Applicant Name:  KING AND QUEEN COUNTY, VA

Project Title:  King and Queen County BTOP

Project Type:  Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

_______________________ Executive Summary _____________________

The project will provide middle mile terrestrial broadband infrastructure to King and Queen County, VA. High speed broadband services will then be available to county residences, businesses, and critical community facilities. Public Safety Offices will also be direct customers as will community anchor institutions. The county currently has no high speed broadband available. The purpose of this project is to deploy a fiber-optic network in King and Queen County in order to provide broadband service to community anchor institutions, residences and businesses. This network will resolve the compelling problem that none of the community anchor institutions, very few businesses and only 18% of residences currently have broadband access today. In short, almost all of the county is unserved and a small portion is underserved. Lack of broadband service to community anchor institutions is a serious problem for the county, negatively impacting the public schools, public safety agencies, and county government offices. Additionally, the County's economic development efforts have been stymied by lack of broadband access. Because King and Queen County is almost entirely rural, no broadband service provider is willing to invest in building a broadband network in the county: the return on investment cannot justify the very large capital expense to cover a sparsely populated county. This fiber-optic network offers an effective solution to the problems described above, providing broadband service to all of the community anchor institutions in the County and making it available at affordable rates to all the businesses and residences in the County. The availability of this broadband network will provide strong support for the County's economic development efforts. This project directly addresses all five of the ARRA statutory purposes of the BTOP grant program by providing access to broadband service to consumers residing in the large unserved area of the County; providing greatly improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in the small underserved area of the County; providing broadband access to all of the community anchor institutions in the County, including schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, other community support organizations; providing access to broadband service for public safety agencies; and supporting the County's economic development and job creation efforts.