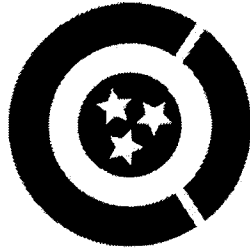OFFICIAL SUBMISSION TO
THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

PROJECT NARRATIVE

July 1, 2010

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Current Funding: $1,757,502 (mapping = $1,258,670; planning = $498,832)

Approved Activities: The State of Tennessee, through the Connected Tennessee program, has applied for and received federal SBDD funds to support broadband mapping and planning activities statewide. Approved mapping activities include collection, development, and verification of broadband datasets as required by the NTIA as well as implementation of a web-based, interactive tool to inform and solicit feedback from state and local government officials, consumers, broadband providers, community development organizations, researchers, and other stakeholders regarding reported broadband availability, including location and type of service. Approved planning activities include state-level survey research and analysis of supply and demand side data to inform the development of broadband strategic recommendations.

Connected Tennessee proposes funding for four SBDD projects:
$ 2,304,545: Data Collection Total
Year 2: $315,388, Year 3: $644,586, Year 4: $659,111, Year 5: $685,460
Description: Broadband data collection will continue to effectuate complete and up-to-date datasets and broadband maps during the remainder of the five-year program period. Leading practices for broadband data collection and verification will be identified and implemented.

$2,340,669: State Broadband Capacity Building Total
Year 2: $563,330, Year 3: $567,442, Year 4: $596,279, Year 5: $613,618
Description: A central, state-level program office will be established to work in coordination with and in support of the Connected Tennessee Steering Committee and Tennessee Broadband Task Force to ensure broadband related strategies and activities are developed as part of a cohesive and comprehensive statewide initiative. The program office and steering committee will develop and lead a coordinated initiative for broadband capacity building, continued broadband inventory mapping, local and regional technology planning, technical assistance, and ultimately, increased broadband adoption and digital literacy.

$1,737,246: Technical Assistance Program Total
Year 2: $389,827, Year 3: $392,756, Year 4: $529,928, Year 5: $424,736
Description: Technical assistance tools and resources for broadband expansion will be developed and made available to communities across the state. Tools and resources include technical engineering assistance, aggregated and shared best practices across regions through the Connected Tennessee web portal, and local level research on technology usage, needs, and barriers to adoption.

$1,226,228: Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams Total
Year 2: $290,231, Year 3: $299,801, Year 4: $313,686, Year 5: $322,511
Description: Connected Tennessee will assist Local Technology Planning Teams at the county level to leverage the program's technical assistance tools to establish specific technology adoption goals, recommendations, and action plans across community sectors in effort to help communities take their Big Step to sustainable broadband adoption. These plans will be assimilated at a state level to support the ongoing state strategic planning process of the program office. An associated Connected Corps initiative will partner with Tennessee universities and community colleges to recruit college students as technology ambassadors for their communities while simultaneously creating local jobs for students.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Current Award: $ 1,757,502
New Award: $ 7,608,688
Total Award: $ 9,366,190

Currently Funded Activities:

NTIA has awarded Connected Tennessee approximately $1.3 million for broadband data collection and mapping activities over a two-year period and almost $500,000 for broadband planning activities over a five-year period in Tennessee, bringing the total grant award to approximately $1.8 million. The Tennessee Governor's Office have partnered with Connected Nation, by and through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, LLC (Connected Tennessee), a nationally recognized nonprofit specializing in broadband issues and technology. Through this initiative Connected Tennessee is currently creating a detailed map of broadband access and clearly identifying unserved and underserved areas. The project is also giving the general public a powerful resource by allowing people to test their current Internet connection speed, look for broadband providers in their area, request quality broadband service, and even share personal stories of how having or not having high-speed Internet has impacted their lives. The cutting-edge map is just the first step in an aggressive plan to bring quality broadband service to everyone in Tennessee. Connected Tennessee's continued partnership with the State of Tennessee will allow the state to plan and apply the findings from the map, to change the landscape of Internet accesses throughout the state. By increasing broadband access and use across the state, Tennessee is facing a bright future, with greater opportunities and a new throughway to economic empowerment.

DATA COLLECTION, INTEGRATION, VERIFICATION AND DISPLAY
(DATA COLLECTION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES)

Current Award:	$1,258,670
New Award:	$ 2,304,545
Total Award:	$ 3,563,215

On March 31, 2010, Connected Nation, by and through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, LLC (Connected Tennessee), and in partnership with the State of Tennessee submitted the state's initial SBDD dataset representing participation from approximately 77% of the Tennessee provider community, or 69 of 90 total providers identified at the time of submission. Of the 21 providers who are not represented in the submitted datasets, 8 have either refused to participate in the voluntary program or have remained unresponsive to the numerous attempts at contact by Connected Tennessee. The remaining 13 providers are currently in some form of progress toward data submission but were not able to either submit or verify coverage areas at the time of the March 31 submission.

As the aforementioned roster and attached methodology documentation will attest, it is the collective opinion of the Connected Tennessee principals that all commercially-reasonable efforts were made to account for 100% of the known Tennessee broadband provider community.

Data Gathering Methodology

Beyond the initial broadband data collection and submission to NTIA, provider outreach will continuously occur to ensure that the most up-to-date and accurate service area information is being collected and displayed on inventory maps. For each semi-annual update period, each viable broadband provider in the state will be contacted, via e-mail, phone, etc. to inquire about infrastructure or system updates and expansion. In some cases this may include, but would not be limited to, providers who offered services below the FCC's definition of broadband but have since upgraded their facilities.

For providers who have previously submitted data to the mapping project, pre-populated information spreadsheets, electronic copies of the provider's footprint (pursuant to the initial data submission) and the most recent version of the provider's service area map can be returned to them for their review and approval. Any changes that have occurred since the last update can be indicated spatially on the map or through the information spreadsheet.

Providers who have not participated before can fill in a new information spreadsheet and supply data to Connected Tennessee. Service area data can be submitted in a variety of formats, including but not limited to ESRI shapefile, CAD file, PDF, spreadsheet, hard-copy maps, text files, and several others. Providers that have previously refused to participate or were non-responsive will be contacted again. Refusing providers will be directed to the Connected Tennessee website so they can view the published maps and see how service data is used and displayed for the project. This map view also allows providers to visually understand the impact of the refusal to participate.

Connected Tennessee will also continue to review broadband documents, including the FCC 477 reports, Directory of Round 2 BIP Applications and Public Notice Responses and other relevant public documents

to ensure that any new providers are also accounted for and contacted. Additionally, Connected Tennessee received data sets from providers that were unable to provide "approval" of the coverage plots and confirm the validity of the data in time to meet the initial submission. Pending approval, these data sets will be incorporated in subsequent submissions.

Process for Data Integration

Connected Tennessee will employ the tactics described in the "Data Gathering Methodology" section to continuously seek out new information from providers that participated in the initial submission to NTIA, process the data from providers that submitted information but were unable to provide approvals before the initial submission to NTIA, and will strive to break the barriers with those providers that were non-responsive and/or refused to participate in the initial data submissions to NTIA. This will include using the guidelines provided in NTIA's letter of June 10, 2010, titled "State Broadband Data & Development Program – Initial Submission – Technical Notes".

Connected Tennessee will continue to collect and process any data format available, as broadband providers maintain their service area data in many different formats, all in varying levels of complexity and granularity. In order to ensure that the data required by the NTIA is standardized across all providers and that it is as accurate as possible, Connected Tennessee, with support from Connected Nation, translates and formats the data that providers are able to supply into a GIS shapefile. While several data formats have been submitted by providers and successfully translated up to this point, there is always the possibility of new data formats being introduced; in that case, Connected Tennessee will work closely with the provider(s) to ensure the supplied data are correctly translated into a GIS format. All provider data supplied to Connected Tennessee will be processed and maps returned to the providers for their review and approval. Following the NTIA requirements for provider data submission, Connected Tennessee will format and structure the spatial data into the appropriate feature classes of the NSGIC Model version 2.0. The geodatabase of provider information will make up the bulk of the data submission to NTIA.

Verification Methodology

Connected Nation's Engineering & Technical Services staff, in support of Connected Tennessee, will be devoting a portion of their time on validation processes such as (a) random spectrum analysis studies, (b) identifying pre-selected vertical assets and cross referencing provider submitted data against the Federal Communications Commission databases such as Antenna Structure Registration and/or the Universal Licensing System, (c) validating site information against data collection such as the physical coordinates using a handheld Garmin eTrex Summit GPS unit, (d) locating physical wire-line attributes (such as remote terminals, CATV plant, etc.); and (e) digital photography which would capture images of transmit locations, head-ends, remote terminals, central office equipment, etc.

Time will be allocated for cross referencing public documents such as the Federal Communications Commission Form 477 data and conducting "on-site" visits with pre-selected providers in order to both validate broadband distribution platforms and to build upon the relationships developed during the initial submission period to ensure continuous provider support and participation.

During the validation efforts and on-site visits, certain common and consistent denominators will be used to ensure the highest quality of validation techniques. These may include wireless signal testing

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(using a spectrum analyzer) at Wi-Fi locations, at the transmit site of fixed wireless providers and at randomly selected sites for WiMAX and mobile providers. All locations will be subjected to speed tests using the test site (provided by Ookla Net Metrics) which is commonly available on every respective state's website.

Another verification methodology encompasses consumer feedback with regards to the publicly available maps and analysis on broadband service areas. The primary mechanism of consumer feedback is in the form of broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communication received from the public regarding broadband service. Consumers are encouraged through the website and other outreach activities to provide feedback on the maps through the map website, e-mail, or by phone. With the additional proposed programmatic element of local/regional technology planning, this outreach and verification will now also be conducted on the ground through local planning teams. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information collected through the SBDD program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) Residents who do not have broadband service available and want it. 2) Residents who have broadband service available but want a different provider. 3) Residents who can offer localized information to help verify the accuracy of the broadband maps.

Through the aggregation of broadband inquiries in GIS format, a visual demand for broadband is presented. This form of "crowd-sourcing" allows for the ability to adjust broadband availability maps for accuracy. If information from residents differs from the broadband inventory maps, this allows Connected Tennessee to approach broadband service providers within a particular area to refine the data and map representation.

Finally, Connected Tennessee will access and use the aggregate data collected by FCC Form 477 that is being made available to the designated entity in each state or territory for purposes of broadband data verification. FCC Order 10-71, released on April 26, 2010, interprets P.L. 110-385 (the Broadband Data Improvement Act) to require the FCC release of this data to each state or territory participating in the BDIA.

Leading Practices

A number of leading practices identified in the Grant Guidance have been implemented by Connected Tennessee in the first year of the SBDD program. These include practices such as submission of data in geodatabase format, submission of speed information at a Census Block or wireless footprint level, integration of public data sources, provider feedback, direct assistance to small providers, "crowd-sourcing" through the Connected Tennessee online interactive map, and detailed descriptions of methodology. Moving forward, Connected Tennessee proposes to implement a number of additional leading practices, with associated budget funding, including:

- Pricing – publicly available pricing data will be gathered through provider websites and phone calls to randomly selected addresses across a distributed sampling of the state. Per the suggestions contained within the Grant Guidance, pricing data sought will include price points per tier, required bundles, equipment rebates or costs, and incentive offers.
- Data Confidence Scales – this area will be explored for potential development and implementation, in coordination with the NTIA as future federal guidance on data confidence scales is released.

- Ongoing Verification Activities − ongoing verification will focus on areas of concern, based on information garnered from prior data collection and verification. Within these targeted areas of concern, a focus will be placed on field validation of platform availability and the promotion of online crowdsourcing tools such as interactive maps and web surveys.
- Surveys − in an effort to create cost-efficiency gains, state-level survey research conducted as a means of data verification in Year 1 will be transferred to a related project within the program, combining state-level data collection with local-level data collection into one survey, for enhanced data and reduced fixed costs across the program. These local level surveys will continue to verify broadband availability among a statistically significant sample of all households as well as a statistically significant sample of rural households, in accordance with NOFA requirements, while targeting verification among a statistically significant sample of addresses in each Tennessee county. Meanwhile, these surveys will capture data on technology usage and barriers to adoption at the local level, in support of a number of BDIA purposes.
- In-person community engagement − meetings with community leaders and residents to verify and discuss the results of the data collection will be conducted through the local and regional technology teams proposed as a complementary project within this program, at no additional costs to the data collection project.

Display

The expanded opportunity of the State Broadband Data and Development grant program positions the State of Tennessee to improve upon its original vision for SBDD grant in terms of data accessibility as well as its utility in aiding planning and collaboration efforts.

The current Connected Tennessee website (www.connectedtn.org) supports several stakeholder groups in the advancement of the programmatic goals of the SBDD program in Tennessee. To the most general program stakeholder, the portal facilitates access to the broadband state level map through the BroadbandStat (BBStat) application, as well as other salient information pertinent to the SBDD effort within the state. In addition to serving the accessibility need as prescribed in the original NOFA, it is an integral part of the data acquisition as well as the accuracy and verification methodologies employed in the mapping effort.

Tennessee CONNECTED
THE TRAIL TO INNOVATIONS

STATE BROADBAND CAPACITY BUILDING

NAME: Connected Tennessee Office and Connected Tennessee State Steering Committee

FUNDS AWARDED: $0
FUNDS REQUESTED: $2,340,669

PROBLEM: The State of Tennessee needs to establish, implement, and ensure the sustainability of the necessary framework (a public-private partnership) to develop and lead a coordinated initiative for broadband capacity building, inventory mapping, planning, technical assistance, and increased broadband adoption/literacy.

SOLUTION: Connected Tennessee proposes to maintain its State Program Office advocating broadband statewide and coordinating the state's ability to take the "First Step, Next Step and Big Step" toward sustainable broadband adoption at all levels. To leverage the combined work of previous Tennessee broadband research and goal-setting documents, including Connected Tennessee's previous efforts, direction from the Tennessee State Broadband Task Force and other supporting documentation, Connected Tennessee will work in tandem with the Tennessee State Broadband Task Force to ensure that its efforts are supplemented by the Connected Tennessee Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall advocate the state's broadband interests and maintain close working relationships with community groups, civic associations, industry trade organizations, industry leaders, and other stakeholders to ensure that Tennessee's interests and concerns are understood, while regularly reporting to the Tennessee Broadband Task Force.

Working with the Connected Tennessee program director and staff, the Connected Tennessee Steering Committee is to be comprised of representatives of varied interests such as representatives from the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Office of Information Resources, Department of Education, the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, Secretary of State, Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, Tennessee State Library, Department of Tourist Development, representatives from the industry such as incumbent telecommunications providers, competitive telecommunications providers, video service providers, key legislators, state associations, and other organizations that have an interest in improving Tennessee's broadband availability and adoption.

Members of the current Connected Tennessee Steering Committee offered letters of support which are included as an attachment in this application as a sample of the support that exists among the public / private partnership. Support letters included:

- Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
- Tennessee State Broadband Task Force
- Tennessee Department of Tourist Development
- Tennessee State Library
- Hickman County Economic and Community Development Association
- Tennessee Cable Telecommunications Association
- AT&T
- Covington Electric System
- Others

The Tennessee Broadband Task Force was codified by Tennessee General Assembly in 2005 (Public Chapter 413). The membership of the Task Force includes representation from the Tennessee Senate, Tennessee House of Representatives, Comptroller of the Treasury, Tennessee Regulatory Authority, Office of the Governor, Tennessee Public Television Council, Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board, as well as representatives from cable television, incumbent local exchange carriers, cellular phone providers, competitive local exchange carriers, Internet service providers, and direct-to-home satellite providers. Formed in 2005, the Task Force reported to the General Assembly and the Tennessee Governor's Office recommendations for broadband deployment. The recommendations led directly to the creation of Connected Tennessee and have continued to provide input and direction to statewide broadband planning.

Connected Tennessee and its Steering Committee, a public-private partnership, will coordinate and leverage the work of several different activities currently underway (such as broadband mapping and the Connected Tennessee portal, which functions as a point of public information about broadband for Tennesseans) or proposed as part of this application (broadband capacity building, statewide and local research, statewide and local technology plans, demand aggregation, technical assistance and other activities identified by the public-private partnership), ensuring that all activities are developed as part of a cohesive and comprehensive statewide initiative. The Connected Tennessee Steering Committee will assist in the development of toolkits and programs that will be used by local planning teams in the "Big Step" implementation.

In addition to the aforementioned responsibilities, the Connected Tennessee Program Office and Steering Committee will also host an annual Connected Tennessee Broadband Summit in conjunction with the Tennessee State Broadband Task Force. The purpose of this summit will be to provide a yearly gathering to discuss broadband accomplishments, promote best practices, and to identify areas of need in the overall Tennessee Broadband Plan. By gathering representatives from the county libraries, state library association, municipalities, businesses, provider community and other interested organizations, the Connected Tennessee Steering Committee, in conjunction with the local technology planning teams and the other key state agencies, will host an open forum and present a unified front on broadband decisions. Although each area of Tennessee is unique and has a specific set of goals and issues to overcome, there are many topics and concerns that are statewide and require consideration from every constituency. The Program Office and its Steering Committee will send correspondence in a regular fashion regarding updates of goals and issues alike, identified during the yearly summits as well as provide regular reports to the state Broadband Task Force.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS: In addition to the Connected Tennessee Program Office functioning to manage the entire Connected Tennessee initiative, including, but not limited to, all activities proposed in this grant submission, the Connected Tennessee Steering Committee will at a minimum:

- Collaborating to identify and help provide guidance and solutions for Tennessee's evolving broadband challenges.
- Developing and maintaining ongoing strategic plans with specific goals and recommended action for increasing the availability and adoption of broadband statewide.
- Assessing current programs to improve broadband growth and adoption, and making recommendations on program improvements and creation of new programs in Tennessee.

As a part of these activities, Connected Tennessee, in coordination with the Steering Committee and Tennessee Broadband Task Force, will fulfill many of the activities laid out by the grant guidance document, resulting in a dynamic and research-based state broadband plan, ongoing program assessment across localities, coordination of broadband related activities across state agencies and among state level organizations, an annual statewide broadband summit to include both public and private, for-profit and nonprofit Tennessee stakeholders, and aggressive engagement of consumers and the public through the use of media, events (working in conjunction with local planning teams), and the Connected Tennessee web portal.

COST: Based on previous experience of Connected Tennessee and impact studies of similar programs conducted in other states demonstrate that the funds expended over four years for state broadband capacity building, in conjunction and harmony with resources provided for broadband mapping, planning, technical assistance, and local technology planning teams, will transform the technology and broadband readiness of Tennessee.

Research indicates that projects proposed by Connected Tennessee will result in significant increases in broadband adoption at levels above what otherwise would have occurred absent these projects. For example, between 2008 and 2010 in Ohio, where Connected Tennessee's sister program Connect Ohio has operated since 2008, home broadband adoption has increased by eleven percentage points,[1] more than double the national growth rate of five percentage points during a similar time period.[2] In our Tennessee work, over the past three years, the Connected Tennessee program has resulted in a 9 percentage point increase in statewide home broadband adoption between 2008 and 2010, with even higher broadband adoption growth measured among Tennessee's vulnerable populations, including an 11 percentage point growth among minorities, 13 percentage point growth among elderly residents, 16 percentage point growth among households with children, 17 percentage point growth among adults with disabilities, 18 percentage point growth among rural residents, and 20 percentage point growth among low-income households.[3]

A number of research studies[4] have directly linked broadband adoption increases to overall strengthening of the economy, and it is expected that similar increases will yield similar economic benefits in Tennessee.

By linking the activities of state broadband capacity building with broadband mapping, technical assistance, and local technology planning teams, the funds expended in this program category will yield greater efficiency and effectiveness. The Program Office and Steering Committee will direct and enhance activities in other program categories, and activities in other categories will inform and strengthen the ability of the Program Office, Steering Committee, and Task Force to craft the state's technology plan, assessments, and solutions.

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[1] 2008 and 2010 Connect Ohio® Residential Technology Assessments, www.connectohio.org
[2] Pew Internet and American Life Project, *Home Broadband* 2008, released 6/2/2008. Pew Internet and American Life Project, *Internet, Broadband, and Cell Phone Statistics*, released 1/5/2010.
[3] 2008 and 2010 Connected Tennessee® Residential Technology Assessments. www.connectedtn.org
[4] For example, Gillett, Sharon; Dr. William Lehr; Carlos Osorio; and Marvin Sirbu, "Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Deployment." Feb 2006. Also, *The Economic Impact of Stimulating Broadband Nationally.* Connected Nation. February 2008.

SBDD PURPOSE: The activities undertaken in the state broadband capacity building portion of the Connected Tennessee initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:

"... (2) to identify and track the areas with low levels of deployment, the rate at which residential and business users adopt broadband service and other related information technology services, and possible suppliers of such services;

(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;

... (6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;

... (8) to collect and analyze detailed market data concerning use and demand for broadband service;

(9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ..." (source: P.L. 110-385)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

NAME: Connected Tennessee Technical Assistance

FUNDS AWARDED: $0
FUNDS REQUESTED: $1,737,246

PROBLEM: Community anchor institutions and local leaders are currently in need of both technical engineering assistance for targeted, community-specific IT assessments as well as effective tools/resources for aggregating and sharing best practices across regions and communities.

In addition, continually up-to-date and locally relevant research on technology usage, needs, and barriers among Tennessee residents and businesses is necessary to develop cost-effective programs for local broadband planning, application development, digital literacy, and improved computer ownership and Internet use. Without credible research at the local level, local planning teams are forced to make assumptions about what strengths and weaknesses exist in their community. Additionally, this type of research is needed on a recurring basis to effectively benchmark technology use and evolving barriers/needs, as well as to identify best practices programs and to measure the impact of state and local programs over time. Currently, there is no publicly available source for local data on technology use and barriers to use.

State-level research cannot provide granular enough information to effectively and efficiently inform the tactical technology strategy in each community. Tennessee has learned from the experiences of Connected Tennessee and from other states that a "one size fits all" approach is not effective for creating local broadband plans if communities intend to fill the broadband gaps and improve technology literacy and use in a sustainable manner. Even regional level research is not granular enough for a community based effort. Technology usage and barriers often vary widely from one county to the next. For example, broadband adoption rates are starkly different across three contiguous Tennessee counties that would typically be grouped in the same region. Home broadband adoption is 74% in Williamson County, while it stands at 53% in neighboring Dickson County and significantly lower at 38% in neighboring Hickman County. Local, county level benchmarking that collects and analyzes detailed market data concerning the use and demand for broadband service and related information technology services provides critical technical assistance necessary for Tennessee's broadband initiative to effectively guide, support, and empower local efforts. This need for county-level research is especially great for Tennessee, where counties are geographically large compared to most other states.

SOLUTION: The Connected Tennessee Technical Assistance activities will develop technical assistance tools that include:

- County level broadband research and benchmarking as a tool for state and local planning and program development, as well as for measuring and assessing state and local programs to identify best practices, which programs are most effective and which programs may need assistance to produce greater results. To this end, a series of county-level statistical telephone surveys will be conducted at the state and county levels to track and understand the local challenges related to broadband and computer use. Residential surveys will measure the rate

of home broadband adoption, computer ownership, online application use and frequency of use, barriers to home broadband adoption and computer ownership, prices paid for broadband service, and similar broadband related questions across demographics in each county, producing statistically significant results at a county level. These county level residential surveys will be conducted in the first year and the final year of the project. Additionally, state level residential surveys will be conducted once during each of the two interim project years to provide statewide measurements and macro insights on how technology use is changing from year to year across demographics. Annual telephone surveys will also be conducted among a statistically significant sample of businesses across the state, with quotas set for industry sector and business size.

- Technical engineering and IT assistance, as directed by regional and local leaders, to provide targeted broadband infrastructure assessments and potential options for local determination of the most cost-efficient broadband growth. These technical engineering assessments will include a number of options for local and regional assistance, including broadband infrastructure assessments and cost modeling across platforms and towers, IT assessments across community sectors to assist local government and other community anchor institutions, and related technical assistance as requested by local and regional leaders.
- Cataloguing, aggregating, and sharing broadband success stories and best practices statewide through a user-friendly mechanism within the Connected Tennessee web portal.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS: County-level research will ensure that Tennessee's county technology planning teams have access to reliable, current, community-specific data as they work to develop realistic goals and actionable, cost-effective strategic plans to meet Tennessee's specific community needs. County level residential surveys in the first year and the final year of the project will enable both effective program development as well as a mechanism for measuring the impact of state and local programs over time and across various demographic groups. This process allows for identifying best practices – those programs evidenced to be most effective, and those programs which may need assistance to produce greater results.

The technical engineering assistance proposed under this category will, based on Connected Nation's previous experience, interface directly with local government leaders and local broadband providers (or potential providers) to develop an assessment of what infrastructure is available and what may be necessary to ensure broadband service to those currently unserved and enhanced service to areas or populations that are underserved. The engineering assessments provided will allow local leaders and communities key intelligence that will allow them to coordinate and lead broadband deployment to their citizens.

Finally, the funds allocated here will allow for the GIS cataloguing of local broadband successes and best practices to all Tennessee broadband stakeholders and consumers through the Connected Tennessee web-portal. The Connected Tennessee web-portal will become a tool not only for the dissemination of detailed information about broadband deployment and technology trends in Tennessee but also a medium for the sharing of information and best practices among state, regional, and local program participants and stakeholders. This function of sharing information will allow Connected Tennessee stakeholders to take further ownership of the program and ensure that the program is nimble enough to adapt to identified needs and best practices as rapidly as possible.

These program activities will satisfy, wholly or in-part, the following technical assistance activities described in the grant guidance provided by NTIA:

- Provide technical expertise to local institutions, nonprofits, and governments to develop or help sustain deployment and adoption-related initiatives.
- Support the creation of tribal, regional, or local task forces or advisory boards and strategic plans.
- Support tribal, regional, or local coordinating activities.
- Provide educational information to communities, businesses, and other stakeholders about the efforts being undertaken to improve access and adoption across a state or region.

COST: The technical assistance provided to communities in this category will bring about more cost-effective local projects, as these tools provide the relevant information for determining the costs and benefits associated with potential solutions for sustainable broadband expansion, deploying targeted and results-oriented broadband applications, and understanding what best practices are most applicable and transferable across communities and regions.

Further, in an effort to create gains in cost-efficiency, state-level surveys have been shifted from the Data Collection project (data verification) into the Technical Assistance project. This shift enables state-level surveys to be conducted in concert with county-level surveys, thus capitalizing on the natural fixed costs of survey research and realizing economies of scale through survey bundling across geographies. Additionally, county-level surveys have been staggered to allow for micro level data when it is most necessary, as this granular data collection is more costly than state-level data collection. To that end, county-level surveys will be administered only at the beginning and the end of the project for cost-efficiency. Interim state-level surveys will produce a more macro view of evolving demographic trends in technology usage, which can be extrapolated and applied at a local level using the original county-level data as a comparison, without the higher costs of interim county-level surveys.

SBDD PURPOSE: The activities undertaken in the technical assistance portion of the Connected Tennessee initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:
"... (2) to identify and track the areas with low levels of deployment, the rate at which residential and business users adopt broadband service and other related information technology services, and possible suppliers of such services;
(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;
... (6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;
... (8) to collect and analyze detailed market data concerning use and demand for broadband service;
(9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ..." (source: P.L. 110-385)

LOCAL/REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING TEAMS

NAME: Connected Tennessee Technology Planning Teams

FUNDS AWARDED: $0
FUNDS REQUESTED: $1,226,228

PROBLEM: Statewide activities cannot be relied upon to "trickle down" equally to every community in a state. Empowering local communities with the necessary tools and resources to take their "Big Step" through the implementation of local plans, increasing local broadband adoption, and spurring the creation of local web-based applications that improve quality of life and the "value proposition" of broadband to households and small businesses is an effective approach.

SOLUTION: In cooperation with the Connected Tennessee Program Office, Connected Tennessee Steering Committee, and with the technical assistance activities described above, Connected Tennessee proposes to utilize local eCommunity Strategies planning teams by assisting each county to continue to take important steps toward sustainable broadband adoption. These steps would include building on Connected Tennessee's success over the past three years by expanding on current growth strategies, implementation of plans, and the development of new plans. Connected Tennessee will also utilize the resources made available through the State Broadband Capacity Building and Technical Assistance sections of this proposal.

The Connected Tennessee executive director will work in coordination with the Connected Tennessee technology extension agent and indigenous regional technology planning coordinators to identify specific and relevant community leaders to serve as local technology champions. Connected Tennessee will utilize the eCommunity Leadership Teams that have already been established in each of the state's 95 counties, forming an established grassroots network of more than 2,400 leaders representing each community sector:

- Healthcare
- K-12 Education
- Higher Education
- Government
- Business and Industry
- Agriculture
- Libraries
- Community-Based Organizations
- Tourism, Recreation, and Parks
- Telecommunications organized labor entities

The eCommunity Leadership Teams have completed a community benchmark process answering questions that allow communities to take their "First Step," "Next Step," and "Big Step" toward broadband adoption. Once the eCommunity leaders receive buy-in from the local leaders into the technology planning and execution process, they will become advocates in each community, ensuring the success of the broadband planning process and its implementation.

The community benchmark process has been an important step in ensuring that work is focused in the right direction and customized to each county. Each team member has helped in completing an assessment of current technology use and creating a vision of where technology should be. Across the state, approximately 1,200 benchmark forms have been completed by individuals and sector leaders. Each benchmark form addresses three primary questions: 1) Where are we today? 2) Where do we need to be? and 3) How do we get there? This information has been the foundation of a Strategic Technology Plan for each county.

The results of the benchmark process show that more than three-fourths of the assessments indicate a need for "basic technology/computer use training." About half of the assessments indicate the need for website development or enhancements; however, this number increases dramatically when only looking at the government or business sectors. The results from the community benchmark forms show that agriculture, community-based organizations, and tourism, recreation and parks are lacking in the use of technology the most, while higher education, libraries, and K-12 education institutions are utilizing technology the most, but still have room to grow. The healthcare, agriculture, and business & industry sectors desire the most growth in technology availability, applications, and usage.

The strategic plans have allowed communities to take a "First Step" toward sustainable broadband adoption. This important "First Step" includes raising awareness about the importance of broadband to their community, residents, and organizations. Based on Connected Tennessee's *Tennessee Technology Trends 2010*, the three primary barriers to broadband adoption among Tennessee residents without broadband include:
1. 41% of respondents – Computer Ownership (I don't have a computer.)
2. 37% of respondents – Need for Broadband (I don't need broadband.)
3. 22% of respondents – Too Expensive (Broadband is too expensive.)

This "First Step" saw a great impact on broadband adoption among residents and organizations. Though the Tennessee broadband adoption rate has grown from 43% in July 2007 to 58% in January 2010 and the gap between the state and national averages has closed, Tennessee is still slightly behind the national broadband adoption rate based on the Pew Internet and American Life Project released in January 2010. The eCommunity Leadership Teams must continue to bring the awareness to those non-adopters in order to continue to close the gap.

While many eCommunity Leadership Teams have taken their "Next Step" toward broadband adoption, additional and focused support is needed. The "Next Step" includes more classes and training for non-adopters with a focus on computer and Internet usage. Additional training and courses would be required for those organizations and individuals wanting to learn more about improving the utilization of broadband. Many Tennessee counties have some level of training available; however, as new broadband users begin to explore the benefits of broadband, the need for training and educational opportunities will increase.

Connected Tennessee will inventory all current training offerings within the local community including dates and times. This information will be promoted through the local eCommunity Leadership Teams and other local mediums and posted online, along with scheduling and enrollment information.

As part of this local planning effort, Connected Tennessee will incorporate a Connected Corps initiative. Working in partnership with Tennessee universities, community colleges, and secondary schools, this initiative will recruit local high school or college students who excel in school and exhibit advanced leadership and technology skills to assist in technology training, technical support, and outreach efforts in their communities. Recognizing students as a powerful resource for local outreach efforts, the Connected Corps challenges students to extend their technology experiences beyond the classroom to help make a difference in their communities by embracing their role as technology ambassadors for their communities while simultaneously creating local jobs for promising students.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS: As each regional and local planning team implements and completes its work, each region will gain a specialized local broadband plan, informed by regional-specific research data, providing a technology road map that every Tennessee community can follow to derive rapid and meaningful benefits from broadband deployment and increased broadband adoption. At a state, regional, and local level, there will be an established framework of broadband engagement and clear understanding of the benefits of broadband adoption and challenges to both increased broadband deployment and usage.

Finally, through the "Big Step," communities would be able to incorporate the new broadband users and adoption into larger community goals. The "Big Step" would be anchored by facilitating active participation in community and economic development with the eCommunity Leadership Teams and other community anchor institutions, especially for those interested in starting up and growing small businesses in their community and online. If successful, these newly empowered workers and businesses would be both essential contributors to the local tax base and supporters of sustainability for their local community anchor and strategic institutions, thus closing the circle with a truly "Big Step!"

Over the past 36 months, eCommunity Leadership Teams across the state have been performing an assessment and vision benchmark of their community. During the "Big Step," teams would be able to implement the projects identified as priorities during the planning phase. These projects include creating a government broadband toolkit (allowing local governments to improve their online presence and improved applications), a small business toolkit (allowing businesses to expand their market and income potential), and improving online marketing of economic development and tourism destinations.

To manage the eCommunity planning process and its resulting implementation of the "First Step, Next Step, and Big Step" toward broadband adoption and utilization, Connected Tennessee will utilize technology extension agents spread across Tennessee. These agents will facilitate the continued assessment and visioning process, but also provide support to the communities wherever needed. In communities that are not as developed in their technology leadership, the technology extension agents will serve as the technology liaison among the sectors and region.

In addition to the planning process, the eCommunity Leadership Teams are able to interface with local broadband providers and collect broadband demand from across the area. To date, the eCommunity teams have collected broadband inquiries from approximately 11,000 individuals who are interested in the adoption of broadband but have not previously subscribed, though some have now adopted broadband. This information is combined with other data through the broadband mapping and data collection process to assist with mapping verification.

Where economies of scale can be seen and funds can be pooled, the technology extension agents will work with the Connected Tennessee staff and State of Tennessee partners to combine initiatives into regional projects. This approach will serve to save communities time and money and create initiatives that can improve the demand creation possibilities.

COST: As each local planning team implements the projects and initiatives identified through the planning process, each county will gain an updated and specialized local broadband plan, updated county-specific research data, a technology road map, and toolkits that every Tennessee county can derive the rapid and meaningful benefits from broadband deployment and increased broadband adoption. At a state, regional, and local level, there will be a proven framework of broadband engagement and clear understanding of the benefits of broadband adoption and challenges to both increased broadband deployment and usage.

Further, the incorporation of robust volunteer participation at the state, regional, and local levels will harvest civically-minded and motivated individuals who are vested in the well-being and future of their communities and likely to remain supportive of developing innovative technology solutions for Tennessee.

SBDD PURPOSE: The activities undertaken in the technical assistance portion of the Connected Tennessee initiative will directly address the following SBDD-related purposes:
"(3) to identify barriers to the adoption of broadband service and information technology services;
(5) to create and facilitate by county or designated region in a State, local technology planning teams;
(6) to collaborate with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use;...
(9) to facilitate information exchange regarding use and demand for broadband services between public and private sector users; ..." (source: P.L. 110-385)

CONCLUSION

The twenty-first century is presenting Tennessee with a new challenge in preserving and improving its beloved way of life. High-speed Internet connection is a modern lifeline to quality jobs, information, and vital services ranging from interactive telemedicine to higher education. Yet, thousands of Tennessee residents still have no access to quality, high-speed broadband.

This application, submitted on behalf of the State of Tennessee, seeks to extend the previously-awarded grant to employ industry-standard GIS toolsets and experienced personnel to deliver comprehensive and accurate broadband mapping data, develop state-level broadband maps, aid in the development and maintenance of a national broadband map, and fund statewide initiatives directed at broadband planning, in accordance with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the State Broadband Data and Development Extension Grant (SBDD).

