

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Communications Division
Broadband Regional Initiatives Branch

RESOLUTION T-17874
February 20, 2025

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION T-17874: Awards five grants for up to \$9,247,472 from the Last Mile Federal Funding Account to provide service to 2,086 unserved locations in Tuolumne County.

I. SUMMARY

This Resolution recommends approval of five Last Mile Federal Funding Account grants in the amount of up to \$9,247,472.

This Resolution is part of the twelfth package of Resolutions approving grants to Federal Funding Account applicants for broadband infrastructure projects serving unserved areas in California. Subsequent Resolutions will be presented for Commission vote as Communications Division Staff completes its analyses of applications.

The five projects in this Resolution propose to make investments bringing the social, economic, civic, and public safety benefits of high-speed broadband to 2,086 unserved locations and an estimated unserved population of 2,990 in Tuolumne County. An estimated total population of 3,273 people will benefit from these investments as households and businesses that already have broadband service in these communities will have greater customer choice.

Staff recommends grant awards to two entities: Sierra Nevada Communications and AT&T.

Sierra Nevada Communications is an independent telecommunication company offering service in Tuolumne County. AT&T is an incumbent telecommunication company offering service throughout California.

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Staff recommends the following grant application for Commission approval as shown in Table 1 below. Maps and summaries associated with each project are in the appendices.

Table 1: Summary of Grant Funding

Applicant	Project Name	Estimated Unserved Locations	Estimated Unserved Units	Estimated Unserved Population	Estimated Benefitting Population	Awarded Amount
Tuolumne						
Sierra Nevada Communications	FIBER 108 – Lower Phase	284	410	209	209	\$1,889,117
Sierra Nevada Communications	FIBER 108 – Upper Phase	515	740	215	215	\$1,863,524
Sierra Nevada Communications	FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill	138	492	136	139	\$2,105,330
Sierra Nevada Communications	FIBER 120	176	183	349	349	\$374,469
AT&T	Tuolumne – 1C	973	1,036	2,081	2,361	\$3,015,032
Subtotal		2,086	2,861	2,990	3,273	\$9,247,472
Grand Total		2,086	2,861	2,990	3,273	\$9,247,472

II. BACKGROUND

California’s multi-year broadband investment package established the last mile Federal Funding Account as part of the Budget Act of 2021 and Senate Bill 156¹ and invested \$2 billion in the program over multiple years. The Federal Funding Account funds the construction of last mile broadband infrastructure projects in unserved areas of

¹ Statute 2021, Chapters 84 and 112.

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California. The Federal Funding Account encourages the deployment of broadband throughout the State to enable the public to access internet-based safety applications, telehealth services, emergency services, and to allow first responders to communicate with each other and collaborate during emergencies.

On April 21, 2022, the Commission issued Decision (D.) 22-04-055, Decision Adopting Federal Funding Account Rules. The rules and guidelines adopted in that decision included, among other items, the following: rules about projects to benefit Environmental and Social Justice Communities, affordable offers, five and ten-year price commitments, low-cost plans, project eligibility, application requirements, application objections, implementation of Public Utilities Code Section 281(n) allocating funding between “rural counties” and “urban counties,” a process to reimburse grantees, a ministerial review process whereby Communications Division Staff may approve certain projects, and minimum performance standards for grantees.

The Federal Funding Account D. 22-04-055 includes requirements and preference for a number of affordability requirements including:

- Participation in the Affordable Connectivity Program or access to a “broad-based affordability program.” Given that the Affordable Connectivity Program has lapsed grantees must participate in a successor program when identified by the Commission.
- A five-year price commitment, and preference for a ten-year commitment.
- Preference for a low-cost plan that is \$40/month or less and provides speeds of at least 50 megabits per second down and 20 megabits per second up (50/20 Mbps).
- Preference for participation in the California and/or federal Lifeline programs (which may include bundled voice and broadband offerings).

Applications that committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine, consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion, must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion. In providing grant funding to projects the Commission is validating the need for and the state’s investment in the provision of communications service, including voice and programs supporting affordability like LifeLine, for the life of the infrastructure.

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The Federal Funding Account Decision and Appendix specify additional consideration for disadvantaged communities or Environmental and Social Justice communities.² The Commission made available on the Federal Funding Account Public Map,³ the Applicant Tool,⁴ and data downloads locations and census blocks meeting these definitions.⁵ A grant application window was opened on June 30, 2023, and closed at 4 p.m. on September 29, 2023; 484 applications were submitted. Application summaries were posted on October 23, 2023, and a 28-day objection period closed on November 20, 2023. Responses to objections were received until December 20, 2023.

Applications were holistically evaluated: required and supporting documentation and the merits of the applications were compared and assessed on a county basis. Following an initial analysis, Staff sent a data request to applicants and requested additional information. Staff's holistic evaluation included project engineering, technical feasibility and design, financial viability, cost, applicant capacity, and community need, among other factors. Staff assessed how to manage overlapping applications and applications planning to include some already-served areas in their project area.⁶ Staff also evaluated how applications and groups of applications compared to competing applications in the same county.

² The Commission Environmental and Social Justice Action plan includes definitions and data indicators for disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities including Disadvantaged Communities defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and low-income households defined as household incomes below 80 percent of the area median income. The Commission's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan 2.0 is available at: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/news-and-outreach/documents/news-office/key-issues/esj/esj-action-plan-v2jw.pdf>.

³ The Federal Funding Account Public Map is available at: <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/>.

⁴ Registration for the Federal Funding Account Applicant Tool is available at: [FFA Applicant Tool Registration](#).

⁵ Disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities and individual locations, for purposes of the Federal Funding Account, include those in Disadvantaged Communities census tracts as defined by CalEPA and low-income areas in which the census block group median household income is less than or equal to 80 percent of the higher of the county or state average. This data is available for download on the Federal Funding Account Public Map page (visited June 13, 2024), <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account/ffa-public-map> and the Federal Funding Account Application Resources Page (visited June 13, 2024), <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account/ffa-application-resources-page>.

⁶ D.22-04-055 states that "households and businesses with an identified need for additional broadband infrastructure do not have to be the only ones in the service area served by an eligible broadband infrastructure project. Indeed, serving these households and businesses may require a holistic approach that provides service to a wider area, or example, in order to make ongoing service of certain households or businesses within the service area economical."

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The specific locations to be provided service for a given project will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations. The Federal Funding Account award will not fund locations supported by a federal broadband program with Capital Project Fund monies.⁷

III. APPLICATION SUMMARIES, DISCUSSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Tuolumne County Summary

The allocation for projects in Tuolumne County in D. 22-04-005 is \$15,546,864. This Resolution recommends awarding four grants to Sierra Nevada Communications and one grant to AT&T for projects in Tuolumne County. The recommended grant amount for projects in Tuolumne County in this Resolution is \$9,247,472. A further \$1,690,222 have been recommended for locations in Tuolumne County in Resolution T-17869,⁸ which leaves a remainder of \$4,609,170 of the Tuolumne County allocation.

