



December 15, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Requested Action

Authorize the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA), under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, to award a grant to the County of Grafton, 3855 Dartmouth College Highway, Box #1, Haverhill, New Hampshire 03774, in the amount of \$25,000, to support its broadband planning study, upon Governor and Council approval for the period effective January 12, 2022 through December 31, 2023. **100% federal funds.**

Explanation

The County of Grafton is requesting CDBG funds to support its broadband planning study which will assist 19 municipalities with their last-mile planning efforts to design solutions to expand fiber into each town. If feasible, the project will lead to an increase in broadband connectivity for low- and moderate-income individuals in rural areas of New Hampshire.

This Agreement allocates a portion of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds provided to New Hampshire by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDFA is administering this program as provided by RSA 162-L. The funds for this contract are from the Community Development Block Grant Fund, which is intended to help municipalities solve development problems.

Sincerely,

Katherine Easterly Martey
Executive Director


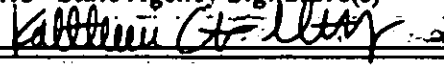
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Attachments

GRANT AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Grantee hereby
Mutually agree as follows:
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Identification and Definitions.

1.1. State Agency Name Community Development Finance Authority		1.2. State Agency Address 14 Dixon Avenue Concord, NH 03301	
1.3. Grantee Name County of Grafton		1.4. Grantee Address 3855 Dartmouth College Highway, Box #1 North Haverhill, NH 03774	
1.5. Grantee Phone # 603-787-6941	1.6. Account Number 21-405-FSPF	1.7. Completion Date December 31, 2023	1.8. Grant Limitation \$ 25,000
1.9. Grant Officer for State Agency Michael Claflin, Chairman, Board of Directors		1.10. State Agency Telephone Number 603-226-2170	
If Grantee is a municipality or village district: "By signing this form we certify that we have complied with any public meeting requirement for acceptance of this grant, including if applicable RSA 31:95-b."			
1.11. Grantee Signature 1 		1.12. Name & Title of Grantee Signor 1 Wendy A. Piper, Chairman, Board of Commissioners	
Grantee Signature 2		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 2	
Grantee Signature 3		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 3	
1.13. State Agency Signature(s) 		1.14. Name & Title of State Agency Signor(s) Katherine Easterly Martey, Executive Director	
1.15. Approval by Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (If G & C approval required) By: <i>Takhmina Rakhmatova</i> Assistant Attorney General, On: 12/16/2021			
1.16. Approval by Governor and Council (if applicable) By: _____ On: / /			

2. **SCOPE OF WORK:** In exchange for grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire, acting through the Agency identified in block 1.1 (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), the Grantee identified in block 1.3 (hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee"), shall perform that work identified and more particularly described in the scope of work attached hereto as EXHIBIT B (the scope of work being hereinafter referred to as "the Project").

- 3. **AREA COVERED.** Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Grantee shall perform the Project in, and with respect to, the State of New Hampshire.
- 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE: COMPLETION OF PROJECT.**
- 4.1. This Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date on the date of approval of this Agreement by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire if required (block 1.16), or upon signature by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("the Effective Date").
- 4.2. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the Project, including all reports required by this Agreement, shall be completed in ITS entirety prior to the date in block 1.7 (hereinafter referred to as "the Completion Date").
- 5. **GRANT AMOUNT: LIMITATION ON AMOUNT: VOUCHERS: PAYMENT.**
- 5.1. The Grant Amount is identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C, attached hereto.
- 5.2. The manner of, and schedule of payment shall be as set forth in EXHIBIT C.
- 5.3. In accordance with the provisions set forth in EXHIBIT C, and in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Project, as determined by the State, and as limited by subparagraph 5.5 of these general provisions, the State shall pay the Grantee the Grant Amount. The State shall withhold from the amount otherwise payable to the Grantee under this subparagraph 5.3 those sums required, or permitted, to be withheld pursuant to N.H. RSA 80:7 through 7-c.
- 5.4. The payment by the State of the Grant amount shall be the only, and the complete payment to the Grantee for all expenses, of whatever nature, incurred by the Grantee in the performance hereof, and shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for the Project. The State shall have no liabilities to the Grantee other than the Grant Amount.
- 5.5. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made, hereunder exceed the Grant limitation set forth in block 1.8 of these general provisions.
- 6. **COMPLIANCE BY GRANTEE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS.** In connection with the performance of the Project, the Grantee shall comply with all statutes, laws regulations, and orders of federal, state, county, or municipal authorities which shall impose any obligations or duty upon the Grantee, including the acquisition of any and all necessary permits and RSA 31-95-b.
- 7. **RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS.**
- 7.1. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency, the Grantee shall keep detailed accounts of all expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including, but not limited to, costs of administration, transportation, insurance, telephone calls, and clerical materials and services. Such accounts shall be supported by receipts, invoices, bills and other similar documents.
- 7.2. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency pursuant to subparagraph 7.1, at any time during the Grantee's normal business hours, and as often as the State shall demand, the Grantee shall make available to the State all records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement. The Grantee shall permit the State to audit, examine, and reproduce such records, and to make audits of all contracts, invoices, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, data (as that term is hereinafter defined), and other information relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. As used in this paragraph, "Grantee" includes all persons, natural or fictional, affiliated with, controlled by, or under common ownership with, the entity identified as the Grantee in block 1.3 of these provisions
- 8. **PERSONNEL.**
- 8.1. The Grantee shall, at its own expense, provide all personnel necessary to perform the Project. The Grantee warrants that all personnel engaged in the Project shall be qualified to perform such Project, and shall be properly licensed and authorized to perform such Project under all applicable laws.
- 8.2. The Grantee shall not hire, and it shall not permit any subcontractor, subgrantee, or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Project, to hire any person who has a contractual relationship with the State, or who is a State officer or employee, elected or appointed. The Grant Officer shall be the representative of the State hereunder. In the event of any dispute hereunder, the interpretation of this Agreement by the Grant Officer, and his/her decision on any dispute, shall be final.
- 9. **DATA: RETENTION OF DATA: ACCESS.**
- 9.1. As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, paper, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.
- 9.2. Between the Effective Date and the Completion Date the Grantee shall grant to the State, or any person designated by it, unrestricted access to all data for examination, duplication, publication, translation, sale, disposal, or for any other purpose whatsoever.
- 9.3. No data shall be subject to copyright in the United States or any other country by anyone other than the State.
- 9.4. On and after the Effective Date all data, and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, whichever shall first occur.
- 9.5. The State, and anyone it shall designate, shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, all data.
- 10. **CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.** Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability or continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available or appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of those funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Grantee notice of such termination.
- 11. **EVENT OF DEFAULT: REMEDIES.**
- 11.1. Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Grantee shall constitute an event of default hereunder (hereinafter referred to as "Events of Default"):
 - 11.1.1 Failure to perform the Project satisfactorily or on schedule; or
 - 11.1.2 Failure to submit any report required hereunder; or
 - 11.1.3 Failure to maintain, or permit access to, the records required hereunder; or
 - 11.1.4 Failure to perform any of the other covenants and conditions of this Agreement.
- 11.2. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:
 - 11.2.1 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Grantee notice of termination; and
 - 11.2.2 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the Grant Amount which would otherwise accrue to the Grantee during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Grantee has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Grantee; and
 - 11.2.3 Set off against any other obligation the State may owe to the Grantee any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and
 - 11.2.4 Treat the agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.
- 12. **TERMINATION.**
- 12.1. In the event of any early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Project, the Grantee shall deliver to the Grant Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report (hereinafter referred to as the "Termination Report") describing in detail all Project Work performed, and the Grant Amount earned, to and including the date of termination. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall entitle the Grantee to receive that portion of the Grant amount earned to and including the date of termination.
- 12.2. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall in no event relieve the Grantee from any and all liability for damages sustained or incurred by the State as a result of the Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder.
- 12.3. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, either the State or, except where notice default has been given to the Grantee hereunder, the Grantee, may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.
- 12.4. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** No officer, member of employee of the Grantee, and no representative, officer or employee of the State of New Hampshire or of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the Project is to be performed, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or

