

Total Project Investment:

**\$312,404**

Award Amount:

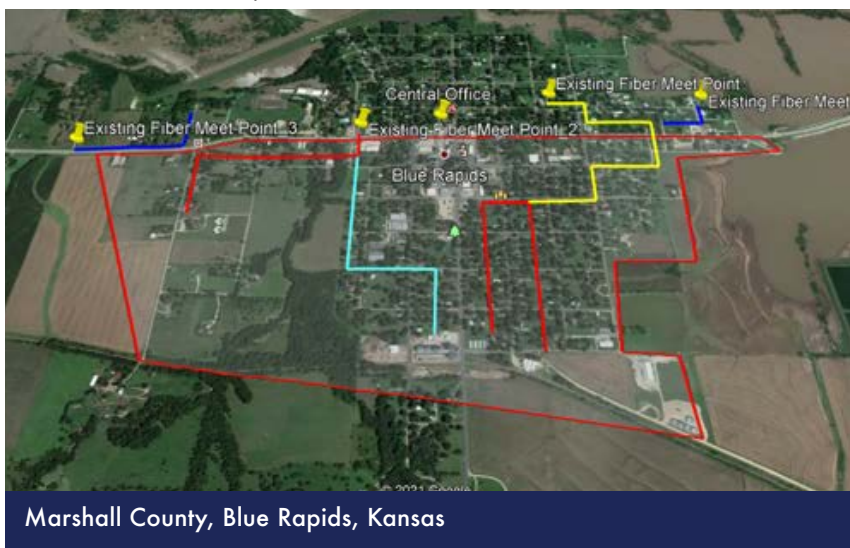
**\$156,202**

In Partnership With:



### ABOUT THE NEED

Blue Valley Technologies is making broadband a reality in rural Marshall County and Blue Rapids County, where residents are underserved in terms of connectivity. At the completion of this project, Blue Valley Technologies will be able to offer an upload and download speed of up to 1 Gbps symmetrical, and serve 315 households, 11 businesses, 11 community anchors and one educational institution. The Broadband Acceleration Grant assisted in making this project a reality due to the costs of acquiring and installing physical facilities, transport/distribution electronics, and fiber plant. Broadband in this area will provide job creation/retention by improving the ability for existing employers to retain employees via telework, offering training for local workers, attracting high-tech remote workers, and generating increased interest for businesses to locate personnel or facilities to the area. This broadband expansion will help improve healthcare by increasing access to remote emergency care, ongoing care via telemedicine devices, forging opportunities for specialized medical consultations, and creating the potential for expansion of local care facilities via remote diagnostics and consultations. This broadband will also provide sufficient bandwidth to USD 498 and the North Central Kansas Library System to be able to complete remote coursework.



### ABOUT BLUE VALLEY TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Blue Valley Technologies is a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Inc. who in addition to receiving the Broadband Acceleration Grant, also received the Connectivity Emergency Response Grant to help further deploy broadband. Blue Valley Technologies had community support for the Broadband Acceleration Grant from Marshall County Board of Commissioners, Marshall County Partnership For Growth, Blue Valley Senior Living, Sen. Elaine Bowers, City of Blue Rapids, Marshall County Farm Bureau, North Central Kansas Library System and Yungeberg Drug.

**The Kansas Office of Broadband Development** was established in 2020 to help ensure that all Kansans have the opportunity to live, work, learn and compete in a global economy by improving universal access to quality, affordable and reliable broadband. The Office is housed within the Community Development Division of the Kansas Department of Commerce. As the state's lead economic development agency, Commerce strives to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve prosperity in Kansas.