A digital inclusion plan must be attached for consideration. The plan must describe: (a) The applicant's process to consult with the community and consider affordability. (b) A description of how the project will meet the objective of providing broadband infrastructure deployment within the project area to directly enable work, education, and healthcare monitoring; (c) Identify any critical needs of the community intended to be served by the project, and how the project will be tailored to meet those needs, including the carrier's efforts to ensure members of the community to be served will be able to afford the services offered and must describe any discounts and/or support programs to be offered for low-income individuals. (d) The plan should specify how the project will impact access to and use of information and communication technologies within the communities it serves, including individuals and communities that are the most disadvantaged. (e) The plan should include the pricing structure of the 100/100 Mbps plan being offered to low-income subscribers in addition to the availability of Lifeline or Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) discounts and any additional terms and conditions of service. (f) Include evidence of outreach efforts to relevant stakeholders (community leaders, community members, civic organizations, etc.) in the areas they are wishing to serve.

The proposed fiber network will establish and accelerate the enhancement of broadband infrastructure in the unserved areas of the project area by providing reliable high-speed broadband service. South Sidney is the west entrance to the City and has been identified for growth in the City's master plan.

The project area includes the Sidney Municipal Airport. Broadband infrastructure is critical to this geographical area, as the United States Air Force will be starting their Strategic Deterrent or Sentinel project soon, which will bring additional residents and businesses to Sidney.

The South Sidney project area also includes numerous residences. Like most rural areas, these residents have struggled with connectivity during the COVID-19 public health emergency and beyond. Lack of access has resulted in community members being unable to access job, healthcare, and educational resources.

During the pandemic, there was a significant demand for reliable, high-speed internet as the extended business and school shutdowns resulted in employees working from home and students engaging in virtual learning. Those who didn't have high-speed connections were unable to compete everyday tasks or schoolwork. Telehealth became a critical need and a good alternative to in-person consultation with doctors, but only if the patients have internet connectivity.

A lack of access to reliable, high-speed, high-capacity internet in the area continues to negatively affect a large percentage of South Sidney's population.

ALLO's fiber network is critical to the viability of the community and its needs. The reliable high-speed connections will allow employees to telecommute from home, students to participate in remote learning, opportunities for current and future businesses, as well as provide improved health care processes and public safety options, among other benefits.

ALLO has been leading the effort for our communities to stay connected. ALLO's service has been in high demand for learning and working from home services with a specific need for reliable, high-speed internet (symmetrical download and upload speeds, low latency) as employees and students are video conferencing, uploading school assignments, and utilizing cloud storage.

Businesses have utilized ALLO services including hosted PBX, soft phones, and additional bandwidth solutions in order to support their businesses and employees during this unique time.

Patients have been able to access telehealth services, such as video consultations, check-ups, remote monitoring, and digital scans.

ALLO's network has performed in a world-class fashion - just as it was designed.

ALLO creates positive change in the communities we serve. One of our greatest joys is witnessing customers finding new and exciting ways to utilize technology and move their communities forward.

ALLO leads in the education and awareness of a fiber network which improves utilization and affordability of technology. We work with governmental programs, local non-profits, national science groups, and other organizations to eliminate the digital divide. Education, healthcare, government, and other entities within the project area will also benefit from the fiber capabilities.

ALLO will be a visible part of the community through active participation with the chamber, civic organizations, and technology-focused organizations. Building a gigabit infrastructure is an important accomplishment; however, operating and utilizing the technology to the fullest extent is more impactful through adoption, education, and collaboration.

ALLO participates in numerous educational events in each of our communities, interacting with residents and business leaders and demonstrating the capabilities of our all-fiber network. Events include trade shows, innovation and broadband summits, open houses, exhibitions, and business showcases, as well as entertainment avenues such as concert series, sporting event tailgates, lawn and leisure shows, Parade of Homes showcases, and many others.

ALLO has utilized local, state, federal and ALLO corporate programs to encourage the adoption of world-class communication through education and financial contributions.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

The White House recently announced its initiative to make 100 Mbps internet free to all ACP participants. ALLO readily adopted ACP upon its rollout on December 31, 2021. We are excited to support this program and offer 100 Mbps service for qualifying ACP households.

ALLO was one of only 11 telecom companies invited to the White House to celebrate this announcement. Additionally, ALLO was among 20 telecom providers named by the White House as supporters of ACP.

The ACP program is making reliable broadband a reality for those who have only had options for mediocre or no connectivity in the past. ALLO is proud to support the FCC in this effort as it closely aligns with our purpose to expand digital inclusion and make connectivity accessible and affordable for all.

ALLO offers free 100 Mbps internet to qualifying households through the FCC's ACP. This federal broadband program provides a $30 monthly subsidy, which will completely cover the cost of ALLO's new 100 Mbps service option for ACP participants.

Customers who meet the program requirements can receive 100 Mbps internet free or apply the $30 monthly discount to any ALLO internet option. Other ALLO internet plans include 500 Mbps, 1 GIG, and 2.3 GIG symmetrical speeds.

Previously, ALLO supported the FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit program and continues to promote the effort to expand broadband access through the ACP. ALLO has participated in the ACP since its rollout on December 31, 2021. More than 10 million Americans currently utilize this program.

Additional information about ALLO ACP service options and program requirements is located at.

Lifeline

ALLO participates in the Federal Lifeline telecom program, part of the Universal Service Fund, which provides economy broadband and voice services at a substantially reduced cost for qualified residents on government assistance. If the customer qualifies for the Lifeline program, ALLO is able to reduce the price of internet or phone for any of our current service plans.

A customer who qualifies for Lifeline is also eligible for ACP. If the customer has internet only, they can apply both credits to any ALLO internet option (500 Mbps, 1 GIG, and 2.3 GIG symmetrical speeds), or receive the 100 Mbps option for free. If the customer has both internet and phone, they can apply the Lifeline credit to the phone and the ACP credit to the internet.

Community Outreach

Please see **Attachment J-1** for a community outreach letter to City Manager David Scott, and the resulting letter of support.