

Anza Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Project Summary for ConnectAnza Phase 3
CASF Application

Applicant Name:

Anza Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AEC)

CPCN:

Decision 16-05-034, May 31, 2016, granted AEC a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity as a limited facilities-based CLEC. AEC's utility code is U 7297 C.

Contact Person:

Kevin Short, General Manager, AEC.

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Project Title:

ConnectAnza Phase 3

Proposed Project Area Location:

The unincorporated community of Mountain Center, from the McCall Park area to the Living Free animal sanctuary, in Riverside County. These locations are currently unserved and located in a remote area.

Project Type:

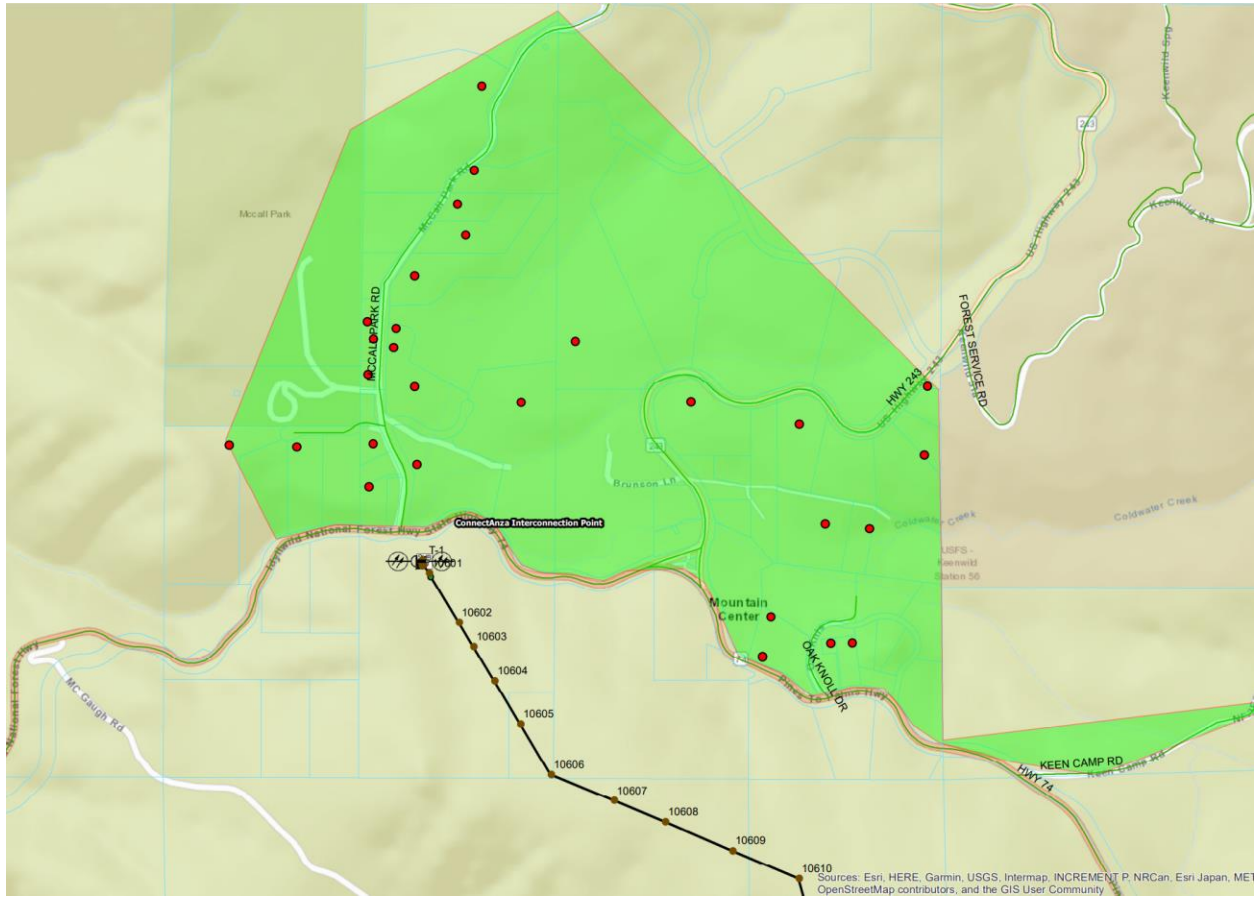
Last-mile aerial fiber optic infrastructure attached to existing utility poles where possible.

Amount of CASF Grant Funding Requested:

Funding Requested: \$688,431.

Project Cost: \$688,431.

Map of The Proposed Area with Serviceable Points:



Number of Serviceable Locations in The Project Area:

28 CASF Priority Eligible. (50 total).

Maximum Upload and Download Speeds Currently Offered:

Unserviced.

Median Household Income of Project Area:

Block Group 060650444041: \$58,864.00. (Per Capita \$38,356)

Block Group 060650444052: 0. (Per Capita \$22,822.00).

The Number of Businesses, Anchor Institutions and Public Safety Locations In the Project Area that Will Receive New or Improved Service:

Businesses: 9

Living Free Animal Shelter, Mountain Center Post Office, Hilltop Realty, McCall Memorial Equestrian Park, Calvary Chapel Mountain Center, Reps Training Center, The Fork and Spoon Café, Spirit Gas Station, Ferrellgas, Mountain Hay and Feed.

