

## BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

311 East Benton Street P.O. Box 308, Bloomfield, Nebraska 68718

Shane Alexander

855-372-4017 FAX

Superintendent / 7-12 Principal 402-373-4800

**Tabitha Gilsdorf** Elementary Principal 402-373-4985

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Nebraska Public Service Commission 1200 N St #300 Lincoln, NE 68508

October 1, 2021

Re: Great Plains Communications Application for Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act Grant Program

On behalf of the students, families, faculty and staff of our school district, I write this letter to endorse the application of Great Plains Communications for a Broadband Bridge Act grant to provide broadband services to the City of Bloomfield. Bloomfield Community School currently has a poverty rating of 45% and is a schoolwide Title I school. As required, most residents in our community lack access to broadband at speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps, and approval of this grant will be critical to meeting the online learning needs of our students and their families.

Thank you for your consideration of our community for deployment of these essential services to Bloomfield.

Sincerely,

Shane Alexander, Superintendent

Shane Alexander

Nebraska Public Service Commission 1200 N St #300 Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Great Plains Communications Application for Nebraska Rural Broadband Bridge Act Grant

Nebraska Public Service Commission:

On behalf of Bloomfield Nursing Home Facility and the area residents we serve, I write to endorse the application for a Nebraska Rural Broadband Bridge Act Grant being submitted by Great Plains Communications, a telecommunications partner in the Bloomfield community for many years.

The need for high-bandwidth broadband services to healthcare providers and the public has become of utmost importance during these challenging times dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide telehealth services. Since a majority of the residents in the City of Bloomfield currently lack access to Internet services at speeds of 100/20Mbps, approval of this grant is critical to bringing the highest-quality remote healthcare services to the public that our hospital serves.

I strongly support approval of Great Plains Communications' application.

Sincerely,

Nebraska Public Service Commission 1200 N St #300 Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Great Plains Communications Application for Nebraska Rural Broadband Bridge Act Grant

Nebraska Public Service Commission:

On behalf of Bloomfield Medical Clinic and the area residents we serve, I write to endorse the application for a Nebraska Rural Broadband Bridge Act Grant being submitted by Great Plains Communications, a telecommunications partner in the Bloomfield community for many years.

The need for high-bandwidth broadband services to healthcare providers and the public has become of utmost importance during these challenging times dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide telehealth services. Since a majority of the residents in the City of Bloomfield currently lack access to Internet services at speeds of 100/20Mbps, approval of this grant is critical to bringing the highest-quality remote healthcare services to the public that our hospital serves.

I strongly support approval of Great Plains Communications' application.

Sincerely,

## **BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INC.**

Joe Skrivan, President Al Kersten, Vice President Les Jessen, Treasurer

Bloomfield, Nebraska 68718

Colette Panning, Secretary PO Box 157 Phone: 402.373.2272

September 29, 2021

Nebraska Public Service Commission 1200 N St #300 Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Endorsement of Great Plains Communications Application

Public Service Commission:

On behalf of the businesses and residents of Bloomfield, I write to endorse the application of Great Plains Communications for a grant from the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act Grant Program to construct and operate a fiber to the home network in Bloomfield. Most residents and businesses in Bloomfield lack access to broadband at speeds of 100/20 Mbps, which is particularly crucial as many people in our community need access to higher-quality Internet services. Completion of this project will also be vital to our community in attracting new businesses and to helping keep young people from moving elsewhere because of lack of competitive broadband services.

Thank you for your serious consideration of the Great Plains Communications application for the City of Bloomfield. I urge its adoption.

Sincerely,

allan a. Kersten