

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Jim MacGregor on 03/01/2022

Please provide your name:

Jim MacGregor

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Elected or Government official

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

I strongly support the Wabaunsee County application for this grant. Because of the non-city population of Wabaunsee County is so dispersed, bringing utilities like the telephone, electricity, and water has always required federal and state programs to incentivize local governments and utility providers to connect rural residents. While we've seen most of our cities connected, and can reasonably expect others to be cost-effective for private investment, rural homes, without programs like this, are unlikely to be connected within the next decade. While the County should be able to rely on reverse auctions, i.e., Auction 904, there's been no evidence that these will offer relief to rural families and small businesses in the timeline promised. In this application, the County has a respected, regional partner known for its desire and ability to serve. Connecting these 120 addresses provides an immediate boost to telework, telemedicine, distance learning, and automated agricultural services for hundreds of residents. The economic impact, on these

families, individual businesses, and the County, is clear, but an expanded local network also improves the County's chances to attract new families and other development opportunities. The federal government's American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding has provided us a unique opportunity and we appreciate this program being in place to help us put these funds to good use.

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

n/a

By submitting the Public Comment Form (the "Form") and any supporting evidence, you attest that all information furnished is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and that any attachments are free of malware or viruses. You also acknowledge that falsifying any information could result in legal action against you and will bar you from submitting public comments to this web site in the future. You authorize the Kansas Office of Broadband Development, Kansas Department of Commerce (KOBDD) to contact you if further information is needed. You expressly acknowledge and consent to some personal information, including your name, address, phone, e-mail, organization you represent, and comments, being posted for public view on the Kansas Department of Commerce web site at www.kansascommerce.gov. The KOBDD will use its best efforts to redact any personal identifiable information outside of the above that is not considered in the public domain. By typing your name and date and by submitting the Form, you acknowledge, authorize, and consent to this Public Comment Privacy & Acknowledgments.

James MacGregor

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Becky Spaulding on 03/02/2022

Please provide your name:

Becky Spaulding

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

Wabaunsee county broadband access is sorely lacking in the rural areas of our county. The town of Maple Hill just recently got access to non-wireless internet this past year, but those outside of town must rely on our cell phones or a dish for internet access. This is costly and not very effective for the rural residents. I hope that residents in Wabaunsee County can be connected to the rest of the world and move into the 21st century sometime in the near future.

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Becky Spaulding

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Rachel Deiter on 03/02/2022

Please provide your name:

Rachel Deiter

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

I am writing to advocate for faster, reliable internet access for my family. We currently use a broadband service or a hotspot from our cell plan. Many times a day our service will go out or be so slow we cannot stream on our tv or use our laptop. A speed test showed the following: Ping-98; Download-5.52; Upload-1.85. For this reason we must pay over \$200 for satellite tv, \$80.00 for internet service, plus over \$300 for 4 cell phone plans that include a hot spot each month. If we were able to get reliable service we could knock out a huge portion of the tv cost and hopefully have bundling options for all three plans.

My children use Chromebooks for school and most months have to use up their data allowance from our cell plan within the first week of the plan month. When I work from home, I cannot schedule any meetings with clients because the internet isn't reliable enough for video conferencing.

By having access to reliable and faster internet, my children will be able to do their schoolwork without worry, I will be able to work from home more often and at full ability, and we will be able to save money on tv by cancelling our current plan and using streaming services.

In addition, my husband is a farmer and as technology continues to advance in the ag industry there are many options for irrigation and machinery he cannot take advantage of because of unreliable internet service at our house/farm to monitor these systems.

As the work landscape continues to evolve and more and more companies are allowing work from home accommodations, please consider our request to allow rural households the same access and opportunities as those living in urban areas. Our children also need to have the same opportunities do school work from home and take online college courses as those living in urban areas.

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

n/a

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Rachel Deiter 3.2.22

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Joel Fager on 03/03/2022

Please provide your name:

Joel Fager

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area
- Elected or Government official

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

Wabaunsee county has a unique challenge for broadband access. It lies in a rural area in between larger populations so although the demand here is needed it doesn't receive the attention priority. The flint hills are beautiful to see but from a coverage point of view we have always had a 'spotty' or no service at all with our terrain. This is a great place to live and most that live here are agricultural based or live in bedroom communities and travel to town for work. These smaller towns and rural areas could enhance their quality of living and encourage others to live in these areas if broadband is either upgraded or even introduced! I would personally love to see this help out our communities to keep up with our ever-changing lives and growth for internet access

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

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Joel Fager 3-3-2022

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Amanda Gnadt on 03/07/2022

Please provide your name:

Alex & Amanda Gnadt

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area
- Business leader in proposed service area

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

We own a small business in the county and operate our business from our home. Our internet service is not consistently reliable. We've used multiple providers over the years and all are too slow to allow for cloud services. We would like to use the cloud to back up business records, but the speed is slow. An even bigger obstacle is the limits of data. The providers we have used (satellite, cellular) have data limits and that prevents us from being able to upload/download as we would if we had no limits. We are supportive of this grant as it will allow us to operate our business like our counterparts in towns.

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

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Amanda Gnadt

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Arlene Gnadt on 03/08/2022

Please provide your name:

Arlene Gnadt

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

I am writing to support the Wabaunsee County grant application to bring fiber internet to our rural area. We pay high prices for slow internet speeds with data caps. Bringing the internet to my neighborhood would help multiple families and businesses. Some of those families have children who will benefit by being able to better complete their school work with access to the internet.

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

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Arlene Gnadt

Project: Broadband Acceleration Grant Yr 2 - Public Comment

Submitted by Arlene Gnadt on 03/08/2022

Please provide your name:

Diane Barrett

Which of the following best describes you? (Check all that apply)

- Resident in proposed service area

I am providing comments related to the following application (choose one):

Wabaunsee County - I-70 Central

I am submitting comments to express

Support for a project

Please provide your comments in the text box below.

I am writing to support the Wabaunsee County application to bring high speed internet to our area. The current providers are unable to provide strong enough speed and reliability to use modern technology in our home. The internet options we have are limited by data caps, at higher prices than fiber providers in our area. These funds would support several families in our neighborhood and improve our daily functions in our home.

Please provide supporting documentation to support your comments. Concerns related to overbuilds should include explicit data such as Census block and address specific data. Submit multiple files as a single ZIP file.

n/a

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Diane Barrett