation.

During the validation efforts and on site visits, certain common and consistent denominators will be used to ensure the highest quality of validation techniques. These may include wireless signal testing (using a spectrum analyzer) at Wi-Fi locations, at the transmit site of fixed wireless providers and at randomly selected sites for WiMAX and mobile providers. All locations will be subjected to speed tests using the test site (provided by Ookla Net Metrics) which is commonly available on every respective state’s website.

Another verification methodology encompasses consumer feedback with regards to the publicly available maps and analysis on broadband service areas. The primary mechanism of consumer feedback is in the form of broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communication received from the public regarding broadband service. Consumers are encouraged through the website and other outreach activities to provide feedback on the maps through the map website, e-mail, or by phone. With the additional proposed programmatic element of local/regional technology planning, this outreach and verification will now also be conducted on the ground through local planning teams. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information collected through the SBDD program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) Residents who do not have broadband service available and want it. 2) Residents who have broadband service available but want a different provider. 3) Residents who can offer localized information to help verify the accuracy of the broadband maps.

Through the aggregation of broadband inquiries in GIS format, a visual demand for broadband is presented. This form of “crowdsourcing” allows for the ability to adjust broadband availability maps for accuracy. If information from residents differs from the broadband inventory maps, this allows Connected Nation to approach broadband service providers within a particular area to refine the data and map representation.

Finally, Connected Nation will access and use the aggregate data collected by FCC Form 477 that is being made available to the designated entity in each state or territory for purposes of broadband data verification. FCC Order 10-71, released on April 26, 2010, interprets P.L. 110-385 (the Broadband Data Improvement Act) to require the FCC release of this data to each state or territory participating in the BDIA.

#### *Leading Practices*

A number of leading practices identified in the Grant Guidance have been implemented by Connect Minnesota in the first year of the SBDD program. These include practices such as submission of data in

geodatabase format, submission of speed information at a Census Block or wireless footprint level, integration of public data sources, provider feedback, direct assistance to small providers, “crowdsourcing” through the Connect Minnesota online interactive map, and detailed descriptions of methodology. Moving forward, Connect Minnesota proposes to implement a number of additional leading practices, with associated budget funding, including:

- Pricing – publicly available pricing data will be gathered through provider websites and phone calls to randomly selected addresses across a distributed sampling of the state. Per the suggestions contained within the Grant Guidance, pricing data sought will include price points per tier, required bundles, equipment rebates or costs, and incentive offers.
- Data Confidence Scales – this area will be explored for potential development and implementation, in coordination with the NTIA as future federal guidance on data confidence scales is released.
- Ongoing Verification Activities – ongoing verification will focus on areas of concern, based on information garnered from prior data collection and verification. Within these targeted areas of concern, a focus will be placed on field validation of platform availability and the promotion of online crowdsourcing tools such as interactive maps and web surveys.
- Surveys – in an effort to create cost-efficiency gains, state level survey research conducted as a means of data verification in Year 1 will be transferred to a related project within the program, combining state level data collection with local level data collection into one survey, for enhanced data and reduced fixed costs across the program. These local-level surveys will continue to verify broadband availability among a statistically significant sample of all households as well as a statistically significant sample of rural households, in accordance with NOFA requirements, while targeting verification among a statistically significant sample of addresses in each Minnesota county. Meanwhile, these surveys will capture data on technology usage and barriers to adoption at the local level, in support of a number of BDIA purposes.
- In-person community engagement – meetings with community leaders and residents to verify and discuss the results of the data collection will be conducted through the local and regional technology teams proposed as a complementary project within this program, at no additional costs to the data collection project.

#### *Display*

The expanded opportunity of the State Broadband Data and Development grant program positions the state of Minnesota to improve upon its original vision for SBDD grant in terms of data accessibility as well as its utility in aiding planning and collaboration efforts.

The current Connect Minnesota website ([www.connectmn.org](http://www.connectmn.org)) supports several stakeholder groups in the advancement of the programmatic goals of the SBDD program in Minnesota. To the most general program stakeholder, the portal facilitates access to the broadband state level map through the BroadbandStat (BBStat) application, as well as other salient information pertinent to the SBDD effort within the state. In addition to serving the accessibility need as prescribed in the original NOFA, it is an integral part of the data acquisition as well as the accuracy and verification methodologies employed in the mapping effort.

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**STATE BROADBAND CAPACITY BUILDING**

NAME: Connect Minnesota Office and the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce

FUNDS AWARDED: \$0

FUNDS REQUESTED: \$2,273,948

**PROBLEM:** The state of Minnesota desires to establish and implement the necessary framework to continue to develop and lead a coordinated initiative for broadband capacity building, continued broadband inventory mapping, local and regional technology planning, technical assistance, and ultimately, increased broadband adoption/literacy.

**SOLUTION:** Working through the Connect Minnesota initiative, which is already established in the state and conducting broadband mapping activities, the state of Minnesota will establish a Connect Minnesota program office to leverage the work of the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force and working in partnership with the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce soon to be named by the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce<sup>1</sup>.

Connect Minnesota will work in partnership with the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce to realize the vision of the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force and in compliance with relevant state legislation. The Connect Minnesota Program director and staff will support the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce, which will be comprised of representatives from the broadband provider and user community and other organizations that have an interest in improving Minnesota's broadband availability and adoption.

Connect Minnesota in partnership with the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce will serve to coordinate and leverage the work of several different activities currently underway (such as broadband mapping and the Connect Minnesota portal, which functions as a point of public information about broadband for Minnesotans) and proposed as part of this application (broadband capacity building, statewide and local research, statewide broadband summits, statewide and local technology plans, demand aggregation, technical assistance, and other activities identified by the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce), ensuring that all activities are developed as part of a cohesive and comprehensive statewide initiative.

**OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS:** In addition to the Connect Minnesota program office functioning to manage the entire Connect Minnesota initiative, including but not limited to all activities proposed in this grant submission, in partnership and at the direction of the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce, the program office will support the work of the Taskforce to, at a minimum:

- Collaborate to identify and help provide guidance and solutions for Minnesota's evolving broadband challenges.
- Develop and maintain ongoing strategic plans with specific goals and recommended action for increasing the availability and adoption of broadband statewide.
- Assess current programs to improve broadband growth and adoption, and make recommendations on program improvements and creation of new programs in Minnesota.

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<sup>1</sup> The Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce order issued on June 18, 2010 by the State of Minnesota's Commissioner of Commerce is included as part of the application package.

As a part of these activities, Connect Minnesota, in coordination with the Taskforce, will fulfill most of the activities laid out by the grant guidance document, resulting in a dynamic and research-based state broadband plan; ongoing program assessment across localities; coordination of broadband related activities across state agencies and among state level organizations; an annual statewide broadband summit to include both public and private, for-profit and nonprofit Minnesota stakeholders; and aggressive engagement of consumers and the public through the use of media, events (working in conjunction with local planning teams), and the Connect Minnesota web portal.

COST: Based on previous experience and the rich legacy of broadband-focused initiatives in Minnesota, Connect Minnesota is confident that the funds expended over four years for state broadband capacity building, in conjunction and harmony with resources provided for broadband mapping, planning, technical assistance, and local technology planning teams, will continue to transform the technology and broadband literacy and activity in Minnesota.

Research indicates that projects proposed by Connect Minnesota and the Taskforce will result in significant increases in broadband adoption, at levels above what otherwise would have occurred absent these projects. For example, between 2008 and 2010 in Ohio, where Connect Minnesota's sister program Connect Ohio has operated since 2008, home broadband adoption has increased by 11 percentage points,<sup>2</sup> more than double the national growth rate of five percentage points during a similar time period.<sup>3</sup> In Tennessee, the Connected Tennessee program has resulted in a nine percentage point increase in statewide home broadband adoption between 2008 and 2010, with even higher broadband adoption growth measured among Tennessee's vulnerable populations, including an 11 percentage point growth among minorities, 13 percentage point growth among elderly residents, 16 percentage point growth among households with children, 17 percentage point growth among adults with disabilities, 18 percentage point growth among rural residents, and 20 percentage point growth among low-income households.<sup>4</sup>

A number of research studies<sup>5</sup> have directly linked broadband adoption increases to overall strengthening of the economy, and it is expected that similar increases will yield similar economic benefits in Minnesota.

By linking the activities of state broadband capacity building with broadband mapping, technical assistance, and local technology planning teams, the funds expended in this program category will yield greater efficiency and effectiveness. The Connect Minnesota Program Office working in partnership with Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce will direct, coordinate and enhance activities in other program categories, and activities in other categories will inform and strengthen the ability of the Program Office working in partnership with the Taskforce to craft the state's technology plan, assessments, and solutions.

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<sup>2</sup> 2008 and 2010 Connect Ohio® Residential Technology Assessments, [www.connectohio.org](http://www.connectohio.org)

<sup>3</sup> Pew Internet and American Life Project, *Home Broadband 2008*, released 6/2/2008. Pew Internet and American Life Project, *Internet, Broadband, and Cell Phone Statistics*, released 1/5/2010.

<sup>4</sup> 2008 and 2010 Connected Tennessee® Residential Technology Assessments. [www.connectedtn.org](http://www.connectedtn.org)

<sup>5</sup> For example, Gillett, Sharon; Dr. William Lehr; Carlos Osorio; and Marvin Sirbu, "Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Deployment." Feb 2006. Also, *The Economic Impact of Stimulating Broadband Nationally*. Connected Nation. February 2008.



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**SBDD PURPOSE:** The activities undertaken in the state broadband capacity building portion of the Connect Minnesota initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:

“... (2) to identify and track the areas with low levels of deployment, the rate at which residential and business users adopt broadband service and other related information technology services, and possible suppliers of such services;

(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;

... (6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;

... (8) to collect and analyze detailed market data concerning use and demand for broadband service;

(9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ...” (source: P.L. 110-385)

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

NAME: Connect Minnesota Technical Assistance

FUNDS AWARDED: \$0

FUNDS REQUESTED: \$1,743,248

**PROBLEM:** Community anchor institutions and local leaders are currently in need of both technical engineering assistance for targeted, community-specific IT assessments as well as effective tools/resources for aggregating and sharing best practices across regions and communities.

In addition, locally relevant research on technology usage, needs, and barriers among Minnesota residents and businesses is necessary to develop cost-effective programs for local broadband planning, application development, digital literacy, and improved computer ownership and Internet use. Without credible research at the local level, local planning teams are forced to make assumptions about what strengths and weaknesses exist in their community. Additionally, this type of research is needed on a recurring basis to effectively benchmark technology use and evolving barriers/needs, as well as to identify best practices programs and to measure the impact of state and local programs over time. Currently, there is no publicly available source for local data on technology use and barriers to use.

State level research cannot provide granular enough information to effectively and efficiently inform the tactical technology strategy in each community. Minnesota has learned from the experiences of other states that a “one size fits all” approach is not effective for creating local broadband plans if communities intend to fill the broadband gaps and improve technology literacy and use in a sustainable manner. For example, the plan for the remote wilderness area of Northeastern Minnesota will be substantially different than the challenges faced in the farming communities of Southern Minnesota, and there will be a wholly-separate set of challenges in the urban and immigrant-rich neighborhoods of Minneapolis/St. Paul. Even regional level research is not granular enough for a community based effort. Technology usage and barriers often vary widely from one county to the next. For example, broadband adoption rates are starkly different across three contiguous Tennessee counties that would typically be grouped in the same region. Home broadband adoption is 74% in Williamson County, while it stands at 53% in neighboring Dickson County and significantly lower at 38% in neighboring Hickman County. Local, county level benchmarking that collects and analyzes detailed market data concerning the use and demand for broadband service and related information technology services provides critical technical assistance necessary for Minnesota’s broadband initiative to effectively guide, support, and empower local efforts.

**SOLUTION:** The Connect Minnesota Technical Assistance activities will develop technical assistance tools that include:

- County level broadband research and benchmarking as a tool for state and local planning and program development, as well as for measuring and assessing state and local programs to identify best practices, which programs are most effective and which programs may need assistance to produce greater results. To this end, a series of county-level statistical telephone surveys will be conducted at the state and county levels to track and understand the local

challenges related to broadband and computer use. Residential surveys will measure the rate of home broadband adoption, computer ownership, online application use and frequency of use, barriers to home broadband adoption and computer ownership, prices paid for broadband service, and similar broadband related questions across demographics in each county, producing statistically significant results at a county level. These county level residential surveys will be conducted in the first year and the final year of the project. Additionally, state level residential surveys will be conducted once during each of the two interim project years to provide statewide measurements and macro insights on how technology use is changing from year to year across demographics. Annual telephone surveys will also be conducted among a statistically significant sample of businesses across the state, with quotas set for industry sector and business size.

- Technical engineering and IT assistance, as directed by regional and local leaders, to provide targeted broadband infrastructure assessments and potential options for local determination of the most cost-efficient broadband growth in compliance with all applicable Minnesota legislation. These technical engineering assessments will include a number of options for local and regional assistance, including broadband infrastructure assessments and cost modeling across platforms and towers, IT assessments across community sectors to assist local government and other community anchor institutions, and related technical assistance as requested by local and regional leaders.
- GIS cataloging, aggregating, and sharing broadband success stories and best practices statewide through a user-friendly mechanism within the Connect Minnesota web portal.

As requested or otherwise directed by regional and local leaders, the Connect Minnesota program office will make available the services of trained broadband professionals to assist state subdivisions. The administration of this project component would be coordinated through the program office of the State Broadband Capacity Building project.

Service offerings to program stakeholders could include but not be limited to:

**Technology Strategy Development:**

- Feasibility studies
- Business plan development
- Cost modeling/assessments
- IT assessments

**Engineering & Technical Services:**

- Wireless propagation studies
- Tower sitting, permits and lease negotiations
- Equipment installation
- Marketing/Website development and analytics
- Train-the-Trainer sessions (technical)
- GIS services

**Sustainability Planning:**

- Technical writing services
- Grant writing services

- Project Management/Program design services
- Train-the-Trainer sessions (non-technical)

**OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS:** County level research will ensure that Minnesota's county technology planning teams have access to reliable, current, community-specific data as they work to develop realistic goals and actionable, cost-effective strategic plans to meet Minnesota's specific community needs. County level residential surveys in the first year and the final year of the project will enable both effective program development as well as a mechanism for measuring the impact of state and local programs over time and across various demographic groups. This process allows for identifying best practices – those programs evidenced to be most effective, and those programs which may need assistance to produce greater results.

The technical engineering assistance proposed under this category will, based on Connected Nation's previous experience, interface directly with local government leaders and local broadband providers (or potential providers) to develop an assessment of what infrastructure is available and what may be necessary to ensure broadband service to those currently unserved and enhanced service to areas or populations that are underserved. The engineering assessments provided will allow local leaders and communities key intelligence that will allow them to coordinate and lead broadband deployment to their citizens.

Finally, the funds allocated here will allow for the GIS cataloguing of local broadband successes and best practices to all Minnesota broadband stakeholders and consumers through the Connect Minnesota web-portal. The Connect Minnesota web-portal will become a tool not only for the dissemination of detailed information about broadband deployment and technology trends in Minnesota but also a medium for the sharing of information between state, regional, and local program participants and stakeholders. This function of sharing information will allow Connect Minnesota stakeholders to take further ownership of the program and ensure that the program is nimble enough to adapt to identified needs and best practices as rapidly as possible.

These program activities will satisfy, wholly or in-part, the following technical assistance activities described in the grant guidance provided by NTIA:

- Provide technical expertise to local institutions, nonprofits, and governments to develop or help sustain deployment and adoption-related initiatives.
- Support the creation of tribal, regional, or local task forces or advisory boards and strategic plans.
- Support tribal, regional, or local coordinating activities.
- Provide educational information to communities, businesses, and other stakeholders about the efforts being undertaken to improve access and adoption across a state or region.

**COST:** The technical assistance provided to communities in this category will bring about more cost-effective local projects, as these tools provide the relevant information for determining the costs and benefits associated with potential solutions for sustainable broadband expansion, deploying targeted and results-oriented broadband applications, and understanding what best practices are most applicable and transferable across communities and regions.

Further, in an effort to create gains in cost-efficiency, state level surveys have been shifted from the Data Collection project (data verification) into the Technical Assistance project. This shift enables state level surveys to be conducted in concert with county level surveys, thus capitalizing on the natural fixed costs of survey research and realizing economies of scale through survey bundling across geographies. Additionally, county level surveys have been staggered to allow for micro level data when it is most necessary, as this granular data collection is more costly than state level data collection. To that end, county level surveys will be administered only at the beginning and the end of the project for cost-efficiency. Interim state level surveys will produce a more macro view of evolving demographic trends in technology usage, which can be extrapolated and applied at a local level using the original county level data as a comparison, without the higher costs of interim county level surveys.

**SBDD PURPOSE:** The activities undertaken in the technical assistance portion of the Connect Minnesota initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:

“... (2) to identify and track the areas with low levels of deployment, the rate at which residential and business users adopt broadband service and other related information technology services, and possible suppliers of such services;  
(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;  
... (6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;  
... (8) to collect and analyze detailed market data concerning use and demand for broadband service;  
(9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ...” (source: P.L. 110-385)

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## LOCAL/REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING TEAMS

NAME: Connect Minnesota Local Technology Planning Teams

FUNDS AWARDED: \$0

FUNDS REQUESTED: \$1,243,655

**PROBLEM:** State level activities cannot be relied upon to “trickle down” equally to every community in a state, and empowering local communities with necessary tools to assess needs and identify solutions is more effective in crafting local plans, increasing local broadband adoption, and spurring the creation of local web-based applications that improve quality of life and the “value proposition” of broadband to households and small businesses.

**SOLUTION:** Working in coordination with the Connect Minnesota Program Office, the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce and with the technical assistance activities described above as the primary toolset, Connect Minnesota will form Local Technology Planning Teams with representation across community sectors.

