

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

Biographical Statements of Leadership Team Members

Heather Chirtea is the founder and Executive Director of Digital Wish, a public charity on a mission to modernize American classrooms and prepare students for tomorrow's workforce. Similar to a gift registry, educators build technology wish lists and invite parents, community members, and local businesses to grant technology wishes through online donations. The many social networking features of www.digitalwish.org have led educators to call it "...a FaceBook for teachers," registering over 14,000 teacher members. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Digital Wish received the prestigious fellowship award from the [Draper Richards Foundation](#) to fund 3 years of operations. Digital Wish now spearheads the *Vermont School Modernization Initiative*. Heather has united all of the educational leadership organizations to plan tactical adoption of collaborative internet learning across rural areas. This initiative has received board-level endorsements from the VT Principals' Association, VT Superintendents' Association, 6 regional Educational Services Agencies, VITA-Learn (the association for technology coordinators), VT-NEA (teacher's union), and the VT School Board Association. As the previous longstanding president of [Tool Factory](#), an educational software publisher, Heather watched as funding for education technology continuously declined nationwide until today, over 75% of teachers classify themselves as "often in need of" or "desperate for" technology resources. She created Digital Wish to empower teachers to solve their own technology shortfalls at a local level. As an accomplished lecturer, for the past 8 years Heather has traveled widely throughout the United States to conduct over 400 [lively seminars](#) on technology integration. She's a firm believer in project-based learning and has designed more than 60 hands-on seminars across all subject areas. She designed and launched school internet services for [classroom clip art](#), [worksheets](#), [lesson plans](#), and [formative testing and assessment](#). With a dual B.S. in communications and operational management (statistics) from Syracuse University, Heather also serves on the board of directors for [VITA-Learn](#) and [New England ISTE](#).

Paul Costello has served as the Executive Director of the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) since 2000. Charged by the federal farm bill to help coordinate state and federal rural policy in Vermont, VCRD runs an annual Rural Summit, and conducts "Community Visits" that help rural communities build priorities, set action plans, and build connections to resources. In the last few years VCRD has founded and produced policy councils around agriculture, forestry, the creative economy, planning, energy, and the future of Vermont, and has led statewide policy discussions around rural telecom strategies. VCRD's Vermont Rural Broadband Program has provided consultation services to over 50 Vermont communities, helping many of them assess and aggregate their demand and negotiate with potential providers to draw service. VCRD has been helping small businesses, tourists and local residents in the Northeast Kingdom access broadband by building a series of WiFi hotspots throughout the region. These hot spots serve the local and tourism needs for connectivity in key downtown and community sites in some of the most rural parts of Vermont. VCRD has also been promoting use of the Internet to help communities evaluate ways that businesses, community groups and town government could more effectively use on-line applications, both for the bottom line, and for their ability to communicate and work together at the local level. As Executive Director of VCRD, Paul founded the first statewide leadership task force dedicated to universal high speed broadband service in rural Vermont, and from 2000 to 2007 led a coordinating committee that helped state and federal agencies, congressional staff

and non-profits work together in policy and practice to expand rural services. Paul has served on the team that selects towns for state broadband grants for four years and has briefed Legislative Committees, Vermont Congressional Offices, Gubernatorial candidates and administration partners on rural telecom issues for 10 years. Paul is a University of Vermont alumnus and holds a PhD in intellectual history from McGill University. In addition to his work at VCRD, Costello is a Board Member of Housing Vermont and is president of the national Partners for Rural America.

Mary Evslin served as Chair of the Vermont Telecommunications Authority from 2007-2009. Its role is to assure that all Vermonters have access to broadband to their home and office, mobile voice and a ubiquitous wireless data network by the end of 2010. Prior to that, she co-founded ITXC Corp. With a presence in over 175 countries, ITXC was considered one of the world's largest international wholesale carriers of telephone calls and the largest Internet telephony carrier. She developed and led the company's marketing and PR globally from start-up in 1997 to \$270M by 2002. In the past few months, Mary, a proven leader in the development of software businesses, has volunteered her time and services to the State of Vermont Department of Public Service, focusing primarily on the development of applications for Sustainable broadband adoption programs and Public Computing Centers. Her volunteer service has included: Assistance and guidance in the development of the application for ARRA funds to increase broadband consumption throughout Vermont, improve economic development opportunities for small businesses, help prepare middle school students for the global job market and make the case for broadband providers to deploy state of the art services to our most rural areas; Development and vetting of community driven broadband demand stimulus projects involving state agencies, non-profits and over 30 Vermont communities; Meeting with education consultants, Vermont Dept. of Ed leadership and drafting proposals to include in the education section of the application; Researching, writing and refining financial reports for the application; Recruiting and developing relationships with philanthropists who are willing to support the application with matching funds; and Negotiations and Program development with executives at local and national retailers that will offer affordable hardware pricing for new adopters of broadband services. Mary has been instrumental in driving the vision behind the program to grow broadband demand in Vermont. Her managerial expertise and diverse network of industry leaders, education executives, and philanthropists has enabled the partners to harness resources that otherwise would not be available.

Lenae Quillen-Blume the State Director of the Vermont Small Business Development Center (VtSBDC). VtSBDC, a partnership of business, education and government, is a statewide organization providing business advising and training programs. In addition to core services VtSBDC has statewide programs for Technology Commercialization, Regulatory Assistance, Agribusiness, Servicemember Connected/Veterans Assistance, and Youth Entrepreneurship. Key to our service delivery is our network of business advisors that work in local communities and with community partnerships. We focus on use of the Internet for all businesses as a key component of doing business in today's environment. Lenae was instrumental in founding the New England Professional Development program for the six New England Small Business Development Centers. The focus is to assure that all business advisors have current skills with a key component on the use of the Internet to conduct business. Lenae has extensive experience in federal grant management through VtSBDC awards such as FAST, SBA, RBEG, and others. Lenae holds an MBA from James Madison University. In addition to her work at VtSBDC,

Quillen-Blume is a Board Member of the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund and is President of the Vermont Business Education Corporation.

Martha Reid has served as Vermont State Librarian since August 2008. She oversees the Vermont Department of Libraries (DOL), whose mission is: to collect, organize, and disseminate information and library materials to the three branches of State government, libraries statewide, the general public, and Vermonters with special needs, including operation of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; to support and strengthen local public libraries; to foster new means for statewide cooperation and resource sharing among all types of libraries; and to increase public awareness of libraries and their services and to act as an advocate on their behalf. The DOL works closely with Vermont's 190 independent public libraries providing support for the development of a wide variety of programs and services, including library technology and computer services for the general public. The State Librarian administers federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funds and also works with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to administer computer hardware grants to public libraries. With foundation support, the DOL has awarded grants to public libraries across the state to build public library computing centers, and to assist libraries in a variety of automation projects. Today 97% of the state's population has public library service available in their towns or by contract with a nearby town. In 2007-08 Vermont's public libraries recorded 3,070,184 visits (5.91 visits per capita). Their 912 computers were used 14,980 times each week, a 7.7% increase over the previous year. The Department of Libraries coordinates the Vermont Online Library, a collection of online databases (purchased with LSTA funds with contributions from school, academic and public libraries) available to Vermont citizens in libraries or via remote access, a statewide electronic union catalog, and the statewide electronic interlibrary loan network. In 2007-08 Vermonters logged on to the Vermont Online Library for 2,448,971 sessions. The Vermont DOL also oversees the State Library/State Law Library and two regional library centers. Martha has a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin and, before her current position, worked for over 30 years in public libraries in Virginia, Connecticut, Colorado and Vermont. She serves as President of the Vermont Public Library Foundation, a non-profit organization that awards grants to public libraries, is Secretary of the Vermont Board of Libraries, and is a Board member of the Vermont Historical Society.

Linda Rossi, Assistant State Director of Vermont Small Business Development Center (VtSBDC), is responsible for marketing, public relations, training and development of new programs for the organization. She represents VtSBDC on several state-wide committees aimed at strengthening small business success in Vermont. Linda has acted as project manager for several strategic initiatives. One involved the organization, implementation, data analysis and communication on seven Industry Sector forums as part of the Vermont State College Workforce and Business Development project. She is a certified facilitator of several entrepreneurship curriculums, including FastTrac, NxLevel and REAL. She started with VtSBDC as a business advisor, helping small businesses with planning, marketing and finance. Linda has over twenty years of experience in both large and small companies. In her nine years with the IBM Corporation in Hartford, CT, she specialized as a national project manager on public and private sector contracts. Linda was a member of the professional services team pioneering a new way of selling services & solutions in an ever-changing marketplace and understands the importance of being customer driven. She is also an experienced business manager; having held that position in four separate companies; thus giving her insight into the realities faced by small business owners.

Linda earned her B.S. at the University of Hartford (Business Administration, Marketing). She is an officer of the Vermont Business Education Corporation, and is active in her community as a Director and Coach of the Rutland Figure Skating Club, and is Chairperson of the Sudbury Road Race Committee.

Charlie Smith, Consultant and Senior Associate at the Snelling Center for Government, has served, over the last 13 years in the executive ranks of the Vermont banking, government and non-profit sectors. He worked for Key Bank and its predecessors in Vermont for 15 years, culminating with six years as president. He then served as Secretary of the Agencies of Human Services and of Administration, and subsequently as President of the Snelling Center for Government. His work in state government focused heavily on organizational change and change leadership. At the Snelling Center his work has focused on civic leadership development and effective public outreach and group process around public policy. He launched the Snelling Center's "Connected Age" conference series including Building Community in a Connected Age and Leadership in a Connected Age. He has a very broad interest in seeing both geographic communities in Vermont and communities of interest improve their effectiveness through the constructive application of broadband tools.

Karyn Vogel was the Director of Development for the Snelling Center for Government from 2008 to 2009 and is now a Senior Associate. She was very involved in the planning of the successful "Building Community in a Connected Age" and "Leadership in a Connected Age" conferences held at Champlain College in Burlington in 2008 and 2009. The purpose of these events was to convene a diverse group of Vermonters from various sectors and backgrounds to examine the broader opportunities and challenges associated with 21st century technology. From 1995 to 2008, Karyn worked as a software engineer for Oracle, Borland, Actioneer, and Preclick. She was an integral part of the applications usability team, researching usage patterns and designing more intuitive user interfaces with fewer adoption barriers. During the past ten years, Karyn has helped many non-technical people learn to use technology, including teachers, students and colleagues. From 2006 to 2008, Karyn worked closely with a professional photographer on her transition from film to a digital format including related changes to her business model. Karyn has participated in many community-based projects as a dialogue facilitator, including the 2003 Study Circles on Race in Burlington and a 2007-2008 Mercy Connections group focused on the issue of poverty in Burlington. Karyn was one of the founders of the Essex Celebrates Martin Luther King Day initiative in 2005. She trained students and teachers to be discussion facilitators at Harwood Union High School, Missisquoi Valley Union High School and the Milton School District. She collaborated with educators on student photography projects in many area schools, including the Edmunds Middle School Senior Portraits community service project.