Grantee Initials:
 Date: 12/2/21

- approval of the undertaking or carrying out of such Project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested, nor shall he or she have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.
14. **GRANTEE'S RELATION TO THE STATE.** In the performance of this Agreement the Grantee, its employees, and any subcontractor or subgrantee of the Grantee are in all respects independent contractors, and are neither agents nor employees of the State. Neither the Grantee nor any of its officers, employees, agents, members, subcontractors or subgrantees, shall have authority to bind the State nor are they entitled to any of the benefits, workmen's compensation or emoluments provided by the State to its employees.
 15. **ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS.** The Grantee shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the State. None of the Project Work shall be subcontracted or subgranted by the Grantee other than as set forth in Exhibit B without the prior written consent of the State.
 16. **INDEMNIFICATION.** The Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based on, resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Grantee or subcontractor, or subgrantee or other agent of the Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant shall survive the termination of this agreement.
 17. **INSURANCE.**
 - 17.1 The Grantee shall, at its own expense, obtain and maintain in force, or shall require any subcontractor, subgrantee or assignee performing Project work to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the State, the following insurance:
 - 17.1.1 Statutory workers' compensation and employees liability insurance for all employees engaged in the performance of the Project, and
 - 17.1.2 General liability insurance against all claims of bodily injuries, death or property damage, in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury or death any one incident, and \$500,000 for property damage in any one incident; and
 - 17.2 The policies described in subparagraph 17.1 of this paragraph shall be the standard form employed in the State of New Hampshire, issued by underwriters acceptable to the State, and authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire. Grantee shall furnish to the State, certificates of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy.
 18. **WAIVER OF BREACH.** No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event, or any subsequent Event. No express waiver of any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of any provisions hereof. No such failure of waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other default on the part of the Grantee.
 19. **NOTICE.** Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses first above given.
 20. **AMENDMENT.** This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire, if required or by the signing State Agency.
 21. **CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS.** This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assignees. The captions and contents of the "subject" blank are used only as a matter of convenience, and are not to be considered a part of this Agreement or to be used in determining the intent of the parties hereto.
 22. **THIRD PARTIES.** The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
 23. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating hereto.
 24. **SPECIAL PROVISIONS.** The additional or modifying provisions set forth in Exhibit A hereto are incorporated as part of this agreement.

Grantee Initials: JA
 Date: 12/9/21

EXHIBIT A

Special Provisions

Modifications, additional and/or deletions to Form P-37, General Provisions, described in detail.

NONE


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EXHIBIT B - SERVICES

GRANT AGREEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

As used in this Exhibit, the term "Project" shall have the same meaning as the term "Services," the term "Grantee" shall have the same meaning as the term "Contractor."

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE.

1.1 The project shall consist of the awarding of \$25,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to the County of Grafton (DUNS# 08-125-9830) to conduct a broadband planning study to assist 19 New Hampshire municipalities with last-mile planning efforts to design solutions to expand their broadband infrastructure. More specifically, the Project shall consist of the following activities. Grantee shall assist municipalities with last-mile build out, providing information sharing, assisting with grant writing and developing funding. Grantee shall contract with qualified consultants, designers, architects and/or engineers:

- 1.1.1 who will create the parameters that drive fiber design, capacity, scalability, and redundancy; and
- 1.1.2 who will provide route design with the goal of selecting paths that are most direct and accessible, thus creating a network that is optimized for construction and maintenance.

1.2 All scopes of work shall be procured using CDBG guidelines, including advertising and solicitation through RFPs for each scope.

1.3 Plans proposed in connection with the Project shall comply with all applicable state standards and local codes.

1.4 Within 30 days of executing this Agreement, the Grantee shall submit to CDFA for approval, an Implementation Schedule for completion of the Project. Grantee shall obtain the prior approval of CDFA for any changes in the Implementation Schedule.

