

PROJECT PROPOSAL - FOR PUBLIC POSTING



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Please include:

1. An executive summary of the project:

Haviland Broadband proposes overbuilding its existing DSL copper network in rural Norwich with fiber to the premise. This project will impact 83 locations in Haviland's territory that cannot currently receive 25/3 speeds from DSL or wireless.

2. A description of the location (City(s), County(s), etc.), proposed service areas, partners involved and anticipated improvements.

The project will target 75 locations that are existing or under construction and 8 sold residential lot locations located in the rural exchange boundaries of Norwich, KS in Kingman County (66) and Sedgwick County (17). The project is divided into 3 sub-projects currently defined by existing copper/DSL networks.

Fiber optic cable will replace existing copper lines to improve service capacity. All new builds will be done with fiber. This project is supported by the Kingman County Economic Development Advisory Council and the Kingman County Commission.

3. Goals of the project and community need to address including whether the proposed area is unserved or economically distressed or what the compelling need is, if served.

The locations to be served are currently receiving maximum speeds of 20/2 over the 40+ year old copper network. Some subscribers can only receive 10/1 due to their distance from the cabinet and/or the condition of the copper. These locations are outside the reach of Haviland's CERG funded wireless systems. These locations are all within census tract 20095961100. Based on the most recent data available, this tract has an unemployment rate 3 percent greater than the national average. Upon completion of this project, all locations will be served by fiber and have ability to receive 1G speeds.

4. The proposed infrastructure and access improvements planned, including the number of proposed connected premisees and community anchor institutions, businesses, or other organizations and the recipients to be served by the project.

This project will serve 75 premises with fiber and will allow for additional capacity to serve two new rural subdivisions. The project will utilize rural Digital Loop Cabinets (DLCs) that are already fiber fed reducing the overall cost of fiber deployment. Grant funds will be used to replace the copper from the DLC to the premise in two sub-projects, and from the central office in one sub-project. The project will deploy 36 miles of mainline fiber.

A number of premise can be considered hybrid residential/farming locations. For the purpose of this grant all locations will be considered residential in nature.

5. The short and long-term investment benefit to the community and service area proposed.

Residents of Kingman County understand the connection between higher speed internet connection and economic viability. Immediate benefits of access reach students, remote workers, rural agriculturally-based businesses and entrepreneurs looking to increase online sales. Long-term, fiber expansion into rural Norwich will assist the county in marketing itself as a viable option for retention, expansion and attraction of businesses and residents. Because of the area's proximity to Wichita, it is seeing an influx of new construction, as reflected in our projects desire to serve 13 new residential lots within the proposed service area.