

Date Submitted	Name	Town	Comments
9/19/2022 10:30	Jessica Davis	Oberlin	We have had great service in the 9 years we have lived in Oberlin.
9/19/2022 10:47	Dana	Oberlin	Fiber internet I believe is more reliable
9/19/2022 11:09	Brian Armstrong	Norcatur	My name is Brian Armstrong and I am a resident of rural Decatur County Kansas. I am writing this to compel the issuance of a grant to Nex-Tech for the installation of fiber internet in Oberlin and the surrounding areas. To provide a little about me, I am a System Security Engineer for a large government contractor. I am a current customer of Nex-Tech and my connection, like many of my neighbors, is via line of sight wireless. Line of sight wireless is a technology that is limited to a certain speed and comes nowhere close to the speed and reliability of a fiber connection. Connection speed and reliability is of the utmost importance to me (and anyone else that works from home full time). Video teleconference technologies used in work from home, and school from home which we saw explode in popularity during the Corona virus lockdowns, is very dependent upon network connection speed and reliability. Myself, to ensure a decent internet connection I have to make sure I can tether to my laptop to my phone. A reliable internet connection is vital to my ability to work from home.
9/19/2022 11:24	Amanda Fortin	Oberlin	There are times I have to work from home and it is very important to my business that I have reliable high speed internet.
9/19/2022 12:36	Gisela Fisher	Oberlin	I have minimal internet connection in my part of the county and my options are not better because of where I live.
9/19/2022 12:44	Alyssa Rippe-May	Oberlin	Here in rural America, we get skipped over often. We don't have a fancy steakhouse or a shopping mall. We have small town folks buying their goods at locally-owned Raye's Grocery. We have farmers selling cattle at the local salebarn, owned by the same man for the last 40 years. We support our local folks, local business owners, and neighbors because that's all we have. Wouldn't it be great to not be skipped over once in a while? Wouldn't it be great to get educational opportunities, remote working opportunities, and business opportunities via fiber internet? Why not give us this one thing that seems so quickly given to a larger population, with I'm sure, only half the caliber of folks.
9/19/2022 12:45	Jill Seller	Oberlin	We had it in Hays and LOVED it!
9/19/2022 14:24	Francy Miller	Oberlin	fiber internet provides opportunities for kids and adults to tap into educational programs, enhances business possibilities for current and future entrepreneurs, provides much needed service to our rural residents and farm/ranch business. Thank you for your considerations for Decatur County.
9/19/2022 14:25	Vaughn Duckworth	Oberlin	I feel that the community is missing out on potential growth by not having fiber optic available. With the advent and wide acceptance of remote work that is available in rural areas, we are missing out on a lot of opportunity. The internet has become indispensable in conducting daily business just about anywhere in the world. The higher the speed the higher the efficiency. If you do medical billing etc. you need a hard line. If you do a lot of sales or consulting work such as on Zoom you need higher speeds to prevent buffering during calls etc. I know we have a few remote workers in the area but we would draw more if we had fiber optic internet in place. Lastly but probably most importantly, fiber optic is or should be an integral part of a community's overall Economic Development Plan.

9/19/2022 14:56 Rebecca Nedland	Oberlin	I am currently a work from home mom. I need the internet to keep up with the day-to-day needs of our family and projects that I am working on. Just like many others, our family depends on streaming for television entertainment. For my projects, I need to be able to send emails, download files, and run Zoom meetings. There have been times that our internet is just unable to keep up with all of this. More things are being operated through the internet and it is vital to the growth of our community to keep up with the world.
9/19/2022 16:04 Judy Wenger	Oberlin	To improve internet services.
9/19/2022 16:06 Ruth Miesner	Oberlin	The Nex-tec Internet expansion will assist our community in attracting newcomers, working from home, conducting business, and simply communicating with the outside world. Our kids need this!
9/19/2022 17:05 Luke Kliewer (Miriam's Hope)	Oberlin	For our ministry it is important to have adequate speed for our internet. The service now is decent but fiber would take it to a whole nother level.