2. GRANT ADMINISTRATION.

2.1 The Grantee shall perform all services and satisfy all grant requirements as necessary to administer the CDBG funds in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and all Exhibits, Schedules, and other documents attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

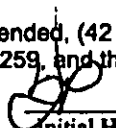
2.2 Grantee acknowledges there are no Grant Administration funds associated with this Grant.

3. STATE AND FEDERAL COMPLIANCE

3.1 Grantee shall comply, and shall require any Subrecipient, contractor and subcontractor to comply, with the following federal and state laws and all applicable standards, rules, orders, or regulations issued pursuant thereto:

3.1.1 The Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act, as amended (118 USC 874) as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (41 CFR Chapter 60).

3.1.2 Nondiscrimination, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1974 (PL 88- 352), as amended, (42 USC 2000d) the Fair Housing Act of 1968 (PL 90-284), Executive Orders 11063 and 12259, and the


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requirements imposed by the Regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (24 CFR 107 and 24 CFR 570.496) issued pursuant to that Title.

3.1.3 Labor Standards. Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 USC 276a-276a-7), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 USC 327-333).

3.1.4 The Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (PL 93-234), as amended, regulations issued pursuant to that act, and Executive Order 11985.

3.1.5 Architectural Barriers Act (PL 90-480), 42 USC 4151, as amended, and the regulations issued or to be issued thereunder, including uniform accessibility standards (24 CFR 40) for public buildings with 15 or more residential units. RSA 275-C:10 and the New Hampshire Architectural Barrier Free Design Code (Han 100, et. seq.) is also applicable.

3.1.6 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 794, Sections 503 and 504, Executive Order 11914 and U.S. Department of Labor regulations issued pursuant thereto.

3.1.7 The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (PL 91-646), as amended, 15 CFR Part 916 including amendments thereto and regulations thereunder.

3.1.8 The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 90-190); the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (80 Stat 915, 116 USC 470); and Executive Order No. 11593 of May 31, 1971, as specified in 24 CFR 58.

3.1.9 The Clean Air Act, as Amended, 42 USC 1857 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251 et seq. and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR Part 15, as amended from time to time.

3.1.10 RSA 354 and rules of the New Hampshire Human Rights Commission (HUM 100, et. seq.) on discrimination in employment, membership, accommodations, and housing.

3.1.11 The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as amended (42 USC 6101, et. seq.) and implementing regulations.

3.1.12 The lead paint requirements (24 CFR 35) of The Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 USC 4821, et. seq.).

3.1.13 The NH State Energy Code (RSA 155-D).

3.1.14 The NH State Life Safety Code (RSA 155:1) and rules of the NH State Fire Marshall.

3.1.15 Citizen Participation Requirements. The 1987 amendments to the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, stated in Section 508.

3.1.16 Affirmative Action Requirements. In furtherance of its covenant Grantee shall:

(1) take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, or national origin; such action shall be taken in conjunction with any of the Grantee's acts in the capacity of an employer including, but not limited to: employment of individuals, upgrading, demotions or transfers, recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoffs or terminations; changes in rates of pay or other forms


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of compensation; selection for training, including apprenticeship, and participation in recreational and educational activities;

(2) post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants, employment notices, to be provided by CDFA, setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause; the Grantee will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, creed, age, sex or national origin;

(3) keep all such information, records and reports as may be required by the rules, regulations or orders of the Secretary of Labor and furnish or submit the same at such times as may be required; the Grantee shall also permit CDFA, or the Secretary of Labor or any of their designated representatives to have access to any of the Grantee's books, records and accounts for the purpose of investigation to ascertain compliance with the aforesaid rules, regulations and orders and covenants and conditions herein contained;

(4) during the term of this agreement, shall not discriminate among participants under this agreement on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap or national origin. For the purpose of this agreement, distinctions on the grounds of the following: denying a participant any service or benefit or availability of a facility; providing any service or benefit to a participant which is different, or is provided in a different manner or at a different time from that provided to other participants under this agreement; subjecting a participant to segregation or separate treatment in any matter related to his receipt of any service; restricting a participant in any way in the enjoyment of any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others receiving any service or benefit; treating a participant differently from others in determining whether he satisfies any admission, enrollment quota, eligibility, membership, or other requirement or condition which individuals must meet in order to be provided any service or benefit; the assignment of times or places for the provision of services on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin of the participants to be served.

3.1.17 Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 USC 1701u) as amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 USC 5301). The contractor will ensure that to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training and employment arising in connection with this CDBG-assisted project will be extended to lower income project area residents. Further, the contractor will, to the greatest extent feasible, utilize business concerns located in or substantially owned by residents of the project area, in the award of contracts and purchase of service and supplies.

3.1.18 Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (42 USC. 701). In carrying out this agreement, the contractor agrees to comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1998 (42 U.S.C. 701) and to certify that contractor will comply with drug-free workplace requirements in accordance with the Act and with HUD rules found at 24 CFR part 24, subpart F.

3.1.19 Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA). As applicable to this grant, and for all subcontracts exceeding \$25,000, Grantee shall require that the Subgrantee or Subrecipient shall comply with requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) concerning the Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS), the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database, and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act, including Appendix A to Part 25 of the Financial Assistance Use of Universal Identifier and Central Contractor Registration, 75 Fed. Reg. 55671 (Sept. 14, 2010)(to be codified at 2 CFR part 25) and Appendix A to Part 170 of the Requirements for Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Implementation, 75 Fed. Reg. 55663 (Sept. 14, 2010)(to be codified at 2 CFR part


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170). For additional information on FFATA reporting and the FSRS system, please visit the www.fsrs.gov website, which includes FFATA legislation, FAQs and OMB guidance on subaward and executive compensation reporting.

