

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As a business owner located in Baxter, Iowa, I have experienced the challenges that limited broadband access can present for our operations. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our community.

Reliable and high-speed internet access is essential for businesses to succeed in today's economy. It enables us to take advantage of the latest technologies, streamline our operations, and communicate effectively with customers and suppliers. Unfortunately, many businesses in our area do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to achieve these goals.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be particularly important for businesses like ours, which are located in rural areas where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for economic growth, create new jobs, and help businesses like ours to thrive.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

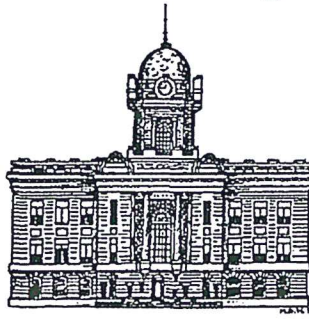
  
Jeni Manship, Business Owner, Baxter, Iowa.

# Jasper County, Iowa

**Denny Stevenson**

**Doug Cupples**

**Brandon Talsma**



**Board of Supervisors**

**Courthouse**

**PO Box 944**

**Newton IA 50208**

**Phone 641-792-7016**

**Fax 641-792-1053**

March 9, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer  
State of Iowa  
200 E. Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA. 50309

Re: Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for Broadband Intervention Zone

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

The Jasper County Board of Supervisors would like to indicate our support for the Invitation to Qualify that is being filed by the City of Baxter, Iowa. Baxter is working with local telecom Partner Communications on a project which would enhance internet service in an area which has been identified as in need of improvement. The approval of the ITQ and designation of the area as a Broadband Intervention Zone is required to access grant funds for this purpose.

It apparent that the areas in Iowa which are able to improve access to high speed internet service are the areas which will be moving forward economically in the future. Conversely, areas with poor service will be left behind. Jasper County has tremendous economic potential with our access to the Des Moines metro, and ensuring high speed internet service in our county will help us realize our greatest potential.

We appreciate your careful consideration of the ITQ request from the City of Baxter, and hope OCIO's review will result in the designation of geographic area of concern/Intervention Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Brandon Talsma". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Brandon Talsma,  
Chairperson



March 6, 2023

Dear State of Iowa Representative,

I am writing to express my strong support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As the principal of a school located in Baxter, Iowa, I have seen firsthand the significant impact that limited broadband access can have on our students and faculty. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our school.

Access to reliable and high-speed internet has become increasingly important in education. It is essential for our students to access online educational resources, for our teachers to deliver innovative and engaging lesson plans, and for our staff to manage administrative tasks effectively. Unfortunately, many members of our school community do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to take advantage of these opportunities.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be especially important for our school, which is located in a rural area where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for learning, enhance our students' educational experience, and ensure that our school is well-positioned to succeed in the 21st century.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our school and our community, and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickolyn Clapper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mickolyn" and the last name "Clapper" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Mickolyn Clapper,

Superintendent, Baxter Community School District



March 9, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer  
State of Iowa  
200 E. Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA. 50309

Re: Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for Broadband Intervention Zone

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

Jasper County Economic Development Corporation would like to indicate our support for the Invitation to Qualify that is being filed by the City of Baxter, Iowa. Baxter is working with local telecom Partner Communications on a project which would enhance internet service in an area which has been identified as in need of improvement. The approval of the ITQ and designation of the area as a Broadband Intervention Zone is required to access grant funds for this purpose.

It apparent to us that the areas in Iowa which are able to improve access to high speed internet service are the areas which will be moving forward economically in the future. Conversely, areas with poor service will be left behind. Jasper County has tremendous economic potential with our access to the Des Moines metro, and ensuring high speed internet service in our county will help us realize our greatest potential.

We appreciate your careful consideration of the ITQ request from the City of Baxter, and hope OCIO's review will result in the designation of geographic area of concern/Intervention Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Davidson". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "J" and "D".

Jeff Davidson  
Director



# Baxter Real Estate Agency

**107 S. Main St., Suite A**

**Baxter, Iowa 50028**

**641-227-3788**

**Neil Seales, Owner/Broker Cell: 641-751-2545**

**Nichole Oglesby, Agent Cell: 515-250-5805**

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**Office of the Chief Information Officer**

200 E. Grand Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50309

To the Office of the Chief Information Officer:

I am writing to express my complete and whole-hearted support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As the owner/broker of Baxter Real Estate Agency located in Baxter, Iowa, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that limited broadband access can present not only for our business operations but as an entity charged with the responsibilities to help new citizens relocate to our community. Among the first questions that I am asked from home buyers considering moving to the Baxter community is related to the availability and level of reliable high-speed internet. Based on today's family work and personal needs, the current level and availability of our internet service is neither adequate nor satisfactory to them. Beyond meeting the needs of our current population, this funding initiative would be an additional important and crucial investment in the growth and future of our community.

