

VII. General, Miscellaneous Revenue, and Library Services Improvement Funds

B.1 Program - Broadband Toolkit Proposal – Action Item

The Broadband Toolkit Improvement Program (BTIP) is an opportunity for Idaho public libraries to receive \$500 to put toward the implementation of “action items” that are determined through their Broadband Improvement Plan.

Internet2’s “Toward Gigabit Libraries” project, funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), created a Broadband Toolkit and Broadband Improvement Plan with a goal to improve library staff’s understanding and interaction with the library’s broadband connection and services. Although available to all libraries, this toolkit was developed specifically for small, rural, and tribal libraries with limited information technology (IT) support and resources and was developed with input from Idaho library and ICfL staff.

ICfL piloted the Broadband Toolkit Improvement Program (BTIP) last year and 17 Idaho libraries participated. Broadband Consultant Dylan Baker leads the program and is available to help library staff complete the BTIP Plan.

Our proposal for fiscal year 2020 is to offer 20 libraries the opportunity to participate in BTIP, offering each the \$500 incentive. The incentive would be used to implement some element of the recipient’s improvement plan. We are requesting Board approval to use up to \$10,000 from the Library Services Improvement Fund to support the second year of this program.

Suggested motion: I move expenditures of up to \$10,000 be approved from the Library Services Improvement Fund for \$500 incentives to public libraries that implement the Broadband Toolkit assessment and improvement process.

MSC _____