The State of Tennessee is facing a challenge of how to prepare Tennesseans to be leaders in the new digital economy. The Connected Tennessee initiative has led the charge to make Tennessee a leader in the fast-changing digital economy. Though great progress has been made over the past three years, extensive work continues to be needed to ensure Tennessee takes the "Big Step" of broadband usage within local communities. Connected Tennessee will continue to accelerate the availability and use of technology toward creating a better business environment, more effective community and economic development, improved healthcare, enhanced education, and more efficient government.

The State of Tennessee has developed a broadband plan outlining goals and known areas of concern facing the residents, businesses, and government entities alike, while acknowledging the success that has been seen by Tennessee. The following are the overarching concepts included in the Tennessee Broadband Initiative:

- Expand and upgrade broadband service to unserved/underserved populations across the state.
- Transform Tennessee's economic competitiveness by making affordable broadband accessible to any business throughout the state.
- Ensure a better, more efficient government for the 21st century.

Throughout its life, Connected Tennessee has already begun to tackle the root causes which will eventually lead to success in Tennessee's broadband goals. This application seeks to expand upon and supplement the established goals outlined in the Tennessee Broadband Initiative and laid out in the original State Broadband Data and Development Application by implementing the following items:

- Through the implementation of Connected Tennessee's BroadbandStat, Tennessee's newest interactive mapping application, easily browsed availability maps have been made public via the Connected Tennessee website. Among other uses, residents can use the interactive maps to check broadband availability, businesses can use the maps to chart out potential growth areas, and government entities can use the maps to consider strategic planning and funding opportunities. In this application Connected Tennessee proposes to expand the services provided on the Connected Tennessee web portal to make it a one-stop-shop for all broadband items, including expansion of BroadbandStat capabilities.

- Implementation of specific local broadband plans for expanding broadband utilization and increasing awareness through the local technology planning team's plans in each of Tennessee's 95 counties.
- Tennessee lacks a coordinated approach to providing broadband information to the public and to raising awareness about broadband deployment initiatives. This application recommends that the State of Tennessee, through the Public Service Commission, will establish a Connected Tennessee Program Office to leverage the combined work of previous Tennessee broadband research and goal setting documents, including the State of Tennessee's Broadband Initiative.
- To assist the efforts of the Program Office, Connected Tennessee will continue and expand the Connected Tennessee State Steering Committee by developing a public-private partnership consisting of a wide ranging group of representatives. The Steering Committee shall advocate the state's broadband interests.
- The Connected Tennessee Program Office and Steering Committee, under the direction of the Tennessee State Broadband Task Force, shall host an annual broadband summit to highlight best practices, common problems, and further focus the broadband plans for all Tennessee residents.
- County and state-level broadband research, technical engineering assistance, and GIS cataloguing are proposed in this application to further aid the broadband planning efforts on a local level.

The Connected Tennessee program has already charted a clear path for the State of Tennessee to become a leader in a digital economy. The program has accomplished many vital goals and through this application extension will continue to build upon the foundation of success it has already achieved to make broadband a reality for all Tennesseans. The diversity in landscape, business, and individuals within Tennessee requires a unique, local level approach to broadband mapping and planning that can be attained by the plan outlined in the Connected Tennessee program.

ADDENDUM

Connected Tennessee proposes the development of an address-level dataset which would include provider data in the State of Tennessee. The development of this dataset would also include the creation of the necessary processes and methodology that would correlate with such a project. The State of Tennessee has available a State Centerline and State Address Point dataset that will be provided at $117,670, and which will be utilized for the duration of this project. The initial year of funding will require an additional estimated $124,530 to develop the processing tool, methodology, and obtain the necessary hardware, and software. The total of the first year would be $242,200, with each subsequent year costing $93,500, with the exception of the second year where an additional $10,000 in subcontractor fees would be necessary.
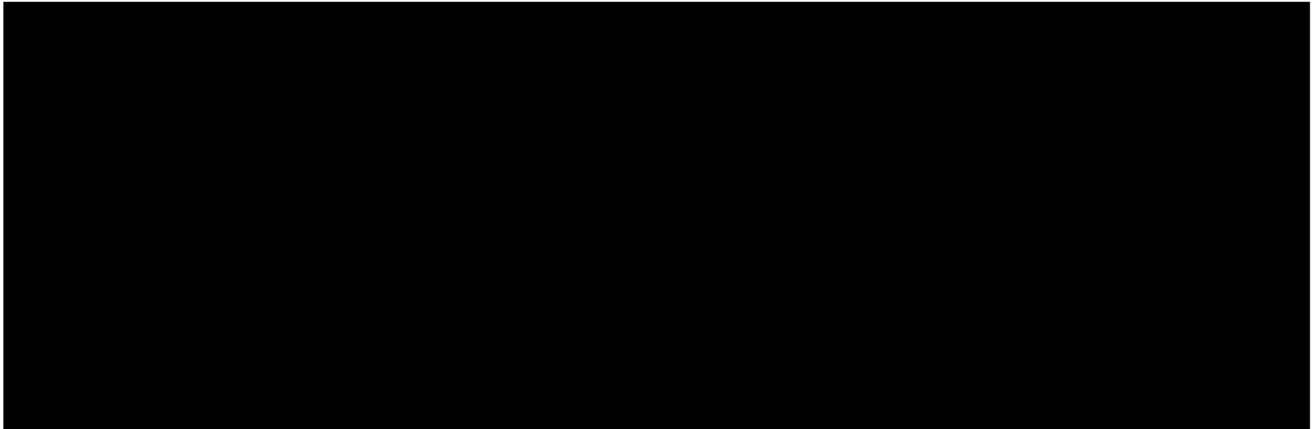
Summary:

Column1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
Totals	$ 242,200.00	$103,530.00	$ 93,530.00	$ 93,530.00	$532,790.00

OFFICIAL SUBMISSION TO
THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

TCONNECTED
Tennessee
THE TRAIL TO INNOVATION◈

STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

BUDGET NARRATIVE

July 1, 2010

STATE OF TENNESSEE
MAPPING BUDGET NARRATIVE

OVERVIEW

The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 3-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, will implement the project activities on behalf of the State of Tennessee.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.
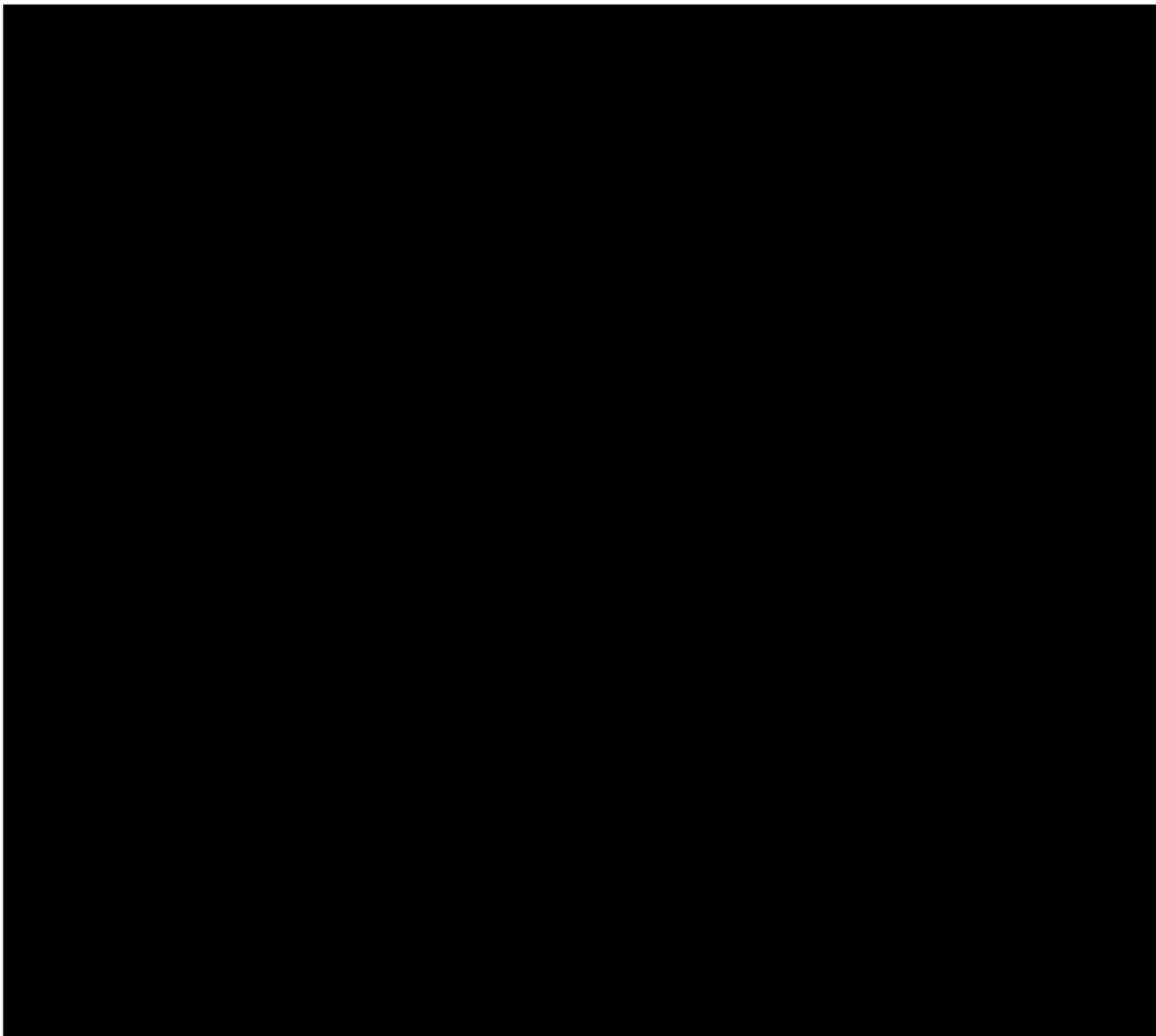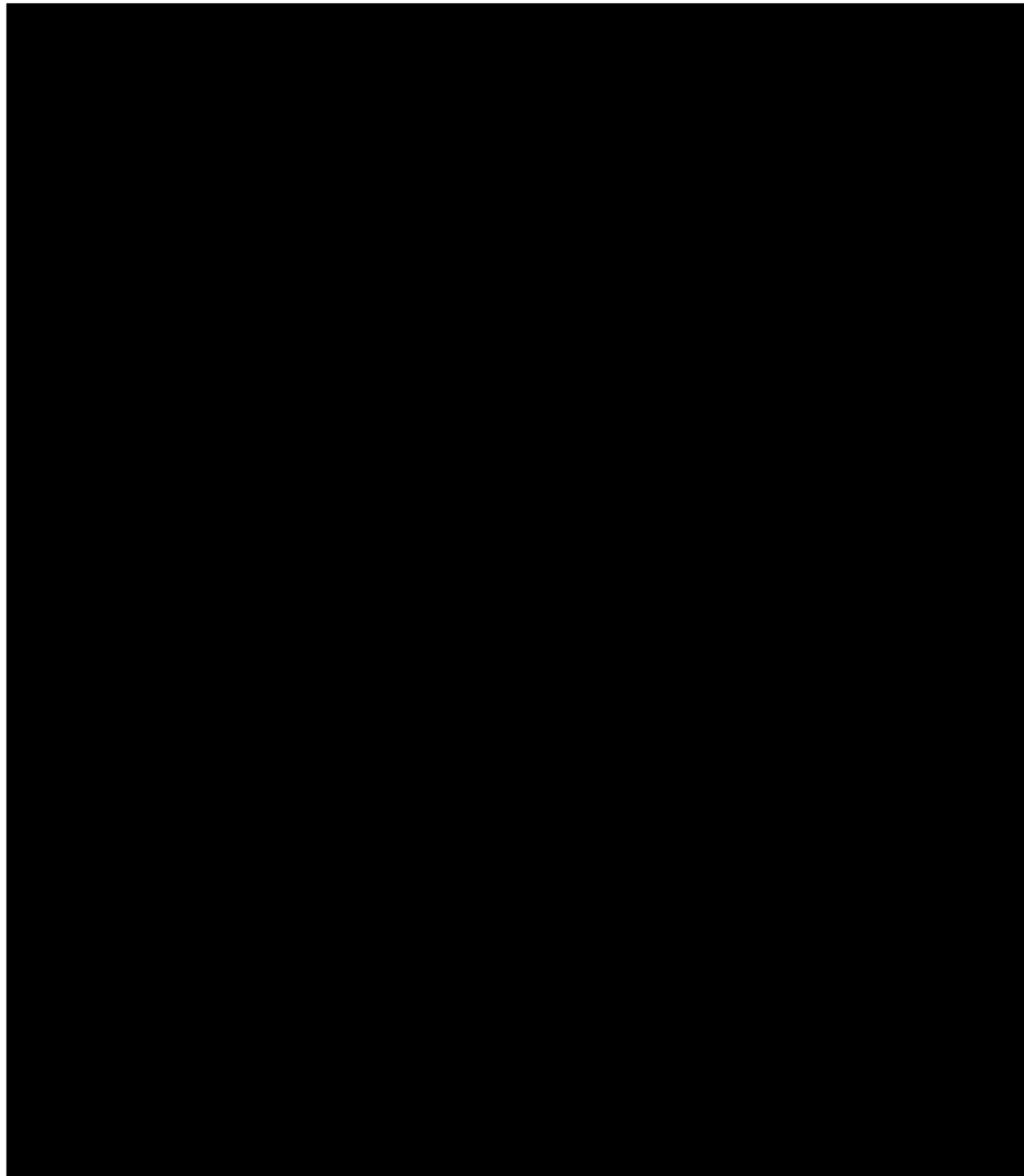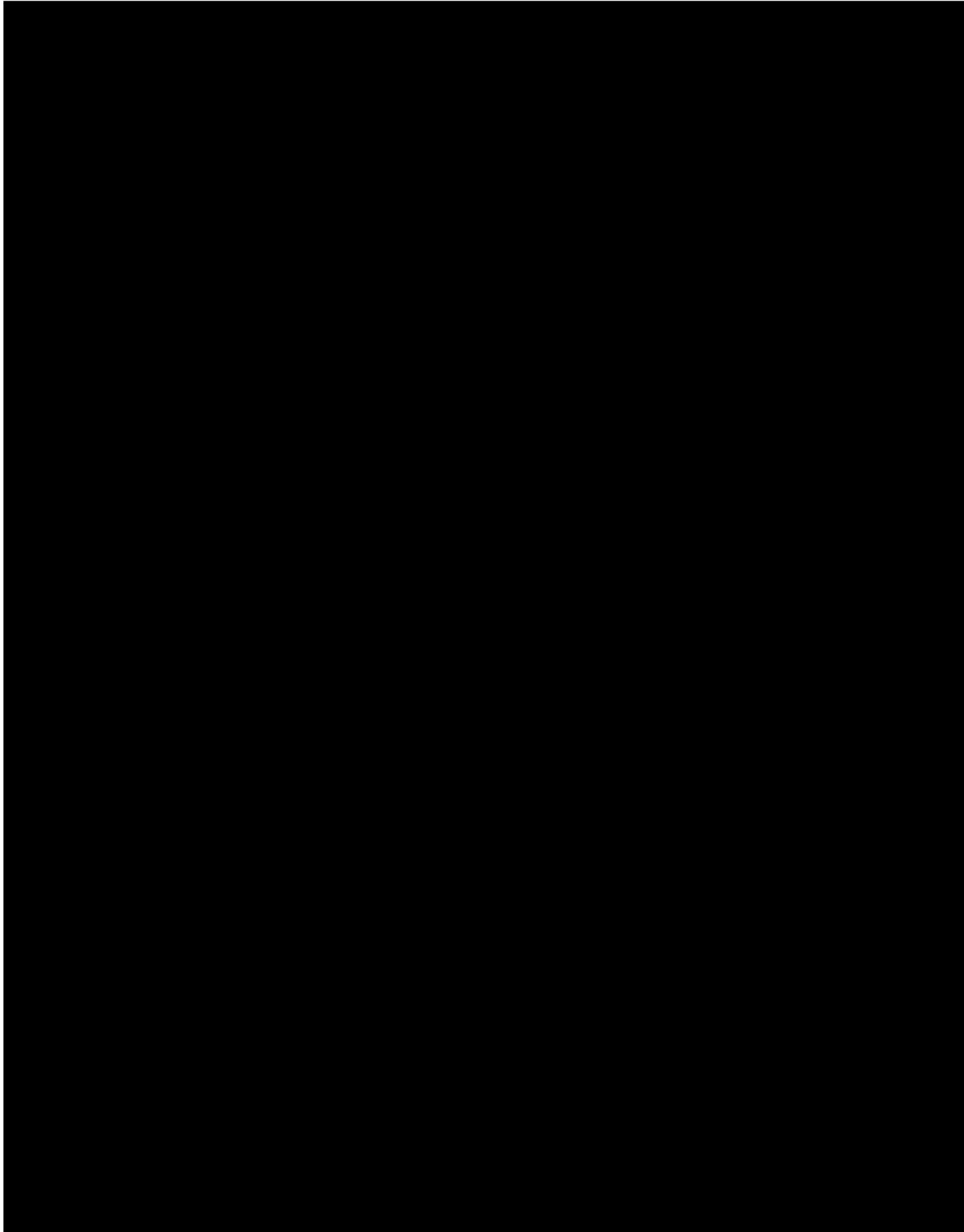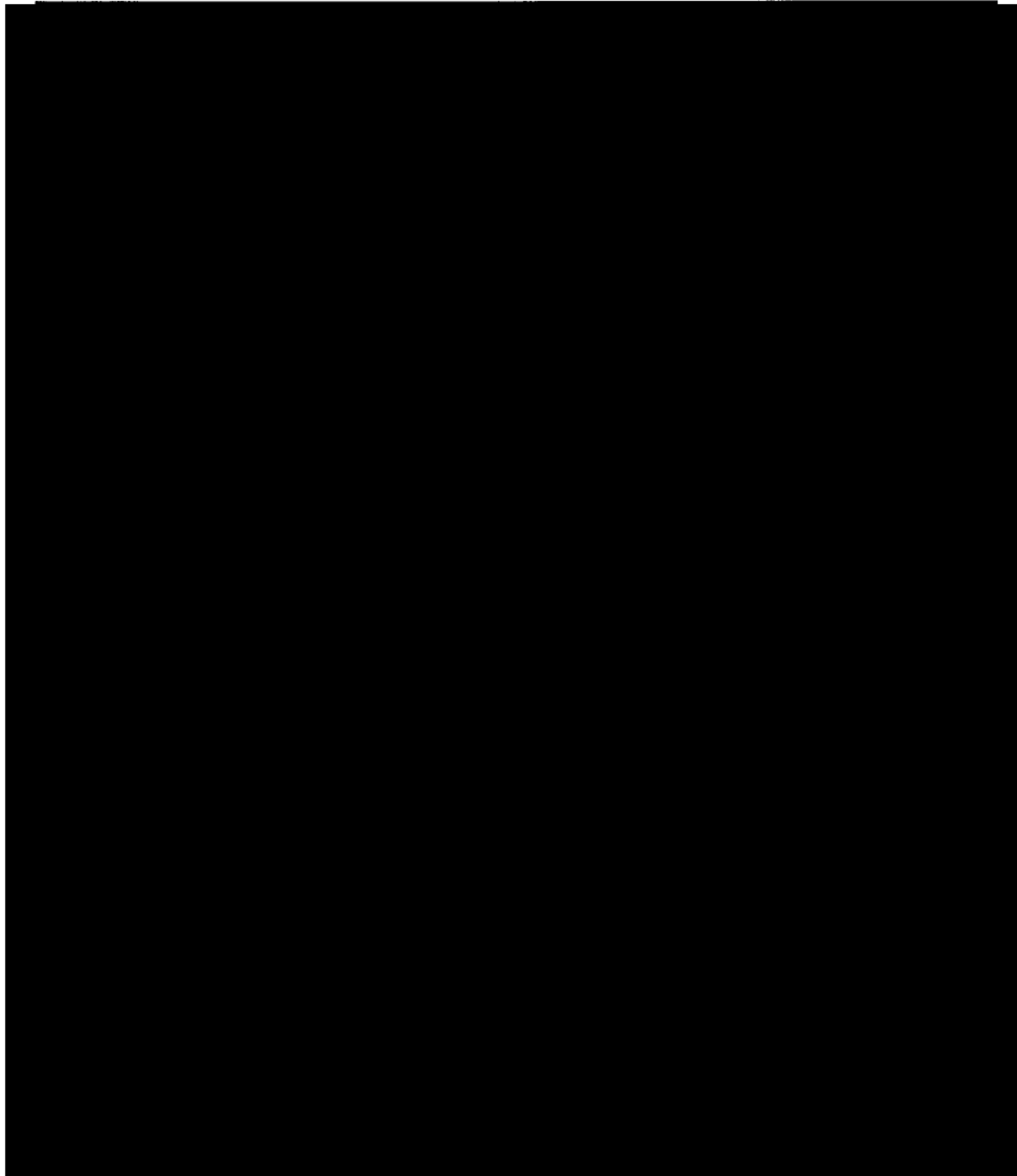
The total amount for personnel costs for this project is $185,240 in Year 3, $192,648 in Year 4, and $200,352 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Fringe Benefits

