Executive Summary & Grant Rationale
Your response to the outline below should be no longer than two pages.
This information may be made public.

After you’ve completed the preceding application and reviewed the Awarding Grants – Selection Criteria & Weights pages that follow this page, please reflect on your application responses and provide a brief executive summary and grant rationale that includes:

- Brief project description/summary (less than 150 words)

River City Wireless (RCW) in partnership with River City Tower and Warrick County will create six tower sites to deliver a fixed wireless solution for the rural areas of eastern Warrick County. One tower is an existing water tower and five new towers will be built. RCW has licensed the 3.65 radio spectrum from the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for exclusive access and usage in Warrick County. RCW deploys state of the art Telrad licensed equipment with residential consumers, and through Microwave Line of Sight (MLOS) technology is able to deploy dedicated links to businesses. RCW will improve unserved levels for residential users to 25 megabits per second upload and 5 megabits per second download by June 2021. Commercial users can be offered speeds 100Mbps – 10000Mbps.

- A general geographic location of the project (not census blocks) and total number of passings estimated to be made as a result of the grant project

This project will include six main tower sites. These tower sites have been strategically located in the east portion of the county in smaller, more rural areas. Total passings include 1,442 unserved households and 33 unserved businesses. The sites include:
North Tower Selvin: This is a new 200 foot self-supporting tower to be located at 12700 Yellow Banks Trail, Dale, Indiana 47537. It will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios with sectors facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 705 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 266 existing households, and additional households in the future.

Greer: This is a new 200 foot self-supporting tower to be located at 1711 West Kelly Road, Boonville IN, 47601. It will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios with sectors facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 705 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 212 existing households, and additional households in the future.

Folsomville Water Tower: This tower is located at 38.130369 N 87.179231 W. It is a 140 foot water tower that will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 320 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 335 existing households, and additional households in the future.

Heilman: This is a new 180 foot self-supporting tower to be located at 8736 N State Road 161, Gentryville, IN 47631. It will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios with sectors facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 702 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 281 existing households, and additional households in the future.
Site 1_4: This is a new 140 foot self-supporting tower to be located at 10777 Coles Creek Road, Tennyson, IN 47637. It will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios with sectors facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 601 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 117 households, and additional households in the future.

RCW Tower: This is a new 140 foot self-supporting tower to be located at 1477 Hills Road, Newburgh, IN. It will be outfitted with four 3.65 licensed Telrad Breeze Compact 1000 radios with sectors facing North, South, East and West at an elevation of 610 feet above sea level. This site has the ability to serve 231 existing households, and additional households in the future.

- A brief description of the applicant’s involvement in the project to date and how the applicant (and/or partners) intends to manage and sustain the project.

In 2016, Warrick County moved forward with the exploration and development of a countywide broadband initiative to explore how broadband providers could deliver advanced services and to what extent County financial participation would be required to accomplish its goals. Warrick County issued RFPs to both fiber and wireless providers. The Next Level Connections Broadband Grant was announced in February 2019, and RCW was selected as the wireless provider in March 2019. Due to the typography and landscape of the rural areas of Warrick County, two different technologies are needed to meet Warrick County’s goal of serving all folks in the county especially those living in the unserved areas.

The Telrad technology has the capability of future expansion and delivers LTE today and an evolution to LTE-advanced in the future. RCW will be able to scale to increased capacity as new technology is developed. The equipment allows RCW to maximize cost and energy efficiency while thinking about sustainability and future expansion. As technology changes, Telrad equipment has built in expansion capacity that can easily be upgraded network-wide without changing the hardware or interruption of service. The lifespan of the Telrad CPE equipment is estimated to be 10 years for the equipment itself. RCW is committed to maintaining and sustaining this project for five years and beyond.

- A statement on how broadband improvements will advance the quality of life and strengthen economic development opportunities in the communities in the project area.

When a community thinks about improving their important infrastructure, county roads, bridges, water lines and sewer lines are usually the topics that are at the top of the list to repair and maintain. Rebuilding and repairing this infrastructure is critical to economic growth and expansion potential. As communities move into a digital age, there is a key piece of infrastructure that has yet to be built but is equally as important as traditional items. Reliable, high-speed Internet access should be added to this list. The impact of lack of access to the ‘information highway’ is putting folks that live in rural areas at an unfair and imbalanced disadvantage than folks living in urban areas. Rural residents of Warrick County living in unserved areas will now be able to conduct online job searches, complete online homework assignments or projects, work from home, or run a business without running into a major barriers including slow speeds, unreliable service or even no online option at all.