
Title **0014** 03/22/2022
by **Justin Frakes** in **RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT - BROADBAND ACCELERATION GRANT YR 2 APPLICANTS** id. 23753888
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Original Submission 03/22/2022

Please provide your name: **Thomas Catani**

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I am providing response comments related to the following application (choose one): **US Cellular - Chautauqua County**

I am responding to concerns this project: **Proposes to serve an area that already has service**

Please provide your response to the public comments received in the text box below.

UScellular appreciates the opportunity to respond to the public comments related to our Project Proposal “UScellular – Chautauqua County”. Public Challenge 55 has raised concerns that the proposed project serves an area that already has service. Specifically, SKT Broadband advertises a 150/15 Mbps cable service in the town of Cedar Vale. In their comment, SKT indicates that they pass 251 homes and businesses in Cedar Vale.

UScellular’s Project Proposal would leverage our existing tower footprint to provide 5G Broadband to large parts of Chautauqua County, including the hard to serve homes and businesses outside of incorporated areas. Our proposal will rapidly and cost effectively deliver 25/3 Mbps service to approximately 1400 locations that currently lack broadband service. In addition to these unserved locations, our 5G network will cover almost 500 underserved locations that have 25/3 Mbps service, but lack 100/20 Mbps options and are thus underserved. The bulk of these underserved locations are concentrated in the vicinity of Cedar Vale. It is not technically possible to exclude 5G service availability from addresses, but even after excluding the 251 underserved locations in Cedar Vale cited in Challenge 0055 UScellular’s submission will still be the only available Broadband for 1400 locations in southeast Kansas and an additional option for over two hundred underserved locations. And all residents and visitors will get the added benefit of enhanced 5G mobility service. The attached map illustrates the extent of UScellular’s broadband coverage in relation to the Challenge area. Additionally, UScellular’s recent and significant acquisition of mid band radio spectrum in Chautauqua County will provide an opportunity for further speed enhancements.

UScellular believes strongly that all residents deserve access to quality Broadband service regardless of where they live and we hope to work with the Office of Broadband Development to that end.

Please provide supporting documents relative to your comments. Please submit multiple files as a ZIP file.

[UScellular_Chautauqua_Ex_Cedar_Vale_Challenge_0055.pdf](#)

Thomas P Catani 3/22/2022

By submitting this form for public comment and evidence to support your comment, you are accepting responsibility for the accuracy of the information submitted and that it is true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You agree to be contacted by the Kansas Office of Broadband Development, Kansas Department of Commerce should the need arise. Furthermore, by making this submission, you understand that Kansas Department of Commerce and the Office of Broadband Development reserve the right to publicly publish your comment and evidence provided. Falsification of information will result in rejection of future public comment submissions and could result legal action. Please type your name and today's date in the text box below.
