

Jefferson County Commissioners

Mark Schoenrock, Chairman 402-793-5585 Gale Pohlmann 402-656-3733 Michael Dux 402-300-0257

411 4th Street
Fairbury, NE 68352

June 7, 2022

To: Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program Selection Committee

Re: Jefferson County Rural Project

Dear members of the committee,

I am writing this letter of support for the Jefferson County Rural Project on behalf of the Jefferson County board of commissioners to state the board's strong support for this project. Our board explored many options to maximize the number of Jefferson County homes we can reach with high-speed fiber optic cable in the most efficient manner possible. We are proud to partner with Diode Cable Company in this endeavor. Diode is a proven long-term performer in the industry and has a significant presence in our area of rural Nebraska which we plan to build upon and expand.

Upon successful completion of this project, we will be able to expand high-speed capability to over 100 Jefferson County rural homes with nearly 50 miles of fiber optic cable. The county board is committing \$330,390 towards this \$1,470, 800 project, which will be equally matched by Diode. This will comprise approximately 45% of the project, the remaining 55% being covered by NBBP funds.

We urge your close review of our proposal and approve it to bring significant broadband expansion to our rural under-served county.

Please contact me if you have any questions, and thank you for your consideration.



Mark A. Schoenrock

Chairman