Tuolumne County Awards

1. Sierra Nevada Communications, FIBER 108 – Lower Phase

Staff recommends the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$1,889,117 for the FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project.

Sierra Nevada Communications proposes to serve an estimated 284 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 410 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 209 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 209 will benefit from these investments in and around the communities of Sylvan Lodge and Long Barn. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

⁷ Federal broadband programs include the Connect America Fund II, Community Connects Grant Program, Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Rural E-Connectivity Program, Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, and Telephone Loan Program.

⁸ Resolution T-17869 recommends the AT&T Mariposa – 1 project for a grant of up to \$9,443,101 in Mariposa and Tuolumne counties. Of the \$9,443,101 recommended, \$1,690,222 was subtracted from the Tuolumne County allocation and \$7,752,879 was subtracted from the Mariposa County allocation.

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In addition to this project providing up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to 284 unserved locations in the communities of Sylvan Lodge and Long Barn, this project will improve the service to 291 locations in the community of Sierra Park. Speeds offered in Sierra Park will increase from 30/5 Mbps to 400/100 Mbps with no additional costs to the project.

Sierra Nevada Communications will deploy approximately nine miles of last-mile fiber and four miles of middle mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 100 percent aerial.

The FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas. Sierra Nevada Communications will provide a low-cost broadband plan that meets the requirements in D. 22-04-055, Section 3, and has committed to maintaining its prices for at least ten years.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$1,916,752, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 99 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received no objections.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Tuolumne County, identifying unserved anchor institutions.⁹ The FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project area unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to comments and this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 284, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged at \$1,889,117. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

⁹ See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited December 2, 2024).

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The proposed project provides public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is located in High Fire Threat Districts 3. This project will connect to the open-access Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) categorical exemption at this time. Sierra Nevada Communications must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If Sierra Nevada Communications provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

Sierra Nevada Communications and the FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$1,889,117 for the FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project.

2. Sierra Nevada Communications, FIBER 108 – Upper Phase

Staff recommends the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$1,863,524 for the FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project.

Sierra Nevada Communications proposes to serve an estimated 515 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 740 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 215 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 215 will benefit from these investments in and around the communities of Peter Pam and Cold Springs. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

Sierra Nevada Communications will deploy approximately four miles of last-mile fiber and eight miles of middle mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 100 percent aerial.

The FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas. Sierra Nevada Communications will provide a low-cost broadband plan that meets the requirements in D. 22-04-055, Section 3, and has committed to maintaining its prices for at least ten years.

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The proposed project will cost an estimated \$1,863,524, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 100 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received one objection and Sierra Nevada Communications responded to the objection. The objection claimed that locations in the project area are already served by the objector. Staff determined that the locations are not reliably served as defined by D. 22-04-055. The FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project area was not modified in response to the objection.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Tuolumne County, identifying unserved anchor institutions.¹⁰ The FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project area unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 515, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged at \$1,863,524. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The proposed project provides public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is located in High Fire Threat Districts 3. This project will connect to the open-access Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of CEQA categorical exemption at this time. Sierra Nevada Communications must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If Sierra Nevada Communications provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

¹⁰ See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited December 2, 2024).

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Sierra Nevada Communications and the FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications’ application for a grant of up to \$1,863,524 for the FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project.

3. *Sierra Nevada Communications, FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill*

Staff recommends the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications’ application for a grant of up to \$2,105,330 for the FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project.

Sierra Nevada Communications proposes to serve an estimated 138 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 492 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 136 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 139 will benefit from these investments in and around the communities of Strawberry and Summer Hill. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

The project will also improve the service to 494 locations in the community of Pinecrest. Speeds offered in Pinecrest will increase from 30/5 Mbps to 100/20 Mbps with no additional costs to the project.

Sierra Nevada Communications will deploy approximately 11 miles of last-mile fiber and 4 miles of middle mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 73 percent underground and 27 percent aerial.

The FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas. Sierra Nevada Communications will provide a low-cost broadband plan that meets the requirements in D. 22-04-055, Section 3, and has committed to maintaining its prices for at least ten years.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$2,105,330, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 100 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant’s engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

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This application received one objection and Sierra Nevada Communications responded to the objection. The objection claimed that locations in the project area are already served by the objector. Staff determined that the locations are not reliably served as defined by D. 22-04-055. The FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project area was not modified in response to the objection.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Tuolumne County, identifying unserved anchor institutions.¹¹ The FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project area unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 138, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged at \$2,105,330. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The proposed project provides public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is located in High Fire Threat Districts 3. This project will connect to the open-access Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of CEQA categorical exemption at this time. Sierra Nevada Communications must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If Sierra Nevada Communications provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

Sierra Nevada Communications and the FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$2,105,330 for the FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill project.

4. Sierra Nevada Communications, FIBER 120

¹¹ See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited December 2, 2024).

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Staff recommends the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$374,469 for the FIBER 120 project.

Sierra Nevada Communications proposes to serve an estimated 32 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 183 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 349 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 349 will benefit from these investments in and around the communities of Big Oak Flat and Merrell Road. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

In addition, this project, in combination with the California Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative, will improve the service to approximately 2,600 locations in the communities of Groveland and Pine Mountain Lake. Speeds offered to Sierra Nevada Communications customers in Groveland and Pine Mountain Lake will increase from 400/25 Mbps to 5,000/5000 Mbps with no additional costs to the project.

Sierra Nevada Communications will deploy approximately four miles of last-mile fiber and five miles of middle mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 100 percent aerial.

The FIBER 120 project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas. Sierra Nevada Communications will provide a low-cost broadband plan that meets the requirements in D. 22-04-055, Section 3, and has committed to maintaining its prices for at least ten years.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$374,469, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 100 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received no objections.

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Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Tuolumne County, identifying unserved anchor institutions.¹² The FIBER 120 project area unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 32, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged at \$374,469. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The proposed project provides public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is located in High Fire Threat Districts 3. This project will connect to the open-access Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of CEQA categorical exemption at this time. Sierra Nevada Communications must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If Sierra Nevada Communications provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

Sierra Nevada Communications and the FIBER 120 project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$374,469 for the FIBER 120 project.

5. AT&T, Tuolumne – 1C

Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$3,015,032 for the Tuolumne – 1C project.

AT&T proposes to serve an estimated 973 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 1,036 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 2,082 would be offered service. An

¹² See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited December 2, 2024).

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estimated total population of 2,361 will benefit from these investments in and around the communities of Sonora and Jamestown. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

AT&T will deploy approximately 54 miles of last-mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 19 percent underground and 81 percent aerial.

