



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Executive Council of the Central Council
TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 21-39

Title: Authorization to Apply for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration 905 Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 32,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Article X of the Tlingit & Haida Constitution, the Executive Council is the governing body of Tlingit & Haida when the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will make up to \$980,000,000 available for federal assistance under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program; and

WHEREAS, NTIA will allocate at least \$500,000 to each federally recognized tribe; and

WHEREAS, NTIA expects to make awards between \$1,000,000 and \$50,000,000 for Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Projects; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida's primary goal is to purchase Indefeasible Rights of Use (IRUs), i.e., bulk internet over a long period, from the incumbent carriers: ACS, APT, GCI, PDI, and other carriers servicing Alaska; this long-term contract would provide immediately increased broadband adoption of the internet via increased use and access to all and incentivize existing carriers to expand access and upgrade infrastructure via committed funding; IRUs also have an inherent component of sustainability, as they would be for long-term commitments; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida's secondary goal is to acquire existing Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISP) and funding to install physical equipment to provide WISP service in areas that currently do not have last mile service; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida’s third goal is to seek funding for large-scale middle-mile submarine fiber optic projects:

- 1) Purchase of Indefeasible Rights of Use (IRUs)
 - Existing service areas with Broadband
 - Direct Internet Access (DIA) to underserved areas
- 2) Buildout of Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISPs)
 - Acquisition of WISPs to supplement last-mile deployment
 - Hire Staff to operate WISP
 - Funding of in-process WISP projects
- 3) Large scale middle-mile infrastructure
 - Juneau to Hoonah submarine fiber
 - Extension to Gustavus
 - Kake submarine fiber from Juneau or Angoon
 - Kasaan to Ketchikan submarine fiber

WHEREAS, the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program has an indirect cap but this grant will not incur an indirect shortfall because the planned expenditures are all capital outlays;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby authorizes the Tlingit & Haida President, or designee, to submit, negotiate, execute, and administer any and all documents, including any subsequent amendments, that are required by National Telecommunications and Information Administration for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program.

ADOPTED this 16th day of July 2021, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 1 absence.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe