



BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.recovery.gov
www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa

Organization:	University of Hawaii System
Project Name:	<i>Ke Ala 'Ike: Connecting Hawaii's Public Schools, Community Colleges and Libraries</i>
Project Type:	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
State:	Hawaii
Federal Award:	\$33,972,800

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Given Hawaii's challenging topography, most community-serving institutions in the state rely on slow copper-based Internet service and face limited broadband availability. As a result, critical challenges exist in providing broadband-based services, especially in remote sections areas such as Hana on Maui and the islands of Molokai and Lanai. The **University of Hawaii System** is proposing to address this concern by expanding and enhancing a statewide fiber network to bring high-speed middle-mile service to the market and reliable connectivity to schools, libraries, and other community anchor institutions. The *Ke Ala 'Ike* ("pathway to knowledge") project intends to deploy and enhance direct fiber optic connectivity to all community colleges and their remote distance learning centers, all public K-12 schools including public charter schools, and all public libraries on six islands. The project plans to provide 10 Gbps connectivity to institutions of higher education, 1 Gbps connectivity to K-12 schools and libraries, and backbone infrastructure to Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Maui, and the Big Island with 10 Gbps-capacity inter-island circuits.

Ke Ala 'Ike also proposes to:

- Directly connect up to 380 community anchor institutions, including approximately 300 K-12 schools, 50 libraries, seven community colleges, and 30 additional institutions of higher education, with the capability to serve over another 500 anchor institutions. The network would enhance public safety and greatly improve the Hawaii State Civil Defense Agency's statewide broadband connections.
- Construct over 450 miles of new fiber and incorporate 1,070 miles of existing fiber to facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to 400,000 households and almost 100,000 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project's open network via multiple points of interconnection.
- Leverage a BTOP Public Computer Center (PCC) grant to the University System and Hawaii's State Broadband Data and Development Program award for mapping broadband access to implement a comprehensive statewide broadband access and adoption strategy.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The University of Hawaii System includes ten campuses and dozens of educational, training, and research centers across the Hawaiian Islands. Its academic offerings range from certificate and vocational through doctoral programs. A state government entity, the University of Hawaii System was established in 1964 and has significant experience with federal funding rules and compliance.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Hawaii State Public Library System
- State of Hawaii Department of Education
- Oceanic Time Warner Cable
- Wavecom Solutions

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

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

Made possible by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