The Tuolumne – 1C project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 76 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$4,699,734, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 64 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received three objections. The first and second objections claimed that locations in the project area were already served by the objectors. The third objection claimed that paying an incumbent to upgrade its infrastructure is a poor use of public resources. With respect to the first objection, Staff determined that the locations are not reliably served as defined by D. 22-04-055. With respect to the second objection, Staff verified that 44 locations in the project area were served by the objector. With respect to the third objection, this project proposes to use existing support structures and facilities to update its current infrastructure, which is reasonable for this project. In response to objections, the served locations identified by the second objector were removed from the project and the grant amount has been reduced accordingly.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Tuolumne County, identifying unserved anchor institutions.¹³ The Tuolumne – 1C project area unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is reduced from 1,666 to 973, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is reduced to up to \$3,015,032. The specific locations to be provided service will be

¹³ See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited December 2, 2024).

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updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The proposed project provides public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is located in High Fire Threat Districts 3. This project will connect to AT&T's middle-mile infrastructure.

AT&T's application committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine. Consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion AT&T must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion.

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate or outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T's current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T's existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of CEQA categorical exemption at this time. AT&T must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If AT&T provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

AT&T and the Tuolumne – 1C project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Sierra Nevada Communications' application for a grant of up to \$3,015,032 for the Tuolumne – 1C project.

COMMENTS

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In compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g)(1), a Notice of Availability of this draft resolution was e-mailed on December 26, 2024, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List and the R. 20-09-001 Service List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution, and of the opportunity to comment, at the Commission's website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>.

Resolution Comments were submitted on January 16, 2025, by Sierra Nevada Communications.

Sierra Nevada Communications Opening Comments

In its comments, Sierra Nevada Communications clarified how Usage Tiers associated with its Flex Plans function. Specifically, customers are notified when they approach the data limits within a given Usage Tier and are automatically upgraded to the plan with the next-highest Usage Tier if they exceed the data limit for their current plan by more than ten percent, without interruption or slow-down. Sierra Nevada Communications further clarified that the company will offer a Low-Cost Plan priced at \$40 for 50/20 Mbps to all customers in the project areas and will also offer LifeLine to all eligible customers in the project areas.

Sierra Nevada Communications further clarified how its projects will benefit existing customers on Hybrid-Fiber-Coax customers and submitted additional letters of support to its comments from Tuolumne County Supervisor Jaron Brandon and the Central Sierra Economic Development District.

Staff Response to Comments

In response to comments, the information in Appendices C, D, E, F, and H has been updated.

IV. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Awardees are required to comply with all the guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the grant of Federal Funding Account awards as specified in D.22-04-055. All Awardees are also required to sign a consent form agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Federal Funding Account. Such compliance includes, but is not limited to, the items noted below.

A. Deployment Schedule: All CEQA-exempt projects must be completed within 18 months, and all other projects shall be completed within 24 months after receiving

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authorization to construct. This timeline updates and supersedes the timeline in D.22-04-055 Appendix A, Section 8 on reimbursable expenses.

B. Pricing: By accepting these awards, the Awardees commit to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those provided in the application for five years after project completion. Awardees who committed not to increase prices for a period of ten years in their application commit to serve customers in the project area for ten years after project completion. Should the need arise for grant recipients to adjust prices due to externalities outside their control (*e.g.* inflation), grant recipients may file and serve, on the R. 20-09-001 proceeding service list, a request to modify this requirement with the Communications Division.

C. Speed and Latency: All households in the proposed project areas must be offered a broadband internet service plan with speeds of at least 100/100 Mbps download and upload, with not more than 100 milliseconds of latency.

D. Affordability: All projects shall participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program or otherwise provide access to a broad-based affordability program to low-income customers in the proposed service area of the broadband infrastructure that provides benefits to households commensurate with those provided under the Affordable Connectivity Program. Should the Affordable Connectivity Program end, the Commission will identify a successor low-income subsidy program in which participants must participate. Awardees must participate in a successor to the Affordable Connectivity Program identified after the grant is awarded.

E. Project Audit: The Commission has the right to conduct any necessary audit, verification, and discovery during project implementation/construction to ensure that Federal Funding Account funds are spent in accordance with Commission approval. All recipients of federally funded grants exceeding \$750,000 will need to include a budget for a federal audit.¹⁴

F. Reporting Requirements: Numerous post-award reports are required. In summary, these include monthly contractor reports (if applicable), quarterly progress reports, and a final completion report.¹⁵

¹⁴ Treasury, Compliance and Reporting Guidance State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (November 15, 2021 Version 2.1), available at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

¹⁵ D. 22-04-055, Appendix A, Section 14.

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G. Prevailing Wage: Section 1720 of the California Labor Code requires Federal Funding Account projects be subject to prevailing wage requirements.¹⁶ Applicants accepting Federal Funding Account awards are committing to follow state prevailing wage requirements with regards to their projects.

H. Payments to Federal Funding Account Recipients: The Commission may reimburse Awardees' expenses in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 281(n)(2), D.22-04-055, and the Appendix. Requests for payments may be submitted as the project is progressively deployed. The prerequisite for first payment is the submittal of a progress report to the Commission showing that a minimum of ten percent of the project (as determined by budget spent) has been completed. Subsequent payments may be made upon at least 25 percent intervals, with the final 15 percent payment request (from 85 to 100 percent) not eligible for payment without an approved completion report. Payments are based on submitted receipts, invoices and other supporting documentation showing expenditures incurred for the project in accordance with the approved Federal Funding Account budget included in the awardee's application.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. California's multi-year broadband infrastructure investments in the Budget Act of 2021 and Senate Bill 156 (Statutes 2021, Chapters 84 and 112) provided \$2 billion over multiple years to the Last Mile Federal Funding Account to facilitate, via reimbursement, construction of last mile broadband infrastructure projects to connect unserved Californians.
2. On April 21, 2022, the Commission approved Decision 22-04-055, which along with the Federal Final Rule, established the Last Mile Federal Funding Account and set program rules.
3. The Communications Division opened an application window for the Federal Funding Account on June 30, 2023, and closed it on September 29, 2023. Applicants submitted 484 applications before the deadline. Application summaries were posted on October 23, 2023, and a 28-day objection window closed on November 20, 2023.

¹⁶ D.22-054-055, Section 13.2, page 57.

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Responses to objections were received until December 20, 2023.

4. Sierra Nevada Communications submitted applications for the FIBER 108 – Lower Phase, FIBER 108 – Upper Phase, FIBER 108 – Strawberry Summer Hill, and FIBER 120 projects on September 29, 2023.
5. AT&T submitted an application for the Tuolumne – 1C project on September 29, 2023.
6. Applicants responded to a supplemental data request that was due on March 12, 2024, providing information on project route miles, poles, unserved locations, middle-mile connectivity, and other updated project specific information.
7. The Commission has determined that Sierra Nevada Communication’s FIBER 108 – Lower Phase, FIBER 108 – Upper Phase, FIBER 108 – Strawberry Summer Hill, and FIBER 120 projects are not categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review at this time.
8. The Commission has determined that AT&T’s Tuolumne – 1C project is not categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review at this time.
9. Communications Division staff analyzed the applications for compliance with Commission and Federal rules, reviewed local feedback, and conducted fiscal and technical analysis.
10. All applications listed above met minimum eligibility requirements provided in Decision 22-04-055.
11. Staff recommends approval of the applications in this Resolution, as they comply with program rules as stated and contribute to the Federal Funding Account’s goal of building broadband internet infrastructure to communities without access to internet service at sufficient and reliable speeds.
12. Draft Resolution T-17874 was emailed to the CASF Distribution List and the R. 20-09-001 Service List on December 26, 2024, in compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g)(1). Comments were submitted by Sierra Nevada Communications on January 16, 2025.

