

Grant Request Number	GRN-001020
Funding Program Name	Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program
Funding Request Name	Syringa Networks LLC - Middle Mile - GRN-001020
Applying Organization	Syringa Networks LLC
Applicant Name	Natasha Tattersall

Primary Applicant Type

Identify the primary applicant type:

Single Entity

— — —

Primary Entity Type

Type of entity: Primary entity type, (A) a State, political subdivision of a State, Tribal government, technology company, electric utility, utility cooperative, public utility district, telecommunications company, telecommunications cooperative, nonprofit foundation, nonprofit corporation, nonprofit institution, nonprofit association, regional planning council, Native entity, or economic development authority; or (B) a partnership of two (2) or more entities described in (A).

What is the primary applicant's entity type?

Telecommunications Company

— — —

Is parent/owner of applicant a foreign entity?

No

— — —

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Andrea Lasley; Syringa Networks LLC; Financial Controller;

alasley@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Andrea_Lasley

— — —

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - andrew Watkins; Crown Utilities; President; andrewwatkins@crownutilitiesllc.com

KeyPersonnel_Resume_andrew_Watkins

— — —

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Chad Fairchild; Syringa Networks LLC; Outside Plant Engineer;

cfairchild@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Chad_Fairchild

— — —

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Chip Hull; Syringa Networks LLC; CFO; chull@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Chip_Hull

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Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Greg Lowe; Syringa Networks LLC; CEO; glowe@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Greg_Lowe

— — —

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Jayson Overall; Syringa Networks LLC; Sales Engineer Planner;
joverall@syringanetworks.net
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Jayson_Overall

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Johnathan Goodwin; Syringa Networks LLC; Network Engineering Manager;
jgoodwin@syringanetworks.net
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Johnathan_Goodwin

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Larry Price; Syringa Networks LLC; VP of Sales and Marketing;
lprice@syringanetworks.net
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Larry_Price

Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Mike DeWitt; Syringa Networks LLC; Outside Plant Manager;
mdewitt@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Mike_DeWitt

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Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Natasha Tattersall; Syringa Networks LLC; General Manager - W. ID/NV;
ntattersall@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Natasha_Tattersall

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Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Paul Desaulniers; Syringa Networks LLC; Director of Field Operations;
pdesaulniers@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Paul_Desaulniers

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Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Rick McKinney; Syringa Networks LLC; VP of Operations;
rmckinney@syringanetworks.net

KeyPersonnel_Resume_Rick_McKinney

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Managerial Capability

Applicants shall submit to the Assistant Secretary one-page resumes for (a) all key management personnel and (b) all key personnel of subcontractors or other entities that will play substantial roles in building, managing, or operating the middle mile network built using Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program funding.

Key Personnel - Robb Hollifield; Syringa Networks LLC; Installation & Maintenance Manager;
rhollifield@syringanetworks.net
KeyPersonnel_Resume_Robb_Hollifield

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Organizational Charts

Each applicant shall submit any necessary organizational chart(s) detailing all of its parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliates.

This upload section should also be used for any letters of support from the organizations that will be involved in the project as a community stakeholder.

Org Chart - Member Owners-09-29-2022 06-13-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Org Chart - West Idaho-09-29-2022 06-13-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Organizational Details

Each applicant must also provide a narrative describing the applicant's readiness to manage a middle mile broadband network. This narrative should describe the experience and qualifications of key management set to undertake this project, the applicant's experience undertaking projects of similar size and scope, recent and upcoming organizational changes including mergers and acquisitions, relevant organizational policies, and ownership information consistent with 47 CFR § 1.2112.

This narrative shall denote who will own the assets at the end of award period. This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks was formed by 12 rural Idaho telephone companies who had the vision to provide an alternative internet solution to its unserved and underserved communities. From the executive leadership team to our directors and managers responsible for day-to-day operations, Syringa Networks has been successfully designing, project managing and operating middle mile fiber routes and network connections for over 20 years. Presently our owned and operated network is 3,377 fiber miles serving 440 towers and 1,350 buildings throughout Idaho and Utah with 72 active fiber expansion projects underway. With a network presence in 10 countries our network is purpose built to support the demanding needs of wholesalers, cellular operators, WISPs, local carriers, and public and private entities that require high availability services to support their end users and business operations. We intend to leverage our strong project management skill set, our years of highly relevant construction management experience, and deep insight into the markets we serve to construct the proposed routes.

In Idaho, we acquired Level 3 assets in 2018 in a 20-million-dollar acquisition that incorporated over 300-miles of fiber optic cable and over 1,000 network devices into our network. The fiber and network elements were integrated into Syringa's legacy network within 4-months versus the 8-month

integration timeline Lumen proposed showing that Syringa Networks is organized, nimble, and proficient in accomplishing large project scopes within minimal timeframes. In less than two years of acquiring of the former-Level 3 assets, Syringa surpassed \$450,000 in new monthly revenue on the acquired infrastructure. We also expanded our operations to northern Idaho in 2020 with a middle mile fiber partnership with the Idaho Department of Transportation that constructed a middle mile route 42-miles from Liberty Lake, Washington to Cataldo, Idaho. The project was completed in 2020 and had a total project cost of \$2M. In 2021 we completed a 23-mile fiber backbone build into McCall, Idaho at a cost of \$1M and we are currently building a 10-mile route to Marsing, Idaho at a cost of 800k and a 62-mile route to Mountain Home, Idaho at an estimated cost of 5M. These projects were self-funded by Syringa Networks and strongly demonstrate our capability to construct large middle mile projects.

In Utah, Syringa Networks has placed over 1000 miles of new conduit and fiber optic infrastructure throughout the Northern Utah area along the Wasatch Front over the past ten years. This new route was built specifically all underground and established new long-haul routes between Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, and Utah. Thereby providing opportunities for carriers in rural areas opportunity to build more robust networks and increase broadband reliability and service options. Conduit placed was a direct benefit to the public sector as it was made available to UDOT for their purposes which include various traffic and incident management devices and as part of their ongoing conduit swap arrangements for other telecommunications entities to place their fiber optic lines in exchanged conduits. The network was heavily leveraged by cellular operators as they deployed LTE services throughout the area. These entities leveraged a combination of our metro ethernet services and or had us build custom dark fiber rings. Lastly there has been much benefit to the private sector in providing alternative options for broadband connectivity verse the incumbents and our presence has improved the competitive landscape in both affordability and level of service.

Syringa Networks utilizes Esri and OSP insight to plan and map our network deployments. These tools assist in documenting physical network deployment including locations of key elements such as splice points, vaults, and other critical physical components. They also provide inventory and capacity management insight to assist in planning and maintaining the network. We staff Planners, Network engineers, GIS professionals, Provisioners, OSP Project Managers, OSP Engineers and technicians, Locator technicians and Install Maintenance technicians to oversee construction, maintenance, planning, and day-to-day operations of our plant. Key engineers and technical staff have Cisco CCNA and MEF-SDCP SDWAN certifications. We also operate a 365 24/7 Network Operations Center to monitor our network. Our network is protected against Cybersecurity threats by our professional in-house Information Technology department led by an experienced IT director utilizing industry best practices and standards to keep our network secure. Our logical deployments leverage several platforms depending on the services required. For example, we use ADVA to provide wavelength and high bandwidth Ethernet services such 100G. For layer 2 and 3 services we standardize Cisco hardware throughout our network. We are proposing a combination of this hardware to provide numerous connectivity options for carriers and private/public entities seeking to leverage the networks we will

build with this grant, should it be awarded.

Syringa Networks, LLC, is owned by 12 companies. Below is a list of the members whose interest is 10% or greater.

ATC Communications

225 W. North Street, Albion ID 83311

United States

11.97% ownership

Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative Inc

1221 N. Russell St, Missoula MT 59808

United States

12.56% ownership

Project Mutual Telephone

507 G Street, Rupert ID 83350

United States

19.47% ownership

COMBINED 11.04% ownership:

Silver Star Telephone Company, Inc

104101 US Highway 89

Freedom, WY 83120

United States

2.52% ownership

Columbine Telephone Company, Inc – Silver Star has ownership in Columbine Telephone

104101 US Highway 89

Freedom, WY 83120

8.52%

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Form CD-511 (Certification Regarding Lobbying)

The applicant must upload a completed form that certifies that Federal funds have not and will not be used for lobbying in connection with this request for Federal financial assistance. A fillable Form CD-511 can be found in the MMG ZIP folder.

Certification Regarding Lobbying_CD-511_West_-11-02-2022 12-30-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, CD511_West Idaho_Signed-09-21-2022 05-31-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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SAM.gov Registration

Applicants are asked to upload a screenshot of their SAM.gov registration.

SAM Registration File-09-29-2022 06-02-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, EntityInformation-20230318-031218-04-06-2023 04-01-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Executive Summary

Please describe how the applicant's proposal will advance the objectives of the MMG Program, as well as the specific objectives of outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO);

An overview of the proposed route or service area(s), including information regarding rurality and socio-economic indicators in the area to be served by the proposed project.

