

**SANTA FE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT**



**Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)  
“Broadband, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)  
Project Match Assistance”**

**NOFO NO. 2024-SFC/BEAD/ BB**

**December, 2024**

**I. ADVERTISEMENT**

Santa Fe County (County) is issuing a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for potential partner(s) to deploy Broadband infrastructure by applying for funding under the New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansions (OBAE), Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program under Notice of Funding Opportunity BEAD NOFO: #2024.00.

By submitting application for this NOFO each Applicant is certifying that it is a qualified applicant and its application complies with the requirements stated within the NOFO request.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: All qualified Applicants will receive consideration of funding award without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin, ancestry, age, physical and mental handicap, serious medical condition, disability, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Request related to this NOFO can be made by contacting Tony Flores of Motiva Corporation, [tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net](mailto:tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net) or by cell: 505.274.1275

## II. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Santa Fe County (County) is seeking applications from Internet Service Providers submitting funding applications from the New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansions (OBAE), Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, under Notice of Funding Opportunity BEAD NOFO: #2024.00 requesting financial support through the program match criteria for the development of new broadband infrastructure in approved Project Area Units in Santa Fe County.

BEAD NOFO: #2024.001 sets forth the purpose of the BEAD Program, eligibility factors (e.g., project types, technologies, locations, service areas, entities, etc.), allowable expenditures, performance requirements (e.g., network performance, service offerings, etc.), evaluation criteria, and post-award compliance requirements.

[https://connect.nm.gov/uploads/1/4/1/9/141989814/nofo\\_new\\_mexico\\_bead\\_v1.0 - 11.15.2024 - clean.pdf](https://connect.nm.gov/uploads/1/4/1/9/141989814/nofo_new_mexico_bead_v1.0_-_11.15.2024_-_clean.pdf)

In addition, the NOFO outlines the minimum twenty-five percent (25%) cash or in-kind match requirement for project submission.

To assist in the development of BEAD eligible projects within Santa Fe County (County), the County has developed a “BEAD Project Match Assistance Program” (Program) whereby eligible/pre-qualified applicants/entities considering applying for BEAD funded projects within the County, may apply to the County for project match assistance.

The County’s goals and objectives for this request include:

- a) Increasing and expanding Broadband infrastructure in Santa Fe County;
- b) Potentially providing a project funding match as defined in the NOFO to enable qualified projects that will serve lower income households in qualified Project Area Units as defined by OBAE;
- c) Encouraging high quality affordable broadband service to eligible housing developments;
- d) Increasing capacity for public entities through broadband infrastructure access.

## III. FUNDING PARAMETERS

The County will award funding and/or in kind project contributions of up to twenty-five percent of the total project costs, as defined by OBAE for broadband deployment in Project Area Units contained within Santa Fe County. Applicants need to demonstrate that they have an application that is qualified for funding under BEAD NOFO: #2024.001, document the project’s need for financial assistance to ensure project feasibility, and meet the criteria set forth in this NOFO. All funding awards will be made based on the strategic value of the broadband deployment as determined by the project evaluation.

#### IV. DESIGNATED APPLICATION CONTACT

The County has designated a NOFO Contact who is responsible for the conduct of this NOFO whose name, address and telephone number is listed below.

Toney Flores,  
 Motiva Corporation  
 Phone: (505) 274-1275  
 Email: [tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net](mailto:tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net)

Any inquiries or requests regarding this procurement should be submitted to the NOFO Contact.

#### V. SERIES OF EVENTS

Understanding the deadlines imposed by OBAE for BEAD applications, the County will make every effort to adhere to following sequence of events:

| Event   | Date                                |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Release of Program NOFO                                     | December 10, 2024                   |
| Pre-Application Meetings                                    | December 11-17, 2024                |
| Application Submission Deadline COB                         | December 27, 2024                   |
| Application Review  | December 30, 2024 - January 3, 2025 |
| Recommendations for Approval Notification                   | January 3, 2025                     |
| Board of County Commission Consideration of Recommendations | January 14, 2025                    |
| Notice of Intent to Award Issued                            | January 15, 2025                    |

To assure that projects meet the intent of the BEAD Program and the County's match assistance criteria, the County will be holding Pre-Application Meetings with eligible/pre-qualified applicants/entities between December 11 – 17, 2024. The purpose of the pre-application meeting is to determine if the project meets the intent of BEAD and this NOFO, review of project budget, review of 100% coverage, including, but not limited to Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) and critical infrastructure, and to provide eligible/pre-qualified applicants/entities with the necessary submission form.

*Awards are contingent upon successful OBAE BEAD program awards and approval by the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners.*

For more information or to schedule a Pre-Application meeting, please contact: Tony Flores email: [tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net](mailto:tflores@f5planningandconsulting.net) or by cell: 505.274.1275.

##### 1. Application Evaluation Review

The evaluation of applications will be performed by a review committee appointed by the County Manager, consisting of one member from the following County Departments: Community Development, Public Works, Growth Management and the Finance Division. This process will take place during the timeframe indicated in

Section VI. During this time, the NOFO Contact may initiate discussions with Applicants who submit responsive or potentially responsive applications for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the applications, but applications may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion.

**2. Selection of Finalists (If Applicable)**

The Review Committee may select and the NOFO Contact may notify the finalist Applicants on the date indicated in the Series of Events, Section V.

**3. Recommendation of Award to BCC**

All BEAD Project Match Assistance Program awards must be approved by the BCC. The Community Development Department will present to the BCC the formal award recommendations made by January 14, 2025

**4. Letter of Commitment**

Following approval of BEAD Project Match Assistance Program award by the BCC, the County will issue an executed letter of commitment to the awardee(s).

**5. Execution of Award Agreements**

Following an award approval by the BCC, all agreements related to the award, which are required pursuant to any New Mexico OBAE BEAD award under BEAD NOFO: #2024.001, shall be provided to the County prior to the release of funding.

**VI. APPLICATION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The County recognizes applications will reflect the Applicant's best estimate of project costs at the time of application.

At a minimum, the County will consider project match assistance based upon the following criteria:

- Project Type
- Technology Plan
- 100% Coverage Application or Alternative Percentage Application
- Cost-Effective Budget
- Inclusion of Underserved and Eligible CAI's
- Inclusion of County critical infrastructure
- Project Areas Unit (PAU) demographic information
- Other criteria established by the County and agreed to by the applicant.

**VII. EVALUATION SCORING**

The applicant whose qualified eligible project, as determined by application submitted and approved for funding to OBAE under BEAD NOFO: #2024.001, and such proposal is deemed

most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors in VI, may be recommended for an award. Please note, however, that a deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.