

Attachment J Digital Inclusion Plan

The project is located in Platte County, NE and proposes to serve an initial 28 locations in a growing housing development. According to the 2020 U.S. Census and the 2021 American Community Survey, there are 13,306 households in Platte County. The median household income is \$64,105, slightly less than the nationwide median of \$69,717, and the poverty rate is 7.2%. Notably, 16.1% of residents in Platte County reported living without an internet subscription, compared with only 9.7% nationwide. These figures, in conjunction with the lack of robust existing service as demonstrated below, suggest a community with an above-average need for expanded broadband access that is affordable and accessible. In preparing this application, Vyve made a concerted effort to contact local community leaders and discuss their service and affordability concerns. As this project covers unincorporated rural areas outside of any town or city, we reached out to the Platte County government as discussed in full detail in <u>Attachment G</u>.

Community Needs

The COVID-19 public health emergency immediately emphasized the consequences of the digital divide, as communities without widespread access to high-speed internet were unequipped to adapt to the rapid societal changes. Students, suddenly moved to remote learning, found themselves unable to consistently attend virtual classrooms or complete homework assignments online; many workplaces whose employees lacked reliable internet during work-from-home arrangements suffered losses in productivity; and the rise of telemedicine created new gaps in healthcare access among Americans. Vyve's Genoa East Expansion project will address these needs by ensuring that high-speed service is not only available to residents, but more importantly, affordable to even the most disadvantaged households at all income levels.

The proposed project area consists of a growing residential neighborhood that is served by unreliable wireless service with speeds less than 100/20 Mbps. At such low speeds, residents would find it difficult to work or study from home, stream digital entertainment, and meet the data needs of an entire family at the same time. Our project will bring high-speed fiber internet to this community and ensure reliable access to telehealth, remote learning, shopping, and



entertainment platforms. In addition, we will also offer phone services, third-party over-the-top video products, and a suite of commercial products.

Affordability

Affordability has traditionally been a major obstacle to broadband adoption efforts. Vyve already offers 105/105 Mbps speeds in comparable Nebraska markets for \$59.99/month, which is regularly discounted for new subscribers through various promotional and introductory offers. In addition, we have been a proud participant in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) from its inception and publicly offer the ACP discount to low-income subscribers. To further maximize accessibility through this Digital Inclusion Plan, Vyve plans to offer 105/105 Mbps speeds without any data caps or throttling for \$49.99/month to customers in the proposed project area. These rates are eligible for the ACP discount, and when combined with our introductory and promotional rates, some customers may have no out-of-pocket costs for their internet service.

Existing Service

The proposed project area is currently underserved by existing broadband internet service providers. From firsthand knowledge and observation of the project area, our operations team is not aware of any existing fixed broadband provider with speeds exceeding 100/20 Mbps. We researched a representative sample of addresses in the project area, a few of which are below. Three providers initially appeared to offer 100/20 Mbps speeds but did not hold up under scrutiny.

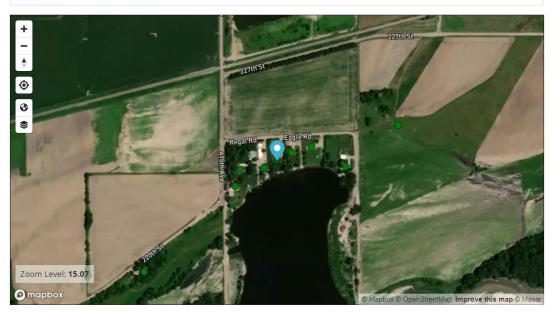
The first provider is Space Exploration Holdings, LLC, whose NGSO satellite service is not considered "served" under the program rules. The second provider is AMG Technology Investment Group LLC dba Nextlink, who claim 100/20 Mbps fixed wireless service in many locations. However, as shown below, their website only indicates that speeds up to **100/10 Mbps** are available for their highest cost plan, which remains unaffordable for low-income subscribers even after the ACP discount. The third provider is LTD Broadband LLC, who claim 250/250 Mbps fixed wireless service in some locations; however, as shown below, they only advertise wireless service up to **35 Mbps** at significantly unaffordable rates.



Figure 1.1. Sample address in project area from the FCC National Broadband Map.