The Connect Minnesota executive director will work in coordination with the Connect Minnesota technology extension agent and indigenous regional technology planning coordinators to identify specific and relevant community leaders to serve as local technology champions. Through a train-the-trainer approach that uses Connected Nation methodology and best practices for local technology planning, these local champions will build community broadband teams that will leverage the program’s technical assistance tools (maps, research, engineering, best practices) across community sectors to establish specific goals, recommendations, and action plans at the community level. These community plans will also be assimilated at a state level to support the ongoing state strategic planning process. Teams will represent volunteer local leaders from key community sectors, including, but not limited to:

- Healthcare
- K-12 education
- Higher education
- Government
- Business and Industry
- Agriculture
- Libraries
- Community-based organizations
- Telecommunications organized labor entities
- Tourism, Recreation, and Parks

The local teams will satisfy all of the expected activities identified by NTIA in the grant guidance document and set forth in the BDIA, including benchmarking of technology use across relevant community sectors; setting goals for improved technology use within each sector; and development of a plan for achieving its goals, with specific recommendations for web-based application development and demand creation.

Each team, working with staff from the Connect Minnesota Program Office, will conduct regular meetings throughout the planning period (over the first two years) as part of the assessment and planning activities. Teams will continue to meet throughout the program period to guide the implementation of the county strategic plan for improving technology use across sectors. Annual statewide summits will be held for all program participants to share best practices across localities and community sectors. Additionally, periodic reports will be provided to the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce.

As part of this local planning effort, Connect Minnesota will incorporate a Connected Corps initiative. Working in partnership with Minnesota educational organizations including universities, community colleges, secondary schools, and other educationally-focused youth organizations such as 4-H this initiative will recruit local youth who excel in school and related activities and exhibit advanced leadership and technology skills to assist in technology training, technical support, and outreach efforts in their communities. Recognizing indigenous youth as a powerful resource for local outreach efforts, the Connected Corps challenges young persons to extend their technology experiences beyond the classroom to help make a difference in their communities by embracing their role as technology ambassadors for their communities while simultaneously creating local jobs for promising students.

**OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS:** As each regional and local planning team implements and completes its work, each county will gain a specialized local broadband plan, informed by county-specific research data, providing a technology road map that every Minnesota county can follow to derive rapid and meaningful benefits from broadband deployment and increased broadband adoption. At a state, regional and local level, there will be an established framework of broadband engagement and clear understanding of the benefits of broadband adoption and challenges to both increased broadband deployment and usage.

Further, the incorporation of robust volunteer participation at the state, regional and local levels will harvest civically-minded and motivated individuals who are vested in the well-being and future of their communities and likely to remain supportive of developing innovative technology solutions for Minnesota.

**COST:** Using a train-the-trainer approach to technology planning builds a cost-efficient and self-sustaining infrastructure for long-term planning and implementation at the regional and local levels, empowering community volunteers to remain vested in developing smart broadband solutions and making effective use of limited resources across community sectors and anchor institutions.

**SBDD PURPOSE:** The activities undertaken in the technical assistance portion of the Connect Minnesota initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:

- “(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;
- (5) to create and facilitate by county or designated region in a State, local technology planning teams;
- (6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;...
- (9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ...” (source: P.L. 110-385)

## **CONCLUSION**

### **GOALS & ASPIRATIONS**

The leadership of the State of Minnesota consistently demonstrates a commitment to making digital literacy and engagement a reality for all residents and businesses of the North Star State.

As the North Star is equated with providing guidance, the findings and recommendations of the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force provide a strategic guide that will be utilized by the State (and its partners) as it actively moves forward to realize its aspirations to be:

- In the top five (5) states of the United States for comprehensive broadband speed
- In the top five (5) states of the United States for broadband penetration
- In the top fifteen (15) countries for global broadband penetration.

The guidance proposed by the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force is targeted to “bring reliable, affordable and ubiquitous broadband service to all Minnesotans and will ensure they get the service options they need.”

The Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce will be naming a Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce to continue the exemplary work of the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force, which has been used as a benchmark by a number of states.

The soon-to-be-named Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce will oversee the activities of the various organizations partnering with the State to realize its broadband goals and aspirations.

### **SUCCESS IN PROGRESS**

In the fall of 2008, the Minnesota Department of Commerce first began working with Connected Nation, through its subsidiary non-profit Connect Minnesota, to assess the level of broadband connectivity statewide through an initial broadband mapping process. To build on that effort, the Minnesota Governor’s Office enlisted Connect Minnesota as the designated entity to undertake an even more comprehensive broadband data collection and mapping initiative as provided by the July 1, 2009, Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Connect Minnesota, by employing industry-standard GIS toolsets and experienced personnel, delivered and will maintain and refresh comprehensive granular maps of existing broadband service for a period of two years following the initial grant award. The maps are accessible to the general public via an interactive portal located at [www.connectmn.org](http://www.connectmn.org). The interactive portal also presents overlaying data relevant to policymakers, providers, and consumers alike, including household density and other demographic information, topographical information, and civil infrastructure data. The map is address-searchable and depicts geographical areas such as municipalities, cities, townships, political districts, and state and federal lands.

In order to provide potential entrepreneurs seeking to apply for RUS or NTIA grants with the broadband infrastructure build-out information required for their applications, Connect Minnesota also released and maintained a Census Block level map of available broadband service in the state. The interactive map and associated downloadable database detail the identification number of each of the Census



Blocks in Minnesota, the total number of households per Block, and the number of households with available broadband service per Block.

The Connect Minnesota initiative unites government entities, businesses, and citizens around the shared goal of increased broadband access and use across the state. Connect Minnesota will utilize the data gathered throughout the mapping process to inform the state's planning efforts. The planning program will consist of an ongoing market-based survey research effort to better understand technology use and barriers to broadband adoption among residents and businesses in Minnesota. The outcome of this process will be the development of data-driven analyses of the challenges and opportunities related to broadband deployment and adoption. The primary analytical tool for the program will be BroadbandStat, a GIS analytics solution developed jointly by Connected Nation and ESRI to provide a next generation solution for broadband mapping and decision-making.

#### SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

The funds provided by the State Broadband Data and Development Amended and Supplemental Grant Program will enable the state of Minnesota and its partner, Connect Minnesota, to move forward with the continued success of the goals set forth in its initial grant award in conjunction with the realization of the vision set forth by the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force.

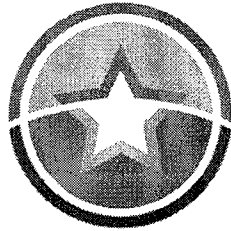
The use and application of the funds requested in the Amended and Supplemental Grant Award will focus on the following:

- Extending the timeframe to refresh the comprehensive granular maps of existing broadband service and continue to keep this a viable tool for planning and measuring return on investment (ROI) and other key success indicators.
- Creating Minnesota jobs by developing a dedicated feet-on-the-ground presence to partner with, drive and coordinate the activities of the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce as they move forward with realizing the vision set forth by the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force.
- Making the State's vision local by engaging regional and/or county-level leadership in locally-focused planning teams to evaluate, determine, refine and implement the broadband strategy in a way that is meaningful for their communities.
- Expanding and developing the tools needed for the success of the local planning teams including evaluation and recommendations on broadband infrastructure as well as continued research to identify barriers to digital literacy and engagement.
- Creating MORE Minnesota jobs by creating opportunities to engage youth as digital ambassadors in their local communities.
- Convening the rich pool of players from all sectors focused on broadband in an Annual Broadband Summit to benchmark and leverage projects and programs to further the reach and success of all initiatives to strengthen Minnesota and its vision of digital literacy and engagement for all its residents and businesses – present and future.

Greater detail on the items shared above may be found in the State Broadband Data and Development Amended and Supplemental Grant Program Application submitted by Connect Minnesota with the support of the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

OFFICIAL SUBMISSION TO  
THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
FOR THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

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CONNECT  
Minnesota<sup>SM</sup>

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STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

BUDGET NARRATIVE

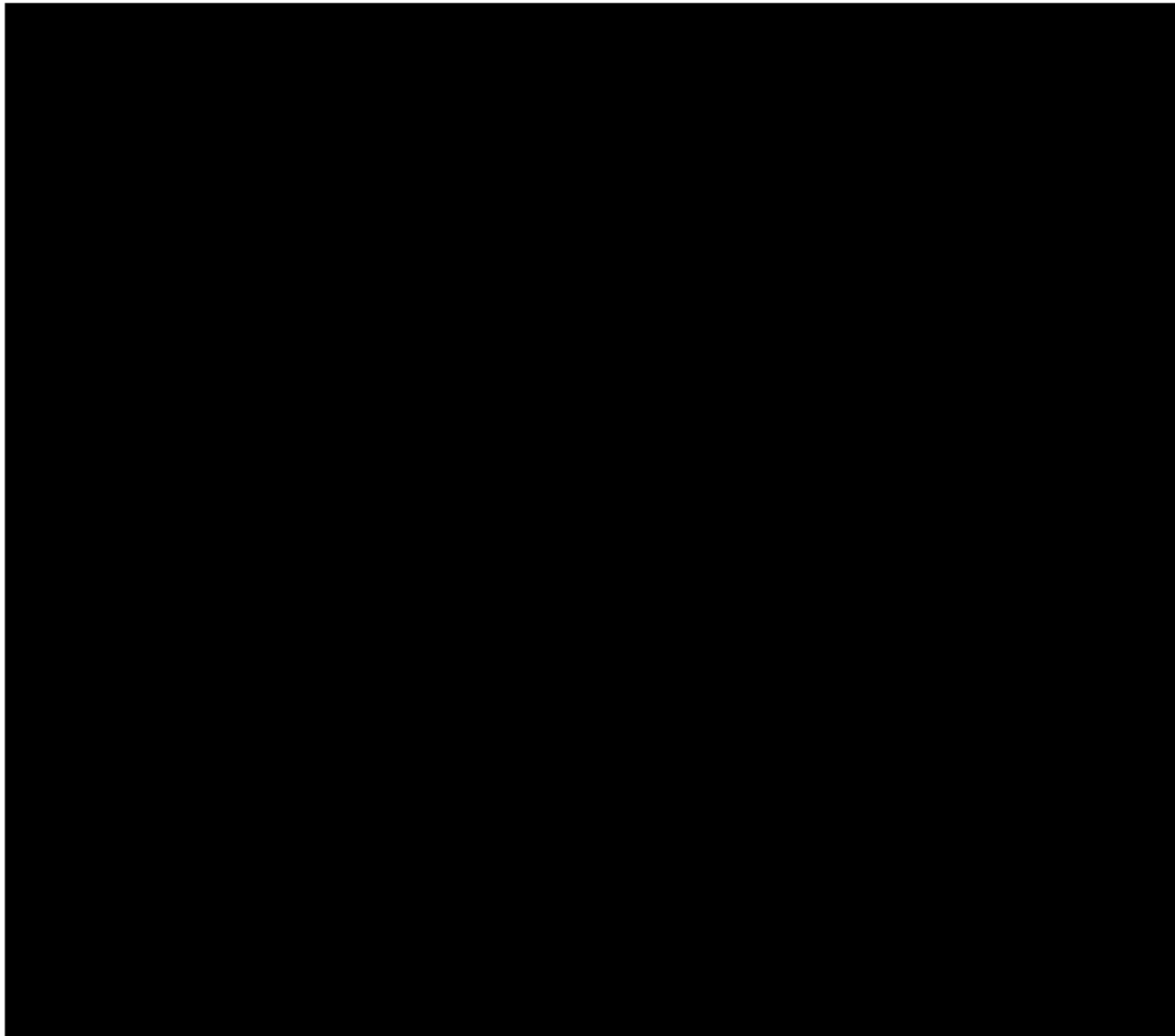
July 1, 2010

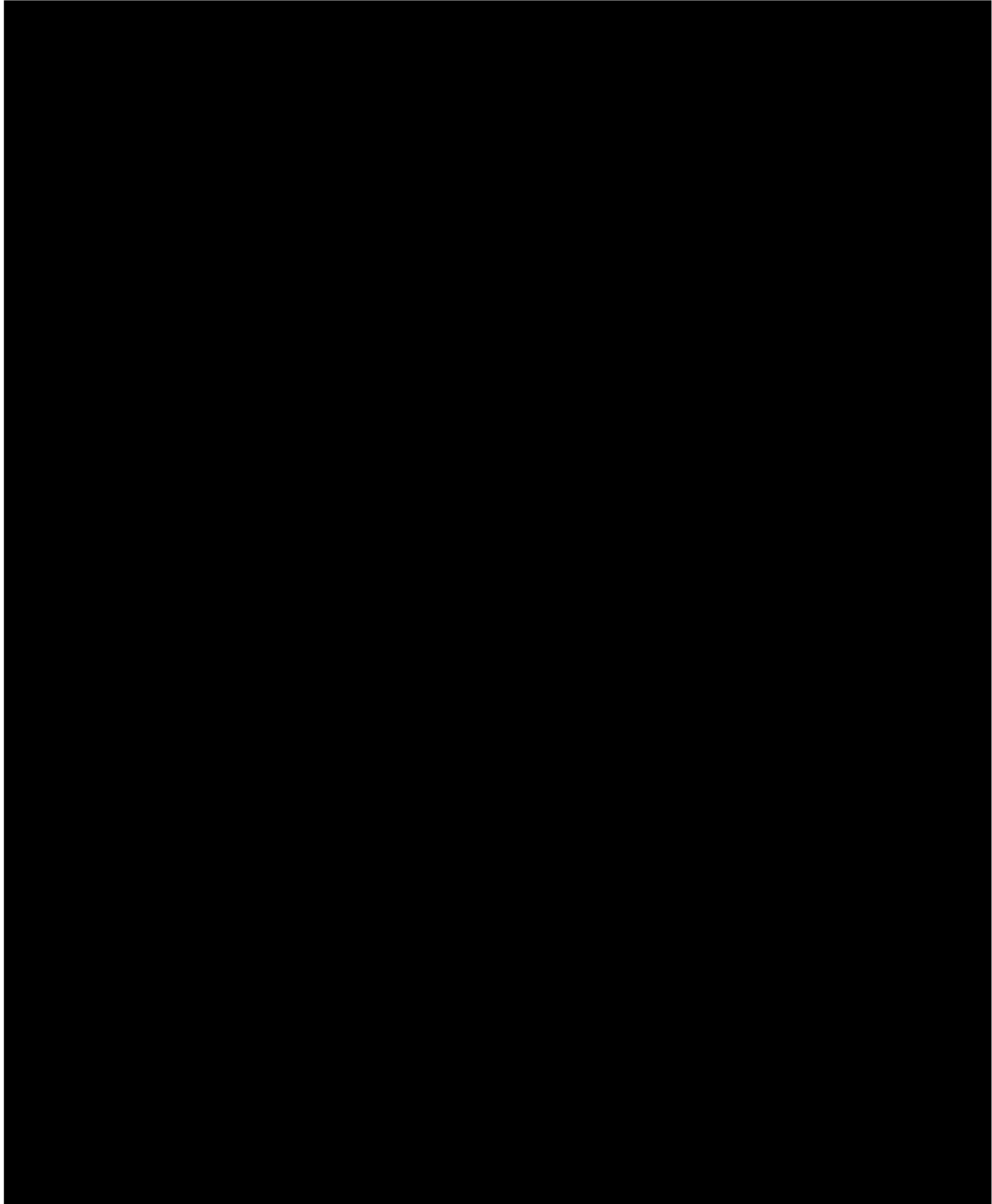
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
MAPPING BUDGET NARRATIVE

OVERVIEW

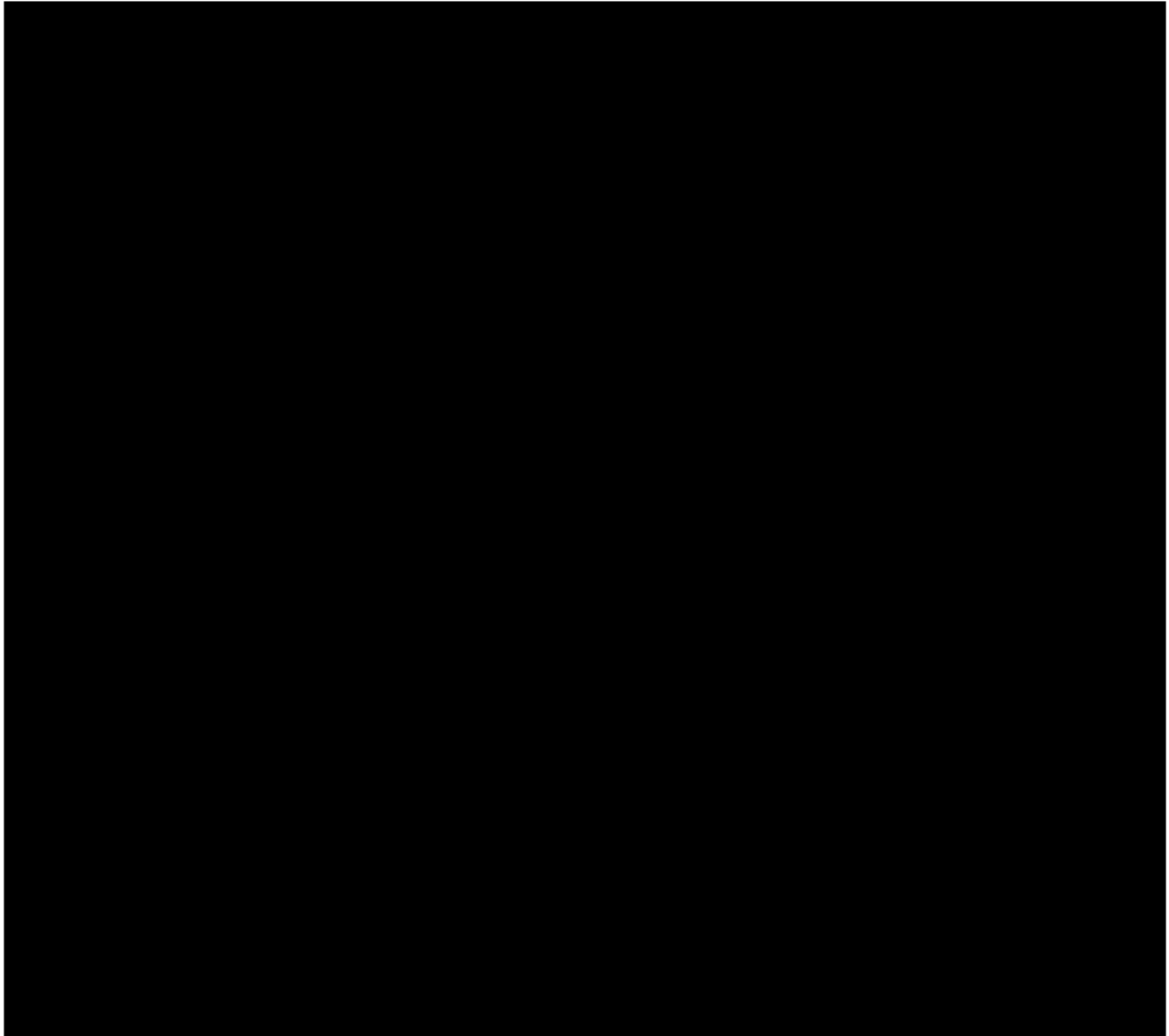
The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 3-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connect Minnesota, will implement the project activities on behalf of the state of Minnesota.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.