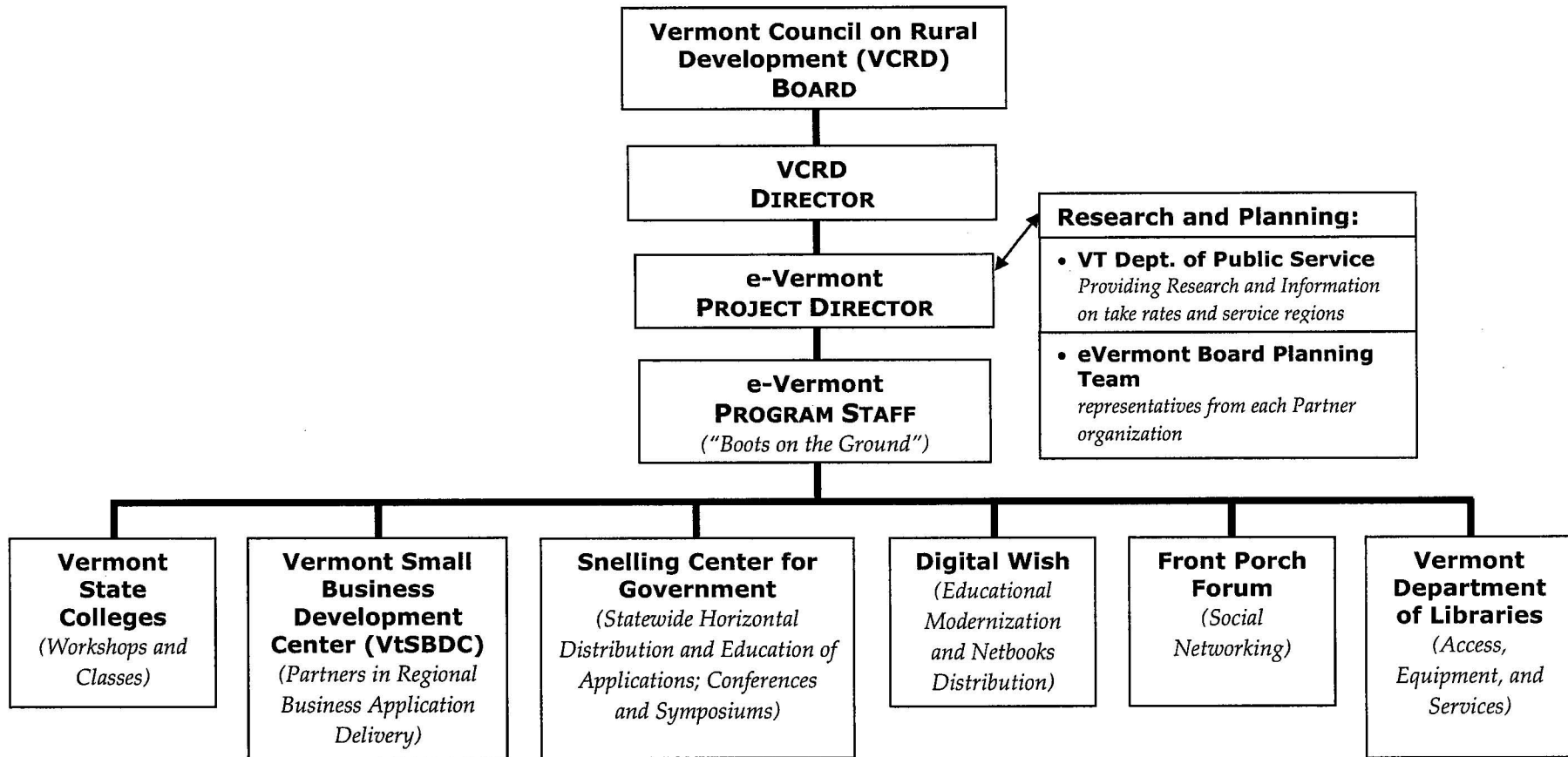
Karrin E. Wilks, Ed.D., is the Senior Vice President for the Vermont State Colleges and member of the executive leadership team for a five-college public system enrolling over 12,000 students annually, including certificate, two-year, baccalaureate, graduate and workforce development programs, with a \$158M FY09 budget. Dr. Wilks reports directly to the Chancellor and works in partnership with Board of Trustees, five college presidents, academic deans, chief financial officer and legal counsel to enhance the system's overall capacity to meet its mission. Dr. Wilks oversees system-wide strategic planning, policy development and implementation, and

accountability systems. She represents the VSC in the State Legislature, to state agencies, and in state-level planning initiatives, particularly related to preK-16 partnerships, workforce education and training, and higher education funding. She also represents the VSC in regional and national initiative. Dr. Wilks has experience seeking funding for and overseeing special projects, including the statewide VSC Dual Enrollment Program for high school students, for which she secured federal and state funding. She oversees academic program planning, development and review, and the design of system-wide faculty development activities in support of college and system priorities. Dr. Wilks also oversees the VSC Information Technology Services budget, staff and operations, and the VSC human resources budget, staff and operations. Wilks earned a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from UVM. She has taught extensively at the high school and college level, and currently serves on the faculty of the Snelling Center for Government. Dr. Wilks serves on numerous boards, including the Boys & Girls Club of Burlington, Vermont's Education Transformation Policy Commission, the Vermont Women's Fund, and the Addison County Parent Child Center.

Michael Wood-Lewis is CEO and co-founder of Burlington, Vermont-based Front Porch Forum (FPF). This new service hosts 130 online neighborhood forums covering Chittenden County, Vermont. Nearly 15,000 households subscribe, including 40% of the state's largest city. Michael has earned local and national recognition for this work, including a "community innovator of the year" distinction from the Orton Family Foundation and a Make It Your Own award from Steve Case's foundation. He was a featured speaker at the inaugural meeting of the blue ribbon Knight Commission on the Information Needs of Communities in a Democracy. More awards: <http://frontporchforum.com/blog/recognition-and-awards>. For the past three years, Michael has served on Burlington Telecom's citizen advisory committee, focusing on bringing state-of-the-art fiber-to-the-home broadband and other telecom services to this small city. Prior to these experiences, Michael led a 28-employee New England environmental service provider for five years, raising \$2 million annually from USDA, EPA, state agencies and other sources. Michael and his crew served thousands of small rural towns across New England. He also was on the management team of a 40-employee dot.com start-up in 1999 that attracted \$1 million in venture funding. Before his time in Vermont Michael led programs for two Washington, DC think tanks, Public Technology, Inc. and the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, both focused on combining new technologies and local resources to address local challenges. Michael earned a Master of Science in engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as an MBA. In addition to his young family, he is perhaps most proud of being named a Vermont Father of Year.

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Organizational Chart



Cover Sheet – Financial Statements

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

Vermont Council on Rural Development Financial statements for 2008 and 2007
(6 pages):

Page 1	2008 Balance Sheet
Page 2, 3	2008 Profit and Loss statement
Page 4	2007 Balance Sheet
Page 5, 6	2007 Profit and Loss statement

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2008

	<u>Dec 31, 08</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
100 · Community National Bank	5,727.00
101 · CNB - MM	35,014.41
105 · Northfield Savings Bank - CD	51,870.54
Total Checking/Savings	<u>92,611.95</u>
Other Current Assets	
125 · Prepaid expenses	4,357.37
139 · Pledge receivable	10,000.00
140 · Grant receivable	30,343.03
Total Other Current Assets	<u>44,700.40</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>137,312.35</u>
Fixed Assets	
135 · Equipment	5,157.00
136 · Accumulated depreciation	-2,443.73
Total Fixed Assets	<u>2,713.27</u>
Other Assets	
141 · Security deposit	1,150.00
Total Other Assets	<u>1,150.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>141,175.62</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
200 · Accounts payable	7,590.26
205 · 403 (b) payable	-4,382.47
232 · Vermont tax withheld	1,448.70
240 · Payroll Liabilities	5,063.49
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>9,719.98</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>9,719.98</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>9,719.98</u>
Equity	
1110 · Unrestricted	121,232.41
296 · Temp. restricted	100,748.13
Net Income	-90,524.90
Total Equity	<u>131,455.64</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>141,175.62</u>

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Accrual Basis

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Profit & Loss

January through December 2008

	Jan - Dec 08
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
In-kind contributions	11,200.00
300 · Federal Grants	21,482.19
301 · Foundation Grants	
307 · AG Development	14,000.00
301 · Foundation Grants - Other	156,209.95
Total 301 · Foundation Grants	170,209.95
302 · Private contributions	59,500.00
303 · State Support	47,500.00
304 · Membership Dues	18,105.00
308 · Other income and interest	
305 · Other Income	421.68
306 · Interest Income	5,186.56
Total 308 · Other income and interest	5,608.24
309 · Registration fees	4,460.00
Total Income	338,065.38
Expense	
Donated services	11,200.00
403 · Miscellaneous/website dev.	
404 · Miscellaneous expense	
454 · Website Site Development	8,614.00
404 · Miscellaneous expense - Other	20.95
Total 404 · Miscellaneous expense	8,634.95
Total 403 · Miscellaneous/website dev.	8,634.95
405 · Board of Directors Expense	353.78
415 · Financial services	9,051.00
417 · Grant expense	660.85
419 · National Meeting expense	1,000.00
420 · Other projects	46,020.00
421 · Meeting - rental	3,885.10
449 · Salaries and benefits	
408 · Employee benefits	
409 · Company Contribution-403b	15,337.38
410 · Dental insurance	1,943.96
411 · Health insurance	24,991.44
412 · Taxes-payroll	16,031.06
408 · Employee benefits - Other	-5,675.92
Total 408 · Employee benefits	52,627.92
450 · Salaries	172,776.92
Total 449 · Salaries and benefits	225,404.84
460 · Printing and Reproduction	16,127.09
472 · Travel & Ent	
474 · Federal meeting travel	1,100.50
476 · Parking	20.00
480 · Travel	6,092.35
472 · Travel & Ent - Other	833.79
Total 472 · Travel & Ent	8,046.64
478 · Meals	7,172.88
490 · Contract Labor	57,884.75

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Accrual Basis

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.
Profit & Loss
January through December 2008

	Jan - Dec 08
494 · Office expense - other	
416 · Insurance - workers comp	1,120.20
418 · Internet Provider	99.00
456 · Postage and Delivery	2,357.59
465 · Legal expenses	200.00
467 · Subrecipients	1,000.00
470 · Telephone	4,837.23
495 · Office expense	5,848.26
496 · Supplies	2,198.49
Total 494 · Office expense - other	17,660.77
499 · Depreciation	1,515.13
6290 · Rent	13,972.50
6560 · Payroll Expenses	0.00
Total Expense	428,590.28
Net Ordinary Income	-90,524.90
Net Income	-90,524.90

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Accrual Basis

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2007

	<u>Dec 31, 07</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
103 · Banknorth	10,864.46
104 · Money Market	209,443.89
Total Checking/Savings	220,308.35
Other Current Assets	
125 · Prepaid expenses	3,722.02
140 · Grant receivable	748.06
Total Other Current Assets	4,470.08
Total Current Assets	224,778.43
Fixed Assets	
135 · Equipment	5,157.00
136 · Accumulated depreciation	-928.60
Total Fixed Assets	4,228.40
Other Assets	
141 · Security deposit	1,150.00
Total Other Assets	1,150.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>230,156.83</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
200 · Accounts payable	6,368.32
205 · 403 (b) payable	13.50
232 · Vermont tax withheld	1,492.96
240 · Payroll Liabilities	301.51
Total Other Current Liabilities	8,176.29
Total Current Liabilities	8,176.29
Total Liabilities	8,176.29
Equity	
1110 · Unrestricted	-17,816.20
296 · Temp. restricted	165,912.55
Net Income	73,884.19
Total Equity	221,980.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>230,156.83</u>

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Accrual Basis

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.
Profit & Loss
January through December 2007

	Jan - Dec 07
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
In-kind contributions	16,507.00
300 · Federal Grants	335,838.02
301 · Foundation Grants	249,449.00
302 · Private contributions	34,360.14
303 · State Support	56,500.00
304 · Membership Dues	15,175.00
308 · Other income and interest	
305 · Other Income	24,979.13
306 · Interest Income	2,640.65
Total 308 · Other income and interest	27,619.78
309 · Registration fees	4,350.00
Total Income	739,798.94
Expense	
Donated services	11,350.00
403 · Miscellaneous/website dev.	
404 · Miscellaneous expense	
454 · Website Site Development	2,336.00
404 · Miscellaneous expense - Other	5,704.00
Total 404 · Miscellaneous expense	8,040.00
Total 403 · Miscellaneous/website dev.	8,040.00
415 · Financial services	15,428.76
419 · National Meeting expense	2,546.32
420 · Other projects	20,070.00
421 · Meeting - rental	607.00
449 · Salaries and benefits	
408 · Employee benefits	
409 · Company Contribution-403b	13,846.30
410 · Dental insurance	1,237.95
411 · Health insurance	14,063.73
412 · Taxes-payroll	12,514.61
408 · Employee benefits - Other	-121.20
Total 408 · Employee benefits	41,541.39
450 · Salaries	160,243.34
Total 449 · Salaries and benefits	201,784.73
452 · USDA Water Supply	731.88
460 · Printing and Reproduction	20,552.48
472 · Travel & Ent	
476 · Parking	37.25
480 · Travel	6,836.96
472 · Travel & Ent - Other	1,075.00
Total 472 · Travel & Ent	7,949.21
478 · Meals	6,571.14
490 · Contract Labor	348,398.12
494 · Office expense - other	
416 · Insurance - workers comp	1,158.20
418 · Internet Provider	1,306.48
456 · Postage and Delivery	760.85
465 · Legal expenses	297.50
470 · Telephone	2,739.21
495 · Office expense	8,271.68
496 · Supplies	2,972.59
Total 494 · Office expense - other	17,506.51
499 · Depreciation	928.60
6290 · Rent	3,450.00
6560 · Payroll Expenses	0.00
Total Expense	665,914.75

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Accrual Basis

VT COUNCIL ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.
Profit & Loss
January through December 2007

	Jan - Dec 07
Net Ordinary Income	73,884.19
Net Income	73,884.19

DOC Environmental Checklist

1. **SECTION 1-** To be completed for those projects historically shown not to create significant environmental impacts to the human or natural environment. Any answer of "No" or "Not Applicable" may require additional documentation or review.

a. Is the proposed action solely a procurement action for materials intended to be installed, stored or operated in an existing building or structure?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Not Applicable

b. If the proposed action involves procurement of electronic equipment, will the equipment be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner at the end of its useful life?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable

c. Does the proposed action involve only minor interior renovations to a structure, facility, or installation?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable

d. Is the proposed action solely for the production and/or distribution of informational materials, brochures, or newsletters?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Not Applicable

e. Does the proposed action consist solely of training, teaching, or meeting facilitation at an existing facility or structure?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Not Applicable

Certifications and Signature

(i) I certify that I am authorized to submit this grant application on behalf of the eligible entity(ies) listed on this application, that I have examined this application, that all of the information and responses in this application, including certifications, and forms submitted, all of which are part of this grant application, are material representations of fact and true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entity(ies) that is requesting grant funding pursuant to this application and any subgrantees and subcontractors will comply with the terms, conditions, purposes, and federal requirements of the grant program; that no kickbacks were paid to anyone; and that a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or **claims** on this application are grounds for denial or termination of a grant award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.

