



October 9, 2024

Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Broadband
Department of Housing and Community Development
600 East Main Street, Ste 300
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Letter of Intent to Apply for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Development (BEAD) Program

Dear Dr. Holmes,

We are writing to express our formal intent to apply for funding through the **Broadband Equity, Access, and Development (BEAD) Program**. As an organization committed to advancing digital equity and access, we recognize the critical importance of expanding broadband infrastructure to underserved and unserved communities.

Global Technical Systems has a longstanding history of serving Hampton Roads, with a focus on providing leading-edge technologies and services. Through our P3 partnership with the Southside Network Authority (SNA) and this initiative, we aim to bridge the digital divide by deploying reliable and high-speed broadband to rural, low-income, and historically underserved populations.

Our specific goals for this project include:

- **Objective 1:** Expanding broadband to 100% of un/underserved households and community anchor institutions.
- **Objective 2:** Promoting digital literacy through community engagement.
- **Objective 3:** Investing in infrastructure development, partnership-building, and workforce development.

We have already begun engaging with community stakeholders, such as local governments, schools, healthcare providers, and businesses, to ensure that our efforts align with the local needs and priorities. Additionally, our team possesses the technical and administrative expertise necessary to manage large-scale broadband deployment and ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.

We look forward to submitting a full proposal that outlines our detailed plans, including project scope, budget, and timeline for the following cities: Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, & Virginia Beach. Should you require any further information or clarification in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us at noel.mitchell@sparqnetworks.com or 757-468-8751.

Thank you for your consideration. We are excited about the opportunity to participate in the BEAD program and work toward achieving universal broadband access for all. The main point of contact for GTS/SPARQ Networks during the application process is as follows:

SPARQ

784 Lynnhaven pkwy

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

(757)-468-8751

Noel.Mitchell@sparqnetworks.com

Sincerely,

Noel Mitchell

Executive Vice President

SPARQ (a GTS company)