

Box 152
Early IA 50535
June 7, 2021

State of Iowa, Office of the Chief Information Office
Attn: Iowa Broadband Grant Program-Review Committee
Hoover State Office Building
1305 E Walnut
Des Moines IA 50319

To Whom It may concern,

I am currently the mayor of the City of Early and am a life-long resident of Early.

I know and have known for many years that we need access to reliable and ultra-fast internet to keep up with residents who live in communities, small and large. This past year with the pandemic shutdown, it has become much, much clearer that there is a great need for faster internet so that people can continue to work from home on given jobs.

I also know personally the need for virtual doctor visits, as I had brain surgery in January of 2020 and had to have follow-up visits with my neurosurgeon after the pandemic hit. At that time the best we could do was phone visits.

Just because we are a small-rural community doesn't mean that we don't need this high-speed service. With faster internet service, we could be more able to attract new residents and possibly businesses.

Please give serious consideration to granting Evertex a grant for this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Sharon Ann Irwin

Sharon Ann Irwin

CITY OF EARLY

Sharon Ann Irwin
Mayor

Lexi Bainbridge
City Clerk

City Council
Bill Cougill
Brian Pickhinke
Tim Langner
Summer Schmitt
Steven Mason

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To Whom It may concern,

Rural America is a great place to live, work and raise a family. And now more people are looking to move to less densely populated areas. We have known for some time that we need reliable and ultra-fast Internet to keep up with residents who live in communities, small and large, which already have that resource. And, as we all know, the pandemic proved this fact very clearly. The Internet allows us to work, start and run a business from anywhere, but it requires reliable, ultra-fast Internet that only fiber optics can provide. Communities without fiber and the reliability and bandwidth it provides, will struggle to attract residents; those with it are positioned to thrive. We need the fiber that Evertek wants to build in our community, and we support their effort.

Please give serious consideration to Evertek for this Broadband Grant to make this endeavor possible for our community.

On behalf of the City of Early

Lexi Bainbridge

Lexi Bainbridge, City Clerk



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