



## *Mahaska County Board of Supervisors*

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106 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St · Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577 · PH: 641-673-3469

*supervisors@mahaskacounty.org*

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

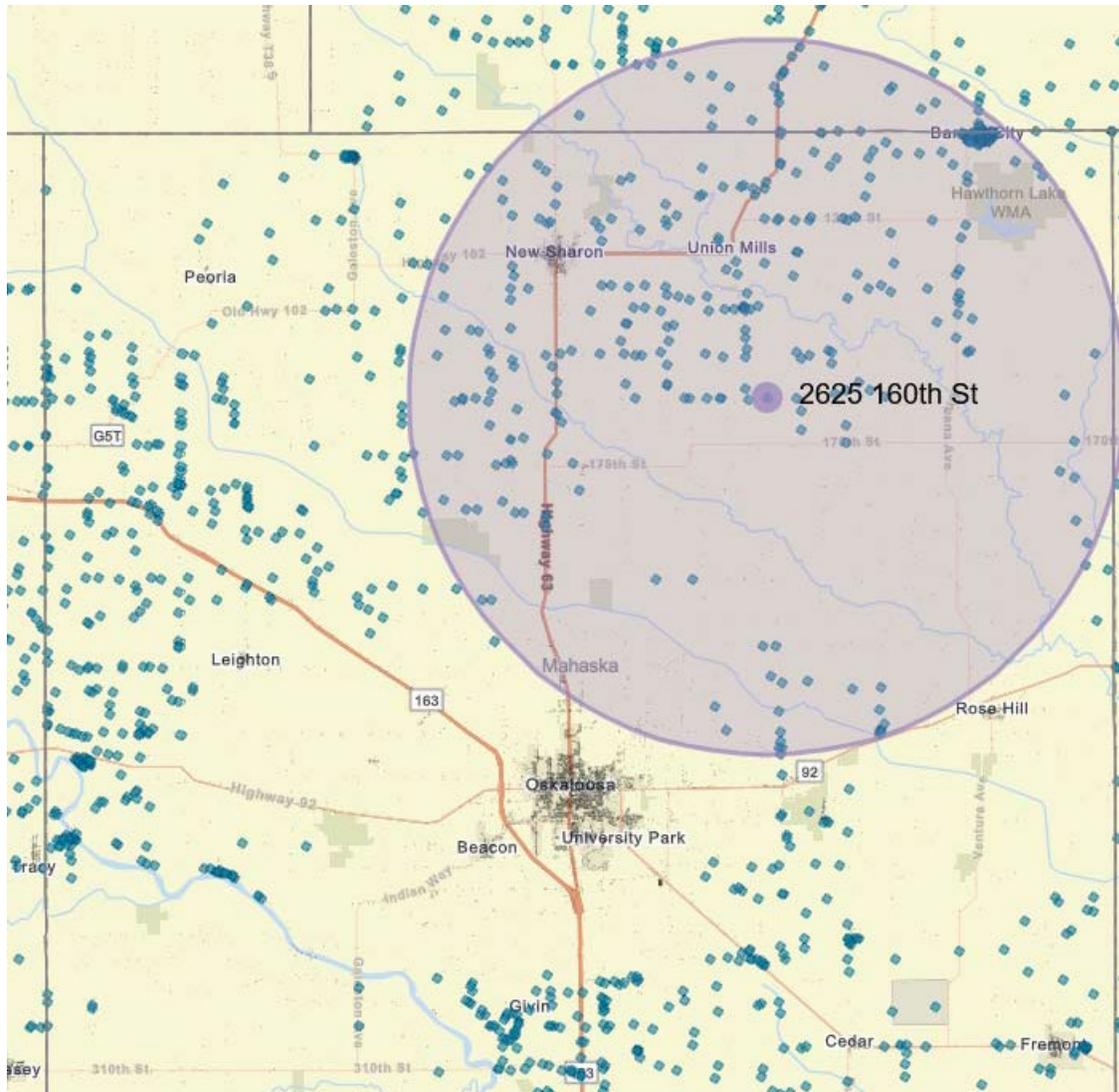
March 30, 2023

To the Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer:

Mahaska County is submitting this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. Mahaska County, in association with Mahaska Communications Group, has identified a specific area of geographic concern with regards to existing broadband availability.

As such, we are proposing that a Broadband Intervention Zone be established for the area in and around the community of New Sharon, Iowa. 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.

The prospective Intervention Zone would bring needed broadband connectivity to 402 currently under-served homes and businesses in the area as further represented by the diagram below:



Robust broadband is critical to this community's continued economic growth, and to ensure local citizens have access to essential infrastructure required for work, education, and health monitoring of current and future generations.

Sincerely,

Mark Groenendyk, Mahaska County Board Chair