

# 507513 - Farmington Iowa - Van Buren County

## Application Details

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<b>Funding Opportunity:</b>	498157-Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) Broadband Intervention Zones
<b>Funding Opportunity Due Date:</b>	Mar 31, 2023 5:00 PM
<b>Program Area:</b>	ITQ - Broadband Intervention Zones
<b>Status:</b>	Submitted
<b>Stage:</b>	Final Application
<b>Initial Submit Date:</b>	Mar 31, 2023 10:46 AM
<b>Initially Submitted By:</b>	Max Harlan
<b>Last Submit Date:</b>	Apr 13, 2023 2:42 PM
<b>Last Submitted By:</b>	Max Harlan

## Contact Information

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### Primary Contact Information

<b>Active User*:</b>	Yes
<b>Type:</b>	External User
<b>First Name*:</b>	Max      Wayne      Harlan First Name Middle Name Last Name
<b>Title:</b>	Director of Information Technology
<b>Email*:</b>	mharlan@vanburencounty.iowa.gov
<b>Address*:</b>	406 Dodge Street P.O. Box 475  Keosauqua Iowa      52565 City      State/Province Postal Code/Zip
<b>Phone*:</b>	641-919-1381 Ext. Phone ###-###-####
<b>Fax:</b>	###-###-####
<b>Agency:</b>	

### Organization Information

<b>Status*:</b>	Approved
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**Name\*:** Van Buren County Iowa

**Organization Type\*:** County Government **Control Number** 507513

**DUNS:** 05-081-4672  
##-###-####

**Tax Id:** 42-6004834

**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):** C6MGPHAUZZ89

**Organization Website:** <https://www.vanburencounty.iowa.gov/>

**Address\*:** 406 Dodge Street  
P.O. Box 475

**Phone\*:** Keosauqua Iowa 52565-  
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip  
641-919-1381 Ext.  
###-###-####

**Fax:** ###-###-####

**Benefactor:**

**Vendor Number / ID:**

## Cover Sheet-General Information

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### *Cover Sheet-General Information*

#### Authorized Official

**Name\*:** Max Harlan

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

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

**Address\*:** 406 Dodge St

**City/State/Zip\*:** KEOSAUQUA Iowa 52565  
City State Zip

**Telephone Number\*:** 641-919-1381

**E-Mail\*:** mharlan@vanburencounty.iowa.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\*:** Lisa Plecker

**Title:** Van Buren County Auditor

**Organization:** Van Buren County

**Address:** 406 Dodge St

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Control Number 507513

**City/State/Zip:** KEOSAUQUA Iowa 52565

City State Zip

**Telephone Number:** 641-919-1381

**E-Mail:** mharlan@vanburencounty.iowa.gov

**County(ies) Participating,  
Involved, or Affected by this  
Proposal\*:** Van Buren 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\*:** 1st - Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
Congressional Map

**Iowa Senate District(s) Involved or  
Affected by this Proposal\*:** 1  
Iowa Senate Map

**Iowa House District(s) Involved or  
Affected by this Proposal\*:** 1  
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\*:** Cover Letter Farmington Van Buren County.docx

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\_Farmington.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\*:**

**Farmington and Surrounding Rural Area**

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\*: 5

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Address at the center of the circle

Control Number 507513

- Street Address \*:

32223 295th Street

Address of the center of the circle

- City\*:

Farmington

Address of the circle - State\*:

Iowa

Address of the circle - zip code\*: 52626

### ***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:**

Van Buren County is fortunate to have so many large employers in our area. The county is home to the Van Buren County Hospital, Mid-States Manufacturing & Engineering, a Hill Phoenix manufacturing plant, the Barker Wire Products company, and many more. These companies employ many of our residents and contribute greatly to our local economy as a whole. As employment and production increase, many of these employers are moving to a hybrid work model to help facilitate the growth as well as attract talented workers to our area. With this increase in virtual and hybrid working environments, it has become even more apparent that many of the potential workers in our area lack the broadband coverage necessary to participate in these environments. This limits their ability to work and creates a divide between connected and non-connected employees for positions within a company. It is vital to have internet that can meet the needs of the employers of our community as well as the employees who use the internet for both work and personal use.

Alongside this virtual migration for work, many of our residents are utilizing virtual services for their consumer needs. Most of our residents rely heavily on goods ordered online from online retail stores, like Amazon, as well as many residents are taking advantage of some virtual services provided from our local stores.

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:**

Like many school systems around the country, Van Buren County Community Schools implemented a virtual learning environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. While this was meant to be a temporary migration to help keep teachers and students safe, we have taken concepts from that model and continue to explore more ways to utilize the internet and virtual classrooms to further the education of our students. This process, however, highlighted just how dire the need for quality broadband was for our students. Many students in our rural areas of the county found this migration challenging and had to find alternative ways to stay connected for class (public wi-fi's, local libraries, cellular hot-spots). While these methods saw some small success, it is nothing compared to a reliable connection at home.

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:**

Van Buren County is proud to be the home of a premier healthcare facility, Van Buren County Hospital. This amazing health center offers a plethora of services, including emergency medical services, infusion services, medical/surgical, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, laboratory services, radiological services, and so much more. While residents in the city of Keosauqua have easy access to this great facility, the rural residents of Van Buren County have to travel almost 20 miles to visit their healthcare professional.

The residents in the proposed Intervention Zone do not have any medical facilities nearby to use for their general medical needs. As such, they rely heavily on Van Buren County Hospital to take care of them. While some can make the drive to the facility, many find it difficult, whether due to inclement weather, poor driving conditions, old age, etc. As such, Van Buren County Hospital has made their medical services available online to their patients. In order to take advantage of these, however, a reliable internet connection is required. Many in the Intervention Zone lack this coverage, which in turn, requires them to travel to receive basic medical services.

**Community Support Letters**

Testimonial :

Community Support Letter :                   **Van Buren County - Farmington Area Letter of Support.docx**

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			
2			
3			
4			
5			

**Barriers to Broadband**

Barriers to Broadband Installation:

This region of Van Buren County is the area we have designated as a proposed Broadband Intervention Zone. With this designation, there are a number of geographic barriers that make this area a difficult region to install and maintain a proper fiber optic network. The obvious barrier is the rurality of this region. Without access to a major highway infrastructure, the area is somewhat isolated from the rest of the county. To reach some of the more populated areas, one must utilize gravel roads (and even some dirt roads) to go to and from the area.

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**

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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**

**Director of IT Max Harlan**  
Title First Name Last Name