

## Last-Mile Broadband Grant Pilot Program

### FY 2019/20 Application Public Comments

#	Date Submitted	Public Comment
1	1/10/2020 9:45	I am in total support of Nevada County Fiber's plan to bring fiber to the outlying areas of Banner Mountain. If successful, the plan will expand to many who live on Banner Mountain. I especially like the plan to put in public safety pods to monitor evacuation routes in the event of a catastrophic fire. The increase access to better internet will also help in the event of an emergency. This is critical for those of us living in rural areas. Access to these networks by first fire responders will be beneficial to all.
2	1/10/2020 12:13	Public tax dollars should not be used to fund the building of private infrastructure. The county should be investing public funds in publicly owned infrastructure. Municipal broadband should be created by the department of public works.
3	1/10/2020 12:59	Sierra Commons, a non-profit located in the 7 Hills Business District of Nevada City, is dedicated to supporting local small businesses launch and grow. For the past 10 years, we have been providing business education, mentoring, and coworking space for startup businesses and remote workers. As Executive Director of Sierra Commons, I am writing to support increased funding for broadband throughout our county and in particular in the 7 Hills Business District. Sierra Commons is most interested in the project proposed by The Northern Sierra Fiber Broadband Co-op and we hope that our facility at 792 A Searls Ave. will be included in the coverage area. We currently support over 100 local businesses and broadband is a critical component in maintaining and improving our scope of services. Interestingly, we are most concerned with uninterrupted Internet service during power outages. When power is up, we currently have ample bandwidth from our cable Internet provider. Fiber appears to be the best solution for continuous connectivity during outages, as all other Internet service providers went dark during most of the 2019 outages. Thank you for your consideration, Robert Trent
4	1/11/2020 11:21	I live on the back side of Banner Mountain and have had limited internet access since the beginning of the World Wide Web. Nevada County Fiber's plan to bring fiber to the outlying areas of Banner Mountain has my full support. The added plan to include public safety pods to monitor evacuation routes and keep WiFi available during emergencies would benefit us all. We live beyond the internet access options that are available to people and businesses in and around town. Please recommend that this grant for Nevada County Fiber be approved so that all of us in this area of Banner Mountain can benefit from the bringing in of fiber optics and increased public safety. Thank you..

5	1/11/2020 17:39	Please keep the McCourtney Rd area near the transfer station in mind for broadband. We are chronically under served, with only limited satellite services available. My home business relies on the ability to send large files through the internet and it has been a great struggle the last 10 years. I know there are other small businesses in the immediate area that would benefit from broadband access as well, or even any alternative to satellite. Thank you, Tim Green
6	1/13/2020 11:11	If Nevada County expects to have any kind of progressive businesses in the 21st century, we need to up our game in cell and internet coverage in every way we can. The current situation with spotty and/or lack of coverage in parts of downtown Nevada City, not to mention Banner Mountain and other areas is absolutely unworkable. Poor coverage devalues real estate or even makes properties unsellable, and discourages start-ups from locating here.
7	1/14/2020 10:03	I am a resident of Nevada City and Nevada County for 32 years now. Living in the Sierra Nevada foothills, the nature and a wonderful town that supports family living, is the reason we moved from San Francisco. We recognize the need for services to our community and fully support the need for a broadband grant for service to our community. It not only gives us the personal service we need up here in the mountains, but also gives us the security for interactions for emergency purposes, our biggest being fires. With this service we would most definitely be able to be in touch with our full community for these purposes, and that is the most important reason!

