

County of Lancaster Request for ARPA Funding

Organization Upward Broadband LLC **Date** 4/29/2022
Submitted By Ben Momose, Director of Operations **Authorized Signature** *Benjamin Momose*
Email Address: [REDACTED] **Phone #:** [REDACTED]

Please attach any supporting documentation for consideration. Submission should be in PDF Format.

Project/Item Description	Upward Broadband is submitting this proposal to significantly increase broadband infrastructure and reliable internet access in Lancaster County by outfitting equipment on 22 existing communications towers.
Estimated Cost – how cost was derived & provision of partner funds (who is providing, how much and show commitments).	Upward Broadband would propose utilizing the funds made available in this request for proposal to support the capital costs of this proposed project. Upward Broadband LLC will be responsible for recurring costs. Upward Broadband would contribute \$564,230.77 (20%) towards this \$2,821,153.83 project and would rely on Lancaster County to support the remaining \$2,256,923.06 (80%) from funds received through the American Rescue Plan.
Which County ARPA Community-wide Benefit(s) does the project meet?	Broadband Infrastructure
Briefly explain how the project meets the County's guidelines.	This Broadband Infrastructure project is a one time funding for the capital costs associated with expanding reliable high speed broadband in Lancaster County. Upward Broadband would be contributing 20% cost match to the project and be responsible for ongoing operational costs. This project would be complete before 12/31/24.
Why should this project be a priority and how will it help the County? Also, if this application is for more than one project, please identify each one, provide information and rank them in order of your priority.	The need for reliable high-speed internet has become increasingly relevant, especially in rural communities that have limited access to broadband and wireless infrastructure compared to urban communities. With the tremendous cultural leap towards teleworking, telehealth, and distance learning citizens need equitable reliable access to the internet. Internet is essential for economic opportunities. Lancaster County residents and businesses depend on reliable high broadband internet access every day. The American Rescue is a significant opportunity for the County invest in upgrading an essential infrastructure network in the 21st century.
Will this project require ongoing expense (maintenance, updates) or frequent replacement? Are expenses already being incurred, if so, can they be reduced through this project?	Upward Broadband LLC will be responsible for recurring costs.
Project Timeline – start to finish, and when funding will be needed.	We anticipate this project will be completed within a 365 day window. Our projected project start date is estimated for June 2022, but is driven by award agreement. This construction would commence within 60 days of award. We believe that we could secure the necessary agreements, provision and install equipment on towers within 12 months. A detailed breakdown is enclosed.
Are there other organizations a part of this project? If yes, please list them and their role, including funding. If not, explain why?	N/A.
ARPA Committee Comments	
ARPA Committee Recommendation	
Funding Amount Recommended (if recommended for approval)	\$