

**From:** [Miika Busick](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband intervention zone  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:17:13 PM

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To whom it may concern:

My name is Miika Busick. My husband and I live at 698 Harding St in Pleasantville. We have been unable to get quality internet service at our home for the 8 years that we have lived here. We currently use our phones as a hotspot to be able to get internet service. This is a struggle because my husband and I both have side businesses and rely on the internet for those. In addition, we are unable to use streaming services for movies, etc. Any help that you can provide to our neighborhood would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

~Miika & Rob Busick  
515-669-6926

**From:** [City Hall](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** [Suspicious]Personal Broadband letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 10:41:26 AM

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[**Caution:** This sender failed Office 365 fraud detection checks and may not be who they appear to be.] [REASON:SPF=Fail or None]

April Schrader  
332 Hwy 92  
Pleasantville, IA 50225

We are very limited to what internet and services that are available in the area that we live. We are constantly being told that it won't work for us. This limits what services we do have monthly. Therefore limiting streaming and work we are able to do from home.

Rich Paris  
390 Hickory Lane  
Otley, IA 50214

To Whom It May Concern:

The current broadband access in our area is difficult due to a limited number of providers, slow speeds if available at all and geographic limitations (line of sight options). This inhibits our ability both as consumers and for communications, since we have fewer provider choices and normally as a result higher fees.

Any upgrades to broadband access would benefit our area both economically and as a quality of life improvement.

Thank you.

Rich and Jennifer Paris

**From:** [Brandy Snodgrass](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Internet at KCS D KMS  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:29:44 PM

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### **To Whom It May Concern:**

**I am an employee at Knoxville Middle School for the KCS District. One of the challenges I face daily is being able to clock in effectively because my internet is always slow. I sometimes have to take my computer to the gym area to work because I can't get a connection with or without wifi connection.**

**This causes problems with my pay being accurate because of time restraints and with getting work done in a timely manner.**

**Thank you!**

**Brandy L Snodgrass  
413 Willets Drive  
Knoxville, Iowa 50138**

Every person that comes into your life, comes for a reason. Some come to learn and some come to teach. ~Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Brandy Snodgrass AFAA-CGFI  
Knoxville Club Soccer Director of Referees  
Para Professional KMS PE Department  
641-842-3315

**From:** [Joseph Roff](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 6:04:10 PM

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I am Joe Roff and I live outside of Pleasantville at Harding st. Our internet options are very limited, and we are unable to access streaming services

Our first internet access was dial up and we still had that until around 2011 or so. Then we went without for quite some time. We then attempted using a hot spot from Verizon and at least were able to connect to the internet, although download times were very slow and streaming wasn't really an option.

My children have been unable to complete school assignments and have never been successful in joining their class via zoom while they were at our home.

My wife would like the option to work from home which is not an option right now either.

Our area needs more internet options.

Thanks  
Joe Roff

**From:** [shannon Roff](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband support letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:50:50 PM

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My name is Shannon Roff and I live at 683 Harding St, Pleasantville, IA 50225. My family has lived here since 2001 and the biggest problem we have is that we cannot get functional internet access.

Our first internet access was dial up and we still had that until around 2011 or so. Then we went without for quite some time. We then attempted using a hot spot from Verizon and at least were able to connect to the internet, although download times were very slow and streaming wasn't really an option.

Most recently we have internet through Hughes Net. It is very insufficient. We can stream Netflix, although that is not something we can always count on. Sometimes it is fine, other times we have lots of buffering, other times it simply is impossible to connect.

I have had a few opportunities to change my work and have a work from home position but as of yet don't have internet that would accomodate this.

Windstream has tried to find a tower to connect us too and were sadly unable to help us.

During the covid lockdown my children had trouble with schoolwork. They find it difficult 's to to get access to the school's website. They were never able to successfully join their classes via zoom.

Better options for internet would make a huge difference in many aspects of our life.

