

Howard County Board of Supervisors

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August 21, 2023

Office of the Chief Information Officer
200 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 0309

Website www.howardcounty.iowa.gov

RE: Letter of Support

To Whom it May Concern:

I write on behalf of Harmony Telephone Company in support of their application to the OCIO NOFA #008 program. As a local County Government Entity in northeast Iowa, we value our commitment to our area communities and residents, as does Harmony Telephone Company.

Having an affordable, quality broadband connection in our underserved rural area would greatly improve the quality of life for our residents and would greatly enhance our area communities.

As technology advances and changing demographics, it is of utmost importance for us to be able to offer quality employment, educational opportunities, healthcare services and to retain and encourage families to move to our area. Having a solid broadband connection available in our area, would provide a positive impact to our residents for many years. Almost everything we can and want to provide is dependent on having a connection to internet services. Harmony Telephone Company provides this connection locally, reliably, and affordably. They also participate in the Federal Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program for the residents who qualify.

Currently, many areas of northeast Iowa are either not served or are considered underserved when it comes to broadband services. Having the opportunity to receive the service of fiber optic broadband to our rural businesses, educational and healthcare facilities, farms, and homes is critical.

We feel confident in Harmony Telephone Company LLC, the partnership between Mabel Cooperative Telephone Company, Spring Grove Communications and MiEnergy Cooperative and strongly support their efforts in providing this service to our area.

Sincerely,



Joe Pisney, Chairman

Howard County Board of Supervisors

cc: Harmony Telephone Company, LLC

District 1**Pat Murray**pmurray@howardcounty.iowa.govDistrict 2**Joe Pisney**jpisney@howardcounty.iowa.govDistrict 3**Dean Eastman**deastman@howardcounty.iowa.gov