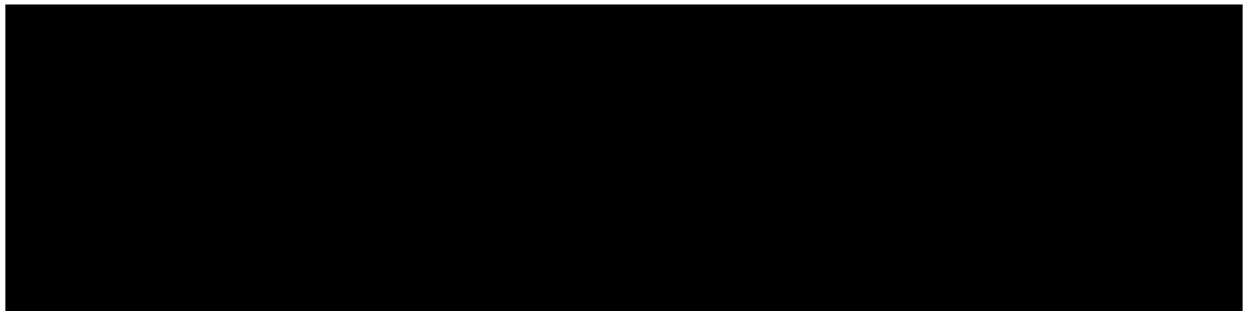




Strategic Program Office

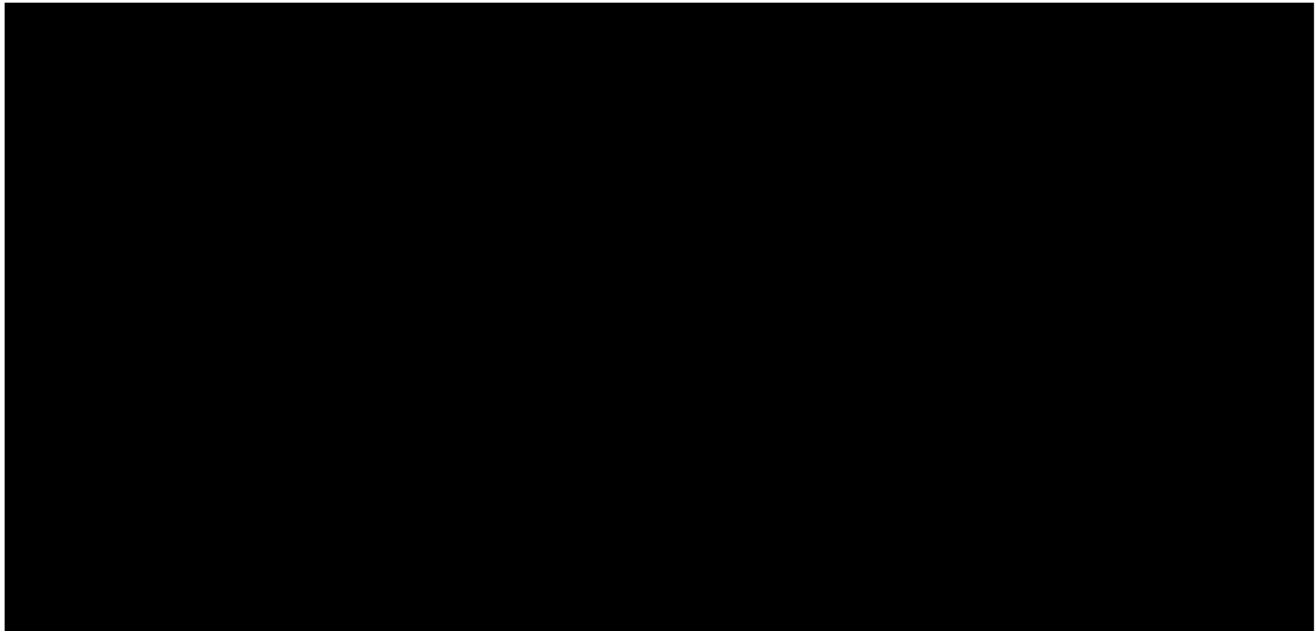
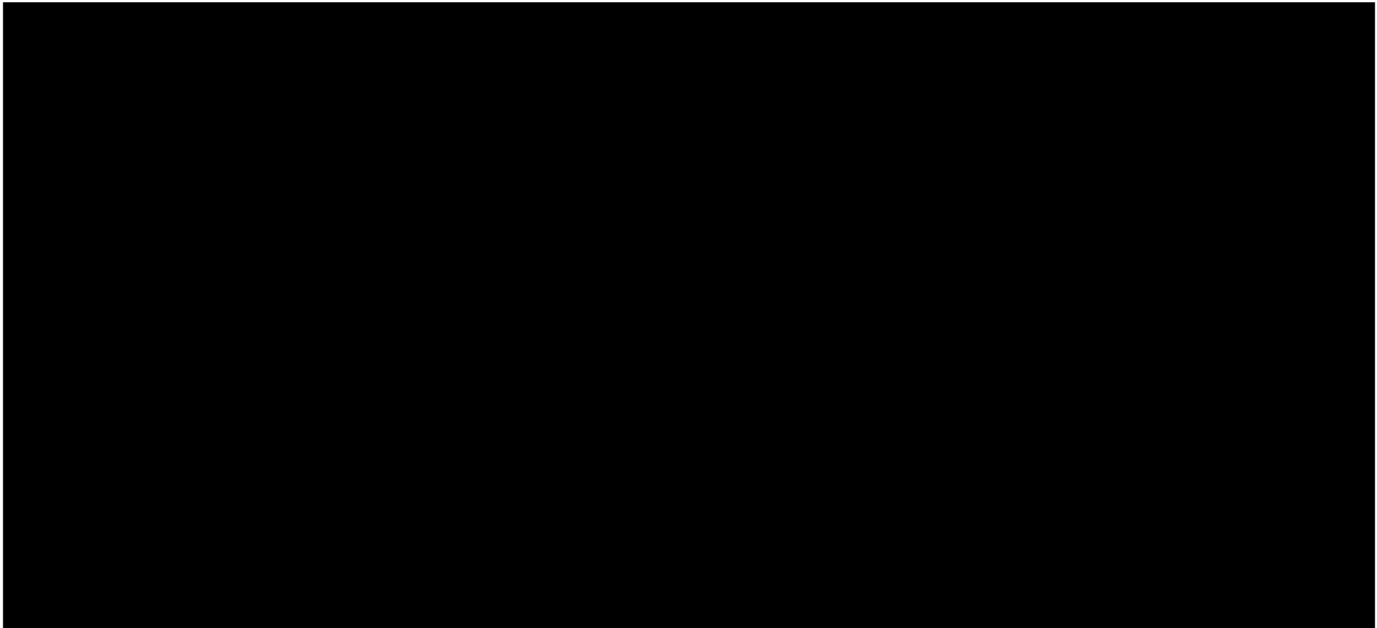



Research





Outreach and Awareness





The total amount for personnel costs for this project is \$159,025 in Year 3, \$165,385 in Year 4, and \$172,000 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

#### Fringe Benefits

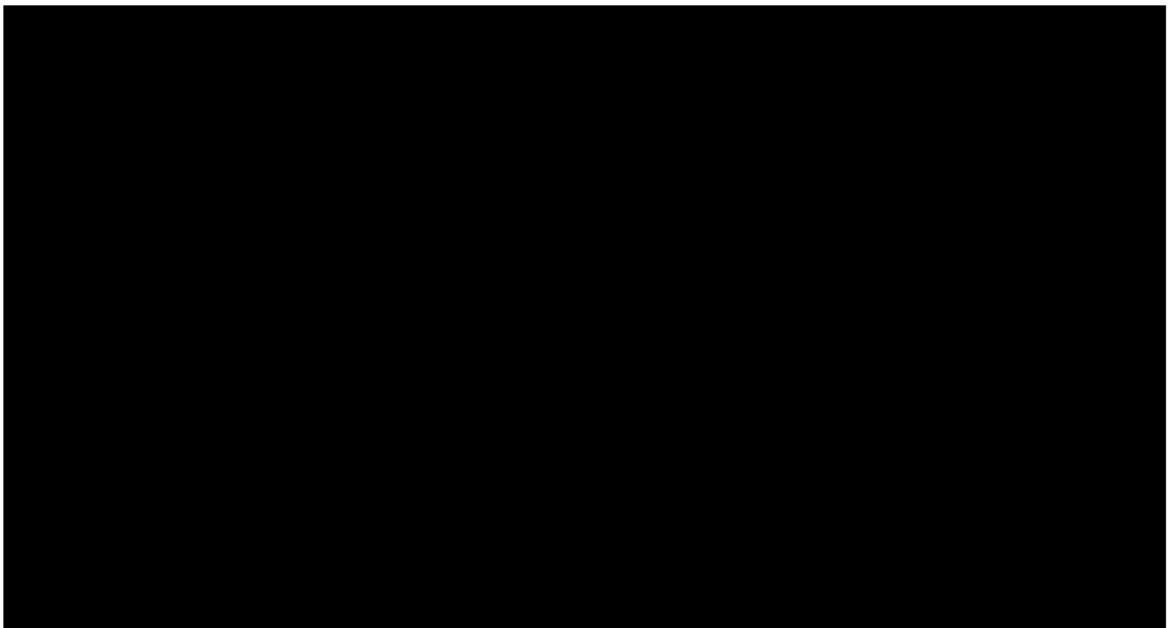
Fringe Benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%) and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries. Projected fringe benefit cost for Year 3 is \$34,110, Year 4 is \$35,475, and Year 5 is \$36,894.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

#### Projected Travel Costs

Travel costs associated with Broadband Mapping will support the project's ability for staff to be in the field for data collection, field validation and stakeholder management efforts. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of \$520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of \$208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be \$94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is \$54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on \$.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.



The total travel costs attributable to this project are \$28,628 in Year 3, \$29,764 in Year 4, and \$30,924 in Year 5.

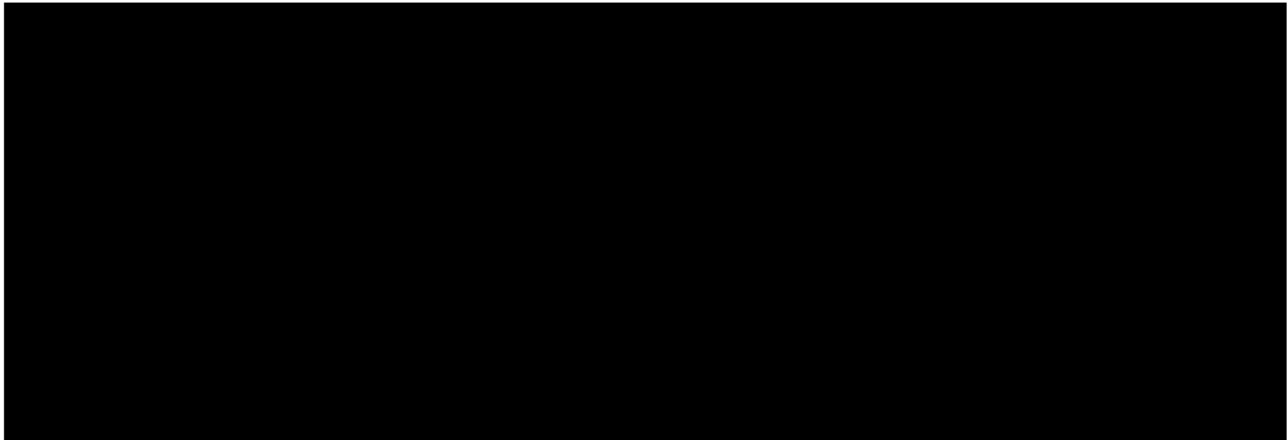
Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.



## Equipment

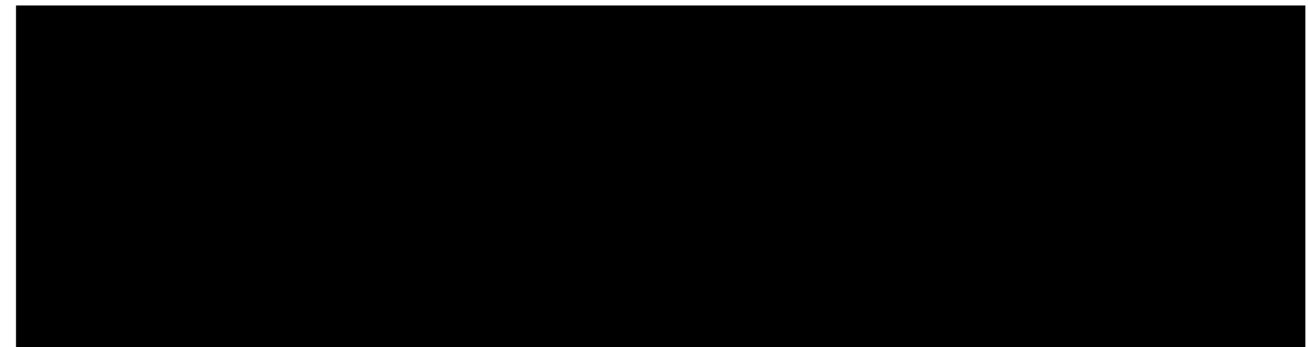
BroadbandStat provides a comprehensive mapping portal for states to manage broadband stimulus projects and activities through the ARRA. Using the ArcGIS Server and its API mapping technologies to incorporate broadband mapping and survey data with demographic and topographic data from the Census Bureau, and other reputable data sources, BroadbandStat provides not only a user-friendly GIS viewer to understand and track broadband deployment over time, it also provides an analytical tool for prioritizing unserved and underserved areas, evaluating and tracking stimulus projects, and enabling taxpayers with full transparency and accountability of broadband stimulus funding in their state. BroadbandStat empowers states to:


- Leverage the best-of-class, geographic informatics for broadband decision-making
- Build and evaluate scenarios to help score and prioritize broadband proposals
- Provide data-based support for effective grant-making
- Facilitate project investment tracking over time
- Provide access-based tools that are relevant and meaningful for specific audiences, including government agencies, consumers, community leaders, broadband providers, and media



Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

## Materials/Supplies

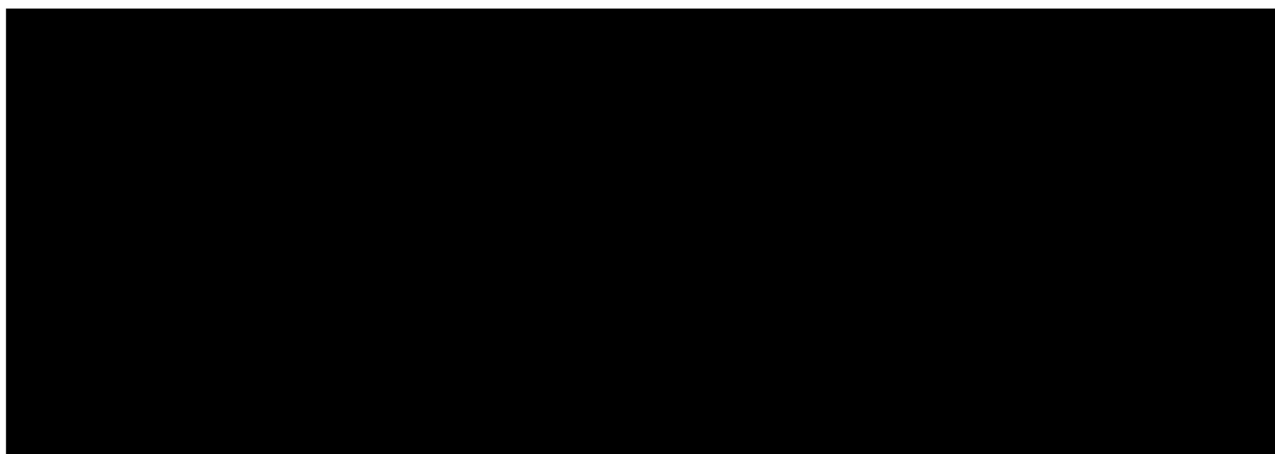
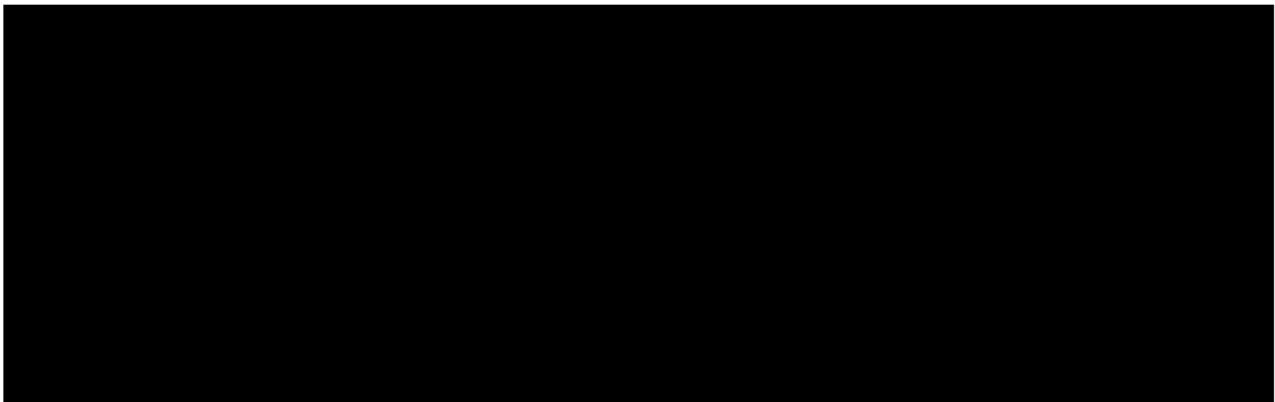




The total cost of Material/Supplies attributable to this project is \$17,197 for Year 3, \$17,885 for Year 4, and \$18,601 for Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other materials and supplies as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

#### Subcontracts

The total subcontractor cost budgeted for this project is \$113,178 with \$36,240 in Year 3, \$37,723 in Year 4, and \$39,215 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

## Other

### **Outreach and Education**

Connected Nation will create an outreach campaign for the primary purpose of verification of data. CN will target media outlets in 4 areas that can reach the greatest number of individuals in an outreach effort to drive them to Minnesota's interactive maps and speed test tools. CN plans to target 4 outlets in Year 3 totaling \$10,816, 4 outlets in Year 4 totaling \$11,249, and 4 outlets in Year 5 with a total cost of \$11,699. All of the Outreach campaign costs total \$33,764.

