

**Nebraska Central Telephone Company
Sargent City Limits Underserved Application Project Summary
Attachment M**

This Sargent City Limits Underserved Application is an ideal application for use of funds under the Broadband Bridge Act (the “Act”). Nebraska Central Telephone Company (NCTC) and Hamilton Telecommunications are established and trustworthy organizations poised to help maximize the impact the Act will have in Nebraska. The project would connect new buried fiber to existing buried fiber in and around Sargent capable of bringing 1/1 Gbps broadband to every serviceable location in the project area. Because NCTC is already heavily invested in the community and has fostered relationships in the Sargent exchange that has developed over decades of providing service there, NCTC would be the lone applicant uniquely positioned to bring high quality broadband to all of Sargent – both rural areas and within city limits. Additionally, NCTC is only seeking a 20% match to complete the project which would help maximize the number of locations that the Act would be able to fund in its first award year.

Although this Application is appealing by itself, NCTC believes that putting this proposal in the context of all of its Act applications is helpful. Proudly, NCTC has submitted Act applications with the objective of bringing fiber to each unserved location in its service area; an objective which is also the top legislative priority of the Act. NCTC has prioritized serving all unserved serviceable locations in its exchanges before completing underserved projects, like the one in this application, and the Public Service Commission should view this Application favorably.

NCTC has the existing network, relationships, capital, and expertise to complete and maintain the Sargent fiber network. NCTC would be an ideal recipient of Act grant monies and the Commission should take comfort in knowing that any award made to NCTC will result in high quality fiber buildout connected to an existing fiber network constructed and maintained by an experienced Nebraska service provider with a stable outlook. NCTC and Hamilton are committed to employing any Act funds to burying fiber and providing fast and reliable broadband to real Nebraskans for decades to come.