This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks was formed by 12 rural Idaho telephone companies who had the vision to provide an alternative internet solution to its unserved and underserved communities. From the executive leadership team to our directors and managers responsible for day-to-day operations, Syringa Networks has been successfully designing, project managing and operating middle mile fiber routes and network connections for over 20 years. Presently our owned and operated network traverses 3,377 fiber miles serving 440 towers and 1,350 buildings throughout Idaho and Utah with 72 active fiber expansion projects underway. Syringa Networks has implemented a variety of networking technologies including Ethernet, DWDM, and microwave, along with augmenting a SoftSwitch to include Class 5 functionality. Syringa Networks has an internet peering network with connectivity in (13) major inter-exchanges across the United States with the ability to serve more than 1Tbps of internet connectivity. We provide proactive network monitoring and trouble-ticket response from our local Network Operations Center 24/7/365. With a network presence in 10 countries, our carrier-grade network was built to support the demanding needs of wholesalers, cellular operators, WISPs, local carriers, and public and private entities that require high availability services to support their end users and business operations.

Syringa Networks is proposing a 76-mile fiber backbone middle mile route in rural Southwestern Idaho. The route crosses three Idaho counties and connects eight cities to our existing network. The route achieves a primary grant objective which is to connect unserved and underserved areas as depicted for the service area on the NTIA's Indicators of Need website. In addition, the project achieves another primary objective in substantially benefiting and primarily serving areas that have household income at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines, which is further described in the "Level of Need" narrative. The need to connect the communities that will be served by this project provides strong justification for the project to be built, while achieving the objectives of the NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) MMG (Middle Mile Grant) Program. For example, the unserved City of Melba, Idaho connected by this project was identified as one of the top three areas of need for broadband service in the State of Idaho by the 2019 Idaho Governor's

Broadband Taskforce. Melba, ID is just one of several unserved communities that will substantially benefit from this project.

The project will benefit more than 31,000 people in the communities of Notus, Parma, Wilder, Melba and Bowmont in Canyon County, Homedale, Marsing, Givens Hot Springs and Walters Ferry in Owyhee County and Kuna in Ada County. Importantly, this project meets each of the NTIA MMG statutory purposes. The proposed network is fiscally sustainable including in-kind contributions as described in the budget narrative and supported by the pro forma income statement. Syringa Networks commits to an open access, non-discriminatory interconnect policy and makes a binding commitment to prioritize wholesale broadband service offered at reasonable rates on a carrier-neutral basis in perpetuity as described in the Interconnect Policy.

There is an absence of middle mile fiber serving the communities we intend to reach with this project and Syringa Networks makes a binding commitment to connect this middle mile infrastructure to last mile networks that provide or plan to provide broadband service to households in unserved areas. Our competitive middle mile service offerings include dark fiber, WAVE, and lit services and intend to result in a lower cost for incumbent carriers and last-mile providers which flow to savings for the end-user. As described in the Level of Need narrative, Syringa Networks has collaborated with two last mile broadband providers in securing letters of intent for interconnections and we have received broad based community and political support including the Idaho Department of Commerce's Broadband Advisory Board, Idaho Commission for Libraries, Western Alliance for Community Development in Canyon and Gem Counties, and several cities and schools. Additionally, this project benefits national security in what local communities characterize as an "internet desert" by providing the means to connect critical national infrastructure such as the power grid and communications towers to a modern high-capacity and resilient fiber network.

The proposed route will connect to existing Syringa Networks nodes in Caldwell and Kuna, Idaho providing ringed access to a 100Gbps resilient symmetrical, low latency network to more than 330 anchor institutions and businesses within 1000 feet of the planned route. In these rural areas a high number of anchor institutions and businesses were built in proximity to the state highways traversing the area and our planned route was intentionally designed to follow the state highway system and in doing so, we will be placing fiber through the heart of main street corridors for these communities. Our route will achieve a material increase in available bandwidth for end users because the majority of the area has little to no fiber-based middle mile infrastructure in place today. These communities are currently paying much higher prices for substandard internet speeds on legacy facilities like copper and a patchwork of overlapping cable service in a few areas. Our project will be the first purpose built, dedicated fiber middle mile route to interconnect each of the communities on the route. Once complete, Syringa Networks intends to help facilitate the build out of last mile laterals to provide services to additional homes and businesses. This will be accomplished by Syringa Networks extending its own fiber facilities and by offering (7) interconnection points on a carrier-neutral basis to Internet Service Providers to make last mile connections to the network. The project will be built along existing

highway right of way with limited environmental impact making permitting for the project straight forward, shovel-ready, and operational within two-years.

Mindful of NOAA climate change projections for the next twenty years, the proposed route will be built entirely underground to provide climate resilience for the fiber infrastructure against forecasted wildfires, high winds, and severe winter weather for the life of the system as described in the environmental narrative. Additionally, the network construction will comply with all the requirements for Fair Labor Practices, Highly Skilled Workforce and Advancing Equitable Workforce Development and Job Quality Objectives and Civil Rights and Non-Discrimination Law Compliance. We intend to leverage our strong project management skill set, our years of highly relevant construction management experience, and deep insight into the markets we serve to construct the proposed route.

With the criticality of the project to provide equity and access, as well as jump starting economic development in the area, Syringa Networks is projecting to complete the project within two years of the award date and is proud to contribute 42.2% of the project cost in the amount of \$4.5M including "in kind" support for the project. The total estimated cost for this project is \$10.7M. Our pro forma income statement demonstrates that Syringa Networks has adopted a fiscally sustainable middle mile strategy that will be sustainable beyond the award period. We appreciate the opportunity to bid on the NTIA Middle Mile Grant and look forward to answering any questions the merit reviewers may have.

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Level of Need

A description of the level of need in the proposed service area(s), including but not limited to communities considered unserved and/or underserved in the proposed service area(s), discussion of the competitive landscape in the area, variations among service areas if there are any, or the general economic conditions in the proposed funded service area.

This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks proposed 76-mile middle mile project will traverse through the communities of Notus, Parma, Wilder, Homedale, Marsing, Givens Hot Springs, Walters Ferry, Melba, Bowmont and Kuna that reside withing Canyon County, Owyhee County, and Ada County in western Idaho.

Owyhee County:

One of the three Counties our proposed route traverses through is Owyhee County. Owyhee County is on an island when it comes to the availability of internet connectivity. The only means for Owyhee County to connect to broadband services is through the contiguous census blocks in Ada and Canyon Counties adjacent to Owyhee. These three areas are rural, low wealth, unserved/underserved areas as indicated by Census Bureau 2020 data. Owyhee has a population of 12,336 in an area of 7,668 square miles (about twice the area of Connecticut), indicating high rurality. The population per square mile is 1.6. The accompanying uploaded map from ArcGIS clearly shows the rural areas in red and the urban

areas in green. The focus of the proposed service area (PSA) is the rural, unserved, and underserved areas of Owyhee County and adjacent census blocks of Ada and Canyon counties that are similarly situated.

Owyhee County has a median household income of \$48,601 (as compared to US median income of \$64,994) or 25% lower than the US median income. Census Bureau 2020 reports households with a broadband internet subscription percent for Owyhee County of 76.9% vs. 85.2% US broadband subscription. We find similar rural, low wealth, low broadband adoption in the neighboring census blocks to Owyhee in Ada and Canyon. It bears noting that the Census 2020 data represents pre-pandemic data, which would make the household income situation even worse when factoring in current levels of inflation.

According to the FCC Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), households qualify according to their annual income. For a household of four, the criteria for household eligibility are \$55,500 per year. Larger households may add \$9,440 per person. Since the median income in the PSA is \$48,601, more than half of the households and likely many more qualify for ACP. The ACP benefit program provides the eligible households in the PSA with a monthly discount, making internet access affordable.

Melba, ID:

Additionally, Syringa Networks has an extensive history of partnering with state and local governments to help identify the most critical areas of community need for our capital investment in broadband infrastructure. A key driver for this proposed project is the Idaho Governor's 2019 broadband Taskforce. Syringa Networks CEO and Director of Field Operations both participated in the Taskforce, which determined that the City of Melba and surrounding area was a top three priority in the entire state of Idaho for improved broadband access. The incumbent providers in Melba, ID offer satellite and copper DSL service. Satellite is unpredictable, limits capacity and is subject to weather conditions. DSL is limited in its throughput and scalability. This small, but growing community of 650 people with schools, health, and city services has no option for a fiber-based internet solution. The lack of a fiber-based internet option was only exasperated by the recent COVID pandemic which increased the digital divide that Melba faces. Without a dependable, affordable broadband network in place, Melba and its surrounding communities may risk being at a disadvantage long-term. Syringa Networks has remained passionate about the need to address this longstanding concern not just for Melba, but for the other cities in need on our project route. Syringa Networks has obtained a Letter of Support from the Idaho Department of Commerce's Broadband Office related to our project proposal.