Reliable and high-speed internet access is essential for businesses to succeed in today's economy. It enables us to take advantage of the latest technologies, streamline our operations, and communicate effectively with customers and suppliers. Unfortunately, many businesses and working citizens in our area do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to achieve these goals. This obviously puts the Baxter community and its citizens at a competitive and functional disadvantage.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address these challenges by providing the resources needed to expand broadband across the Baxter community. This would be important for not only businesses like ours but to the growing number of people looking to relocate to rural areas like Baxter where broadband access is limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for economic and community growth, create new jobs, and assist businesses and communities like ours to compete on an equitable and competitive economic level.

This funding opportunity will be a critical investment in the future of our community and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,



Neil Seales

Owner/Broker

Baxter Real Estate Agency

107 S. Main St.

Baxter, Iowa 50028

# Moorman Construction Inc



March 9, 2023

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As a business owner located in Baxter, Iowa, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that limited broadband access can present for our operations. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our community.

Reliable and high-speed internet access is essential for businesses to succeed in today's economy. It enables us to take advantage of the latest technologies, streamline our operations, and communicate effectively with customers and suppliers. Unfortunately, many businesses in our area do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to achieve these goals.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be particularly important for businesses like ours, which are located in rural areas where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for economic growth, create new jobs, and help businesses like ours to thrive.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our community, and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

Natalie Moorman

Moorman Construction Inc, Baxter Iowa

[moormanconst@partnercom.net](mailto:moormanconst@partnercom.net)

641-521-1750



3/15/2023

Dear Chief Information Officer,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As a business owner located in Baxter, Iowa, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that limited broadband access can present for our operations. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our community.

Reliable and high-speed internet access is essential for businesses to succeed in today's economy. It enables us to take advantage of the latest technologies, streamline our operations, and communicate effectively with customers and suppliers. Unfortunately, many businesses in our area do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to achieve these goals.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be particularly important for businesses like ours, which are located in rural areas where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for economic growth, create new jobs, and help businesses like ours to thrive.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our community, and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Fredregill", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Ryan Fredregill, LFD

Fredregill Funeral Home

Business Owner, Baxter, Iowa



3/15/2023

Dear Chief Information Officer,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As a business owner located in Baxter, Iowa, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that limited broadband access can present for our operations. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our community.

Reliable and high-speed internet access is essential for businesses to succeed in today's economy. It enables us to take advantage of the latest technologies, streamline our operations, and communicate effectively with customers and suppliers. Unfortunately, many businesses in our area do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to achieve these goals.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be particularly important for businesses like ours, which are located in rural areas where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for economic growth, create new jobs, and help businesses like ours to thrive.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our community, and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,



Ryan Fredregill

Pet Cremation Iowa

Business Owner, Baxter, Iowa



March 21, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the local broadband grant opportunity that has been presented to us. As the parent of students who attend school in Baxter, Iowa, I have seen firsthand the significant impact that limited broadband access can have on our students and parents who work remotely. During the Covid-19 pandemic, I had to work from home, and I had a child in high school and a child in college that had to move home and learn remotely, and it was a real struggle to accomplish this with the internet we had available to us. That is why I believe that this grant would be a crucial investment in the future of our school and community.

Access to reliable and high-speed internet has become increasingly important in education and remote working. It is essential for our students to access online educational resources, for our teachers to deliver innovative and engaging lesson plans, and for our staff to manage administrative tasks effectively, while parents are also working remotely to support their families. Unfortunately, many members of our community do not have access to the kind of broadband infrastructure that is necessary to take advantage of these opportunities and with this limited internet, Baxter would be less attractive to prospective parents and families who might work and learn remotely.

The local broadband grant opportunity would help to address this challenge by providing the resources needed to expand broadband access across Baxter. This would be especially important for our school and community, which is in a rural area where broadband access can be particularly limited. By providing access to reliable and high-speed internet, we can unlock new opportunities for learning and working and ensure that our school and community are well-positioned for success.

I believe that this grant would be an important investment in the future of our school and our community, and I strongly encourage you to support it. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,



Carrie Ratliff



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

March 24, 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 the City of Baxter'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. **Of the nine responses to the download speed test from Baxter, six (67%) reported to have speeds lower than 25 Mbps. The other three responses had speeds between 25 to 100 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 the City of Baxter's application to be identified as a Broadband Intervention Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Byers'.

Jay Byers  
CEO