

501 North West Street 1201 Woolfolk Building Jackson, Mississippi 39201 www.beam.ms.gov

Dear Local Leaders,

The BEAM office is completing the necessary steps to unlock federal funding for broadband expansion across the state of Mississippi. As part of that effort, BEAM must determine if communities have any type of broadband plan. This could be a formal or informal plan dealing with broadband deployment or digital equity (skills training, affordability, accessibility). Currently, BEAM is only aware of a couple of existing plans. BEAM requests a copy of any plans that may exist. It may be emailed to <a href="mailto:info@beam.ms.gov">info@beam.ms.gov</a> or a hard copy mailed to:

**BEAM** 

ATTN: SALLY DOTY, DIRECTOR

PO Box 267

Jackson, MS 39205

BEAM has determined that approximately 170,000 residential addresses across the state lack high-speed internet service and have no existing federal funding for broadband expansion. If your community is in an unserved or underserved area, you can expect more communication from BEAM in the coming weeks.

Also, BEAM asks that you provide one office/name designated as the point of contact for broadband issues. Please help us by providing contact information for that office/person to <a href="info@beam.ms.gov">info@beam.ms.gov</a>. Examples of contacts are a Public Works director, City Clerk, County Administrator, or City/County engineer.

Mississippi has a tremendous opportunity to connect all Mississippians. The BEAM office looks forward to working with you in this effort.

Kindest Regards,

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Sally Burchfield Doty, Director of BEAM