

*Smart Choice*

August 25, 2023

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

RE: Broadband Intervention Zone 62- Boone County Application

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

It is my pleasure to offer this letter in support of Boone County's application for (NOFA) #008 grant funding.

This targeted area along the border of both counties and along the Highway 30 corridor is an area of high interest to both future home and commercial growth with the proximity to state transportation resources and leveraging our regional educational partnerships with Iowa State University and DMACC.

Now more than ever we are seeing highlighted interest in economic development for this area. Filling in gaps such as this with state investments are critical to making sure our regional economic development efforts across both Boone and Story County can utilize every advantage to serve our companies and communities. Expanding industry means more job creation that creates the need for more residential development. As the population grows it is essential that quality broadband service is readily available.

Approving this application from Boone County working jointly with Story County in partnership with ICS Advanced Technologies to provide such access to our targeted area is the culmination of months of work and local planning to assure success in providing affordable and quality broadband services for years to come.

I am confident that, with the appropriate funding and resources, the Broadband Intervention Zone 62 - Boone County project will be a resounding success. It has my full endorsement and support, and I am eager to see the positive impact it will have on our region.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Culhane'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'D' and 'C'.

Dan Culhane, President & CEO
Ames Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development