Fiber Ring Protection and Redundancy for Maximum Uptime:

When you look deeper at the recommended 76-mile project, roughly eighty percent (80%) of the proposed middle mile network directly serves those in greatest need. The remaining 20% of the network delivers critical connection to our existing networks. The connection back to Syringa's existing fiber network provides physical fiber redundancy for the middle mile route which is extremely important in areas of rurality. This means, after completion of our route, should a segment of our fiber be damaged due to road construction or a farmer electing to not call DigLine for utility locates, the connectivity to each city, wholesaler, and end-user on our proposed route will stay active and

operational through our “fiber ring” redundancy design. The proposed route with start and end tie-points connected to our existing network allows Syringa Networks to provide improved low-latency performance and major peering connections to our end-users for access to Amazon, Google, Netflix, and Microsoft. In the few areas of the route having access to suitable broadband speeds the route will provide alternative access for wholesale purchasers and last mile providers, increasing competition and lower costs to end user.

Unmet Internet Availability:

According to the FCC 477 data there are (9) broadband service providers in the Proposed Service Area. These incumbent providers offer satellite, DSL, or traditional cable service. Satellite is unpredictable, limits capacity and is subject to weather conditions. DSL is limited in its throughput and scalability. Traditional cable is a shared resource that attenuates speed further down the line and in rural areas has only been built in areas of density, which skews census block data. Fixed wireless is subject to line of site interferences (vertical assets, foliage, towers, etc.), weather, and lack of redundancy or resilience. According to the providers advertised specifications, only one provides rates that exceed the NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) definition of underserved (greater than 100/20Mbps). Several advertise 25/3 which historically have tested less than the NTIA definition of unserved, less than 25/3Mbps.

It is important to note, the Proposed Service Area passes through areas with a single LEC that offers extremely limited DSL speeds in most cases, augmented by the local cable company (but only on a limited basis). People living along our proposed middle mile route have limited choices: either pay for slow DSL speeds or if they are fortunate enough to have cable access, they must pay a prohibitively high price to gain access to FCC minimum broadband speeds. Further review of Zply Fiber, a local provider, confirms it is a DSL based service with extremely limited fiber availability. They do not have middle mile fiber to offer. Sparklight’s offer caps their lower speed 200/20Mbps and their higher speed offer is 1000/50Mbps at \$125 per month (more than double the price point offered by Internet Service Providers for the same service in metro Ada County) and this service has limited availability in the county. Syringa Networks intends to offer fiber-based symmetrical bandwidth service offerings at a competitive rate, as well as provide backhaul options for carriers that should translate to a lower-cost for end-users.

The proposed network will comprehensively meet all the broadband needs of the communities within the PSA, including Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), residential and business services with retail services. The funded network will be offered as an open access, non-discriminatory wholesale interconnection service for access and transport with other broadband providers. Other narratives throughout this application review in depth, the project’s benefit of serving previously unserved locations and CAI’s. The network construction will comply with all the requirements for Fair Labor Practices, Highly Skilled Workforce and Advancing Equitable Workforce Development and Job Quality Objectives and Civil Rights and Non-Discrimination Law Compliance. The preferred technology and design of buried fiber mitigates forecasted climate and environmental conditions for the life of the system. The proposed route is scalable and future-proof for the entire region’s needs.

Interconnect Agreements:

With respect to interconnection agreements Syringa has secured a letter of intent from Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Oregon-Idaho Utilities Inc. and Indatel. It is also important to note that the two largest providers of deficient broadband service in the Proposed Service Area, Sparklight and Zply, have interconnection agreements with Syringa in other parts of our network. Due to marketplace competition, we would not expect their support currently, but given our partnerships elsewhere it is reasonable to expect they would have an interest in connecting with us should this project be built. Additionally, Syringa Networks has substantial long-term contracts with AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon for wireless backhaul and dark fiber services throughout our network. As these three carriers expand into growing rural areas, we would expect to add their respective towers to our network and existing contracts. Lastly, the diverse support that we have received from anchor institutions like cities, libraries and schools further demonstrates the strong need for our project.

Summary:

The incumbent last mile providers lack the technology to deliver NTIA broadband requirements. They lack the scalability, redundancy, resilience, and expected low latency service. In contrast, Syringa Network will offer choice, lower prices, redundancy, reliability, low latency, and peering access. Syringa Networks certifies that the proposed project, upon completion, will include direct interconnection facilities that facilitate the provision of broadband service at speed not less than 1 Gigabit per second for downloads and 1 Gigabit per second for uploads to anchor institutions located within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure.

State Collaboration Acknowledgement

NTIA strongly encourages prospective non-state applicants to coordinate and consult with the State Broadband Office or other coordinating body located in the jurisdiction in which the eligible entity proposes to deploy middle mile infrastructure to ensure that the proposal is consistent with the state's broadband plan and priorities. Please confirm collaboration and consultation.

Do you confirm collaboration and consultation with the appropriate organization?

Yes

State and Local Collaboration Narrative

Please provide information on the applicant's coordination with applicable State, Territory, Tribal, and local governments, including their awareness of the proposed project and any potential impact to respective service areas; and

Information regarding the applicant's involvement and coordination with community organizations

or other relevant partners in the proposed service area.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks has an extensive history of partnering with state and local governments to help identify the most critical areas of community need for our capital investment in broadband infrastructure. A key driver for this proposed project is the Idaho Governor's 2019 broadband Taskforce. Syringa Networks CEO and Director of Field Operations both participated in the Taskforce, which determined that the City of Melba and surrounding area was a top three priority in the entire state of Idaho for improved broadband access. Syringa Networks has remained passionate about the need to address this longstanding concern not just for Melba, but for the other cities in need on our project route.

Syringa was able to secure CARES Grant funds to build a lateral to the City of Greenleaf, and we have remained active in supporting the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board's efforts to allocate additional funding in Idaho to meet the most pressing needs for Idaho like the project we now propose for this grant. Because of this coordination with the state, we have secured a letter of support for our project from the Idaho Commerce Department's Office of Broadband. Additionally, we have secured a letter of support for our project from Idaho's Federal Delegation.

Indicating a broad base of support for our project, we have also secured letters of support from the Idaho Libraries Commission and the State Board of Education along with support from numerous cities and schools along the proposed route. It is our commitment to initially provide an opportunity for connection to all anchor institutions such as city and county facilities, as well as libraries and schools within 1000 feet of the planned route. But that is just the beginning, we intend to use this middle mile project as a catalyst to deliver additional last mile services throughout this underserved/unserved area both with our own additional investment and in partnership with other internet service providers.

The letters of intent that we have secured from Farmers Mutual Telephone and Indatel make clear that we will have partners to leverage this middle mile route to improve broadband service in these communities. And the need is clear, not only do the community letters of support show a need for connectivity, but countless business owners in the region have expressed a need for broadband connectivity to drive economic growth and development in a region that is socio economically depressed. Lastly, the NTIA Broadband Indicators of Need map for the proposed project area clearly demonstrates the need for this project as the route addresses significantly unserved and underserved areas of rural Southwestern Idaho.

— — —
Will the project connect middle mile infrastructure to last mile networks that provide or plan to provide broadband service to households in unserved areas?

Yes

— — —

Is the project connecting non-contiguous trust lands?

No

— — —

Do you commit to offering wholesale broadband service at reasonable rates on a carrier-neutral basis?

Yes

— — —

The eligible entity adopts fiscally sustainable middle mile strategies. This strategy should be described in the Budget Narrative.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

— — —

The eligible entity commits to offering non-discriminatory interconnect to terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers and any other party making a bona fide request. This policy will be described in the Interconnect Policy.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

— — —

The eligible entity identifies specific terrestrial and wireless last mile broadband providers that have(i) expressed written interest in interconnecting with middle mile infrastructure planned to be deployed by the eligible entity; and ii) demonstrated sustainable business plans or adequate funding sources with respect to such interconnection. This may be demonstrated in the Level of Need narrative of the Exec Summary.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

— — —

The eligible entity has identified supplemental investments or in-kind support (such as waived franchise or permitting fees) that will accelerate the completion of the planned project. Such acceleration may be described in the Project Timeline narrative.

Do you attest to this?

No

— — —

The eligible entity has demonstrated that the middle mile infrastructure will benefit national security interests of the United States and the Department of Defense. The benefits may be explained in the Benefitting National Security Interests Narrative.

Do you attest to this?

Yes

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Please describe:

Syringa Networks proposed middle mile project will extend our existing Western Idaho network and create a high survivable network for the regions of Canyon and Owyhee County, Idaho. Our proposed route and network design will provide infrastructure longevity, service availability, and network resiliency that will benefit national security in three ways.

First, our proposed middle mile fiber route will support the continued growth of carrier services providers in a rural, but fast-growing areas that currently have limited wireless coverage, especially 5G. By enabling the further connection of critical communications sites, such as cell towers, this fiber route will help ensure citizens and all levels of law enforcement have access to comprehensive wireless coverage throughout the service area. Syringa Networks currently has long term service contracts in place with AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon to provide backhaul and dark fiber services to sites throughout Idaho and Utah.

Secondly, Syringa Networks has a strong partnership with Idaho Power and has numerous critical infrastructure sites under contract with Idaho Power to connect the power grid to the internet. Idaho Power continues to add power capacity to support a growing population and the proposed middle mile route will provide connectivity options for new green energy infrastructure suitable for rural areas such as solar and wind facilities. A reliable power grid is essential to national security.

Third, this route will allow for the direct connection of key city and county facilities supporting EMS, fire, and law enforcement within 1000 feet of the proposed route, as well as serve as a backbone for other last-mile providers, which will allow for the further connection of critical communications infrastructure.

