

507390 - Morris Hills

Application Details

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 30, 2023 3:04 PM
Initially Submitted By: Charlie Nichols
Last Submit Date:
Last Submitted By:

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

Active User*: Yes
Type: External User
First Name*: Charlie Middle Name Nichols
First Name Last Name
Title: Planning and Development Director
Email*: charlie.nichols@linncountyiowa.gov
Address*: 935 2nd Street SW

Cedar Rapids Iowa 52402
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: 319-892-5139 Ext.
Phone
###-###-####
Fax: ###-###-####
Agency:

Organization Information

Status*: Approved

Name*: Linn County

Organization Type*: County Government

DUNS: 07-350-1108
##-###-####

Tax Id:

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):

Organization Website: <http://www.linncounty.org>

Address*: 935 Second Street SW

Phone*: Cedar Rapids Iowa 52404
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip
(319) 892-5000 Ext.
###-###-####

Fax: (319) 892-5009
###-###-####

Benefactor:

Vendor Number / ID: 00002127868

Cover Sheet-General Information

Cover Sheet-General Information

Authorized Official

Name*: Charlie Nichols

Title*: Planning and Development Director

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

Address*: 935 2nd Street SW

City/State/Zip*: Cedar Rapids Iowa 52402
City State Zip

Telephone Number*: 319-892-5139

E-Mail*: charlie.nichols@linncountyiowa.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*: Dawn Jindrich

Title: Finance Director

Organization: Linn County

Address: 935 2nd Street SW

City/State/Zip: Cedar Rapids Iowa 52402
City State Zip

Telephone Number: 319-892-5010

E-Mail: dawn.jindrich@linncountyiowa.gov

**County(ies) Participating,
Involved, or Affected by this
Proposal*:** Linn 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*:** 2nd - Rep Ashley Hinson
Congressional Map

**Iowa Senate District(s) Involved
or Affected by this Proposal*:** 42
Iowa Senate Map

**Iowa House District(s) Involved
or Affected by this Proposal*:** 83
Iowa House Map

Invitation To Qualify Application Exhibits

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*: Morris Hills Cover Letter.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 3- Morris Hills.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 area NW of Cedar Rapids.

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*: 2

**Address at the center of the
circle - Street Address *:**

7707 Blairs Ferry Rd

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

Cedar Rapids

Address of the circle - State*:

IA

Address of the circle - zip code*: 52411

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:

In the rural Linn County area radius including the Morris Hill's Road area, many homeowners would like to have the opportunity or a more reliable option to full-time or part-time remote work option. With copper and wireless internet connections those types of connections are not robust or reliable internet connections to easily support the type of usage needs. Rural Linn County offers low cost of living and low crime rates which is attractive to many individuals seeking out this area to live, though their needs for affordable and reliable internet are not available at this time. For those living in this area without having a fiber optic internet connection available to them they are unable to utilize technology such as Zoom calls easily for work or for personal use, ordering online delivery options, streaming local sporting event to support those in their community and state.

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:

For those consumers utilizing virtual learning, these properties do not have adequate internet connectivity required for efficient, effective virtual learning. Wickup Hill Learning Center utilizes a program, Virtual Classroom and with a more robust and reliable internet connection this would allow for more students to be served via Zoom or Google Hangout. Programs like these enhance children's knowledge of plants, animals, pollinators, ponds, wetlands, water quality, Iowa habitats, outdoors skills, recreation and geology, all areas that enhance our youth's knowledge to continue to make rural Linn County a great place to live, work and play!

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:

Community Support Letters

Testimonial : **MH Letter of Support - Doug Simpson.docx**

Community Support Letter : **Resolution 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):

Optional Forms and Submissions - Community Broadband Capital

Item	Description	Category	Supporting Documentation
1	Right of way permit fees will be waived.	Simplified permitting processes	Resolution of Support.pdf
2			
3			
4			
5			

Barriers to Broadband

Barriers to Broadband

Installation:

In rural Linn County, broadband networks are difficult to build out. The cost to build out and the available take rate is on of the main reasons there is such limited access to competitive broadband services. Getting infrastructure into already developed areas that have long drops and are not near current main fiber facilities in the ground is very costly. In rural areas with barriers such as structures, terrain changes and trees, wireless internet is unable to provide a reliable robust internet option for these citizens. Rural Linn County is not densely populated, and these properties are fairly spread apart. This makes it difficult for service providers to justify spending a lot of money to reach a handful or customers. Rural residents need and want reliable fiber internet connectivity for work from home, school from home, for online ordering platforms, entertainment, and none of this is possible without better internet service. New service providers have a difficult decision when it comes to investing in expensive broadband infrastructure that will ultimately serve far less citizens than within a community. The existing providers will not improve or upgrade their networks for the same reason. This essential service to our most underserved citizens is imperative.

Optional Supporting Materials

for Barriers to Broadband

Installation Narrative:

Minority Impact Statement

Minority Impact Statement

Does the proposed grant program or policy have a disproportionate or unique positive impact on minority persons? *: **No**

Describe the positive impact expected from this project.:

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

Indicate the group(s) positively impacted.:

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**

Planning Director Charlie Nichols

Title

First Name Last Name