3.1.20 Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses (W/MBE). As applicable to this grant, Grantee and Subrecipient will use its best efforts to afford small businesses, minority business enterprises, and women's business enterprises the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in the performance of this contract. As used in this contract, the terms "small business" means a business that meets the criteria set forth in Section 3(a) of the Small Business Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 632), and "minority and women's business enterprise" means a business at least fifty-one (51) percent owned and controlled by minority group members or women. For the purpose of this definition, "minority group members" are Afro-Americans, Spanish-speaking, Spanish sumamed or Spanish-heritage Americans, Asian-Americans, and American Indians. The Subrecipient may rely on written representations by businesses regarding their status as minority and female business enterprises in lieu of an independent investigation.

4. PROJECT MATCHING FUNDS: ADDITIONAL FINANCING.

4.1 The Parties agree that the CDBG funds to be awarded pursuant to this Agreement shall be matched with non-CDBG funds in an amount not less than \$25,000 to provide additional financing for the Grant Project, including but not limited to the following sources:

- 4.1.1 Grafton County Broadband Committee In-Kind contribution
- 4.1.2 Grafton County ARPA Funds

4.2 Grant funds shall not be released or disbursed to Grantee unless and until the additional financing and matching requirements described above have been obtained and documented to CDFA's satisfaction.

5. **STUDY REPORTS.** The Grantee, prior to the Completion Date of this Agreement, shall submit a copy of the completed planning study to CDFA. The report shall include an evaluation of the results of the activities described in Paragraph 1 above.
6. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS.** Grantee shall, prior to the awarding of an engineering services contract necessary for completion of the activities described in paragraph 1 above, provide CDFA with a copy of the proposed contract(s) for CDFA's review and approval. CDFA shall review said proposed contract to determine compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements. CDFA approval shall not abrogate its rights to enforce any part of this Agreement or constitute a waiver of any provision of this Agreement.
7. **OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS.** Outstanding obligations as of the Completion Date, as set forth in Section 1.7 of the General Provisions, shall be paid or otherwise resolved within ninety (90) days. Such obligations shall be related to goods or services provided during the grant period, except for reasonable costs associated with grant closeout, i.e., audits and final reports. Such closeout costs may be incurred up to ninety (90) days after the completion date.
8. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction and services, the Grantee or any subgrantee or subrecipient shall adhere to the conflict of interest provisions set forth in CDFA's Implementation Guide. In all other cases, the conflict of interest provisions set forth in 24 CFR 570.489(h) shall apply.


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9. GRANTEE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

9.1 Except where inconsistent with federal requirements, state procedures and practices will apply to funds disbursed by CDFA, and local procedures and practices will apply to funds disbursed by units of local government.

9.2 **Cash Advances:** Cash advances to Grantee shall be approved only to the extent necessary to satisfy the actual, immediate cash requirements of Grantee in carrying out the purpose of the approved program or project. The timing and amount of cash advances shall be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by Grantee for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. Cash advances made by Grantee to subrecipients shall conform to the same standards of timing and amount as apply to advances to Grantee including the furnishing of reports of cash disbursements and balances.

9.3 **Fiscal Control:** Grantee must establish fiscal control and fund accounting procedures which assure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, grant funds and any required non-federal expenditures. This responsibility applies to funds disbursed by subrecipients and contractors as well as to funds disbursed in direct operations of Grantee. Grantee shall be required to maintain a financial management system which complies with 24 CFR 85.20 or such equivalent system as CDFA may require. Requests for payment shall be made according to CDFA's CDBG Implementation Guide.

10. PROCUREMENT. Grantee procurement procedures shall be in accordance with state and local procurement practices and regulations, provided that procurements made with Grant Funds adhere, at a minimum, to the standards set forth in 24 CFR Part 200.318-326. Grantee shall not use debarred, suspended or ineligible contractors as provided in 24 CFR 570.489 (l).

11. REPORTS AND CLOSE OUT

11.1 Semi Annual progress reports which identify the status of Grant Activities performed, the outlook for completion of the remaining Grant Activities prior to the Completion Date and the changes, if any, which need to be made in the Project or Grant Activities, shall be submitted by the 15th of the month in January and July via CDFA's Grants Management System (GMS).

11.2 Financial reports, including a statement detailing all Grant or Project Costs (as hereinafter defined) which have been incurred since the prior request for reimbursement, shall be submitted with each request for reimbursement and with the Closeout Report. Financial Reports shall be submitted on forms provided by CDFA.

11.3 Within thirty (30) days after the Completion Date, a Closeout Report shall be submitted which summarizes the results of the Grant Activities, showing in particular how the Grant Activities have been performed. The Closeout Report shall be in the form required or specified by CDFA.

11.4 The Audited Financial Reports shall be prepared in accordance with the regulations which implement OMB 2 CFR Part 200. An audited financial report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of the completion of said report to CDFA.

11.5 Where the Grantee is not subject to the requirements of OMB 2 CFR Part 200, one of the following options will be chosen by CDFA:


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- 11.5.1 Within ninety (90) days after the Completion or Termination Date an audited financial report shall be submitted to CDFA. Said audit shall be conducted utilizing the guidelines set forth in "Standards for Audit of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities, and Functions" by the Comptroller General of the United States.
- 11.5.2 CDFA will conduct a financial Review-in-Lieu of Audit within ninety (90) days after the Completion Date of the Project.

11.6 Where the length of the grant period exceeds twenty-four (24) months, there shall be an interim audit performed and submitted.

12. RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS: ACCESS

12.1 During the performance of the Project Activities and for a period of three (3) years after the Completion Date or the date of the final audit approval by CDFA, whichever is later, the Grantee shall keep, and shall require any Subrecipient to keep, the following records and accounts:

12.1.1 **Records of Direct Work:** Detailed records of all direct work performed by its personnel under this Agreement.

12.1.2 **Fiscal Records:** Books, records, documents and other statistical data evidencing, and permitting a determination to be made by CDFA of all Project Costs and other expenses incurred by the Grantee and all income received or collected by the Grantee, during the performance of the Project Activities. The said records shall be maintained in accordance with accounting procedures and practices acceptable to CDFA, and which sufficiently and properly reflect all such costs and expenses, and shall include, without limitation, all ledgers, books, audits, records and original evidence of costs such as purchase requisitions and orders, invoices, vouchers, bills, requisitions for materials, inventories, valuations of in-kind contributions, labor time cards, payrolls and other records requested or required by CDFA.