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Project

Duration

Number of Years

2

— — —

Project Timeline Narrative

The narrative requires the Applicant to describe a project with critical path, including key milestones for implementation of the project, preparations, and risk factors; and a capital investment schedule evidencing that the applicant will complete build-out and the initiation of service within five years of the date on which the entity receives the grant and will meet interim buildout requirements set forth herein and in any other binding document.

If the project is able to be accelerated with supplemental investments or in-kind support to meet a statutory purpose, this should be explained.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

We have built a master project timeline for our proposed middle mile project divided into three critical pathways, each with a capital investment schedule to ensure successful build-out and initiation of service within the proposed period of performance, which is project completion within 2 years of the award date. We have broken the project timeline into three critical pathways. The pathway segments are identified as (1) Fiber Route Construction, (2) Site Acquisition & Cabinet Placement, and (3) Electronics Installation & Integration, each will have a defined project manager reporting to an overall project manager. Each pathway will start concurrently but as each path meets its project milestones, the paths will overlap to complete the project.

Project Timeline for the Fiber Route construction is 22-months. Due to the 76-mile distance of our middle-mile project, we have divided the project into two sub-projects: Sub-Project 1 and Sub-Project 2. Both projects are estimated to have a 22-month completion window and will be constructed in parallel.

Sub-Project 1 is from the Syringa Networks' existing Caldwell hut to the City of Marsing. The fiber route path will be built along Canyon County Highway District roadways, US-Hwy 20/26, US-Hwy 95, Owyhee County Highway District roadways. The permitting timeline along these sections of roadway is expected to be minimal (less than 2-months). This sub-project includes two railroad crossings and two river crossings. One railway crossing is south of Parma and the other is in the town of Wilder. Permitting with Boise Valley Railroad and Union Pacific may take up to 9-months. The river crossings are of the Boise River, South of Parma, and the Snake River, Northeast of Homedale. The permitting process for these crossings may take up to 9 months. These permits will be prioritized to maximize our 22-month construction timeframe.

Sub-Project 2 is from the City of Marsing to the City of Kuna. The fiber route path is to be built along State Hwy 78, State Hwy 45, Canyon County Highway District roadways, and Ada County Highway District roadways. Permitting timeline along these sections of roadway is expected to be minimal (less than 2-months). This project has one river crossing over the Snake River in Walters Ferry, ID. Permitting for a river crossing may take up to 9 months. In addition, this project will require BLM permitting within

the designated rights-of-way. Our impact is expected to be minimal, but this permit may take up to 12 months to receive. These identified items will be prioritized to maximize our 22-month construction timeframe.

Syringa Networks will begin its efforts with designing and engineering the route areas identified as having long permitting lead times or specific construction windows (ex. waterway crossings). Once designed, permits will be submitted, with an expected cost of \$108,000 over a 12-month period. Shortly thereafter, the remaining route areas will be designed/engineered and any required materials not readily available (on-hand) will be ordered. We expect to spend \$291,178 on engineering, design, and environmental assessments during the first 12 months of the project. Large sections of our project will be constructed once our short lead time permits are approved, during this period we expect to order and receive \$865,945 in construction material for the project. Construction on both sub-projects will occur in parallel to construct all areas feasibly possible while we wait for the long lead time permits to be approved. With construction commencing after the receipt of materials and initial permits \$6,269,791 will be spent on direct construction costs over an 18-month period with an additional \$168,798 expended on inspection activities. Once fiber construction is completed \$21,000 will be spent on cable testing and fiber characterization. The newly constructed fiber path will have termination fiber drops into new cabinets.

Project Timeline for Site Acquisition & Cabinet Placement 20-months. As the fiber route construction begins, so will the site acquisition process for this critical path. Syringa Networks will begin securing a location for each of the new cabinet locations, which we with a total expected cost of \$300,000. While the locations are being acquired or permitted for private easement, site materials will be ordered at a cost of \$161,951. When the infrastructure has been completed each cabinet will be set up and the fiber route will be terminated into the cabinet with an expected cost of \$168,000 for site construction. If the fiber route is not available, the site will be prepped for the fiber route terminations when available. Once the cabinet is set, and power and cooling confirmed and tested.

Project Timeline Electronics Installation & Integration 23-months. Electronics equipment will be ordered immediately at an expected cost of \$1,795,903. We expect long lead times (up to a year) for some of the equipment identified in our network design. The equipment for the Central Offices and the existing Caldwell cabinet will be installed when the equipment is received and provisioned. The existing fiber routes will be tested, and nodes will be integrated into Syringa Networks' larger network. As new cabinets are set, powered and environmentally ready for equipment, new equipment will be installed. As fibers are terminated into the cabinets, fiber characterization testing will take place and the DWDM nodes will be brought online and integrated into the new infrastructure at a total cost of \$24,800. On the project Roadmap, this critical path has the longest timeframe. Equipment with long lead times will be prioritized to ensure our entire project is tested and operational within 2 years of grant award. (Not included in the capital expenditures listed above are legal fees and grant management of \$70,000 and an overall inflation contingency of 7% totaling \$499,501).

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Project Timeline File

Applicants are asked to upload a timeline which will denote key milestones for implementation of the project, including but not limited to field survey, network design, equipment/material procurement, environmental assessment, permitting, construction, network testing, network activation and completion.

Combined Road Map and Gantt Chart-09-29-2022 07-18-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf,
Project Capital Investment Schedule-West-11-02-2022 04-12-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx

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Is an extension being requested?

No

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Special Rules for Tribal Governments and Native Entities

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act permits the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with Tribal governments and Native entities, to waive, or specify alternative requirements, in connection with most directives governing the MMG Program if the Assistant Secretary finds that waiver or modification of the requirement is necessary for (a) the effective delivery and administration of middle mile grants to Tribal governments or (b) the construction, improvement, or acquisition of middle mile infrastructure on trust land.

Is a waiver or alternative requirements requested?

No

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Fair Labor Practices

Applicants must have a demonstrated record of and plans to be in compliance with federal labor and employment laws as described in III.H in the NOFO. This will help ensure that projects are carried out in accordance with the law, assist NTIA in ensuring that a prospective awardee is capable of carrying out activities funded by an award in a competent manner in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and promote the effective and efficient completion of high-quality middle mile broadband infrastructure projects by ensuring a reliable supply of skilled workers and minimizing disruptive and costly delays.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks and its contractors have demonstrated a record of fair labor compliance and plan to continue to comply with federal labor and employment laws for the construction of the Middle Mile project, where applicable, if awarded. Neither Syringa Networks nor its contractors hired to date have

been found to have violated laws such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable labor and employment laws for the preceding three years.

Syringa Networks has been building and operating middle mile fiber network since its inception 20-years ago. During the past three years specifically, Syringa Networks has built numerous middle mile projects throughout Idaho and Utah utilizing key contractor partners for construction and fiber splicing. Our vendor contracts require our contractors to abide by federal, as well as state labor and employment laws. Like Syringa Networks, our contractors have a strong record of compliance and adherence to applicable law.

Syringa Networks presents the following plan for ensuring compliance with federal labor and employment laws that addresses how we ensure compliance in our labor practices for physical construction of the Middle Mile project. Additionally, the State of Idaho Department of Labor established the prevailing wage and overtime scale, and Syringa and its contractors meets or exceeds these rates for all skillsets required for the project by position title, such as project manager, construction manager, field technician, splicer, etc.

Fair Labor Practice Plan: Syringa Networks conducts a safety briefing before each job action and requires contractors to conduct a daily job site safety briefing. Syringa will utilize its internal Safety Committee for oversight of safety issues involving workers directly employed by Syringa. In addition to encouraging its employees to voice concerns with their immediate manager, Syringa's employees have 24/7 access to Syringa's Human Resources Department and upper management personnel. They have the direction and ability to report any concerns on ethics, safety, and fraud. All reports are taken seriously and timely investigated with due diligence. All issues and concerns are remedied by following applicable laws and established policies in the Syringa Network Employee Handbook. Syringa will utilize the same Safety Committee and its practices for oversight of safety issues involving our contractor's employees.

We plan to use our directly employed workforce for project and construction management and to bid out and contract the physical construction to our contractor partners with whom we enjoy long time relationships. Our bid will prioritize local hires and the Agreement will stipulate the contractor follow Fair Labor practices, including compliance with Davis Bacon and Service Contract Act, where applicable and will collect the required certified payrolls. We will scrutinize use of an appropriately skilled workforce (e.g., through registered apprenticeships or other joint labor-management training programs that serve all workers, particularly those underrepresented or historically excluded); Use of an appropriately credentialed workforce (i.e., satisfying requirements for appropriate and relevant pre-existing occupational training, certification, and licensure); and we will take proactive steps to prevent the misclassification of workers.

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Officer Certification

In order for NTIA to evaluate an applicant's demonstrated record of and plans to be in compliance with federal labor and employment laws, each applicant must provide examples of items described in III.H in the NOFO. Applicants are asked to upload a Certification from an Officer/Director-level employee (or equivalent) of the applicant evidencing consistent past compliance with federal labor and employment laws by the applicant, as well as contractors and subcontractors.

