

SUBJECT

Approve staff to submit and authorize Information Technology Director, David Palmer to sign a formal submission on behalf of the Polk County BoCC a National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Middle Mile Grant (GRN-000726) application (no fiscal impact)

DESCRIPTION

The Information Technology Division is working in conjunction with many local community partners to submit a grant for middle mile broadband funding available through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Middle Mile Grant (GRN-000726). This funding opportunity would enhance connectivity to anchor institutions located throughout Polk County. This funding will also provide the following outcomes: broadband connectivity that is redundant and resilient throughout Polk County; enhanced public safety, emergency management, and homeland security; increased access to healthcare; improved economic opportunities; increased government efficiency; stronger educational system; increased broadband access to all Polk County residents and visitors. The deadline for submission of the grant is September 30, 2022. The grant will provide 70% of the funding and Polk County will be responsible for the remaining 30% if the grant is awarded. A grant award acceptance request will be submitted for Board approval should funds be awarded from the grant application process.

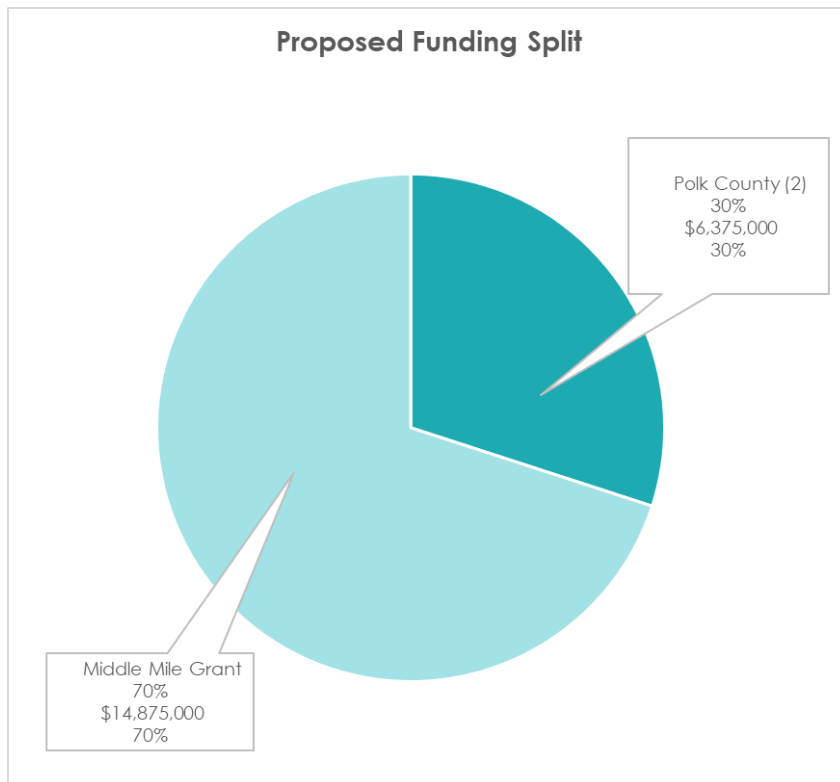
RECOMMENDATION

Approve and authorize staff to submit and authorize Information Technology Director, David Palmer to sign a formal submission on behalf of the Polk County BoCC a National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Middle Mile Grant (GRN-000726) application.

FISCAL IMPACT

Total Middle Mile Grant application is estimated for \$21,250,000 which will be reimbursed at 70% @ \$14,875,000 for a Polk County contribution of \$6,375,000. If Polk County were to install residential speeds at the 20 fire stations, it would cost a total of \$6,641,124 over 20 years, which is a net savings to the County of \$266,124, in net present value. At this time there is no Fiscal Impact, until such time that the Grant is awarded.

Middle Mile Program Estimates	Costs	Planned Expenditures	Incr/(Decr)
Interconnects			
Auburndale	\$ 200,000		
Bartow	\$ 250,000		
Haines City	\$ 250,000		
Lakeland	\$ 275,000		
Winter Haven	\$ 275,000		
Fire Stations (1)	\$20,000,000		
Total	\$ 21,250,000		
Funding Split			
Polk County (2) 30%	\$ 6,375,000	\$ 6,641,124	\$ (266,124)
Middle Mile Grant 70%	\$ 14,875,000		
	\$ 21,250,000		
(1) Estimated for additional 20 fire stations			
(2) Today's least cost service (\$6,641,124) for F/S* 20 years CPI of 2.78%			



CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: David Palmer

Title: Information Technology Director

Division: Information Technology

Phone: (863) 534-7660

E-mail Address: DavidPalmer@polk-county.net

CHECKLIST

Purple Sheet and Review – Legal

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Division Fiscal Review

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Risk Review (if appropriate)

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Appropriate Insurance

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Deputy County Manager is Aware and Agrees

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Vendor Signature

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Comments/Notes:

Division Director Signature _____ Date _____