12.1.3 **Contractor and Subcontractor Records:** The Grantee shall, and where applicable, Subrecipient shall, establish, maintain and preserve, and require each of its contractors and subcontractors to establish, maintain and preserve property management, project performance, financial management and reporting documents and systems, and such other books, records, and other data pertinent to the project as the CDFA may require. Such records shall be retained for a period of three (3) years following completion of the project and receipt of final payment by the Grantee, or until an audit is completed and all questions arising therefrom are resolved, whichever is later.

13. TERMINATION: REMEDIES

13.1 Inability to Perform: Termination by Grantee. As a result of causes beyond its control, and notwithstanding the exercise of good faith and diligence in the performance of its obligations hereunder, if it shall become necessary for Grantee to terminate this Agreement, Grantee shall give CDFA fifteen (15) days advance written notice of such termination, in which event the Agreement shall terminate at the expiration of said fifteen (15) days.

13.2 Termination Without Default. In the event of termination without default and upon receipt, acceptance and approval by CDFA of the Termination Report, as referenced in the General Provisions,


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Grantee shall receive payment for all Project Costs incurred in the performance of Grant Activities completed up to and including the date of termination and for which payment had not previously been made including, but not limited to, all reasonable expenses incurred in the preparation of the Termination Report; provided, however, that in the event that any payments have been made hereunder in excess of Project Costs incurred up to and including the date of termination of the Agreement, CDFA shall offset any payments to be made hereunder against such payments, and if applicable, Grantee shall refund to CDFA the amount of any excess funds it retains after such offset.

13.3 Termination for Default. In the event of termination for default or other violation of Program requirements, CDFA shall, upon receipt, acceptance and approval of the Termination Report submitted by Grantee, pay Grantee for Project Costs incurred up to and including the date of termination (subject to off-set against funds paid to Grantee hereunder and to the refund of any excess funds); provided, however, that in such event the amount of such payment shall be determined solely by CDFA; and provided, further, that in no event shall the making of any such payments relieve Grantee of any liability for damages sustained or incurred by CDFA as a result of Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder, or relieve Grantee of responsibility to seek return of Grant Funds from any Subrecipient or Beneficiary where applicable.

13.4 Limitation on Grantee Liability for Subgranted Funds. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary and absent the presence of fraud or negligence on the part of Grantee in enforcing its rights and obligations under the terms of any Subrecipient agreement, the sole obligation of Grantee with respect to the return of Grant Funds, in the event of default on a grant condition or other termination of the Project or event requiring return of Grant Funds, shall be to make a good faith effort to return to the State of New Hampshire all grant funds paid to Subrecipient through Grantee. Grantee shall make good faith efforts to enforce the legal obligations entered into with the Subrecipient as provided herein, to call upon the collateral held by itself or others, and exercise due diligence in its efforts in bringing about the satisfaction of the grant obligations and, having done so, it shall not be required to look to any other funds or its tax base to recoup grant funds not recovered from the Subrecipient.

13.5 Assignment to CDFA and Payment of Expenses and Costs. Grantee hereby agrees that, in the event it fails to enforce the provisions of any Subrecipient Agreement or fails to cure an Event of Default resulting in termination of this Agreement or the Project, Grantee shall, upon demand by CDFA, assign and convey to CDFA all or any of its rights, title and interest, or delegate to CDFA all or any of its obligations under the Subrecipient Agreement and any Mortgage, Promissory Note, Security Agreement or other agreement as applicable. Such delegation or assignment shall be effective only in the event of a default by Subrecipient or Beneficiary in its or their obligations under the Subrecipient Agreement or other agreement. In the event that CDFA assumes any of the obligations of Grantee as provided herein, Grantee shall pay all costs and expenses incurred by CDFA in the enforcement of the Subrecipient Agreement, collection upon any loan, mortgage or other security, or in curing any Event of Default.

13.6 Where the Grant Agreement is terminated or the Project is otherwise terminated due to a default, inability to perform or reason other than project completion and Grant funds are to be returned by Grantee, the disposition of Grant Funds to be returned shall be determined solely by CDFA.

14. ADDITIONAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS.

14.1 Grantee shall prepare and adopt a written Code of Conduct governing the performance of its employees engaged in the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction and services consistent with the requirements of 24 CFR 85.36(b)(3). The Code of Conduct shall be prepared in the form shown in the


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CDBG Implementation Guide, and shall be formally adopted prior to requesting Grant funds. The Grantee shall also comply with the conflict of interest policy consistent with the requirements of 24 CFR 570.489(h) and approved by CDFA.

14.2 Grantee shall prepare and adopt a financial management plan, approved by CDFA, which describes Grantee's system for receiving and expending the grant funds including the internal controls, which shall ensure compliance with the General Provisions of this Grant Agreement. The plan shall be formally adopted prior to requesting Grant funds.

14.3 Publicity and Signage.

14.3.1 Public Relations. The Grantee shall grant CDFA the right to use the Grantee's name, likeness, and logo in any public relations or publicity efforts. This shall include, but not be limited to, press releases, media interviews, website, publications, brochures, etc. CDFA's publicity efforts may also include details about Grantee's project, contract, or other publically available information.

14.3.2 Reciprocal Publicity. The Grantee also shall acknowledge CDFA appropriately in all organizational and public forums as to the support, financial and otherwise, that has been provided to the project. This recognition shall include, but not be limited to, print/electronic media, publications, interviews, brochures, website, etc.

14.3.3 Project Signage. For construction/renovation projects – CDFA logo must be included in signage at the job worksite. CDFA logo may not be any smaller than 50% of the size of the largest logo displayed. This requirement can be waived if no other partner/entity requires worksite signage and creating signage solely for CDFA poses a hardship. Alternative – If none of these are applicable/feasible, an alternative display of the CDFA logo or public recognition agreeable to CDFA.

