



105 East 2nd Street
Neligh, Nebraska 68756
p: 402.887.4447
e: lauren@neligh.org
www.neligh.org

September 27, 2021

Stealth Broadband
Klint Arnold
1113 W Norfolk Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701

Dear Klint,

The City of Neligh Economic Development Office is pleased to provide Stealth Broadband with a letter of support for a potential expansion in additional Antelope County communities.

The addition of Stealth Broadband to internet providers in Neligh in 2016 created higher quality lower cost options for quality broadband, including phone, within all area providers. Obviously, a win-win for the community! The leadership within the company understands working with municipalities and have maintained a high level of integrity doing everything they state they will do, in a very timely and professional manner. Their dedication to rural Nebraska is unmatched.

Currently, only 63% of Antelope County residents have access to 25 mbps broadband, which is considered the bare minimum. Additionally, only 58% of Antelope County residents have access to 100 mbps. For rural communities to grow and be competitive, improved broadband is needed in Antelope County. High quality, reliable rural broadband availability is required for the attraction and retention of millennials, greater economic growth, business attraction, small business growth and to produce higher income households.

Stealth Broadband has a passion for growing rural Nebraska and it dedicated to the citizens of Antelope County. Stealth Broadband has maintained an active presence in Neligh for years sponsoring events such as the Parade of Lights, Chamber BBQ and Business After Hours. They are committed to supporting small rural communities and have been a wonderful addition to Neligh. A partnership with Stealth Broadband will be an enormous benefit to Antelope County and its citizens.

Best,

Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen

Director of Economic Development

City of Neligh

105 E 2nd Street

Neligh, NE 68756

P: 402.887.4447



Regina Krebs, CPA

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Stealth Broadband expansion to provide high speed internet service to several of the small communities in Antelope County that have been without sufficient internet service that has become such an essential utility today.

These communities and myself included, have been forced into dealing with conglomerated telephone companies that have absolutely zero interest in providing upgraded service to these small Nebraska communities. As executives of these telcos regulate our way of life from their plush Chicago headquarters, I have dealt with Frontier's 1950's phone lines since building a new house 12 years ago. They hung the spliced phone wire over the neighbor's fence post when they connected our house. Our basic phone service goes out nearly every time it rains and our internet service runs at speeds significantly less than 1MG.

The frustration was real as I watched just 1 mile from my house the locally owned telephone coop be one of the first in the state to provide door-to-door fiber in their entire rural service area! These underserved communities also watched on as their telephone companies literally denied them access to high speed internet.

Stealth, however, is locally owned and has a direct interest in providing their local area with the broadband service that will provide these communities the internet infrastructure that will take them into the next decades.

Stealth has made considerable effort in Madison County to help ensure adequate high speed internet and they have expanded fiber services to the City of Neligh. With this proposal, they are looking at providing the essential infrastructure to get high speed fiber into these communities. With the high upfront costs to run the miles of fiber required, in addition to this grant, Stealth is also generating support to access any locally available dollars to help offset this investment in our communities.

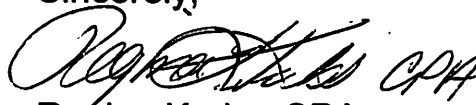
As a CPA and lifelong resident of Antelope County, I have been intimately involved in economic development and the top 3 priorities in expanding our economic opportunities were education, housing and high speed internet access.

Given this information, I was also on a local school board when our communities took the future into their own hands when they voted to have a new 3 community consolidated school with a state of the art facility that opened for classes last month. However, high speed internet is ESSENTIAL in the education of our kids and that was accentuated during COVID when our school system had to resort to paper issued packets because so many in our districts had no access to high speed internet. We realized the importance in the education of today's high school students as they are prepared for their future. Many college programs are online, my autistic son is in one now that allows him the opportunity to attend college online while maintaining the disability supports he has locally. High speed internet also allowed me to continue my education towards an MBA while managing a job and a family and would provide many opportunities to rural residents to do the same; especially to advance their careers when moving to college isn't a possibility. Broadband also provides for many families to live in the community of their choosing while continuing their online careers, including coming home to rural Nebraska to raise their families.

