

## Tribe secures nearly \$16 million to expand broadband access and affordability

SILETZ, Ore. – The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians proudly announces two major broadband funding awards that will transform digital connectivity for Tribal members and surrounding communities:

1. \$3,359,260.35 from the Oregon Broadband Deployment Grant (BDP) funded by The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Capital Project Funds (CPF) to connect 81 unserved locations.
2. \$12,527,649 from the NTIA Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) to:
  - Connect 31 unserved Tribal households.
  - Serve nine Tribal anchor institutions (schools, health care facilities and essential services).
  - Extend service to 268 unserved non-Tribal households in surrounding areas.

Together, these awards represent a critical step in addressing long-standing digital inequities, enabling access to high-speed, reliable broadband that will improve education, health care and economic opportunities across the region.

“This is a moment of transformation for the Siletz Tribe and our rural neighbors in the Siletz Valley,” said Delores Pigsley, Tribal

Council chairman. “These funds will allow us to connect hundreds of unserved homes and institutions, providing affordable broadband that empowers learning, health and opportunity.”

### Highlights

- 81 BDP Locations Connected: Through ARPA CPF-funded BDP, the Tribe will connect rural unserved Tribal and non-Tribal homes and businesses.
- 308 TBCP Locations Connections: NTIA TBCP funding will connect 31 Tribal households, nine Tribal anchor institutions, and extend broadband to 268 non-Tribal households.
- Middle-Mile Infrastructure: The TBCP grant will include the development of a 30-mile middle-mile fiber stretch to strengthen connectivity across the region.
- Affordability Commitment: The Tribe will offer monthly plans starting at \$30 and adopt future state or federal affordability programs to ensure no household is left behind.

### Key benefits of the broadband expansion

- Education: Reliable internet for students, teachers, and adult learners, enabling online education and digital literacy training.

- Health care: Access to telehealth services, improving care for elders and remote Tribal members.
- Economic Growth: High-speed internet will support businesses, attract investment and create local jobs.
- Affordability: A monthly broadband plan starting at \$30, with the Tribe committed to adopting future affordability programs to keep costs accessible.

The projects will progress over the next four years in phases, starting with design, permitting and procurement, followed by construction. This funding also lays the foundation for providing future services to local resi-

dents who already have connectivity at an affordable price. These initiatives underscore the Tribe's ongoing commitment to ensuring digital equity and fostering economic growth. Future updates will be posted on the Tribal website at [www.ctsi.nsn.us](http://www.ctsi.nsn.us).

Additionally, the Tribe is awaiting notice for an additional \$11.56 million in broadband infrastructure development through the USDA Rural Utility Service Reconnect Program and another \$15 million in Digital Equity funding to help Tribal member households nationwide access and take full advantage of the latest broadband technology.

For further information, please contact Lisa Norton, chief administrative officer, at [lisan@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:lisan@ctsi.nsn.us).

### Need Rental Housing?

The Siletz Tribal Housing Department encourages you to apply for the Low-Income Rental Program waiting list in Siletz (1-4 bedrooms) and Lincoln City (2-3 bedrooms – Neachesna Village).

Applications can be obtained at any Tribal area office (Eugene, Salem, Portland, Siletz) or online from the Tribal website – [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us); follow links – Tribal Services-Housing-Low Rent Apartments & Home Ownership.

For any questions, call 800-922-1399, ext. 1322, or 541-444-8322  
Fax: 541-444- 8313

Siletz News is free to enrolled Siletz Tribal members. For all others, a \$12 annual subscription fee applies. Please make checks payable to CTSI and mail to Siletz News.

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**Change of address:** Tribal members – contact the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258; 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; or [enrollment@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:enrollment@ctsi.nsn.us). All others – call the newspaper office.

### Send information to:

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