Location Summary

41308 REGAL RD MONROE, NE 68647



Selected Location

Provider		Technology	Down Up <u>Chall.</u>
Residential	Business		Availability Challenge 2
Data As Of	Jun 30, 2022 (Last Updated: 2/1/23)		
Speed	25/3 Mbps or greater		
Technology	Any Technology		
Туре	Residential		
Broadband			\$
Status: Serve	d Residential Unit Count: 1		
MONROE, N	E 68647		
41308 REGAI	L RD		Location Challenge

6

Provider	Technology	Down (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)	<u>Chall.</u>
AMG Technology Investment Group LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	100	20	
Frontier Communications Corporation	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	10	1	
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	GSO Satellite	25	3	
JAB Wireless, Inc.	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	25	5	
LTD Broadband LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	250	250	
 Space Exploration Holdings, LLC 	NGSO Satellite	350	40	
Telephone & Data Systems, incl. UScellular	Licensed Fixed Wireless	25	3	2 -



Figure 1.2. Actual advertised speeds of 100/10 Mbps by Nextlink for this address (<u>https://nextlinkinternet.com</u>).

elect services for: 41308 Regal Rd, Monro	e, NE, 68647, USA	
Wireless (Select A F	Plan)	 No Contract Pricing
NEXT25 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT50 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT100 - MONTH TO MONTH
Download speeds up to 25 Mbps	Download speeds up to 50 Mbps	Download speeds up to 100 Mbps
\$39 .95 per month	\$59 .95 per month	\$79 .95 per month
SELECT - Good for 2-3 Users - Up to 25 Mbps Download - Up to 5 Mbps Upload - No Data Caps! - Check email and browse the web - Use social media - Stream music and videos	SELECT - Ideal for 4+ Users - Up to 50 Mbps Download - Up to 10 Mbps Upload - No Data Caps! - Check email and browse the web - Use social media - Stream music and videos	SELECT Best for 4+ Users Up to 100 Mbps Download Up to 10 Mbps Upload No Data Caps! Check email and browse the web Use social media Stream music and videos Home monitoring and cameras



Figure 1.3. Lack of wireless speeds matching claim of 250/250 Mbps fixed wireless on FCC National Broadband Map by LTD Broadband (https://ltdbroadband.com/plans).

좋LTD Broadband

Fixed Wireless Plans & Pricing

Fast | Unlimited | Local | No contracts | Fair prices

- FAMILY 10 Mbps - ULTRA 25 Mbps

Includes whole-home mesh Wifi

- from \$70/month

1 Month - \$80 (w/autopay) 3 Months - \$225 (\$75/month) 6 Months - \$438 (\$73/month)

12 Months - \$840

(\$70/month)

Includes whole-home mesh Wifi

- from \$80/month

1 Month - \$90 (w/autopay) 3 Months - \$255 (\$85/month) 6 Months - \$498 (\$83/month)

12 Months - \$960 (\$80/month)

- Home Office 35 **Mbps**

Includes whole-home mesh Wifi

- from \$110/month

1 Month - \$120 (w/autopay) 3 Months - \$345 (\$115/month) 6 Months - \$678 (\$113/month)

12 Months - \$1320

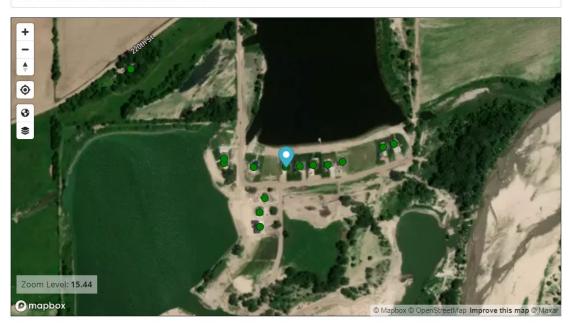
(\$110/month)



Figure 2.1. Sample address in project area from the FCC National Broadband Map.