14.4 CDFA shall have the right to terminate all or part of its obligations under this Agreement in the event that any official, employee, architect, engineer, attorney or inspector of, or for Grantee, or any government official or representative becomes directly or indirectly interested financially in the acquisition of any materials or equipment, or in any construction of the Project, or in the furnishing of any service to, or in connection with the Project, or any benefit arising therefrom.


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EXHIBIT C

PROJECT COSTS; METHOD AND TERMS OF PAYMENT

1. PROJECT COSTS; PAYMENT SCHEDULE; REVIEW BY CDFA.

1.1 **Project Costs:** As used in this Agreement, the term "Project Costs" shall mean all reimbursable costs incurred in performance of the Grant activities. "Administrative Project Costs" shall mean all expenses directly or indirectly incurred by Grantee in the performance of the Project Activities, as determined by CDFA to be eligible and allowable for payment in accordance with allowable administrative project cost standards set forth in OMB 2 CFR Part 200 as revised from time to time, and with the rules, regulations and guidelines established by CDFA. Administrative project costs include but are not limited to: preparation of environmental review, record keeping, reporting, audits and oversight of Project construction and compliance with all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations and this contract. In no event shall Administrative Project Costs exceed fifteen (15) percent of the total Grant funds allowed. With respect to a non-profit subrecipient, such subrecipient shall meet the requirements of OMB 2 CFR Part 200.

1.2 **Delivery Costs (If Applicable):** As used in this Agreement, the term "Delivery Costs" shall mean all reimbursable costs incurred by a Subrecipient, as set forth in Attachment I, "Sources and Uses" in connection with a regional revolving loan fund that are directly related to the preparation and execution of loan documents and to the monitoring and administration of the loan provisions, and which are allowable by the New Hampshire Community Development Block Grant program and HUD rules.

1.3 **Payment of Project Costs:** Subject to the terms and conditions of this agreement, CDFA agrees to pay Grantee all Project Costs, provided, however, that in no event shall the total of all payments made by CDFA pursuant to this Agreement exceed the Grant Amount as set out in Paragraph 1.8 of the General Provisions, and provided further that all Project Costs shall have been incurred prior to the Completion Date, except for reasonable approved Project Costs incurred within 90 days after the Completion Date and in connection with closeout requirements as required in CDFA's Community Development Block Grant Implementation Guide.

1.4 **Review by CDFA: Disallowance of Costs:** At any time during the performance of the Project Activities, and upon receipt of the Progress Reports, Closeout Report or Audited Financial Report, CDFA may review all Project Costs incurred by Grantee or any Subrecipient and all payments made to date. Upon such review, CDFA shall disallow any items of expense which are not determined to be allowable or are determined to be in excess of actual expenditures, and shall, by written notice specifying the disallowed expenditures, inform Grantee of any such disallowance. If CDFA disallows costs for which payment has not yet been made, it shall refuse to pay such costs. If payment has been made with respect to costs which are subsequently disallowed, CDFA may deduct the amount of disallowed costs from any future payments under this Agreement or require that Grantee refund to CDFA the amount of the disallowed costs.

2. METHOD AND TERMS OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROJECT COSTS.

2.1 CDFA shall not disburse any funds for the purposes of this Project until such time as all agreements specified in Exhibit B and any other agreements or documents specified pursuant to this Agreement are fully executed and received, and where applicable, are reviewed and approved in writing by CDFA. Agreements and documents may include:

2.1.1 An Implementation Schedule;


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2.1.2 A fully executed agreement between the Grantee and the qualified consultant(s) pursuant to the provisions of Exhibit B.

2.2 Timing of Payments. Upon thirty (30) days of the receipt, review, and approval by CDFA of financial reports and requests for reimbursement from Grantee specifying all Project Costs incurred, CDFA agrees to reimburse Grantee for Project Costs, except that reimbursement may be withheld until CDFA determines that a particular project activity or portion of the project activity hereunder has been satisfactorily completed.

2.3 Disbursement of funds by CDFA does not constitute acceptance of any item as an eligible Project Cost until all Project Costs have been audited and determined to be allowable costs.

3. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS.

3.1 Reimbursement requests for all Project Costs, including Administrative Project Costs, Delivery Costs and Subrecipient costs, shall be accompanied by proper supporting documentation in the amount of each requested disbursement along with a payment request form as supplied by CDFA, which shall be completed and signed by Grantee. Documentation may include invoices and receipts for supplies, equipment, services, contractual services and, where applicable, a report of salaries paid or to be paid.

4. LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.

4.1 Grant funds are to be used in a manner consistent with the State of New Hampshire Community Development Block Grant Program as approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

4.2 Grant funds are to be used only in accordance with procedures, requirements and principles specified in 24 CFR 85.

4.3 Grant funds may not, without advance written approval by CDFA, be obligated prior to the Effective Date or subsequent to the Completion Date of the grant period. Obligations outstanding as of the Completion Date shall be liquidated within ninety (90) days. Such obligations must be related to goods or services provided during the grant period, except that reasonable costs associated solely with grant closeout, (e.g., audits, final reports) may be incurred within ninety (90) days after the Completion Date. The funding assistance authorized hereunder shall not be obligated or utilized for any activities requiring a release of funds under the Environmental Review Procedure for the Community Development Block Grant Program at 24 CFR Part 58, until such release is issued in writing by CDFA.

4.4 Changes in Funding Project Activities: Grantee may submit a written request for the authority to transfer up to ten (10) percent of the full value of the grant from one approved activity to another listed in Exhibit C herein or from an approved activity within the approved project area to an approved activity located outside the project area and the Director of CDFA may approve the requested transfer.

4.5 Transfers over ten percent of the full value of the grant from one approved activity to other approved activities or outside the target area, or the addition of one or more new activities requires an amendment to this grant agreement. Grantee shall hold a public hearing in accordance with RSA 4: C: 14 II(b) submitting a request for an amendment involving twenty-five (25) percent or more of the full value of the grant.

