

Timbergate Community Association  
Earlville, IA 52041

March 1, 2023

To the Office of Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa:

Timbergate Community Association located 1 mile south of Earlville, Iowa is submitting this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. Our area has identified a specific area of geographic concern with regards to existing broadband availability. As such, we are proposing that a Broadband Intervention Zone be established for the area in and around the Timbergate Community Association.

Pursuant to the Iowa Broadband Map v.5, there are 17 locations in our community do not have access to broadband provider which facilitates the required 100/20 minimum threshold for robust connectivity. Due to the limited wireless service options available, the service fee is extremely high. As a rural community we owe it to our community members to provide robust broadband at an affordable price to help our economic growth and ensure our members have access to essential infrastructure required for health, safety and education.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic over half of our community members have moved to work from home (remote) positions. Schools often require children to do virtual learning which is difficult to access these programs due to the lack of affordable and reliable internet options. Earlville, IA does not have a local hospital and residents must drive 20-30 minutes to our regional hospital in Manchester, IA. With robust internet connectivity, residents would also be able to access healthcare remotely via tele-health services. Currently, however, this is not an option due to poor internet service.

While my household does not fall under the eligible location, I am applying on behalf of our community members. In addition, the service which makes our household ineligible is wireless service. Personally, bringing in-line broadband coverage to our area would still benefit our household as my line of work requires in-line service. The only in-line service that is offered has speeds of 50 mbps download and 2 mbps upload. The provider indicates it should be at 109/10 which has never been acquired.

It is our hope that with the ITQ application and review of the same by OCIO will designate Timbergate Community Association as a geographic area of concern and designate us as an Intervention Zone for consideration in the next broadband grant program.

In closing, the prospective Intervention Zone would bring needed broadband connectivity to at least 17 currently under-served homes in the area as further represented on the diagram below.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Glanz".

Katie Glanz  
Board Member, Timbergate Community Association  
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