

TIM KRAAYENBRINK

STATE SENATOR

Fourth District

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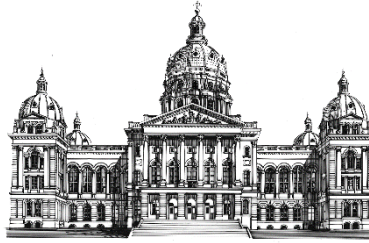
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The Senate

State of Iowa

Ninetieth General Assembly

STATEHOUSE

Des Moines, IA 50319

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Public Retirement Systems, *Co-chair*

Office of the Chief Information Officer

200 E. Grand Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50309

March 28, 2023

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

Please consider my letter of support for Webster County, Iowa, for the need of broadband access in the rural area of Fort Dodge. Webster County is submitting this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone.

Webster County has identified 140 locations in an 8 mile radius of rural Fort Dodge as unserved or underserved for internet access in Webster County. My constituents have often reached out to me asking for better internet access. I encourage you to consider these locations for priority funding.

As such, we are proposing that a Broadband Intervention Zone be established for the area in and around the community of Fort Dodge. It is our hope that the ITQ application and review of same by OCIO will designate rural Fort Dodge as a geographic area of concern / Intervention Zone for consideration in the next broadband grant program.

Sincerely,

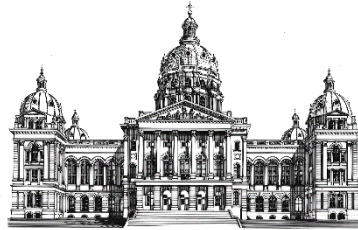
Tim Kraayenbrink

Senator Tim Kraayenbrink

Senate District 4

(515)408-4770

Ann Meyer
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Ninth District
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1948 Stadium Drive
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Eighty-Ninth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Health and Human Services

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

Webster County, Iowa is submitting an application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. Representing local businesses and residents, they have identified a specific area of geographic concern with regards to existing broadband availability.

As such, they are proposing that a Broadband Intervention Zone be established for the area in and around the community of Fort Dodge in NW Webster County. Pursuant to the Iowa Broadband Map v.5, this area is currently served by a single broadband provider and with speeds that do not facilitate the required 100/20 minimum threshold for robust connectivity.

It is their hope that the ITQ application and review of same by OCIO will designate Webster County as a geographic area of concern / Intervention Zone for consideration in the next broadband grant program. I completely lend my support to this project and hope you will consider Webster County a worthy recipient of this grant!

Sincerely,
Representative Ann Meyer
House District 8

Mike Sexton

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Seventh District

Statehouse: (515) 281-3221

e-mail – mike.sexton@legis.iowa.gov

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**House of Representatives**

State of Iowa

Ninetieth General Assembly

STATEHOUSE

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES

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Agriculture -Chair

State Government

Ways and Means

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

It has been brought to my attention that there is a genuine need to provide a Broadband Intervention Zone for Webster County.

This community, representing local businesses and residents, has identified as a specific area of geographic concern regarding existing broadband availability.

They are proposing a Broadband Intervention Zone be established for the area in and around the community of Webster County. This area is currently unserved or underserved with speeds that do not facilitate the required 100/20 minimum threshold for robust connectivity.

It is my hope that the ITQ application and review of same by OCIO will designate Webster County as a geographic area of concern / Intervention Zone for consideration in the next broadband grant program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael V. Sexton", written in a cursive style.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Fred Weers, and I am one of the owners of Lizard Creek Ranch and Creek Side Restaurant located at 1762 Johnson Ave, Fort Dodge. Our property does not have access to fiber lines to provide internet services. At this time, we only have a DSL connection. Our property is a multi-use area such as housing for contractors and visitors to the Fort Dodge/Webster County area, a campground, event center, and Creek Side Restaurant. We also have a contract with the Manson Northwest Webster Community School District and the North Central Consortium School.

Access to stable and high speed internet services are imperative to our business model and customers that utilize our facilities. Currently, our internet services are not stable or fast. Our business model is partially aimed at drawing people in from other areas outside of Webster County. The hope is they will stay with us and utilize other services such as shopping, restaurants, doctors and the like while they are in the area. Many people that stay with us need reliable internet services for work and entertainment. If we want to continue to draw individuals to the area, we will need to be able to provide these services. Without the ability to provide services, they will seek facilities in larger towns and commute to Webster County.