4.6 Up to \$25,000 of Grant Funds may be applied by the Grantee for the use as described herein.


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- 4.7 Grantee acknowledges there are no Grant Administration funds associated with this grant.
5. **PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES BY GRANTEE PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE DATE; PAYMENT BY CDFA.** Any Grant Activities performed by Grantee with non-CDBG funds prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of Grantee, and in the event that this Agreement shall not become effective, CDFA shall be under no obligation to pay Grantee for any costs incurred in connection with any Grant Activities, or to otherwise pay for any Activities performed during such period.


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CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

The New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex³) is organized under the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 5-B, Pooled Risk Management Programs. In accordance with those statutes, its Trust Agreement and bylaws, Primex³ is authorized to provide pooled risk management programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions in the State of New Hampshire.

Each member of Primex³ is entitled to the categories of coverage set forth below. In addition, Primex³ may extend the same coverage to non-members. However, any coverage extended to a non-member is subject to all of the terms, conditions, exclusions, amendments, rules, policies and procedures that are applicable to the members of Primex³, including but not limited to the final and binding resolution of all claims and coverage disputes before the Primex³ Board of Trustees. The Additional Covered Party's per occurrence limit shall be deemed included in the Member's per occurrence limit, and therefore shall reduce the Member's limit of liability as set forth by the Coverage Documents and Declarations. The limit shown may have been reduced by claims paid on behalf of the member. General Liability coverage is limited to Coverage A (Personal Injury Liability) and Coverage B (Property Damage Liability) only. Coverage's C (Public Officials Errors and Omissions), D (Unfair Employment Practices), E (Employee Benefit Liability) and F (Educator's Legal Liability Claims-Made Coverage) are excluded from this provision of coverage.

The below named entity is a member in good standing of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange. The coverage provided may, however, be revised at any time by the actions of Primex³. As of the date this certificate is issued, the information set out below accurately reflects the categories of coverage established for the current coverage year.

This Certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder. This certificate does not amend, extend, or alter the coverage afforded by the coverage categories listed below.

Participating Member: Grafton County 3855 Dartmouth College Highway Box #1 North Haverhill, NH 03774	Member Number: 603	Company Affording Coverage: NH Public Risk Management Exchange - Primex ³ Bow Brook Place 46 Donovan Street Concord, NH 03301-2624								
Type of Coverage	Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)								
<input type="checkbox"/> General Liability (Occurrence Form) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Liability (describe) <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Made <input type="checkbox"/> Occurrence										
<input type="checkbox"/> Automobile Liability Deductible Comp and Coll: <input type="checkbox"/> Any auto										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation & Employers' Liability	7/1/2021	7/1/2022								
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Each Accident</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disease - Each Employee</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disease - Policy Limit</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory		Each Accident	\$2,000,000	Disease - Each Employee	\$2,000,000	Disease - Policy Limit	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory										
Each Accident	\$2,000,000									
Disease - Each Employee	\$2,000,000									
Disease - Policy Limit										
<input type="checkbox"/> Property (Special Risk Includes Fire and Theft)										
Blanket Limit, Replacement Cost (unless otherwise stated)										
Description: Proof of Primex Member coverage only.										

CERTIFICATE HOLDER:	Additional Covered Party	Loss Payee	Primex³ - NH Public Risk Management Exchange
CDFA 14 Dixon Ave, Ste 102 Concord, NH 03301			By: <i>Mary Beth Powell</i>
			Date: 6/16/2021 mpurcell@nhprimex.org
			Please direct Inquiries to: Primex³ Claims/Coverage Services 603-225-2841 phone 603-228-3833 fax



CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

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The below named entity is a member in good standing of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange. The coverage provided may, however, be revised at any time by the actions of Primex³. As of the date this certificate is issued, the information set out below accurately reflects the categories of coverage established for the current coverage year.

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Participating Member: Grafton County 3855 Dartmouth College Highway Box #1 North Haverhill, NH 03774	Member Number: 603	Company Affording Coverage: NH Public Risk Management Exchange - Primex ³ Bow Brook Place 46 Donovan Street Concord, NH 03301-2624
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Type of Coverage	Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Limits - NH Statutory Limits May Apply
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Liability (Occurrence Form) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Liability (describe) <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Made <input type="checkbox"/> Occurrence	7/1/2021	7/1/2022	Each Occurrence \$ 1,000,000 General Aggregate \$ 2,000,000 Fire Damage (Any one fire) Med Exp (Any one person)
<input type="checkbox"/> Automobile Liability Deductible Comp and Coll: \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Any auto			Combined Single Limit (Each Accident) Aggregate
<input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation & Employers' Liability			<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Each Accident Disease - Each Employee Disease - Policy Limit
<input type="checkbox"/> Property (Special Risk Includes Fire and Theft)			Blanket Limit, Replacement Cost (unless otherwise stated)

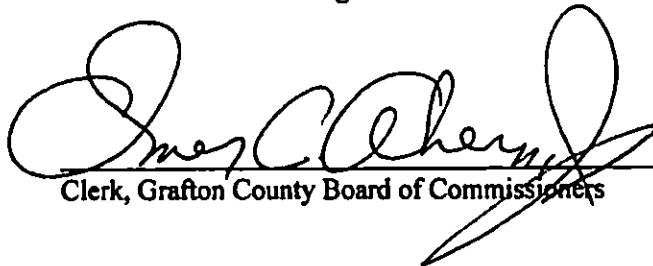
Description: Relative to the Community Development Block Grant Agreement, the certificate holder is named as Additional Covered Party, but only to the extent liability is based on the negligence or wrongful acts of the member, its employees, agents, officials or volunteers. This coverage does not extend to others. Any liability resulting from the negligence or wrongful acts of the Additional Covered Party, or their employees, agents, contractors, members, officers, directors or affiliates is not covered. The Participating Member will advise of cancellation no less than 15 days prior to cancellation.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Covered Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss Payee	Primex ³ - NH Public Risk Management Exchange
CDFA 14 Dixon Ave, Ste 102 Concord, NH 03301			By: <i>Mary Beth Purcell</i>
			Date: 6/16/2021 mpurcell@nhprimex.org Please direct inquires to: Primex ³ Risk Management Services 603-225-2841 phone 603-228-3833 fax

