



# ConnectLA

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
- 📶 Bossier
- 📶 Calcasieu
- 📶 Concordia
- 📶 DeSoto
- 📶 East Carroll
- 📶 East Feliciana
- 📶 Evangeline
- 📶 LaSalle
- 📶 Livingston
- 📶 Natchitoches
- 📶 Ouachita
- 📶 Plaquemines
- 📶 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 V1
  - 📶 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



# ConnectLA

Louisiana Office of Broadband  
Development & Connectivity

**connect.la.gov**

**connect@la.gov**