

To whom it may concern:

We are happy to support Nextlink's application for fiber in Clatonia. We have seen first-hand how necessary access to high-speed internet is to our residents because of COVID-19. The ability to work from home has become a necessity, a child's use of broadband for remote learning has become a need, and telehealth is no longer a concept of the future, it is here now.

In census tract Ookla speed testing that includes Clatonia, it has a median speed of 31.06/14.94 which is considered underserved. We have examined the FCC broadband map showing coverage Clatonia and were surprised by the speeds reported to be available to residents and businesses. Over-reporting can be detrimental to small villages that desperately need better internet connection, and we know Clatonia needs improved connectivity. We need to be able to bridge the digital divide to help bring economic growth to our community. Our small, rural village needs to have access to high-speed broadband so that its residents can have access to the world.

Again, we support Nextlink's application to bring fiber into our community.

*Village of Clatonia Chairman*  
