

Attachment M Letters of Community Support Cox Communications

Letters of Community Support in Cass County

In support of Cox Communication's infrastructure deployment goals within Cass County, we received multiple letters of support from a variety of community stakeholders. All the letters expressed appreciation and support for Cox's submission and demonstrated a compelling level of need and lack of comprehensive coverage for reliable internet services, which Cox is hoping to bring to the County.

Cox local teams conducted outreach to members of the community through in-person engagements, email correspondence and direct phone communications. A copy of our sample letter of support is included following this page, in addition to the letters that the community provided.

Letters of support from members of the community included in this submission:

Community Partners

- Seventy-Five North Revitalization Corporation
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands
- Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands
- United Way of the Midlands
- Habitat for Humanity
- Washington County Chamber of Commerce



2112 N. 30th Street Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68111

402.502.2770

www.seventyfivenorth.org

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David Arnold Buildertrend Solutions

Steven Jensen Steven Jensen Consulting

> Adam Steffen Wand and Associates

Bradley Ekwerekwu The Learning Community **RE: Support for Cox Communications**

To whom it may concern:

Seventy Five North Revitalization Corp. is writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding high-speed internet to underserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in areas of Cass, Colfax, Dodge and Sarpy counties. Cox will be providing Fiber-to-the-Home connectivity. Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox Nebraska service site.

In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

Today, Cox is a leading provider of broadband services with residential and commercial broadband speeds of up to 1 Gigabit broadband to residents and up to 100 Gigabit broadband to commercial accounts. For more than 40 years, Cox has been serving the needs of Nebraskans in nearby Omaha as a public-private partner with a proven track record. The Cox brand is well-recognized as a local technology leader and a company that is committed to the communities it serves. Cox has been providing services to homes and businesses via more than 5,000 miles of state-of-the-art fiber-optic and HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coaxial) delivering video, phone and high-speed Internet service to homes and businesses. They have demonstrated their commitment to advanced technology by investing significantly in network upgrades to deliver exceptional high-speed internet performance.





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Cox is also investing hundreds of millions in private capital to bring services to underserved homes across the country, either fully funded by Cox or in partnership with state, local, and federal governments. Cox has long been a critical partner in bridging the digital divide including: being the first to launch a discounted internet program for low-income families 10+ years ago with Connect2Compete, a \$9.95/month plan expanding its affordable internet options with ConnectAssist, a \$30/month plan for those receiving financial aid participating in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), enabling individuals eligible to receive internet at no-cost.

Through these initiatives, Cox has successfully connected millions of Americans through the breadth of Cox Digital Equity Programs. Cox has the local resources and knowledge, community support and engagement, and the backing of a financially secure private company to fund and support successful projects. They are more than a service provider, they're a community partner who is invested in our success.

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> Adam Steffen Biand and Associates

Bradley Ekwerekwu The Learning Community

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Cydney Franklin President/CEO Seventy Five North Revitalization Corp.



Big Brothers Big Sisters. OF THE MIDLANDS

1209 Harney Street Suite 110 Omaha, NE 68102

Phone: 402.330.2449 Fax: 402.330.2492

bbbsomaha.org

February 17, 2023

Nichole Turgeon President/CEO Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands 1209 Harney St, Suite 100 Omaha, NE 68102

RE: Support for Cox Communications

Dear NE Broadband Office:

I am writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding high-speed internet to un-and-underserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in areas of Cass, Colfax, Dodge and Sarpy counties. Cox will be providing Fiber-to-the-Home connectivity.

Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox Nebraska service site. In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides one-to-one mentoring to youth in the Omaha/Council Bluffs metro area. The pandemic revealed to our organization just how serious the digital divide is in our service area. The youth and families in our program living in lower-income and/or underserved areas of our community struggled with lack of access to high-speed internet, especially when digital learning was required. We have been proud to partner with Cox to raise awareness of the Connect2Compete program with our families and we support Cox's continuing efforts to bridge the digital divide.

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Cox has been providing services to homes and businesses via more than 5,000 miles of state-ofthe-art fiber-optic and HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coaxial) delivering video, phone and high-speed Internet service to homes and businesses. They have demonstrated their commitment to advanced technology by investing significantly in network upgrades to deliver exceptional high-speed internet performance. Cox is also investing hundreds of millions in private capital to bring services to un-and-underserved homes across the country, either fully funded by Cox or in partnership with state, local, and federal governments. Cox has long been a critical partner in bridging the digital divide including:

- being the first to launch a discounted internet program for low-income families 10+ years ago with Connect2Compete, a \$9.95/month plan
- expanding its affordable internet options with ConnectAssist, a \$30/month plan for those receiving financial aid
- participating in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), enabling individuals eligible to receive internet at no-cost

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Cox has the local resources and knowledge, community support and engagement, and the backing of a financially secure private company to fund and support successful projects. They are more than a service provider, they're a community partner who is invested in our success.

Nichole M. Turgeon President/CEO



State of Nebraska Nebraska Public Service Commission 1200 N Street, Suite 300 Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Cox Communications

To Whom It May Concern:

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands is writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding high-speed internet to un-andunderserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in the greater Omaha community. Cox will be providing Fiber-tothe-Home connectivity.

Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox <u>Nebraska service site</u>. In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands offers a safe place for youth to learn, grow and have fun. The Clubs represent 60 years of service to youth. Dedicated staff at 14 metro-area locations and a summer camp provide activities and support to thousands of young people from kindergarten through high school graduation and beyond. Club sites are placed in targeted neighborhoods where the need is greatest.

