



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of June 22, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 5-B

PREPARED BY: Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT:

Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant (MMG) Program, and the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program authorized by the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*

Enclosure: No

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

[Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) Program](#)

The purpose of the program is to support broadband planning, deployment, mapping, equity, and adoption to bridge the digital divide in unserved and underserved communities. There is approximately \$41.601 billion in total program funding. Each state will receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million from the BEAD Program, with remaining funding allocated by formula based on the number of unserved locations in a given state. There is generally a 25 percent nonfederal cost share requirement. Eligibility is limited to state governments, but there are multiple opportunities for coordination and subgranting to local governments. The deadline for states to submit Letters of Intent is **July 18, 2022**, and the deadline to submit requests for Initial Planning Funds is **August 15, 2022**.

[Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant \(MMG\) Program](#)

The purpose of the program is to support the construction, improvement, and acquisition of middle mile broadband infrastructure. There is \$980 million in total program funding. Award sizes will generally range from \$5 million to \$100 million each. There is a 30 percent nonfederal cost share requirement. Local governments are directly eligible for funding. The deadline to submit an application is **September 30, 2022**.

[State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program](#)

The purpose of the program is to support the development of State Digital Equity Plans that identify barriers to digital equity and strategies to overcome those barriers. There is \$53.4 million in total program funding, to be distributed via formula. Tentative allocations for each state are outlined on page 13 of the NOFO. There is no cost share requirement. Eligibility is limited to state governments; however, states may make subgrants to local and tribal

governments; nonprofit organizations; community anchor institutions; local educational agencies (LEAs); public housing authorities (PHAs); and other agencies to assist in the development of State Digital Equity Plans. The deadline to submit applications is **July 12, 2022**.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Budget.