

UPDATE

Broadband Funding- Act 142 Projects

The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Appropriations Act establishes the basis for broadband expansion in South Carolina by creating the Office of Broadband Coordinator within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS), expanding mapping efforts, and extending funding opportunities to companies that deploy broadband in specific areas of need.

In 2020, the South Carolina General Assembly passed Act 142 authorizing the ORS to expend up to \$50 million for broadband initiatives related to COVID-19.

The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Appropriations Act allows for broadband infrastructure projects, including those that were approved for funding pursuant to Act 142 of 2020, but not constructed by December of 2020, to be completed through the Broadband Infrastructure Program. Priority will be given to unserved homes, businesses, schools, health-care facilities, and other institutions in rural communities and communities across South Carolina with a lack of access to broadband.

Timeline

Funding Agreements Sent to Companies	7/9/21
Notices to Proceed Issued	8/4/21
Initial Construction Progress Report Due	11/15/21
Initial Financial Progress Report Due	11/15/21
Monthly Construction Progress Report Due	12/15/21
Monthly Financial Progress Report Due	1/1/22
Monthly Construction Progress Report Due	1/15/22
Monthly Financial Progress Report Due	2/1/22
Monthly Construction Progress Report Due	2/15/22
Monthly Financial Progress Report Due	3/1/22
Monthly Construction Progress Report Due	3/15/22
Project Completion	3/31/22
Final Reporting Due	4/30/22

Company	State Funding
Comporium - Lancaster Telephone Company	\$51,900.00
Comporium - PBT Telecom, Inc.	\$1,720,037.00
Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	\$13,426.00
Hargray Communications	\$147,771.00
Lynches River Electric Cooperative	\$568,652.00
Newberry Electric Cooperative	\$1,800,000.00
TruVista Communications, Inc.	\$3,213,177.44
Upcountry Fiber*	\$825,000.00
WC Fiber LLC	\$321,715.00
TOTAL	\$8,661,678.44

* pending

