

506184 - Howard County SW Quadrant

Application Details

Funding Opportunity: 498157-Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) Broadband Intervention Zones
Funding Opportunity Due Date: Mar 31, 2023 5:00 PM
Program Area: ITQ - Broadband Intervention Zones
Status: Submitted
Stage: Final Application

Initial Submit Date: Mar 31, 2023 8:17 AM
Initially Submitted By: Julie Chapman
Last Submit Date:
Last Submitted By:

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

Active User*: Yes
Type: External User
First Name*: Julie A Chapman
First Name Middle Name Last Name
Title: Auditor
Email*: jchapman@howardcounty.iowa.gov
Address*: 137 N Elm St

Cresco Iowa 52136
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: (563) 547-9203 Ext.
Phone
###-###-####

Fax: (563) 547-9229
###-###-####

Agency: Attorney General, Iowa

Organization Information

Status*: Approved

Name*: Howard County Board of Supervisors

Organization Type*: County Government

DUNS: ##-###-####

Tax Id:

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):

Organization Website: http://rhshc.com

Address*: Howard County Board of Supervisors
137 North Elm St

Cresco Iowa 52136
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: (563) 547-2989 Ext.
###-###-####

Fax: (563) 547-4223
###-###-####

Benefactor:

Vendor Number / ID:

Cover Sheet-General Information

Cover Sheet-General Information

Authorized Official

Name*: Julie Chapman

Title*: Howard County Auditor

Organization*: Hoard County
If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.

Address*: 137 North Elm Street

City/State/Zip*: Cresco Iowa 52136
City State Zip

Telephone Number*: 569-547-9203

E-Mail*: jchapman@howardcounty.iowa.gov

Fiscal Officer/Agent

Please enter the "Fiscal Officer" for your Organization.
If you are an individual, please provide your First and Last Name.

Name*: Julie Chapman

Title: Howard County Auditor

Organization: Howard County

Address: 137 North Elm Street

City/State/Zip: Cresco Iowa 52136
City State Zip

Telephone Number: 563-547-9203

E-Mail: jchapman@howardcounty.iowa.gov

**County(ies) Participating,
Involved, or Affected by this
Proposal*:** Howard County

To find your district, click on the "Congressional Map" link. On the left hand side of the page, click on the drop-down list and click on "State of Iowa". Then, enter an address for the county/ies you serve in the Search bar. Click "Enter." This will provide you with your Congressional District, Iowa Senate District and Iowa House District.

**Congressional District(s)
Involved or Affected by this
Proposal*:** 2nd - Rep Ashley Hinson
Congressional Map

**Iowa Senate District(s) Involved
or Affected by this Proposal*:** 32
Iowa Senate Map

**Iowa House District(s) Involved
or Affected by this Proposal*:** 63
Iowa House Map

Invitation To Qualify Application Exhibits

Required Forms and Submissions

Please indicate the community applicant type that best fits from this list.

Community Applicant Type*: County

**If Community Applicant Type is
"Other", please add additional
information here. :**

This section of the Iowa Grants system requires the Applicant to upload a cover letter as a Word doc or pdf on the Applicant's letterhead to provide a high-level overview of the Application describing your community's Broadband need in the area and the community's interest in obtaining programmatic funding in the Geographic Area of Concern. The Cover Letter is not scored.

Cover Letter*: Howard Co Cover Letter SW Quadrant.pdf

The Applicant must upload a spreadsheet of locations obtained from the Broadband Availability Map. The system will allow you to download the locations as a CSV formatted spreadsheet. The Eligible Service Locations Spreadsheet must then be uploaded by the Community Applicant to the Iowa Grants system.

Note: Reference the "Geographic Area of Concern and Data Export/Import Instructions," labeled "Exhibit D," for instructions regarding how to properly complete this aspect of the Application.

**Eligible Service Locations
Spreadsheet*:** ITQ Eligible Locations Howard Co SW Quadrant.csv

Generally describe the area identified with the Geographic Area of Concern Selection Tool. Example: Rural Adams County, Poweshiek County Highway 6 Corridor, etc.

**General Description of the
geographic area of the circle*:**

SW Quadrant of Howard County. The radius is 7.75 for our purpose.

Write down the radius distance used to create your circle. The instructions for how to identify the radius can be found in Exhibit D Geographic Area of Concern Selection Tool and Data Export/Import Instructions ("Selection Tool").

Radius of the circle*: 8

**Address at the center of the
circle - Street Address *:**

15328 Garden Avenue

**Address of the center of the
circle - City*:**

Elma

Address of the circle - State*:

Iowa

Address of the circle - zip code*: 50628

Optional Forms and Submissions - Work, Education, and Health Monitoring

This sub-factor takes into consideration whether Broadband investments in the proposed Geographic Area of Concern will help to facilitate community members engagement in employment, search for employment, and/or develop the requisite skills and knowledge to become employed (e.g., participate in career counseling programs, workforce training programs, as well as gain access to internet websites to search for and apply to jobs).

Work:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many businesses sent employees to work from home. Since then, some employers have either kept that model to reduce overhead, or let employees have a hybrid schedule. This requires a reliable and strong broadband connection. If a reliable internet connection isn't available, employees may have to take PTO during an internet outage.

Also, a county-wide broadband connection is enticing to people as they are looking to move to the area adding value to their homes and providing the ability to work for any business worldwide, eliminating barriers to job opportunities.

This subfactor takes into consideration whether Broadband investments in the proposed Geographic Area of Concern will help facilitate educational activities. Such education activities may be to acquire knowledge and/or skills, undertaken as part of a person's participation in school, an academic program, extracurricular program, social-emotional development program for students or youths, internship, or professional development program, or in another educational environment.

Education:

During the pandemic, schools switched from in-person to virtual learning. This has progressed to now schools have issued devices to each student and they can learn from home during inclement weather. This requires a robust and reliable broadband connection.

Many students and adults can attend college classes online. This is nearly impossible without a reliable connection. This is beneficial as these people don't have to leave the area to go to school.

This subfactor takes into consideration whether Broadband investments in the proposed Geographic Area of Concern will help facilitate health monitoring services to monitor an individual's health, including with respect to either physical or behavioral health.

Health Monitoring:

While there is a local hospital in Howard County, specialty healthcare is a considerable distance away. There is a specialty clinic located in the southwest part of the county and a robust broadband connection between facilities is important to share information securely. Virtual appointments and tele-health appointments are on the rise and will continue to expand. It is important for the rural residents in our area to be able to access all kinds of specialized care and should not matter the location and distance. A stable, reliable, robust broadband network will help our residents access these services. There are cost savings associated with online non-emergent appointments as well. It is as easy as entering symptoms and other required information into the portal for a doctor to review in an E-visit to save time off work and mileage.

Community Support Letters**Testimonial :**

Community Support Letter : **Howard County Letters of Support.pdf**

This Community Support upload does not have to be on letterhead or have a mailing address within the Geographic Area of Concern. The author must demonstrate that there is a community tie-in or relationship to the Geographic Area of Concern.

**Community Support Letter (no
letterhead or mailing address):**

Optional Forms and Submissions - Community Broadband Capital

Item	Description	Category	Supporting Documentation
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Barriers to Broadband**Barriers to Broadband****Installation:**

Howard County SW

Barriers to Broadband

Rurality

Howard County is an agriculture-based county in northeast Iowa and extremely rural. Broadband networks are difficult to build as the distance between locations is several miles resulting in few consumers per mile. Also in rural areas, the drops are long (for example - long driveways to farmsteads) as opposed to urban builds with short drops. Many sites are outlying of the fiber route and costly to build. This should not hinder a customer getting service.

Demographics

It is imperative that consumer education and awareness is at the forefront while providing the best broadband to Howard County. We can teach consumers how to utilize and maximize their connection and get the best experience possible. There are options for low-income residents so they can have this essential service available to them. There are bike trails, campgrounds, and other recreational facilities that a strong broadband connection would be beneficial. Not only for economic development but for safety reasons as well.

**Optional Supporting Materials
for Barriers to Broadband
Installation Narrative:**

Minority Impact Statement

Minority Impact Statement

Does the proposed grant program or policy have a disproportionate or unique positive impact on minority persons? *:

Yes

Describe the positive impact expected from this project.:

The positive impacts will include, but not be limited to - online learning, telehealth, work from home opportunities, online bill pay, and also the entertainment factor of the internet.

Detail the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy.:

Those listed as minority persons who have not had the ability to subscribe to high-speed broadband service will now have the ability to do so if this area is qualified as a broadband intervention zone.

Indicate the group(s) positively impacted.:

African Americans,Alaskan Native Americans,American Indians,Asians or Pacific Islanders,Latinos,Persons with a Disability,Women

Could the proposed grant program or policy have a disproportionate or unique negative impact on minority persons? *:

No

Describe the negative impact expected from this project.:

Detail the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy. :

Indicate the group(s) negatively impacted.:

Explain how you provided consultation with representatives of the minority groups impacted.:

**I hereby certify the information
above is complete and accurate
to the best of my knowledge.*:**

Yes

Howard County Auditor Julie Chapman

Title

First Name Last Name