

Mayor Stanley A. Clouse
City of Kearney
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June 28, 2022

Thomas Golden
Executive Director
Nebraska Public Service Commission
1200 N Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Golden,

My name is Stanley Clouse, Mayor of the City of Kearney. I'm writing on behalf of Kearney to support Frontier Communications' application for a grant from the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program.

Our area is in urgent need of higher speed broadband service. We are excited at the prospect of having the fiber connectivity that Frontier is proposing in its application. My understanding of this technology is that is the premier technology available today and is superior to alternatives because it provides ultra-fast broadband speeds, eliminates congestion issues, delivers better service reliability, and has future scalability built in to support community growth and strengthen the local economy. Importantly, for our city and surrounding rural areas, it will provide high-speed symmetrical service that is needed for many of our work-at-home and learn-from-home residents.

The pandemic made clear to everyone what we already well knew —high speed broadband is essential for work, school, commerce, healthcare, entertainment, and so much more. Communities that lack high speed broadband are increasingly falling behind and Frontier's proposed fiber deployment with symmetrical speeds will provide the connectivity we need to reverse that trend.

Specifically, the gigabit service that Frontier's project will deliver will open access to more job and learning opportunities for members of our community given that many companies now permit 100% remote work and it opens remote learning opportunities for both young and older residents. It will provide the ability for many of our more elderly residents to remain in-home and socially engaged through video applications. Frontier's low-income offerings will facilitate adoption by all our residents.

We are pleased to support Frontier, an established company with a new mission, that has the technical expertise and experience to deploy these networks and provide high quality, scalable services long into the future.

Kearney supports Frontier Communications' fiber to the premises grant application and we respectfully request the Nebraska Public Service Commission approve their grant application.

Sincerely yours,

CITY OF KEARNEY

Stanley A. Clouse
Mayor