(ii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

(iii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has and will comply with all applicable administrative and federal statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements set forth in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements ("DOC Pre-Award Notification"), published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696), as amended; DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (Mar. 8, 2009), the Department of Commerce American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Award Terms (Apr. 9, 2009); and any Special Award Terms and Conditions that are included by the Grants Officer in the award.

(iv) If requesting BTOP funding, I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement or received a waiver.

Signature of authorized person

Paul Costello

Date

8/12/09

Print name of authorized person

Paul Costello

Title or position

Executive Director

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 15 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Commerce determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 15 CFR Part 28, for persons entering into a grant, cooperative agreement or contract over \$100,000 or a loan or loan guarantee over \$150,000 as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Sections 28.105 and 28.110, the applicant certifies that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into.

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

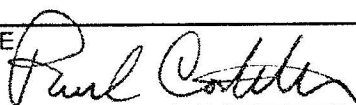
As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification.

NAME OF APPLICANT
Vermont Council on Rural Development

AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
**e-Vermont: The Vermont Community
Broadband Project**

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Paul Costello, Executive Director

SIGNATURE



DATE

8/12/09

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING
LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Applicants should review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 15 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying."

LOBBYING As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 15 CFR Part 28, for persons entering into a grant, cooperative agreement or contract over \$100,000 or a loan or loan guarantee over \$150,000 as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Sections 28.105 and 28.110, the applicant certifies that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.


Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification.

NAME OF APPLICANT
Vermont Council on Rural Development

AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
e-Vermont: The Vermont Community
Broadband Project

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Paul Costello, Executive Director

SIGNATURE


DATE
8/12/09

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 4040-0006
Expiration Date 04/30/2008

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. BTOP Federal Grant for Sustainable Broadband Adoption	11.557	\$	\$	\$ 2,525,675.00	\$	\$ 2,525,675.00
2. Foundations and Other Donors					410,000.00	410,000.00
3. In-Kind					169,395.00	169,395.00
4. In-Kind Equipment and Software Donations					694,742.00	694,742.00
5. Totals		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,525,675.00	\$ 1,274,137.00	\$ 3,799,812.00

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Prescribed by OMB (Circular A-1 02) Page 1

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	BTOP Federal Grant for Sustainable Broadband Adoption	Foundations and Other Donors	In-Kind	In-Kind Equipment and Software Donations	
a. Personnel	\$ 611,085.00	\$ 308,500.00	\$ 38,250.00	\$	\$ 957,835.00
b. Fringe Benefits	174,915.00	101,500.00	11,464.00		287,879.00
c. Travel	74,200.00				74,200.00
d. Equipment	821,195.00			500,182.00	1,321,377.00
e. Supplies	77,200.00			194,560.00	271,760.00
f. Contractual	376,280.00		37,517.00		413,797.00
g. Construction					0.00
h. Other	390,800.00		82,164.00		472,964.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	2,525,675.00	410,000.00	169,395.00	694,742.00	\$ 3,799,812.00
j. Indirect Charges					\$ 0.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 2,525,675.00	\$ 410,000.00	\$ 169,395.00	\$ 694,742.00	\$ 3,799,812.00
7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	Foundations and Other Donors	\$	\$	\$ 410,000.00	\$ 410,000.00
9.	In-Kind	30,567.00	6,664.00	132,164.00	169,395.00
10.	In-Kind Equipment and Software Donations			694,742.00	694,742.00
11.					0.00
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$ 30,567.00	\$ 6,664.00	\$ 1,236,906.00	\$ 1,274,137.00

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 1,270,337.00	\$ 636,782.00	\$ 211,185.00	\$ 211,185.00	\$ 211,185.00
14. Non-Federal	\$ 637,068.00	346,836.00	96,744.00	96,744.00	96,744.00
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 1,907,405.00	\$ 983,618.00	\$ 307,929.00	\$ 307,929.00	\$ 307,929.00

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:	22. Indirect Charges:
23. Remarks:	

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ASSURANCES – NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

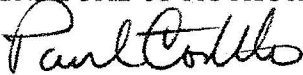
**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.
SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

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 assistance 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:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 assistance; 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 19 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 non-discrimination. 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.L. 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 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (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. 3601 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 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 to 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.
---	--

<p>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; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains 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 (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean 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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."</p> <p>18. 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.</p> <p>19. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.</p>
---	--

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 		TITLE Executive Director	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Vermont Council on Rural Development		DATE SUBMITTED 8/12/09	

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure)

1. Type of Federal Action: a. contract <u>b</u> b. grant c. cooperative agreement d. loan e. loan guarantee f. loan insurance	2. Status of Federal Action: a. bid/offer/application <u>b</u> b. initial award c. post-award	3. Report Type: a. initial filing <u>a</u> b. material change For material change only: Year _____ quarter _____ Date of last report _____
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <u>X</u> Prime _____ Subawardee Tier _____, if Known: Vermont Council on Rural Development 43 State Street Montpelier, VT 05602 Congressional District, if known: Vermont	5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, if known:	
6. Federal Department/Agency: Department of Commerce BTOP	7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable: 11.557	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known: \$	
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i> N/A VCRD does not lobby	b. Individuals Performing Services <i>(including address if different from No. 10a)</i> <i>(last name, first name, MI):</i> N/A	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Signature <u>Paul Costello</u> Print Name: Paul Costello Title: Executive Director Telephone No.: 802/223-5763 Date: _____	
Federal Use Only	Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL (Rev. 7-97)	

TARRANT, MARKS & GILLIES

44 EAST STATE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 1440
MONTPELIER, VT 05601-1440

GERALD R. TARRANT
MICHAEL MARKS
PAUL S. GILLIES

(802) 223-1112
FAX: (802) 223-6225

DANIEL P. RICHARDSON
CHARLES L. MERRIMAN
SARAH R. JARVIS

August 5, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary
National Telecommunications
and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Vermont Council on Rural Development

Dear Mr. Strickling:

We are special counsel for the Vermont Council on Rural Development. In this capacity, we advised the Council in connection with its ability to apply to the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and in the review of the grant agreement, as referenced in the Notice of Funds Availability.

We are of the opinion that:

(a) the Council is a duly organized and existing legal entity under the laws of the State of Vermont,

(b) the Council has corporate power: (1) to execute and deliver the agreement and (2) to perform all acts required to be done by it under said agreement; and

(c) no legal proceedings have been instituted or are pending against the Council, the outcome of which would adversely affect the Council's ability to perform the duties under the grant agreement, and further there are no judgments against the Council which would adversely affect its ability to perform under the grant agreement.

If this opinion raises any questions, please contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Gillies

cc: Paul Costello, Vermont Council on Rural Development

Certification Requirements for BTOP

U.S. Department of Commerce
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

I certify that I am the duly authorized representative of the applicant organization, and that I have been authorized to submit the attached application on its behalf. A copy of the applicant organization's authorization for me to submit this application as its official representative is on file in the applicant's office, and I am identified as the applicant organization's Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) in the Central Contractor Registration database. By signing this certification, I certify that the statements contained in the application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that if an award is made, the applicant organization will comply with all applicable award terms and conditions.

8/12/09
(Date)

Paul Costello
(Authorized Representative's Signature)

Paul Costello
Name:

Executive Director
Title:

Cover Sheet – Support Letters

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

Letters in support of the e-Vermont project (8 pages):

Page 1	Congress of the United States, VT Senator Bernard Sanders and VT Congressman Peter Welch
Page 2	United States Senate, VT Senator Patrick Leahy
Page 3, 4	Governor of Vermont, James H. Douglas
Page 5, 6	Commissioner of the VT Department of Education, Armando Vilaseca
Page 7	University of Vermont Extension
Page 8	American Red Cross, Northern Vermont Chapter

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 12, 2009

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communication and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

It is our pleasure to write in support of the Vermont Council on Rural Development's application for a Sustainable Internet Access grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

The Council's proposal - e-Vermont, the Vermont Community Broadband Project - will drive the use of online services throughout rural Vermont communities via schools, libraries, businesses, civic networks and local government.

e-Vermont will provide community organizing facilitation, technical assistance, education, hardware and funding to 24 selected rural communities that are working towards or have recently gained high-speed broadband access. The selected communities will then be offered a large number of services provided by the Vermont Community Broadband Project and will be able to choose a package that is tailored to meet the unique needs of each community. The plan is comprehensive and innovative and something we are proud of.

We welcome the opportunity to support their efforts and look forward to their continued success. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this grant request. If we can provide further evidence of our support for this grant proposal, please do not hesitate to contact Janko Mitric in Senator Sanders' office at (202) 224-5141, or Brent Raymond in Congressman Welch's office at (802) 652-2450.

Sincerely,



BERNARD SANDERS
U.S. Senator



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4502

August 13, 2009

Mr. Gary F. Locke
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert Clark Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Locke:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Vermont Council on Rural Development's National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant application.

During consideration of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), President Obama and members of Congress recognized that despite the large advances in telecommunications technologies, too much of the country lacked access to high-speed internet. Many areas in rural Vermont epitomize the failure of both public and private entities to ensure ubiquitous broadband access, leaving my constituents on the information dirt road instead of the information super highway. This digital divide extends beyond access. Even after broadband access arrives in rural communities, the delay leaves communities years behind those that have been evolving in cyberspace for more than a decade – taking advantage of new applications, educating their children using state-of-the-art technology and giving their residents tools that make their lives more convenient.

As the Vermont Telecommunications Authority and other stakeholders in the Green Mountain State attempt to take advantage of ARRA's broadband infrastructure challenges, the Vermont Council on Rural Development has brought together a wide range of organizations to focus on sustainable broadband adoption practices. From schools, to small businesses, to hospitals and town governments, VCRD will work with an unprecedented community and economic development team to maximize services and opportunities for Vermonters in 24 communities. This program, dubbed "e-Vermont: the Vermont Community Broadband Project", will identify best practices for sustainable broadband adoption and help communities apply them to increase broadband take rates and improve residents' lives through high-speed, internet-accessed applications. The impact of the program will have both short- and long-term community development applications, creating new jobs, educating children and using technology to improve Vermonters' lives.

Thank you for providing this application the serious consideration it deserves. Should you have any questions about the application or my support of the application, please contact me directly or contact Ted Brady of my Montpelier office at (802) 229-1701.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY
United States Senator

VERMONT OFFICES: COURT HOUSE PLAZA, 199 MAIN STREET, BURLINGTON 802/862-2525
FEDERAL BUILDING, ROOM 338, MONTPELIER 802/229-0569
OR DIAL TOLL FREE 1-800/642-3193

SENATOR, LEAHY@LEAHY.SENATE.GOV

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
Governor



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 12, 2009

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Application for Sustainable Broadband Adoption Funding by the
Vermont Council on Rural Development

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

Vermont is well-prepared to make good use of broadband stimulus funding since we have worked hard to prepare ourselves for this challenge. In 2007, I proposed a major "e-State" initiative to expand broadband and mobile wireless coverage, which was approved by our legislature. We have already mapped broadband availability and have redone our maps in census blocks to meet the requirements of the ARRA NoFAs and to fit the definitions of "broadband", "unserved", and "underserved" from RUS/NTIA. The proposal from the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) to promote sustainable adoption of broadband services represents an important element of an overall strategy to transform Vermont into a place where broadband is adopted by all regardless of income or technical ability and put to good use to make a "Smart Vermont."

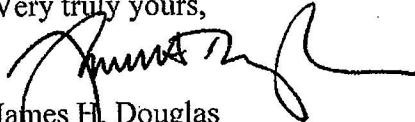
As part of Vermont's planning and preparation for broadband stimulus opportunities, the Vermont Office of Economic Stimulus and Recovery (VoESR) has engaged in extensive coordination of proposals for Recovery funding for broadband mapping, sustainable broadband adoption, and broadband infrastructure; the infrastructure requests will extend the availability of broadband while the adoption requests will increase penetration and use as well as improving the economics for providers. VoESR has also worked to coordinate these efforts with other governmental and Recovery programs, including e-Health Care, e-Education, and Smart Grid. Shortly after the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the State of Vermont was working to identify the potential projects and applicants that would make up a comprehensive approach to broadband availability, adoption, and transformative use. VCRD's proposal represents the fruits of this coordination effort in the area of sustainable broadband adoption. Although this project is led by VCRD, it represents the collaborative work by a large number of Vermont-based organizations in government, non-profit and philanthropic work, and business. I am pleased to see these organizations

Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
August 12, 2009
Page 2

working together to help more Vermonters take advantage of the on-line opportunities to improve their lives.