Thanks

Shannon Roff

**From:** [Stacy Picard](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Difficulties  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:02:19 PM

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Carla,

My name is Stacy Picard and I live at 1877 150th Place, Knoxville. We have five children we have homeschooled, and the lack of reliable internet has been a constant struggle for us. We have relied on online classes in middle and high school grades, and my children have often been dropped from their classes or simply not been able to access them due to the poor quality of our internet. Over the years we have tried switching services and having technicians come to our house to see if anything could be done to improve our internet speed and ability to access the internet, but nothing has seemed to help. We have become resigned to the fact that we cannot count on being able to access the internet at our house. Now that several of our children have graduated from high school, I have gone back to school myself, and I often have to drive into town to be able to complete my homework, because our internet connection is so poor. I can't tell you how much we would love to see Iowa and/or Marion County invest in fast, reliable internet for those of us who live in the country!

**Stacy Picard**

Knoxville Community School District  
Home School Assistance Program Coordinator  
Phone: 641-891-2028  
Email: [stacy.picard@ksd.k12.ia.us](mailto:stacy.picard@ksd.k12.ia.us)

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**From:** [Chelsea Bender](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband intervention zone  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:57:55 AM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Chelsea. My husband, Mike, and I live in Pleasantville IA at 857 75th Avenue. We have been unable to get any internet at our residence. We had Windstream out three different times after moving in 2019. They were unable to get any reads from three different towers in surrounding areas. We have to run any internet or WiFi devices from a Hotspot. Would love to be able to get true internet so we could use our streaming services and devices better.

Chelsea Bender



**From:** [Wendy Wysong](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Support Letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:59:39 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Marion County and work from home full time. It is essential that I have reliable and high speed internet. I have been fortunate that I live on top of a hill and have a direct line of sight to our local tower and have internet service. However, my neighbors are not as fortunate. Providers in my market are scarce and due to this lack of competition my monthly fees have been upwards of \$100. There is no competition and many in my neighborhood have no service.

I believe our community would benefit from expanding broadband services in the future. Affordable and accessible internet should not be a luxury that is only available to a few. Please consider our neighborhood as a designated Broadband Intervention Zone.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wysong  
776 60th Ave  
Pleasantville, IA 50225  
515-249-1919

**From:** [Jennifer Adkins](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband support letter  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:39:35 PM

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460 Highway 316, Swan, IA 50252

To Whom it May Concern:

I live in Swan, about a mile off of Highway 5, in Marion County. One of the challenges we face in my household is low speed internet connection. This causes me to struggle with virtual training, webinars, virtual coursework and collaboration, and sometimes, basic internet activities.

Jennifer Adkins

Rural catchment area resident

1117 40<sup>th</sup> Place  
Pleasantville, IA 50225  
amyjcore@gmail.com

March 27, 2023

To Whom it may concern,

Re: Broadband Intervention Zone

I am writing in regards to the need of better broadband support.

We live in rural Marion County, Iowa, and the options for affordable, reliable, fast internet does not exist for our address. Our current provider can only offer a 10mb broadband max service, which makes it difficult to work from home, which I do two days a week.

Not only is it a strain on our internet when I work from home, streaming television and computer devices using Netflix, Hulu, etc., are not always working because of the lack of internet service provided.

Warm regards,

Jack and Amy Core

**From:** [Lisa Keegel](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Internet  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:10:11 PM

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Hi,

My name is Lisa Keegel. My husband & our 3 kids live at 709 75th Avenue in Pleasantville. Our internet options are very limited. I work from work so I require fast high speed dependable internet. We have lived here for over 10 years, & about 2 years ago we were finally able to get Windstream via satellite, which has been unreliable several times & is not acceptable since I work from home. If the weather is acting up, or anything blocks our view, our internet doesn't work. We need more internet towers & availability in our area. Town people have many more options & no issues most of the time. It's time to provide these reliable internet services to those that reside in the country. I have several neighbors who are not able to get any internet. Thank you!