9/19/2022 18:04 Chris Wilson	Oberlin	As President of the local Economic Development Corporation, as well as a small business owner, I see the needs for it each day. As our town appears to be growing with families moving from bigger cities and coming to our area, a lot of these families have moved to a remote work position. Running into these individuals and families has become more common within the last year as many of them state their work position has become a remote position, and the allure of small town living was something they could not pass up! From my position on the Economic Development board, I would love to see the infrastructure in place to help these families succeed and be able to thrive. Also I see the potential to draw in businesses that work from a more online standpoint and being able to draw businesses to our location when we have a fiber infrastructure in place throughout our town and county. Thank you for your time and efforts that are taken when looking at this, and I do hope for the sake of our town and county, you would truly consider this dream of ours and make it a reality!
9/19/2022 21:41 Elizabeth Messersmith	Oberlin	More internet options that are reliable and affordable.
9/19/2022 21:45 Bailey	Oberlin	I want Nex-tech fiber because I feel it would be a tremendous asset to our community. It impacts everyone's businesses in one way it another, which is essential in small towns. It could greatly impact the growth of our city and improve our economic development as a whole.
9/19/2022 22:18 Pastor Shelly Holle	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech internet service because it keeps our church connected to congregational members, colleagues, denominational offices, and worship and educational resources. Sometimes we have individuals who need to attend meetings online via Zoom due to Covid or other illnesses, or maybe they are located out of town. We also have our Bible studies, Sunday morning and funeral services broadcasted for those who are unable to attend in person due to health concerns, limited mobility, or out-of-town positioning. Not only do we need internet, but we need fast, dependable internet so that these services are of a consistent quality that does not jeopardize our relationships and work.
9/19/2022 22:54 Michelle Dillard	Oberlin	I work from home and need fast and reliable internet to meet my work obligations. The current offerings just don't have the reliability or speed offered by Nex-Tech.
9/19/2022 23:16 Ron Beneda	Oberlin	For the speed and dependability
9/20/2022 0:44 Tonya Tally	Oberlin	We live in a rural area and our internet is slow. We would like to see fiber internet brought to All of Decatur County.
9/20/2022 1:35 Nancy Vath	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech fiber optic in Oberlin to help with the speed of the internet and the connectivity problems we have in town!

9/20/2022 10:14 Heather McDougal	Oberlin	I would like to see Nex-Tech receive the grant to expand fiber to Oberlin & Decatur County because they are great company to work with. I currently have Nex-Tech Wi-Fi service, and would love to have fiber service. The customer service is great, no matter the department. The company also is involved in the communities it serves, and gives back to them. Our community needs reliable, affordable internet, especially where so many of our citizens are streaming for entertainment and business purposes. Vyve has, from what I have seen on Facebook posts, has failed to provide consistent broadband coverage to our community.
9/20/2022 10:56 Sara Glasgow	Oberlin	I have Nex Tech and the service is outstanding. They are very conscientious of their service. I have lost service only once in 4 years. When I did lose service the technician came out in the storm to make sure everything was back on line and replaced a part that had gone bad. If a company is this careful with their customers, they should be encouraged to expand and be rewarded for their great service.
9/20/2022 11:03 Scott Gawith	Oberlin	I would like to see Nex-Tech be able to put their fiber internet into Oberlin because they have provided great service with their wireless internet service, and I feel that they will be excellent provider moving the city into the future. They are a great company to have in the towns and areas they serve.
9/20/2022 12:45 Jim Miesner	Oberlin	I believe we need Nex-Tech to bring in fiber because they have proven to be efficient and reliable providers in our community.
9/20/2022 14:08 Sherry Bergling	Oberlin	I have had AT&T internet since 2005. Their customer support is awful. I am paying \$70 a month and the quality of their internet is very poor.
9/20/2022 14:37 Chuck and Diane Frickey	Oberlin	Nex-Tech has been a wonderful partner for the town of Oberlin and if they could provide fiber this town will be well situated for future businesses and home employment options. Nex-Tech has been reliable with their customer service and reliability and we would look forward to working with them and Fiber ability.
9/20/2022 16:03 adam zillinger	Oberlin	I do lots of gaming/downloading and other things to do with PC's
9/20/2022 16:47 Charlotte Meints	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech internet because I think it would to Oberlin's infrastructure to help encourage people and businesses to relocate here. They have provided excellent service to our town.
9/20/2022 18:07 connie olson1	Oberlin	i would like to have better quality internet and nextech is willing to bring it to me.
9/20/2022 21:13 Gary Anderson	Oberlin	Currently I have Vyve and am ok with it but it is not true Fiber. With my business more and more order (restaurant) and being placed via internet and they often buffer and take several minutes to download. If it takes too long I have too start over and have actually had double orders placed because I thought the first one didn't go thru because if buffered so long. Also personally so many sports especially college are going to streaming. Last Saturday I tried to watch the K-State football game on ESPN plus and it kept buffering and instead of picking up in the game in process it would start back over at the begininng of the game. Before I gave up and quit watching online the game was near half time and I was back to the beginning watching the opening kickoff grrrr.... It's all so frustrating.
9/20/2022 21:33 Gwen Fortin	Oberlin	I need faster & more reliable internet service at my location.
9/21/2022 7:25 Justin Brown	Oberlin	Everyone else has fthh. Oberlin needs it.
9/21/2022 7:53 Chris kaiser	Oberlin	Is more reliable and better upload!
9/21/2022 9:00 Gary Orr	Oberlin	Nextech is a very reliable internet provider You see all the other companies always having trouble in this area constantly We have fiber at our residence and would be great if all our other properties had access also Nice to have a local company to do business with

9/21/2022 14:04 LaKen Duckworth	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech fiber internet because. Fiber optic, high speed internet is a key component to a proactive community. That is why it is vitally important for Oberlin, Kansas to get this service implemented. Without state of the art internet this community cannot compete with the increasing demand for remote workers. As an example; I am participating in the Rural and Remote certification program. A program designed specifically to give the rural communities of northwest Kansas opportunities of remote employment. Through the program coordinator, I was introduced to a company out of Wichita interested in hiring me to do remote insurance billing. Unfortunately, without fiber optic, high speed internet I was not qualified Oberlin, Kansas will fail to be a forward moving community without high speed internet being a part of the town infrastructure.
9/21/2022 14:19 Marcia Lohofener	Oberlin	FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY
9/21/2022 14:22 Jerry Lohofener	Oberlin	We need this desperately and NexTech is willing to help us!!!!
9/21/2022 15:25 Halley Roberson	Oberlin	I am the city administrator for Oberlin Kansas and our community is in desperate need for fiber internet. Numerous companies claim to support Oberlin with fiber or internet that is "good enough" but the internet performance is lacking desperately. Netflix and gaming are not even reliable, making remote work or business development completely out of the question. It is beyond frustrating to work on managing a town that is doing all the right things but for some reason continues to get passed over for reliable internet. It is simply time for Oberlin to have fiber internet, the situation is dire. Part of me wants to write something eloquent but it is to late for that, if Oberlin is going to survive we have to have fiber internet. COVID underscored the importance of internet and listed it as an essential utility - Oberlin simply does not have the essential utility of fiber internet, we need it and I sincerely hope the award committee sees the need and empathizes with the towns frustration of being passed over time and time again. The federal government has been working on rural connectivity for over a decade and paid huge conglomerate companies millions upon millions of dollars to achieve this and these corporations have failed at every turn. I am confused and frustrated as to why Oberlin and Nex-tech are being asked to prove why this area needs fiber internet instead of holding conglomerates accountable as to why there is no reliable fiber internet in Oberlin and surrounding rural areas. Nextech has done more to improve, sustain, and build northwestern Kansas than any other company in my opinion and experience. Nex-tech has tried as many times if not more than Oberlin to find funding to close the gap of fiber internet. Nex-tech is in the unique position to understand the specific challenges of rural connectivity, and more than this a unique company in that Nex-tech actually cares about community. Nex-tech is here, they operate in the community we live in, they want to see success and have the proven track record to actually perform as opposed to massive conglomerate organizations who make promises and fail to deliver. Please award Nex-tech the full amount requested, Nex-tech can deliver, Nex-tech's product of fiber internet actually performs and if Oberlin can partner with Nex-tech the government's desire to connect rural with reliable fiber internet to create thriving communities will be realized. Please do not make us wait any longer, we simply cannot hang on much longer. Let's get this done once and for all.