Certificate of Fair Labor Practices_Updated-11-02-2022 12-26-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf,
Certificate of Fair Labor Laws-09-29-2022 12-52-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

Highly Skilled Workforce

To ensure that applicants have the technical and operational capacity to carry out the project, applicants must submit a plan for ensuring that the project workforce will be an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce (including by the applicant and each of its contractors and subcontractors). The plan for a highly skilled workforce should include the information described in III.I in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks and our contractor workforce, has the demonstrated technical and operational capacity to complete middle mile fiber build projects by using an appropriately skilled and credentialed workforce directly engaged in the physical construction of the Middle Mile network.

Syringa's plan for a highly skilled workforce will be managed by Syringa's professional management team. Syringa management will issue a competitive RFP to contract physical construction to contractors with whom we have favorable knowledge and experience. Syringa's RFP will request confirmation of registered apprenticeships, licensure, training and/or certification in relevant skillsets. Neither Syringa Networks nor any of our contractors are unionized.

Job Title	# FTE	Employer Entity	Apprenticeship, Training, Certificate, License
General Manager	1	Syringa Networks	MBA
Director	1	Syringa Networks	MBA, PMP
OSP Manager	1	Syringa Networks	OSHA 10, BICSI, FOA CFOT, PMP
OSP Engineer	1	Syringa Networks	OSHA 10, BICSI, FOA CFOT
OSP Coordinator	2	Syringa Networks	PMP, MS Office
OSP Inspector	1	Syringa Networks	OSHA 10, BICSI, FOA CFOT
Network Planner	2	Syringa Networks	OSHA 10, BICSI, FOA CFOT, PMP
Engineer	2	Woodman Telcom	BS, BICSI, FOA CFOT, PE
Construction Mgr	1	Crown Utilities	OSHA 10, CPR, BICSI, FOA CFOT, PMP
Bore Operator	2	Crown Utilities	OSHA 10, CPR

Backhoe Operator	2	Crown Utilities	OSHA 10, CPR
Laborers	10	Crown Utilities	OSHA 10, CPR
Splicers	4	Lite Industries	BICSI, FOA CFOT
Traffic Cntrl Sprvsr	2	Idaho Traffic Control	ATSSA-TCS
Flaggers	6	Idaho Traffic Control	ATSSA-TCT
TOTAL	38		

Syringa plans to use its employed workforce for project and construction management and to bid and contract the physical construction to one or several contractors. The bid process will prioritize local hires and will stipulate the contractor follow Fair Labor practices, including compliance with Davis Bacon and Service Contract Act, where applicable, and will collect the required certified payrolls.

Syringa will scrutinize use of an appropriately skilled workforce, such as through registered apprenticeships or other training programs that serve all workers, particularly those underrepresented or historically excluded. All workers will be appropriately credentialed workforce and steps will be taken to prevent the misclassification of workers.

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Advancing Workforce Development

A skilled workforce is critical to meeting infrastructure buildout timelines under the Infrastructure Act and connecting households across the country to reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband. A well-trained workforce will also allow for the safe deployment of sustainable networks. To meet the workforce needs of the MMG Program, applicants must make appropriate investments to develop a skilled, diverse workforce. Each applicant must provide as part of its application examples of items described in III.J in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks will hire qualified individuals with the legal right to work in the United States to perform the duties of a position regardless of race, color, religion, sex, disability, and national origin.

Syringa Networks utilizes national, regional, and local recruiting efforts to attract qualified applicants of traditionally underrepresented populations. These resources include: Syringa Networks website, Indeed, Glassdoor, and ZipRecruiter, the Idaho Dept of Labor website, The Utah Dept of Workforce Services, NTCA job posting site (a telecom industry site). Syringa Networks partners with Military Technical Recruiting LLC (MTR.vet), a recruitment firm to source qualified veterans for tech positions.

Syringa Networks is currently participating with the State of Idaho, Department of Corrections, Work Release Program for a position on our Provisioning Team. Lastly, Syringa Networks also offers an Employee Referral program to assist in finding qualified applicants.

Syringa Networks is proud of its history and commitment to employing a local, highly skilled, diverse workforce that is safe and effective. Syringa hires local workers with industry required standard credentials, including CCNP, CCNA, and CCIE. For employees looking to develop their skills to advance their career, Syringa provides specific training and certifications, especially the Cisco certifications of CCNA, CCNP. We purchase training material, bootcamps and pay for the cost of two tests, if needed to pass. In addition, Syringa Networks offers a tuition reimbursement program to all employees. This reimburses employees the cost of tuition when returning to college for an Associate, Bachelor or master's degree that pertains to our business. These programs allow employees opportunities to further refine their skills. In these ways, Syringa creates equitable on-ramps into broadband related jobs.

Syringa engages with state and local workforce boards. We post positions with the Idaho Dept of Labor and/or the Utah Dept of Workforce Services. For hard-to-source positions, we seek referrals from these agencies. These agencies offer training and resources for applicants to use to improve their skills. Community-based training partners such as these are instrumental in sourcing qualified candidates.

Syringa desires to attract, train, and retain local workforce and increase high quality job opportunities through maintaining professional relationships with the College of Western Idaho, a local college known for producing quality technology students/graduates. A Syringa Networks employee taught classes at this college and helped train local students in industry requirements and expectations. In addition, he recruited local talent for the company by sharing open positions with the college and students.

Syringa also participates in equitable workforce development and job quality activities, including a College of Western Idaho outreach program. Our CFO has a professional relationship with the CWI Associate VP of Economic Development. They are building a partnership for company involvement with future recruits. We provide internships based on business needs. In 2021, we had two over the summer. One in Software Development and one in Web Design. We hired the Web Developer full time, and she remains on staff at this time.

With each of these equitable workforce development programs, Syringa asserts itself as a provider of a quality job. At Syringa Networks, we believe that a quality job benefits the company while motivating the employee to excel and providing opportunity for growth and development. It needs a work environment that is conducive to building skills, knowledge and positive relationships with customers, vendors, and all coworkers. A quality job offers fair compensation. Syringa Networks is committed to providing competitive wages and benefits to all employees.

Syringa's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts are embedded into all aspects of the company. Our philosophy is to hire the best qualified person for every position regardless of any diverse group they may represent. We utilize team interviewing of every candidate which removes the preferential hiring ability of a single interviewer. Our success is reliant on our people, we are committed to hiring people who make us better and elevate our team.

Through these efforts, Syringa will prioritize the hiring of local workers, and will continue to recruit on nationwide recruiting sites which work diligently to reach historically underrepresented populations facing labor market barriers. In this way, Syringa Networks ensures all populations have reasonable access to job opportunities created by Syringa.

Each Syringa employee is knowledgeable of OSHA protections as it pertains to Job Safety and Health. Syringa Networks is committed to providing all employees with a workplace that is free from recognized hazards. OSHA empowers any employee or contractor who sees anything unsafe to report it. Selected contractors working on our middle-mile projects will be required to confirm their credentials and will participate in our safety practices.

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Climate Resiliency

Please demonstrate that the applicant has sufficiently accounted for current and future weather- and climate-related risks to new MMG Program infrastructure projects. In particular, each applicant should clearly demonstrate how it is conducting the items listed in III.K in the NOFO.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

In an effort to account for climate change, and to mitigate and avoid climate risks to network assets, Syringa reviewed reports and maps from NOAA and FEMA, along with resources from State of Idaho institutions, such as the University of Idaho and the Idaho Geological Survey. While the State of Idaho is yet to adopt a statewide climate plan, some jurisdictions, such as the City of Boise as well as the Nez Perce Tribe, have prepared their own climate resiliency action plans, which were also reviewed. These organizations recognize that Idaho's climate is changing as Idahoans are feeling the impacts of climate change. Across Idaho, communities document more frequent and more intense droughts, heat waves, stronger winds, wildfires, smoke, and more. Scientists and everyday Idahoans describe how the patterns of hot and cold, wet and dry, are different today that decades ago. People notice that winters are shorter and warmer, and that precipitation falls in the form of rain instead of the snowpack that traditionally supplies 85% of the water Idahoans rely upon in summer months.

The NOAA State Climate Summary for 2022 confirms that temperatures in Idaho “have risen almost 2 degrees F since the beginning of the 20th century,” and that “historically unprecedented warming is projected during this century.” The fusion of natural climate variability, such as El Niño, with shifting climate change is likely to yield meteorological extremes, as “winter and spring precipitation will increase and will fall as rain instead of snow, which may increase flood risks.” In the summer months without snowpack, “droughts are projected to intensify...with high wind patterns increasing the severity of wildfires.”

Providing the state’s prevailing climate guidance is the University of Idaho’s McClure Center for Public Policy Research, which published the “Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment” (ICEIA) in 2021. The ICEIA connects climate change to the state’s major economic sectors, including public infrastructure, and provides opportunities to “enhance community resilience and the local ability to adapt to climate change impacts.”

The ICEIA identifies short-term climate change impacts on infrastructure will be caused by weather-related events, such as avalanches, landslides, and wildfires. Infrastructure located along watersheds will be subject to changes in river discharge patterns and riverine flooding. These changes pose challenges for the state’s economic dependence on snow, water resources, forests, agriculture, and outdoor recreation.