Lisa Keegel

**From:** [Lisa Keegel](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Internet  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:24:59 AM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Lisa Keegel and my husband reside at 709 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Pleasantville with our 3 kids. Our internet options are limited. We have lived her for 13 years, and just about 2 years ago, we were finally able to get Windstream via Satellite. This internet has been unreliable multiple times, and if the weather is bad or something blocks our "view" of the satellite then it doesn't work. I work from home, and require high-speed/reliable internet. I have been left without internet for days- which resulted me to use my phone as a hot spot to work which was less than ideal. There really needs to be more towers and internet streaming options for our area. I have several neighbors that are not able to get any internet. I am advocating for more internet towers in our area.

Thank you.

**Lisa Keegel**

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**From:** [Mitchell, Kelly J](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Broadband Support Letter Needed  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:12:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Kelly Mitchell  
290 170<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Otley, IA 50214

To Whom It May Concern:

I have several broadband challenges in my area (northwest corner of Marion county in Rural Otley). It seems like we are unable to get the download speeds that we are paying for through our provider and they can do little to address this as there is no more capacity available to us, due to our location. We often times cannot stream content, and have to take turns utilizing internet when we are all home due to capacity issues. This is also a major hurdle for me since I work from home majority of the time. I would appreciate any resources that could be put towards solving this problem!

Sincerely,

Kelly Mitchell

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Melissa Poffenbarger  
1620 135<sup>th</sup> Place  
Knoxville, IA 50138

RE: Broadband in 1080 CR-G40

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Melissa Poffenbarger and I live at 1620 135<sup>th</sup> Pl., Knoxville, IA. Less than 2 mile south of Knoxville and for many years have struggled to get decent internet coverage.

I work full-time in Knoxville and have the ability to work from home but that requires sufficient internet coverage. Spotty unreliable internet makes it impossible to work from home.

My family also runs a family farm and the internet has become more essential to the operation to run cameras to the barn to keep an eye on cattle that are calving.

The world now relies on internet for essential functions.

Please consider the importance for rural Iowa to operate.

Melissa Poffenbarger  
Marion County resident

**From:** [Cory Carr](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Invitation to Qualify for Broadband intervention zones.  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 7:20:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)

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My name is Cory Carr, we live at 884 24<sup>th</sup> Place, Pleasantville, Iowa. We are located just outside the City Limits to west of Pleasantville. We moved to the are to further our careers with 3M and I now currently have a remote job. To say that finding high quality internet is a frustration is an understatement. We have tried several different options and now are on the wait list for Starlink and using cellular home internet. Although we can make it work it is often times frustrating as we have change between hotspots and cellular data to keep myself working from home. It would be great if Pleasantville could get the support to add highspeed internet to the rural areas around town. I have a few friends that have been interested in moving to the area but with out a solid choice of high speed internet they can not make the move.

Thanks  
Cory



**Cory Carr** | Environmental Engineer  
3M TEBG  
Mobile: +1 515-318-8483 or +1 515-490-9870  
[ccarr@mmm.com](mailto:ccarr@mmm.com)







03/27/2023

Marion County Information Technology Department  
Andrew De Haan, Director of Information Technology  
214 E Main St.  
Knoxville, IA 50138

To Whom It May Concern:

**I am writing to express my support of the Marion County Development Commission's (MCDC) application to qualify for the OCIO's ITQ for Broadband Opportunities in the Designated Opportunity Zone**

This letter is to confirm that *the Marion County Iowa Information Technology Department (MCIT)* wishes to support the efforts by the MCDC in their efforts to qualify for any opportunities that might exist in order to enhance broadband opportunities in the designated area.

Marion County continues to have specific needs in the areas of broadband. Specific areas that are important and continue to be underserved for MCIT include:

1. Continuity of Operations for Local Government
2. Sufficient Access speeds for all of our employees
3. Sufficient upload and download speeds for remote workers including law enforcement officers and first responders
4. Disaster Recovery Operations
5. Inter-office connectivity via dark fiber connections

Our local county offices continue to struggle with bandwidth opportunities due to lack of options which cause higher pricing or slower access speeds.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew De Haan".

Andrew De Haan  
Marion County IT Director

**Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for Community Development**

420 Watson Powell Jr. Way · Suite 200

Des Moines, IA 50309 · 515-334-0075

[midiowaplanningalliance.com](http://midiowaplanningalliance.com)

March 25, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer

200 E. Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50309

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

I am writing in support of Marion County's application to qualify as a Broadband Intervention Zone. The Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for Community Development is the federally designated Economic Development District for the seven-county region that includes Marion County.

Access to reliable high-speed internet is paramount for our communities to thrive. The existing broadband infrastructure for Marion County is not up to current speeds or standards. The rural areas of Marion County are incredibly important to the region for economic growth. The targeted area includes two critical thoroughfares of Highway 5 and the 163 corridors. Opening these areas to further commercial, industrial, and residential growth. If they do not have access to high-speed internet these areas will fall behind. The areas that Marion County are targeting are incredibly important to the growth of not only Marion County, but the rest of the MIPA region.

The public private partnership is imperative in providing our rural residents with quality broadband. These partnerships are needed in establishing the infrastructure that our residents require. Enhancing the daily lives of Marion County residents increasing access to a globalized economy, healthcare systems, educational opportunities, and economic development opportunities.

We appreciate the Office of the Chief Information Officer taking steps to invest in the State of Iowa's broadband infrastructure ensuring that rural Iowans are given the same opportunities as their urban counterparts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Knutson", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Caleb Knutson  
Senior Planner



Supporting Economic Development in  
Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion, Polk,  
Story, and Warren Counties.

**From:** [Jason Reed](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 11:54:01 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hello, my name is Jason Reed, and I am the general manager of Knoxville Raceway located here in Knoxville, Ia. The raceway employs around 300 full and part time employees throughout the year and has been operating for over 70 years now. Our entire business from selling tickets, scanning tickets, ordering food, etc. is all done over the internet. We race a weekly during the summer and have bigger races monthly with out biggest race being in August. We have around 30,000 extra people come to town for this event and overloads the current system and does not allow customers to use the internet like they would like. We have customers asking everyday about how to get better internet service. A better service would be awesome for our business and the customers who attend.

Thanks,

**Jason Reed**  
**General Manager**  
**Knoxville Raceway**  
**Marion County Fair Assocaiation**  
**Cell:** 641-891-6031  
**Office:** 641-842-5431  
**Fax:** 641-842-2899  
**Mailing address:** PO Box 347, Knoxville, IA 50138  
**Shipping Address:** 1000 N. Lincoln, Knoxville, IA 50138



*Mayor:*

Brandon Pennington

*City Clerk:*

Rachel Reed

*Deputy City Clerk:*

April Schrader

**City of Pleasantville  
PO Box 566  
108 West Jackson Street  
Pleasantville, IA 50225**

*City Council:*

Kody Jurgens

Rachel Lopez

John Koehn

Jordan Van Ness

Kyle Patterson

March 29, 2023

Marion County Development

214 E Main St

Knoxville, IA 50138

To Whom it May Concern:

As the City of Pleasantville, one of the challenges that we face is having population and business growth with limited internet for our residents. There has been an increase in people working remotely and students doing more work online over the last few years. This can put a strain on the current vendors keeping up with connection problems. We do not want to limit further growth with an internet conflict.

