

PLATTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



2610 14TH St.
Columbus, NE 68601
O - 402-564-9077
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EDWARD WEMHOFF, SHERIFF

email - ewemhoff@plattecounty.ne.gov

February 15, 2023

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

I am writing this letter of support for the expansion of Stealth Broadband internet services to communities within Platte County. In addition to the increased availability to our communities through fiber connectivity, the extension of services will include much more reliable and lower cost wireless services.

I live in rural Platte County where there are very limited reliable higher speed wireless options. Yet there is a significant area within Platte County where internet services are more limited than in the area I reside.

As Sheriff of Platte County, we provide services to residents that not only reside within our communities but also rural residents. With the advancement of technology, I can see how future services will become ever more reliant upon internet access, to include the services my office provides. As forms of communication migrate to accommodate our needs, to include 911 and emergency services, it is becoming ever more important to provide our citizens with the ability to access those services. Every year I seem to receive more calls or request for services by my office through email and other technology-based means of communication. By the extension of internet services to residents residing within Platte County, they will be better able to access or receive our services, and we will be better able to provide those services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward Wemhoff", written over a faint circular stamp.

Edward Wemhoff
Platte County Sheriff



Home of the Vikings

Board of Education
Jerry Jaixen
Chad Anderson
Keith Runge

Lakeview Community Schools
3744 83rd Street
Columbus, NE 68601
Phone- 402-564-8518
Dr. Aaron Plas- Superintendent

Board of Education
Joy Escen
Eric Stuthman
Jeremy Sprunk

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of Lakeview Community Schools, a rural community school district in Platte County, that is in need of reliable and affordable broadband access for our patrons. Our school district serves a diverse population of students and families, many of whom lack access to the high-speed internet necessary for their educational and personal growth.

As we all know, the internet has become an integral part of our daily lives, providing us with a wealth of information and resources. The same is true for education. In the 21st century, students must have access to high-speed internet in order to fully participate in the digital learning environment. From online research and collaboration tools to virtual field trips and interactive lessons, the internet provides a wealth of educational opportunities that are simply not available to students who lack broadband access.

Unfortunately, many of our students and families in Platte County do not have access to reliable high-speed internet, which puts them at a significant disadvantage compared to their peers. This lack of access not only hinders their academic performance, but it also limits their opportunities for growth and success in the 21st century learning environment.

That is why I am writing to request your assistance in securing a grant to help bring high-speed broadband to our rural community. The funds from this grant will be used to create and implement a comprehensive broadband plan that will ensure every student and family in our district has access to the internet.

The benefits of bringing broadband to our community are numerous and far-reaching. Not only will it improve the educational outcomes for our students, but it will also provide a much-needed boost to our local economy by attracting new businesses and creating new job opportunities. Furthermore, it will improve the quality of life for our residents/

In conclusion, I cannot overstate the importance of providing high-speed broadband to the students and families of Lakeview Community Schools. With your support, we can help bridge the digital divide and ensure that every student has the tools they need to succeed.

Sincerely,

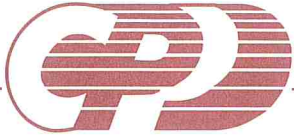
Aaron Plas

Aaron Plas
Superintendent
Lakeview Community Schools

Lakeview Jr.-Sr. High School
3744 - 83rd Street
Columbus, NE 68601
Steve Borer – Principal
Dan Krueger – Assistant Principal/Activities
Kurt Frenzen – JH Dean of Students
Phone: 402-564-8518
Fax: 402-564-5209

Platte Center Elementary
Box 109 (155 Platte St.)
Platte Center, NE 68653
Brandon Nygren – Principal
Phone: 402-246-3465

Shell Creek Elementary
16786 - 280th Street
Columbus, NE 68601
Erin Craven – Principal
Phone: 402-564-8008



Cornhusker Public Power District

P.O. Box 9 • 23169 235th Avenue • Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0009
(402) 564-2821 • cornhusker@cppd.us • www.cornhusker-power.com

February 10, 2023

To whom it may concern:

RE: Letter of Support for Rural Broadband
Stealth Broadband and Rural Platte County Nebraska

I am providing this letter of support for Stealth Broadband, who have expressed a focus to address the areas of Platte County underserved regarding reliable, high-speed internet service. The time and efforts of Loup River Public Power District, Platte County officials, and members of Stealth Broadband, to secure funding from the Nebraska Capital Projects Fund (CPF) are commendable.

