Stealth Broadband — Digital Inclusion Plan

1) Affordability / Need

This project is a rural only project with 100% of the design within Colfax County, Nebraska.

Existing Rural Broadband Providers in Colfax County

- Stealth Broadband – Wireless Internet Service adjacent to project area
    - Speeds – 50/5 Mbps and 100/25 Mbps
- Rise Broadband
    - Speeds – Up to 25/5 Mbps – speed-test data shows customers receive nowhere near these speeds.
- NextLink
    - Speeds – Up to 50/5 Mbps – speed-test data shows customers receive nowhere near these advertised speeds.
- Frontier
    - Speeds – Up to 10/1 Mbps
- LTD Broadband
    - Speeds – LTD reports they have 250/250 Mbps available in most locations. They ARE NOT able to provide speeds anywhere near these speeds.
- CenturyLink
    - Speeds – Up to 10/1 Mbps

NTIA – Indicators of Broadband Need Median Speed-test Results

- Central and Southern Platte County – 16.88 Mbps Download / 4.6 Mbps Upload
- Northern Platte County – 27.44 Mbps Download / 6.27 Mbps Upload
    - Numbers show higher than what is actual as Humphrey, Lindsay, and Creston are all included in the data with speeds in excess of 100/20 Mbps throughout those communities.
- Rural Colfax County – 10.42 Mbps Download / 2.38 Mbps Upload

Demographic Data

- Median Income for Platte County is $64,105 with poverty level at 7.2%
    - Numbers are skewed as we can't separate out Columbus and other towns.
- Median Income for Colfax County is $70,381 with poverty level at 9.6%
    - Numbers are skewed as we can't separate out Schuyler and other towns.

2) Work / Education / Healthcare

Stealth Broadband's fiber to the home network provides much more than the minimum bandwidth levels needed for all Internet applications. In many cases, Stealth customers have

more bandwidth available at home than they do at work, making working from home viable for all customers. Stealth customers with students at home had no issues with their students being able to join Zoom classrooms for remote learning. As tele-health has become more prevalent, Stealth has talked to customers that are successfully using our service to reach doctors remotely.

3) COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic showed us, broadband availability is extremely important for every household. Students were forced to attend school from home, and some were unable to do schoolwork at home because of no (or little) access to broadband services. Stealth worked diligently to provide internet to people unable to gain access by making sure we tried everything possible to get people access to high-speed internet.

4 / 5) Critical Needs and Access

As this project is 100% rural, the needs of the area are different than those of urban areas. Many of the locations included in this application are farmers that have specific needs that require robust and reliable Internet access. Farmers are now having to use the Internet for the following applications:

- Commodity prices and futures
- Field and crop data
- Equipment firmware and software updates
- Accounting software
- Center-pivot monitoring
- Soil moisture monitoring
- Chemical application classes
- Online auctions

In addition to the needs of the farmers in the area, all locations will have access to these applications:

- Remote learning
- Tele-Health
- Work from home
- Computer and Phone software updates
- Web Searching
- Streaming
- Gaming

By providing Internet service in the areas we have identified, we can help bring people back to rural areas and help spark economic growth. After the COVID-19 pandemic, a lot of professionals are working from home. We've heard from consumers that they are considering

moving back to rural areas after their job was changed from in-person to remote. Their only downfall was the lack of good quality, and affordable, broadband access. Again, in some cases we were able to serve those in need, but in other cases there was not a viable Internet provider in the area. If we do not expand fiber to the home to rural areas, we are at risk of further extending the digital divide in Nebraska.

6) Low Income Availability

Stealth is committed to ensuring that all members of the public will have access to affordable and reliable Internet services.

Stealth speeds and packages for all fiber to the home areas are as follows:

- 500/500mbps for $60/mo.
- 750/750mbps for $80/mo.
- 1000/1000mbps for $100/mo.

All Stealth plans include the following:
- Unlimited Data
- No Contract Option
- 24 Month Contract Option (Reduces Monthly Rate by $5)

Low Income Availability - Stealth understands the challenges that low-income families face. We know that quality Internet service is critically important to most families for parents to work and for children to learn. With this in mind, Stealth will be launching a reduced-price plan for low-income families with speeds of 100/100 Mbps for $45/mo. This package will be offered to customers that meet the criteria of a low-income household.

Stealth is a qualified provider for the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). ACP was created to help connect families and households that struggle to afford Internet service. This is advertised on our website at www.stealthbroadband.com/financial-assistance-resources. ACP is also advertised on every area sign up page on the Stealth website.

Stealth provides flexible payment plans to all customers. If a consumer is making regular efforts to pay on their account, we do not turn off their Internet services. Stealth also does not charge re-activation fees for customers who have had their Internet shut off due to no payment.

7) Community Outreach

Stealth will hold community sign up meetings to help educate customers on low income programs. In addition, we will hold small informative sessions for senior citizens to show them the benefits of high quality broadband for Telehealth and other helpful services that it could provide them with.. Furthermore, Stealth Broadband will help customers to understand how great quality broadband can help transform their communities and help bring a younger generation back. Stealth's number one goal is to connect as many people as possible to affordable and reliable broadband services.