

## Executive Summary

The proposed project covers a footprint of 204 miles, with total passings of 543. Of those 543 passings, there are 460 households and 83 businesses. The footprint includes five townships within Allamakee County, those include: Makee, Hanover, Union Prairie, French Creek and Lansing. Not all of the townships will be covered within this proposed project as some of these townships areas are covered by another telecommunication company that already have plans to deploy services to that area. You can see this better depicted in the map enclosed. All of the areas included in the proposed project are considered in the targeted service areas. While viewing the broadband map of the state of Iowa, Allamakee County is shown as one of the lowest served areas within the state. Allamakee is one of the 14 school districts that do not have adequate telecommunication services to the school aged children.

The terrain of this area has not allowed other communication service companies to bring services to this region. These townships have been on the radar of ACEC for quite some time and has been part of ACEC's long-range plan. When deciding the service method of service delivery, ACEC reviewed population density, geology of the landscape, soils composition, and of course the costs of all options. ACEC decided on aerial fiber due to existing aerial electric infrastructure in place. This allowed ACEC to deploy aerial fiber optics on the same poles as a method to reduce the overall costs of the project. Underground construction will take place in areas where the existing poles are not a viable option. The breakdown is approximately, 85% aerial and 15% underground. Without grant funding, ACEC would not be able to deploy such a project. As you can see from the attached cost breakout, the passings per mile is 2.20 and the average cost per passing is \$11,000. If the grant is not awarded, the project will not happen due to the large financial cost of the aerial fiber.

ACEC has been awarded three other OCIO projects and thoroughly understand the terms, conditions and requirements of the NOFA #5. ACEC has hired Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission to administer the project. UERPC has 40 years of experience in administering and working with state and federal agencies. UERPC will comply with all OCIO terms and conditions.