### **Office Space**

The average work space square footage provided to state personnel in the State of Minnesota is 100 sq. ft. The cost per square foot per year in the building where the Minnesota Department of Commerce is located is \$22.11 through August 31, 2011 and will rise to \$22.99 for September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012 and will rise again to \$23.91 for September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013. The state will provide office space at no cost to Connected Nation for 1 employee of the initiative. This amounts to a total annual value of \$2,211 in Year 3, \$2,299 in Year 4, and \$2,391 in Year 5 to be provided by the State of Minnesota.

### **Leading Practices**

Many leading practices identified in the Grant Guidance have been implemented by Connect Minnesota program in the first year of the SBDD program. Moving forward, Connect Minnesota proposes to implement a number of additional leading practices, such as:

- Pricing –Per the suggestions contained within the Grant Guidance, pricing data sought will include price points per tier, required bundles, equipment rebates or costs, and incentive offers.
- Data Confidence Scales – this area will be explored for potential development and implementation and in coordination with the NTIA as future federal guidance on data confidence scales is released.
- Ongoing Verification Activities – in particular a focus will be placed on field validation
- Surveys – in an effort to create cost-efficiency gains, the state level survey research conducted as a means of data verification in Year 1 will be transferred to a related project within the program, combining state level data collection with local level data collection into one survey, for enhanced data and reduced fixed costs across the program.
- In-person community engagement – meetings with community leaders and residents to verify and discuss the results of the data collection.

In order to implement these leading practices, Connect Minnesota has budgeted \$61,682 in Year 2, \$64,149 in Year 3, \$66,715 in Year 4, and \$69,384 in Year 5.

The total other costs budgeted for this project is \$302,595 with \$61,682 in Year 2, \$77,176 in Year 3, \$80,253 in Year 4, and \$83,474 in Year 5. Total subcontractor cost is \$295,694.

Connected Nation may incur other costs as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

## Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 3 are \$154,508, \$160,688 in Year 4, and \$167,115 in Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies, and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

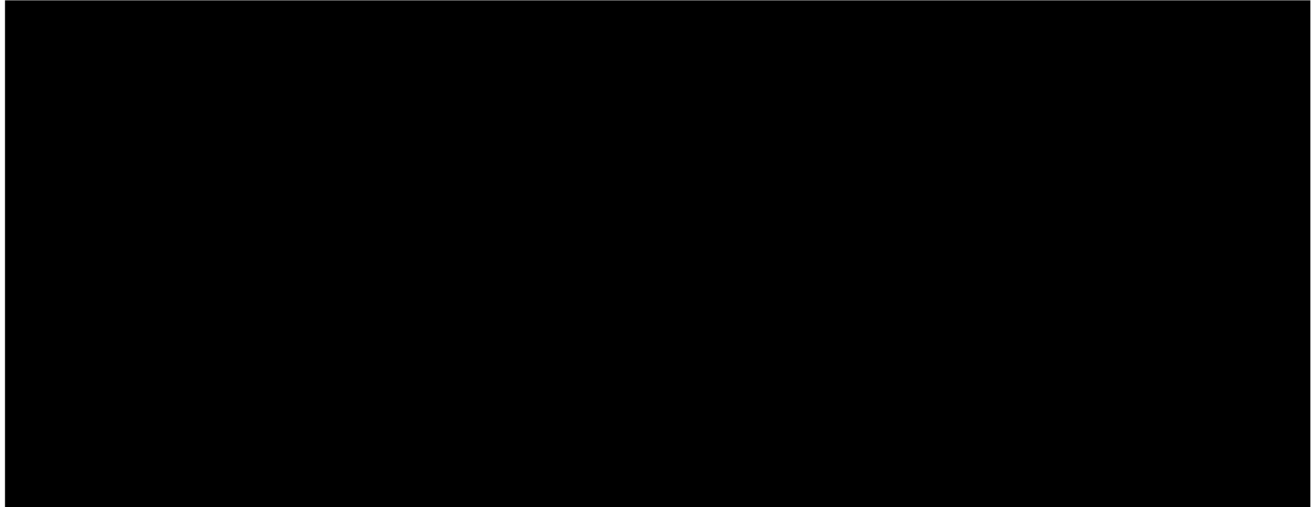
## BROADBAND CAPACITY BUDGET NARRATIVE

### Overview

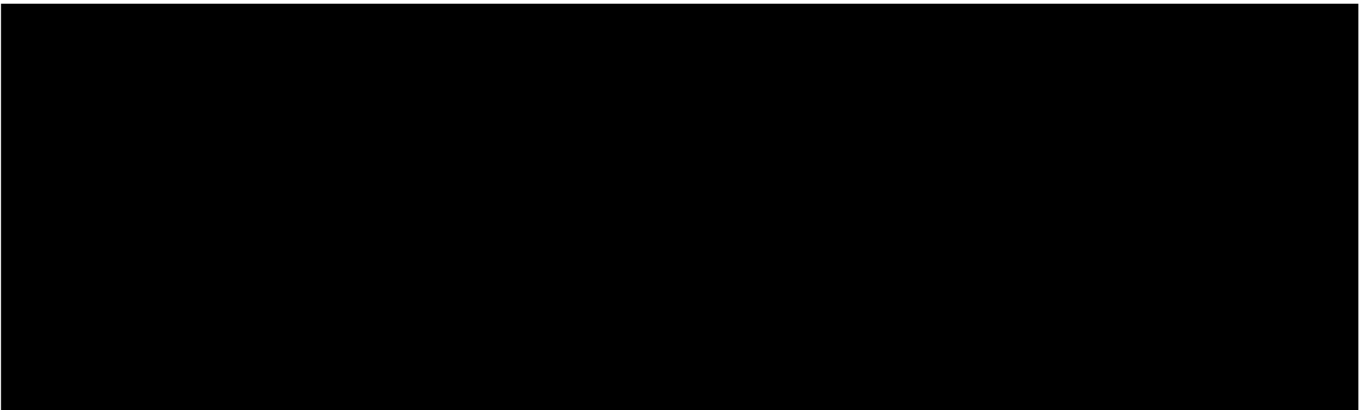
The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connect Minnesota, will implement the project activities on behalf of the state of Minnesota.

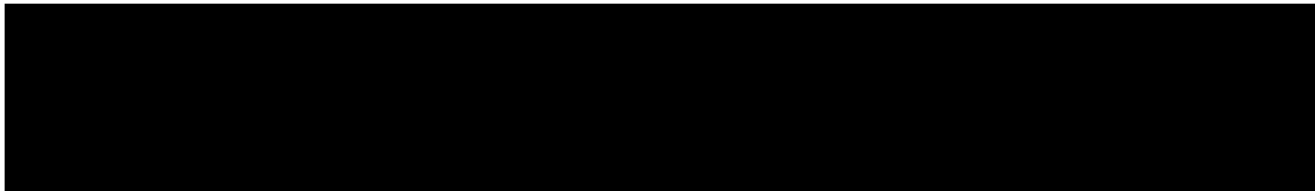
Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.

### Strategic Program Office



### Outreach and Awareness





The total amount for personnel costs for this project is \$188,240 in Year 2, \$195,769 in Year 3, \$203,601 in Year 4, and \$211,744 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

### Fringe Benefits

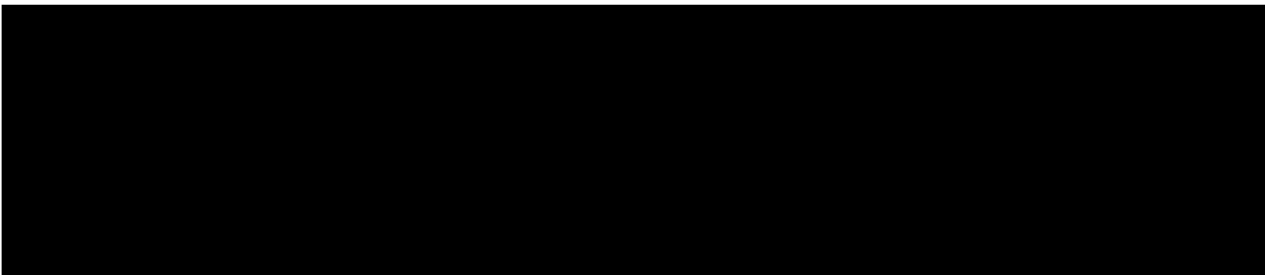
Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%), and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries for Years 2-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is \$40,377, Year 3 is \$41,993, Year 4 is \$43,673, and Year 5 is \$45,418.

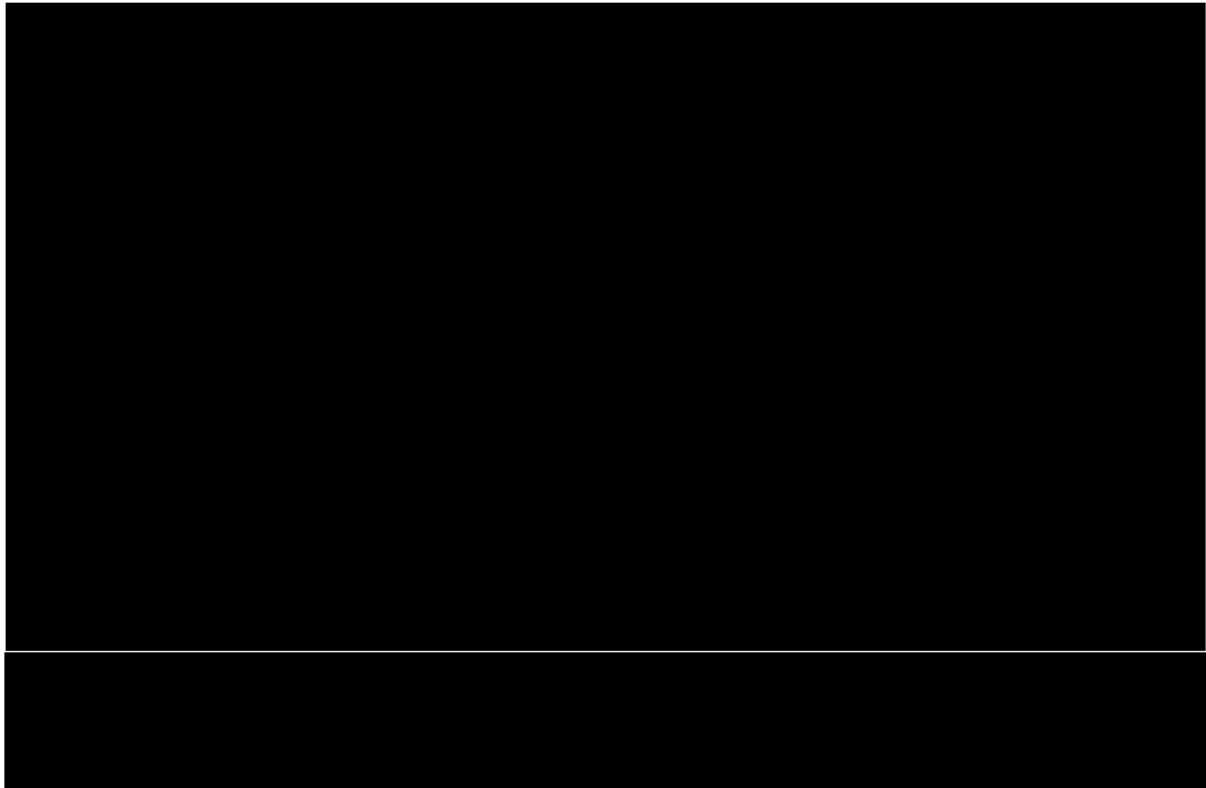
Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

### Projected Travel Costs

Travel costs arising out of State Broadband Capacity will enable local, state-based resources to be actively and regularly engaged in planning and implementing on their state's SBDD broadband programs. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of \$520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of \$208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be \$94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is \$54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on \$.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.





The total travel costs attributable to this project are \$28,797 in Year 2, \$29,921 in Year 3, \$31,073 in Year 4, and \$32,239 in Year 5.

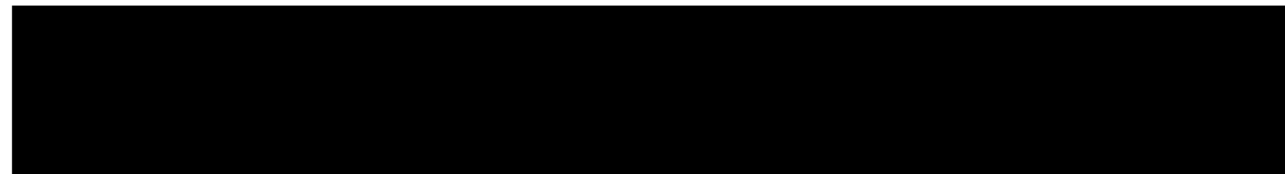
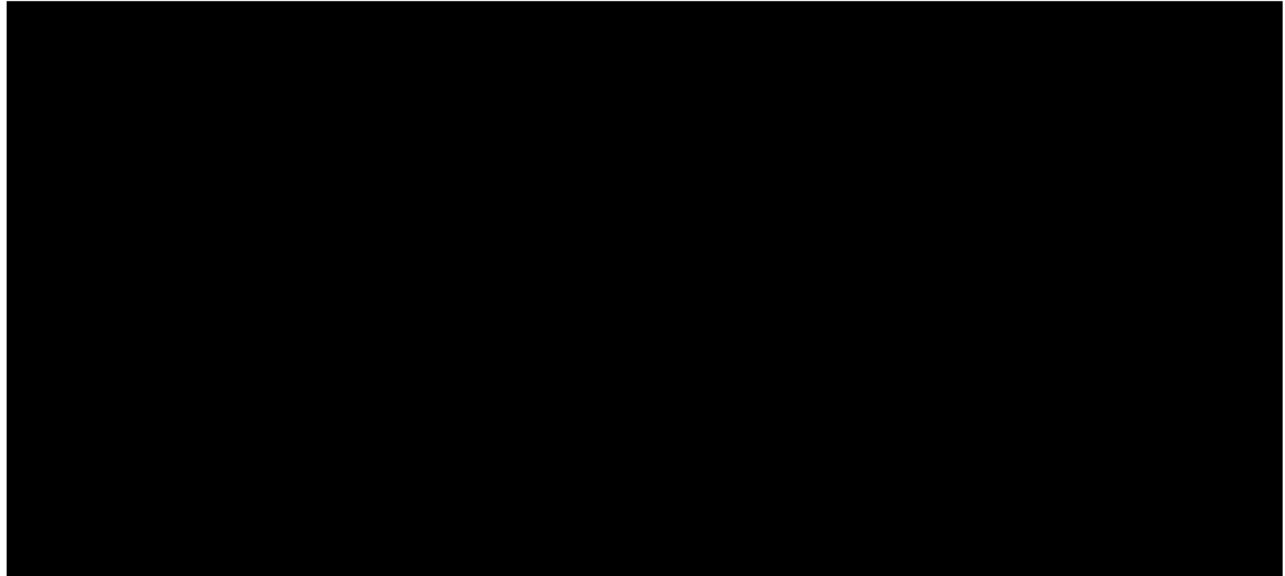
Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

#### Equipment



Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

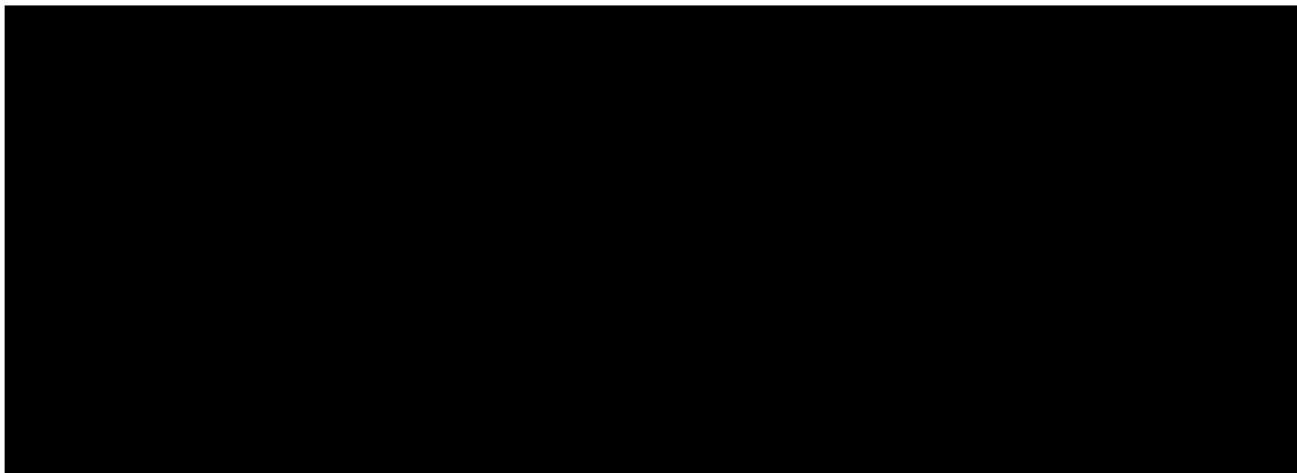
### Materials/Supplies



The total cost of Materials/Supplies attributable to this project is \$60,840 in Year 2, \$54,621 in Year 3, \$62,992 in Year 4, and \$59,078 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

### Subcontracts





Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Minnesota.

