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<b>Organization:</b>	County of Carver
<b>Project Name:</b>	Carver County Open Fiber Initiative
<b>Project Type:</b>	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
<b>State:</b>	Minnesota
<b>Federal Award:</b>	\$5,995,600

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The **Carver County** Open Fiber Initiative, a partnership between the county, affiliated city governments, and Jaguar Communications, a for-profit small business, proposes to build a high-speed fiber optic network across the south-central Minnesota county, bringing advanced services to its key community organizations. The project plans to connect schools, libraries, and community colleges, including the Waconia Library and the South Metro campus of the Dunwoody College of Technology, to improve educational services, distance learning, and remote teaching. The project also proposes to construct 121 miles of new fiber that will be open to as many as nine last-mile providers in the region in order to improve commercial broadband availability and adoption.

The Carver County Open Fiber Initiative also proposes to:

- Connect as many as 86 community anchor institutions with speeds between 100 Mbps and 10 Gbps, including 28 K-12 public schools, five libraries, and 23 government facilities.
- Connect all 16 public safety facilities in the county, enabling Internet-based voice communications (VoIP), video conferencing, remote security camera monitoring, and the transmission of digital video recordings and other high bandwidth applications from remote vehicles.
- Connect all public safety 800 MHz towers in the county, allowing more reliable and efficient service to public safety entities and first responders.
- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to approximately 24,000 households and 2,700 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project's open network.

**ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY**

The Carver County Open Fiber Initiative was conceived by Carver County employees to help the county government manage information technology more efficiently and to address severe data shortages and high costs associated with limited available service. The County will partner with Jaguar Communications, which has deployed advanced networks throughout Minnesota for over 10 years, to manage the construction, for-profit operation, and maintenance of the network.

**PROJECT PARTNERS**

- Jaguar Communications
- City of Waconia
- City of Chanhassen
- City of Watertown
- City of Chaska
- City of Mayer
- City of Victoria
- City of Carver
- City of Cologne
- City of Norwood Young America

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on [www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa).

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or [press@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:press@ntia.doc.gov). For the general public, contact [BTOP@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:BTOP@ntia.doc.gov).

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