

Capital Projects Fund Community Feedback Form

PROJECT DETAILS

Applying Service Provider: Allo Fiber

Project Name: Branched Oak Observatory

Description of Proposed Project Area:

Connecting Fiber to planned Allo facilities and connecting directly to the Branched Oak Observatory

Name of person/entity completing the form: Matthew Anderson - Co/Founder/CEO Branched Oak Observatory

Community Role (mark one):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Business: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government: _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Nonprofit: <u>X</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Government: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): _____ |

I/We DO NOT support the providers application because:

I/We support the provider's application because (select any that apply):

- The proposed service area is not able to receive reliable broadband service of 25/3 Mbps or greater.
- The proposed service area is not able to receive reliable broadband service of 100/20 Mbps or greater.
- The proposed project would result in the entire community having access to high-speed internet at 100/100 Mbps.
- The proposed service provider has consulted with the community in relation to community needs and affordability of the proposed service plans.
- Other reasons (please complete below)

Comments:

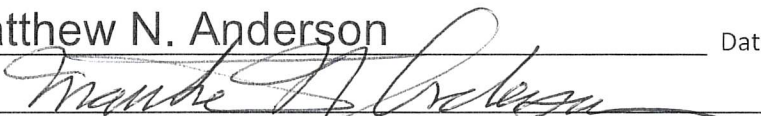
My name is Matt Anderson and I am the Co-Founder/CEO of the Branched Oak Observatory. We are located 1/2 south of the Branched Oak Recreation Area. We are a public skypark that was founded in 2014. In the past 9 years we have been able to grow because of excellent community relationships and partnerships as well as a lot of blood, sweat and tears. Our organization is now growing rapidly and the future is indeed bright. However there are clouds on the horizon. The local ISP Nextlink has contested the application for fiber to be run to the observatory. They have ERRONOUSLY stated that they can provide us with the 1 gig internet. They cannot and are unwilling to make the investment. In speaking with Allo Fiber they are willing to make the investment to help us grow.

The current ISP is unable to provide reliable internet service. We had approached NextLink and they said that they could provide, but when their technicians came out, they said they couldn't even see the tower. And when we asked them for what they might be willing to do to correct this, they said they weren't going to do this for one customer and if I wanted to pay for the upgrades myself they would be interested, but gave no guarantee that once we spent the money that we would get the service.

~~My personal provider is Windstream and I am only at 80% reliability and the download and upload~~
Please feel free to include supplemental information regarding the proposed project as attachments to this form.

More information about the Capital Projects Fund grant program or the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program, including a map and an electronic version of this form, can be found on the Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC) website at: <https://psc.nebraska.gov/telecommunications/nebraska-broadband-bridge-program-nbbp>.

If you have questions regarding the Capital Projects Fund grant program, please e-mail psc.broadband@nebraska.gov or you may contact the Nebraska Public Service Commission Consumer Advocate during regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CT) by calling 402-471-3101 or toll free in Nebraska at 1-800-526-0017.

Name: Matthew N. Anderson Date: 4/24/2023
Signature: 

Please return completed feedback forms and any supplemental information **no later than April 24, 2023**, via e-mail to psc.broadband@nebraska.gov or via mail to 1200 N Street, 300 The Atrium, Lincoln, NE 68508.

Click to Attach this Form to an Email

Reset Form

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My personal provider is Windstream and I am only at 80% reliability and the download and upload speeds have NEVER been 100/20. For the Branched Oak Observatory which sits on the same parcel of land, our requirements far exceed the capabilities of the current ISP. Also, the location of the Observatory doesn't give a clear line of site to the existing towers for wireless.

Our current Multi Purpose center which will be completed soon will have needs that the current ISP cannot provide. We will be utilizing live streaming on multiple platforms at the same time. Fully remote access not only for command and control of our observatories but for live video feeds of which multiple stream will be occurring at the same time on a daily basis. Our Earth Moon Earth array will demand reliable connectivity not only for local but for worldwide communications. Our planned growth of a multi million dollar facility in the next 2 years simply demands fiber and 1 gig to reliably provide the necessary connectivity. Simply put. If the fiber isn't provided we will be unable to grow.