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Governor Submits Recommendations for Broadband Stimulus Program

By John Boyd (WICHITA, Kan.)

Governor Mark Parkinson has sent a letter to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration with recommendations for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The list has what the governor calls priority projects for consideration under the BTOP.

BTOP is a \$4.7 billion program which provides grants to support the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas. It also aims to enhance broadband capacity at public computer centers and encourages sustainable adoption of broadband service.

[More on Broadband Technology Opportunities Program](#)

The list has more than twenty projects, which were narrowed down from 85 submitted projects. He says the state established scoring criteria with emphasis on areas such as telemedicine, distance learning, economic development and e-government - as well as the needs of unserved and rural Kansans.

[Alphabetical List of Priority Projects](#)

The project requests range from a \$141,000 grant to the Miami County Medical Center to improve efficiency of connectivity between Olathe Medical Center and Miami County Medical Center and several rural clinics to a \$55 million grant for Pixius Communications, LLC to construct wireless networks to cover 98 counties in Kansas and surrounding states.

The governor says the BTOP program provides great potential for Kansas as well as the country.



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