Compared to the rest of the US, Idaho has higher relative risk for lightning, drought, strong wind, ice storms, and hail, yet FEMA’s Risk Index categorizes Idaho as relatively low for weather hazard risks, with a Risk Index score of 8.2, which is below the US average of 10.6. FEMA’s Social Vulnerability Index, which considers the socio-economic factors that contribute to a community’s ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a hazard, rates Idaho as relatively moderate with a score of 36.15 vs the US average of 38.35. FEMA’s Community Resilience rating for Idaho is also relatively moderate, with a score of 52.36 vs the US average of 54.59. These indicate the state has ability to prepare for and adapt to changing conditions and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions on par with the rest of the US.

In the long-term, climate change will require infrastructure providers to design facilities and operations based on a different climate regime. The ICEIA recognizes the importance of reliable access to communications systems, particularly in rural areas, and the report recommends mediating infrastructure vulnerabilities by adapting design standards and modifying operations and routine maintenance to prevent disruptions.

Across the 20-year time scale, Syringa will produce a climate impact and mitigation report for the entire network, implement the appropriate recommendations, and update its climate impact study at least every five years for the life of the network as more climate science is known. To assist in this process, Syringa will collaborate with right-of-way and network asset owners to, for example, plan routine trimming of trees and overgrowth along network routes to reduce wildfire risks; and build GIS layers that incorporate applicable datasets from NOAA and FEMA, such as changing floodplain data, to monitor climate risks to the network. Should future fiber routes and network assets be added, Syringa understands that it will be required to update the climate resiliency plan accordingly.

During the life of this project, Syringa will design and operate the network to mitigate the foreseeable impacts of climate change by maximizing redundancy to minimize the impact of single point of damage

events from all causes. Syringa will plan diverse paths to be deployed underground as much as possible to interconnect with existing middle-mile providers; colocation sites will not be located in flood zones and will be hardened to industry standards and will be continuously monitored for environmental conditions. These hardened sites will have multiple fiber paths, dual HVAC systems, sump pumps where needed, battery and backup generator systems with a minimum of 72 hours of fuel to minimize risk of outages from single point failures caused by severe water or wildfire conditions. Strand and lash fiber installation on poles, where required, will avoid long spans to ensure a margin of safety in resisting wind and precipitation damage without overloading pole capacity. Syringa will adjust and update the climate plan at least every five years for the life of the network as engineering standards evolve in regard to climate change.

Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Law Compliance

Prior to distributing any MMG Program funding to a prospective awardee, NTIA will require the prospective awardee to agree, by contract or other binding commitment, to abide by the non-discrimination requirements set forth in III.J in the NOFO.

Do you agree to abide by the non-discrimination requirements?

Yes

Certification of Technical Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification attesting that it is technically qualified to complete and operate the proposed project.

Certificate of Technical Capability-09-29-2022 11-45-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Certificate of Technical Capability Certifica-04-06-2023 04-03-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

Interconnect Policy

The Applicant must describe in detail the nondiscrimination, interconnection, and network management practices that would be adopted for the project facilities. The Applicant should describe how it will comply with nondiscrimination and interconnection obligations, particularly with connectivity to the public Internet and physical interconnection for the exchange of traffic. In addition to describing network management practices, the Applicant should disclose any practices in place to block access to illegal or harmful content.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks, LLC shall offer, on an open access basis, non-discriminatory carrier-neutral interconnection in perpetuity to terrestrial and wireless service providers including, public, private, non

-profit, and other parties making a bona fide request for interconnection for any network segments funded by the Middle Mile Grant (MMG). Syringa Networks policy is to allow interconnection on the MMG funded routes at any point where commercially and technically feasible without adverse impact to the network and where sufficient excess capacity exists, or where prior contractual obligations that govern the use of infrastructure exist. Syringa Networks will offer interconnection points-of-presence, dark fiber options, and lit service options to service providers for the transport of telecommunications and networking data through the means of optical waves, circuits, or bandwidth backhaul. Parties wishing to interconnect or co-locate must sign an interconnection/colocation agreement with Syringa Networks and abide by all applicable engineering and technical standards.

Syringa Networks shall review each interconnection request and provided that such access does not exceed current or anticipated capacity limitations, or have other adverse impacts on the network's reliability, financial viability, or operations, and that the party requesting interconnection is in good standing with Syringa Networks, Syringa Networks shall allow the interconnection. Rates and terms for interconnection and colocation in network shelters, including one-time and ongoing charges, to the MMG funded network shall be commercially reasonable and nondiscriminatory.

Syringa Networks may offer network peering or connection to the Internet at one or more locations. If it does so, such inter-exchange shall be on commercially reasonable terms and a non-discriminatory basis. If a party requests to interconnect with Syringa Networks where no point of interconnection or splice points currently exist or were preplanned for interconnection purposes, the requesting party shall bear all reasonable costs to improve the facilities to allow for interconnection.

Syringa Networks policy in offering lit services is to not give preference to any lawful content over any other either by source or destination, network protocol, or content. Syringa Networks' Open Access, Interconnection and Network Nondiscrimination policies are subject to the needs of law enforcement and reasonable network management. As such, Syringa Networks may employ generally accepted technical measures to provide acceptable service levels such as caching and application-neutral bandwidth allocation, as well as commercially reasonable technical measures to prevent spam, denial of service attacks, illegal content, and other harmful activities. Syringa Networks' Acceptable Use Policy can be found at <https://www.syringanetworks.net/resources/acceptable-use-policy>.

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Technical Overview

Please describe targeted last mile service objectives, including last mile service provider letters of commitment, agreements, or contracts; and a description of the proposed service offerings, including the pricing of the services to be offered over the proposed facility.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

Syringa Networks was formed by 12 rural Idaho telephone companies who had the vision to provide an alternative internet solution to its unserved and underserved communities. Syringa Networks embraces the foundations we were built upon and has been designing, project managing and operating our own middle mile fiber routes into rural Idaho for over 20-years. Our carrier-grade network traverses over 3,300 fiber route miles throughout Idaho and Utah with dark fiber leases of our member owners. Syringa Networks itself owns and operates over 1,900 route miles throughout Idaho and Utah, of which nearly 1,000 miles (about the distance from Florida to New York City) are “middle mile” routes.

Our proposed project includes a long-term vision to connect eight rural cities spanning three Idaho counties and provide connections to over 330-businesses throughout these communities. We have secured letters of support from cities, libraries, and schools. Our first last-mile objective is to connect these key institutions to the broadband service they need and deserve at competitive rates, especially when compared to the slow speeds and unaffordable prices they are experiencing now.

Our proposed middle mile route will be fully integrated with our existing network in Idaho, which typically has less than 15ms latency. This is made possible by our nine core routers, 38 provider edge routers in LATA 652 in a diverse, ringed topology around the state. The region of our proposed 76-mile route needs a robust middle mile network to fully connect all underserved and unserved areas. The middle mile connectivity will be implemented using a combination of DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing) and Metro Ethernet equipment. The architecture design enables open-access network providers the ability to reach end-users with scalable symmetrical bandwidth options up to 100G. Our Data Centers located in Boise, ID currently provide colocation, Internet peering, Internet access, and Ethernet and Wave transport options.

The pricing listed below in relationship to the proposed middle mile build is an example of services and subject to change as final pricing to resellers and end-users will be driven by several factors, including but not limited to, competitive rates within the area at the time when services are needed, last-mile construction to reach carrier, business and/or residential customers, contract terms and contract length.

- Access Point to Access Point, 10G DWDM services starting at \$3,700 per month
- Access Point to Access Point, Dark Fiber starting at \$850 per strand per mile
- 1G/1G internet service starting at \$790 per month
- Up to 1G/1G business internet starting at \$225 per month
- Up to 1G/1G residential internet starting at \$85 per month

Syringa has secured a Letter of Intent from Farmer’s Mutual Telephone company and Indatel. We have had verbal conversations with Oregon Telephone Company about their interest in connecting with us as well. It is also important to note that the two largest providers of deficient broadband service in the PSA (Proposed Service Area), Sparklight and Ziplly, have interconnection agreements with us in other parts of our network. Due to marketplace competition, we would not expect their support currently,

but given our partnerships elsewhere it is reasonable to expect they would have an interest in connecting with us should NTIA award this project. Additionally, Syringa Networks has substantial active long-term contracts with AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon for wireless backhaul and dark fiber services throughout our network and expects future bandwidth requests within the proposed middle mile route area.

Our network is purpose built to support the demanding needs of wholesalers, cellular operators, WISPs, local carriers, and public and private entities that require high availability services to support their end users and business operations. Syringa Networks certifies that upon completion, the network will be capable of supporting carrier, residential and retail broadband services.

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Applicants are encouraged to upload supplemental documentation.