## Other

### **State Broadband Task Force**

This application for supplemental funding proposes to engage a 25 member Connect Minnesota State Broadband Task Force that will be comprised of state-level leaders in Minnesota representing regulators, providers, policy-makers, community anchor institution leaders, industry association representatives and the like. This group will convene Quarterly for the 4 year life of the program for an average of 4 hours per meeting. The average total hourly compensation rate for these individuals, including salaries and benefits, is valued at \$67 providing and in-kind contribution from the Quarterly Meetings in Year 2 of \$26,800, in Year 3 of \$28,000, in Year 4 of \$29,200, and Year 5 of \$30,400.

**Office Rent and Utilities Costs.** This proposal contemplates onsite staff persons who will reside full-time working on-the-ground on the state's capacity, assistance and planning programs all in a multi-tiered effort to stimulate broadband demand and adoption. These staff will need adequate facilities in which to work and therefore the program will incur costs related to such space. Based on the applicant's prior experience and standards in the industry, the projected space need will be approximately 2,500 square feet of standard office space to include individual offices, appropriate conference space, and basic reception space. This space will also enable itinerant offices which may be utilized by traveling staff including engineers, researchers, mapping staff and others who may occasionally have the need to work from the office on a temporary basis. Applicant arrives at the budgetary amount of \$2,917 per month, before adjustments for inflation, by applying a \$12 per square foot cost for rent and maintenance fees with a \$2 per square foot cost for associated expenses such as utilities, janitorial, etc.

### **Indirect Costs**

Total indirect costs in Year 2 are estimated to be \$182,894 for Year 2, \$190,210 for Year 3, \$197,819 for Year 4, and \$205,730 for Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies, and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.

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- Printing costs.
  - Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
  - Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
  - Telecommunication costs.

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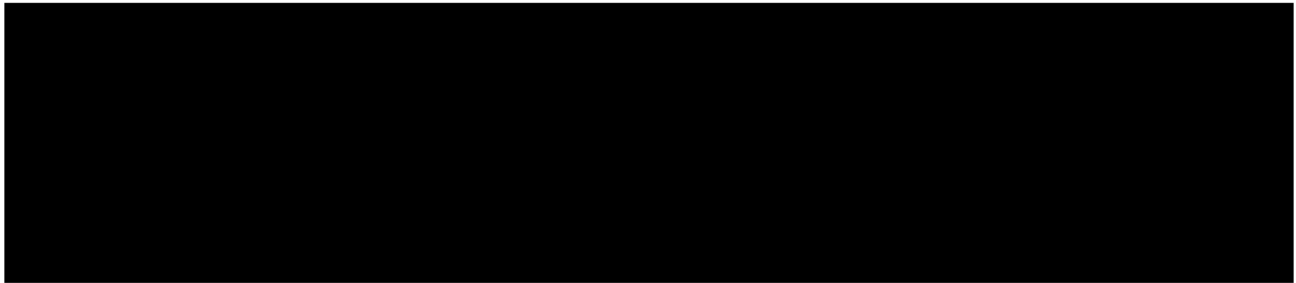
## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUDGET NARRATIVE

### Overview

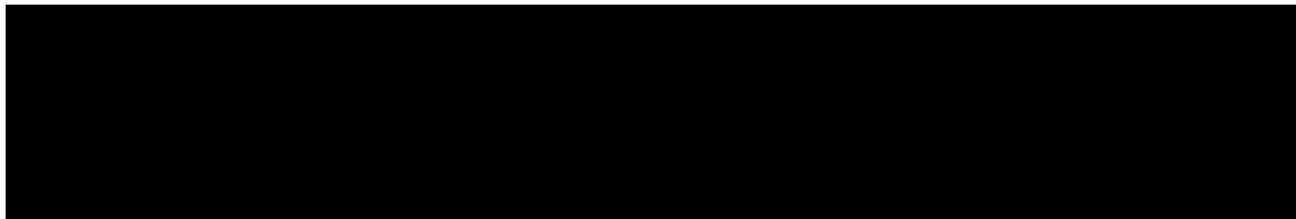
The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connect Minnesota, will implement the project activities on behalf of the state of Minnesota.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.

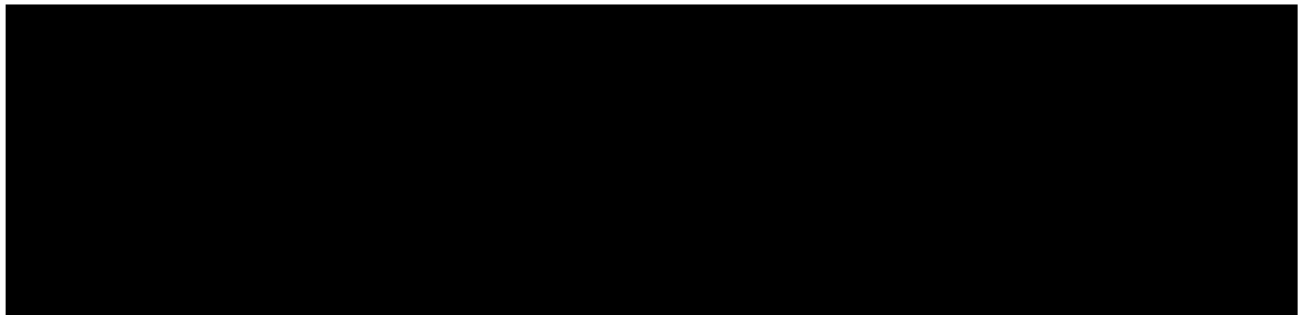
### Engineering and Technical Services

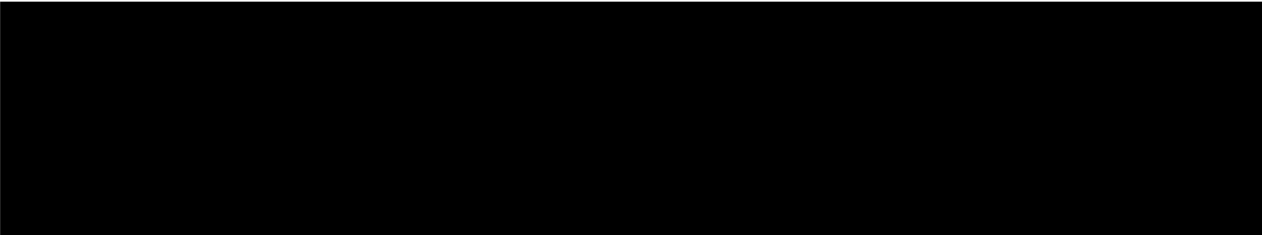
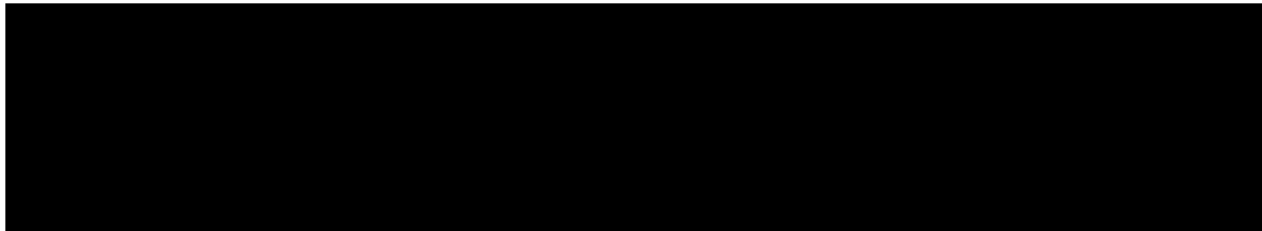
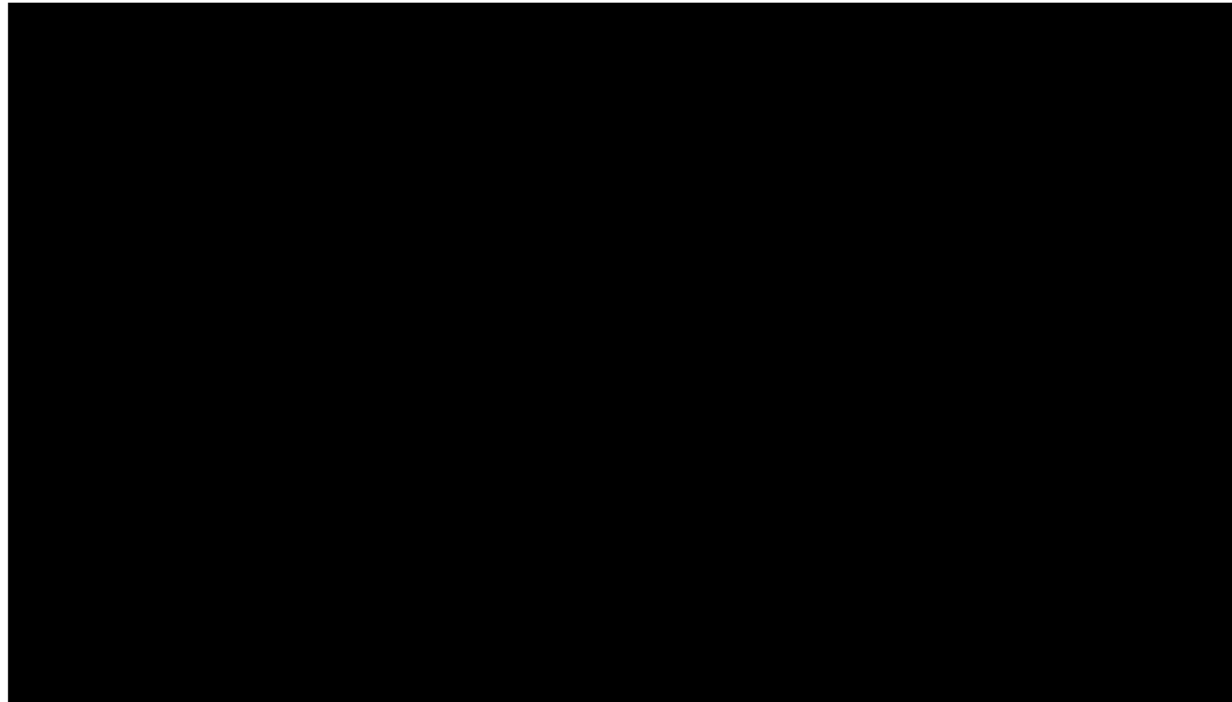


### Strategic Program Office



### Research





The total amount for personnel costs for this project is \$83,664 in Year 2, \$103,744 in Year 3, \$107,892 in Year 4, and \$112,209 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

#### Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%),

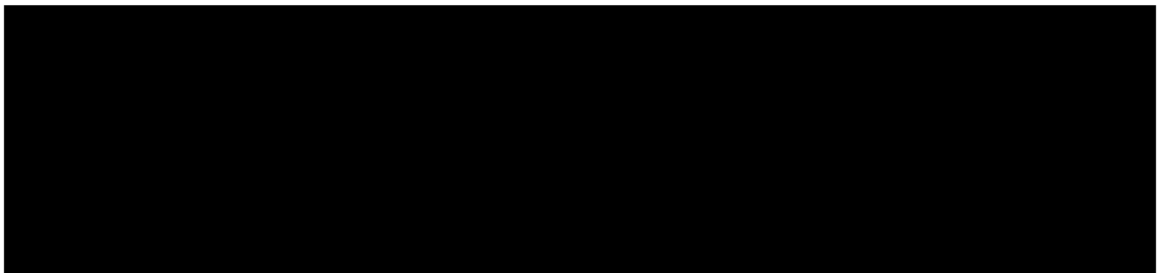
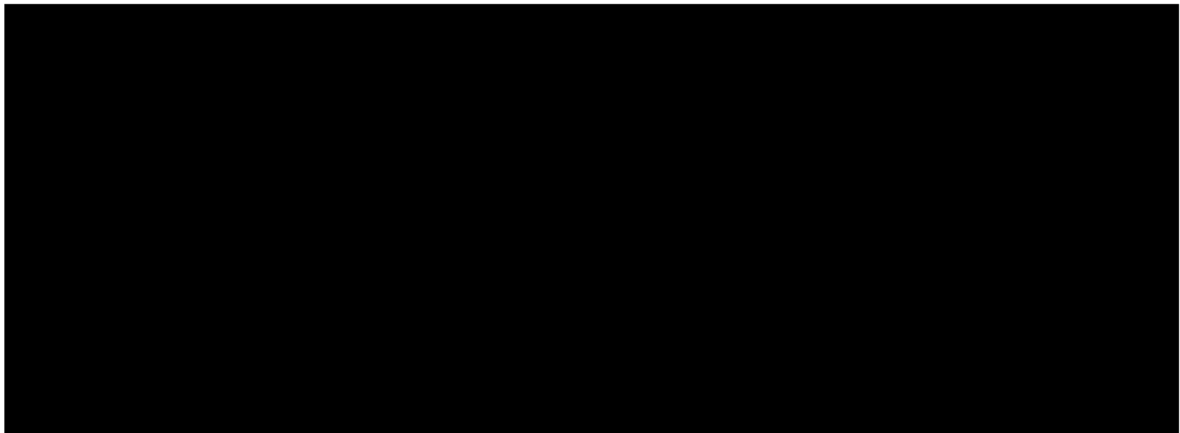
and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries for Years 2-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is \$17,946, Year 3 is \$22,252, Year 4 is \$23,143 and Year 5 is \$24,069.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

### Projected Travel Costs

Technical Assistance travel costs enable economies of scale for the grant program by aggregating resources across the state that can then be deployed in support of state, regional and local technology projects in which technical expertise is required. These talent pools complement local volunteer teams by empowering them with more advanced technical know-how to support their technology projects than they could likely otherwise afford or even identify. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of \$520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of \$208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be \$94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is \$54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on \$.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.





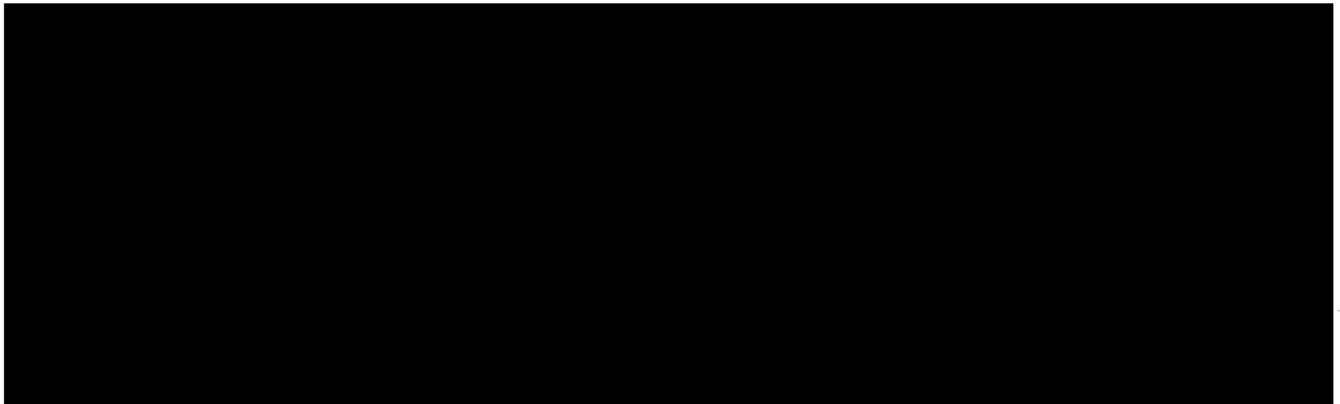
The total travel costs attributable to this project are \$26,882 in Year 2, \$27,935 in Year 3, \$29,018 in Year 4, and \$30,116 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

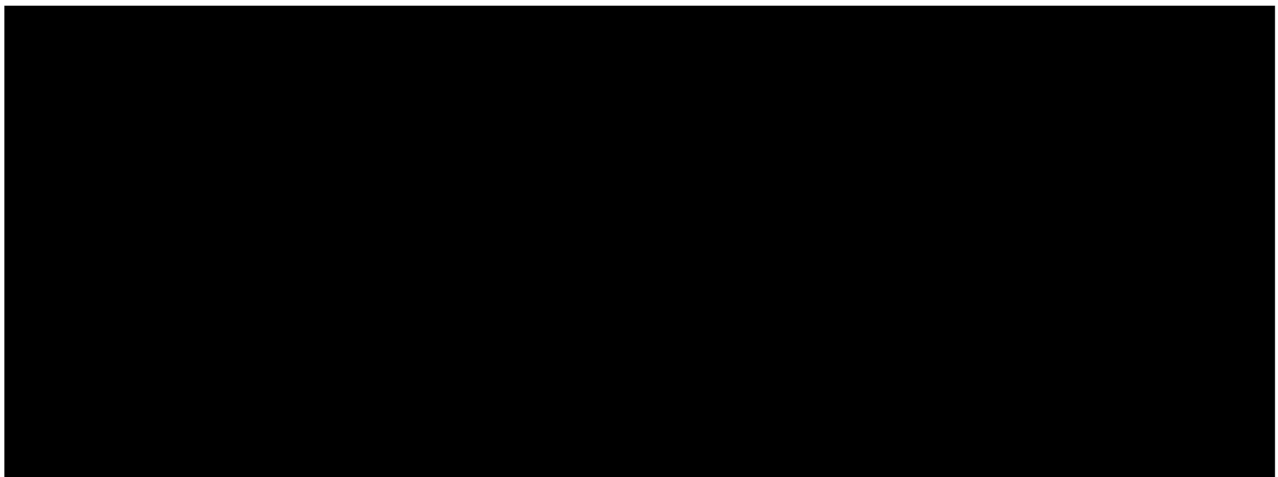
**Equipment**

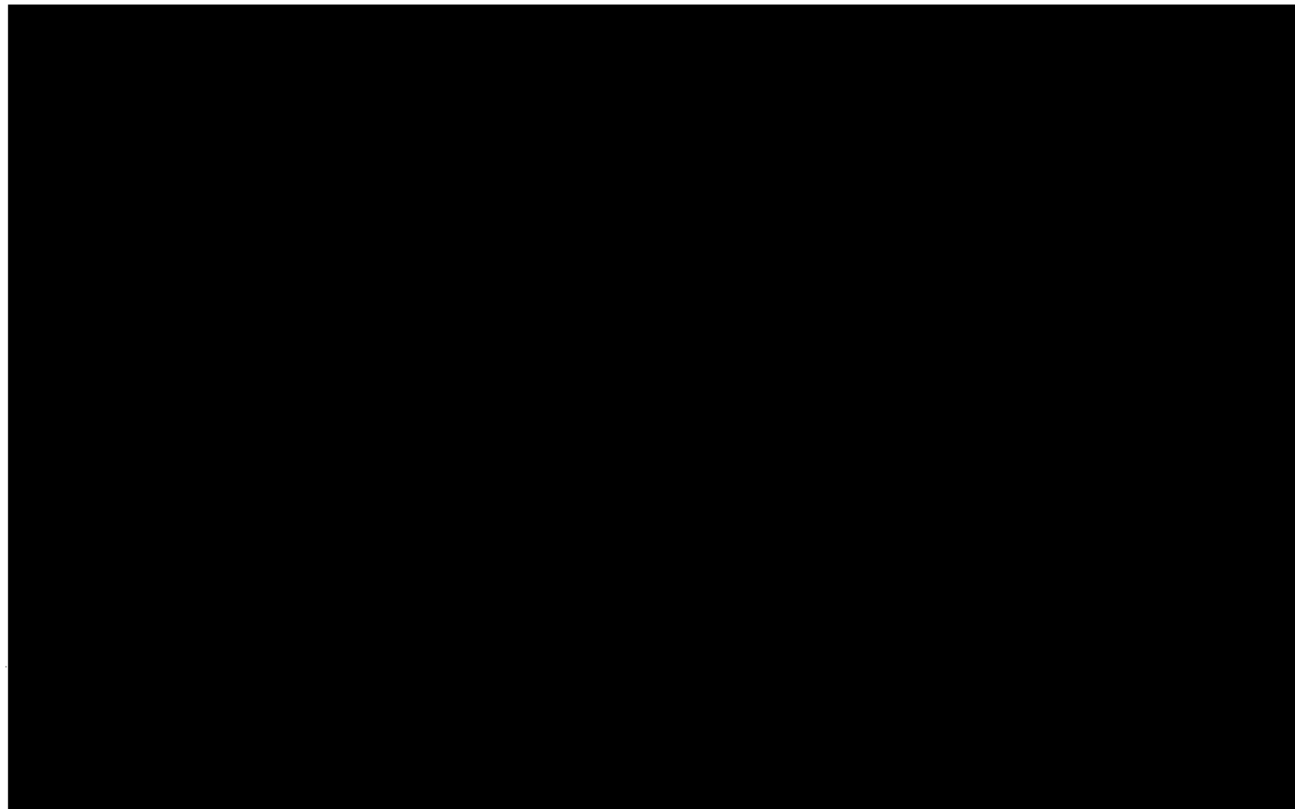
None.

**Materials/Supplies**



**Subcontracts**





The total subcontractor costs budgeted for this project is \$616,337 with \$211,638 in Year 2, \$93,001 in Year 3, \$96,698 in Year 4, and \$215,000 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Minnesota.

## Other

### Summit

In addition to the aforementioned responsibilities, the Connect Minnesota Broadband Office and Steering Committee will also host an annual Summit to provide a gathering to discuss broadband accomplishments, best practices and to identify areas of need in the overall Minnesota Broadband Plan. By gathering representatives from the county libraries, state library association, municipalities, businesses, provider community and other interested organizations, the Connect Minnesota Steering Committee, in conjunction with the local technology planning teams and the other key state agencies, can host an open forum and present a unified front on broadband decisions. The federal portion of the Summit costs will be \$26,000 in Year 2, \$27,040 in Year 3, \$28,122 in Year 4, and \$29,246 in Year 5.

This application for supplemental funding proposes to engage approximately 75% of the 25 member Connect Minnesota State Broadband Task Force for the annual strategic planning session. Approximately 19 members will participate for a 4 hour session at an average total hourly compensation rate, including salaries and benefits, of \$67. Additionally, of the 87 local planning teams, approximately 40% of their 5 members will participate in the strategic planning session for an 8 hour strategic planning session, with annual salary and benefits valued at \$48 per hour. The total volunteer contributions from the sessions are \$71,908, \$74,920, \$77,932 and \$80,944 for Years 2 – 5 respectively.

Connected Nation may incur other costs as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

### Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 2 are estimated to be \$81,288 for Year 2, \$100,797 for Year 3, \$104,828 for Year 4, and \$109,022 for Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies, and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.



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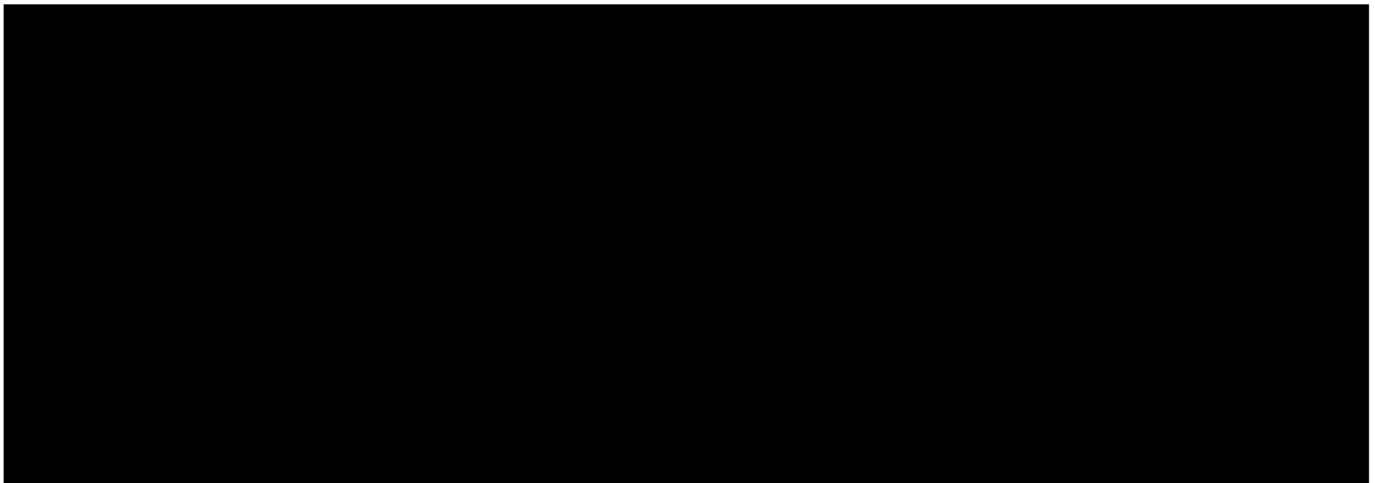
## LOCAL/REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING BUDGET NARRATIVE

### Overview

The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connect Minnesota, will implement the project activities on behalf of the state of Minnesota.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.

### Strategic Program Office



The total amount for personnel costs for this project is \$72,540 in Year 2, \$75,442 in Year 3, \$78,459 in Year 4, and \$81,598 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

### Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%), and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the

personnel salaries for Years 3-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is \$15,560, Year 3 is \$16,181, Year 4 is \$16,829, and Year 5 is \$17,504.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

### Projected Travel Costs

Planning Teams are fundamental to the broadband program's ability to both stretch limited resources to reach statewide while also providing a forum for locally based technology planning, benchmarking, project design and implementation. With support from the Technology Extension Agent across all four years of the program and additional training sessions provided by the Regional Technology Coordinators in the first two years, travel will make the difference in the program's ability to reach out at the community level and engage in meaningful technology adoption projects. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of \$520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of \$208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be \$94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is \$54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on \$.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for Project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

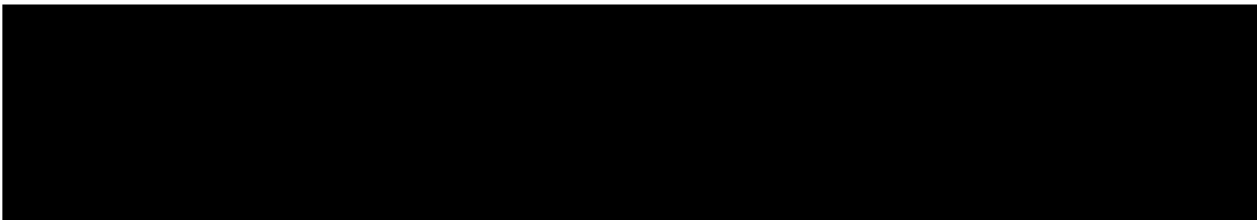
Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.



The total travel costs attributable to this project are \$23,068 in Year 2, \$23,944 in Year 3, \$0 in Year 4, and \$0 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

### Materials/Supplies

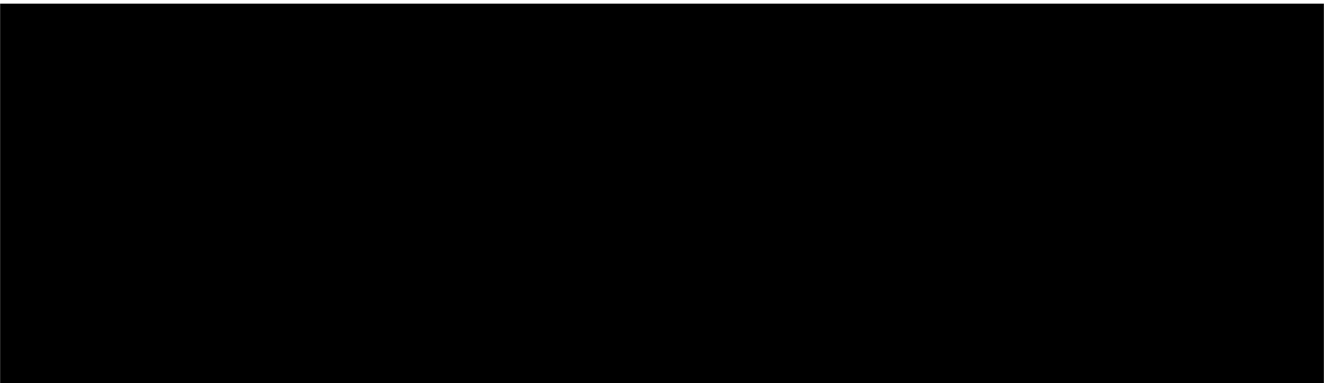
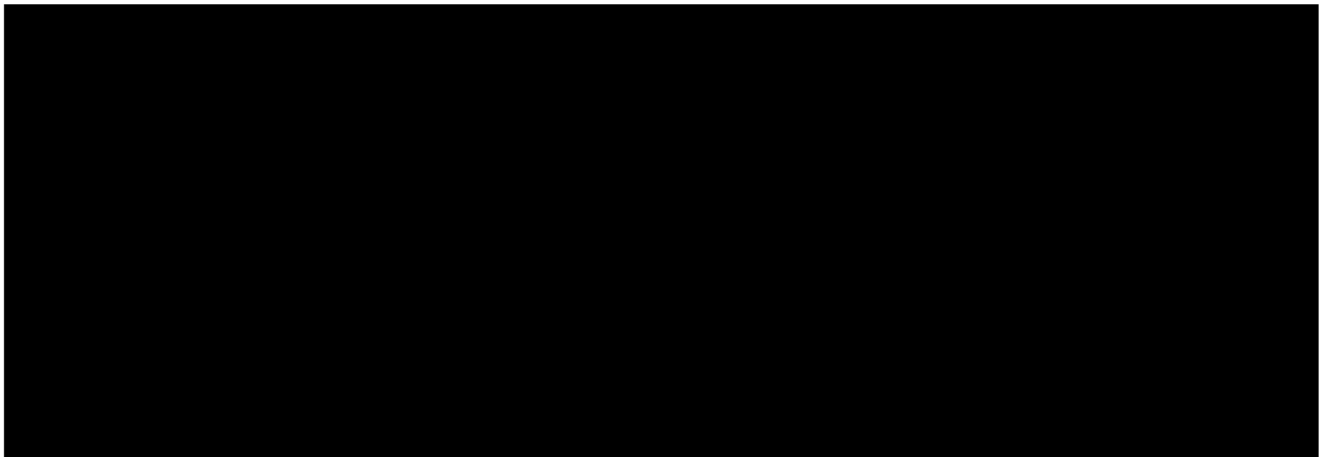




The total costs for Material/Supplies will be \$4,628 in Year 2, \$1,298 in Year 3, \$5,006 in Year 4, and \$1,404 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other materials and supplies as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

#### Subcontracts



The total subcontractor costs budgeted for this project is \$377,075 with \$183,062 in Year 2, \$189,383 in Year 3 and \$2,271 in Year 4, and \$2,359 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Minnesota.

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## Other

**Connected Corps** are part of the local planning effort and Connect Minnesota will incorporate a Connected Corps initiative. Working in partnership with Connect Minnesota universities, community colleges, and secondary schools, this initiative will recruit local high school or college students who excel in school and exhibit advanced leadership and technology skills to assist in technology training, technical support, and outreach efforts in their communities. The total cost for the Connected Corps will be \$24,000 in Year 2, \$24,960 in Year 3, \$25,956 in Year 4, and \$27,000 in Year 5.

### **Connected Community Local Champion Training**

Supplemental SBDD funding under this proposal would serve to maximize efficiencies and ensure sustainability by employing a “train-the-trainer” approach to identify, engage and equip 87 local/regional champions to lead their community in an in-depth technology benchmarking and strategic planning process employing a proven, results-oriented model for delivery. The average hourly salary for the local/regional champion, including salary and benefits, is valued at \$48. Training time is expected to be 8 hours per quarter for Years 2 and 3 for a total in-kind contribution of \$133,362 and \$139,200 for Years 2 and 3 respectively.

### **Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams**

Under this proposal each of Minnesota’s 87 counties would be engaged and stewarded in a strategic technology planning process with intended participation from various community sectors including but not limited to: agriculture, business, community-based organizations, government, healthcare, higher education, K-12 education, libraries, and tourism.

**Preparation Time:** The local champion will prepare and deliver the local/regional technology planning team meetings. Combined preparation and delivery time for these champions is 5 hours per meeting. The average hourly salary for the local/regional champion, including salary and benefits, is valued at \$48 providing an annual contribution of \$83,520, \$87,000, \$90,480 and \$93,960 in Years 2 – 5 respectively.

**Team Member Time:** An average attendance of 5 community leaders spanning these sectors is anticipated for each meeting that will amount to an average of 2 hours of volunteer time per meeting attendee. This team will convene Quarterly for the 4 year life of the program. The average hourly salary for these local/regional leadership team members, including salary and benefits, is valued at \$48 providing an annual contribution of \$167,040, \$174,000, \$180,960 and \$187,920 for Years 2 – 5 respectively.

### **Outreach and Education**

Connected Nation will create an outreach campaign for the primary purpose of awareness and education of the benefits of broadband. This campaign will support the efforts of the local/regional technology planning teams. CN projects this campaign will cost \$7,280, \$7,571, \$7,874 and \$8,189 in Years 2 – 5 respectively.

