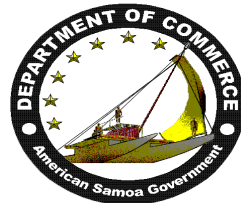


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American Samoa Secures \$36 Million in Funding for the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Infrastructure Project

The American Samoa Department of Commerce, through its Broadband Coordination, Opportunities, Redevelopment, and Deployment (BCORD) Office, is proud to announce the approval of the territory's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Initial Proposal, securing \$36 million in funding for broadband infrastructure and digital inclusion projects. The BEAD program, administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), is part of the national "Internet for All" initiative, ensuring that all Americans across states and territories have access to high-speed internet.

“Our approval marks a transformative step toward bridging the digital divide in American Samoa. This funding will not only connect our villages and families but also empower our people with the tools and opportunities they need to thrive in the digital age,” said Director Petti Matila.

This initial approval unlocks critical funds to begin administrative operations and workforce development efforts, both vital to the success of BEAD deployment in the territory. These efforts will lay the foundation for expanding high-speed internet access to homes across American Samoa, fostering connectivity, economic growth, and new opportunities for local residents.

For more information about the BEAD Program, please contact the BCORD Office at bcord@doc.as.gov. Visit our website at broadband.as.gov join our mailing list to keep updated and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/amsamoabcord.

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