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THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Commission shall award up to \$1,889,117 in Federal Funding Account funds to Sierra Nevada Communications in order to complete the FIBER 108 – Lower Phase project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
2. The Commission shall award up to \$1,863,524 in Federal Funding Account funds to Sierra Nevada Communications in order to complete the FIBER 108 – Upper Phase project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
3. The Commission shall award up to \$2,105,330 in Federal Funding Account funds to Sierra Nevada Communications in order to complete the FIBER 108 – Strawberry Summer Hill project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
4. The Commission shall award up to \$374,469 in Federal Funding Account funds to Sierra Nevada Communications in order to complete the FIBER 120 project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
5. The Commission shall award up to \$3,015,032 in Federal Funding Account funds to AT&T in order to complete the Tuolumne – 1C project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
6. To ensure compliance with all program rules and guidelines, the Commission will not release funds to an applicant proposing to enter into agreement(s) with a third party or third parties for the ownership, operation, and/or leasing of the proposed

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infrastructure or network until the applicant provides the Commission with an advanced copy of the agreement document(s) as well as any signed agreements.

7. Applicants that committed to provide voice and/or Lifeline service must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion in Federal Funding Account project areas.
8. For those projects not determined to be categorically exempt, the Commission cannot release funds for construction activities until California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review is complete. The awardees must comply with the requirements set forth in the CEQA Section of the Resolution. The awardees must provide their Proponent's Environmental Assessment for each project prior to the first payment.
9. Awardee(s) shall comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions set forth in this resolution.
10. When a successor to the Affordable Connectivity Program is identified by the Commission, all awardees shall participate in that program.
11. All construction covered by the grant must be completed within the applicable 18-month or 24-month time frame. In the event of extenuating circumstances jeopardizing this timeline, the Awardee(s) must notify the Communications Division's Director as soon as they become aware of any delay. If such notice is not provided, staff can take corrective actions including reducing payment for failure to satisfy this requirement.
12. If the awardee(s) fail to complete the project(s) in accordance with the terms outlined in Decision 22-04-055 and with the terms of the Commission's approval, as set forth in this resolution, awardees must reimburse some or all the Federal Funding Account grants received or take other corrective action.
13. If staff evaluation finds any of the projects can be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.
14. Upon approval of the resolution, the effective date of each award and encumbrance of funds is the date of approved resolution. Awardees seeking to modify their effective date must submit a letter to the Communications Division Director and

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provide justification for the request. Modifications to the effective date may be approved by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee. All awards are contingent on available state budget appropriations funding.

This resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on February 20, 2025, the following Commissioners voting favorable thereon:

/s/ RACHEL PETERSON

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director

ALICE REYNOLDS

President

DARCIE L. HOUCK

JOHN REYNOLDS

KAREN DOUGLAS

MATTHEW BAKER

Commissioners

APPENDIX A

Sierra Nevada Communications California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Requirements

The following Sierra Nevada Communications projects are subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

- FIBER 108 – Lower Phase
- FIBER 108 – Upper Phase
- FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill
- FIBER 120

The Commission must complete CEQA review prior to disbursing Federal Funding Account funds for construction activities. The initial funding granted in this Resolution may be used for project development and other Sierra Nevada Communications activities that do not involve construction or any activities that would have any direct or indirect effect on the physical environment.

Prior to any construction activity for the project, Sierra Nevada Communications is required to seek further authority from the Commission for such activity by filing a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) pursuant to Commission Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.4; and must undergo an environmental review pursuant to CEQA (California Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.).

Sierra Nevada Communications should contact the Supervisor of the Commission's Energy Division CEQA Unit well in advance of a contemplated filing to (a) consult with staff regarding the process of developing and filing a PEA; (b) provide for cost recovery per Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.5; and (c) enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the Energy Division to initiate the retention of an environmental contractor to perform the environmental review.

Sierra Nevada Communications must provide a PEA prior to the first payment. The Commission cannot release funds for the construction phase of this project until the Commission has completed CEQA review.

APPENDIX B

AT&T California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Requirements

The following AT&T project is subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

- Tuolumne – 1C

The Commission must complete CEQA review prior to disbursing Federal Funding Account funds for construction activities. The initial funding granted in this Resolution may be used for project development and other AT&T activities that do not involve construction or any activities that would have any direct or indirect effect on the physical environment.

Prior to any construction activity for the project, AT&T is required to seek further authority from the Commission for such activity by filing a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) pursuant to Commission Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.4; and must undergo an environmental review pursuant to CEQA (California Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.).

AT&T should contact the Supervisor of the Commission's Energy Division CEQA Unit well in advance of a contemplated filing to (a) consult with staff regarding the process of developing and filing a PEA; (b) provide for cost recovery per Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.5; and (c) enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the Energy Division to initiate the retention of an environmental contractor to perform the environmental review.

AT&T must provide a PEA prior to the first payment. The Commission cannot release funds for the construction phase of this project until the Commission has completed CEQA review.

**APPENDIX C
FIBER 108 – Lower Phase
Key Information**

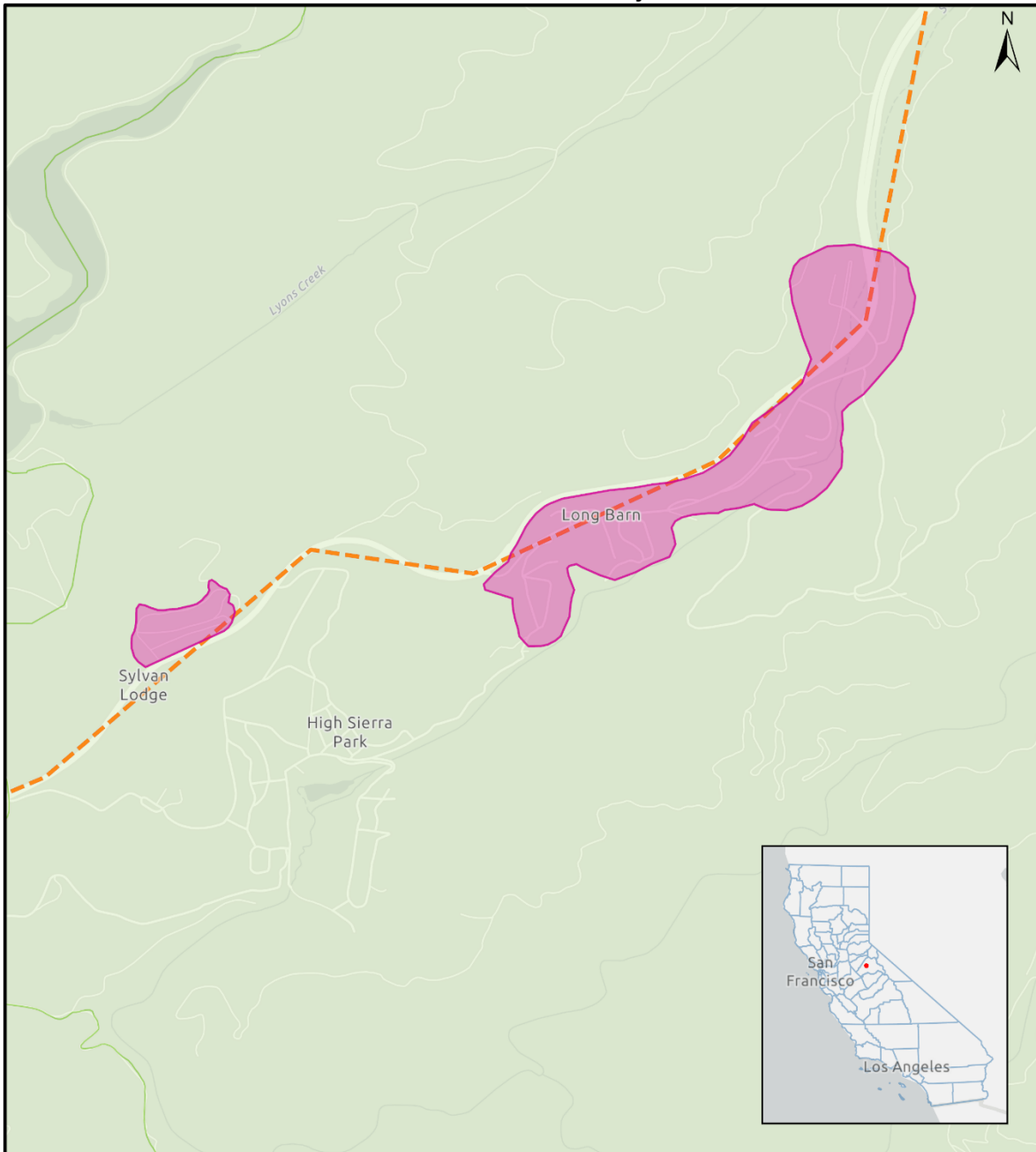
Project Name	FIBER 108_Lower Phase
Applicant Name	Sierra Nevada Communications
Community Names	Sylvan Lodge and Long Barn
County	Tuolumne
County Allocation	\$15,546,864
Project Size (in square miles)	0.4
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
Low-income plan	None
Low-cost plan	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$42,379
Area Households	121
Area Population	209
Estimated locations within 1,000 feet of the project area (location passings)	305
Estimated units within 1,000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	419
Unserviced locations proposed to be served by the project	284
Unserviced locations in the project area	300
Unserviced units in the project area	410
Estimated unserviced population in the project area	209
Estimated unserviced Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	79

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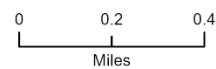
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	189
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	3
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	1
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	Yes
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	4 miles
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	\$0
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$1,889,117
Deployment Schedule	Up to 24 Months
Total Project Cost	\$1,916,752
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$1,889,117
Applicant funded	\$27,635
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$4,608
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$4,509

Map of FIBER 108 – Lower Phase
Sierra Nevada Communications- FIBER 108 Lower Phase-
Tuolumne County



FIBER 108 Lower Phase

-  Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
-  Tribal Lands
-  Low-Income Areas
-  FFA Project Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information Center for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 12/2/2024.

**APPENDIX D
FIBER 108 – Upper Phase
Key Information**

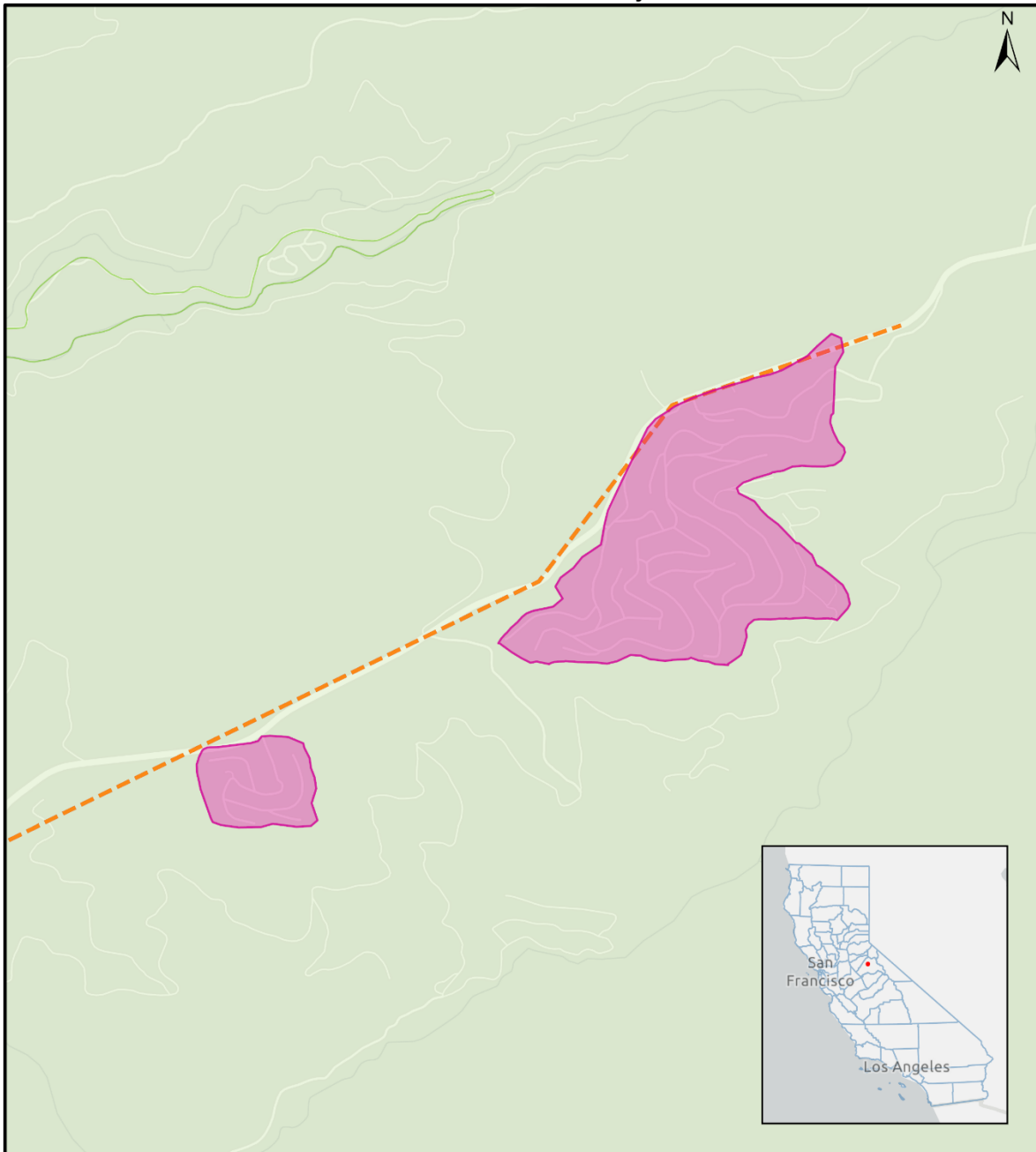
Project Name	FIBER 108 – Upper Phase
Applicant Name	Sierra Nevada Communications
Community Names	Peter Pam, Cold Springs
County	Tuolumne
County Allocation	\$15,546,864
Project Size (in square miles)	0.5
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
Low-income plan	None
Low-cost plan	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$42,379
Area Households	122
Area Population	215
Estimated locations within 1,000 feet of the project area (location passings)	508
Estimated units within 1,000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	751
Unserved locations proposed to be served by the project	515
Unserved locations in the project area	502
Unserved units in the project area	740
Estimated unserved population in the project area	215
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	154