I would like to reiterate my strong support for the Vermont Council on Rural Development's application for Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant Funding.

Very truly yours,



James H. Douglas
Governor

JHD/sy



State of Vermont
Vermont Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

August 7, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Letter of Support for the Vermont Community Broadband Project Grant Application

Dear Mr. Strickling:

As Commissioner of Education, I fully support the efforts to create a robust statewide *eVermont* partnership and the efforts of the Vermont Council on Rural Development. Recent conversations at the Department have looked toward ways of increasing student and parent access to technology for schools, and see this effort as being clearly in line with that ideal. There is clear evidence to support that student engagement increases around learning when technology is employed as one of the tools in classrooms. Technology in and of itself is not the goal we seek here, it is a means by which we can address varied student learning needs in Vermont. As we watch the capacity of the Internet grow and witness student involvement in communicating and collaborating using these tools, it is evident that if we do not work to help them use the tools wisely in the advent of learning, we have missed the mark.

In an effort to further this work, we have committed Title IID competitive grant funds in the following ways:

- Awarding a grant to a partnership within the state to help organize and manage a professional development program addressing the changes in practice that occur when teaching and learning takes place in classrooms that are technology rich.
- Developing a substantial grant program for distance learning education that will encompass virtual learning opportunities for all schools in Vermont.
- Offering competitive grants to schools in Vermont that are applied directly to content areas and the use of technology within them. This program is for any eligible classroom under Title IID eligibility.
- Offering SPARK grants that allow innovative classroom teachers to devise meaningful ways to use innovative technology devices in the advent of learning. Some examples could be iPods for reading fluency, netbooks for community oral history projects, projectors and interactive whiteboards for developing interactive displays for town meeting gatherings.

- Supporting and upgrading a statewide videoconferencing network that can be used to bring exciting content from national and international resources (virtual museum tours, visits with scientists, and workshops from art communities worldwide).

Overall, these efforts total more than 1.5 million dollars from our Title IID allocation. As half of our overall allocation goes out in formulaic grants to schools, those monies are also monitored in an effort to find areas where the work of the *eVermont* plan can be readily applied.

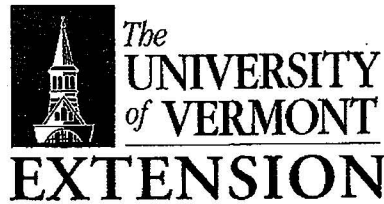
In order to make the goals we have for transforming Vermont schools and bringing education into the 21st century a reality, it is essential that we have a statewide infrastructure that furthers this work. Extending existing internet networks, improving bandwidth, speed and access to accommodate more sophisticated applications is crucial to supporting the learning needs of Vermont students, particularly in underserved or un-served areas of the State. Expanding this capacity broadens the options for learners of all ages and brings communities together around new opportunities for learning.

We look forward to working with the Vermont Council on Rural Development in making these goals a reality should they be awarded this grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Armando Vilaseca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Armando" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Vilaseca".

Armando Vilaseca
Commissioner



August 12, 2009

Paul Costello, Executive Director
Vermont Council on Rural Development
PO Box 1384
Montpelier VT 05601-1384

Dear Paul,


I am happy to write this letter in support of your application to the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program to fund e-Vermont, the Vermont Community Broadband Project.

As you may know, University of Vermont Extension is an academic and administrative unit of the University of Vermont that has been serving Vermonters since 1913. The mission of UVM Extension is to improve the quality of life of Vermonters by providing research-based educational programs and practical information concerning Vermont communities, families and homes, farms, businesses, and the natural environment.

With 140 faculty and staff covering a broad array of expertise, UVM Extension is uniquely positioned to complement e-Vermont by delivering internet programming to underserved rural areas of the state. Our educational content could focus on three areas: 1) Job creation and economic development through online courses from our Women's Agricultural Network (WAgN); 2) Health improvement through online courses from our Expanded Food, Nutrition, and Education Program (EFNEP); and 3) Community education through online delivery of our Master Gardener program.

I applaud your efforts to stimulate the use of on-line services throughout the state, and look forward to working with you to bring the project to fruition. If there is anything further we can do to support your efforts, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,



Douglas O. Lantagne
Dean and Director

State Office
19 Roosevelt Highway, Suite 305, Colchester, VT 05446-5933
(802) 656-2990 or 1-866-622-2990
Fax: (802) 656-8642
Cultivating Healthy Communities

UVM Extension has offices throughout Vermont.
For more information, contact this office or visit www.uvm.edu/extension.



**American
Red Cross**

Northern Vermont Chapter

August 6, 2009

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Strickling,

As the Regional Executive responsible for the Vermont chapters of the American Red Cross, I would like to add my support of the Vermont Council on Rural Development's application for a Sustainable Internet Access grant.

Many of Vermont's most rural communities currently have no high-speed Internet access and many local families do not yet understand the power that the Internet offers them.

High-speed Internet access, and a large percentage of households choosing to purchase a subscription, will greatly improve the Red Cross' ability to help Vermonters prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. As the largest and most respected distributor of preparedness and safety information in the region it is vital that families be able to access our real time, on line information in both routine times and periods of risk and crisis. In addition, with a cadre of some 1300 volunteers who are the first line of support for victims of fires, floods and other disasters it is vital that we have the capacity to communicate life saving information as we work to support families in their hour of greatest need.

The expansion of internet communications to our rural constituents is vital for everything from disaster relief fund disbursements to on-line training. The more we can communicate with Vermonters in times of state or national crisis the safer we will all be and it is in that spirit that I reiterate my strong support for the Vermont Council on Rural Development's application for Sustainable Internet Access Funds.

Sincerely,

Rob Levine
Regional Executive
American Red Cross, Vermont Chapters



Local. Relevant. Ready.

Preparing Northern Vermont since 1917!

Regional Headquarters: 29 Mansfield Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401-3323 • Tel: 802-660-9130 • Fax: 802-660-9136
Newport: 802-334-5533 • St. Albans: 802-524-4468 • St. Johnsbury: 802-745-1190
Toll Free in Vermont: 800-660-9130 • On the Web: www.nvtredcross.org

Cover Sheet – Matching Funds (1)

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

1. Here is a breakdown of the commitment of funds we have received as a match to the BTOP grant for e-Vermont:

Cash Match	410,000
Vermont Community Foundation	20,000
Evslin Family Foundation	300,000
University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies	30,000
Anonymous, through Vermont Community Foundation	10,000
Henderson Fund support for Digital Wish Participation	25,000
Anonymous Digital Wish Funder	25,000
In Kind Match	864,137
Front Porch Forum	27,000
VCRD Staff Time	20,250
Grant Preparation and Donated Implementation (in Advance of BTOP funds received)	
Mary Evslin Project Consultation	20,853
DPS (Deb Shannon) Staff Time	6,664
Digital Wish Planning and Travel Costs	2,464
Vermont Rural Partnership	10,000
Comcast (Internet sites: 43,164; Program Marketing: 39,000)	82,164
Microsoft	194,560
Dell & Microsoft netbook computer bundles	500,182
Total Matching Resources	1,274,137

2. See the following pages for letters confirming intentions of support in matching funds for the e-Vermont project (5 pages) *Note that there is an additional attachment with the remaining match letters confirming support since we were limited in the number of pages we could submit per attachment:

Page 1, 2	Dell and Microsoft, \$500,181
Page 3	Microsoft, \$191,760 (software); \$2,800 (symposia)
Page 4, 5	Comcast, \$82,164



Dell Marketing, L.P.
MS #8706
One Dell Way
Round Rock, Texas 78682
Telephone 512.728.6094
Telefax 512.283.9092

August 13, 2009

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Letter of support for e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project

Dear Secretary Strickling,

I am writing on behalf of Dell Marketing, LP. Dell is pleased to offer matching support for your initiative. We have put together this comprehensive program of hardware, and technical support uniquely for the *e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project*, and we are not offering this to any other organizations.

Item	Current Average Selling Price*
Netbook (not including the operating system)	\$ 525.99
Printer (Dell V105 with two cartridges)	\$ 69.99
Printer Cable (Star =Tech 6ft USB printer cable)	\$16.00
Carrying Strap (Dell /330-4379)	\$39.99
Extended Warranty – Full coverage Onsite and Tech support for 3 years (Dell 993-6402)	\$129
Total	\$780.97

*Although this bundle is not offered through our retail channels, the pricing above reflects our best estimate of pricing based on the current average selling price, available on the market today.

In support of the e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project, Dell will contribute \$265.99 in matching funding for each unit purchased through this initiative. Dell's total matching contribution would be \$265.99 X 1,260 units = \$335,147.40.

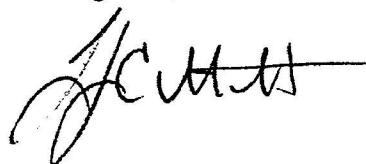
Item	Current Selling Price*
Microsoft Office Pro Plus 2007	\$62.99
Microsoft XP Pro Operating System	\$99.99
Total	\$162.98

*This is based on published pricing through our Open Office Licensing program.

In support of the e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project, Microsoft will contribute \$130.98 in matching funding for each unit purchased for a computer, through this initiative. As there are 1,260 units in this donation, Microsoft Corporation's total matching contribution would be $\$130.98 \times 1,260 \text{ units} = \$165,034.80$.

We look forward to working with *e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project* in increasing broadband usage across the State of Vermont.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Len F. Collett', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Len F. Collett,
Contracts Manager
Dell Marketing, L.P.

Margaret McCoy

From: Margaret McCoy [margaret@vtrural.org]
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2009 9:47 AM
To: info@vtrural.org
Subject: email supporting "e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project" grant application

From: Carla Faini
To: Heather Chirtea ; [REDACTED]
Cc: Eric Robertson ; Scott Blackwell ; Jeff Johnson (MS LEARNING)
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2009 10:18 PM
Subject: RE: email supporting "e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project" grant application

Greetings Heather,

Thank you for contacting me to discuss the excellent education program you and other educators are creating for 24 townships in Vermont. This sounds like a valuable effort to help Vermont students develop workforce skills and strengthen their academic careers as well. Microsoft would be pleased to offer matching support for *e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project* through a donation of 240 subscriptions to the Microsoft Developer Network Academic Alliance (MSDN AA) for High Schools. These subscriptions include, but are not limited to, Expression Studio software and Visual Studio 2008 software. Each town participating in the e-Vermont Project will receive 10 subscriptions, with the stipulation that the software is to be used for educational/instructional purposes. The value of the MSDN AA subscription is \$799 per "seat" or per computer.

We would also like to offer an in-kind donation of web design training symposiums - 2 per year, for each of 2 years. Microsoft will hold an annual symposium in the north and south of Vermont each year, in order to train no less than 24 educational leaders from the elementary, middle, and high schools, from any/all of the 24 towns engaging in the e-Vermont initiative. Each town will have the opportunity to send 1-3 leaders for training, for each year of the 2-year program term.

Each town will have 10 MSDN AA for High School subscriptions allocated to their schools as appropriate. The coordinators from the *e-Vermont Project* will then utilize the trained educators to implement a mentoring program where elementary students can be paired with middle and high school students to build digital educational learning projects. Each training symposium will cost approximately \$500 in trainer fees, plus \$200 in travel expenses. So the value of Microsoft's in-kind training donation would equal \$700 per symposium X 4 symposiums = \$2,800

We are very excited to support the students in Vermont, through participation in *e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project*. As a result of Microsoft's contribution, we look forward to seeing a robust collection of websites, mentored multimedia learning experiences, and community outreach projects – all of which will spur increases in broadband usage for Vermont's rural communities.

Sincerely,

Carla Faini, Ph.D.
Academic Programs Manager
Microsoft Corporation

||

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 8.5.392 / Virus Database: 270.13.54/2300 - Release Date: 08/13/09 06:11:00



Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.
676 Island Pond Road
Manchester, NH 03109
603.695.1400 Tel
603.628.3303 Fax
www.comcast.com

August 12, 2009

Mr. Paul Costello
Executive Director
Vermont Council on Rural Development
43 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Mr. Costello:

Thank you for contacting Comcast about in-kind services to support Vermont's application for a Sustainable Broadband Adoption under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Comcast understands that Vermont has designed a framework intended to substantially increase Internet usage in approximately twenty-four Vermont communities. We understand that the purpose of this grant is to increase the percent of households who purchase Internet access in Vermont's rural communities.