**CERTIFICATE
21-405-FSPF**

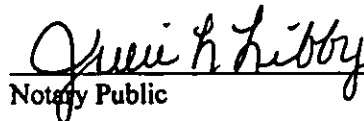
I, Omer C. Ahern, Jr., Clerk of the Grafton County Board of Commissioners, Grafton County, New Hampshire do hereby certify that: (1) at the public hearing held on August 3, 2021, the Grafton County Commissioners voted to accept Community Development Block Grant funds and enter into a contract with the Community Development Finance Authority; (2) the County Commissioners further authorized the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this contract; (3) this authorization has not been revoked, annulled or amended in any manner whatsoever, and remains in full force and effect as of the date hereof; and (4) the following person has been elected to , and now occupies, the office indicated under item (2) above:

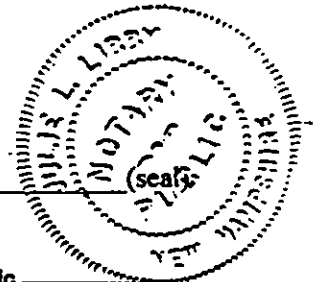
Wendy Piper, Chairman, Board of Grafton County Commissioners
Name and Title of Officer Authorized to Sign


Clerk, Grafton County Board of Commissioners

State of New Hampshire
County of Grafton, SS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 7th day of December, 2021, by the above-named Omer C. Ahern, Jr., Clerk of the Grafton County Board of Commissioners. Grafton County, New Hampshire.


Notary Public



My Commission Expires ~~July 11, 2023~~
JULIE K. LIBBY, Notary Public
My Commission Expires July 11, 2023

CERTIFICATION OF GRANTEE'S ATTORNEY
21-405-FSPF

I, ANNEKA ANN HORNBY acting as Attorney for the County of Grafton, New Hampshire do hereby certify.

That in my opinion the Grantee is empowered to enter into the foregoing Grant Agreement under the laws of the State of New Hampshire. Further, I have examined the foregoing Grant Agreement and the actions taken by said Grantee and have determined that Grantee's official representative has been duly authorized to execute this Grant Agreement and that the execution thereof is in all respects due and proper and in accordance with the laws of the said State and applicable federal laws. In addition, for grants involving projects to be carried out on property not owned by Grantee, there are no legal impediments that will prevent full performance by the Grantee. Further, it is my opinion that the said Grant Agreement constitutes a legal and binding obligation of Grantee in accordance with the terms thereof.

Dated at COCHRAN COUNTY this 8th day of December, 2021



Signature of Grantee's Attorney

Grafton County – \$25,000 – Broadband Planning Study (Public Facilities)

Applicant	Grafton County
Subrecipient	N/A
Project Name	Broadband Planning Grant
Project Location	Grafton County, NH
Request	\$25,000
LMI Threshold	51%
HUD CDBG National Objective	Planning (20)
NH State Category	Planning (Public Facilities)

Project Summary

Grafton County is requesting \$25,000 in CDBG Planning Grant funds to assist 19 municipalities with their last-mile planning efforts to design solutions to expand fiber into each town. CDBG funding will represent half the total consultant costs needed for project development and planning, and the project intends to benefit at least 51% low- to moderate- income individuals.

Access to broadband has long been an issue throughout rural parts of New Hampshire and the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges. Low population density leads to a high initial cost to build out infrastructure it is not financially feasible for service providers to deliver service to the rural areas. The Grafton County Broadband Committee was established to address this challenge and has been working to develop a middle-mile backbone network through population centers. The Committee has spent approximately a year on preliminary designs for the backbone, surveying residents on broadband coverage, engaging with broadband providers on their current services, identifying funding opportunities, investigating business models, estimating costs, and producing maps. A \$26.27-million-dollar grant application has been submitted to the National Telecommunications and Infrastructure Administration (NTIA) to fund the implementation of broadband infrastructure, with contingency plans in place in the event the grant is not awarded.

Though this next phase of planning, the County will assist individual municipalities with last-mile build out, providing information sharing, assisting with grant writing and developing funding. This phase will continue the work underway by creating high-level designs that will address two major elements in smart network planning: 1) Developing network architecture which creates the parameters that drive fiber design, capacity, scalability, and redundancy; and 2) Route design, the goal being to select paths that are most direct and accessible, thus creating a network that is optimized for construction and maintenance.

The Broadband Committee also intends to create shared learning materials (such as a “Checklist of 10 Things Your Community Needs to Prepare for Broadband Expansion”) and to host informational/best practice sessions in order to help other communities across the state that are interested in broadband expansion. This project’s approach is innovative as it is addressing broadband connectivity at a county-level, which is a cost-effective measure that avoids additional costs and issues that can come from addressing it individually at a municipal level.

Total project costs for this project are \$50,000, with \$25,000 coming from CDBG, \$6,500 coming from in-kind donations from the Grafton County Broadband Committee, and \$18,500 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that Grafton County has committed for the project. Work completed so far has been supported by funds from Grafton County as well as a USDA Community Facilities Technical Assistance & Training grant awarded to Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC).

Sources and Uses

Uses	Sources (CDBG)	Grafton Country Broadband Committee In-Kind	Grafton County ARPA Funds	Total Uses
Planning Study	\$25,000	\$6,500	\$18,500	\$50,000
Grant Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$25,000	\$6,500	\$18,500	\$50,000

Administrative Costs

Grant and project administrative funds will be provided through an existing grant management contract with NCIC.

Grant Administrator	\$0
Advertising	\$0
Legal	\$0
Audit	\$0
Other	\$0
Total	\$0

Review Summary and Recommendation

- The project scored 20 points;
- The project will lead to an increase in broadband connectivity for low- and moderate- income individuals in a rural area; and
- This study will help the applicant prepare for a future implementation application.