

Dr. Tom Jeneary
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Third District
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House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Ninetieth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES
Natural Resources, *Chair*
Health & Human Service
Veterans Affairs
Health & Human Services -
Appropriations

March 13, 2023

State of Iowa
Office of the Chief Information Officer
% Dr. Behrens
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Dr. Behrens

I was excited to hear that Plymouth County is participating in the ITQ for a Broadband Intervention Zone. Investing in rural fiber broadband is a top priority within the state and I personally believe that these types of investments will benefit us for years to come. I fully support this application!

As a former dentist and now State Representative I know many of the people that live and work in the proposed area. I also know that quality internet service is lacking in southwestern Plymouth County. Having access to technology and broadband is vital to economic growth, education, healthcare, agriculture and many other areas. I believe projects such as this give Iowan's a great opportunity to succeed.

I support Plymouth County's application and I strongly ask for your support as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Tom Jeneary". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. Tom Jeneary
Iowa House of Representatives



**HINTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
315 WEST GRAND
HINTON, IA 51025**



March 7, 2023

State of Iowa
Office of the Chief Information Officer
1305 E. Walnut St.
Des Moines, IA 50319

I was recently made aware of the application to the OCIO's Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone by Plymouth County. Having quality internet service for our families and students in this area would provide incredible benefits.

As the Superintendent of the Hinton School District, I cannot stress enough the need for quality internet service in this area. It wasn't that long ago that our students were forced to learn from home due to COVID-19 and we quickly learned how important internet service is to our students. It was stressful for those families that had quality internet but for those in the rural area that didn't have access it was even worse.

Thankfully, our students returned to the classrooms but that doesn't change the fact that for many quality internet service is lacking. We all know that education continues to evolve and change – much of teaching and learning is dependent on technology and the internet. Getting fiber and internet service to the families of our district can be a real difference maker.

I strongly support this project and kindly ask you to do the same.

Sincerely,

Ken Slater
Superintendent of Schools





Akron Westfield Community School

Derek Briggs
Superintendent of Schools

Jeremy Mills
7-12 Principal

Michelle Henrich
DK-6 Principal

850 Kerr Drive, Box 950, Akron, Iowa 51001 (712) 568-2020 FAX (712) 568-2997

March 7, 2023

State of Iowa
Office of the Chief Information Officer
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Dr. Behrens,

As the superintendent of the Akron-Westfield Community School District, I am writing this letter to lend my full support to Plymouth County's ITQ for a Broadband Intervention Zone. This is something that would be incredibly beneficial to the students and parents in our district.

While many of the students that live within the city limits have adequate internet service, those that live in the rural area are truly lacking. During our remote learning caused by COVID-19 we truly learned how important internet is to our students. Akron-Westfield Schools is a 1-to-1 district, meaning all our students in grades 7-12 are given a laptop to take home with them. For those students who had reliable internet access, it allowed them to engage with the remote learning process and complete assignments without much of a challenge technologically, but for those that didn't, it was a very real struggle.

We realize, and are very grateful, that remote learning due to COVID-19 did not last forever, but education is changing and we learned some things that we still utilize today. Much of our learning and studying is dependent upon technology and the internet and the learning process extends well beyond the timeframe of a normal school day. For those students who live in rural Plymouth County, getting fiber and the opportunities it brings allows all of our students an equal opportunity to be as prepared as possible for life after high school.

On behalf of the Akron-Westfield Community School District, I kindly ask for your support of this very worthwhile project.

Kindly Yours,

Derek Briggs
Superintendent
Akron-Westfield Schools



31695 HEDGE AVE
SIOUX CITY, IA 51108
712-251-2527

UDELL TRUCKING, INC.

32138 HICKORY AVE
SIOUX CITY, IA 51108
712-239-5755

March 15, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer
% Dr. Matt Behrens
1305 East Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Dr. Behrens,

I have the privilege of living and working in Plymouth County, Iowa. In my opinion Plymouth County exemplifies what Iowa is all about – hard working people who care about each other. While there are many good things about living in rural Plymouth County, there is one thing lacking – quality internet service.

I am currently part of two separate family businesses, located in two areas of SW Plymouth County. One business is Udell Trucking, which provides hauling services for dirt, sand, and gravel, while our other business is Udell Cattle Company, which focuses on providing the best in show cattle. Having poor internet service really hurts our businesses.

Having improved internet in our area would greatly benefit not only my family and businesses but also many of our neighbors and friends. Anything that can be done to help with this matter would be greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Bret Udell 



Your community. Your health. Your life.

March 13, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer
% Dr. Matt Behrens
1305 East Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Dr. Behrens,

I am pleased to write a letter of support for ITQ application being submitted by Plymouth County, Iowa. Having a retirement community, nursing home facility, medical clinic and hospital that serve the greater Plymouth County area, I can honestly say that this is something that is greatly needed and will allow us to serve our patients, senior residents, and their families even better.

Healthcare in general continues to change at a rapid pace. What we once thought impossible is now becoming reality. Caring for our patients and their needs is also evolving and having access to technology and reliable communications is very important. Communicating with your health care provider via video from the comfort of your home, sending digital scans to urban hospitals or participating in a counseling session with a mental health professional are all things that can be done today. The project being proposed can only help us in providing more of these types of services.

Our mission at Floyd Valley Healthcare is to be a progressive healthcare partner serving all with compassion, integrity, and excellence. Building fiber to the rural area will allow us to serve our patients even better. I fully support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dustin Wright", is positioned above the printed name.

Dustin Wright, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer