

July 22, 2021

Office of the Chief Information Officer

State of Iowa

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Manning is aware that Manning Municipal Utilities is making application to the OCIO for grant funds available by Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant program. As Mayor of Manning, I recognize that our rural community is seeking reliable, fast fiber broadband.

Manning is in the middle of four counties—Carroll, Crawford, Audubon, and Shelby--and Manning businesses serve many rural residents and benefit from those residents as well. We know there are portions of our surrounding rural areas where residents and businesses struggle to receive reliable, fast broadband and as a result are disadvantaged in education, business, health care, government and e-commerce because of the lack of quality high-speed broadband service.

We support the application of Manning Municipal Utilities to connect our rural residents and businesses to high speed broadband via fiber and know that the approximate locations they are seeking to serve with the 92 miles of fiber would be positively impacted by this construction.

As more citizens seek to leave overcrowded metropolitan districts for a quieter rural way of life, we would like citizens and businesses to consider our area as their new home. With the addition of fiber broadband to these rural locations the move becomes even more appealing as work from home and school from home become a reality.

We ask that the OCIO strongly consider the application from Manning Municipal Utilities in order to finance this aggressive rural fiber project.

Sincerely,



Joe Maas

Mayor

July 21, 2021

Andrew Stangl
25666 Birch Avenue
Manning, Iowa 51455

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is an endorsement of the service provided by Manning Municipal Utilities to my home, as well as providing service beyond the city limits of Manning, Iowa. High-speed Internet is essential to my family as my 2 children were unable to do homework from home at the same time last year due to lack of internet accessibility. With the mandatory online classes when there is Covid-19 outbreak at school and online college classes available to my high school child, reliable, consistent and efficient communication is very important in our daily routines.

I know that MMU's service is very important to other businesses outside city limits, especially now with all the jobs that are remote from home. The community is eager to have an opportunity to upgrade to their fiber-based service. There has long been a need for fiber service to rural areas around Manning which would benefit both businesses and residential customers. Service to this underserved portion of the state would be FANTASTIC.

Having reliable Internet service is essential for my family. MMU is a wonderful community partner, assisting with numerous projects.

Sincerely,



Andrew Stangl

Rodney Hinnert
3105 390t Street, Manning, Iowa 51455
712-653-3062

July 21, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

I want to express my support for Manning Municipal Utilities to expand its fiber network services beyond the city limits of Manning, Iowa. High-speed Internet is essential to many businesses and schools, especially now in this time of Covid-19 and the need for remote learning and remote jobs from home.

"Home Base" for my business is located west of Manning. I currently have 4 hog barns, so reliable, consistent and efficient communication is very important in my daily operations. Internet in our rural area has improved over the years, but I need to have faster, more dependable service to support my every-day needs. Fiber would allow me to expand my current network and allow me to grow.

Reliable broadband speeds up to 1 Gigabit will support other growing demands in our area, as well as greatly assist from an economic development perspective. Manning Municipal Utilities has been a viable provider in our area since 1999. Iowa's rural areas need these services to be available for our cities, towns and local businesses, both agricultural and non-agricultural, to be able to grow.

We understand that Manning Municipal Utilities is working to extend their fiber network service to include 238 additional customers that would take approximately 92 miles of fiber. I strongly support all efforts to move this project forward as soon as possible.

I appreciate the opportunity to support this technological progress in our immediate area!

Sincerely,



Rodney Hinnert