



Benton Development Group

## BENTON DEVELOPMENT GROUP

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TTTo the Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa:

Benton Development Group (BDG) is submitting this this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. The Broadband Intervention Zone is for an area:

- 4 miles in radius around 7586 13th Avenue, Belle Plaine, IA 52208
- The Iowa Broadband Map v.5 shows that this area 96 eligible locations of which all are undeserved
- The 96 underserved locations have speeds that do not facilitate the required 100/20 minimum threshold for robust connectivity

I am writing to express BDG's strong support for the Broadband Grant for Benton County, Iowa. We understand the challenges faced by unserved and underserved communities and believe this grant presents a unique opportunity to address this issue and bring much-needed connectivity to those who have been left behind.

Benton County is a largely rural area, and many residents lack access to reliable, high-speed internet providing access to business development, employment, education, entertainment, and precision agriculture.

By expanding access to high-speed internet, we can create new opportunities for growth and development, promote education and healthcare, and ensure that all residents have the tools they need to thrive in today's digital age. Thank you for considering our application.

Sincerely,

Kate Robertson  
Executive Director  
Benton Development Group