The need for this enhanced service in rural Nebraska is imperative if we are going to be successful in maintaining and attracting talent, and new business opportunities. New talent and business make growing this great State much more of a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Clay Gibbs', written over a circular blue stamp or watermark.

Clay Gibbs
CEO/GM
Cornhusker Public Power District



LOUP POWER DISTRICT

"SERVING YOU ELECTRICALLY"

GENERAL OFFICE

2404 15th Street

P.O. Box 988

Columbus, NE 68602-0988

Phone:

402/564-3171

Fax:

402/564-0970

February 14, 2023

Mike Storjohann
Stealth Broadband
1548 Front Street, Suite 301
Blair, NE 68808

Klint Arnold
Stealth Broadband
1113 Monroe Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701

RE: Letter of Support for Rural Broadband
Stealth Broadband and Rural Platte County Nebraska

Dear Mike and Klint:

Loup River Public Power District (District) is pleased to provide this letter of support for expansion of rural broadband by Stealth Broadband in unserved areas of Platte County. This expansion would in part be funded by the Nebraska Capital Projects Fund (CPF).

High-speed broadband in rural areas of Platte County is essential to maintain and grow economic development within the Platte County. Similar to water and electricity, broadband access has become a valued necessity in expanding businesses and keeping young talent in the rural areas of the State of Nebraska.

One of the District's three main mission statements is to "improve and promote economic development in our area." High-speed broadband service is forefront in our current efforts to recruit business and the ever needed workforce required by those businesses.

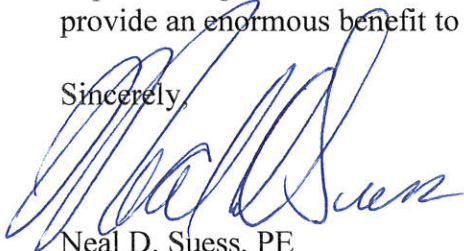
The District has been working with Platte County officials to review and expand high-speed broadband services in areas of rural Platte County, where service has been limited or non-existent. In developing relationships to help increase this service in rural Platte County, the District and Platte County believe Stealth Broadband provides the best solution to improve this service in unserved areas of rural Platte County.

As part of this public-private team effort, Platte County has agreed to assist Stealth Broadband with funding received from the CPF with money that Platte County received as part of the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA). Using ARPA money to enhance broadband within Platte County has been a goal of the Platte County Supervisors.

Stealth Broadband has indicated a passion for growth in rural areas of Nebraska and has provided dedicated service in parts of Platte County. Stealth Broadband has maintained a presence within Platte County and has shown a commitment to improving the high-speed broadband connection in unserved areas of Platte County.

A partnership between Stealth Broadband, Platte County and Loup Power District would provide an enormous benefit to all citizens within Platte County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neal D. Suess". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Neal" being the most prominent part.

Neal D. Suess, PE
President/CEO



2610 14th Street
Columbus, NE 68601

Email: jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov

Phone: 402-563-4904

Fax: 402-564-4164

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Platte County Board, I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed Stealth Broadband expansion to provide high speed internet service to several small areas in Platte County that have been without sufficient internet service that has become an essential utility today.

Stealth, has been working in and around Platte County and 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 in the next decades. 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 a Platte Count Supervisor, 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 help Platte County exponentially, as well as the economic development of the rural areas. I have witnessed across Platte County, simple access to high speed internet could be transformational to our area.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Kwapnioksi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping tail.

Kim Kwapnioksi

Board Chair, Platte County Supervisor

Columbus Rural Fire Protection District

February, 16, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Stealth Broadband as they are applying for a Broadband Bridge Program grant. As a rural fire district it is imperative to have options available in our area, to communicate with other emergency entities. Rural areas are so many times overlooked when it comes to having reliable internet services.

I believe access to broadband internet is no longer an amenity, but rather a necessity. I will not only help our Rural Fire Department serve and save lives of people, but it will also serve as an avenue to connect us with digital resources that we are now missing.

I strongly encourage you to approve the grant request that Stealth Broadband has submitted for Platte County.

Sincerely,



Kevin Schuller
President Columbus Rural Fire Protection District