As I have moved into my new role as a county commissioner, I recognize how broadband internet is such an essential necessity in keeping rural Nebraska competitive. High speed internet is possibly the biggest economic equalizer for rural Nebraska. This project proposed by Stealth Broadband would free our communities from the shackles of big telco, in addition to the independent attitude I have witnessed across Antelope County, simple access to high speed internet could be transformational to our area.

I would ask that you please consider their grant application with the upmost attention.

Sincerely,


Regina Krebs, CPA

Village of Oakdale



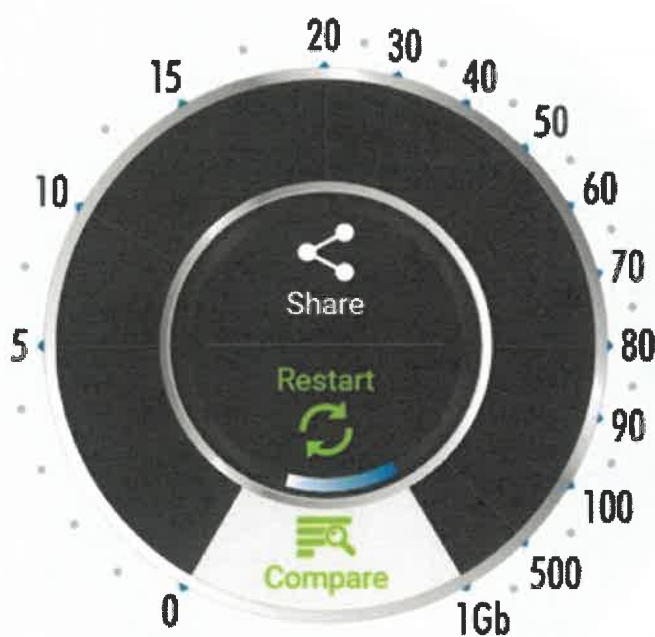
VILLAGE OF OAKDALE <oakdaleclerk@gpcom.net>

To Klint.arnold@stealthbroadband.com



Internet Speed test : Test your b... x +

https://www.nperf.com/en/

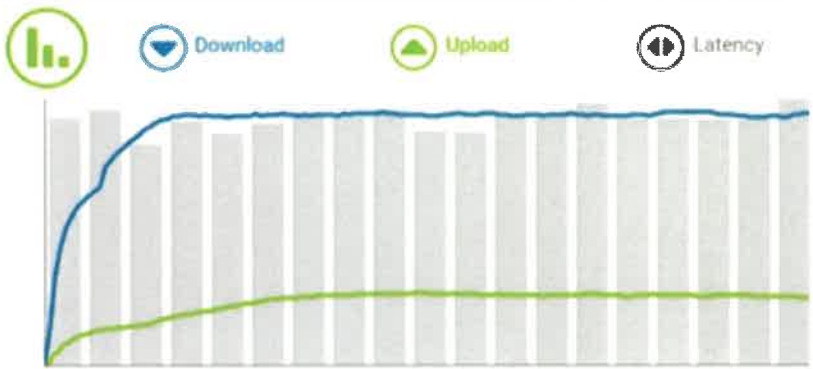


Share

Restart

Compare

Oakdale, Nebraska, US 42.06690°N / -97.96380°W



Creston, Nebraska
10 Gb/s Stealth Broadband
US

Powered by
Serve select

ISP: Great Plains Communications LLC
Connection type: unknown
IPv4: 72.8.234.101
IPv6: IPv6 not available
ASN: AS13807
Browser: Chrome 54.0
System: Win8.1 [64 bits]

Download
Average 16.60 Mb/s
17.04 Mb/s

Upload
Average 4.248 Mb/s
4.648 Mb/s

Latency
Average 16.1
Jitter 1.90
15.30

Applicant asserts that areas within the project footprint where AMG Technology Investment Group, LLC d/b/a NextLink Internet (“NextLink”) won RDOF bids are eligible for grants under the Broadband Bridge program. Upon information and belief, NextLink will not be capable of providing broadband and voice services in those areas within two years, as required by the Commission’s Order entered in C-5272 on August 10, 2021, at p. 6. There is no evidence to indicate that NextLink is in a position to deploy fiber-based infrastructure in the project footprint within two years.