

PRESS RELEASE

CommunityConnect, Inc. announces project to build a high speed broadband network in rural upstate South Carolina with federal stimulus dollars. Plan receives official endorsement of South Carolina governor Mark Sanford.

Partnership with Anderson County will improve public safety, enhance economic development, and create dozens of high tech jobs in the Upstate.

Anderson, October 20, 2009:

CommunityConnect, Inc., a leading competitive communications provider of voice, data, business applications, and security solutions for business customers based in Anderson, South Carolina, announced today that it has applied for \$9.8 million in federal funding made available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). This stimulus funding is provided by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to expand the availability of high speed Internet service to unserved and underserved areas of the United States. CommunityConnect partnered with the county of Anderson in its application.

In a letter to the NTIA endorsing CommunityConnect's project, South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford stated that broadband infrastructure projects would "address South Carolina's unmet broadband needs and advance our state's social and economic development objectives." Of the over 90 applications reviewed by the Governor's committee, only 6 broadband infrastructure applications were selected to receive Sanford's endorsement to the NTIA.

CommunityConnect will provide high speed broadband and Internet to the Upstate region of South Carolina; specifically the counties of Anderson, Oconee and Pickens ("Tri-County" region) by rapidly constructing a WiMAX network that greatly improves access to rural and underserved communities.

These counties are primarily rural areas with high unemployment and have limited access to high speed Internet and broadband services. There is a pressing need to modernize not only the public network, but also

COMMUNITYCONNECT ANNOUNCES PLAN TO CREATE JOBS IN UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA

the public safety force, emergency facilities and the public safety infrastructure of the Tri-County region. CommunityConnect, Inc. and Anderson County have developed a plan to address these requirements.

Because first responders and other critical community facilities do not currently have adequate access to the Internet, the County of Anderson has entered into a partnership with CommunityConnect, Inc. to bring these services to the region. The grant application states that “The partnership intends to develop and provide high speed Internet, broadband voice and broadband video applications that will directly impact the general public, public safety, child welfare, education, health delivery services and further create jobs and economic opportunity throughout these communities.”

According to Larry S. Dubow, President and CEO of CommunityConnect, Inc., “An important aspect of the Stimulus Bill is to create jobs. Our company will immediately hire over 75 people in the Upstate area, and most of those are high paying, high-tech jobs.” Dubow continues, “While we have not received the final decision on funding yet, we are optimistic because of the overwhelming support and endorsements we have received from our legislators, and from state and local agencies.” The project is supported by numerous officials and organizations on both the state and federal level and has been endorsed by: Governor Mark Sanford, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Anderson County, TriCounty Technical College, U.S. Rep. J. Gresham Barrett, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint, S.C. Sen. Thomas Alexander and S.C. Sen. Vincent Sheheen.

The planned network will use the latest WiMAX technology, enabling the company to broadcast high speed broadband throughout the region.

Background

CommunityConnect delivers customized communications solutions, data, and voice solutions designed for business customers in the upstate region of South Carolina. CommunityConnect’s engineers are Cisco and Microsoft certified. For more information, visit www.CommunityConnect.biz.

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