### **Indirect Costs**


Total indirect costs in Year 2 are \$70,480, \$73,298 in Year 3, \$76,230 in Year 4, and \$79,282 in Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies, and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

**APPLICATION FOR  
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

Version 7/03

<b>1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:</b> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		<b>2. DATE SUBMITTED</b>	Applicant Identifier
Pre-application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		<b>3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE</b>	State Application Identifier
		<b>4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY</b>	Federal Identifier
<b>5. APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>			
Legal Name: Connected Nation, Inc.		Organizational Unit: Department:	
Organizational DUNS: 086130007		Division:	
<b>Address:</b> Street: 1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448		Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code) Prefix: Mr. First Name: Brian	
City: Bowling Green		Middle Name Russell	
County: Warren		Last Name Mefford	
State: Kentucky	Zip Code 42102-3448	Suffix:	
Country: United States		Email: bmefford@connectednation.org	
<b>6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN):</b> 61-1394934		Phone Number (give area code) (877) 846-7710	Fax Number (give area code) (270) 781-7611
<b>8. TYPE OF APPLICATION:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) (See back of form for description of letters.) Other (specify)		<b>7. TYPE OF APPLICANT:</b> (See back of form for Application Types) <input type="checkbox"/> Not for Profit Organization Other (specify)	
<b>10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:</b> 11-558		<b>9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:</b> U S Department of Commerce	
TITLE (Name of Program): State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program		<b>11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:</b> State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program	
<b>12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):</b> Minnesota		<b>14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:</b> a. Applicant CD-02 b. Project CD-04	
<b>13. PROPOSED PROJECT</b> Start Date: 12/20/2009 Ending Date: 12/19/2014		<b>16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?</b> a. Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON DATE: b. No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372 <input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW	
<b>15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:</b>		<b>17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes" attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
a. Federal	\$ 6,936,085 <sup>00</sup>		
b. Applicant	\$ <sup>00</sup>		
c. State	\$ 6,901 <sup>00</sup>		
d. Local	\$ <sup>00</sup>		
e. Other	\$ 1,757,816 <sup>00</sup>		
f. Program Income	\$ 0 <sup>00</sup>		
g. TOTAL	\$ 8,700,802 <sup>00</sup>		
<b>18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.</b>			
<b>a. Authorized Representative</b>			
Prefix MR.	First Name Brian	Middle Name Russell	
Last Name Mefford		Suffix	
b. Title CEO		c. Telephone Number (give area code) (877) 846-7710	
d. Signature of Authorized Representative 		e. Date Signed 7/1/2010	

**BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. SBDD	11.558	\$	\$	\$ 6,936,085.00	\$ 1,764,717.00	\$ 8,700,802.00
2.						0.00
3.						0.00
4.						0.00
5. Totals		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,936,085.00	\$ 1,764,717.00	\$ 8,700,802.00
SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES						
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY					Total (5)
	(1)	Federal	(2)	Non-Federal	(3)	
a. Personnel	\$	2,011,312.00	\$		\$	\$ 2,011,312.00
b. Fringe Benefits		431,424.00				431,424.00
c. Travel		372,309.00				372,309.00
d. Equipment		48,448.00				48,448.00
e. Supplies		315,323.00				315,323.00
f. Contractual		1,115,505.00				1,115,505.00
g. Construction						0.00
h. Other		687,575.00		1,764,717.00		2,452,292.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)		4,981,896.00		1,764,717.00	0.00	6,746,613.00
j. Indirect Charges		1,954,189.00		0.00		1,954,189.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$	6,936,085.00	\$	1,764,717.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,700,802.00
7. Program Income	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	\$ 0.00

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Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)  
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS	
8.	\$	\$ 6,901.00	\$ 1,757,816.00	\$ 1,764,717.00	
9.				0.00	
10.				0.00	
11.				0.00	
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,901.00	\$ 1,757,816.00	\$ 1,764,717.00	
SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 0.00	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-Federal	0.00				
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
16.	\$	\$	\$	\$	
17.					
18.					
19.					
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION					
21. Direct Charges: \$6,746,613		22. Indirect Charges: \$1,954,189			
23. Remarks:					



## Assurances—Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0040

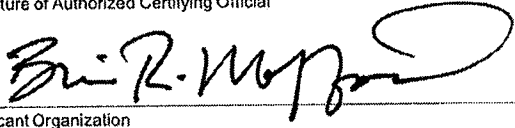
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Please do not return your completed form to the Office of Management and Budget; send it to the address provided by the sponsoring agency.

**Note:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§ 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the nineteen statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.O. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 36701 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 276a and 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. § 276c and 18 U.S.C. §§ 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (e) evaluation of flood hazards in flood plains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of

- project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
  13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the national Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469a-1 et seq.).
  14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
  15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
  16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
  17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 or OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of Institutions of Higher Learning and other Non-profit Institutions.
  18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Official 	Title CEO
Applicant Organization Connected Nation, Inc.	Date Submitted 7/1/2010



MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE

85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-3165  
www.commerce.state.mn.us  
651.296.4026 FAX 651.297.1959  
An equal opportunity employer

June 29, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Herbert C. Hoover Building  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm continued partnership and support from the State of Minnesota for Connect Minnesota through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Nation as the Designated Entity for the State of Minnesota. Further, this letter is to convey our collaboration and involvement in the planning and composition of the supplemental application accompanying this evidence of support.

Together, the State of Minnesota and Connect Minnesota have crafted and mutually approved the scope and activities of this proposal as a program that will best serve the specific broadband mapping, planning, benchmarking, and demand-stimulation needs as they currently exist in the North Star State. For this reason, we reaffirm the currently pledged support under the existing scope of previously awarded SBDD funding and to express our continued participation in the extended and supplemental efforts as articulated in the application.

The state of Minnesota strongly endorses and commits to the full and complete implementation and execution of the proposal of work presented in the application submitted by the state's Designated Entity. Our backing extends not only to the additional three years of funding for the mapping efforts enabled by the existing award but also to the activities proposed in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

Thank you for this opportunity for supplemental funding and efforts to enhance the impact of the SBDD Program. We look forward to continuing to work with you in this expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that currently exist in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Glenn Wilson  
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**BROADBAND ADVISORY TASKFORCE**

**ORDER**

Whereas, it is the goal of the state of Minnesota as stated in Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 27--H.F. No. 2907, section 237.012 (2010) that as soon as possible, but no later than 2015, all state residents and businesses have access to high-speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of ten to twenty megabits per second and minimum upload speeds of five to ten megabits per second, and

Whereas, it is the goal of the state of Minnesota by 2015, and thereafter, that the state be in:

- a) the top five states of the United States for broadband speed universally accessible to residents and businesses;
- b) the top five states of the United States for broadband access; and
- c) the top fifteen states when compared to countries globally for broadband penetration, and

Whereas, the commissioner of commerce must report by February 15 of each year through 2015, on the achievement of the Minnesota broadband goals to the chairs and ranking minority members of the Minnesota legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over telecommunication issues.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, that the Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce is hereby established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 15.014 (2008) as follows:

- (1) The Minnesota Broadband Advisory Taskforce shall consist of fifteen members appointed by the commissioner of commerce representing a balance of user and provider types and metro and greater Minnesota,
- (2) The terms of members shall be for the duration of the task force, which shall be two years,
- (3) The taskforce shall meet monthly,
- (4) The taskforce shall, by January 1 of each year issue a status report to the commissioner of commerce on the attainment of the Minnesota broadband goals and recommendations for achieving these goals.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Glenn Wilson

6-18-10  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

## Minnesota Address File Development Prospectus

Connect Minnesota proposes the creation of an address level dataset. While the existence and fitness of potential and viable public and commercial data sets are unknown at the time of this submission, Connect Minnesota will take the responsible approach to this highly speculative proposal by employing stage gates throughout the proposed project to ensure that the program meets the goals of this project and that the most innovative and successful solutions are utilized in validating, creating, and utilizing such data.

Phase One of this proposal is to focus on a commercial data set such as NAVTEQ that may exist for Minnesota as well as any other applicable public datasets such as parcel information collected by individual counties and/or other existing civil datasets. This data examination will focus first on those 6,559 Minnesota census blocks greater than two square miles. Inspecting the spatial relationship and attributes of these varying data will allow for a set of indicators to be developed. These indicators will point to the fitness of the currently available data and the feasibility of this data for pursuit of this effort to create an improved address file. This analysis will also create a set of indicators that highlights those areas with the highest inaccuracy levels and those areas needing validation as well as correction in Phase Two of this project.

The completion and reporting of the fitness of the data in Phase One delivers the project to the first of the stage gates where Connect Minnesota would evaluate the feasibility of proceeding on to the second and third phases of the program. Connect Minnesota would evaluate the results of Phase One and decide whether the current fitness of the data meets the level of accuracy required to proceed with the Phase Two plans. The proposed cost of Phase One is approximately \$50,000 and will provide the necessary information to either proceed as planned, proceed with a potential amendment, or to close out this program due to the poor quality of the current data.

Phase Two would commence *only after approval by the NTIA* and would put a field team in place to validate those areas and addresses with the highest inaccuracy indicators. Based on the indicators from the Phase One, three rounds of field data collection and validation would be set in place. The first round of this work would be completed in the first year of the project and would focus on the most highly inaccurate areas in the analysis. The following two rounds would be completed in the next two years and would focus on the highest levels of inaccuracy in the remaining areas based on their priority. Year Two of this work would cost approximately \$80,000 and Years Three and Four should have an approximate cost of \$83,200 and \$86,528, respectively.

Phase Three in this process is to take the address level data that is the result of Phase Two and to develop and convert provider data into address level datasets. This process again would only begin once the NTIA had agreed that Connect Minnesota should proceed with this phase of the work. This should be done concurrently with Phase Two in Years Three and Four and be completed in Year Five. This requires the development of a geo-processing tool that can handle the specific data that is the result of Phase Two and the necessary hardware and software to complete these data development processes.



Connect Minnesota appreciates the speculative nature of this price quotation and puts this proposal forward in good faith estimate. We welcome and appreciate further discussion and collaboration with the NTIA for project refinement.

Project Phase/Description	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Supplies	\$ 35,000				\$ 35,000
Software Maintenance	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,408	\$ 5,624	\$ 21,232
Total	\$ 260,000	\$ 171,600	\$ 178,464	\$ 95,613	\$ 707,6777

**GRANTEE NAME:** (MN) Connected Nation, Inc.

EXISTING BUDGET	Federal	Match	Total
Personnel Salaries	\$ 510,938	\$ 34,393	\$ 545,331
Fringe Benefits	109,600	9,630	119,230
Travel	73,665	-	73,665
Equipment	91,535		91,535
Supplies	17,470	-	17,470
Subcontracts	362,668	125,032	487,700
Construction			
Other	30,400	144,546	174,946
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$ 1,196,276</b>	<b>\$ 313,601</b>	<b>\$ 1,509,877</b>
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>512,588</b>	<b>113,615</b>	<b>626,203</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 1,708,864</b>	<b>\$ 427,216</b>	<b>\$ 2,136,080</b>
<b>% Federal Share</b>	<b>80.00%</b>		
<b>% Applicant Share</b>		<b>20.00%</b>	

REQUESTED BUDGET	Federal	Match	Total
Personnel Salaries	\$ 2,011,312	\$ -	\$ 2,011,312
Fringe Benefits	431,424	-	431,424
Travel	372,309	-	372,309
Equipment	48,448	-	48,448
Supplies	315,323	-	315,323
Subcontracts	1,115,505	-	1,115,505
Construction			
Other	687,575	1,764,717	2,452,292
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$ 4,981,896</b>	<b>\$ 1,764,717</b>	<b>\$ 6,746,613</b>
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>1,954,189</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,954,189</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 6,936,085</b>	<b>\$ 1,764,717</b>	<b>\$ 8,700,802</b>
<b>% Federal Share</b>	<b>79.72%</b>		
<b>% Applicant Share</b>		<b>20.28%</b>	

Combined Plan Period - Budget, Federal funds and Match  
MINNESOTA

	Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Grand Total		
	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal Share	Total	Applicant	Federal Share	Total	Applicant	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total
	Share	Share		Share	Share		Share	Share		Share	Share				
Personnel Salaries	-	344,444	344,444	-	533,980	533,980	-	555,337	555,337	-	577,551	577,551	-	2,011,312	2,011,312
Personnel Fringe Benefits	-	73,883	73,883	-	114,536	114,536	-	119,120	119,120	-	123,885	123,885	-	431,424	431,424
Travel	-	78,747	78,747	-	110,428	110,428	-	89,855	89,855	-	93,279	93,279	-	372,309	372,309
Equipment	-	9,360	9,360	-	12,522	12,522	-	13,023	13,023	-	13,543	13,543	-	48,448	48,448
Materials/Supplies	-	70,096	70,096	-	74,414	74,414	-	90,327	90,327	-	80,486	80,486	-	315,323	315,323
Subcontracts	-	396,802	396,802	-	320,807	320,807	-	138,963	138,963	-	258,933	258,933	-	1,115,505	1,115,505
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	482,900	153,966	636,866	505,331	170,940	676,271	380,871	177,776	558,647	395,615	184,893	580,508	1,764,717	687,575	2,452,292
Total Direct Costs	\$ 482,900	\$ 1,127,298	\$ 1,610,198	\$ 505,331	\$ 1,337,627	\$ 1,842,958	\$ 380,871	\$ 1,184,400	\$ 1,565,271	\$ 395,615	\$ 1,332,570	\$ 1,728,185	\$ 1,764,717	\$ 4,981,896	\$ 6,746,613
Total Indirect Costs	-	334,662	334,662	-	518,813	518,813	-	539,565	539,565	-	561,149	561,149	-	1,954,189	1,954,189
Total Costs	\$ 482,900	\$ 1,461,960	\$ 1,944,860	\$ 505,331	\$ 1,856,440	\$ 2,361,771	\$ 380,871	\$ 1,723,965	\$ 2,104,836	\$ 395,615	\$ 1,893,719	\$ 2,289,334	\$ 1,764,717	\$ 6,936,085	\$ 8,700,802



MINNESOTA

Total

Cost	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	
Personnel Salaries																
<b>Total</b>		344,444	344,444		533,960	533,960		555,337	555,337		577,551	577,551		2,011,312	2,011,312	
Personnel Fringe Benefits																
Employer's FICA Tax		26,349	26,349		40,848	40,848		42,483	42,483		44,182	44,182		153,862	153,862	
Unemployment Tax		1,722	1,722		2,670	2,670		2,776	2,776		2,888	2,888		10,056	10,056	
Health/Dental/Vision Insurance		19,634	19,634		30,436	30,436		31,654	31,654		32,920	32,920		114,644	114,644	
Disability & Life Insurance		2,066	2,066		3,204	3,204		3,332	3,332		3,465	3,465		12,067	12,067	
Accrued Paid Time Off		12,400	12,400		19,274	19,274		19,993	19,993		20,793	20,793		72,410	72,410	
SIMPLE Match		10,313	10,313		16,019	16,019		16,661	16,661		17,376	17,376		60,339	60,339	
Gym Benefit		345	345		534	534		555	555		578	578		2,013	2,013	
Professional Development		1,034	1,034		1,601	1,601		1,666	1,666		1,733	1,733		6,034	6,034	
<b>Total</b>		73,883	73,883		114,536	114,536		119,120	119,120		123,885	123,885		431,424	431,424	
Travel																
Airfare		15,080	15,080		27,591	27,591		28,713	28,713		29,886	29,886		101,370	101,370	
Hotel		6,032	6,032		11,016	11,016		11,475	11,475		11,934	11,934		40,457	40,457	
Rental Car		5,452	5,452		9,996	9,996		10,404	10,404		10,812	10,812		36,664	36,664	
Per Diem		19,278	19,278		21,744	21,744		16,124	16,124		16,680	16,680		75,826	75,826	
Mileage		32,905	32,905		38,081	38,081		23,139	23,139		23,967	23,967		118,092	118,092	
<b>Total</b>		78,747	78,747		110,428	110,428		89,855	89,855		93,279	93,279		372,308	372,308	
Equipment																
<b>Total</b>		9,360	9,360		12,522	12,522		13,023	13,023		13,543	13,543		48,448	48,448	
Materials/Supplies																
<b>Total</b>		20,096	20,096		74,414	74,414		90,327	90,327		80,486	80,486		315,323	315,323	
Subcontracts																
<b>Total</b>																
Other																
Connected Costs		34,000	34,000		24,960	24,960		25,956	25,956		27,000	27,000		101,916	101,916	
State Broadband Task Force/Steering Committee		16,800	16,800		28,000	28,000		29,200	29,200		30,400	30,400		114,400	114,400	
Train the Trainer		113,612	113,612		139,200	139,200		-	-		-	-		272,812	272,812	
Technology Planning Teams		230,550	230,550		261,000	261,000		271,440	271,440		281,880	281,880		1,064,880	1,064,880	
Summit		71,908	71,908		74,920	74,920		77,932	77,932		80,944	80,944		306,704	306,704	
Outreach and Education		7,280	7,280		18,387	18,387		15,123	15,123		19,858	19,858		64,678	64,678	
Office Space		15,004	15,004		2,211	2,211		37,850	37,850		2,391	2,391		48,643	48,643	
Leading Practices																
		61,682	61,682		64,149	64,149		66,715	66,715		69,284	69,284		261,590	261,590	
<b>Total</b>		153,966	153,966		505,331	505,331		558,647	558,647		589,615	589,615		1,764,717	1,764,717	
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>		482,900	482,900		1,317,298	1,317,298		1,384,400	1,384,400		1,465,371	1,465,371		4,981,896	4,981,896	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>		334,662	334,662		518,813	518,813		539,565	539,565		561,149	561,149		1,954,189	1,954,189	
<b>Total Costs</b>		817,562	817,562		1,836,111	1,836,111		1,923,965	1,923,965		2,026,520	2,026,520		6,936,085	6,936,085	

See detail

See detail budget attached.

See detail budget attached.