A Description of the Major Infrastructure to be Deployed:

ConnectAnza Phase 3 will consist of fiber optic cable on existing utility poles, connecting to the existing ConnectAnza network at a connection point nearest the project. This network will be a natural extension of the existing GPON architecture and connect to the existing ConnectAnza network core across existing fiber. The network will be capable of gigabit and multi-gigabit speeds for subscribers.

Estimated Breakdown of Aerial and Underground Installation:

All backbone and distribution will be aerial construction, with underground limited to drops on private property to residences.

Major Equipment Expenses:

Major equipment includes aerial construction of fiber optic infrastructure on existing utility pole lines, expansion of existing GPON head end infrastructure, and end user location equipment.

Estimated Construction Timeline:

Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish
CEQA Exemption Review	262 days	Thu 2/29/24	Fri 2/28/25
Permit Applications and Approval	262 days	Thu 2/29/24	Fri 2/28/25
SCE Pole Attachment Contract Approval	262 days	Thu 2/29/24	Fri 2/28/25
Contractor Agreement Secured	14 days	Mon 3/3/25	Thu 3/20/25
Material Ordering	30 days	Mon 3/3/25	Fri 4/11/25
Material Receipt	60 days	Mon 4/14/25	Fri 7/4/25
Head End Upgrades	3 days	Mon 7/7/25	Wed 7/9/25
Make Ready Activities	14 days	Fri 3/21/25	Wed 4/9/25
Support Strand Placement	14 days	Thu 4/10/25	Tue 4/29/25
Fiber Placement	14 days	Wed 4/30/25	Mon 5/19/25
Backbone Fiber Splicing	14 days	Tue 5/20/25	Fri 6/6/25
Subscriber Installations	90 days	Tue 5/20/25	Mon 9/22/25

This timeline assumes no pole replacement required, or that work is done during the agreement process.

Description of proposed broadband project plan for which CASF funding is being requested, including the type of technology to be provided in the proposed service areas:

- **Download speed capabilities of proposed facilities:** 10 Gbps

- **Upload speed capabilities of proposed facilities: 10 Gbps**
- **Sufficient construction detail to enable a preliminary indication of the need for a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review and if proposed project areas contain any environmentally sensitive areas:**

This project is for unserved locations. Construction will be standard G.O. 95 compliant aerial telecommunications construction on existing electrical power structures. We believe based on past projects on the same highway that we will be able to obtain a CEQA exemption (See ConnectAnza Phase 2, Resolution T-17851). No ground disturbance will be required, and the project is not in an environmentally sensitive area. Note that the project is not within US Forest Service boundaries.

- **Identification of the leveraging of existing available facilities**

The existing Anza Electric Cooperative owned fiber backbone near the project will be used to connect the project to the existing ConnectAnza network core.

- **A statement of whether the applicant is disputing the Broadband Map depiction of served status.**

There are more locations in the area without access to fiber broadband than what are shown on the map as unserved. AEC plans to offer service to all of them.

- **A statement of whether the applicant is seeking Ministerial Review and, if so, information that the application meets all requirements for Ministerial Review.**

Our application meets all requirements for Ministerial Review, and we are requesting it be approved under that expedited process:

- 1. Applicant and project meet the program eligibility requirements.**

We are a four time previous CASF grant recipient, and the project meets the program requirements, as well as the requirements for a ministerial review. The project serves low income, rural areas which are unserved.

- 2. Projects that will offer a low-income broadband plan, as defined in Section 3, above, at a co-pay amount (i.e., out-of-pocket expense) of \$15 or less per month.**

AEC will offer a \$30 income qualified package that will provide a 30Mbps/30Mbps symmetrical connection. AEC offers the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) to cooperative members, resulting in a \$0 bill for qualified subscribers.

3. The application is not challenged or, if challenged, the challenge is not upheld, or Staff has determined that the project area is unserved.

The project area is unserved according to State definitions per the California Interactive Broadband map.

4. The total grant does not exceed \$25,000,000.

The total project request does not exceed \$25,000,000.

5. The project must be California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)-exempt, or approval letter must state that authorization to construct and release funds will be provided in a forthcoming resolution.

We believe the project is CEQA exempt based on the aerial construction and the Cal Trans CEQA exemptions for similar projects. (See ConnectAnza Phase 2, Resolution T-17851)

6. There must be no competing applications for the same project area in the same application period.

To be determined by the CPUC. The area was previously granted Rural Digital Opportunity Fund support to a carrier that failed to acquire an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation.

7. Costs per serviceable location are low:

a. For projects that will deploy wireline connections, proposed project costs \$24,700 per serviceable location or less.

The project falls under the \$24,700 per wireline location limit for Ministerial Review.

- **A description of middle mile facilities for which funding is requested in the proposed project area and an attestation that applicant will consult with CDT as required by these guidelines.**

There are no middle-mile facilities proposed.

- **A statement accepting open access requirements for any middle mile facilities in the proposed project.**

There are no middle-mile facilities proposed.