



BENTON COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

111 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 549, Vinton, IA 52349

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

Benton County Development, our county's economic development agency, is submitting this application to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. As County Supervisors, we welcome every opportunity to provide our citizens better access to healthcare, education, entertainment, and job opportunities that high-speed broadband provides.


Residents of the area identified in this application do not have access to minimum speeds of 100/20. The low population density makes their area unprofitable for development by any internet service providers offering high-speed fiber broadband.


Anytown Iowa is submitting this application in response to the OCIO Invitation to Qualify for a Broadband Intervention Zone. The community of Anytown, representing local businesses and residents, has identified a specific area of geographic concern with regard to existing broadband availability.

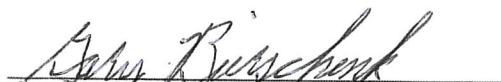
As such, we propose establishing this Broadband Intervention Zone for the area noted in the application.

We hope that the ITQ application and review of the same by OCIO will designate Anytown as a geographic area of concern / Intervention Zone for consideration in the next broadband grant program.

Sincerely,

  
Tracy Seeman, Chairman

  
Rick Primmer

  
Gary Bierschenk

Benton County Board of Supervisors



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

March 27, 2023

This letter is in recommendation of Benton Development Group for the Invitation to Qualify for Broadband Intervention Zone (Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program) to enhance the areas opportunity to bring broadband services to unserved and underserved areas of Benton County. We have all been made keenly aware of the importance of high-speed broadband since the COVID pandemic, which heightened the awareness and needs to work from home, educate from home and receive health services from home. High speed internet access has become critical to our daily lives.

Benton Development Group has identified areas in Benton County as deserving of this critical infrastructure. The Broadband Intervention Zone designation ensures customers in the area will have an opportunity to participate in the broadband world that allows them the technology to work, play and enrich their lives for many years to come. This broadband technology can become a reality with potential funding directed to broadband intervention zones.

La Porte City Telephone Company has managed fiber networks in the area since 2013 and are well versed in the advantages that advanced broadband technology, primarily fiber networks, can offer businesses and residences of rural Iowa, particularly Benton County.

It is my honor to recommend Benton Development Group for this grant and I trust you will find them to be a worthy candidate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hopp", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris Hopp

General Manager

La Porte City Telephone Company

LPC CONNECT

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