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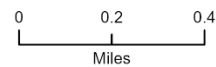
CD/CJ2

Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	392
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	0
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	2
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	yes
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	8 miles
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	\$0
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$1,863,524
Deployment Schedule	Up to 24 Months
Total Project Cost	\$1,863,524
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$1,863,524
Applicant funded	\$0
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$2,518
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$2,481

Map of FIBER 108 – Upper Phase
Sierra Nevada Communications- FIBER 108 - Upper Phase-
Tuolumne County



FIBER 108 - Upper Phase
--- Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
Tribal Lands
Low-Income Areas
FFA Project Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information Center for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 12/2/2024.

APPENDIX E
FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill
Key Information

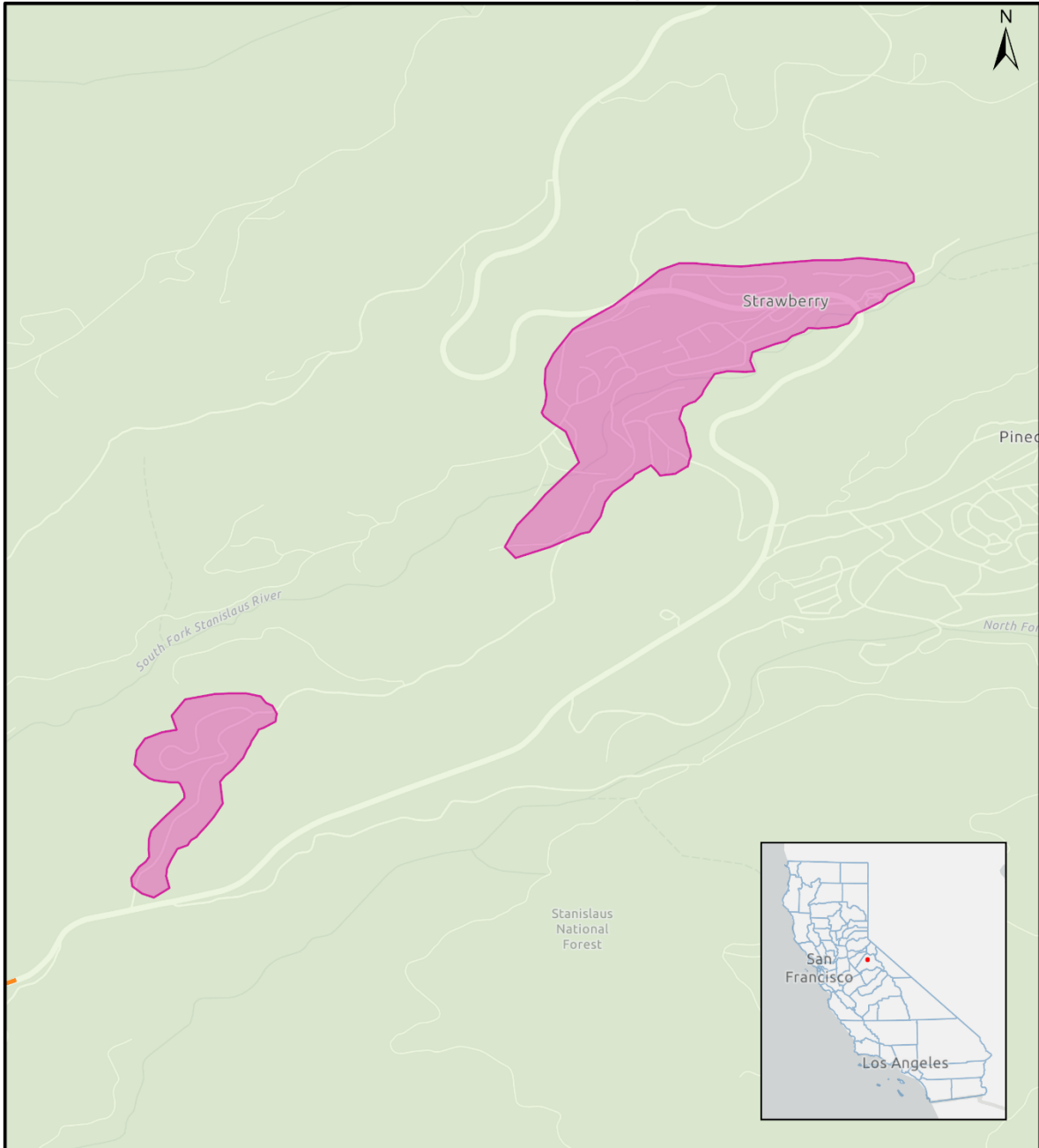
Project Name	FIBER 108 – Strawberry Summer Hill
Applicant Name	Sierra Nevada Communications
Community Names	Strawberry and Summer Hill Communities
County	Tuolumne
County Allocation	\$15,546,864
Project Size (in square miles)	0.5
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
Low-income plan	None
Low-cost plan	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$42,379
Area Households	75
Area Population	139
Estimated locations within 1,000 feet of the project area (location passings)	361
Estimated units within 1,000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	419
Unserviced locations proposed to be served by the project	138
Unserviced locations in the project area	348
Unserviced units in the project area	492
Estimated unserviced population in the project area	136
Estimated unserviced Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	106

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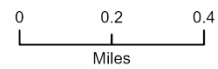
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	250
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	1
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	0
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	Yes
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	4 miles
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	\$177,000
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$1,928,330
Deployment Schedule	Up to 24 Months
Total Project Cost	\$2,105,330
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$2,105,330
Applicant funded	\$0
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$4,279
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$5,025

Map of FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill
Sierra Nevada Communications- FIBER 108 - Strawberry Summer Hill-
Tuolumne County



FIBER 108 - Strawberry Summer Hill

- Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
- Tribal Lands
- Low-Income Areas
- FFA Project Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information Center for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 12/2/2024.