<p>9</p>	<p>1/14/2020 16:56</p>	<p>I am writing in support of the grant application submitted by Nevada County Fiber, Inc. for Nevada County’s Last-Mile Broadband Grant.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I highly recommend Andrew Wilkinson’s work (CEO and President of Nevada County Fiber, Inc). His passion, vision, and leadership will safeguard a timely and satisfactory completion of the proposed project.</li> <li>2. Based on my personal experience with wired fiber-optic broadband, I am absolutely convinced that it is the safest, healthiest, and most reliable option for broadband service on the market. It safeguards public health in that it avoids risks of harmful EMF exposure from wireless connections and facilities such as cell phone towers or small cell antennas (also called CPMRA-WTFs/Close Proximity Microwave Radiation Antenna Wireless Telecommunications Facilities).</li> <li>3. Nevada County Fiber Inc.’s project will engage in construction that is underground and will offer wired, super-reliant broadband Internet connections to a rural area that is in desperate need of improvements as the only current choice in that area is continually failing AT&amp;T DSL connections.</li> <li>4. Underground fiber-optics broadband requires low maintenance and will likely last 60+ years.</li> </ol> <p>It is also a much safer option with regard to environmental threats such as forest fires, extreme weather patterns, and rodent or other animal damage to facilities/utilities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. In addition, Nevada County Fiber, Inc is proposing 'public safety pods' on major evacuation routes which could improve public safety during wildland fire evacuations.</li> <li>6. It is my understanding that Nevada County Fiber, Inc’s vision is to become a community-owned resource, which will favorably serve Nevada County for many decades to come and support its population growth. Please consider funding this important and utterly worthwhile project for our county. Gabriele Steiner, resident of Nevada City</li> </ol>
<p>10</p>	<p>1/15/2020 12:45</p>	<p>I support this effort to bring high speed internet to Banner Mtn. In my 3+ decades of living up here, I have watched the speed of the internet grow with all of the technology improvements over that same time, yet our neighborhoods on Banner have failed to keep up. While I understand the problems associated with providing such a service to a large rural area, it is an expense that needs to be made. I recall when the cable provider brought service up the mountain, only to have them terminate the expansion into our neighborhood. What sucked even more was that even though the neighborhood was willing to bear the full cost of that expansion, we were met with a resounding NO, it will not be expanded to our neighborhood. So most of my neighbors subscribed to satellite service instead. Even DSL has it's issues and is maxed out for capacity and on the high demand periods, becomes unusable for streaming video services. So in a nut shell, what are we waiting for?</p>

11	1/15/2020 12:58	I am begging you to fund the Nevada County Fiber grant request. Here we are in the 21st century and Banner Mountain does not even have 20th century connectivity. I telecommute to earn the money I spend in Nevada County and the limited Internet options makes this unreasonably difficult. Please bring us out of the dark ages and into the present with the tools that many others take for granted. It would be good for the local economy and for public safety, particularly as we continue to live under the threat of wildfires. Please bestow a grant on Nevada County Fiber. Thank you. Peter Brewer
12	1/15/2020 13:02	Please support the grant covering the area around Red Dog Road and Banner Quaker Hill Rd. DSL internet barely works out here and we could really use the more reliable technology of fiber optics.
13	1/15/2020 19:57	We live off of Banner Lava Cap and have struggled with internet connection for over 8 years. It's a daily frustration between slow service to none at all. Currently we are trying to find a new router/modem for DSL and are unable to find any in stock online or in stores! It's becoming ancient. We welcome the opportunity to have broadband like so many others currently have for internet.
14	1/16/2020 4:07	We have lived on Wings of Morning Drive for over 40 years We have always had poor service with our phones and internet. We get dropped about every 1/2 hour on internet. We have called AT&T several times and they check our records and say we have a problem and theyâ€™ll send someone out. We then get the weâ€™ll be there between the hours of ... and we wait only to be told there is nothing they can do. Itâ€™s frustrating to be working on line or watching a program where every 1/2 hour it goes into a buffer. I cannot receive photos from my family or send photos. We pay for the fastest internet and donâ€™t get the service we are promised. We go into town and get on line and we are amazed how fast service can be. We no longer have a land line. It wasnâ€™t supported any longer so we depend more and more on technology that we are unable to fully receive. Please consider helping all of us obtain what others take for granted. We need not just better service we need service period. Thank you for your consideration.

15

1/17/2020  
12:53

Appreciate the work you are doing [Nevada County Fiber] to try and bring last-mile fiber to residences in Nevada County. I strongly believe this is a great idea, esp. with the resistance to 5G locally. I tried to submit a comment in support but the link at the County website is broken. I have e-mailed the webmaster but thought you should know and maybe have a contact there who could escalate. Thanks and best of luck, Logan Kaminski  
<the.logan.kaminski@gmail.com>