Thank you

April Schrader

Deputy Clerk

City of Pleasantville

Rich Paris  
Red Rock Lake Association  
PO Box 292  
Pella, IA 50219

To Whom It May Concern:

I live at 390 Hickory Lane, Otley Iowa and I am the current President of the Red Rock Lake Association. The current broadband access in my location is difficult due to a limited number of providers, slow speeds if available at all and geographic limitations (line of sight options). This inhibits my ability to host or access any type of online communications with Red Rock Lake Association officers, board members or association membership. The association board meets monthly. We strive to have the association membership engaged with the activities of the board by physically attending or digitally accessing board meetings. But the broadband access in our area restricts the ability to provide the opportunity for a large portion of the association membership to participate in a digital format.

An upgrade to broadband access and functionality would greatly benefit the membership of the Red Rock Lake Association to stay engaged and informed as the association assists the Army Corp of Engineers at Lake Red Rock provide more opportunities for outdoor education and recreation to the local community and also for visitors to the area.

Thank you.

Rich Paris  
President  
Red Rock Lake Association



700 Locust St., Ste. 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
p: (515) 286-4950  
[DSMpartnership.com](http://DSMpartnership.com)

March 28, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer  
200 E. Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309

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

I am writing in support of Marion County's application to qualify as a Broadband Intervention Zone.

The Greater Des Moines Partnership is the regional community and economic development organization serving 11 counties in Greater Des Moines (DSM) and Central Iowa. In 2021, our organization led an effort to study broadband availability and adoption in the region. A key element of the study was to conduct a survey measuring broadband usage and satisfaction. During the survey, respondents were asked to complete a speed test using the popular Ookla platform ([www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net)). A total of 4,194 download tests were analyzed.

The survey revealed that while many areas of our region are well-served, our rural and smaller communities are in need of more reliable and affordable broadband. Overall, 42.6% of download speeds tested in the region were lower than the FCC broadband definition of 25 Mbps. Among rural speed tests, 64% of download speeds were lower than 25 Mbps. Marion County had more than 700 households to our survey with a large percentage of those in the northwest portion of the county reporting speeds lower than 25 Mbps.

The results of the Central Iowa Broadband Study confirm the information provided by the Iowa Broadband Map v.5 which also shows the lack of high-speed service in the area. We encourage you to approve Marion County's application to be identified as a Broadband Intervention Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Byers', written over a white background.

Jay Byers  
CEO



## Marion County Conservation Dept.

214 EAST MAIN STREET  
1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, COURTHOUSE  
KNOXVILLE, IOWA 50138  
PHONE (641) 828-2213

**March 29, 2023**

**To Whom It May Concern,**

**The Marion County Conservation Department is in full support of the ITQ application to enhance the broadband coverage in underserved location here in Marion County.**

**The Conservation Department is currently investing more than \$1.5 million dollars in a new office and classroom facility in Cordova Park located on the north shore of Lake Red Rock. The facility will be used to enhance the department's Environmental Education programming and provide classroom facilities in a natural setting for area students. High quality broadband services are critical to this endeavor.**

**The office staff currently struggles with good quality broadband when taking camping and cabin reservations. Marion County Conservation ranks 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> annually in the state of Iowa for the number of reservation taken and revenue generated in the county conservation system. Weak broadband with occasional outages has caused struggles with the general public in this regard and has caused confusion as to whether transactions have been completed when the signal is lost.**

**The Conservation Department currently operates seven modern year around rental cabins with three more in the planning process with construction to begin this summer. All of these cabins are used by families and businesspeople who need reliable broadband to work even when on vacation. Additional quality broadband coverage would greatly improve the cabin rental experience.**

**I respectfully ask that you give all due consideration to Marion County's ITQ application.**

**Thank you,**

**Regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven B. Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Steven B. Edwards**

**Executive Director**

**From:** [Kim Dorn](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 8:46:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Good morning,

I would like to support the Marion County application for Broadband Intervention Zone. It will become more and more important that all residents of Marion County have reliable internet access as the changes directed from the governor's office for public health are implemented. It is clear that the only way rural Iowa residents will receive services will be to apply for services and assistance through web pages, which will require reliable internet access. It will be particularly important for libraries and other community centers in rural communities to have access, as those will be the places that people will need to go to obtain help when they don't have the devices or the skills to apply on line.



**Kim Dorn, BA, MBL**

Public Health Director

Marion County Public Health

2003 N. Lincoln • PO Box 152 • Knoxville, IA 50138

P: 641.828.2238 ext. 3850 F: 641.842.3442 C: 641.891.4068

[kdorn@marioncountyiowa.gov](mailto:kdorn@marioncountyiowa.gov)

[www.marionph.org](http://www.marionph.org)



*Promoting and Protecting the Health of Iowans*

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**From:** [Todd Burgett](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Intervention Zone possibility  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 9:23:35 AM

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Carla, this is Todd Burgett

Todd and Dena Burgett  
557 Gear St.  
Pleasantville, Ia 50225

Carla, I am creating this email in support of future expansion of Broadband in our particular area. Besides being a homeowner, with obvious family needs, I also run two business entities either out of my property or partially out of my property. My company is Wiechman Pig Co. based out of DSM, but I typically work from home. We also have a secondary business called Burgett BBQ that we run from our home. I happen to be fortunate to have "somewhat" high speed internet based off a Windstream tower, yet it is a long ways from good. I also feel like I can speak for my neighbors and another employee that lives on Gear St, just east of me, that none of them have the capability for high speed internet at this point and time.

My wife Dena is a high school teacher here in Pleasantville, and I constantly hear of the struggles her students have in the area you are talking about to get the necessary internet demands that seem to come with students these days.

On behalf of myself, Gear St, and many surrounding roads in rural Marion County.....This is obviously becoming a necessity in not only the business world, but also personal life.

Good luck and our support is with you!



**Todd Burgett**

Eastern United States District Manager  
Cell--515-250-2172  
Fax--515-262-1397  
Email-- [tburgett@wiechmanpig.com](mailto:tburgett@wiechmanpig.com)

**From:** [Kevin Kincaid](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Broadband Support Letter Needed  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 9:49:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Kevin Kincaid

1002 South Lincoln Knoxville Iowa 50138

We are constantly trying to find new ways to connect with patients at home. This allows us to significantly reduce healthcare costs by reducing admissions and readmissions. There is a new effort underway to start "Hospital at Home" options for patients and their families. None of this can be done without stable broadband for everyone. Individuals who live in metropolitan areas will have a significant advantage over people living in rural areas as these care delivery models take shape. Without broadband, rural patients will not have equal access to healthcare.

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**From:** [Carlson, Lindsey](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband Letter of Support  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:04:31 PM

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To Whom it May Concern:

My school is located at 1811 W. Madison St. in Knoxville and our students live in rural Marion County. One of our challenges is affordable broadband access in the rural areas of our county. Many of the students we serve struggle to get good broadband access which makes it difficult for them to complete some of their assignments at home or to access critical communications via email from the school district. This causes us to struggle with family engagement, attendance at school, and homework completion which impacts student achievement and thus the quality of the workforce in Marion County.

Lindsey Carlson

212. W Marion St.

Knoxville, IA 50138

**NOTICE:** This communication and any response to it may constitute a public record, and therefore, may be available upon request under Iowa public records law, *Iowa Code Chapter 22*.



# MARION COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

Tyler Christian, P.E.  
County Engineer  
tchristian@marioncountyiowa.gov

402 Willetts Drive  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
Ph. 641-828-2225

March 28, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

I, Tyler Christian, Marion County Engineer, fully support the ITQ application for a Broadband Intervention Zone. We will fully cooperate and permit utilities within the Right-of-Way in accordance with our Ordinance and permitting process to achieve greater broadband services in Northwest Marion County.

