



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

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May 3, 2010

Larry Strickling, Administrator
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

Re: State of Rhode Island's Round 2 BTOP Grant Recommendation

Dear Mr. Strickling:

In accordance with NTIA guidance and after careful review of the 27 proposals submitted to the NTIA that would seriously impact the State of Rhode Island, I believe there are projects from two local applicants that meet the State's objectives:

- Provides broadband education, training and equipment to anchor institutions that benefit the public good;
- Provides affordable access;
- Creates jobs;
- Provides enduring communications infrastructure;
- Supports healthcare initiatives;
- Enhances public safety operations; and
- Enables public/private partnerships.

These two proposals: Beacon 2.0 BTOP Easy Grant ID:4422 and Washington County Regional Planning Council Easy Grant ID:7721 should be considered to be recipients of this competitive grant opportunity.

Beacon 2.0 BTOP was compiled by OSHEAN, a Rhode Island based nonprofit coalition of universities, hospitals, government agencies and other nonprofit organizations supporting the member institutions and communities they serve.

Washington County Regional Planning Council is a legislatively enabled nonprofit corporation representing the nine (9) towns of Washington County.

The Beacon 2.0 BTOP Easy Grant ID:4422 will address the State's objectives because it will create a 357-mile fiber network that will substantially upgrade connections to 20 community anchor institutes representing 50 facilities, and will also provide middle-mile fiber that passes approximately 349,000 households, 9,000 businesses and nearly 500 community anchor institutes that include hospitals, community colleges, universities, nonprofit research organizations, nursing homes, community health centers, public libraries, fire houses, police stations, 70 K-12 schools and the Narragansett Indian Tribe.

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The Washington County Regional Planning Council Easy Grant ID:7721 will meet the State's objectives because it will create a 255-mile fiber network and wireless middle-mile infrastructure that will pass 5,727 businesses and over 48,000 households serving the nine (9) communities in Washington County and 187 community anchor institutions that include police, public school buildings, libraries, fire houses and community colleges.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rosemary Booth Gallogly
Director

cc: Ian Martinez, Senior Advisory and Associate Director of Outreach, BTOP Program
Honorable Donald L. Carcieri, Governor, State of Rhode Island
Jamia McDonald, Director, Rhode Island Office of Economic Recovery and Reinvestment
John E. Landers, Chief Information Officer, Division of Information Technology
Michael Pickett, Chief Information Officer, Brown University