

# LEE COUNTY BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Lee County Commission hereby provides public notice of a funding opportunity for a broadband infrastructure expansion project in the eastern portion of Lee County as identified and outlined in the grant application and accompanying maps. The Commission proposes to award a grant utilizing funds of up to \$3,407,639 available to the county through the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds Program (SLFRF).

## GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

<b>Awarding Agency:</b>	Lee County Commission, funded through American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provided by the United States Department of Treasury
<b>Funding Opportunity Title:</b>	Broadband Infrastructure Expansion
<b>Funding Instrument Type:</b>	Grant funded through ARPA
<b>Announcement Type:</b>	Initial Grant Offering
<b>Project Number:</b>	01081-519-240318
<b>Assistance Listings Number:</b>	ALN 21.027
<b>Federal Assistance Identification Number:</b>	SLFRP1206
<b>Application Availability:</b>	Application packets will be available beginning March 26, 2024 Available through Lee County's website at <a href="http://www.leeco.us">www.leeco.us</a> and at the Investing in Alabama Counties website at <a href="https://www.alabamacounties.org/iacprogram/iac-bidding-opportunities/">https://www.alabamacounties.org/iacprogram/iac-bidding-opportunities/</a> .
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	Applications shall be submitted no later than May 10, 2024

**Application Submission:** Applications shall be submitted to Lee County Chief Administrative Officer Holly Leverette at [hleverette@leeco.us](mailto:hleverette@leeco.us).

**Applicant Eligibility:** Eligible applicants include a cooperative, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, other private business entity, or unit of local government that currently provides broadband service. Vendors interested in participating in one aspect of the project are not considered eligible applicants but may partner with an eligible applicant.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project will consist of the construction and expansion of broadband infrastructure in any identified portions of the county where there are citizens who are unserved or underserved with a wireline connection delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3Mbps upload. The project can only include portions of the county where there is no current access to a wireline connection capable of reliably delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload and where there are no current publicly funded grant projects awarded or ongoing privately funded projects. This project will require construction of broadband infrastructure to provide reliable service at speeds of at least 100 Mbps download speed and 20 Mbps upload speed.

An application packet with accompanying attachments is available for viewing and download from Lee County's website at [www.leeco.us](http://www.leeco.us) and from the Investing in Alabama Counties website at <https://www.alabamacounties.org/iacprogram/iac-bidding-opportunities/>. The application packet and attachments include all information regarding project requirements and priorities, application preparation and submission, evaluation criteria and process, and applicable terms and conditions for award.