Fringe Benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%) and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries. Projected fringe benefit cost for Year 3 is $39,734, Year 4 is $41,323, and Year 5 is $42,976.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

Projected Travel Costs

Travel costs associated with Broadband Mapping will support the project's ability for staff to be in the field for data collection, field validation and stakeholder management efforts. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of $520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of $208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be $94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is $54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on $.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.

- Project management travel assures detail driven organization of the project through occasional onsite work. Project Management requires 1 in-state trip (1 day) at 200 miles per trip in each of Years 3, 4, and 5. The cost for Years 3-5 respectively includes per diem cost of $56, $58, and $60; and mileage cost of $108, $112, and $116.

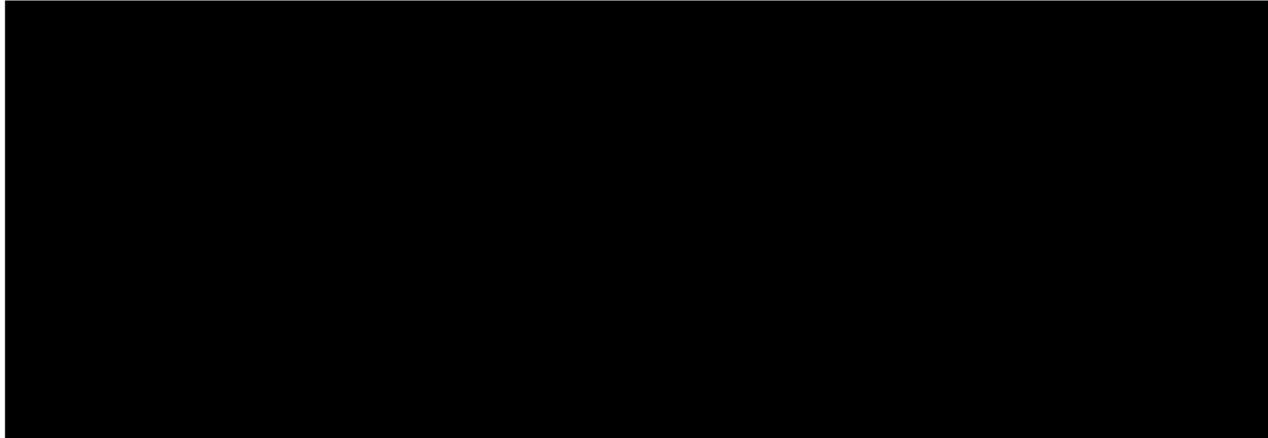The total travel costs attributable to this project are $9,877 in Year 3, $10,266 in Year 4, and $10,664 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Equipment

BroadbandStat provides a comprehensive mapping portal for states to manage broadband stimulus projects and activities through the ARRA. Using the ArcGIS Server and its API mapping technologies to incorporate broadband mapping and survey data with demographic and topographic data from the Census Bureau, and other reputable data sources, BroadbandStat provides not only a user-friendly GIS viewer to understand and track broadband deployment over time, it also provides an analytical tool for prioritizing unserved and underserved areas, evaluating and tracking stimulus projects, and enabling taxpayers with full transparency and accountability of broadband stimulus funding in their state. BroadbandStat empowers states to:

- Leverage the best-of-class, geographic informatics for broadband decision-making
- Build and evaluate scenarios to help score and prioritize broadband proposals

- Provide data-based support for effective grant-making
- Facilitate project investment tracking over time
- Provide access-based tools that are relevant and meaningful for specific audiences, including government agencies, consumers, community leaders, broadband providers, and media

Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
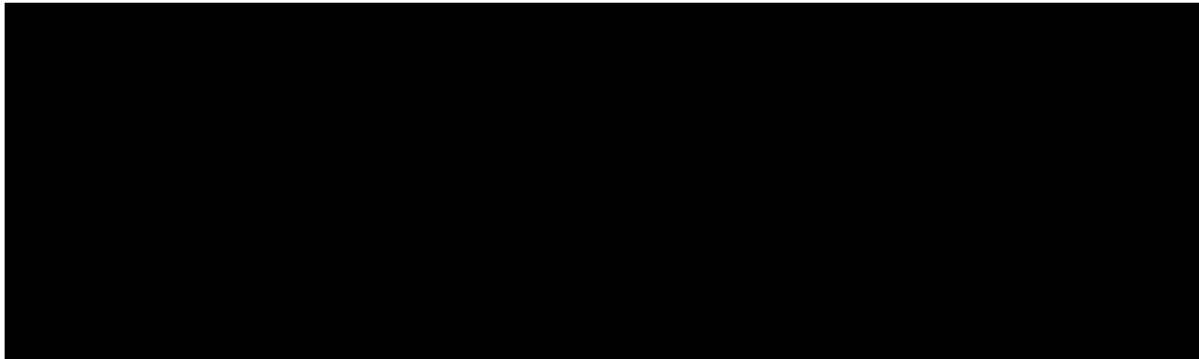
Materials/Supplies
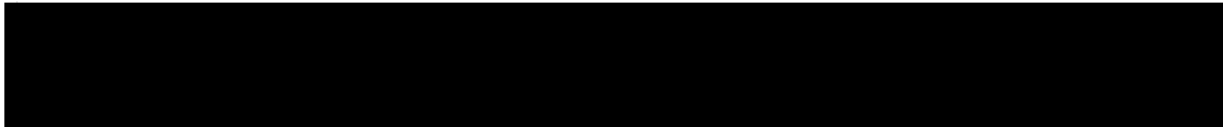
The total cost of Material/Supplies attributable to this project is $2,704 for Year 3, $2,812 for Year 4, and $2,925 for Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other materials and supplies as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Subcontracts

The total subcontractor cost budgeted for this project is $80,212 with $25,696 in Year 3, $26,723 in Year 4, and $27,793 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Other

Outreach: Connected Nation will create an outreach campaign for the primary purpose of verification of data. CN will target media outlets in Tennessee that can reach the greatest number of individuals in an outreach effort to drive them to Tennessee's interactive maps and speed test tools. CN plans to target 4 outlets in Year 3 totaling $10,816, 3 outlets in Year 4 totaling $11,249, and 3 outlets in Year 5 with a total cost of $11,699.

Improving Address Files: Connected Tennessee proposes the development of an address level dataset which would include provider data in the State of Tennessee. The development of this dataset would also include the creation of the necessary processes and methodology that would correlate with such a project. The State of Tennessee has available a State Centerline and State Address Point dataset that will

be provided at $117,670, and which will be utilized for the duration of this project. The federal cost in Year 2 is $251,888, Year 3 is $111,978, Year 4 is $105,209 and Year 5 is $109,417.

Leading Practices

Many leading practices identified in the Grant Guidance have been implemented by Connected Tennessee program in the first year of the SBDD program. Moving forward, Connected Tennessee proposes to implement a number of additional leading practices, such as:

- Pricing –Per the suggestions contained within the Grant Guidance, pricing data sought will include price points per tier, required bundles, equipment rebates or costs, and incentive offers.
- Data Confidence Scales – this area will be explored for potential development and implementation and in coordination with the NTIA as future federal guidance on data confidence scales is released.
- Ongoing Verification Activities – in particular a focus will be placed on field validation
- Surveys – in an effort to create cost-efficiency gains, the state level survey research conducted as a means of data verification in Year 1 will be transferred to a related project within the program, combining state level data collection with local level data collection into one survey, for enhanced data and reduced fixed costs across the program.
- In-person community engagement – meetings with community leaders and residents to verify and discuss the results of the data collection.

In order to implement these leading practices, Connected Tennessee has budgeted $63,500 in Year 2; $66,040 in Year 3; $68,682 in Year 4; and $71,429 in Year 5.

The total cost of Other Costs attributable to this project is $315,388 for Year 2, $188,834 for Year 3, $185,140 for Year 4, and $192,545 for Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur other costs as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 3 are $179,979, $187,177 in Year 4, and $194,662 in Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies and miscellaneous items.

- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

BROADBAND CAPACITY
BUDGET NARRATIVE

Overview

The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, will implement the project activities on behalf of the State of Tennessee.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.
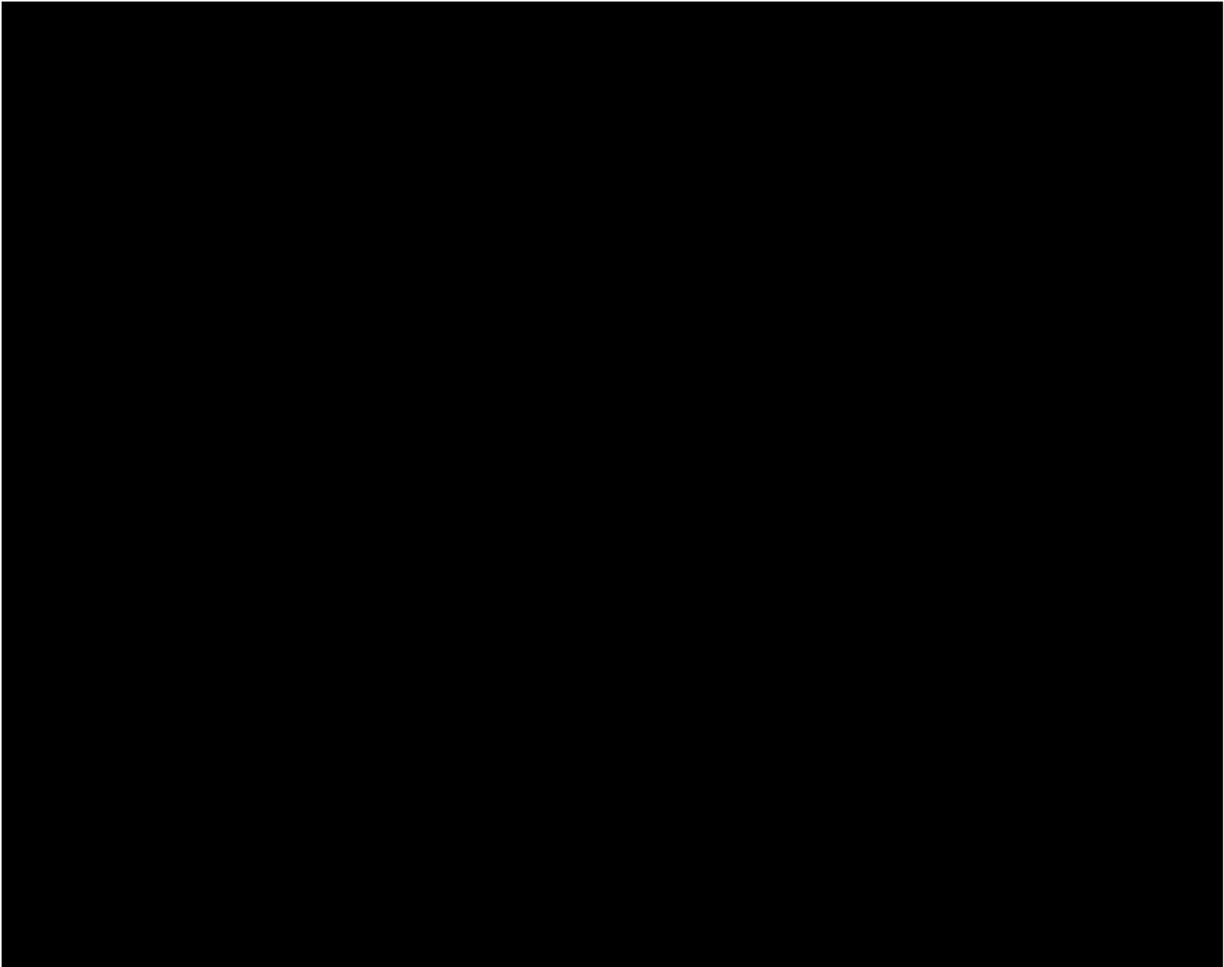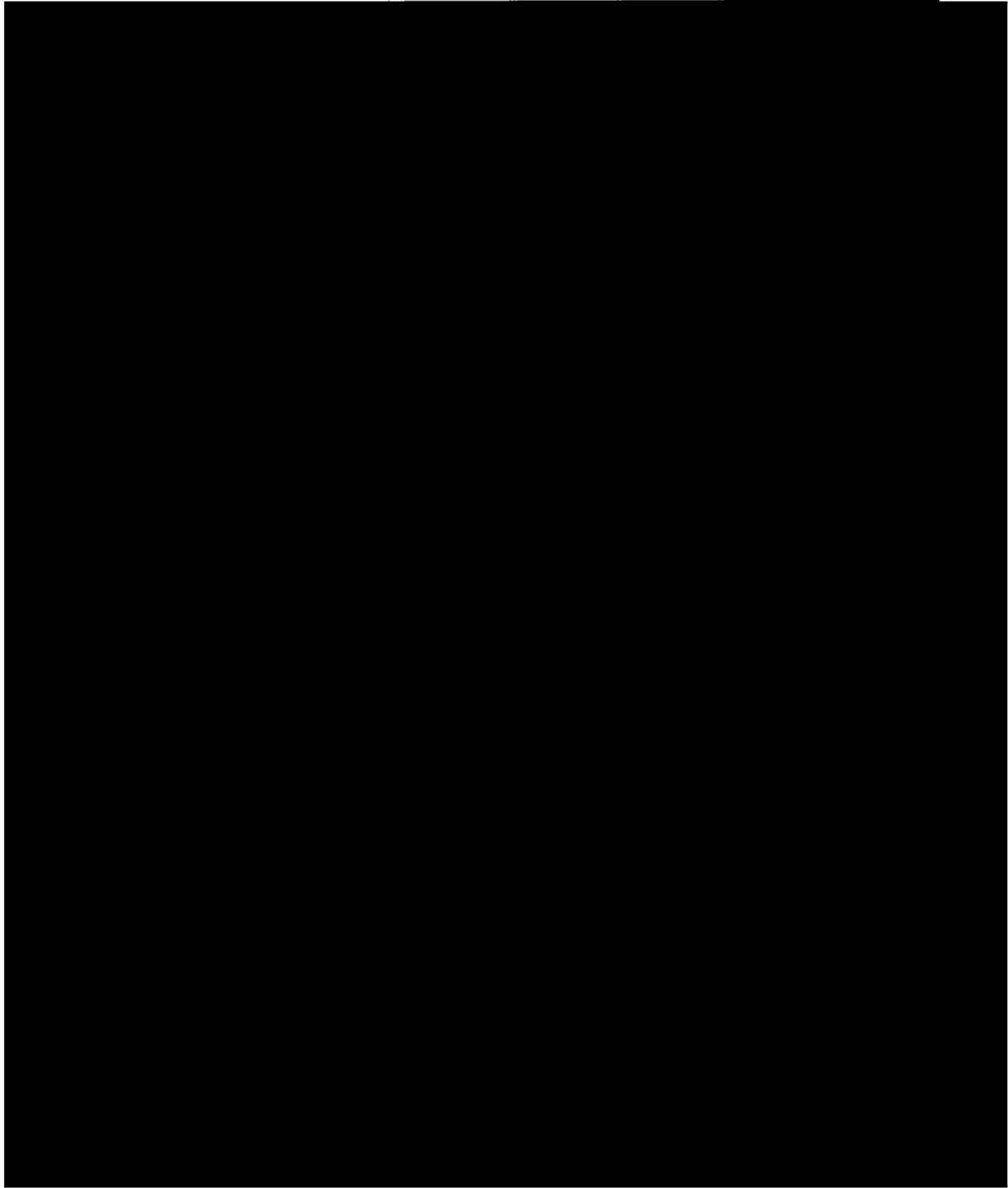
The total amount for personnel costs for this project is $191,472 in Year 2, $199,130 in Year 3, $207,095 in Year 4, and $215,380 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
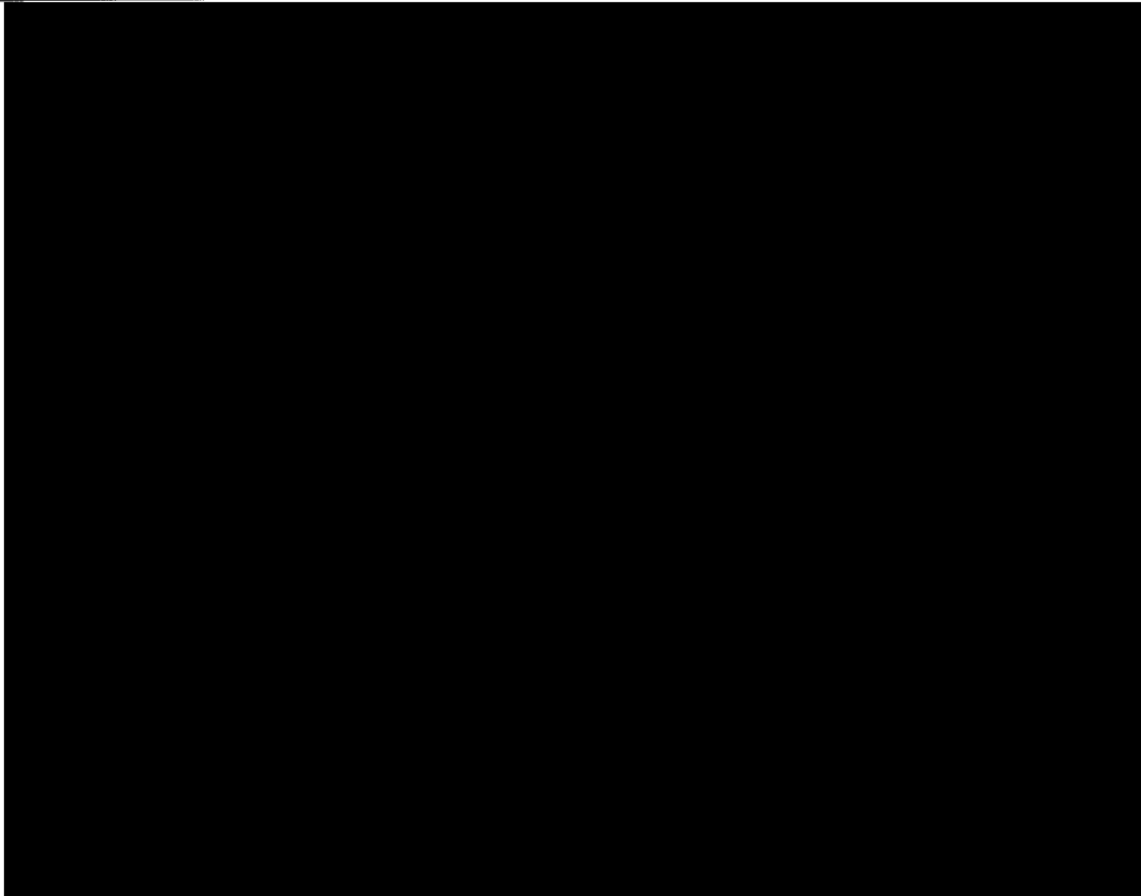
Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%), and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries for Years 2-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is $41,070, Year 3 is $42,713, Year 4 is $44,421 and Year 5 is $46,199.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

Projected Travel Costs

Travel costs arising out of State Broadband Capacity will enable local, state-based resources to be actively and regularly engaged in planning and implementing on their state's SBDD broadband programs. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of $520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of $208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be $94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is $54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on $.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.

The total travel costs attributable to this project are $29,271 in Year 2, $30,413 in Year 3, $31,583 in Year 4, and $32,767 in Year 5.
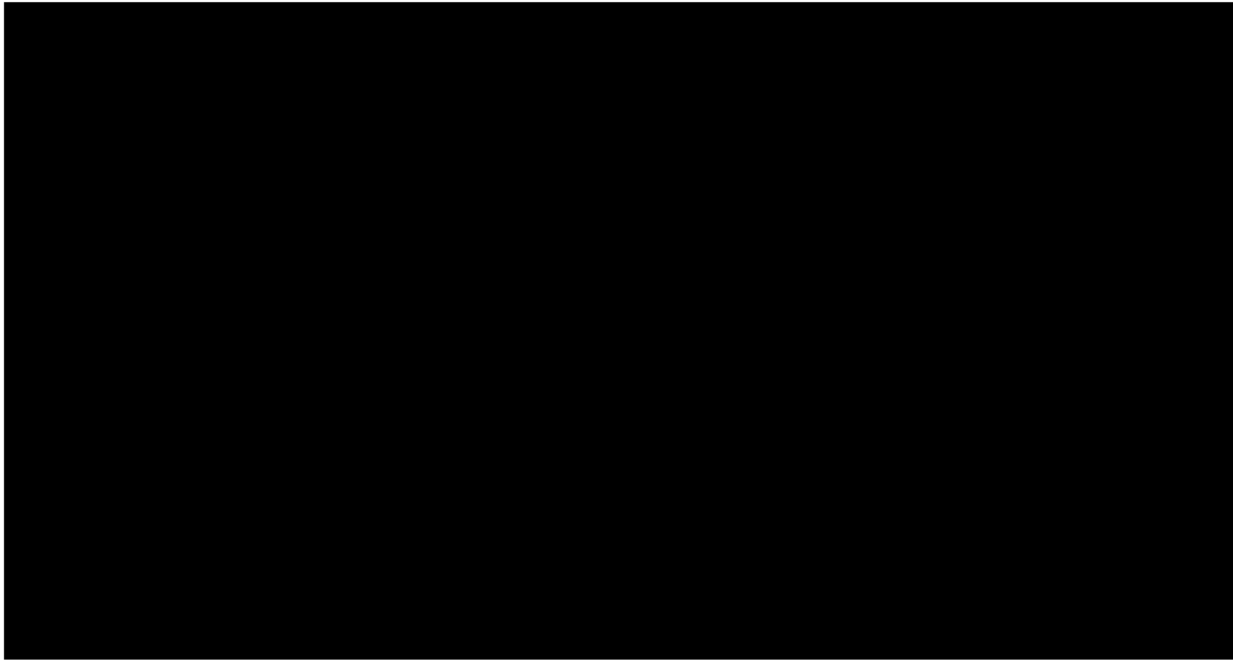
Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Equipment

Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
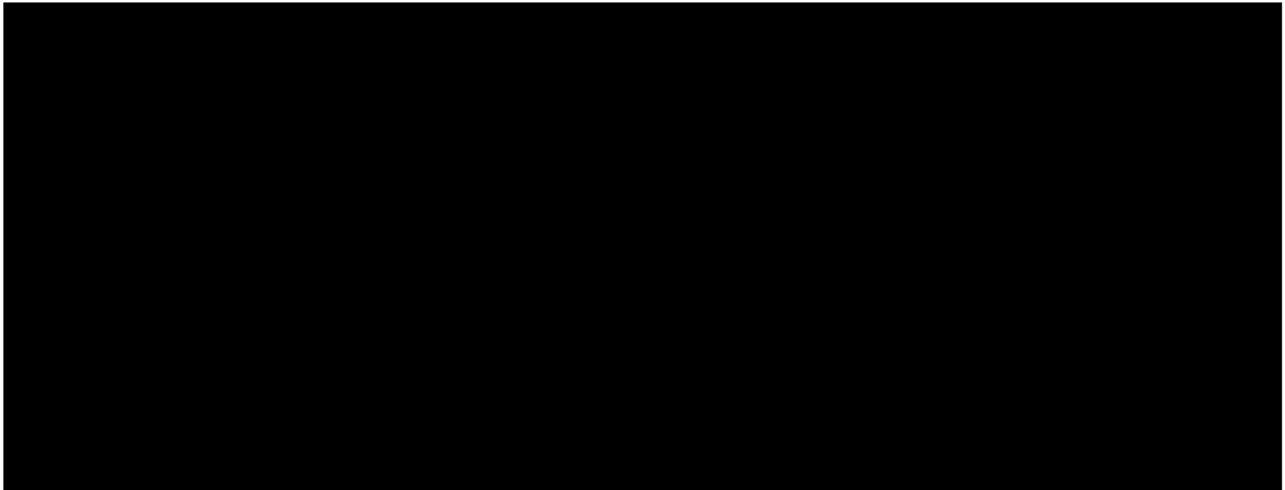
Materials/Supplies

[REDACTED]
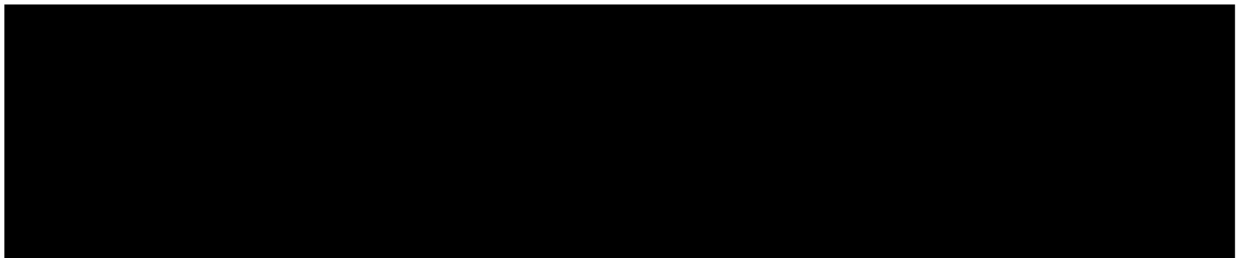
The total cost of Materials/Supplies attributable to this project is $60,840 in Year 2, $54,621 in Year 3, $62,992 in Year 4, and $59,078 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other equipment as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Subcontracts

[REDACTED]

The total subcontractor costs budgeted for this project is $8,915 with $2,102 in Year 3, $2,183 in Year 4, and $2,271 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Tennessee.

Other

Office Rent and Utilities Costs

This proposal contemplates onsite staff persons who will reside full-time working on-the-ground on the state's capacity, assistance and planning programs all in a multi-tiered effort to stimulate broadband demand and adoption. These staff will need adequate facilities in which to work and therefore the program will incur costs related to such space. Based on the applicant's prior experience and standards in the industry, the projected space need will be approximately 2,500 square feet of standard office space to include individual offices, appropriate conference space and basic reception space. This space will also enable itinerant offices which may be utilized by traveling staff including engineers, researchers, mapping staff and others who may occasionally have the need to work from the office on a temporary basis. Applicant arrives at the budgetary amount of $2,917 per month, before adjustments for inflation, by applying a $12 per square foot cost for rent and maintenance fees with a $2 per square foot cost for associated expenses such as utilities, janitorial, etc.

Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 2 are estimated to be $186,034 for Year 2, $193,474 for Year 3, $201,213 for Year 4, and $209,263 for Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
BUDGET NARRATIVE

Overview

The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2, through 5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, will implement the project activities on behalf of the State of Tennessee.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.
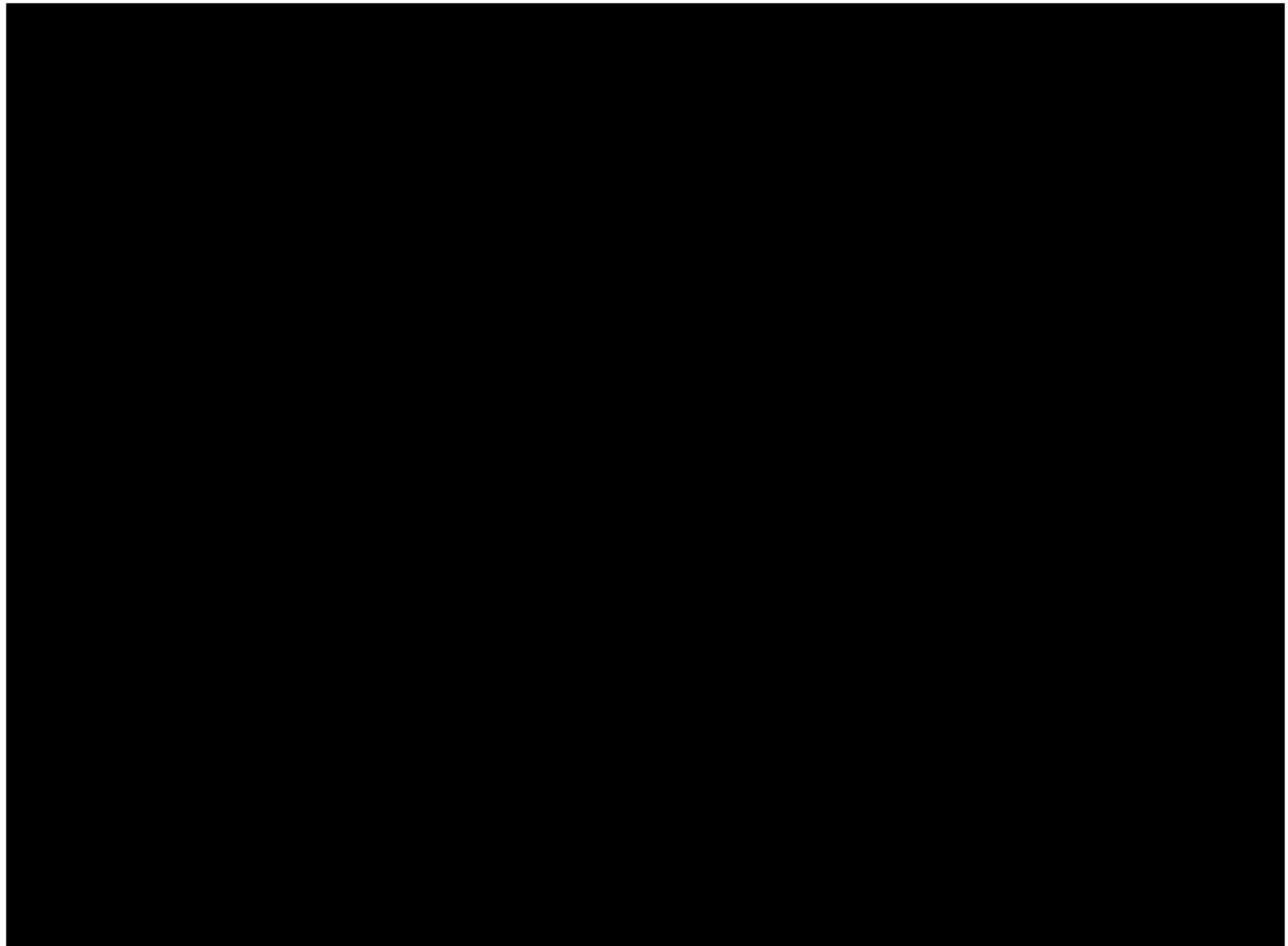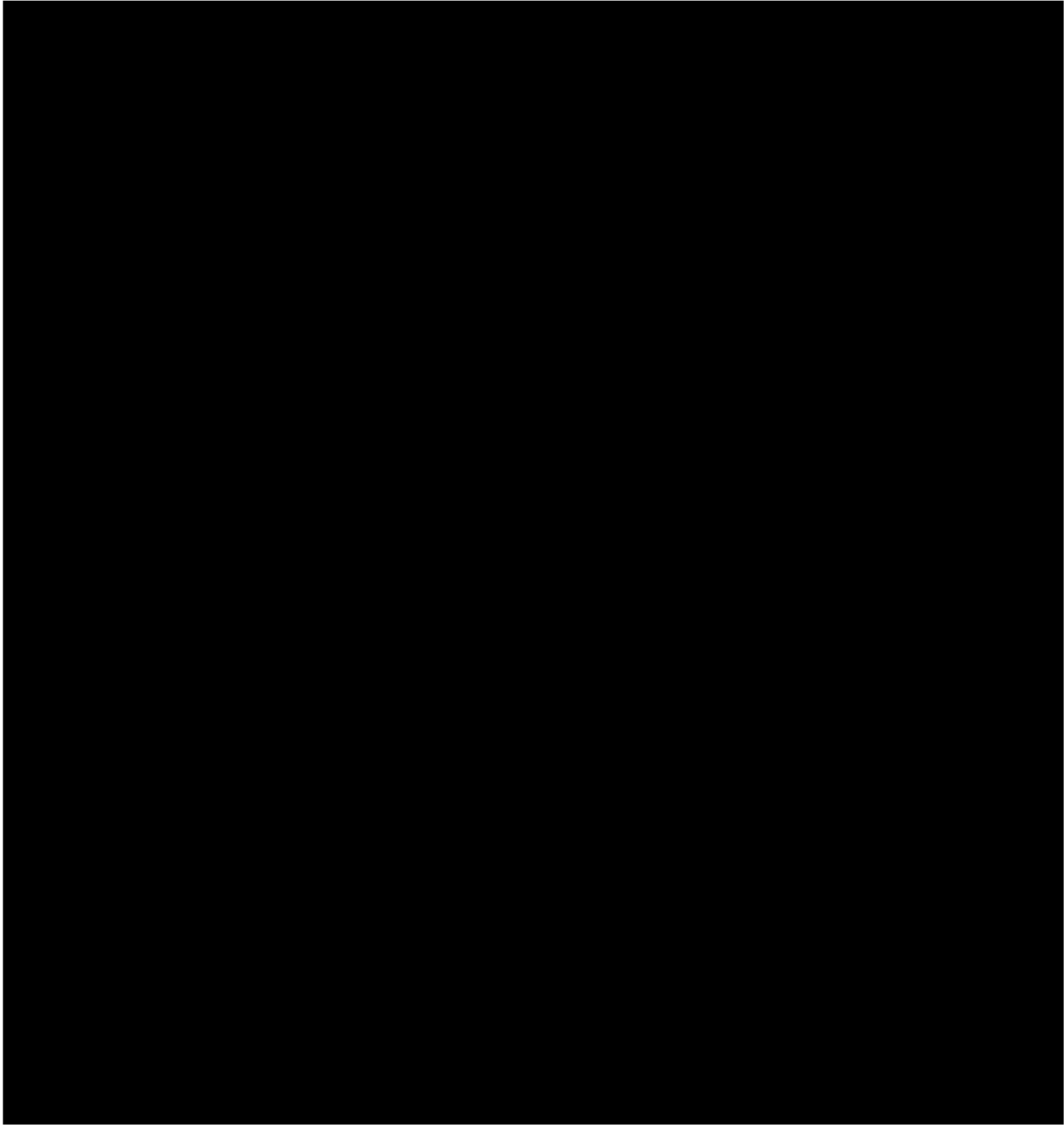
The total amount for personnel costs for this project is $119,764 in Year 2, $141,288 in Year 3, $146,937 in Year 4, and $152,817 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
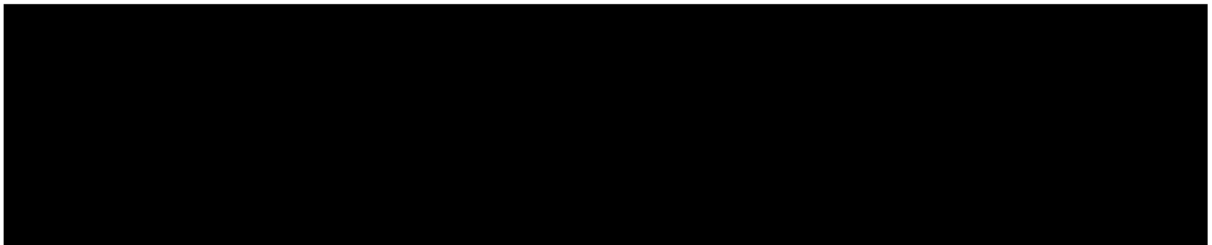
Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%), and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries for Years 2-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is $25,691, Year 3 is $30,306, Year 4 is $31,519 and Year 5 is $32,780.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