Comcast applauds your efforts. Accordingly, on behalf of Comcast, I am pleased to commit \$82,164 in the following form of in-kind support:

1. Courtesy Broadband Internet for up to three (3) sites in ten (10) towns served by Comcast follows as: qualifying sites include one drop at any K-12 school, public libraries, or municipal offices within 500 feet of our cable plant. This anticipates aerial installation; if the site requires underground or is otherwise a non-standard installation, we would expect the site owner to pay for the incremental cost. Currently, the price for our standard high-speed internet service (currently 6 megabits up) is \$59.95 per month. The value of such service provisioned to thirty (30) locations for a two year period is \$43,164.
2. Production of 0:30 Public Service Announcements to promote awareness and generate support for the Adoption programs on a statewide basis. Our Video Services Support team is comprised of award-winning professionals who have produced hundreds of PSAs throughout New England. They will work closely with the appropriate leaders on site and in the studio. To ensure the widest reach possible, we will provide several copies of the PSA for your distribution to area cable companies. Please note, our PSAs typically acknowledge Comcast as a partner in some form. The estimated value of this contribution is \$15,000.
3. Dedication of Airtime to help promote the Adoption programs. Comcast will use best efforts to run PSAs the relevant Comcast Vermont systems. Typically, our PSA schedules run for one month, in all dayparts, including primetime, on more than a dozen desirable channels such as CNN, TNT. The estimated value of a one month schedule is \$24,000.

Mr. Paul Costello
Page Two
August 12, 2009

These contributions in support of the Vermont initiative are conditioned on the understanding that any such efforts will not result in Comcast becoming subject to any requirements of the BTOP program or the Recovery Act. In the event that our understanding is incorrect, I ask that you contact me at (781) 392-2615 at your earliest opportunity.

We trust that this will be helpful in advancing your objectives. We look forward to working with you. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,



Alicia C. Matthews *ACM*
Director, Competitive Issues

- c. M. Evslin
- D. Glanville
- P. Mackenzie
- L. Birmingham
- K. Roberts

Cover Sheet – Matching Funds (2)

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

Letters confirming intentions of support in matching funds for the e-Vermont project (8 pages):

Page 1	Evslin Family Foundation, \$300,000
Page 2	Vermont Community Foundation (Eagleridge Fund), \$20,000
Page 3	Vermont Community Foundation (Anonymous), \$10,000
Page 4, 5	Digital Wish, \$50,000
Page 6	University of Vermont, Center for Rural Studies, \$30,000
Page 7, 8	Vermont Rural Partnership, \$10,000

**The Evslin Family Foundation
2398 Stowe Hollow Rd.
Stowe, Vermont 05672**

August 4, 2009

Mr. Paul Costello
VCRD
43 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Mr. Costello,

The Evslin Family Foundation is pleased to be able to commit to a \$300,000 donation contingent upon the VCRD receiving a Sustainable Internet Adoption grant which includes an 80% match for the \$300,000. If your application receives an award, we would be able to provide the cash within several weeks of notification.

The Foundation's Board feels strongly that your efforts will go a very long way toward bringing rural Vermont communities into the 21st century. We are honored to be a part of that initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary Evslin".

Mary Evslin
President



THE
Vermont
Community Foundation

August 11, 2009

Paul Costello, Executive Director
Vermont Council on Rural Development
43 State Street, Suites 2 & 3
P.O. Box 1384
Montpelier, VT 05601-1384

Dear Paul,

I am delighted to let you know that a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 has been awarded to the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) and is funded by the Eagleridge Fund, a discretionary fund of the Vermont Community Foundation. *Specifically, this grant is awarded to support E-State Initiatives.*

This grant serves as matching funds towards federal stimulus dollars from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. If the federal funds are not awarded for this project, the VCF has the right to cancel or renegotiate this grant and may or may not choose to make this grant to VCRD.

Included with this letter are the conditions and requirements of the grant summarized in the Terms of Award. If federal stimulus funding is received for this project, you will need to return a copy of the signed Terms of Award, keeping a copy for your records. The grant will be paid upon receipt of notification from you that you have received stimulus funding and a signed copy of the Terms of Award.

Please contact Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup, Philanthropic Advisor, at 802-388-3355 or cilstrup@vermontcf.org as soon as you know whether or not federal stimulus funding has been received for the project. You can also contact Christopher if you have any questions about the grant, its Terms, or publicity.

We wish you much success and are pleased to be of help in your important work.

Sincerely,

Bethany Sprague
Grants Associate

Enclosure



August 11, 2009

Paul Costello, Executive Director
Vermont Council on Rural Development
43 State Street, Suites 2 & 3
P.O. Box 1384
Montpelier, VT 05601-1384

Dear Paul:

It is a pleasure to present a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the Vermont Council on Rural Development from an advised fund of the Vermont Community Foundation (VCF) as follows:

Fund: Advisor(s) have requested that the fund name not be identified

Recommended by Advisor(s): Advisor(s) have requested to remain anonymous

Grant Purpose: To provide local match funding support to "e-Vermont, The Vermont Community Broadband Project." This grant serves as matching funds towards federal stimulus dollars from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (that have been requested through a BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant submitted by VCRD). *If the federal funds are not awarded for the project then this grant will be cancelled.*

Payment Plan: This grant will be paid upon receipt of funds from the federal stimulus dollars from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (that have been requested through a BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant submitted by VCRD).

Please contact Christopher Kaufman Istrup, Philanthropic Advisor, at 802-388-3355 or cilstrup@vermontcf.org as soon as you know whether or not federal stimulus funding has been received for the project. You can also contact Christopher if you have any questions about the grant, its Terms, or publicity.

If making any public announcement about this grant, please acknowledge the grant is from the Vermont Community Foundation. Thank you letters sent to the VCF will be forwarded to the advisors.

Congratulations and best wishes,

Bethany Sprague
Grants Associate

Enclosure

By accepting this grant, your organization certifies to the Vermont Community Foundation that (i) no tangible benefit, goods or services have been received by any donor or advisor connected with the Fund, their family members, or any entities controlled by aforesaid persons and (ii) this donation will not be used by you to satisfy payment of any pledge or other personal financial obligation on behalf of any advisors.

August 10, 2009

Re: Letter of support for e-Vermont: The Community Broadband Project

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Strickling,

I am writing on behalf of Digital Wish. Our organization is pleased to offer matching support for *eVermont: The Community Broadband Project*. Digital Wish currently spearheads the *Vermont School Modernization Initiative*, a program designed to increased student-centered learning and broadband usage in the classroom. Our organization has secured \$50,000 in grant support to put 1:1 computing into schools, and increase community outreach via the internet. This secured matching funding will lay the groundwork and methodology for expansion to the 24 towns targeted by this initiative.

We look forward to driving the educational elements of this program and working with e-Vermont to increase broadband take rates across the State of Vermont through implementation of educational integration and outreach strategies with families.

Sincerely,



Heather Chirtea
Executive Director

- 1 -

Digital Wish, P.O. Box 1072, Manchester Center, VT 05250, www.digitalwish.org
P: (802)375-6721 F: (802)375-6860 EIN: 26-1119413

ANONYMOUS
DONATION



July 15, 2009

Ms. Heather Chirtea
Digital Wish
PO Box 1072
Manchester Center, VT 05255

Dear Ms. Chirtea,

I am pleased to inform you that our board has approved Digital Wish's grant request in the amount of \$25,000 to fund the first phase of pilot schools in the *Vermont School Modernization Initiative*. It is our understanding that the pilot towns selected for the *Vermont School Modernization Initiative* will be pre-qualified for entry into the eVermont project should it be funded and if not to work in partnership with the State Dept. of Education in their funding of modernization efforts.

We anticipate distributing funding in September of 2009, so that you can begin to lay the groundwork in advance of any potential funding which might become available through eVermont.

Sincerely,



President



The
UNIVERSITY
of VERMONT

CENTER FOR RURAL STUDIES

Aug. 12, 2009

Paul Costello
Executive Director
Vermont Council on Rural Development
P.O. Box 1384; 89 Main Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05601

Dear Mr. Costello,

The Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont has the pleasure of working in partnership with the Vermont Council on Rural Development on e-Vermont, the Vermont Community Broadband Project.

As part of the Center for Rural Studies' partnership, we will subcontract \$30,000 toward the e-Vermont project, pending success in raising funds for CRS programs and projects for the next two years.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jane Kolodinsky
Director, Center for Rural Studies
Jane.Kolodinsky@uvm.edu • (802) 656-4616



College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Morrill Hall, 146 University Place, Burlington, VT 05405-0106
Telephone (802) 656-3021, Fax (802) 656-1423, Email crs@uvm.edu, Online <http://crs.uvm.edu>
Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer

Vermont Rural Partnership
P O Box 213
Peacham
Vermont
05862
August 4th 2009

To Paul Costello
Vermont Council on Rural Development
43 State Street, Suites 2 & 3
Post Office Box 1384
Montpelier, Vermont 05601

Dear Paul,

The Vermont Rural Partnership VRP <http://www.vermontruralpartnership.org> is pleased to support the application being submitted for Sustainable Internet Adoption by the Vermont Council for Rural Development.

VRP is a collaborative of 18 small rural schools, which was founded in 1997. It is VRP's Mission is to enlarge student learning and improve community life by strengthening relationships between schools and communities and by engaging students in community based public work.

We do this by working to meet the following goals: -

- To encourage the development of curriculum specific to local places
- To enhance student voice and leadership in decision-making and civic engagement
- To promote youth and adult partnerships through school and community collaboration
- To promote and support school change towards the development of equitable, democratic community schools
- To advocate for thriving sustainable small schools and communities in Vermont
- To document and share our stories

Our schools are listed as follows: - Barnet, Burke, Cabot, Coventry, Concord, Doty Memorial, Eden, Lakeview Union, Newark, Orange, Peacham, Peoples Academy, Rivendell, Thetford Academy, Twinfield Union and Walden.

Many of our schools have limited access to high speed internet and all could benefit from an increased focus on using technology as an integral part of each school day. Who better to support increased community usage of technology than our students who have grown up in a digital world?

VRP is willing to support this application with \$10,000 in matching funds and in kind support. Besides financial support we hope to be partners in working with each school and community to realize the goals of the grant. We feel this is an area where youth can take a lead in their communities and we can bring our part experience to bear in making that possible.

We wish you every success in this grant application.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret MacLean", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret MacLean

Director

Cover Sheet – Additional Information

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

In case you require it, here are essay responses to the following questions where there was no place to enter in the online system (4 pages including cover):

- 22. Household Subscribers**
- 23. Institutional Subscribers**
- 24. Users of Public Facilities**
- 25. Population Demographics**
- 26. People Trained/Educated**
- 27. Scope of Training/Education Programs**
- 29. Equipment Purchased**
- 30. Cost of Devices**
- 33. Target Population, Awareness Campaign**

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Application

Sustainable Broadband Adoption

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

E-2. Project Benefits – Sustainable Broadband Adoption

22. Household Subscribers. How many total new home subscribers to broadband do you expect to generate through the use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program? 9,600 The e-Vermont project will work throughout the 24 selected towns. We approximate a served population in those towns of 50,000 people living in approximately 16,000 households of which 60 percent will be purchasing broadband services by the end of 2012. We expect the awareness campaign and strategic stakeholder efforts statewide to stimulate further demand and that the 24 served communities will model use that will have viral effects in their neighboring towns driving the figures higher.

23. Institutional Subscribers. How many total new business and/or institutional subscribers to broadband do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the life of the program funded? 150 e-Vermont will work with innumerable groups; Vermont ranks first in the number of non-profits per capita and in the top quintile nationally in volunteerism. In every community, groups form to lead efforts from conservation and supporting local farmers to youth sports and energy planning. In each town, project staff will help leaders investigate and deploy new Internet tools to expand their capacity and success.

In addition to the 150 new users targeted by e-Vermont, we will work with many businesses and civic groups that will already have broadband services, but not know how to effectively use them. Workplace and civic expansion of uses will create additional demand for people to also be 'on-line' at home too—one more way all the features of this platform work together. New Internet uses in these institutional subscribers will encourage many who have dial up or limited bandwidth to expand on their original subscriptions for higher speed services.

24. Users of Public Access Facilities. How many total users of broadband in public computer centers or users of broadband **outside the home** do you expect to generate through the use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded? 22,800 e-Vermont services through 24 public libraries will involve an average of 500 patrons annually (12,000). Civic clubs, municipal offices, adult activities in schools and state colleges will involve another 200 residents per town (4,800). If we add children and teacher's use in the schools, we will be advancing the use of 6,000 additional users.

25. Population Demographics: e-Vermont will work with all parts of each community served and all parts of the local population. As of the 2000 Census, Vermont's population was 608,827 making it the second least populated state (following Wyoming). Vermont is considered, with Wyoming, the most rural state in the nation based on the number of Vermonters living in towns under 20,000 in population. Vermont's largest city, Burlington, has a population of 39,148; the State Capitol, Montpelier is the smallest in the country with a population of just under 8,000. Only 9 towns and cities have more than 10,000 people. With 255 towns, and no meaningful county government, Vermont is famous for the independence and activism of its communities. Vermont has the smallest economy in the nation. Chittenden County, the state's only metropolitan region, contains one third of the state's population and more than a third of its economic activity with half the jobs created in the last 10 years. Rural Vermont towns have lost youth (see aging statistics in Purpose section) and are desperate for the new opportunities that the Internet can bring.