MINNESOTA  
Data Collection (Mapping)

Cost	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Notes
Personnel Salary																
<b>Total</b>					159,025	159,025		165,385	165,385		172,000	172,000		496,410	496,410	
Personnel Fringe Benefits																
Employer's FICA Tax					12,165	12,165		12,652	12,652		13,158	13,158		37,975	37,975	
Unemployment Tax					795	795		827	827		860	860		2,482	2,482	
Health/Dental/Vision Insurance					9,064	9,064		9,427	9,427		9,804	9,804		28,295	28,295	
Disability & Life Insurance					954	954		992	992		1,032	1,032		2,978	2,978	
Accrued Paid Time Off					5,725	5,725		5,954	5,954		6,192	6,192		17,871	17,871	
SUMFIE Match					4,771	4,771		4,962	4,962		5,160	5,160		14,893	14,893	
Gym Benefits					159	159		165	165		172	172		496	496	
Professional Development					477	477		496	496		516	516		1,489	1,489	
<b>Total</b>					34,130	34,130		35,475	35,475		36,894	36,894		106,479	106,479	
Travel																
Airfare					11,902	11,902		12,386	12,386		12,892	12,892		37,180	37,180	
Hotel					4,752	4,752		4,950	4,950		5,148	5,148		14,850	14,850	
Rental Car					4,312	4,312		4,488	4,488		4,664	4,664		13,614	13,614	
Per Diem					3,752	3,752		3,886	3,886		4,020	4,020		11,658	11,658	
Mileage					3,910	3,910		4,054	4,054		4,200	4,200		12,164	12,164	
<b>Total</b>					28,628	28,628		29,764	29,764		30,924	30,924		89,316	89,316	
Equipment																
<b>Total</b>					12,522	12,522		13,023	13,023		13,543	13,543		39,088	39,088	
Materials/Supplies																
<b>Total</b>					17,197	17,197		17,885	17,885		18,601	18,601		53,684	53,684	
Subcontracts																
<b>Total</b>					36,240	36,240		37,723	37,723		39,215	39,215		113,178	113,178	
Construction																
<b>Total</b>																
Other																
Connected Corps																See detail budget attached.
State Broadband Task Force/Steering Committee																
Train the Trainer																
Technology Planning Teams																
Summit																
Outreach and Education					10,816	10,816		11,249	11,249		11,699	11,699		33,764	33,764	
Office Space					2,211	2,211		2,299	2,299		2,391	2,391		6,901	6,901	
Leading Practices		61,682	61,682		64,149	64,149		66,715	66,715		69,384	69,384		201,930	201,930	See detail budget attached.
<b>Total</b>		61,682	61,682		74,965	74,965		77,964	77,964		81,083	81,083		295,694	295,694	
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>		61,682	61,682	2,211	362,687	364,898	2,299	377,219	379,518	2,391	392,260	394,651	6,901	1,193,848	1,200,749	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>					154,508	154,508		160,648	160,648		167,115	167,115		482,311	482,311	
<b>Total Costs</b>		61,682	61,682	2,211	517,195	519,406	2,299	537,907	540,206	2,391	559,375	561,766	6,901	1,676,159	1,683,060	

MINNESOTA  
State Broadband Capacity Building

Cost	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes				
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total					
Personnel Salaries																				
<b>Total</b>		188,240	188,240		195,769	195,769		203,601	203,601		211,744	211,744		799,354	799,354					
Personnel Fringe Benefits																				
Employer's FICA Tax		14,400	14,400		14,976	14,976		15,575	15,575		16,198	16,198		61,149	61,149					
Unemployment Tax		941	941		979	979		1,018	1,018		1,059	1,059		3,997	3,997					
Health/Dental/Vision Insurance		10,730	10,730		11,159	11,159		11,605	11,605		12,069	12,069		45,563	45,563					
Disability & Life Insurance		1,129	1,129		1,175	1,175		1,221	1,222		1,270	1,270		4,796	4,796					
Accrued Paid Time Off		6,777	6,777		7,048	7,048		7,330	7,330		7,623	7,623		28,778	28,778					
SAMPLE March		5,647	5,647		5,873	5,873		6,108	6,108		6,352	6,352		23,580	23,580					
Gym Benefit		188	188		196	196		204	204		212	212		800	800					
Professional Development		565	565		587	587		611	611		635	635		2,398	2,398					
<b>Total</b>		40,377	40,377		41,993	41,993		43,673	43,673		45,418	45,418		171,461	171,461					
Travel																				
Airfare		2,280	2,280		2,574	2,574		2,882	2,882		3,204	3,204		30,940	30,940					
Hotel		2,932	2,932		3,024	3,024		3,150	3,150		3,276	3,276		12,362	12,362					
Rental Car		2,632	2,632		2,744	2,744		2,856	2,856		2,968	2,968		11,200	11,200					
Per Diem		6,156	6,156		6,384	6,384		6,612	6,612		6,840	6,840		25,992	25,992					
Mileage		9,817	9,817		10,195	10,195		10,573	10,573		10,951	10,951		41,536	41,536					
<b>Total</b>		28,797	28,797		29,921	29,921		31,073	31,073		32,239	32,239		122,030	122,030					
Equipment																				
<b>Total</b>		9,360	9,360		-	-		-	-		-	-		9,360	9,360					
Materials/Supplies																				
<b>Total</b>		60,840	60,840		54,621	54,621		62,992	62,992		59,078	59,078		237,531	237,531					
Subcontracts																				
<b>Total</b>		2,102	2,102		2,183	2,183		2,271	2,271		2,359	2,359		8,915	8,915					
Construction																				
<b>Total</b>		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
Other																				
Connected Corps		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
State Broadband Task Force/Steering Committee		26,800	26,800		28,000	28,000		29,200	29,200		30,400	30,400		114,400	114,400					
Train the Trainer		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
Technology Planning Teams		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
Summit		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
Outreach and Education		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
Office Space		35,004	35,004		36,404	36,404		37,860	37,860		39,375	39,375		148,643	148,643					
Leading Practices		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-					
<b>Total</b>		26,800	35,004	61,804		28,000	36,404	64,404		29,200	37,860	67,060		30,400	39,375	69,775		114,400	148,643	263,043
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>		26,800	364,720	391,520		28,000	360,891	388,891		29,200	381,471	410,671		30,400	390,213	420,613		134,400	1,497,294	1,611,694
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>		-	182,894	182,894		-	190,210	190,210		-	197,819	197,819		-	205,730	205,730		-	776,652	776,652
<b>Total Costs</b>		26,800	547,614	574,414		28,000	551,101	579,101		29,200	579,290	608,490		30,400	595,943	626,343		114,400	2,273,947	2,388,347

See detail budget attached.

MINNESOTA  
Technical Assistance

Cost	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	
Personnel Salaries																
<b>Total</b>		83,664	83,664		103,744	103,744		107,892	107,892		112,209	112,209		407,509	407,509	
Personnel Fringe Benefits																
Employer's FICA Tax		6,400	6,400		7,936	7,936		8,254	8,254		8,584	8,584		11,174	11,174	
Unemployment Tax		418	418		519	519		519	519		561	561		2,037	2,037	
Health/Dental/Vision Insurance		4,780	4,780		5,913	5,913		6,150	6,150		6,396	6,396		23,228	23,228	
Disability & Life Insurance		502	502		622	622		647	647		673	673		2,444	2,444	
Accrued Paid Time Off		3,012	3,012		3,735	3,735		3,884	3,884		4,040	4,040		14,071	14,071	
SIMPLE Match		2,510	2,510		3,112	3,112		3,237	3,237		3,366	3,366		12,225	12,225	
Gym Benefits		84	84		104	104		108	108		112	112		408	408	
Professional Development		251	251		311	311		324	324		337	337		1,223	1,223	
<b>Total</b>		17,946	17,946		22,252	22,252		23,143	23,143		24,069	24,069		87,410	87,410	
Travel																
Airfare		7,800	7,800		8,115	8,115		8,445	8,445		8,790	8,790		33,150	33,150	
Hotel		3,120	3,120		3,240	3,240		3,375	3,375		3,510	3,510		13,245	13,245	
Rental Car		2,820	2,820		2,940	2,940		3,060	3,060		3,180	3,180		12,000	12,000	
Per Diem		5,238	5,238		5,432	5,432		5,626	5,626		5,820	5,820		22,116	22,116	
Mileage		7,904	7,904		8,208	8,208		8,512	8,512		8,816	8,816		33,440	33,440	
<b>Total</b>		26,882	26,882		27,935	27,935		29,018	29,018		30,116	30,116		113,951	113,951	
Equipment																
<b>Total</b>																
Materials/Supplies																
<b>Total</b>		4,623	4,623		3,298	3,298		4,443	4,443		3,404	3,404		11,773	11,773	
Subcontracts																
<b>Total</b>																
<b>Total</b>		211,634	211,634		93,001	93,001		96,698	96,698		215,000	215,000		616,137	616,137	
Construction																
<b>Total</b>																
Other																
Connected Corps																
State Broadband Task Force/Steering Committee																
Train the Trainer																
Technology Planning Teams																
Summit		71,908	26,000	97,908	74,920	27,040	101,960	77,932	28,122	106,054	80,944	29,246	110,190	305,704	110,408	416,112
Outreach and Education																
Office Space																
Leading Practices																
<b>Total</b>		71,908	26,000	97,908	74,920	27,040	101,960	77,932	28,122	106,054	80,944	29,246	110,190	305,704	110,408	416,112
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>		71,908	370,758	442,666	74,920	275,270	350,190	77,932	289,316	367,248	80,944	412,044	492,888	305,704	1,347,388	1,653,092
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>			81,288	81,288		100,797	100,797		104,828	104,828		109,022	109,022		395,935	395,935
<b>Total Costs</b>		71,908	452,046	523,954	74,920	376,067	450,987	77,932	394,144	472,076	80,944	521,066	601,910	305,704	1,743,323	2,049,027

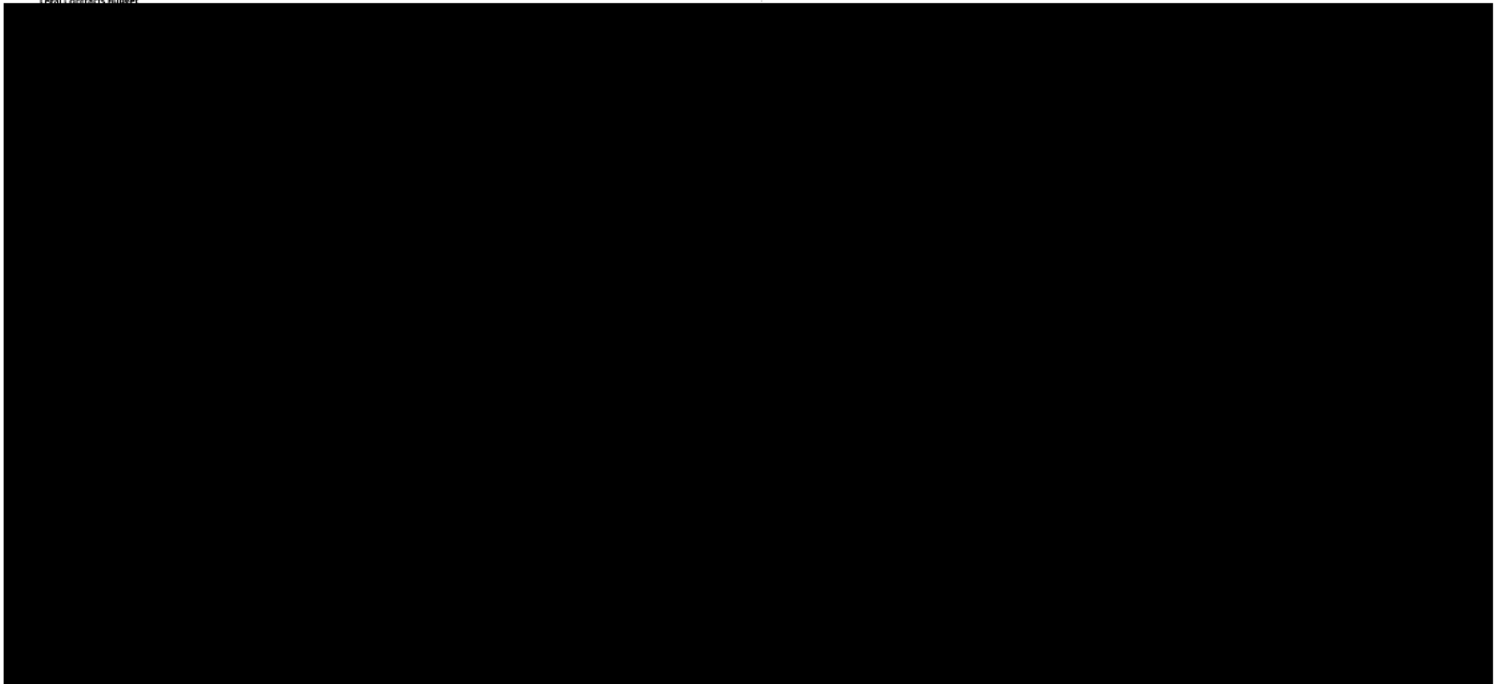
See detail budget attached.

See detail budget attached.

MINNESOTA  
Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

Cost	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	
Personnel Salaries																
<b>Total</b>		72,540	72,540		75,442	75,442		78,459	78,459		81,598	81,598		108,039	108,039	
Personnel Fringe Benefits																
Employer's FICA Tax		5,549	5,549		5,771	5,771		6,002	6,002		6,242	6,242		23,554	23,554	
Unemployment Tax		363	363		377	377		392	392		408	408		1,540	1,540	
Health/Dental/Vision Insurance		4,135	4,135		4,300	4,300		4,472	4,472		4,651	4,651		17,558	17,558	
Disability & Life Insurance		435	435		453	453		471	471		490	490		1,849	1,849	
Accrued Paid Time Off		2,613	2,613		2,746	2,746		2,875	2,875		2,988	2,988		11,090	11,090	
SIMPLE Match		2,176	2,176		2,263	2,263		2,354	2,354		2,448	2,448		9,241	9,241	
Gym Benefits		73	73		75	75		78	78		82	82		308	308	
Professional Development		218	218		226	226		235	235		245	245		924	924	
<b>Total</b>		15,560	15,560		16,181	16,181		16,829	16,829		17,504	17,504		66,074	66,074	
Travel																
Airfare		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Hotel		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Rental Car		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Per Diem		7,884	7,884		8,176	8,176		-	-		-	-		16,060	16,060	
Mileage		15,184	15,184		15,768	15,768		-	-		-	-		30,952	30,952	
<b>Total</b>		23,068	23,068		23,944	23,944		-	-		-	-		47,012	47,012	
Equipment																
<b>Total</b>		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Materials/Supplies																
<b>Total</b>		4,628	4,628		1,298	1,298		5,006	5,006		1,404	1,404		12,335	12,335	
Subcontracts																
<b>Total</b>		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Construction																
<b>Total</b>		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Other																
Connected Corps		24,000	24,000		24,960	24,960		25,956	25,956		27,000	27,000		101,916	101,916	See detail budget attached.
State Broadband Task Force/Steering Committee		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Train the Trainer		131,632	131,632		139,200	139,200		146,800	146,800		154,400	154,400		272,832	272,832	
Technology Planning Teams		250,560	250,560		261,000	261,000		271,440	271,440		281,880	281,880		1,064,880	1,064,880	
Summit		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Outreach and Education		7,280	7,280		7,571	7,571		7,874	7,874		8,189	8,189		30,914	30,914	
Office Space		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-	
Leading Practices																See detail budget attached.
<b>Total</b>		384,192	384,192		415,472	415,472		432,311	432,311		450,279	450,279		1,337,712	1,337,712	
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>		384,192	384,192		415,472	415,472		432,311	432,311		450,279	450,279		1,337,712	1,337,712	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>		70,480	70,480		73,258	73,258		76,130	76,130		79,282	79,282		299,290	299,290	
<b>Total Costs</b>		454,672	454,672		488,730	488,730		508,441	508,441		529,561	529,561		1,637,002	1,637,002	









Line	Code	Description	Unit	Rate	Quantity	Amount	Balance
1	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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5	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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16	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
17	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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22	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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26	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
27	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
28	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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30	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
32	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
33	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
34	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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40	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
41	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
42	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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48	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
49	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...

Line	Code	Description	Unit	Rate	Quantity	Amount	Balance
1	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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22	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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25	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
26	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
27	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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36	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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38	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
39	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
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41	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
42	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
43	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
44	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
46	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
47	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
48	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
49	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	1000	...	...	...	...	...	...



Other - Leading Practices

Data Collection (Mapping)	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	
Other - Leading Practices																
Leading Practices 1		61,682	61,682		64,149	64,149		66,715	66,715		69,284	69,284		261,930	261,930	
Leading Practices 2																
Leading Practices 3																
Leading Practices 4																
Leading Practices 5																
<b>Total Data Collection (Mapping)</b>		<b>61,682</b>	<b>61,682</b>		<b>64,149</b>	<b>64,149</b>		<b>66,715</b>	<b>66,715</b>		<b>69,284</b>	<b>69,284</b>		<b>261,930</b>	<b>261,930</b>	

State Broadband Capacity Building	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	
Other - Leading Practices																
Leading Practices 1																
Leading Practices 2																
Leading Practices 3																
Leading Practices 4																
Leading Practices 5																
<b>Total State Broadband Capacity Building</b>																

Technical Assistance	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	
Other - Leading Practices																
Leading Practices 1																
Leading Practices 2																
Leading Practices 3																
Leading Practices 4																
Leading Practices 5																
<b>Total Technical Assistance</b>																

Local/Regional Technology Plan Teams	YEAR 2			YEAR 3			YEAR 4			YEAR 5			Grand Total For Plan Period			Notes
	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	Applicant	Federal	Total	
Other - Leading Practices																
Leading Practices 1																
Leading Practices 2																
Leading Practices 3																
Leading Practices 4																
Leading Practices 5																
<b>Total Local/Regional Technology Plan Teams</b>																
<b>Grand Total Other - Leading Practices</b>		<b>61,682</b>	<b>61,682</b>		<b>64,149</b>	<b>64,149</b>		<b>66,715</b>	<b>66,715</b>		<b>69,284</b>	<b>69,284</b>		<b>261,930</b>	<b>261,930</b>	