



---

## **Attachment G Business Plan**

Vyve Broadband proposes to extend its existing fiber infrastructure in Bellwood, NE to nearby unincorporated rural communities in Butler County largely located along the Platte River and US Highway 81. These areas are poorly served by existing wireline providers and are underserved by wireless and satellite ISPs at expensive rates. Vyve's project would bring affordable, high-speed service to 345 new served locations via approximately 19 miles of new fiber.

### **Risks, Legal Factors, and Permitting**

Vyve's Regulatory team works in close coordination with Operations to ensure that all legal and permitting items are addressed prior to the construction of any new facilities. As needed, Vyve will consult with Butler County to ensure a proper franchise is in place before building underground fiber. The current design plans anticipate that there will be 1 railroad crossing with BNSF Railway, from whom we will acquire the necessary wireline crossing permit. As parts of the project area run along US Highway 81, Vyve will apply for any needed highway permits with the Nebraska Department of Transportation, and its employees will follow all DOT regulations during construction to maintain the safe flow of traffic. We have an account with the Nebraska811 locate service and verify that our construction will not damage existing underground infrastructure. We are not aware of any particular risks or legal factors unique to this project, and it presents no challenges outside of our experience to manage.

### **Financial Analysis**

The total project cost is estimated to be \$2,357,507. Vyve is requesting \$1,768,130 in matching grant funds, which yields an applicant match percentage of 25%. Please refer to Attachment G-1 for a detailed financial analysis of the project including costs, anticipated revenue and take rates, cash flow projections over 15 years, as well as the expected payback in months. We estimate that the project will generate enough cash flow to fund the maintenance of the facilities over at least the next 15 years of service. The Audited Financial Statements submitted under Attachment I demonstrate that Vyve has more than enough funds in its revolving credit facility to fund the applicant match.



---

## **Long-Term Maintenance**

Vyve's Operations team has the knowledge and resources to ensure the long-term stability of the proposed facilities. The project is designed to be 100% underground; in contrast to vulnerable aerial plant, underground facilities are largely insulated from the elements, vehicular accidents, pole replacements, and other service disruptions. In addition, passive optical technology inherently requires much less routine maintenance than the active equipment found in traditional HFC designs. In the event of unforeseen damage to the plant, our Operations team can draw on more than 40 trained technicians to quickly respond and ensure service is restored with minimal downtime for our customers. When we receive locate tickets, we either locate them in-house or via our locate partner USIC in order to ensure construction by other entities does not impact our plant. Additional information about the design and reliability of the proposed facilities can be found in the Technical Capability Statement under [Attachment E](#).

## **Community Engagement**

Vyve recognizes the value of engaging with local leaders and residents to ensure that our prospective service meets the broadband needs of the community and is both affordable and accessible. As this project covers unincorporated rural areas outside of any town or city, we reached out to the Butler County government to introduce our grant proposal and open a dialogue. A member of our team met with the Butler County Board of Supervisors on February 21, 2023 to present the project, seek feedback, and answer any questions. The board members were also given a copy of the outreach materials found in [Attachment G-2](#).

In addition, we mailed outreach letters to 174 households in the proposed project area. The letters included the Commission's feedback form as well as a pre-paid return envelope addressed to the Commission. A copy of these outreach materials can be found in [Attachment G-3](#).

We hope that the county authorities and local residents will provide favorable feedback with regard to our proposed project. At the same time, we are prepared to discuss any concerns that may be raised and to address them to the satisfaction of the Commission.