FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EDC Warren County Receives $1,996,408 State Grant for Connectivity Innovations Mobile Service Project

Glens Falls, NY — EDC Warren County is pleased to announce that it has been awarded $1,996,408 through New York State's *ConnectALL Connectivity Innovations Program* to implement a mobile broadband deployment project in Warren County. The award was formally announced on September 29th by the Office of Governor Kathy Hochul and Empire State Development.

This competitive grant award will support the deployment of an innovative mobile broadband and cellular solution designed to improve connectivity across multiple high-traffic and underserved locations in Warren County.

The project, developed in partnership with the **City of Glens Falls**, **Village of Lake George**, and **Warren County** represents a significant milestone in the region's ongoing effort to expand access to reliable wireless services, particularly during large-scale events, seasonal tourism peaks, and in areas where permanent infrastructure remains a challenge.

"This grant reflects years of collaboration, planning, and dedication to ensuring all parts of our region have equitable access to 21st-century connectivity," said **Jim Siplon, President of EDC Warren County**. "We thank ConnectALL and Empire State Development for their leadership and support, and we look forward to implementing this scalable, replicable solution that can be used in communities throughout New York State."

The awarded project will leverage Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS), Wi-Fi, municipal infrastructure, and Cell on Wheels (COW) technologies to deliver mobile broadband and cellular service in priority public spaces—including downtown corridors, parks, recreation areas, and special event venues. This initiative builds upon prior broadband investments through the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) and leverages

new advancements in mobile wireless infrastructure. The primary goal of this initiative is to significantly increase cell network capacity during peak tourism periods; enhancing visitor experience, enabling improved public safety communications, and boosting regional economic activity tied to events and seasonal demand.

The ConnectALL Connectivity Innovations Program was established by New York State Empire State Development's ConnectAll Office to promote next-generation broadband deployment, foster public-private partnerships, and unlock new models for delivering services to communities that are often left behind by traditional infrastructure investment.

The project is being led by EDC Warren County, in close collaboration with the City of Glens Falls, Village of Lake George, Warren County, and Hudson Valley Wireless, who will serve as the primary technical partner for network design, deployment, and ongoing support.

Empire State Development President, CEO and Commissioner Hope Knight said, "Thanks to Governor Hochul's leadership, New York State is making critical investments that ensure communities of every size can access reliable, modern connectivity. This award will help Warren County deliver innovative mobile broadband solutions that strengthen public safety, support tourism and local businesses, and provide residents and visitors with the high-quality service they deserve. ConnectALL Connectivity Innovation Program grants awarded to projects like this reflect our ongoing commitment to closing the digital divide, developing new broadband and mobile technologies, and building stronger, more connected communities across the state."

From Warren County Administrator John Taflan:
"This is an exciting initiative that will basically close gaps in high-speed internet service in both the City of Glens Falls and the Village of Lake George. We're hopeful that if successful, this initiative can be expanded across Warren County to help residents and visitors access improved internet service wherever needed."

Village of Lake George Mayor Ray Perry added, "Lake George draws hundreds of thousands of visitors each year and having dependable mobile and broadband service is essential, not just for tourism, but for safety, business, and hospitality. This investment will strengthen our infrastructure and allow us to better serve everyone who lives in or visits our village."

City of Glens Falls Mayor Bill Collins also stated, "This project demonstrates the power of local and regional collaboration. By aligning our efforts, we ensure stronger, more equitable connectivity for residents, visitors, and businesses alike."

Jason Guzzo, CEO of Hudson Valley Wireless shared: "We are proud to partner with EDC Warren County and local municipalities to help deliver this innovative solution. By

leveraging CBRS, Wi-Fi, and municipal infrastructure, we're addressing real-world connectivity gaps with scalable, secure, and high-capacity wireless coverage. This model can serve as a roadmap for other communities looking to enhance public service and economic growth through broadband innovation."

About Empire State Development

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency, and promotes business growth, job creation, and greater economic opportunity throughout the state. With offices in each of the state's 10 regions, ESD oversees the Regional Economic Development Councils, supports broadband equity through the ConnectALL office, and is growing the workforce of tomorrow through the Office of Strategic Workforce Development. The agency engages with emerging and next generation industries like clean energy and semiconductor manufacturing looking to grow in New York State, operates a network of assistance centers to help small businesses grow and succeed, and promotes the state's world class tourism destinations through I LOVE NY. For more information, please visit esd.ny.gov, and connect with ESD on LinkedIn, Facebook and X.

For information about EDC Warren County, visit www.edcwarrencounty.org.

To read the NYS Governor's Press release visit https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-155-million-mobile-service-and-broadband-infrastructure-awards-opens

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