

Board of County Commissioners

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Emergency COVID-19 Request for Proposal

TO: All Communications internet providers serving Rural Lewis County, WA

FROM: Board of County Commissioners of Lewis County

DATE: July 24, 2020 DUE DATE: July 31st, 2020

BACKGROUND:

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved allocation and distribution of up to \$150,000 for the purposes of adding broadband internet capacity systems in the rural areas. The intention is to add up to 10 new service areas in Lewis County and/or augmentation of existing sites to allow for at least 200-400 additional customers to be served by the end of 2020. This project must be completed by October 1, 2020.

The application period will open Friday, July 24, 2020, and close at 4 p.m. July 31, 2020. Award of funds will occur upon BOCC approval of the contract.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the need for access to online distance learning programs, medical treatment providers and to provide better access for teleworking, Lewis County is seeking project proposals to enhance internet access to rural areas of Lewis County.

Lewis County envisions enhancements to internet access in the rural areas adding up to 10 new locations in Lewis County and augmentation of existing sites to allow for 200-400 additional customers to be serviced by the end of 2020. This project must be completed by October 1, 2020.

TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE:

The BOCC has authorized up to \$150,000 using Coronavirus Relief Funds distributed through the Washington State Department of Commerce to address impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROCEDURES:

Interested applicants should submit proposals to Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board, 351 NW North St., Chehalis, WA 98532. Due to the short time frames involved with the grant program, **proposals shall be due by 4 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2020**. The project proposal shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- o Name and address of the organization
- o Contact information.
- o Proof of business status, either IRS letter of determination or State of Washington registration
- o A description of planned enhancements and approximate locations of new infrastructure
- o A description of services provided to end users, including minimum speeds and other speeds available.
- o Approximate areas of service (map) for each enhanced or new location.
- o A proposed schedule of implementation including milestone dates.
- o Number of households served
- o Project budget and detailed scope of work
- o Any other pertinent information regarding the proposal

System architecture shall be such that as other internet based services become necessary in response to the pandemic, including education and telework, the system can handle those addition services as well.