Projected Travel Costs

Technical Assistance travel costs enable economies of scale for the grant program by aggregating resources across the state that can then be deployed in support of state, regional and local technology projects in which technical expertise is required. These talent pools complement local volunteer teams by empowering them with more advanced technical know-how to support their technology projects than they could likely otherwise afford or even identify. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of $520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of $208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be $94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is $54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on $.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for Project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.
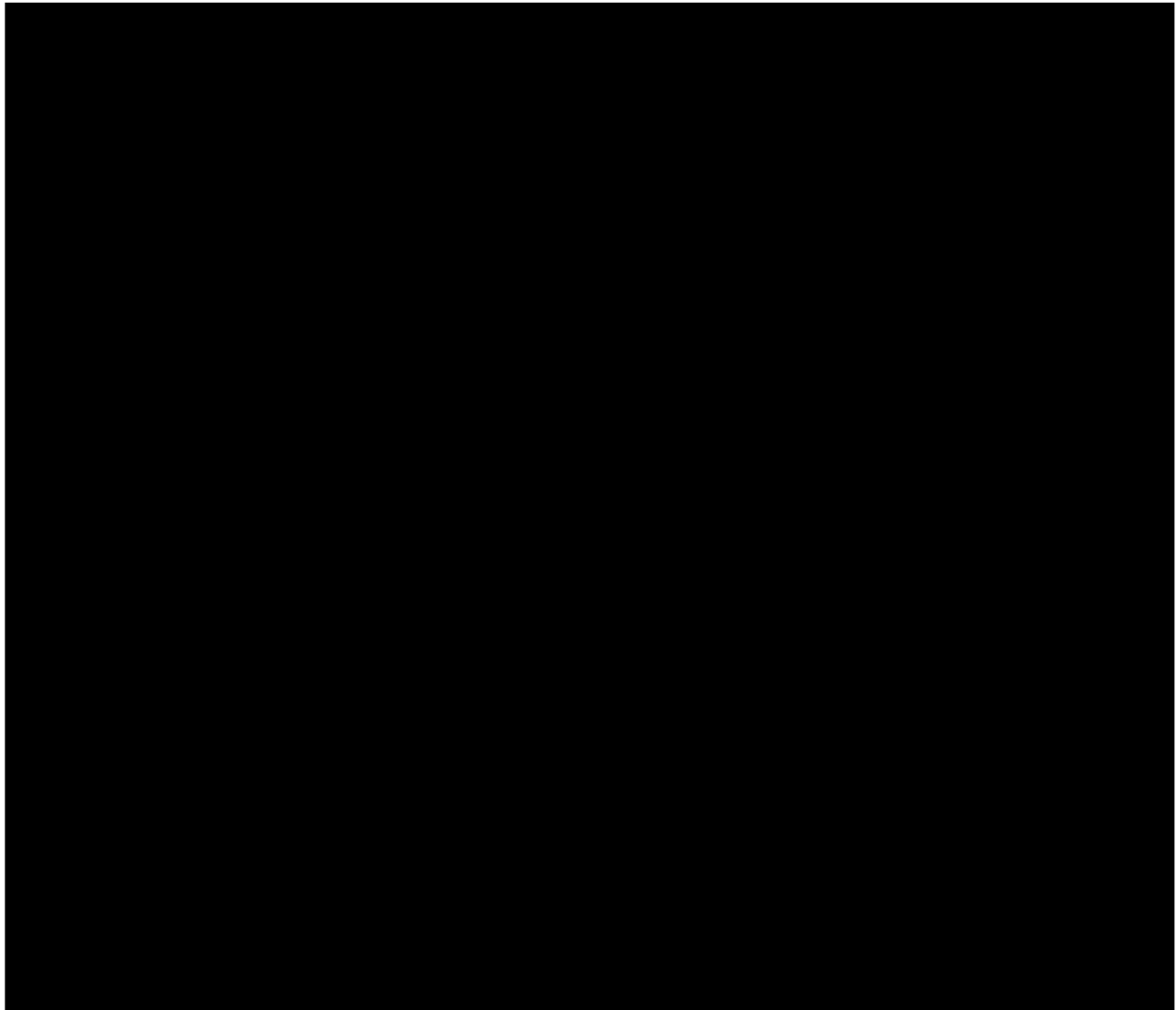
The total travel costs attributable to this project are $6,952 in Year 2, $7,216 in Year 3, $7,480 in Year 4, and $7,744 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Materials/Supplies

Subcontracts

The total subcontractor costs budgeted for this project is $464,664 with $114,088 in Year 2, $75,373 in Year 3 and $193,690 in Year 4, and $81,513 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Tennessee.

Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 2 are estimated to be $116,364 for Year 2, $137,275 for Year 3, $142,765 for Year 4, and $148,478 for Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits, and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.
- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

LOCAL/REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING
BUDGET NARRATIVE

Overview

The purpose of this narrative is to break down the costs for personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials/supplies, and subcontracts involved in this project, as well as to depict the in-kind contributions, indirect costs, and other expenses that will occur. The costs for Years 2-5 reflect a 4% Cost of Living adjustment. Connected Nation, through its subsidiary, Connected Tennessee, will implement the project activities on behalf of the State of Tennessee.

Unless otherwise specifically stated, all costs are requested from federal sources.
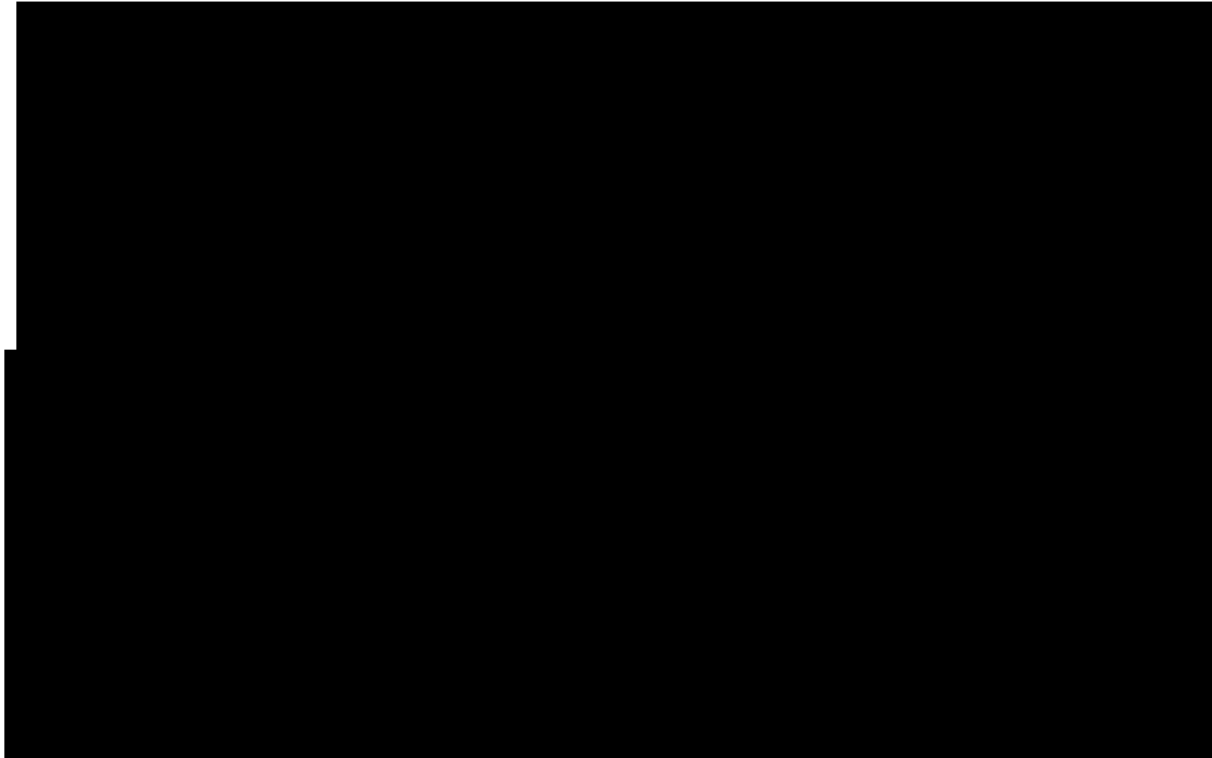
The total amount for personnel costs for this project is $87,750 in Year 2, $91,259 in Year 3, $94,911 in Year 4, and $98,706 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may utilize other employees as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
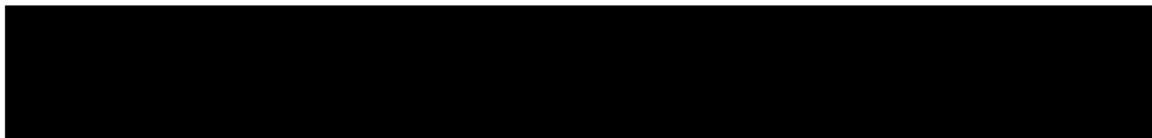
Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are projected as a percentage of the personnel's annual salary calculated as follows: Employer's FICA Tax (7.65%), Unemployment Tax (.5%), Health/Dental/Vision Insurance (5.7%), Disability & Life Insurance (.6%), Accrued Paid Time Off (3.6%), SIMPLE match (3%), Gym benefit (.1%), and Professional Development (.3%). The total projected percentage cost will be 21.45% of the personnel salaries for Years 3-5. The projected fringe benefit cost for CN staff for Year 2 is $18,824, Year 3 is $19,575, Year 4 is $20,359 and Year 5 is $21,172.

Connected Nation may implement additional fringe benefits as needed.

Projected Travel Costs

Planning Teams are fundamental to the broadband program's ability to both stretch limited resources to reach statewide while also providing a forum for locally based technology planning, benchmarking, project design and implementation. With support from the Technology Extension Agent across all four years of the program and additional training sessions provided by the Regional Technology Coordinators in the first two years, travel will make the difference in the program's ability to reach out at the community level and engage in meaningful technology adoption projects. For purposes of this narrative, costs are based on the following assumptions: Airplane travel cost is based on a round-trip airfare of $520. Hotel room cost is based on per room rates (including tax) of $208 per night. Rental car expense (including fuel cost) is projected to be $94 per day. Per Diem allowance for meals is $54 per day based on the current standard federal per diem rate. Mileage is based on $.52 per mile. Each of the above rates listed are for project Year 2 with subsequent years increased by a 4% inflation adjustment.

Travel costs consist of planned trips by various categories of employees or consultants. For purposes of this budget in-state travel refers to travel within driving distance while out-of-state travel refers to travel requiring an airfare and rental car. When out-of-state travel is required, the average round-trip miles to the airport are assumed to be 120 miles.

The total travel costs attributable to this project are $40,448 in Year 2, $41,984 in Year 3, $43,250 in Year 4, and $45,056 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may incur additional travel expenses as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.
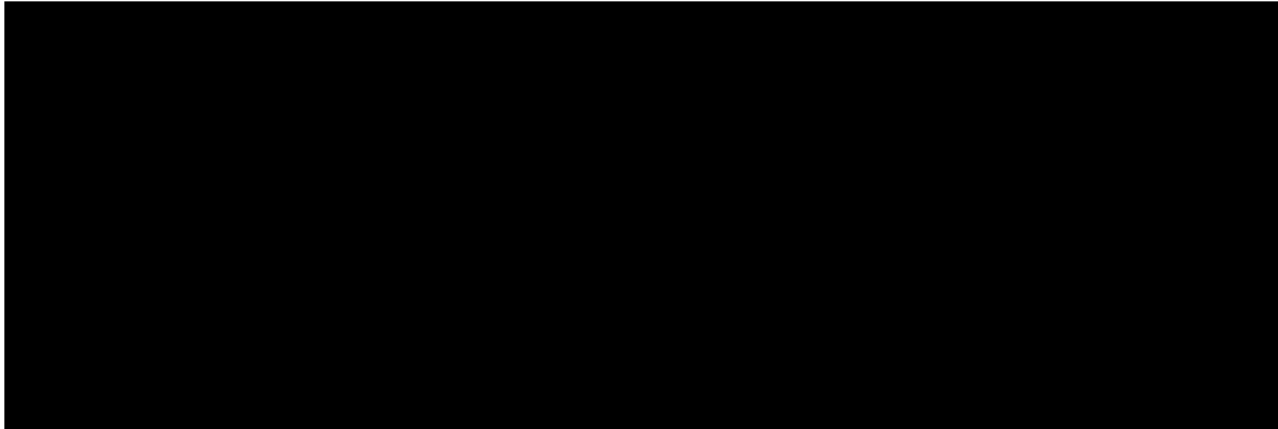
Materials/Supplies

The total costs for Material/Supplies will be $4,888 in Year 2, $3,137 in Year 3, $5,287 in Year 4, and $1,989 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may purchase other materials and supplies as needed to fulfill the requirements of this project.

Subcontracts

The total subcontractor costs budgeted for this project is $8,915 with $2,102 in Year 2, $2,183 in Year 3 and $2,271 in Year 4, and $2,359 in Year 5.

Connected Nation may engage other subcontractors as needed to fulfill the requirements of our contract with Tennessee.

Other

Connected Corps

Connected Corps are part of the local planning effort and Connected Tennessee will incorporate a Connected Corps initiative. Working in partnership with Tennessee universities, community colleges, and secondary schools, this initiative will recruit local high school or college students who excel in school and exhibit advanced leadership and technology skills to assist in technology training, technical support, and outreach efforts in their communities. The total cost for the Connected Corps will be $24,960 for Year 2, $24,956 for Year 3, $27,000 for Year 4, and $28,080 for Year 5.

Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

Under this proposal each of Tennessee's 95 counties would be engaged and stewarded in a strategic technology planning process with intended participation from various community sectors including but not limited to: agriculture, business, community-based organizations, government, healthcare, higher education, K-12 education, libraries, and tourism.

Team Meetings: An average attendance of 10 community leaders spanning these sectors is anticipated for each meeting that will amount to an average of 2 hours of volunteer time per meeting attendee. This team will convene Quarterly for the 4-year life of the program. The average hourly salary for these local/regional leadership team members, including salary and benefits, is valued at $48 providing an annual contribution of $364,800, $380,000, $395,200 and $410,400 in Years 2 – 5 respectively.

In addition to the Quarterly team meetings, Connected Tennessee will host an annual Summit to provide a gathering to discuss broadband accomplishments, best practices and to identify areas of need in the overall Broadband Plan. By gathering representatives from the county libraries, state library association, municipalities, businesses, provider community and other interested organizations, the Connected Tennessee, in conjunction with the local technology planning teams and the other key state agencies, can host an open forum and present a unified front on broadband decisions. Of the 95 local planning teams, approximately 25% of their 10 members will participate in the strategic planning session for an 8 hour strategic planning session, with annual salary and benefits valued at $48 per hour. The average hourly salary for the local planning team member, including salary and benefits, is valued at $48 providing an annual contribution of $91,200, $95,000, $98,800 and $102,600 for Years 2-5 respectively.

Indirect Costs

Total indirect costs in Year 2 are $85,259, $88,667 in Year 3, $92,216 in Year 4, and $95,902 in Year 5.

Connected Nation's indirect cost rate will include but not be limited to the following types of costs:

- Support salaries, fringe benefits and travel cost for Connected Nation personnel performing the functions of administration, human resources, finance, information technology, and education and awareness.
- Consultant costs and/or professional fees for functions listed above including but not limited to accounting and legal.

- Depreciation for general office equipment or items used for the functions listed above but not purchased with federal funds.
- Insurance and licenses.
- General office expense, supplies and miscellaneous items.
- General postage.
- Printing costs.
- Connected Nation rent for support staff listed above.
- Utilities and repairs and maintenance.
- Telecommunication costs.

APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Version 7/03

2. DATE SUBMITTED	Applicant Identifier

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:		3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE	State Application Identifier
Application	Pre-application		
☐ Construction	☐ Construction	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	Federal Identifier
☑ Non-Construction	☑ Non-Construction		

5. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Legal Name:	Organizational Unit:
Connected Tennessee, LLC	Department:
Organizational DUNS: 859149820	Division:
Address:	**Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code)**

Street: 618 Church Street, Suite 305	Prefix: Mr.	First Name: Michael
City: Nashville	Middle Name	
County: Davidson	Last Name Ramage	
State: Tennessee	Zip Code 37219-2437	Suffix:
Country: United States	Email: mramage@connectedtn.org	

6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN):	Phone Number (give area code)	Fax Number (give area code)
2 6 – 0 5 3 0 8 1 2	(866) 881-9423	(615) 242-9511

8. TYPE OF APPLICATION:	**7. TYPE OF APPLICANT:** (See back of form for Application Types)
☐ New ☐ Continuation ☑ Revision	O. Not for Profit Organization
If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) (See back of form for description of letters.) ☐ ☐	Other (specify)
Other (specify)	**9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:** U S Department of Commerce

10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:	**11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:**
1 1 – 5 5 8	State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program
TITLE (Name of Program): State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program	

12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):
Tennessee

13. PROPOSED PROJECT		**14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:**	
Start Date: 12/20/2009	Ending Date: 12/19/2014	a. Applicant CD-05	b. Project CD-05

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:		**16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?**
a. Federal	$ 7,608,688 .00	a. Yes. ☐ THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON
b. Applicant	$ .00	
c. State	$ .00	DATE:
d. Local	$ .00	b. No. ☑ PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372
e. Other	$ 1,938,000 .00	☐ OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW
f. Program Income	$ 0 .00	**17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?**
g. TOTAL	$ 9,546,688 .00	☐ Yes If "Yes" attach an explanation. ☑ No

18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.

a. Authorized Representative		
Prefix Mr.	First Name Brain	Middle Name Russell
Last Name Mefford		Suffix
b. Title CEO		c. Telephone Number (give area code) (877) 846-7710
d. Signature of Authorized Representative		e. Date Signed 7/1/2010

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Standard Form 424 (Rev.9-2003)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds Federal (c)	Estimated Unobligated Funds Non-Federal (d)	New or Revised Budget Federal (e)	New or Revised Budget Non-Federal (f)	New or Revised Budget Total (g)
1. SBDD	11.558	$	$	$ 7,608,688.00	$ 1,938,000.00	$ 9,546,688.00
2.						0.00
3.						0.00
4.						0.00
5. Totals		$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 7,608,688.00	$ 1,938,000.00	$ 9,546,688.00

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY (1) Federal	(2) Non-Federal	(3)		Total (5)
a. Personnel	$ 2,324,749.00	$	$	$	$ 2,324,749.00
b. Fringe Benefits	498,662.00				498,662.00
c. Travel	355,241.00				355,241.00
d. Equipment	48,448.00				48,448.00
e. Supplies	278,478.00				278,478.00
f. Contractual	562,706.00				562,706.00
g. Construction					0.00
h. Other	1,281,676.00	1,938,000.00			3,219,676.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	5,349,960.00	1,938,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,287,960.00
j. Indirect Charges	2,258,728.00	0.00			2,258,728.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	$ 7,608,688.00	$ 1,938,000.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 9,546,688.00
7. Program Income	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$	$	$ 0.00

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Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

Previous Edition Usable

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES				
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	$	$	$ 1,938,000.00	$ 1,938,000.00
9.				0.00
10.				0.00
11.				0.00
12. TOTAL *(sum of lines 8-11)*	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 1,938,000.00	$ 1,938,000.00

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	$ 0.00	$	$	$	$
14. Non-Federal	0.00				
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.	$	$	$	$
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: $7,287,960	22. Indirect Charges: $2,258,728
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 the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. 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 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:

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 award; 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 nineteen 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 nondiscrimination. 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.O. 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.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. § 36701 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 the 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 and 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.

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; (e) evaluation of flood hazards in flood plains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of

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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 (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear 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).

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.

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.).

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.

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.

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.

17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 or OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of Institutions of Higher Learning and other Non-profit Institutions.

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Official	Title
B. R. Meffe	CEO
Applicant Organization	Date Submitted
Connected Tennessee, LLC	7/1/2010

Department of Economic and Community Development

William Snodgrass/Tennessee Tower Building, 11th Floor, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102
615-741-1888 / FAX: 615-741-7306

Matthew Kisber
Commissioner

Phil Bredesen
Governor

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kisber
Commissioner

76th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
WEAKLEY COUNTY
PARTS OF CARROLL COUNTY

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE, WAYS AND MEANS
EDUCATION

House of Representatives
State of Tennessee

Nashville

MARK L. MADDOX
DEMOCRATIC WHIP

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
17 LEGISLATIVE PLAZA
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0153
(615) 741-7847
FAX (615) 741-1041

RESIDENCE
225 OAK DRIVE
DRESDEN, TENNESSEE 38225
(731) 364-3404

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230
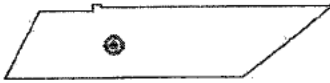
Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter affirms continued partnership and support with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, as Chair of the Tennessee General Assembly's Broadband Task Force I support and will involve the Task Force in the proposed planning activities.

I have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

I look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Maddox
State Representative
Chair, Broadband Task Force

July 1, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing to express my organization's support of Connected Tennessee and their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Connected Tennessee is a valued partner in our goal for improving broadband availability and technology utilization and their leadership is greatly appreciated.

Hickman County Economic & Community Development Association (HCECDA) became involved with Connected Tennessee soon after its inception. We have benefited from its work and we will continue to support the organization. HCECDA has seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

HCECDA looks forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Daryl D. Phillips, CEcD
Executive Director

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Dennis Shipley
Director
Claiborne County Chamber of Commerce

State of Tennessee
Department of State
Clinch-Powell Regional Library
130 North Main Street, Suite #2
Clinton, Tennessee 37716-3691
(865) 457-0931
FAX (865) 457-8546

June 23, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Simmons
Regional Director
Clinch-Powell Regional Library

The Department of State is an equal opportunity, equal access, affirmative action employer.

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with
Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and
Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted
today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further,
this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning
activities.

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years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in
planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has
shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further
endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional
three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and
Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and
supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded
scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our
state.

Sincerely,

Matt Garland
Regional Economic Development Specialist
Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 1, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications
    and Information
National Telecommunications and
    Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Wade B. McCamey
President

:bls

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with
Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and
Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted
today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further,
this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning
activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three
years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in
planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has
shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further
endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional
three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and
Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and
supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded
scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our
state.

Sincerely,

Gregry Lathum
Vice President
Customer Care Center
NewWave Communications
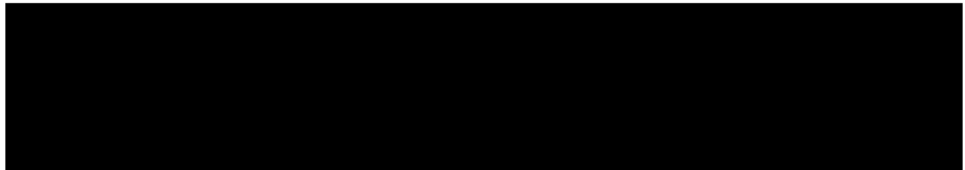
at&t

July 1, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to express AT&T Tennessee's support of Connected Tennessee's application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their efforts to address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Gregg F. Morton

July 1, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has during the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. Furthermore destinations and attractions in small towns and rural regions benefit from broadband growth by having state-of-the art technology to further promote and market their products and services. Additionally, we endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Qualls-Brooks, Ed. D
Assistant Commissioner of Community & Industry Relations

Campbell County Chamber of Commerce

THE GATEWAY TO EAST TENNESSEE

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

E.L. Morton
Executive Director
Campbell County Chamber of Commerce

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected
Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD)
grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee
as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's
support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years
in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for
technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth
that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our
support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband
Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as
defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to
better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Greg Lowe
Codes Enforcement Officer
City of Lewisburg

City of Lewisburg, Tennessee
P.O. Box 1968—131 East Church St.
Lewisburg, TN 37091
(931) 359-1544
www.lewisburgtn.com
www.lewisburgtnecd.blogspot.com

Daniel M. Speer, Mayor
Terry Harrison, City Administrator

City of Pulaski
203 South First Street
P.O. Box 633
Pulaski, Tennessee 38478-0633
(931) 363-2516

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

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State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology
Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded
scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our
state.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Speer, Mayor
City of Pulaski

Pride with Progress
Pulaski

PEGGY G. BEVELS

County Mayor - Lincoln County, Tennessee

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

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We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Peggy G. Bevels
County Mayor

PGB/arh

112 Main Avenue South, Room 101 • Fayetteville. Tennessee 37334
931-433-3045 • email: pbevelscoexec@vallnet.com

JEFFERSON COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADERSHIP
JEFFERSON COUNTY

LEADERSHIP
JEFFERSON COUNTY
YOUTH

JEFFERSON COUNTY
Technology

A Certified Three-Star Community

EDUCATION
JEFFERSON COUNTY

CHRISTMAS
JEFFERSON COUNTY
Toys and Food for Families

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

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We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Don Cason

Don Cason
President & CEO
Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce

County of Marshall
"The Center of Middle Tennessee"

Joe Boyd Liggett, County Mayor
1108 Courthouse Annex
Lewisburg, TN 37091
931-359-1279 fax: 931-359-0539
931-993-6740 cell phone
jbl@marshallcountytn.com

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

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We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Joe Boyd Liggett
County Mayor
Marshall County Government

Marshall County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Iliff McMahan, Jr.
COCKE COUNTY MAYOR

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of Cocke County with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize Cocke County's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

We have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Iliff McMahan, Jr.
Cocke County Mayor

Chamber of Commerce

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
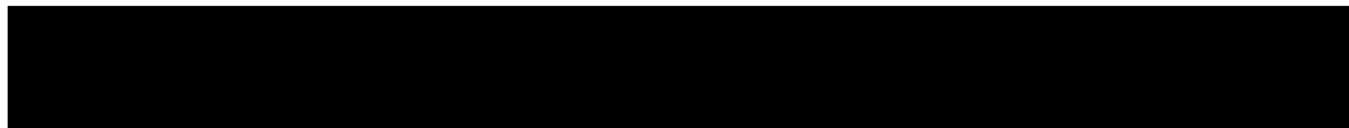Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program amended and supplemental application submitted today by Connected Tennessee as the State of Tennessee's Designated Entity. Further, this is to summarize our organization's support and involvement in the proposed planning activities.

As a rural county with limited resources, we have seen firsthand the success that Connected Tennessee has had over the past three years in working with the communities across Tennessee to provide leadership in planning for technology usage and to improve the awareness of broadband. Research has shown the growth that Tennessee has experienced as a result of this process. We further endorse and pledge our support and participation in the proposal of work in the additional three areas of State Broadband Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams as defined in the SBDD amended and supplemental application proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Julie Graham, President/ CEO Union County Chamber of Commerce

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
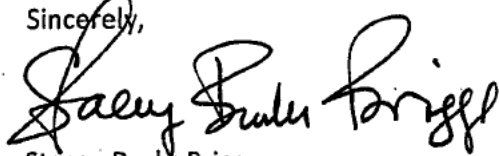1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

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We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Hagewood
General Manager
Covington Electric System

TENNESSEE CABLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

July 1, 2010.

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

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We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Stacey Burks Briggs
President and Executive Director
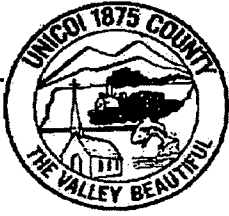
Unicoi County

Post Office Box 169 ● Erwin, Tennessee 37650 ● (423) 743-9391 ● FAX (423) 743-8007

Greg Lynch
County Mayor

July 01, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

This letter is to affirm the continued partnership and support of our organization with Connected
Tennessee through their application for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD)
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We look forward to continuing our work with Connected Tennessee in their expanded scope to
better address the broadband availability and usage needs that still exist in our state.

Sincerely,

Greg Lynch
County Mayor

(TN) Connected Tennessee, LLC

	Federal	Match	Type
	$ 688,281	$ 47,401	$ 735,682
	147,635	10,166	157,801
	25,275	5,198	30,473
	81,860		81,860
	10,500	500	11,000
	246,419	35,235	281,654
	-	-	-
	30,400	255,207	285,607
	527,132	85,669	612,801
% Federal Share	80.00%		
% Applicant Share		20.00%	

