



Louisiana Office of Broadband
Development & Connectivity

April.20, 2022

LPESA Meeting

Vision

~~Digital divide by 2029~~

Lack of Broadband

~1.5 million

Louisianians lack broadband (47% AA / 47% Latino) due to a lack of device, access, affordability or digital literacy

Infrastructure, Affordability & Digital Literacy

Infrastructure

\$342,000,000

Rural Digital Opportunity Fund

\$177,000,000

GUMBO grant program

\$100,000,000*

IIJA

Affordability (#3)

> 215,000

households enrolled

FCC EBB Program

Digital Literacy

~462,000

residents, ages 18 – 64,

may lack basic digital literacy skills

Community Outreach

📶 Last year, ConnectLA visited over 50 parishes and countless communities

📶 Communicating with local leaders and stakeholders



📶 Parish committees include:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 📶 Allen | 📶 Evangeline |
| 📶 Bossier | 📶 LaSalle |
| 📶 Calcasieu | 📶 Livingston |
| 📶 Concordia | 📶 Natchitoches |
| 📶 DeSoto | 📶 Ouachita |
| 📶 East Carroll | 📶 Plaquemines |
| 📶 East Feliciana | 📶 Sabine |

📶 Local committees include:

- 📶 Goldonna
- 📶 Monroe
- 📶 Slidell
- 📶 Stonewall
- 📶 Ville Platte
- 📶 West Monroe

GUMBO Grant Program

GUMBO Grant Program (CPF)

Revised timeline - round 1



GUMBO – Round 1 (Results)

- 📶 \$90 Million/\$177 Million Authorized

- 📶 \$711 MM and \$440 MM in Total and GUMBO Project Requests

- 📶 58/64 Parishes represented

- 📶 14 National Companies, 8 Local Companies, 1 Cooperative

- 📶 40% Average Match

- 📶 Partnership with LCTCS

- 📶 \$10MM allocated by the state for Broadband Workforce Training

GUMBO – Round 1 (Continued)

📶 Application review continues....

📶 Protests

📶 All applicants were protested

📶 157 Protests, 27 Appeals – so far.....

IIJA – GUMBO V2

- 🌀 Same general process as GUMBO VI
 - 🌀 Some changes may be made
- 🌀 \$100 MM + in funding to be available
- 🌀 Unserved, Underserved, Community Anchors
- 🌀 Evaluating new methods for applying and protesting

IIJA – Expansion of Benefit

- 📶 Talent Development and Education
- 📶 Infrastructure (Income Stratification)
- 📶 Defense and Cybersecurity
- 📶 R&D – Ag and AgTech
- 📶 R&D – Healthcare and Education

Execution of Use Cases

- Development of five-Year outline (layered IIJA/RDOF and CPF)
- Intense stakeholder engagement between February – May to inform the five-year plan
 - Agriculture
 - Faith Base Community
 - Economic Development Organizations
 - Housing Authorities
 - Higher Education Institutions
 - Tribal Areas
- Have a version 3.0 of the five-year outline made public over the next several months
- Plan enough to be dangerous with data, execute and iterate



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