Location Summary

41425 CANOPY LN MONROE, NE 68647



Selected Location

41425 CANO MONROE, NI		Location Challenge
Status: Serve	d Residential Unit Count: 1	
Broadband		\$
Туре	Residential	
Technology	Any Technology	
Speed	25/3 Mbps or greater	
Data As Of	Jun 30, 2022 (Last Updated: 2/1/23)	

6

Residential | Business

Residential Business A			vailability Challenge <mark>2</mark>		
Provider	Technology	Down (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)	<u>Chall.</u>	
AMG Technology Investment Group LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	100	20		
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	GSO Satellite	25	3		
JAB Wireless, Inc.	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	25	5		
LTD Broadband LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	250	250		
 Space Exploration Holdings, LLC 	NGSO Satellite	350	40		
• Telephone & Data Systems, incl. UScellular	Licensed Fixed Wireless	25	3	2 -	
▶ Viasat. Inc.	GSO Satellite	50	3		



Figure 2.2. Actual advertised speeds of 100/10 Mbps by Nextlink for this address (<u>https://nextlinkinternet.com</u>).

elect services for: 41425 Canopy Ln, Moni	roe, NE, 68647, USA	
Wireless (Select A F	Plan)	 No Contract Pricing
NEXT25 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT50 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT100 - MONTH TO MONTH
Download speeds up to 25 Mbps	Download speeds up to 50 Mbps	Download speeds up to 100 Mbps
\$39 .95	\$59 .95	\$79 .95
per month	per month	per month
SELECT	SELECT	SELECT
Good for 2-3 Users Up to 25 Mbps Download	 Ideal for 4+ Users Up to 50 Mbps Download 	 Best for 4+ Users Up to 100 Mbps Download
- Up to 5 Mbps Upload	- Up to 50 Mbps Download - Up to 10 Mbps Upload	- Up to 10 Mbps Upload
- No Data Caps!	- No Data Caps!	- No Data Caps!
Check email and browse the web Use social media	Check email and browse the web Use social media	 Check email and browse the web Use social media
- Stream music and videos	- Stream music and videos	- Stream music and videos



Figure 3.1. Sample address in project area from the FCC National Broadband Map.

Selected Loca	ation	•
19007 LOUP	LN	Location Challenge
MONROE, N	E 68647	
Status: Serve	d Residential Unit Count: 1	
Broadband		\$
Туре	Residential	
Type Technology	Residential Any Technology	

Residential | Business

Avail	lahi	lity	Chal	lenge	2
nvai	avi	ncy	Chai	lenge	۰.

Provider	Technology	Down (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)	<u>Chall.</u>
AMG Technology Investment Group LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	100	20	
 Hughes Network Systems, LLC 	GSO Satellite	25	3	
▶ JAB Wireless, Inc.	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	25	5	
LTD Broadband LLC	Unlicensed Fixed Wireless	250	250	
Space Exploration Holdings, LLC	NGSO Satellite	350	40	
Telephone & Data Systems, incl. UScellular	Licensed Fixed Wireless	25	3	2 -
Viasat. Inc.	GSO Satellite	50	3	



Figure 3.2. Actual advertised speeds of 100/10 Mbps by Nextlink for this address (<u>https://nextlinkinternet.com</u>).

elect services for: 19007 Loup Ln, Monroe	e, NE, 68647, USA	
Wireless (Select A F	Plan)	 No Contract Pricing
NEXT25 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT50 - MONTH TO MONTH	NEXT100 - MONTH TO MONTH
Download speeds up to 25 Mbps	Download speeds up to 50 Mbps	Download speeds up to 100 Mbps
\$39 .95	\$59 .95	\$79 ,95
per month	per month	per month
SELECT	SELECT	SELECT
 Good for 2-3 Users Up to 25 Mbps Download Up to 5 Mbps Upload No Data Caps! Check email and browse the web Use social media 	 Ideal for 4+ Users Up to 50 Mbps Download Up to 10 Mbps Upload No Data Caps! Check email and browse the web Use social media 	 Best for 4+ Users Up to 100 Mbps Download Up to 10 Mbps Upload No Data Caps! Check email and browse the web Use social media
- Check email and browse the web	- Check email and browse the web	 Check email and browse the web



Other Evidence of Broadband Need

In addition, the NTIA's Indicators of Broadband Need Map shows that the entire proposed project area has median fixed broadband speeds below 25/3 Mbps.

Figure 4. Rough sketch of the proposed project route overlayed on top of the NTIA's Indicators of Broadband Need Map.

