

03/25/2023

Doug Simpson

3810 Green Valley Lane

Toddville, IA 52341

RE: Letter of Support

To Whom It Concerns:

Bringing high speed internet to residents of rural Toddville, and surrounding areas, is long overdue. Not only would this benefit all residents of the area who so far have been deprived of this basic necessity it would allow school children to have access to the tools that will make them contributing citizens in the future, enhance property values and stimulate economic growth and development in Linn County.

It cannot be emphasized enough how important affordable high speed broadband is to the education of the rural student population as education is, as we all know, the largest component of our local communities budget and depriving our young people of this valuable tool will preclude them from reaching their full potential in our ever more technological world.

Please support Palo Communications efforts to bring high speed fiber internet to our area and bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, finally.

Sincerely,

Doug Simpson

**RESOLUTION 2023 – 3 – 47****A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER'S  
BROADBAND INTERVENTION ZONE INVITATION TO QUALIFY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2023, the Department of Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer ("OCIO") announced the opening of the Application Acceptance Window for Broadband Intervention Zones Invitation to Qualify #001; and

**WHEREAS**, although the Invitation to Qualify ("ITQ") is not a grant opportunity, it is a way for communities to demonstrate the need for high-speed internet by identifying impediments to work, education, health monitoring, and other activities and to designate unserved or underserved geographic areas of concern as Broadband Intervention Zones; and

**WHEREAS**, responding to the ITQ is a way for communities to qualify for future grant funding by proposing Broadband Intervention Zones that should receive broadband grant funding and for decision makers to prioritize future funding for those designated Broadband Intervention Zones; and

**WHEREAS**, high-speed internet is an essential infrastructure system that connects all Linn County residents to businesses, schools, medical facilities, and other institutions where they live, work, learn, and play; and

**WHEREAS**, Linn County officials recognize that closing the digital divide between people who have access to high-speed internet and those who do not is invaluable and will provide long-term and far-reaching community benefits that include the ability to engage fully in the digital economy, access educational and medical services, expand economic opportunities, and bridge the economic divide; and

**WHEREAS**, Linn County officials and the OCIO have identified areas geographic areas of concern in the County where residents, businesses, and institutions are unserved or underserved by broadband; and

**WHEREAS**, Linn County officials believe it is in the best interest of Linn County residents to support applications to the ITQ and subsequent grant funding applications.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** the Linn County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses applications to the OCIO's ITQ for Broadband Intervention Zones within the County.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Linn County will provide technical assistance for ITQ applications when available and needed and will waive right-of-way permit fees for broadband providers working in a Broadband Intervention Zone.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29 day of March 2023.

## LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

  
Louis J. Zumbach, Chair

  
Ben Rogers, Vice Chair


  
Kirsten Running-Marquardt, Supervisor

## ATTEST:

  
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

I, Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor, certify that at a regular meeting of the Linn County Board of Supervisors, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of:

3 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain and 0 Absent from Voting.

  
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor