

# 506503 - SW Plymouth County ITQ

## Application Details

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**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 24, 2023 2:46 PM  
**Initially Submitted By:** Shawn Olson  
**Last Submit Date:**  
**Last Submitted By:**

## Contact Information

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### Primary Contact Information

**Active User\*:** Yes  
**Type:** External User  
**First Name\*:** Shawn A Olson  
First Name Middle Name Last Name  
**Title:** Director of Information Technology  
**Email\*:** solson@plymouthcountyiowa.gov  
**Address\*:** 215 4th Ave SE

LeMars Iowa 51031  
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

**Phone\*:** (712) 546-1260 Ext.  
Phone  
###-###-####

**Fax:** (712) 546-5541  
###-###-####

**Agency:**

### Organization Information

**Status\*:** Approved

**Name\*:** Plymouth County Iowa

**Organization Type\*:** County Government

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

**Tax Id:**

**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):**

**Organization Website:** <http://plymouthcountyiowa.gov>

**Address\*:** Plymouth County Courthouse  
215 4th Ave SE  
LeMars Iowa 51031-  
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

**Phone\*:** 712-546-1260 Ext.  
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**Fax:** ###-###-####

**Benefactor:**

**Vendor Number / ID:**

## Cover Sheet-General Information

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### *Cover Sheet-General Information*

#### Authorized Official

**Name\*:** Shawn Olson

**Title\*:** Director of Information Technology

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

**Address\*:** 215 4th Ave SE

**City/State/Zip\*:** LeMars Iowa 51031  
City State Zip

**Telephone Number\*:** 712-546-1260

**E-Mail\*:** [solson@plymouthcountyiowa.gov](mailto:solson@plymouthcountyiowa.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\*:** Stacey Feldman

**Title:**

**Organization:**

**Address:**

**City/State/Zip:** City Iowa Zip  
State

**Telephone Number:**

**E-Mail:**

**County(ies) Participating,  
Involved, or Affected by this  
Proposal\*:** Plymouth 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\*:** 4th - Rep Randy Feenstra  
Congressional Map

**Iowa Senate District(s) Involved  
or Affected by this Proposal\*:** 2,7  
Iowa Senate Map

**Iowa House District(s) Involved  
or Affected by this Proposal\*:** 13,3  
Iowa House Map

## Invitation To Qualify Application Exhibits

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### ***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\*:** letterhead.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 - SW Plymouth County.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\*:**

**Rural SW Plymouth County Iowa**

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 \*:**

**27738 Fir Avenue**

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

**Hinton**

**Address of the circle - State\*:**

**IA**

**Address of the circle - zip code\*:** 51024

***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:**

**As businesses have introduced work from home options, our residents in this rural geographic area do not have the same opportunities to advance their careers without access to quality internet connections. This area is also an agricultural region and changes in technology have introduced precision agriculture which are not possible without internet access.**

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:**

**The COVID-19 pandemic introduced us to the idea of remote learning and made us aware of how detrimental it is for students who do not have access to broadband. Post-pandemic, it is still vitally important to have this same access to broadband for students to be able to access homework assignments and for parents to be able to engage in their child's learning. Reliable broadband connectivity also opens numerous opportunities for our residents to engage in Continuing Education and Higher Learning options across the nation.**

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:**

Access to reliable, quality internet will allow our residents to be able to better manage their health care needs through remote access to their providers. This not only includes access to physical and behavioral health providers, but also specialists that would otherwise require residents to travel long distances.

### ***Community Support Letters***

Testimonial : Letter of Support - Funding Tom Jeneary.pdf

Community Support Letter : Letter 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): Letter of Support - FVH.pdf

### ***Optional Forms and Submissions - Community Broadband Capital***

Item	Description	Category	Supporting Documentation
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

### ***Barriers to Broadband***

#### **Barriers to Broadband**

##### **Installation:**

The Southwest corner of Plymouth County is a 200 square mile rural region located in the Northwest corner of Iowa. This region does not currently have access to quality broadband internet due to construction cost barriers in a region where the population density is low. There are 674 ITQ eligible locations making the density of 3.5 locations per square mile. This puts the cost per location out of reach for Broadband Service Providers. Southwest Plymouth County would see great benefit from having access to the same high-quality broadband service found in other areas of our state for precision agriculture, work from home situations, remote learning, and healthcare.

#### **Optional Supporting Materials**

##### **for Barriers to Broadband**

##### **Installation Narrative:**

## **Minority Impact Statement**

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### ***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.:

**Having reliable internet connectivity will have a positive impact for all our residents but will uniquely benefit students with a disability or who are of part of the Latino/Hispanic community. These students will have increased opportunities through educational programs or ESL classes made available online.**

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

**The rationale for this application is to provide the same opportunities for all our residents. Providing access to the Internet can be an equalizer for all population groups.**

**Indicate the group(s) positively impacted.:** Latinos,Persons with a Disability

**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

**Director of Information Techno Shawn Olson**

Title

First Name Last Name