In addition to supporting the buildout of broadband for economic growth and resiliency, The Marion County Road Department has several shops that may benefit from improved broadband services as we currently don't have reliable connectivity. With technological advancements and continued implementation of such, it is an increasingly necessary resource for our remote locations to be able to use services such as time tracking, work orders, remote monitoring, security, and many other applications that are currently not available or accessed via less reliable services.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tyler Christian".

Tyler Christian, P.E.  
Marion County Engineer

**From:** [breakfastbar](#)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband letter support  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:45:30 PM

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460 Highway 316, Swan, IA 50252

**To Whom it May Concern:**

We are the owners of a concession stand that will be opening later this spring. Our business address is in the described rural catchment area. One of the challenges we face is low speed internet connection. This causes us to struggle with virtual training, webinars, and sometimes, basic internet activities.

Jamie and Jennifer Adkins  
Breakfast Bar co-owners

**From:** [butch@smokeyrow.com](mailto:butch@smokeyrow.com)  
**To:** [Carla Eysink](#)  
**Cc:** [amy@smokeyrow.com](mailto:amy@smokeyrow.com); [Calvin Roose](#); [krista@smokeyrow.com](mailto:krista@smokeyrow.com); [Rob Laughlin](#)  
**Subject:** Broadband support request  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 2:11:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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**NOTICE:** This message was sent to your **co.marion.ia.us** email address. Please notify the sender to update your email address.

Carla,

The need for faster connections for residents of Marion county is real, as you know. Our county includes several businesses that depend on reliable and fast service in order to compete in today's environment. Many of the rural employee /residents deal with slow and expensive communication methods. I for one, use a hotspot on my phone at home. It is the least expensive way for our family to remain in touch. However, we suffer with slow connections and I solely rely on that hotspot to help keep contact with our business in town. I am limited to NOT being able to work from home efficiently.

I am responding as a resident of the county and as the CFO of a growing business that operates in central Iowa, headquartered in Pleasantville. At our home address, we do not have any services except electric and rural water that pass by our home. At our business, we are considering expanding. This decision will include the future reliability of services for our business location and employees.

Thank You,

Russell 'Butch' Hayes

1261 15<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Pleasantville IA 50225

Smokey Row Coffee Shops, LLC

103 Monroe St.

Pleasantville, IA 50225

(515) 848-5958

(515) 2508971 – Cell

[butch@smokeyrow.com](mailto:butch@smokeyrow.com)



# Knoxville Community School District

418 S Park Lane Dr  
Knoxville, Iowa 50138

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**Board of Education:** Cheri Gerdes – President; Monica Sullivan – Vice President; Dave Smith; Larry Scott; Larissa VanDonselaar  
**Business Manager, School Board Secretary:** Craig Mobley • PH. 641-842-6552 • FAX 641-842-2109 • [craig.mobley@kcsd.k12.ia.us](mailto:craig.mobley@kcsd.k12.ia.us)  
**Superintendent:** Cassi Pearson • PH. 641-842-6552 • FAX 641-842-2109 • [cassi.pearson@kcsd.k12.ia.us](mailto:cassi.pearson@kcsd.k12.ia.us)

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March 28, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

The Knoxville Community School District is located within the city limits of Knoxville, and we have employees and students that live in rural Marion County. One of our challenges is the lack of reliable broadband service in the rural areas of our school district. This causes us to struggle with the ability for students and staff to complete any work at home. With technology advancements in school curriculum and learning management systems many student assignments are completed electronically through a connected online platform and therefore completed and turned in through the same online platform to the teacher. Students and teachers that live in rural Marion County that lack reliable broadband service cannot complete assignments, makeup work, receive assignments, or grade assignments while they are at home. In today's world the lack of reliable broadband service in rural areas should not be a factor limiting the progress of a student's education or a teacher's ability to efficiently complete work tasks outside of their normal work schedule.

Cassi Pearson  
Superintendent

Craig Mobley  
Business Manager

Barry Smith  
Technology Director