E-rate Coordinator - LOS-09-29-2022 06-37-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, City of Melba-LOS-09-29-2022 06-37-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Broadband Office - LOS-09-29-2022 06-37-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Notus - LOS-09-29-2022 06-38-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Library - LOS-09-29-2022 06-38-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Marsing School District LOS-09-29-2022 06-38-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Melba Schools - LOS-09-29-2022 06-38-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Idaho Congressional Delegation - LOS-09-29-2022 07-36-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Farmers Mutual Telephone - Interconnect-09-29-2022 07-37-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Western Alliance Econ Dev - LOS-09-30-2022 01-18-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, INDATEL - LOS-09-29-2022 11-56-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Caldwell - LOS-09-29-2022 06-37-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Greenleaf - LOS-09-29-2022 06-38-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Oregon-Idaho Utilities - Interconnect-09-29-2022 07-36-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Competitive Landscape

The Applicant should describe existing middle mile offerings in the area, if any, including competitor data if applicable. This should include a description of the proposed service offerings, including the pricing and technology of the services to be offered over the proposed facility. Where possible, Applicant's project should be able to demonstrate a decline in middle mile costs that are likely to flow through to consumer broadband prices.

This response is limited to 6000 characters as an open field narrative.

For the majority of Syringa Networks' proposed route, carriers and last-mile service providers lack the ability to procure middle mile backhaul at or greater than 1G. The competitive landscape view consists of one local cable provider, Sparklight, who can provide 1G backhaul transport but only within two cities along our proposed route; Marsing, ID and Parma, ID. A quote for services is nearly \$1,350 per month on a 3-year term. There is no local LEC or cable provider that can provide middle mile of 1G or

greater in the cities and neighboring communities of Notus, Homedale, Wilder, Givens Hot Springs and Melba, ID which represents more than 70% of our proposed route. Therefore, current last-mile providers who serve these areas, predominately wirelessly and with legacy copper DSL, are extremely limited in serving last-mile users because of the restricted, unavailable middle mile options. Not only will Syringa Networks be able to offer a lower rate (sub \$1350/month) for 1G/1G backhaul service in all MMG areas we construct, but we will be offer middle mile services in areas where fiber middle mile doesn't exist today. This will create an opportunity for last mile providers to serve additional end-users where they are currently capped or oversubscribed today due to limited or no backhaul options.

Upon the completion our proposed project, carrier will have an option to procure large bandwidth backhaul services (up to 10G) from Syringa Networks. Supporting maps have been uploaded to the NTIA portal to visually convey the competitive Internet Service Providers and their current service offerings. It should be noted there are no existing service providers that can provide 10G backhaul, and in most areas, only one provider can provide a 1G backhaul.

The local LEC and cable providers, Ziply, CenturyLink and Sparklight, interconnect with Lumen in Greenleaf, ID for middle mile transport to metro data centers. At the completion of Syringa Networks proposed MMG project, these providers will be able to interconnect with Syringa at (8) different locations across our 76-mile route. In addition, Syringa's proposed fiber route with start and end with tie-point vaults that connect to our existing network. This allows Syringa Networks to provide improved low-latency performance and major peering connections to our carrier, last-mile, and end-user customers for access to Amazon, Google, Netflix, and Microsoft. This also provides carriers with an alternative and carrier-diverse backhaul option to provide the up-time of their end-users' services.

Syringa Networks commits to an open-access, non-discriminatory interconnect policy and makes a binding commitment to prioritize wholesale broadband service offered at a reasonable rate on a carrier-neutral interconnection in perpetuity to potential terrestrial and wireless service providers for any network segments funded by the Middle Mile Grant (MMG). We intend to use this middle mile project as a catalyst to deliver additional last mile services throughout this underserved/unserved area both with our own additional investment and in partnership with other internet service providers. Our competitive, open-access and non-discriminatory service offerings will result in a lower middle mile cost for incumbent carriers and last-mile providers which should flow to savings for the end-user.

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Applicants are encouraged to upload supplemental documentation.

Competitive Landscape - NTIA Mapping-09-29-2022 07-43-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Competitive Landscape - Service Provider Opti-09-29-2022 07-43-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Competitive Landscape-CarrierFinder-09-30-2022 01-20-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Competitive Landscape-FiberLocator-09-30-2022 01-21-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Competitive Landscape-Existing MM Fiber Avail-09-30-2022 01-21-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

Type of technology to be used in proposal:

Fiber Optic Technology

Each applicant of an award to build middle mile infrastructure using fiber optic technology shall certify that the proposed project, upon completion, will include direct interconnection facilities that will facilitate the provision of lit broadband service, at speeds not less than 1 Gigabit per second for downloads and 1 Gigabit per second for uploads to anchor institutions located within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure, as detailed in the Template CAI below.

Do you agree to certify to the above?

Yes

Upload Template CAI. Required for Fiber Optic Technology, optional for Wireless or Other.

Community Anchor Institutions (44)-West Idaho-09-29-2022 12-07-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx

An eligible entity applying for a middle mile grant may seek, and the Assistant Secretary may grant, a waiver of the requirements set out in the previous paragraph, in full or in part, to the extent the eligible entity demonstrates that the requirement is not technically or economically feasible.

Do you plan to apply for a waiver? If yes, please attach the waiver application in the Application Workspace, the Application Information section, Required Documents under Required Document Question 4 "Additional Waiver Upload".

No

Network Route Maps

Applicants should provide a physical network map that includes the following (if applicable):

The Project Area and those unserved and underserved areas which it will enable.

Applicant's pre-existing service area that demonstrates current service levels.

The physical path of the network's transmission medium (e.g., backbone and lateral cable routes, microwave links), transmission type, technology, operating bandwidth, capacity (e.g., dark vs. lit strand count), and cable placement (e.g., aerial, burial) should be displayed.

Points of interconnection (purely passive and non-environmentally controlled nodes, e.g., splice points are optional):Provider Facilities

Collocation Facilities

Private Interconnection Points with partnering service provider/private network

Wireless towers and associated coverage areas.

Anchor institutions within 1,000 feet, if desired.

Additionally, the maps should delineate between network and facilities that are:Part of the Applicant's/key partners' existing network;

Proposed as part of this project;

Leased from a third party;

Utilized under some alternative arrangement; or

Relevant to interconnection with either Last Mile or Middle Mile service providers.

PLEASE NOTE: Only ESRI Shapefiles will be accepted and uploaded.

West ID Interconnection Points-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Proposed Route-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Existing Network-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID - Anchor Institutions-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Pre-existing Service Area-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Project Area Boundary-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Underserved Areas-09-29-2022 06-42-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip, West ID Existing Network - Building Fiber-09-30-2022 01-22-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.zip

Data Submission Specification

There is a template “Upload Template Data Submission Specification” which shall be uploaded. Applicants must complete the table with information for all interconnection points proposed for the network. This table has three required fields: Point Name, Latitude and Longitude. This should accommodate all of the points of interconnection (passive, non-environmentally controlled points of interconnection, e.g., splice points, may be excluded), collocation facilities, central offices, head ends, and other centralized facilities, network access points to Last Mile service providers, Internet peering points, and towers.

West ID Interconnection Points Table-09-29-2022 06-43-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xls

Network Diagram

The Applicant must provide a high-level network diagram to be uploaded for the project that is a representation of the network, capacities, and facilities. The diagram must clearly denote which of

the network elements already exist. The diagram should show:

The links between the network nodes. The types of facilities used in connecting the network elements (fiber, wireless microwave, etc.).

The points of interconnection and collocation facilities, including Internet peering points, access to local exchange carriers, central offices, or cable head ends.

The proposed aggregation node facilities that will provide the egress point(s) from the broadband backbone to the networks of the selected service provider(s), named Last Mile service providers, and the selected named Internet Service Provider(s) in the new infrastructure.

The Applicant should show which technologies are used and include bandwidth capacity constraints.

Network Diagram-West Idaho-09-29-2022 06-44-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Environmental Narrative

Any project-related activity that may adversely affect the environment must not be undertaken prior to the completion of the environmental review process prescribed by NTIA. Doing so may jeopardize consideration of the application.

All Applicants for MMG projects must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Endangered Species Act, and other applicable environmental regulations.

Please provide a service-area environmental description that describes the physical project area and its surroundings (e.g., disturbed or developed land vs. open space; adjacent natural resources, such as rivers, wetlands, or forestlands; and any protected lands or resources in or near the project area), including site photographs and aerial photographs (e.g., Google Earth or Google Maps images), if the project includes construction and/or ground disturbing activities.

This response is limited to 12000 characters as an open field narrative with image files to be uploaded.

Syringa Networks has thoughtfully and intentionally planned this project to minimize disturbance to the natural environment by building in the preexisting right-of-way (ROW) along highways for the entirety of the route. We have completed a field investigation of the route, as well as a close examination of available map resources and Google Earth to ascertain our responsibilities as good stewards of the land. Syringa Networks has built a strong partnership with land-use agencies and has

developed a well-earned reputation for abiding by environmental regulations and permitting requirements in the construction of our projects. Over the past 20-years Syringa Networks has constructed over 1900 miles of fiber routes while abiding by all laws and regulations. This project does not have any areas where we foresee “undisturbed ground” disruption activities except for three river crossings and only if we cannot secure bridge attachments for our conduit. If we cannot secure bridge attachments, river crossings will be directionally bored with the proper permitting, environmental precautions, and skills contract laborers in place. The remainder of our planned route will be constructed along existing roadways and will be buried in the ROW. Syringa plans to build seven telecom hut or cabinet sites of which are intended to be built on previously disturbed soil. Should any work be undertaken on undisturbed ground, appropriate permitting and environmental precautions will be taken.