Combined Plan Period - Budget, Federal funds and Match
TENNESSEE

| | Year 2 | | | Year 3 | | | Year 4 | | | Year 5 | | | Grand Total | | |
	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total	Applicant Share	Federal Share	Total
Personnel Salaries	-	398,986	398,986	-	616,917	616,917	-	641,591	641,591	-	667,255	667,255	-	2,324,749	2,324,749
Personnel Fringe Benefits	-	85,585	85,585	-	132,328	132,328	-	137,622	137,622	-	143,127	143,127	-	498,662	498,662
Travel	-	76,671	76,671	-	89,490	89,490	-	92,849	92,849	-	96,231	96,231	-	355,241	355,241
Equipment	-	9,360	9,360	-	12,522	12,522	-	13,023	13,023	-	13,543	13,543	-	48,448	48,448
Materials/Supplies	-	72,696	72,696	-	61,759	61,759	-	78,628	78,628	-	65,395	65,395	-	278,478	278,478
Subcontracts	-	118,292	118,292	-	105,435	105,435	-	224,955	224,955	-	114,024	114,024	-	562,706	562,706
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	456,000	409,529	865,529	475,000	286,738	761,738	494,000	286,966	780,966	513,000	298,444	811,444	1,938,000	1,281,676	3,219,676
Total Direct Costs	$ 456,000	$ 1,171,119	$ 1,627,119	$ 475,000	$ 1,305,189	$ 1,780,189	$ 494,000	$ 1,475,633	$ 1,969,633	$ 513,000	$ 1,398,019	$ 1,911,019	$ 1,938,000	$ 5,349,960	$ 7,287,960
Total Indirect Costs	-	387,657	387,657	-	599,395	599,395	-	623,371	623,371	-	648,305	648,305	-	2,258,728	2,258,728
Total Costs	$ 456,000	$ 1,558,776	$ 2,014,776	$ 475,000	$ 1,904,584	$ 2,379,584	$ 494,000	$ 2,099,004	$ 2,593,004	$ 513,000	$ 2,046,324	$ 2,559,324	$ 1,938,000	$ 7,608,688	$ 9,546,688
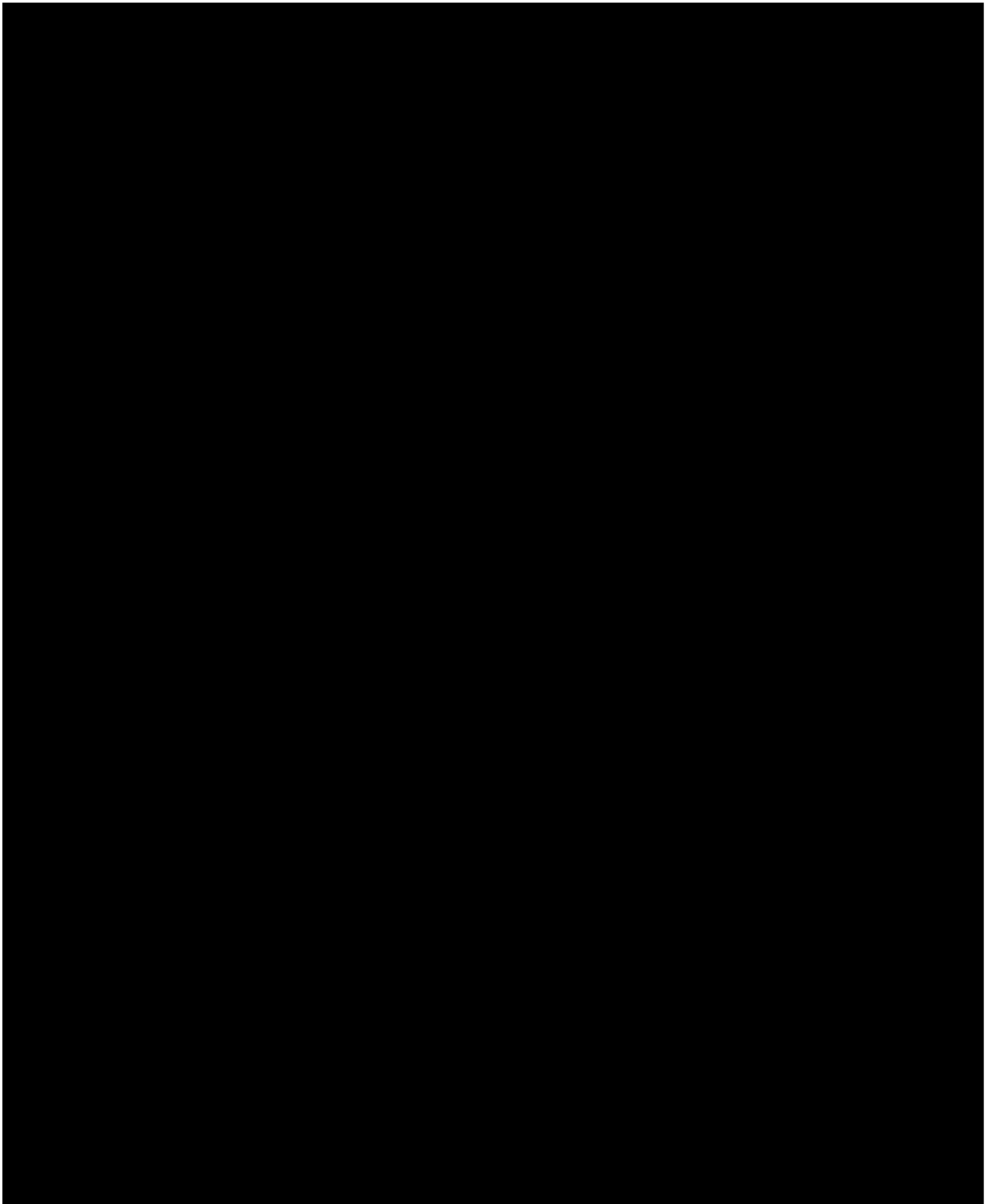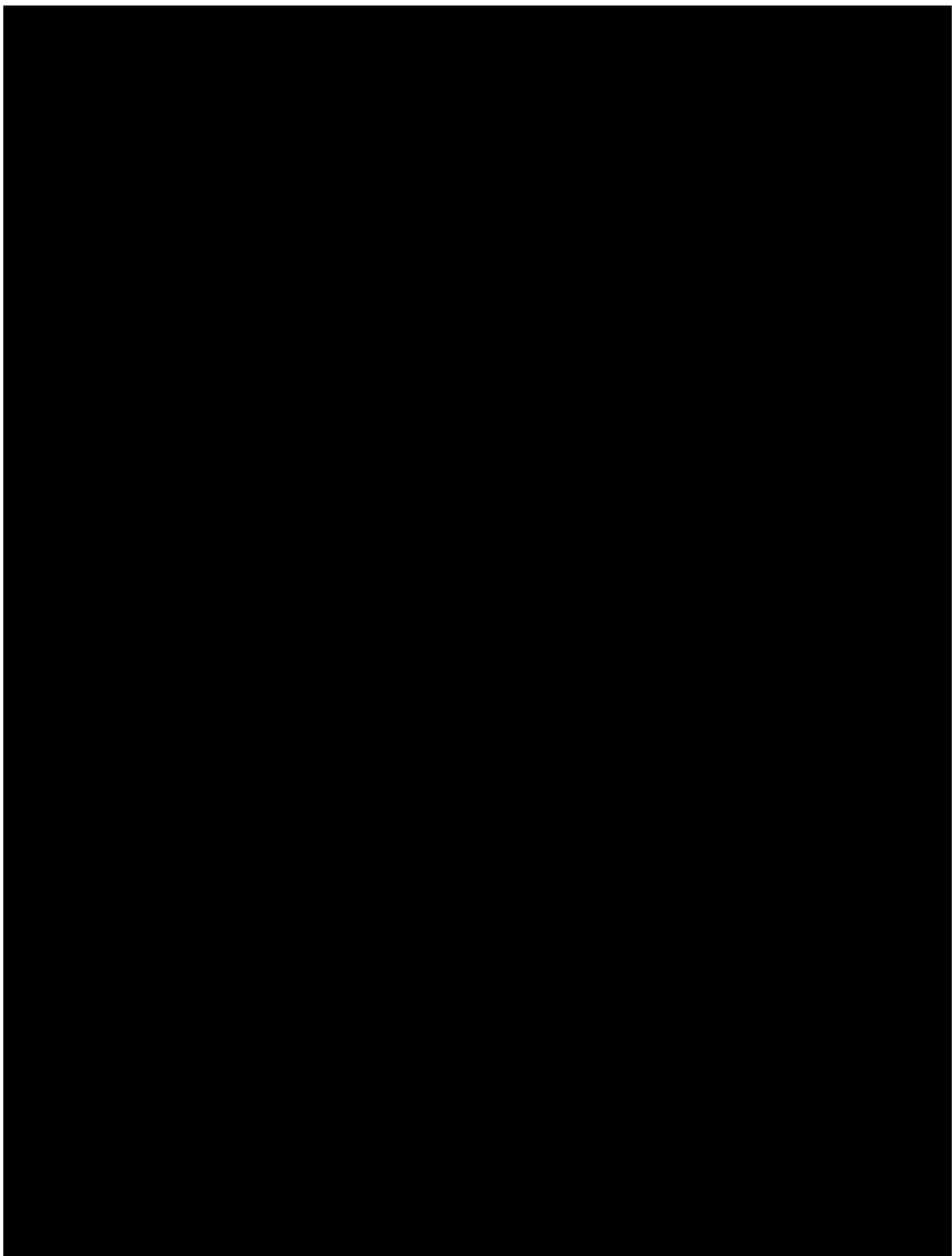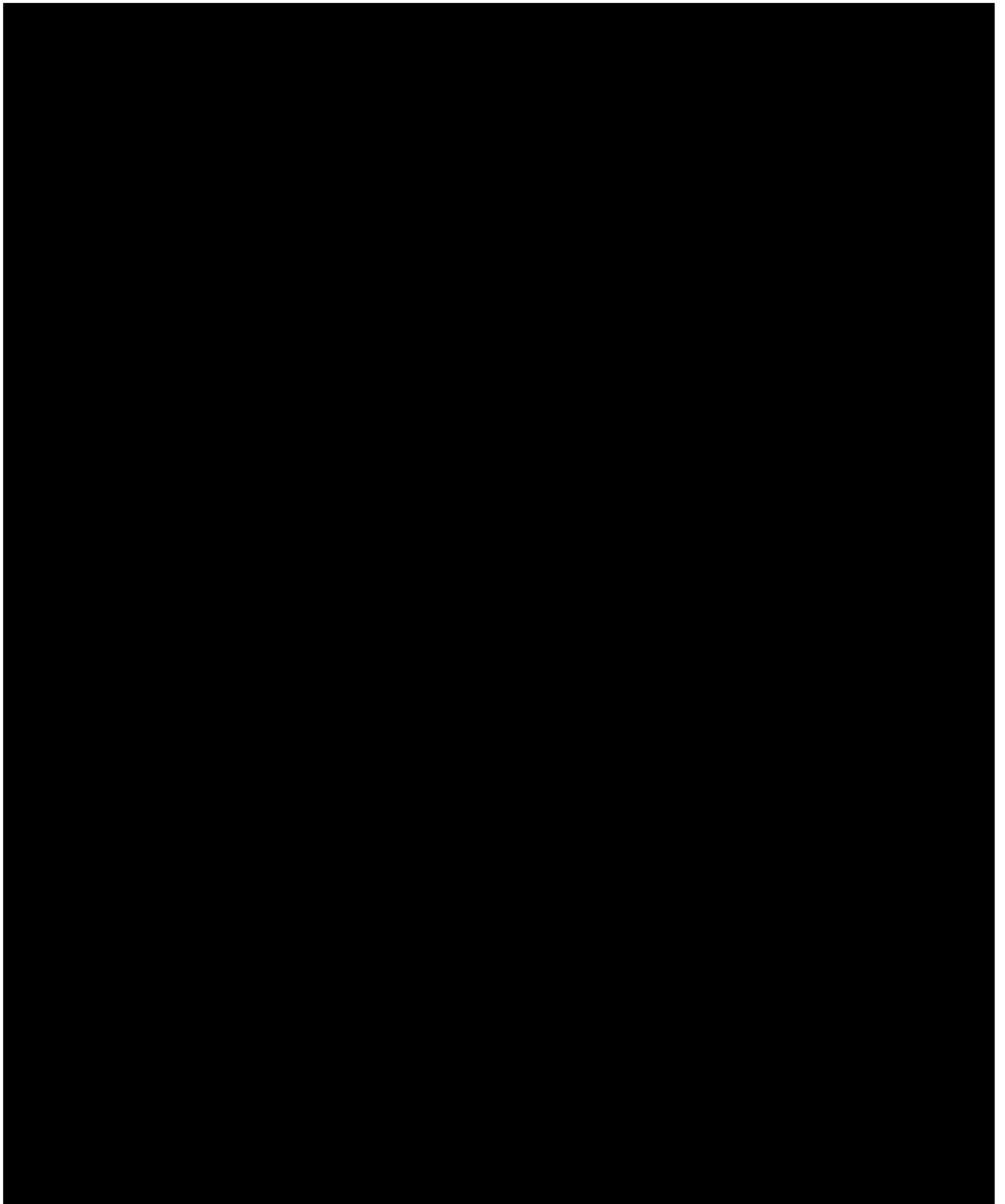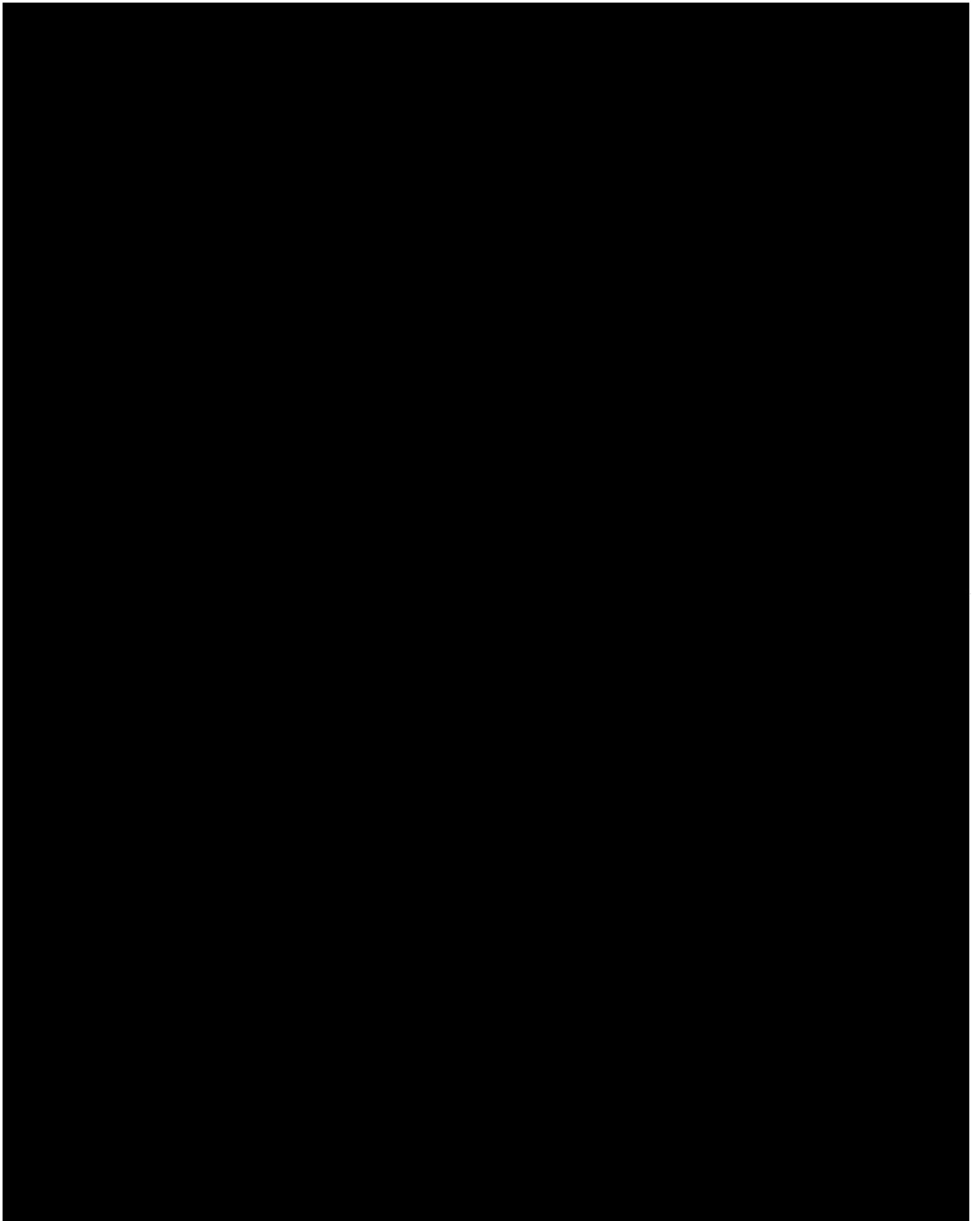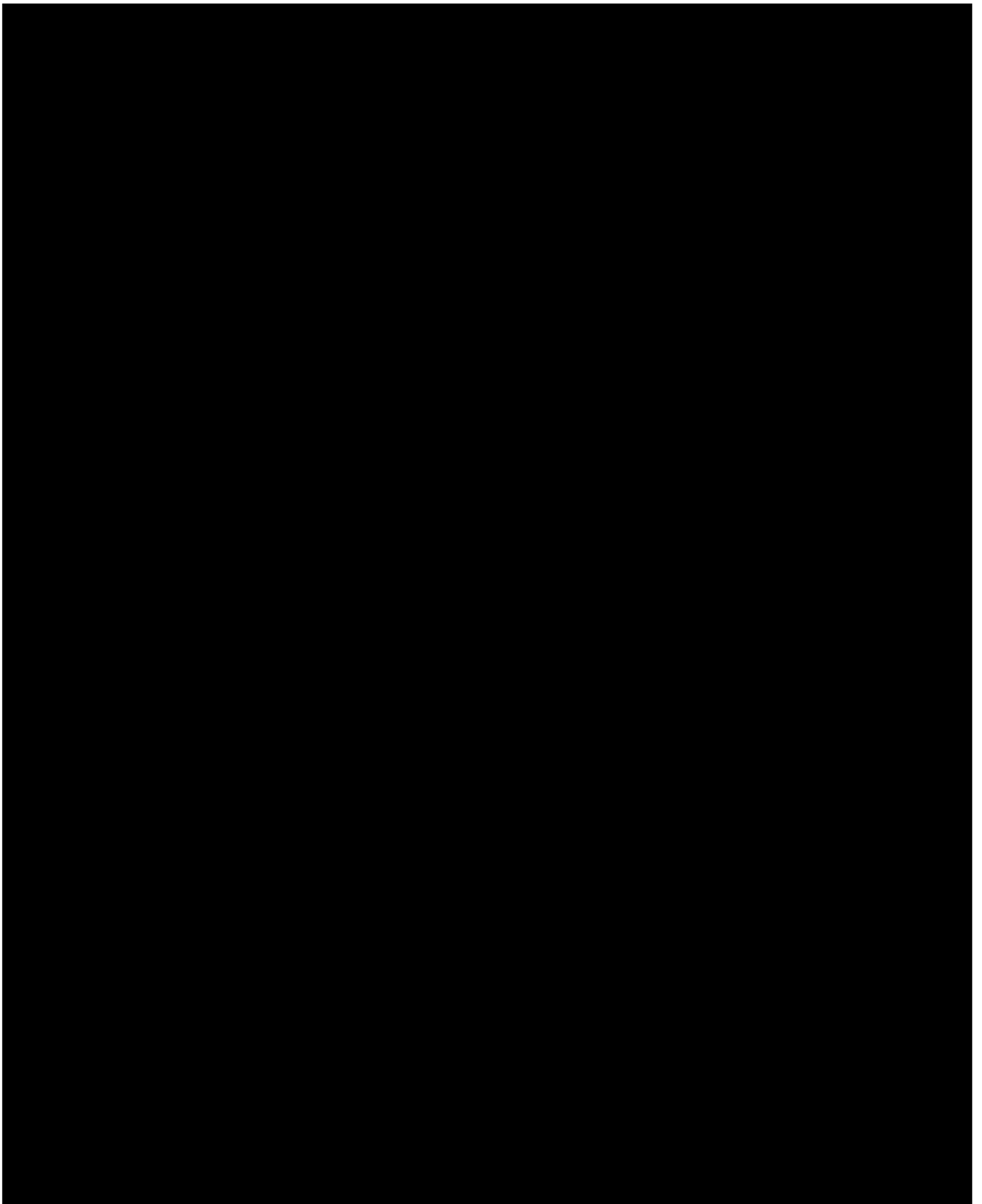
Engineering and Technical Serv

Management Group Consultants

Management Group 1
Management Group 2
Management Group 3

Management Group 1
Management Group 2
Management Group 3

Management Group 1
Management Group 2
Management Group 3

Local Regional Planning Coordinator
Management Group 2
Management Group 3

Other - Technology Planning Teams

Technology Planning Teams 1
Technology Planning Teams 2
Technology Planning Teams 3

Technology Planning Teams 1
Technology Planning Teams 2
Technology Planning Teams 3

Technology Planning Teams 1
Technology Planning Teams 2
Technology Planning Teams 3

Connected Corps
Local/Regional Planning Teams
Annual Summit (Planning Team Members)

Other - Leading Practices

Leading Practices 1
Leading Practices 2
Leading Practices 3
Leading Practices 4
Leading Practices 5

Leading Practices 1
Leading Practices 2
Leading Practices 3
Leading Practices 4
Leading Practices 5

Leading Practices 1
Leading Practices 2
Leading Practices 3
Leading Practices 4
Leading Practices 5

Leading Practices 1
Leading Practices 2
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Connected Tennessee
Tennessee
Grant Number 47-50-M09041

Pre Award Costs Through 12/19/2009

	Federal Share	Non-Federal Share	Total
Personnel	$ 96,115.47	$ 18,682.09	$ 114,797.56
Fringe Benefits	20,616.77	4,007.30	24,624.07
Travel	10,489.17	5,292.48	15,781.65
Equipment	707.50	-	707.50
Supplies	-	497.88	497.88
Contractual	42,231.69	47,807.22	90,038.91
Other	-	-	-
Total Direct Charges	170,160.60	76,286.97	246,447.57
Indirect Charges	73,169.06	32,803.40	105,972.46
TOTALS	$ 243,329.66	$ 109,090.37	$ 352,420.03

Non-Federal Share

	Cash	In-Kind
	17,936.76	745.33
	3,847.43	159.87
	5,198.00	94.48
	497.88	
	42,450.00	5,357.22

Pre-Award Activities
♦ Developed, draft project work plan and Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)
♦ Assigned project team and distributed organization chart
♦ Prepared SBDD application (all costs included in Non-Federal Share)
♦ Project planning through independent verification and validation services related to project management, implementation of process, policies and systems.
♦ Refined Connected Tennessee website to include Broadband Provider page to explain the program and gather information from the provider community
♦ Prepared Project Kick-off Plan, Roles & Responsibilities, and Outreach Plan
♦ Conducted project kick-off meeting with stakeholders
♦ Scheduled periodic bi-weekly Connected Tennessee project team meetings
♦ Compiled and refined broadband provider list
♦ Developed a broadband data collection activity log
♦ Developed SBDD compliant Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA)
♦ Distributed NDAs to provider community
♦ Start execution of NDAs with the provider community
♦ Securely stored executed NDAs
♦ Conducted webinars with provider community
♦ Conducted demonstrations of the BroadbandSTAT product
♦ Requested broadband coverage coordinate data sets from provider community
♦ Distributed broadband coverage data sets to GIS Mapping team for processing
♦ Performed data validation on existing broadband coverage maps