



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

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Attn: Cullen Robbins
Director of the Telecom/NUSF Department
Nebraska Public Service Commission
1200 N Street, Ste. 300
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program with Cox Communications – SUPPORT

Dear Mr. Robbins:

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha (Habitat Omaha) is writing in strong support of Cox Communications' grant application to partner with the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program to bridge the digital divide effectively, sustainably, and equitably, by removing barriers and partnering to increase broadband adoption and deploy additional infrastructure to bring more Nebraskans online.

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 decent place to live." We started our work in Omaha and expanded to Washington County in 2007, Burt County in 2016 and Sarpy County in 2020. 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.

The state of Nebraska wants to ensure that all its citizens have access to modern broadband speeds and the infrastructure needed to meet customer needs today and into the future; furthermore, when the time comes for new internet subscribers to connect, it's important they have the support they need to navigate the technology. Cox has a proven track record of partnering with organizations and community leaders to educate these individuals about programs such as Cox's Connect2Compete, ConnectAssist, and Digital Academy and the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) designed to successfully connect them to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband service.

In addition to improving adoption efforts, Habitat Omaha knows the importance of deploying additional broadband infrastructure in Sarpy, Douglas and Washington counties. Cox's network allows for consumers and businesses to access high-quality gigabit speeds with numerous affordable service offerings. We know first-hand that Cox has a proven track record as an exceptional public-private partner through their work with public entities and non-profits like ours.

I am confident that a partnership with Cox to remove barriers to broadband adoption and access will bring more Nebraskans online. Cox's selection would result in a reliable and robust partner for the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program's efforts in the expansion of access to and adoption of high-quality, reliable internet services for all Nebraskans.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Vinton".

Becky Vinton
Senior Development Officer



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