Today, Cox is a leading provider of broadband services with residential and commercial broadband speeds of up to 1 Gigabit broadband to residents and up to 100 Gigabit broadband to commercial accounts. For more than 40 years, Cox has been serving the needs of Nebraskans in nearby Omaha as a publicprivate partner with a proven track record. The Cox brand is well-recognized as a local technology leader and a company that is committed to the communities it serves.

Cox has been providing services to homes and businesses via more than 5,000 miles of state-of-the-art fiber-optic and HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coaxial) delivering video, phone and high-speed Internet service to homes and businesses. They have demonstrated their commitment to advanced technology by investing significantly in network upgrades to deliver exceptional high-speed internet performance. Cox is also investing hundreds of millions in private capital to bring services to un-and-underserved homes across the country, either fully funded by Cox or in partnership with state, local, and federal governments.

Dorene & Lee Butler Family Youth Development Center Administrative Office 2610 Hamilton Street Omaha, NE 68131

P: (402) 342-1600 F: (402) 345-3154

bgcomaha.org

United Way of the Midlands Way



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



Cox has long been a critical partner in bridging the digital divide including:

- being the first to launch a discounted internet program for low-income families 10+ years ago with Connect2Compete, a \$9.95/month plan
- expanding its affordable internet options with ConnectAssist, a \$30/month plan for those receiving financial aid
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Through these initiatives, Cox has successfully connected millions of Americans through the breadth of Cox Digital Equity Programs. In regards to Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands, Cox has provided expanded technology access for numerous of our Club locations.

Cox has the local resources and knowledge, community support and engagement, and the backing of a financially secure private company to fund and support successful projects. They are more than a service provider, they're a community partner who is invested in our success.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Donner Chief Development Officer Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands

Dorene & Lee Butler Family Youth Development Center Administrative Office 2610 Hamilton Street Omaha, NE 68131

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United Way of the Midlands Way



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



Building opportunity throughout Burt, Cass, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties.

2/21/2023

Keri Menage Public Affairs Specialist 11505 W. Dodge Rd Omaha, NE 68154

RE: Support for Cox Communications

Dear Ms. Menage:

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha is writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding highspeed internet to un-and-underserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in areas of Cass and Sarpy counties. Cox will be providing Fiber-to-the-Home connectivity.

Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox <u>Nebraska service site</u>. In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

Founded in 1984, Habitat Omaha builds and renovates homes, advocates for better laws and regulations and partners with those who share our vision, "A world where everyone has a quality, safe and healthy place to live." We started our work within the city of Omaha and expanded to the rest of Douglas, Washington, Burt, Cass, and Sarpy Counties – the latter two overlapping with Cox's planned expansion areas. By expanding our service area, we are able to increase the impact of our mission throughout the greater Omaha area. This means that more families gain access to financial and homeowner readiness programs, affordable home improvement solutions, and first-time homeownership opportunities as we help to grow and maintain our community's stock of quality, affordable homes.

Today, Cox is a leading provider of broadband services with residential and commercial broadband speeds of up to 1 Gigabit broadband to residents and up to 100 Gigabit broadband to commercial accounts. For more than 40 years, Cox has been serving the needs of Nebraskans in nearby Omaha as a public-private partner with a proven track record. The Cox brand is well-recognized as a local technology leader and a company that is committed to the communities it serves.

Cox has been providing services to homes and businesses via more than 5,000 miles of state-of-the-art fiberoptic and HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coaxial) delivering video, phone and high-speed Internet service to homes and businesses. They have demonstrated their commitment to advanced technology by investing significantly in network upgrades to deliver exceptional high-speed internet performance. Cox is also investing hundreds of







Building opportunity throughout Burt, Cass, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties.

millions in private capital to bring services to un-and-underserved homes across the country, either fully funded by Cox or in partnership with state, local, and federal governments.

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Becky Vinton

Becky Vinton Senior Development Officer









Shawna Forsberg President & CEO 2201 Farnam St. Ste 200 Omaha, NE 68102

RE: Support for Cox Communications

NE Broadband Office:

I am Shawna Forsberg, president and CEO of United Way of the Midlands, writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding high-speed internet to un-and-underserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in underserved areas. Cox will be providing Fiber-tothe-Home connectivity.

Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox <u>Nebraska service site</u>. In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

For 100 years, United Way of the Midlands (UWM) has served the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro by bridging the business and not-for-profit sectors to create a Circle of Support that helps our neighbors overcome difficult challenges and start building a better future. UWM's funded programs and direct services address social and economic disparities and meet families' essential needs such as healthy food, safe and stable housing, physical and mental health services, career preparation and job training.

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Shawna Forsberg President & CEO United Way of the Midlands



February 21, 2023

Brenda Orr Washington County Chamber Secretary

Owner, Orr Photography, Fort Calhoun, NE 5139 co. rd. p -37, Blair NE 68008 402 657 2145

RE: Support for Cox Communications

Dear NE Broadband Office:

The Washington County NE Chamber is writing in support of Cox Communications' commitment to expanding high-speed internet to un-and-underserved communities that lack reliable internet service and enhancing digital equity in areas of southern and other areas of the county. Cox will be providing Fiber-to-the-Home connectivity.

Cox speeds and pricing available for these communities are advertised on the Cox <u>Nebraska service site</u>. In addition to their affordability programs, described below, the Everyday Low-Price plan with WIFI 100 Mbps tier will be offered at \$49.99/month. Three additional pricing tiers are available for purchase and outlined on the website.

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In personal experience as a photographer I can upload photos to commercial services with awesome speed! I can give clients full resolution links to their galleries electronically. Typically, just to upload a gallery we have had to take a flash drive to another location to upload. Cox has saved me time and money. The service is great, the installers were nice AND super informative.

Sincerely, Brenda Orr, Washington County Chamber of Commerce, Secretary OrrPhoto 402 657 2145