Underground construction in disturbed ground areas:

Within our 76-mile proposed route, we estimate 363 locations where Syringa expects directional boring to be performed. For the entirety of the route, we expect all this work to occur in pre-existing ROWs. The buried plant will consist of fiber optic cables placed at a minimum depth of 36 inches below the surface in most areas along established streets, roadways, or travel routes in town areas. Conduit installed adjacent to road ROW will be within the public easement. If, for any reason, there are any unforeseen cases of historical or environmental concerns, all parties will fully comply with state, federal, local regulations, and requirements.

Environmental / Protected Areas Review:

After reviewing the available datasets provided by state and federal agencies, we have compiled a summary by impact area to highlight areas that could be affected by network construction and what steps will be taken to mitigate any impact on the local environment.

Wetlands :

From the data provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory website: <https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>, there are three wetland areas with existing bridge crossings on the proposed build route. Our first, and preferred course of action will be to coordinate with the Idaho Transportation Department to acquire the use of any available spare conduits to cross the rivers. Secondly, we would permit to place new attachments for conduit on the bridges. As a last resort we would design engineering plans to permit to bore under the rivers. All construction activities will avoid or minimize impacts on wetlands, floodplains, and riparian drainage.

Critical Habitats / Endangered Threatened and Special Concern Wildlife:

We have examined critical habitat maps website:

<https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe09893cf75b8dbfb77> to learn about endangered, threatened, special concern wildlife from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We established one area of critical habitat consisting of Slickspot peppergrass that abuts our

project at the intersection of W Dickman Road and S Robinson Road Northeast of Melba. Appropriate precautions will be taken to avoid distributing this specific area of land by constructing on the opposite side of the road from the habitat area.

NRHS / Tribal Lands / NRAS:

We have checked the National Register website: <https://public-nps.opendata.arcgis.com/maps/18fe4b262473496a8ca7871a67d844ee> to ensure that there are no impacts on proposed routes and telecom hut or cabinet sites and we found none due to the proposed route being in previously disturbed rights-of-way. The project does not anticipate any disturbance to any of the following:

No proposed sites were in historical zones or near historical sites.

None of the projects are going through tribal lands.

None of the projects are going through any archaeological sites.

Conserved Lands / Protected Lands:

The Bureau of Land Management provides maps to identify potential conflicts. We referenced their website at <https://blm-egis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6f0da4c7931440a8a80bfe20eddd7550>. We are familiar with BLM's mapping and have successfully coordinated our permitting with the BLM on previous middle mile projects. The above reference BLM map indicates there are areas of our proposed middle mile route, on Highway 78, that pass-through BLM land. We will continue our partnership with BLM, as well as other local and state agencies, to provide the necessary environmental mitigation to protect the areas listed below:

Wetland areas: Present on the north and south side of the highway in places, but beyond the ROW.

Critical habitat areas: In the streams and canals that pass under the highway route we are following.

All other routes traverse through pre-existing disturbed ground areas or ROWs on state and county freeways. We will be using existing infrastructure and do not anticipate any future disturbances.

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Upload Map Images:

Environmental Landscape_USFWS Wetlands-09-30-2022 02-45-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Environmental Landscape_Endangered Species-09-30-2022 02-45-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Environmental Landscape_BLM Land-09-30-2022 02-45-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Template Table of Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators

List all funded and unfunded project collaborators, including partners, subrecipients, match providers, major contractors/supplies, details on role/scope of work for project. A fillable Template

of Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators can be found in found in the MMG ZIP folder.

Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators Ap-04-06-2023 04-14-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx, _Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators_W-11-02-2022 12-32-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx, Funded Partners and Unfunded Collaborators-09-29-2022 11-44-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx

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Certificate of Operational Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting to the applicant's operational capability to complete and operate the proposed project.

If the applicant has provided a voice and/or broadband internet access service, it must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting that it has filed FCC Form 477s and the Broadband DATA Act submission, if applicable, to the extent required during this time period and otherwise complied with the Commission's rules and regulations. Alternatively, the applicant must explain any pending or completed enforcement action, civil litigation, or other matter in which it was alleged to have failed to comply with Commission rules or regulations.

If the applicant has operated only an electric transmission or distribution service, it must submit qualified operating or financial reports that it has filed with the relevant financial institution for the relevant time period along with a certification that the submission is a true and accurate copy of the reports that were provided to the relevant financial institution.

If applicable, the applicant must submit a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) that is has operated a middle mile broadband network for at least two years or that it is a wholly owned subsidiary of such an entity and must specify the number of years the applicant or its parent company has been operating.

Certificate of Operational Capability_Updated-11-02-2022 12-32-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Certificate of Operational Capability-09-29-2022 11-40-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Certification of Financial Capability

Each applicant must supply a certification from an officer-level employee (or individual of comparable rank) attesting that it is financially qualified to meet the obligations associated with a project, that they will have available funds for all project costs that exceed the amount of the grant, and that they will comply with all MMG Program requirements, including service milestones.

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Letter of Credit

During the application process, each applicant must submit a letter from a bank meeting eligibility requirements consistent with those set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.804(c)(2) committing to issue an irrevocable stand-by letter of credit, in the required form, to the applicant. The letter shall at a minimum provide the dollar amount of credit offered and the issuing bank's agreement to follow the terms and conditions of NTIA's model letter of credit. NTIA shall publish on its website a model letter of credit substantially similar to the model letter of credit established by the Federal Communications Commission in connection with the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF - Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 773-77, Appx. C.).

NTIA will ensure, prior to issuing a middle mile grant award, that each eligible entity obtains an acceptable, irrevocable standby letter of credit in a value of no less than 25 percent of the award amount.

Each eligible entity shall provide with its letter of credit an opinion letter from its legal counsel clearly stating, subject only to customary assumptions, limitations, and qualifications, that in a proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), the bankruptcy court would not treat the letter of credit or proceeds of the letter of credit as property of the winning bidder's bankruptcy estate under Section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Letter of Credit \$7M - West Idaho-09-29-2022 08-04-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, 3-27-23 \$7MM LC Commitment with template (Syr-04-06-2023 04-17-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, 11-2-22 Commitment Letter \$7MM LC-West - upda-11-02-2022 02-51-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

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Audited Financial Statement (Previous 3 Years)

Each applicant shall submit financial statements from the most recent fiscal year that are audited by an independent certified public accountant. If the applicant is not audited in the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements it must submit unaudited financial statements from the three prior fiscal years and certify that it will provide financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by an NTIA specified deadline.

***You must provide 3 years of audited financial statements.**

Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-20 Audit-09-21-2022 02-58-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf,
Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-2021 Audit-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-

001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-19 Audit-09-21-2022 02-58-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-2021 Auditor-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-19 Auditor -09-21-2022 02-58-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-20 Auditor -09-21-2022 02-58-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

Historical Financial Statements (Previous 3 Years)

Each applicant shall submit financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant. If the applicant is not audited in the ordinary course of business, in lieu of submitting audited financial statements it must submit unaudited financial statements from the three prior fiscal years and certify that it will provide financial statements from the three prior fiscal years that are audited by an independent certified public accountant by an NTIA specified deadline.

***You must provide 3 years of historical financial statements.**

Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-19 Auditor -09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-20 Auditor -09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-2021 Auditor-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-19 Audit-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-20 Audit-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf, Syringa Networks, LLC Final 12-31-2021 Audit-09-21-2022 02-59-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.pdf

Budget Narrative

Applicants will create and submit a budget narrative that adequately describes all proposed activities and costs for their grant-funded project. Applicants must complete the file template, fill in all required information, and upload the file

. The file must be uploaded as a Word file, and not converted to a PDF. You can find additional guidance in the MMG Application Guidance.

Budget Narrative-West Idaho-09-29-2022 08-16-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.docx, _Budget Narrative-West Idaho-Updated-11-02-2022 04-10-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.docx, Budget Narrative-West Idaho-April2023-04-06-2023 04-28-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.docx

Template Detailed Budget Justification

The Detailed Budget Justification spreadsheet must reflect the cost categories that appear on the SF-424 and SF-424C and include itemized calculations for each cost placed under those categories. A

fillable Template Detailed Budget Justification can be found in found in the MMG ZIP folder.

Detailed Budget Justification-West Idaho-09-29-2022 08-21-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx,
Detailed Budget Justification-West Idaho-Apri-04-06-2023 04-30-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-
001020.xlsx

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Any other funding provided for this project?

No

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Template Pro Forma

Pro forma financial projection and analysis related to the project's sustainability, inclusive of subscriber (e.g., last mile network connections, other wholesale services), across an eight-year forecast period. A fillable Template Pro Forms can be found in the MMG ZIP folder.

Pro Forma Income Statement-West Idaho-09-30-2022 02-47-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx,
Pro Forma Income Statement-April2023-04-06-2023 04-31-Syringa Networks LLC-GRN-001020.xlsx

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