人Link Up Idaho

The Idaho Office of Broadband's (IOB) prequalification phase of the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program subgrantee selection has concluded. Forty-five applications were submitted through two phases of the prequalification application process. The IOB and the State's third-party consultants completed a comprehensive review of all submissions in accordance with current National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) requirements.

The Idaho Broadband Advisory Board and IOB are delighted to announce that 43 prequalification applications have been approved, qualifying them to move to the next phase of the BEAD subgrantee selection process. These 43 applicants will be invited to submit project applications for BEAD funding.

The approved prequalification applications demonstrated financial, managerial, operational, and technical capabilities in addition to compliance with required standards and laws, as required by the <u>BEAD</u> <u>Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u>. Passing the prequalification phase allows applicants to proceed with the BEAD application process, submitting applications for proposed projects to the IOB and the State of Idaho.

Important to note, qualifying to apply for BEAD funding does not guarantee, in any way, a preliminary selection through this program. The State of Idaho will conduct a fair, open, competitive, and transparent BEAD funding application process in accordance with NTIA guidelines and as outlined in Idaho's approved <u>Initial Proposal Volume II</u>. Additionally, the State of Idaho reserves the right to request or require any additional information or documentation it deems necessary.

APPROVED BEAD PREQUALIFICATION APPLICANTS

Airbridge Broadband All West Communications Inc. Amazon Kuiper Commercial Services LLC Anthem Broadband ATC Communications Inc. Blackfoot (formerly Fremont Telcom Co.) Blackfoot Communications Inc (DBA Blackfoot Communications) **Charter Spectrum** Coeur d'Alene Tribe Concept Communications/CoreFiber (DBA MiFiber) Cox Communications Custer Telephone Cooperative Inc. **Direct Communications Rockland Inc. E.L. Internet Northwest** EntryPoint Networks Inc. **ETS Management LLC** Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. Fatbeam LLC FyberCom **IBT Group USA** Inland Cellular Intermax Networks Kaniksu Latah County Midvale Telephone Co. **Millennium Networks LLC** Mud Lake Telephone Cooperative Assoc Inc. Nez Perce Tribe Port of Lewiston Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Assoc Inc. Rally Networks (formerly Oregon Telephone Corp.) RTI (Rural Telecom Inc.) Shoshone Bannock Tribes Shoshone Paiute Tribes* Silver Star Communications SpaceX Vickery IT LLC Whitecloud Communications Wi-Fiber Inc. Ziply Fiber Northwest LLC* Ziply Fiber of Idaho LLC* Ziply Fiber Pacific LLC* **Ziply Wireless LLC***

*Provisional approval. Provisional approval is granted to applicants who have demonstrated substantial compliance with the program's requirements, with only minor conditions remaining to be fulfilled for full approval.

The next step will be releasing the funding application

guidelines and opening the Funding Application Phase. The funding application will be open for 45 days. After the funding application window closes, the IOB and the State's third-party consultants will review, <u>score</u>,

and rank applications and conduct application deconfliction and discussions with applicants as needed. The review and scoring phase will be approximately a 90-120-day process immediately following the closing of the Funding Application Phase.

Idaho will provisionally select subgrantee awards in accordance with state and federal BEAD Program rules, including the BEAD NOFO, NTIA guidance documents, and Idaho's Initial Proposal Volume II, to evaluate and select provisional awardees.

Additional information about Idaho's BEAD Program, including details about the subgrantee selection process, can be found on Link Up Idaho <u>here</u>. If you have any questions about the BEAD Program, application, or subgrantee selection process, please reach out to <u>broadband@commerce.idaho.gov</u>.