**APPENDIX F
FIBER 120
Key Information**

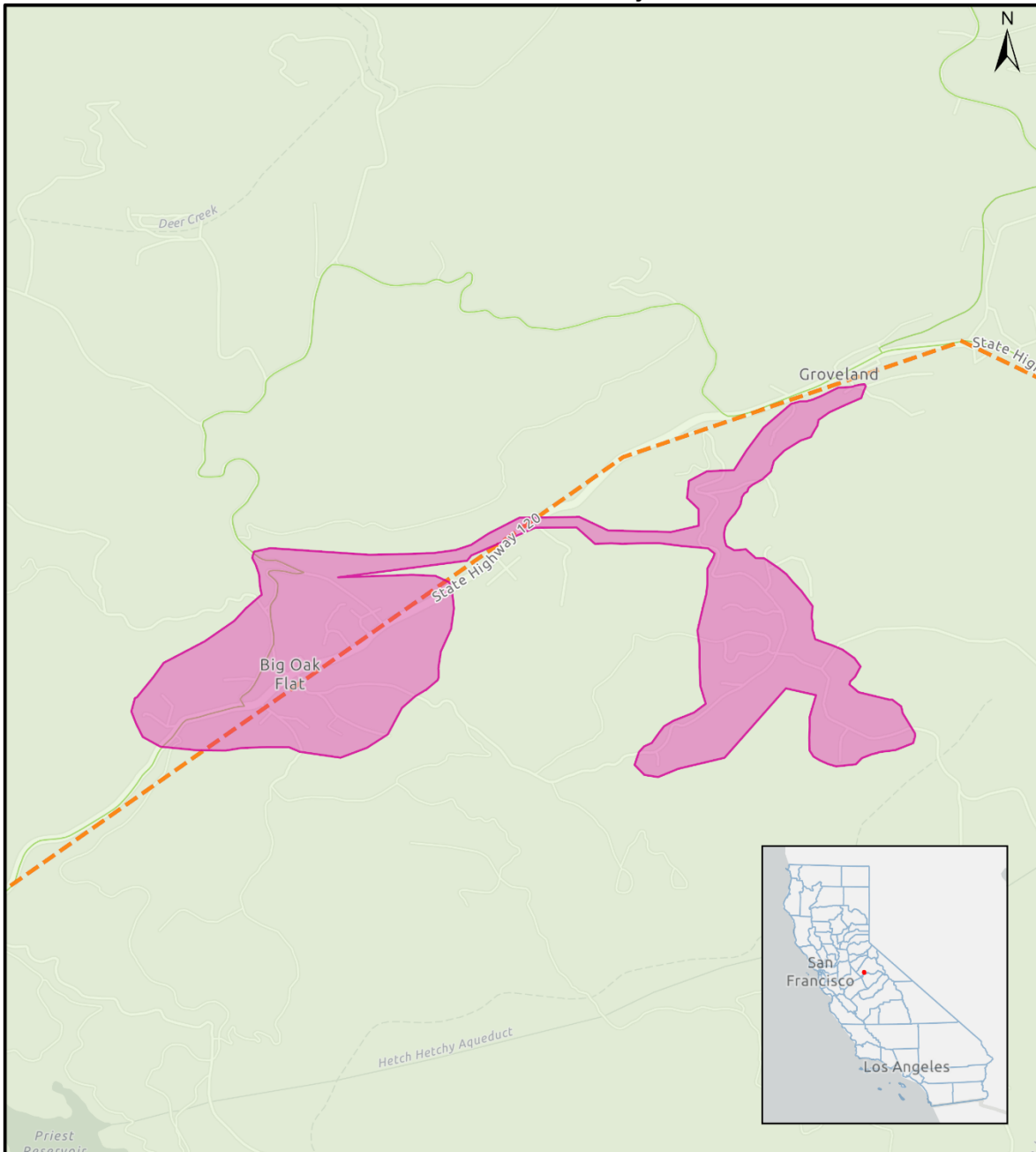
Project Name	FIBER 120
Applicant Name	Sierra Nevada Communications
Community Names	Big Oak Flat and Merrell Road Communities along Hwy 120 in the Groveland area
County	Tuolumne
County Allocation	\$15,546,864
Project Size (in square miles)	0.7
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
Low-income plan	None
Low-cost plan	\$40 for 50/20 Mbps
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 Percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$42,379
Area Households	164
Area Population	349
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	270
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	302
Unserved locations proposed to be served by the project	32
Unserved locations in the project area	176
Unserved units in the project area	183
Estimated unserved population in the project area	349
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	5





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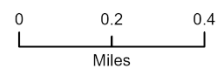
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Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	12
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	2
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	2
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	yes
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	5 miles
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	\$0
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$374,469
Deployment Schedule	Up to 24 Months
Total Project Cost	\$374,469
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$374,469
Applicant funded	\$0
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$2,046
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$1,240

Map of FIBER 120 Sierra Nevada Communications- FIBER 120- Tuolumne County



- FIBER 120**
-  Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
 -  Tribal Lands
 -  Low-Income Areas
 -  FFA Project Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information Center for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 12/2/2024.

**APPENDIX G
Tuolumne – 1C
Key Information**

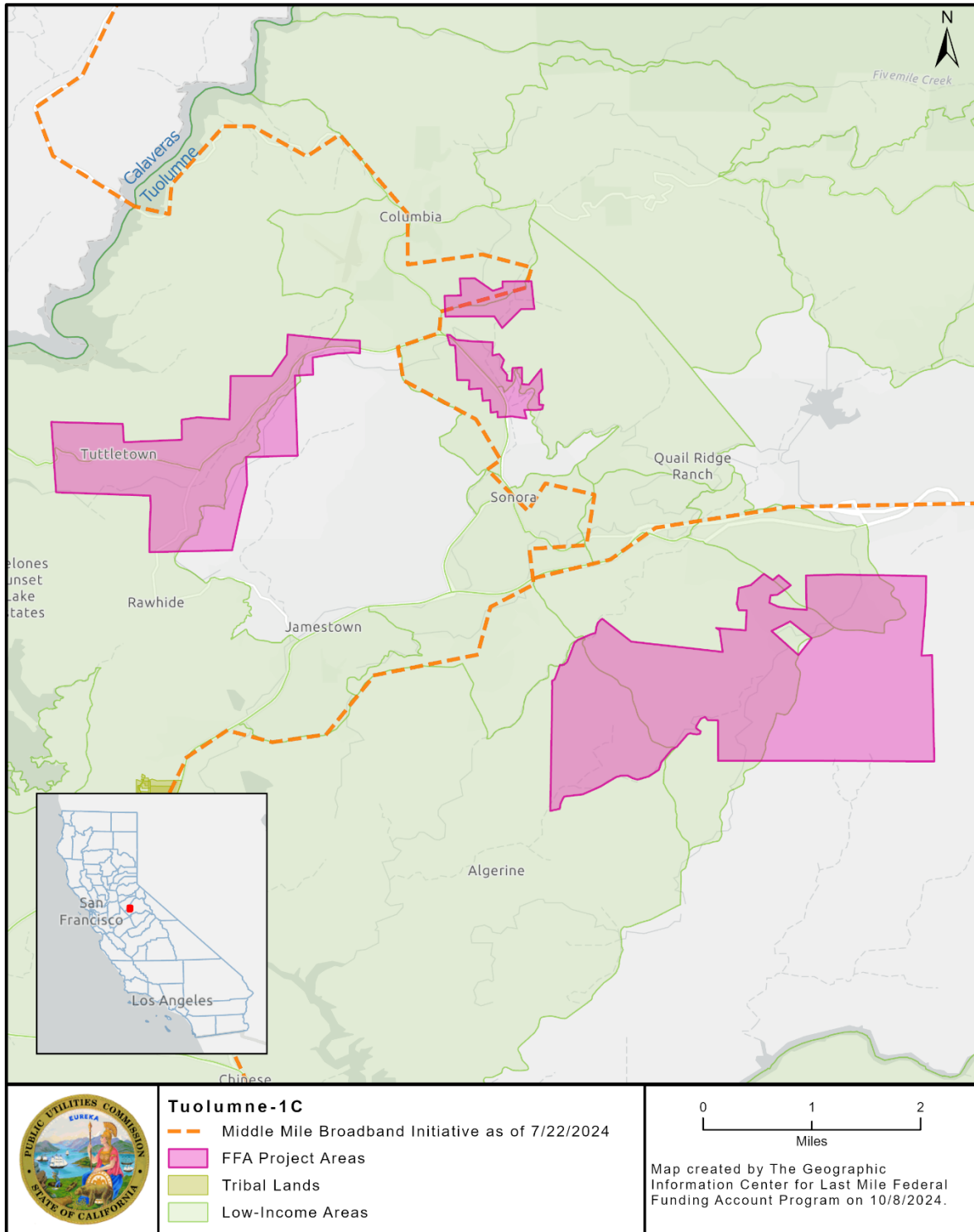
Project Name	Tuolumne – 1C
Applicant Name	AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of its affiliate Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California
Community Names	Sonora and Jamestown
County	Tuolumne County
County Allocation	\$15,546,864
Project Size (in square miles)	19
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$55 for 300/300 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$30 for 100/100 Mbps
Low-cost plan	No
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	76 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$56,725
Area Households	1,081
Area Population	2,361
Estimated locations within 1,000 feet of the project area (location passings)	1,614
Estimated units within 1,000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	1,938
Unserved locations proposed to be served by the project	973
Unserved locations in the project area	965
Unserved units in the project area	1,036
Estimated unserved population in the project area	2,082

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Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	62
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	133
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	12
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	3
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	0 miles
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	\$0
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$3,015,032
Deployment Schedule	Up to 24 Months
Total Project Cost	\$4,699,734
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$3,015,032
Applicant funded	\$1,684,702
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$2,910
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$1,556

Map of Tuolumne – 1C AT&T- Tuolumne-1C- Tuolumne County



APPENDIX H
Sierra Nevada Communications Service Plans

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, Sierra Nevada Communications is obligated to offer service to customers in the project areas of the listed projects at no less than the speeds in the Table below, no more than 100 milliseconds of latency, and no more than the prices¹⁷ in the Table below, including installation, for at least five years following project completion.

- FIBER 108 – Lower Phase
- FIBER 108 – Upper Phase
- FIBER 108 Strawberry Summer Hill
- FIBER 120

Plan	Speed	Price in 2024 Dollars	Notes
Low-Cost Plan	50/20 Mbps	\$40/month	No Data Caps, no contract, free installation, free ONT/modem.
Flex125	100/100 Mbps	\$44.95/month	Usage Tier: 125 GBs
Flex250	125/125 Mbps	\$59.95/month	Usage Tier: 250 GBs
Flex500	150/150 Mbps	\$74.95/month	Usage Tier: 500 GBs
Flex1000	200/200 Mbps	\$89.95/month	Usage Tier: 1,000 GBs
Flex1500	200/200 Mbps	\$104.95/month	Usage Tier: 1,500 GBs
Flex2000	300/300 Mbps	\$119.95/month	Usage Tier: 2,000 GBs
Flex2500	400/400 Mbps	\$134.95/month	Usage Tier: 2,500 GBs

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, Sierra Nevada Communications has committed to provide LifeLine-discounted service in the project area listed.

In addition, Sierra Nevada Communications commits to offer voice service that meets California and Federal Communications Commission requirements for 9-1-1 service.

¹⁷ Prices may increase at no more than the rate of inflation, defined by the Consumer Price Index.

**APPENDIX I
AT&T Service Plans**

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, AT&T is obligated to offer service to customers in the project areas of the listed projects at no less than the speeds in the Table below, no more than 100 milliseconds of latency, and no more than the prices¹⁸ in the Table below, including installation, for at least five years following project completion.

- Tuolumne – 1C

Plan	Speed	Price in 2024 Dollars	Notes
Access from AT&T	100/100 Mbps	\$30/month	Customers must provide documentation showing eligibility for a qualifying program. ¹⁹ Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	300/300 Mbps	\$55/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	500/500 Mbps	\$65/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	1,000/1,000 Mbps	\$80/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	2,000/2,000 Mbps	\$150/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	5,000/5,000 Mbps	\$250/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, AT&T has committed to provide LifeLine-discounted service in the project area listed.

In addition, AT&T commits to offer voice service that meets California and Federal Communications Commission requirements for 9-1-1 service. AT&T states in their application: “At the time of this application, AT&T intends to offer VoIP services. For more information on AT&T’s VoIP offerings, visit: <https://www.att.com/home-phone/>.”

¹⁸ Prices may increase at no more than the rate of inflation, defined by the Consumer Price Index.

¹⁹ Qualifying programs/income thresholds include: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Supplemental Security Income; National School Lunch Program or Head Start; and household income based on 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

APPENDIX J
California Public Utilities Commission
Federal Funding Account, Last Mile Program
Guidance to Staff Regarding
CONSENT FORM
Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Terms

Awardee Name: _____

Key Project Contact: _____

Project Name: _____

The Awardee identified above acknowledges receipt of the California Public Utilities Commission Resolution or Award Letter and agrees to comply with all grant terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the Resolution or Award Letter and those in the Federal Funding Account, Last Mile program rules. Awards are contingent on available state budget appropriations funding.

Undersigned representative of _____ [Name of Awardee] is duly authorized to execute this Consent Form on behalf of the Awardee and to bind the Awardee to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in California Public Utilities Commission Resolution or Award Letter and those in the Federal Funding Account, Last Mile program rules.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Awardee Representative: _____

Title _____

Printed Name _____

Name of Representative's Organization:

Business Address:

Street address, suite/apt. number

City, state, and ZIP Code

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____