



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

August 24, 2020

Gerald Little
Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery
100 North Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, N.H. 03301

Dear Director Little,

Pursuant to my authority under RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; and Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, and 2020-16 I have approved your written request, in attachment, to take the following actions related to the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds:

1. Authority to transfer up to \$13,907,239.00 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) in order for OSI to disburse The Connecting New Hampshire – Emergency Broadband Expansion Program funds to recipients. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)
2. Authorize OSI to accept and expend up to \$13,907,239.00 from GOFERR to disburse the Broadband Expansion Program to Grant Awardees. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)

The Department of Administrative Services is authorized to take the actions necessary to effectuate this authorization.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

CC Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services
Jared Chicoine, Executive Director, New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

August 24, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION PURSUANT TO RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-04 AS EXTENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDERS 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15 AND 2020-16

Dear Governor Sununu:

1. Authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to transfer up to \$13,907,239.00 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) in order for OSI to disburse The Connecting New Hampshire – Emergency Broadband Expansion Program funds to recipients effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for this transfer are available in 01-02-002-020210 – Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery, 19110000 – Office of the Director, as follows:

FY2021

085-588502 – Interagency Xfer out of Fed Funds \$13,907,239.00

2. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, authorize OSI to accept and expend up to \$13,907,239.00 from GOFERR to disburse the Broadband Expansion Program to Grant Awardees effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

01-02-02-024010-19270000 BROADBAND EXPANSION PROGRAM		
CLASS	ACCOUNT	TRANSFER REQUEST
072 – GRANTS FEDERAL	502627	\$12,315,239
072 – GRANTS FEDERAL	500574	\$ 1,592,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,907,239
SOURCE OF FUNDS		
00D – TRANSFER OF FEDERAL FUNDS	488502	\$13,907,239
	TOTAL FUNDS	\$13,907,239

3. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1 and #2, authorize OSI to enter into grant agreements with various vendors and towns, for a total amount not to exceed \$13,907,239.00 to complete their scope of services required for improvements to New Hampshire's broadband and internet infrastructure, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds

EXPLANATION

The Governor has authorized the allocation and expenditure of up to \$50 million in emergency funding from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund for the purpose of expanding broadband and internet access in unserved areas in New Hampshire. The Connecting New Hampshire – Emergency Broadband Expansion Program will address these challenges for students participating in remote learning, as well as other Granite Staters utilizing the internet to access telehealth services, including vital mental health services. The program will also provide Granite State families with expanded access to vital public health information as well as additional opportunities to connect with other family members that are otherwise cut off due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OSI in partnership with NH DOE and the NH PUC published a Request for Proposals (RFP) with a submittal deadline of July 2, 2020. Selected applicants include 5 companies and 1 town receiving a grant to improve broadband infrastructure in selected areas of the State of New Hampshire.

All CARES Act funds must be spent by the recipients before December 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald H. Little
Director, GOFERR