

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: tw telecom

Summary: tw telecom supports the goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to extend broadband and provide new and/or improved services to our communities. We appreciate the efforts of the Rural Utilities Service and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in making sure that the limited amount of broadband stimulus funding available under the ARRA is targeted toward those consumers in greatest need, rather than to areas that already have access to broadband service.

To assist your agencies in ensuring that ARRA funds are directed areas of greatest need, tw telecom is pleased to provide feedback regarding the referenced application in the State of Idaho. We trust that your agencies will use this information -- along with information from other broadband providers -- to obtain a clear picture of service availability in the area covered by the application. We encourage the use of independent due diligence to determine the extent of other broadband service offerings in the proposed funded service area covered by this submission, if other providers fail to submit information prior to the submission deadline.

The Boise area has a multitude of fiber networks and it is far from being left behind in the digital economy. There are at least 11 different fiber based telecommunication companies operating in the greater Boise Market including multiple routes outside of Boise to other parts of the US. The available providers include American Fiber Systems (I reordered them to coincide with the application), Qwest, AT&T, Level 3, 360 Networks, tw telecom, Integra Telecom, Syringa Networks, CableOne, PaeTec, and WestComm.

Neither Government nor Public Safety has been left out of the digital development equation--In both Boise (Ada County) and Caldwell (Canyon County) (along with most other major City, County and State buildings in the Boise) there is at least one fiber provider, and of those a majority have at least 2 fiber based service providers giving entities multiple routes for redundancy and high capacity services.

Idaho's Government and Public Safety entities are ripe with options because most all of the Community Anchor Institutions (CAI's) within the Boise area are already connected to fiber based services from multiple providers. Just a few examples in the Boise area are to whom tw telecom provides services constructed over its own fiber: Boise City Hall, Boise City Hall West, Boise Airport, Ada County Courthouse, Ada County Public Safety Building, Ada County Courthouse Extension, Canyon County Courthouse and Public Safety Building, City of Caldwell, City of Nampa, Nampa Civic Center, Meridian City Hall, Eagle City Hall, Boise School District, Meridian School District, Nampa School District, Kuna School District, Caldwell School District, Vallivue School District, Boise State University, Idaho State University and others.

Interconnection points abound in the greater Boise area. There are currently hundreds of interconnection points existing from current providers that also provide multiple access points throughout the Boise area. Those located in Boise, Meridian, Garden City, Eagle, Star, Middleton, Kuna, Nampa, Caldwell all have extensive fiber routes with multiple access points from multiple providers.

In addition to the public interconnections, there are multiple carrier to carrier interconnections within the valley supplying a plethora of service options. tw telecom has fiber services to hundreds of other private sector facilities throughout the Boise area and is constantly working with private and public entities to extend its fiber capabilities.