26. People Trained/Educated. If you intend to provide training and education, how many people **in total** will your program reach? 1,860
e-Vermont partners expect to work with over 200 teachers in local schools (who directly affect 2,200 students and indirectly influence 4,000 parents) and provide brief digital literacy instructions to at least 860 family members through Digital Wish at the schools. 400 members of civic groups, municipal offices, public health and safety staff and other beneficiaries of services and over 200 businesses leaders and their employees (an additional 200). Much will depend on local needs and the decisions of e-Vermont Community Task Forces in each of the 24 selected communities.

27. Scope of Training/Education Programs. How many hours of training do you expect to provide per person on average for each participant in your training program(s), through completion of training for that individual? If you will offer multiple programs, provide estimates for each program.
Training will range from single 2-hour tutorials in basic community literacy for elders to intensive SBDC business development education and training that may provide 40 hours of direct and/or class-based service to local businesses. In the small town Vermont environment, e-Vermont cannot format one class for all the varied interests, skill levels and diverse needs that we seek to address. Tutorials, custom small group sessions, on-line training, contracted courses from specialists in a variety of areas (using town discretionary grant dollars), and Vermont State Colleges courses will provide a broad range of offerings. To estimate today: 1060 will receive basic 2 hour long literacy instruction, 250 residents will receive 2-4 hour tutorials and customized group instruction, 300 will receive 4-6 hours of classes, and 250 will receive between 7 and 30 hours of more advanced class-based instruction. (Through Digital Wish, for example, 200 teachers will receive 4-8 hours of introductory training, 24 schools will receive 30 hours of

peer coaching and 1,152 families will be offered 2-hour computer orientation training). Informational multi-community symposia and two statewide conferences led by the Snelling Center for Government will display and demonstrate our best practice successes. Estimated attendance for these sessions over two years is 1,000 people (not counted in total of Trainings under Number 17 above). No less than 96 educators will participate in 3.5 hour training symposia on website development led by Microsoft lead staff.

29. Equipment Purchased. How many broadband-related equipment units do you intent to purchase overall? Over 1,310.

e-Vermont will purchase 48 full PC work stations for libraries in e-Vermont Communities. The project will dynamically engage communities, build visibility and directly reach families by distributing 1,260 Dell netbook computer packages (including, covers, straps, home printers, Microsoft XP operating and Office Pro suites, cables and warranties) to 4th and 5th graders through Digital Wish in schools in the served communities. Through Digital Wish, an additional \$3,000 is budgeted for schools within the e-Vermont towns to meet diverse equipment needs ranging from digital cameras to laptops, and other software and hardware that will help drive exciting new digital curriculum.

30. Cost of Devices. What is the total up-front cost of equipment? \$1,321,377. e-Vermont will purchase netbooks through a special donation of Dell and Microsoft who together are providing a donation of \$500,182 that can be used toward the match for this project (based on communications with Ian Martinez, Director of Outreach and Communications at BTOP). Before this gift, the total cost per unit of the netbooks packages is \$943.95 for a total cost of \$1,189,377 for the 1,260 units.

e-Vermont has budgeted \$1,500 for each of the 48 library workstations (\$72,000). Digital Wish will use a budget of \$3,000 per school for 20 schools (60,000). Discretionary project funds will provide additional equipment to respond directly to key needs in each community identified through the e-Vermont Community Task Forces and project staff. All will be documented and reported quarterly.

33. Target Population, Awareness Campaign. If you are conducting an awareness campaign, how many people do you expect your campaign will reach? 300,000
e-Vermont will make this stimulus program a household name throughout Vermont by reaching nearly half the state's residents with information on Internet uses. More intensive multiple media messaging will drive local awareness of program offerings and community events so that local understanding will be much deeper and detailed. We expect to reach over 40,000 residents with detailed messaging and follow-up information on best applications and practices that they could use in their communities and businesses.

Cover Sheet – VCRD Board Members

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

List of VCRD Board members (4 pages)



Board of Directors - updated 6/17/09

Term Expires

Federal

Molly Lambert

Director

USDA Rural Development

89 Main St, City Center 3rd Fl. , Montpelier VT 05602

802-828-6066; 802-279-3340; * lambert@vcia.com

none

Meg Mitchell

Forest Supervisor

Green Mountain & Finger Lake National Forests

231 North Main Street , Rutland VT 05701-24

802-747-6704; 802-747-6700 (voice) * mmitchell01@fs.fed.us

2010

Robert Paquin

Executive Director

USDA Farm Services Agency

356 Mountain View Drive, Ste 104 , Colchester VT 05446

802-658-2803; 229-1508 (old job) *

2011

Federal Liaison

Patricia Coates

State Director

Office of Congressman Peter Welch

30 Main Street , Burlington VT 05401

802-652-2450 * patricia.coates@mail.house.gov

(non-voting liaison)

Jenny Nelson

Agriculture Policy Advisor, Rural Econ. Development

Office of Senator Sanders

51 Depot Square, Suite 201 , St. Johnsbury VT 05819

802-748-9269 * Jenny_Nelson@sanders.senate.gov

(non-voting liaison)

Chuck Ross

State Director

US Senator Leahy's Office

199 Main St., 4th Floor , Burlington VT 05401

802-863-2525 * chuckr@gmavt.net

(non-voting liaison)

Local

Greg Brown

Selectman

Town of Dummerston

431 Holland Hill Road , Putney VT 05346

802-272-5634 * gig_brown@yahoo.com

2013



Board of Directors - updated 6/17/09

Term Expires

Catherine Dimitruk

2010

Exec. Director

NW Regional Planning Commission

155 Lake Street, St. Albans VT 05478

802-524-5958 * cdimitruk@nrpcvt.com

Christine Hart

2010

Executive Director

Brattleboro Housing Authority

98 Green Meadow Road, Brattleboro VT 05301

802-254-6071 w; [REDACTED] * chhart@sover.net

Steven Patterson

2012

Executive Director

NE VT Development Assoc.

36 Eastern Ave., Suite 1, St. Johnsbury VT 05819-06

802-748-5181; 802-274-0063 c * spatterson@nvda.net

Non-Profit

Alex Aldrich

2010

Executive Director

Vermont Arts Council

136 State St., Drawer 33, Montpelier VT 05633-60

802-828-3293; 802-828-5420 * aaldrich@vermontartscouncil.org

John Bramley

2011

President & CEO

The Windham Foundation

PO Box 70, 225 Townshend Road, Grafton VT 05146

802-843-2211 * john.bramley@windham-foundation.org

Hal Cohen

2011

Executive Director

Central VT Community Action Council

195 US Route 302 - Berlin, Barre VT 05641-22

802-479-1053 (voice); 371-9314 cell * hcohen@cvcac.org

Thomas Hark

2011

Founding President

VT Youth Conservation Corps

1949 East Main Street, Richmond VT 05477

802-434-3969 x100 * thomas@vycc.org



Board of Directors - updated 6/17/09

Term Expires

Private

Bob Ackland

VCRD Treasurer

56 Retriever Run, Warren VT 05674

802-583-1405; 279-3081 cell * ackland@gmavt.net

2009

Tony Elliott

The Woodstone Company

PO Box 58, Westminster VT 05158-00

802-721-3040 w; 207-208-7849 c * tony@woodstone.com

2010

Joe Fusco

Vice President

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

25 Greens Hill Lane, Rutland VT 05701

802-775-0325 * joe.fusco@casella.com

2012

Marie Houghton

Community Relations Manager

IBM

1000 River Street 9653-K, Essex Jct. VT 05452

802-769-2736 * mhoughto@us.ibm.com

2011

Mark Young

President

First National Bank of Orwell

P.O. Box 38, Orwell VT 05760

802-948-2811 * nborwell@shoreham.net

2012

State

Roger Allbee

Secretary

VT Agency of Agriculture

116 State Street, Montpelier VT 05620-29

802-828-1619; 828-2430 * Roger.Allbee@state.vt.us

2012

Kevin Dorn

Secretary

VT Agency of Commerce & Community Dev.

Nat'l Life Bldg, 6th Fl., Drawer 20, Montpelier VT 05620-05

802-828-3211; 828-5204 * kevin.dorn@state.vt.us;

2011

Patricia Moulton Powden

Commissioner

VT Department of Labor

5 Green Mountain Drive, Montpelier VT 05601-04

802-828-4301 * pat.moulton.powden@state.vt.us

2010



Vermont Council on Rural Development

43 State Street, PO Box 1384, Montpelier, VT 05601-1384

TEL: 802-223-6091 * info@vtrural.org * www.vtrural.org

Board of Directors - updated 6/17/09

Term Expires

Jonathan Wood

2009

Secretary

Agency of Natural Resources

103 So. Main St., 10 South, Waterbury VT 05671-06

802-241-3601 or 241-3678 * jonathan.wood@state.vt.us

x.Emeritus

Allen (Chip) Evans

Exec. Director

VT Workforce Development Council

PO Box 488, Montpelier VT 05601-04

802-828-4156 ; 777-0349 cell * allen.evans@state.vt.us

Jeffrey Francis

Executive Director

VT Superintendents Assoc.

2 Prospect Street, Montpelier VT 05602

802-229-5834 (voice) * jfrancis@vtvsa.org

Jolinda LaClair

253 Culver Hill Road, Middlesex VT 05602

802-223-7102; 802-279-5814 cell * jolinda@sover.net

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

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. BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption		\$ 2,525,675.00		\$ 2,525,675.00	\$ 1,224,137.00	\$ 3,749,812.00
2.						0.00
3.						0.00
4.						0.00
5. Totals		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,525,675.00	\$ 1,224,137.00	\$ 3,749,812.00

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1) BTOP Federal Grant for Sustainable Broadband Adoption	(2) Non-Federal Matching Support	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$ 156,570.00	\$ 292,480.00	\$	\$	\$ 449,050.00
b. Fringe Benefits	37,430.00	87,770.00			125,200.00
c. Travel	26,000.00				26,000.00
d. Equipment	704,195.00	500,182.00			1,204,377.00
e. Supplies	5,000.00				5,000.00
f. Contractual	150,000.00	27,517.00			177,517.00
g. Construction					0.00
h. Other	1,446,480.00	316,188.00			1,762,668.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	2,525,675.00	1,224,137.00	0.00	0.00	\$ 3,749,812.00
j. Indirect Charges					\$ 0.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 2,525,675.00	\$ 1,224,137.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,749,812.00
7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES				
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> Non-Federal Matching Support	\$ 20,250.00	\$ 6,664.00	\$ 1,197,223.00	\$ 1,224,137.00
9. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				0.00
10. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				0.00
11. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				0.00
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$ 20,250.00	\$ 6,664.00	\$ 1,197,223.00	\$ 1,224,137.00

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-Federal	\$				
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. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	\$	\$	\$	\$
17. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				
18. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				
19. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>				
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION	
21. Direct Charges: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 90%; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>	22. Indirect Charges: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 90%; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>
23. Remarks: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>	

TARRANT, MARKS & GILLIES

44 EAST STATE STREET
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DANIEL P. RICHARDSON
CHARLES L. MERRIMAN
SARAH R. JARVIS

August 5, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary
National Telecommunications
and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Vermont Council on Rural Development

Dear Mr. Strickling:

We are special counsel for the Vermont Council on Rural Development. In this capacity, we advised the Council in connection with its ability to apply to the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and in the review of the grant agreement, as referenced in the Notice of Funds Availability.

We are of the opinion that:

(a) the Council is a duly organized and existing legal entity under the laws of the State of Vermont,

(b) the Council has corporate power: (1) to execute and deliver the agreement and (2) to perform all acts required to be done by it under said agreement; and

(c) no legal proceedings have been instituted or are pending against the Council, the outcome of which would adversely affect the Council's ability to perform the duties under the grant agreement, and further there are no judgments against the Council which would adversely affect its ability to perform under the grant agreement.

