



March 23, 2023
Iowa OCIO
Des Moines, IA

RE: Northeast Lee County ITQ

Please accept this letter of support and need for the northeast Lee County ITQ. Essentially, the entire unincorporated area of Lee County has a need for standard broadband services.

The interest in broadband is real and manifested in Lee County's commitment of 30% of its ARPA allocation (\$1.9 million) to expanding broadband in the county. The allocation was made to the Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority (SIREPA) which entered into agreement with Danville Mutual Telephone Company (Danville). The agreement formed a private-public partnership to work together over the foreseeable future to expand broadband availability.

The private-public partnership between SIREPA, a municipality of Iowa, and Danville, sets the stage for innovative and flexible grant applications into the future. This future includes applying for additional funds through either OCIO NOFO or BEAD or other future funding opportunities.

Since the areas of need lay outside incorporated areas for the most part, Lee County is the relevant government for the ITQ.

Sincerely,

Mike Norris

Mike Norris
Executive Director