We feel that everyone would benefit from expanding fiber internet offerings to areas outside of the immediate Fort Dodge city limits. We feel Webster County has a lot to offer, and we want to be a part of that growth.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Weers", written in dark ink.

Fred Weers
completeelectric@live.com
1762 Johnson Ave
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

From: [Plansky](#)
To: [Marcie Boerner](#)
Cc: [Ed Plansky](#)
Subject: Letter regarding fiber optic service
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 7:56:11 AM

To whom this may concern:

Hello! My name is Ed Plansky, and my wife and I have been residents of the same home here at 1627 Johnson Ave., in rural Fort Dodge, for nearly 30 years. My work, as a facilities manager for three Linde plants in the midwest, necessitates me to attend regular online meetings, which are often best done at home. In some of these meetings, I need to view/discuss basic office files presented during the call—which often cannot be done with our slow internet service. I end up getting better use of a hotspot from my phone. Another aspect that is nearly impossible to do while home, is to update our computers. It can take hours (or even days!!) with it sometimes timing out, shutting down and ruining the downloads! (As a note, I'm only speaking of downloads of necessities, not personal movies, games, etc.). We once took one of our computers to our son's house a few hours away, and what had been taking >8hrs, and failing to download, was successfully completed in less than 20 minutes—downloading same file sizes!

Our service through Frontier includes a landline and the internet. Our service might be considered sufficient, but it is rather unreliable and cuts in and out frequently during use, as well as not supporting things such as Zoom or Teams-type calls. Over the years, we've had Frontier out a number of times in hopes to find a solution to make the internet and phone lines better, and they usually tell us it's either the network boxes are damaged somewhere down the road, or the cables going to it, etc.!! The problem has not been issues with our personal lines on our property/or inside the house.

In our searches over the years, our area has not had options other than Frontier for phone, internet, etc. I was very glad to hear of WCCTA coming out here and found out my neighbor across the street could get

it--but yet we cannot... (?) Another neighbor, north of here by about 1/2 mile, same side of the street as us, is also able to get it....yet again we cannot... It's been said that we are "unserved"—but, how can we GET served!! And nearly two years ago some group (Frontier?) dug up our front yard to put in a "fiber optic line", but they never connected it to anything!

Please consider rural service upgrades to our forgotten area! Thank you for your time!

Ed and Laura Plansky

Home/landline: 515-573-4216

Laura's cell 515-571-3216

To whom it may concern

My wife and I run a home based business that requires us to have an internet connection for multiple aspects of our business it is very much a challenge at times to perform certain task. That forces us to have to leave home to go places with a better Wi-Fi connection. It is very inconvenient and we would greatly appreciate having fiber optic available in our area.

David and Gretta Trammell

515-729-5139
1903 160th st
Fort dodge Iowa

To Whom it May Concern,

I am currently a resident at [1906 160th St in Fort Dodge Iowa](#). Currently I have to rely on an unreliable internet provider. I am employed at the local hospital and sometimes am required to work from home. With our current Wi-Fi, if on a meeting on my laptop, the connection will cut out mid-sentence at times. I also run a small EBay business out of my home. In order to print labels for packages that I need to ship, I have to be able to wireless connect with my printer. We have a home security system that also runs on Wi-Fi. If we are out of town and our internet isn't working properly, we have no way of knowing if someone were to break into our home. If we were to have reliable internet service at our home, our lives would change for the better!

Thank you for your consideration,

Lindsay Grady

[1906 160th St](#)

[Fort Dodge, IA 50501](#)

[\(515\)561-4654](#)

lawlerlm@gmail.com

1920 170TH ST
FORT DODGE, IA
50501

MY NAME LARRY HARTMAN I'M LOCATED NORTHWEST
OF FORT DODGE, IOWA. WE HAVE LIVED HERE FOR
51 YEARS. AFFORDABLE - RELIABLE INTERNET SERVICE
HAS BEEN DIFFICULT TO FIND WE WOULD
REALLY LOOK FORWARD AFFORDABLE - RELIABLE SERVICE

Larry Hartman