If this opinion raises any questions, please contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Paul Gillies

cc: Paul Costello, Vermont Council on Rural Development

filename: BTOP_Clarifying_Budget_eVermont.xls
eVermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project
 Detailed Budget Template
 Department of Commerce

Easy Grants ID: 197
 Applicant: Vermont Council on Rural Development
 Project Title: eVermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

SF-424A Object Class Category	General	ANNUAL Detail on salary and benefits						
a. Personnel - List position, number of staff, annual salaries, % time spent on project	Position - 2 years	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Annual Salary	% Time Spent on Project	Salary
	Project Director	\$41,920.00	\$103,080.00	\$ 145,000.00	1	\$72,500.00	100.00%	\$ 145,000.00
	Regional Educator	\$41,800.00	\$173,800.00	\$ 215,600.00	2	\$53,900.00	100.00%	\$ 215,600.00
	Executive Director	\$41,600.00	\$15,600.00	\$ 57,200.00	1	\$83,200.00	25.00%	\$ 41,600.00
	Office Manager	\$31,250.00		\$ 31,250.00	1	\$42,500.00	36.76%	\$ 31,250.00
Subtotal		\$156,570.00	\$292,480.00	\$449,050.00				\$ 433,450.00

b. Fringe Benefits - Include salaries and fringe rate.	Position - 2 years	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Annual Salary	% Time Spent on Project	Fringe Rate	Total	# years
	Project Director	\$10,080.00	\$30,920.00	\$ 41,000.00	1	\$72,500.00	100.00%	28.28%	\$ 20,500.00	2
	Regional Educator	\$8,200.00	\$52,200.00	\$ 60,400.00	2	\$53,900.00	100.00%	28.01%	\$ 30,200.00	2
	Executive Director	\$10,400.00	\$4,650.00	\$ 15,050.00	1	\$83,200.00	25.00%	25.00%	\$ 5,200.00	2
	Office Manager	\$8,750.00		\$ 8,750.00	1	\$42,500.00	36.76%	28.00%	\$ 4,375.00	2
Subtotal		\$37,430.00	\$87,770.00	\$125,200.00					\$60,275.00	2

c. Travel - For significant costs, include details such as number and purpose of trips, destinations.	Purpose of Trip	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Trips	Cost per Trip	Total
	food for community trainings and events (24 communities, \$250 per community)	\$6,000.00		\$ 6,000.00			\$ -
	mileage (24 communities, avg of 11 trips per community at 125 avg miles roundtrip per trip @ \$.55 per mile)	\$18,150.00		\$ 18,150.00	264	\$68.75	\$ 18,150.00
	professional development training including airfare, lodging, meals	\$1,850.00		\$ 1,850.00			\$ -
Subtotal		\$26,000.00	\$0.00	\$26,000.00			\$18,150.00

d. Equipment Costs - List equipment with # of units and unit costs. Distinguish between equipment intended for applicant use versus equipment for the end user.	Equipment Description	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	#Units	Unit Cost	Total
Applicant Equipment	3 laptops (500GB HD, 4G Ram)	\$7,000.00		\$ 7,000.00			\$ -
	1 desktop	\$2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00			\$ -
	Printer and stand	\$1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00			\$ -
	networking computers, network switch, cable	\$1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00			\$ -
	filing cabinets	\$1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00			\$ -
	desks and chairs	\$2,150.00		\$ 2,150.00			\$ -
	bookcases	\$600.00		\$ 600.00			\$ -
	publications organizer	\$250.00		\$ 250.00			\$ -
User Equipment				\$ -			\$ -
	Dell Netbook Distribution	\$689,195.00	\$500,182.00	\$ 1,189,377.00			\$ -
Subtotal		\$704,195.00	\$500,182.00	\$1,204,377.00			\$0.00

e. Supplies - List costs associated with materials/printing, curriculum, translations, and other supplies	Description	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	#Units (If Applicable)	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	Total
	office supplies	\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00			\$ -
Subtotal		\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00			\$0.00

f. Contractual - List contractors with purpose of contract, hourly rate or total fixed rate.	Contractor	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# Hours (If Applicable)	Hourly Rate (If Applicable)	Total Contract
	Website development	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00			
	Media, outreach, branding - contractor retainer, \$2290/month for 24 months	\$54,960.00		\$ 54,960.00			
	brand, logo development and initial brochures production and distribution	\$5,040.00					
	Fiscal management - cost of single audit for 2 years	\$22,000.00		\$ 22,000.00			
	Fiscal management - contractor for monthly accounting and reports for 2 years	\$38,000.00					
	Program planning and application preparation - Evslin		\$20,853.00	\$ 20,853.00			
	Program planning and application preparation - DPS		\$6,664.00	\$ 6,664.00			

Detailed Budget Template
Department of Commerce

Easy Grants ID: 197
Applicant: Vermont Council on Rural Development
Project Title: eVermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

SF-424A Object Class Category	General	ANNUAL Detail on salary and benefits					
				\$ -			
Subtotal		\$150,000.00	\$27,517.00	\$177,517.00			\$0.00

g. Construction - If applicable, list construction costs not included in the SF-424C	Description	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total			
				\$ -			\$ -
				\$ -			\$ -
Subtotal		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00

h. Other - List costs associated with subrecipients and other costs not listed above such as technology (website hosting, internet connection), advertising (TV, radio, online), etc.	Description	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	#Units (If Applicable)	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	Total
	Rent - \$2,000/month for 24 months for 3 new staff	\$48,000.00		\$ 48,000.00			\$ -
	Subgrants for community applicants	\$200,000.00		\$ 200,000.00			\$ -
	Comcast Match for service costs and eVermont marketing		\$82,164.00	\$ 82,164.00			\$ -

SUB-APPLICANTS							
Digital Wish							
				Detail - 1st year			Detail - 2nd year
Salary	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Salary	% Time Spent on Project	Total
Digital Wish program director full time - 2 years	\$ 104,000.00		\$ 104,000.00	1	\$52,000.00	100.00%	\$ 52,000.00
Digital Wish programmer full time 3/4 year	\$ 41,250.00		\$ 41,250.00	1	\$55,000.00	75.00%	\$ 41,250.00
Digital Wish - School trainer #1- 2 years	\$ 74,000.00		\$ 74,000.00	1	\$37,000.00	100.00%	\$ 37,000.00
Digital Wish - School trainer #2- 1 year	\$ 37,000.00		\$ 37,000.00	1	\$37,000.00	100.00%	\$ 37,000.00
Digital Wish Accountant	\$ 22,500.00		\$ 22,500.00	1	\$45,000.00	25.00%	\$ 11,250.00
Benefits			\$ -				
Digital Wish program director full time - 2 years	\$16,000.00		\$ 16,000.00	1	\$52,000.00	100.00%	15%
Digital Wish programmer full time 12 months @ 75% time	\$3,750.00		\$ 3,750.00	1	\$55,000.00	75.00%	9%
Digital Wish - School trainer #1- 2 years	\$16,000.00		\$ 16,000.00	1	\$37,000.00	100.00%	22%
Digital Wish - School trainer #2- 1 year	\$8,000.00		\$ 8,000.00	1	\$37,000.00	100.00%	22%
Digital Wish - Accountant-2 years, 25% time	\$2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00	1	\$45,000.00	25.00%	11%
Travel				# of Trips	Cost per Trip	Total	
Digital Wish - Initiative Planning - Travel - .55/mile, 60 miles per trip		\$2,464.00	\$ 2,464.00	24	\$102.67	\$ 2,464.00	spent
Digital Wish - School site visits, 400 trips, \$.55/mile, 60 miles average/trip	\$13,200.00		\$ 13,200.00	400	\$33.00	\$ 13,200.00	Travel for planning the pilot as well as the eVermont
Equipment Costs				#Units	Unit Cost	Total	
Applicant Equipment							
User Equipment			\$ -			\$ -	
Peripherals for Schools	\$50,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	20	\$3,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	
Microsoft software		\$194,560.00	\$ 194,560.00			\$ -	
Supplies				#Units (If Applicable)	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	Total	
Print and duplication of CDs for teachers and students	\$1,280.00		\$ 1,280.00	1,280	\$1.00	\$ 1,280.00	
Contractual			\$ -			\$ -	
Peer Coaches	\$40,000.00		\$ 40,000.00	800	\$50.00	\$ 40,000.00	
Writer	\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	100	\$50.00	\$ 5,000.00	

Front Porch Forum				Detail - 1st year			Detail - 2nd year
Position - 2 years	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Annual Salary (including benefits)	% Time Spent on Project	Total
Front Porch Forum - Project Director	\$4,210.00	\$20,790.00	\$ 25,000.00	1	\$60,000.00	25%	\$ 15,000.00
Front Porch Forum - Community Manager	\$19,000.00		\$ 19,000.00	1	\$40,000.00	25%	\$ 10,000.00
Front Porch Forum - Community Manager	\$15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	1	\$40,000.00	23%	\$ 9,000.00
Front Porch Forum - Marketing Manager	\$6,385.00		\$ 6,385.00	1	\$40,000.00	9%	\$ 3,500.00
Benefits			\$ -	Detail - 1st year			
Front Porch Forum - Project Director	\$1,290.00	\$6,210.00	\$ 7,500.00	# of Positions	Salary	on Project	Total
Front Porch Forum - Community Manager	\$5,700.00		\$ 5,700.00	1	\$60,000.00	25%	\$ 15,000.00
Front Porch Forum - Community Manager	\$4,500.00		\$ 4,500.00	1	\$40,000.00	23%	\$ 10,000.00
Front Porch Forum - Marketing Manager	\$1,915.00		\$ 1,915.00	1	\$40,000.00	9%	\$ 9,000.00
Contractual			\$ -				

Detailed Budget Template
Department of Commerce

Easy Grants ID: 197
Applicant: Vermont Council on Rural Development
Project Title: eVermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

SF-424A Object Class Category	General				ANNUAL Detail on salary and benefits			
planning, set up of service, set and name boundaries, maintain software database, troubleshooting technology, webhosting, connectivity	Software, web, IT	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00				
Marketing activities, it0 part plan	Outreach	\$12,000.00		\$ 12,000.00				
	Other			\$ -				
	Accounting, Legal, HR, Training, Equipment, Supplies, Overhead and misc.	\$8,000.00		\$ 8,000.00				
	Snelling Center for Government							
	Position - 2 years	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Annual Salary	% Time Spent on Project	Total
leadership, mgmt, set up service, online community mgmt, customer service, research	Snelling Center for Government - Program Director	\$125,000.00		\$ 125,000.00	1	\$62,500.00	100%	\$ 62,500.00
	Benefits			\$ -				Annual Benefits
	Snelling Center for Government - Program Director	\$35,000.00		\$ 35,000.00	1	\$62,500.00	100%	28% \$ 17,500.00
	Travel							
average of 600 miles per month to meet with communities as well as stakeholders, interest groups and strategic partners statewide		\$8,000.00						
	Supplies							
Office supplies		\$2,250.00						
Software applications for distribution to communities and statewide stakeholders		\$4,750.00						
	Other							
Symposium / Conference - space and speaker budget to subsidize costs and make symposia affordable to average Vermonters		\$25,000.00		\$ -				
	Vermont State Colleges			\$ -				
1000 hours of VSC teacher time annually for 2 years = 2000 hours @ \$30/hour. These workshops and trainings will be held in schools, senior centers, libraries, etc.		\$60,000.00		\$ 60,000.00				
	Local Library Resources in partnership with Vermont Department of Libraries							
	Equipment costs							
	User Equipment							
computers, scanners, printers, software, tech support and staff training at \$1,500 a work station times 2 (on average) per town for 24 towns.		\$72,000.00		\$ 72,000.00				
	Other			\$ -				
Services to the 24 communities at \$1,000 each to include automating catalogs, building websites, establishing e-newsletters, setting up WIFI hotspots and support for subscription costs		\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00				
	Vermont Small Business Development Center							
	Position - 2 years	Federal Support	Matching Support	Total	# of Positions	Annual Salary	% Time Spent on Project	Total
oversee grant area, project implementation	VT Small Business Development Center - Broadband Advisor	\$102,500.00		\$ 102,500.00	1	\$51,250.00	100%	\$ 51,250.00
assistance with program implementation, ongoing coordination	VT Small Business Development Center - Assistant State Director	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	1	\$55,350.00	27%	\$ 15,000.00
administrative backup and reporting	VT Small Business Development Center - Business Operations Mgr	\$2,400.00		\$ 2,400.00	1	\$39,995.00	3%	\$ 1,200.00
	Benefits			\$ -		Annual Benefits		
	VT Small Business Development Center - Broadband Advisor	\$47,150.00		\$ 47,150.00	1	\$23,575.00		
	VT Small Business Development Center - Program Director	\$13,800.00		\$ 13,800.00	1	\$6,900.00		
	VT Small Business Development Center - Assistant	\$1,104.00		\$ 1,104.00	1	\$552.00		
	Contractors			\$ -				
360 hours at \$100/hour to supplement work of Broadband Advisor		\$36,000.00		\$ 36,000.00				
	Travel			\$ -				
mileage: 50910 miles at .55 cents per mile; client/training/meetings		\$28,000.00		\$ 28,000.00				
airfare: 4 airfares for conferences/industry specific or ASBDC		\$2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00				
hotel/food: four conferences/industry specific or ASBDC		\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00				
	Equipment			\$ -				
Computer/printer/scanner		\$3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00				
	Supplies			\$ -				
General office supplies		\$1,046.00		\$ 1,046.00				
	Other			\$ -				

Detailed Budget Template
Department of Commerce

Easy Grants ID: 197
 Applicant: Vermont Council on Rural Development
 Project Title: eVermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project

SF-424A Object Class Category	General				ANNUAL Detail on salary and benefits		
	Phone	\$4,000.00		\$ 4,000.00			
	Indirect charges: overhead, support	\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00			
				\$ -			
				\$ -			
Subtotal		\$1,446,480.00	\$316,188.00	\$1,762,668.00			\$121,956.93
I. Total Direct Charges (sum of a-h)		\$2,525,675.00	\$1,224,137.00	\$3,749,812.00			
J. Indirect Charges	Indirect Rate						
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Total Eligible Project Costs		\$2,525,675.00	\$1,224,137.00	\$3,749,812.00			
Federal Share Requested		\$2,525,675.00					
Applicant Share			\$1,224,137.00				

\$15600 for program planning and application preparation

Benefits	
\$	41,000.00
\$	60,400.00
\$	10,400.00
\$	8,750.00
\$	120,549.99

\$4650 for program planning and application prep

% Time Spent on Project	Total	
100.00%	\$ 52,000.00	24 months
	\$ -	12 months (position starts 6 m
100.00%	\$ 37,000.00	24 months
	\$ -	12 months
25.00%	\$ 11,250.00	24 months

nt initiative

% Time Spent on Project	Total		
16.67%	\$ 10,000.00		
22.50%	\$ 9,000.00		
15.00%	\$ 6,000.00		
7.21%	\$ 2,885.00		
Detail - 2nd year			
# of Positions	Salary	Spent on	Total
1	\$60,000.00	16.67%	\$ 10,000.00
1	\$40,000.00	22.50%	\$ 9,000.00
1	\$40,000.00	15.00%	\$ 6,000.00
1	\$40,000.00	7.21%	\$ 2,885.00

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure)

1. Type of Federal Action: a. contract <u>b</u> b. grant c. cooperative agreement d. loan e. loan guarantee f. loan insurance	2. Status of Federal Action: a. bid/offer/application <u>b</u> b. initial award c. post-award	3. Report Type: a. initial filing <u>a</u> b. material change For material change only: Year _____ quarter _____ Date of last report _____
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <u>X</u> Prime _____ Subawardee Tier _____, if Known: Vermont Council on Rural Development 43 State Street Montpelier, VT 05602 Congressional District, if known: Vermont	5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, if known:	
6. Federal Department/Agency: Department of Commerce BTOP	7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable: 11.557	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known: \$	
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i> N/A VCRD does not lobby	b. Individuals Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a) <i>(last name, first name, MI):</i> N/A	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Signature: <u>Paul Costello</u> Print Name: Paul Costello Title: Executive Director Telephone No.: 802/223-5763 Date: _____	
Federal Use Only	Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL (Rev. 7-97)	

Certifications and Signature

(i) I certify that I am authorized to submit this grant application on behalf of the eligible entity(ies) listed on this application, that I have examined this application, that all of the information and responses in this application, including certifications, and forms submitted, all of which are part of this grant application, are material representations of fact and true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entity(ies) that is requesting grant funding pursuant to this application and any subgrantees and subcontractors will comply with the terms, conditions, purposes, and federal requirements of the grant program; that no kickbacks were paid to anyone; and that a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or **claims** on this application are grounds for denial or termination of a grant award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.

(ii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

(iii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has and will comply with all applicable administrative and federal statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements set forth in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements ("DOC Pre-Award Notification"), published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696), as amended; DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (Mar. 8, 2009), the Department of Commerce American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Award Terms (Apr. 9, 2009); and any Special Award Terms and Conditions that are included by the Grants Officer in the award.

(iv) If requesting BTOP funding, I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement or received a waiver.

Signature of authorized person

Paul Costello

Date

8/12/09

Print name of authorized person

Paul Costello

Title or position

Executive Director

Certification Requirements for BTOP

U.S. Department of Commerce
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

I certify that I am the duly authorized representative of the applicant organization, and that I have been authorized to submit the attached application on its behalf. A copy of the applicant organization's authorization for me to submit this application as its official representative is on file in the applicant's office, and I am identified as the applicant organization's Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) in the Central Contractor Registration database. By signing this certification, I certify that the statements contained in the application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that if an award is made, the applicant organization will comply with all applicable award terms and conditions.

8/12/09
(Date)

Paul Costello
(Authorized Representative's Signature)

Paul Costello
Name:

Executive Director
Title:

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 15 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Commerce determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 15 CFR Part 28, for persons entering into a grant, cooperative agreement or contract over \$100,000 or a loan or loan guarantee over \$150,000 as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Sections 28.105 and 28.110, the applicant certifies that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into.

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

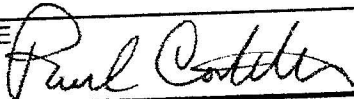
Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

NAME OF APPLICANT
Vermont Council on Rural Development

AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
e-Vermont: The Vermont Community
Broadband Project

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Paul Costello, Executive Director

SIGNATURE



DATE

8/12/09

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING
LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS**FORM CD-512
(REV 12-04)

Applicants should review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 15 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying."

LOBBYING As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 15 CFR Part 28, for persons entering into a grant, cooperative agreement or contract over \$100,000 or a loan or loan guarantee over \$150,000 as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Sections 28.105 and 28.110, the applicant certifies that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

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As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification.

NAME OF APPLICANT
Vermont Council on Rural Development

AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
e-Vermont: The Vermont Community
Broadband Project

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Paul Costello, Executive Director

DATE

8/12/09

SIGNATURE

Paul Costello

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

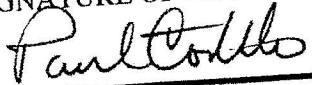
**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.
SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

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 assistance 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:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>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.</p> <p>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 assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.</p> <p>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 19 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).</p> <p>6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. 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.L. 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> | <p>(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. 3601 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>8. Will comply, as applicable, with 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.</p> <p>9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
|--|---|

1.	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; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains 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 (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean 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).	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.
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.	17.	Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
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.).	18.	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.
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.	19.	Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
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.		

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 		TITLE Executive Director	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Vermont Council on Rural Development			DATE SUBMITTED 8/12/09

MEMORANDUM

To: BTOP Program Staff
National Telecommunications & Information Administration
Department of Commerce

From: Name of AOR: Vermont Council on Rural Development
Legal Name of Applicant: Vermont Council on Rural Development
EasyGrants ID: 197

Memo Date: 02/16/10

Re: Revised Response to Questions 5 and 46 Included on BTOP
Application Originally Submitted on 08/17/09

This memorandum documents our formal submission of a revised response to Questions 5 and 46 of our organization's BTOP application (EasyGrants ID [197]), as well as the detail of the cash and in-kind matching funds and their sources:

Question 5: Estimated Funding (\$) *Please see the revised response below.*

Estimated Funding (\$):	
Federal	\$2,525,675.00
Applicant	20,250.00
State	6,664.00
Local	
Other	1,197,223
Program Income	N/A
Total	3,749,812.00

Question 46: Budget Narrative Please see the revised response below.

[Figures in parentheses are as follows (Year One; Total)]

E-Vermont Core Staff and Operations: 798,000 [plus 47,767 Match]

Dell Netbook Distribution: 689,195 [plus 500,182 Match]

Subgrants for Community Applications: 200,000

Detail:

Personnel Salary and Benefits:

e-Vermont Project Director: (93,000; 186,000)

Two Regional Community and Business Applications Educators: (138,000; 276,000)

VCRD Executive Director Supervision, Management, Communications (26,000; 52,000)

Office Management and Project Support (20,000; 40,000)

e-Vermont Project Development Costs: [20,250 Match: VCRD staff time]

Travel:

VCRD Staff Travel (13,000; 26,000)

Equipment Costs:

Applicant Equipment:

Computers, printer, furniture, office setup: (15,000; 15,000)

User Equipment:

Dell Netbook Distribution: 689,195 [Plus 500,182 Match]

To purchase Dell Netbook computers packages with printers, cables and Microsoft XP and Office Pro Plus software and warranties for free distribution to schools for use by all 4th and 5th grade youth in targeted towns. The E-Vermont will distribute 1,260 netbook computers packages to stimulate family use.

Supplies:

Office supplies (2,500; 5,000)

Contractual:

e-Vermont Website Development and Management (25,000; 30,000)

e-Vermont Public and Media Relations [Branding; Media messaging and placement

Communications campaign to share best practices and stimulate demand throughout VT] (30,000; 60,000)

Fiscal Management (30,000; 60,000)

e-Vermont Project Development Costs: [27,517 Match: Mary Evslyn 20,853; VT DPS 6,664]

Other:

Rent and Office Expenses (24,000; 48,000)

Comcast Match for Service Costs and e-Vermont Marketing: [82,164 Match:

Donation of 30 free community locations for two years of free service (43,164); Public Service Announcement development and airtime (39,000)]

Sub-Grants for Community Applications Fulfillment: 200,000
e-Vermont will spur the use of tens of thousands of new community and business on-line applications. Most of these will be free and downloadable by project leaders. To purchase software, subscriptions for on-line services, or special equipment as needed to fulfill town goals, these sub-grants will be essential boosts to program capacity and accomplishment (Grants to the 24 towns will be based on community-scale and local need but will range from totals per community from \$5,000 to \$25,000 depending on these local needs and circumstances.)

Digital Wish: 434,480 [Plus 207,024 Match]

Digital Wish (DW) will bring an unprecedented infusion of curriculum and professional development opportunities to each of the schools within selected towns for core e-Vermont services. In addition to 4 FTE positions dedicated to the project, through DW, schools will receive new digital equipment integral to curricular advancement (60,000), training resources (6,280), peer coaching (30,000), Microsoft Expression Software (240 copies x 799 retail=191,760) and supportive Microsoft-led regional symposia (4 at 700=2,800). DW will also oversee the distribution of netbooks through each participating school system. Match includes DW partners and 10,000 in kind from the VT Rural Partnership.

Front Porch Forum: 108,000 [Plus 27,000 Match]

Front Porch Forum (FPF) will build and host on-line neighborhood forums and social networking tools for each of the 24 served communities. FPF catalyzes neighborhood conversation that builds community and dramatically increases civic engagement and also serves as an entry to innumerable additional tools for commerce, education, healthcare, public safety and other community priorities. FPF services in 24 towns will require \$85,000 in staff, leadership and research, \$30,000 for software, web and IT services, \$12,000 for outreach, \$8,000 for accounting, training and miscellaneous overhead costs. Of the \$135,000 total costs for FPF services, FPF will contribute 20% through in-kind labor.

Snelling Center for Government: 200,000

The Snelling Center will lead in Symposia and Conference Development and Support (Regional sessions and annual statewide sessions, \$100,000). Identifying appropriate vertical off-the-shelf solutions to for statewide distribution (for systems like public safety, public health, etc. that can provide systems solutions for common challenges. The Snelling Center will provide statewide coordination for the distribution of best digital practices to stakeholder groups and associations, and through symposia and conferences, to all interested Vermonters. Coordinating Vertical Applications solutions, presenting them to leadership networks to advance best practices from e-Vermont communities as models for action by systems statewide (\$100,000).

Vermont State Colleges: 60,000

To provide workshops and half day training sessions to spur broadband use in special populations (seniors, entrepreneurs, health workers, etc.) through schools, senior centers, libraries

and other sites as appropriate to targeted E-Vermont Communities and contracted by project staff (an addition to digital literacy classes taught by core staff).

Local Library Resources in Partnership with Vermont Department of Libraries: 96,000

To support the installation of equipment to enhance computer technology (including additional/upgraded computers and laptops, scanners, printers, software, tech support and staff training at \$1,500 a work station X 2 [on average] per town= \$72,000), and respond to local library needs in the 24 served communities (with a budget of \$1,000 per community library=\$24,000 including automating catalogues, building websites, establishing e-newsletters, setting up WiFi hotspots, and support for subscription costs for on-line services available both in the library and remote (home, office).

VT Small Business Development Center: 300,000

VT SBDC will hire a Broadband Director to work for e-Vermont and bring expertise in the business use of e-tools, e-commerce, internet applications, to businesses through the 24 towns.

TOTAL e-Vermont Expenses: 3,749,812

Less In Kind Match: 864,137

Total Cash Expenses: 2,885,675

Less Cash Match: 360,000

Total BTOP Federal Share: 2,525,675

Total e-Vermont Non-Federal Matching Resources: 1,224,137

Vermont Match as Percent of Total e-Vermont Expenses 32.65%

Cover Sheet – Matching Funds

Updated: 2/16/10 – due diligence

e-Vermont: The Vermont Community Broadband Project
Easy Grant ID: #197

Here is a breakdown of the commitment of funds we have received as a match to the BTOP grant for e-Vermont:

Cash Match	<u>360,000</u>
Vermont Community Foundation	20,000
Evslin Family Foundation	300,000
University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies	30,000
Anonymous, through Vermont Community Foundation	10,000
	<u>864,137</u>
In Kind Match	
Applicant:	20,250
VCRD Staff Time*	
State:	6,664
DPS (Deb Shannon) Staff Time*	
Other Sources:	27,000
Front Porch Forum	20,853
Mary Evslin Project Consultation*	2,464
Digital Wish Planning and Travel Costs*	10,000
Vermont Rural Partnership	82,164
Comcast (Internet sites: 43,164; Program Marketing: 39,000)	194,560
Microsoft	500,182
Dell & Microsoft netbook computer bundles	
	<u>1,224,137</u>
Total Matching Resources	

*Grant Preparation and Donated Implementation (in Advance of BTOP funds received)