9/21/2022 15:40 Stacey Hileman	Oberlin	Faster speeds would be so welcome, whether it is residential or business, would just make tasks that much easier.
9/21/2022 16:33 Melanie Anderson	Oberlin	We need to get caught up with the rest of the country and be able to use the current technologies.

9/21/2022 16:47 Garret McDougal	Oberlin	I want to see Nex-Tech fiber in Oberlin because we need high speed internet at an affordable rate. Vyve has proven to be an unreliable service and does not carry the speed that Nex-Tech could bring. Nex-Tech is already in our community, with a positive impact and involvement. They have been working toward bringing fiber internet to Oberlin for several years, that I am aware of. A few years ago, they brought fiber to our downtown area, with the businesses helping pay some of the expense of bringing it to them. It would be nice to let them expand that service to the residents. They are a "local" company that provides excellent customer service. Nex-tech has been the company that has stepped up to the plate in wanting to bring true fiber internet to Oberlin. Please award the grant to Nex-Tech because it is important to the future of my small town.
9/21/2022 17:15 Sharon Addleman	Oberlin	I have had Eagle internet service for years and stayed with them when they sold to Vyve because of the difficulty of changing email addresses. I had great luck with their support service because there was always a technician in Hays who could help solve problems. Now the Vyve has bought Eagle, the company is a disaster! My internet went down on a Thursday and I called the number for support. It had been outsourced to an overseas customer service. I tried three times before asking for an English speaking person! I was then given a technician in Georgia, and he could not get my service fixed over the phone, so I had to wait four days to get assistance from a different technician to come to my home. They are not a good customer service company. It is not a company for rural America. They seem to put money over people. I do not know if I will be charged for the service call for the representative to come from Wichita to fix my service. Luckily this was not an emergency! Businesses, schools, etc need reliable service from a company within their area. This is why Nex-Tech needs to bring fiber internet to Oberlin!
9/21/2022 17:17 Derek Chambers	Oberlin	Fast, reliable internet has become a crucial infrastructural commodity to communities. As the local pharmacist in Oberlin, KS, I rely heavily on reliable internet for medication safety, billing, and efficient work processes. At times of lagging speeds during day and evening, I struggle to complete my remote work in a timely manner which can lead to patient harm or delay of care. As a local landlord and owner of a 16-unit apartment complex, I am familiar with several remote workers and students that have come to town permanently and temporarily. They have been highly dependent on being connected to the internet and can not afford to have slow speed times, during peak hours, keeping them from doing their job or studying. As a community leader, pharmacist, and landlord looking for the next way to help our community grow, I notice more and more people leaving urban areas to look for a rural community to raise children. They may be remote workers, their children may be homeschooled, or they may be retired. Our aging population is more connected than ever before and this will only continue to grow. We need a reliable form of internet that can handle, not only our current bandwidth, but any bandwidth growth we may see in decades to come. We need to be able to market our community as capable of supporting these people. This includes not only the town of Oberlin, but the rural area surrounding it as many do not have access to reliable internet. More and more properties outside the city limits have been emptied over the years. In part, this is can be due to not having reliable infrastructural needs including internet. Marketing our entire community as a remote worker destination, while helping existing citizens and businesses succeed is vital to our sustainability. Thank you for the consideration of this grant opportunity in our community.
9/21/2022 18:06 Deanna Castle	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech fiber to Oberlin to allow our community to catch up to most areas that have top-notch technology.

9/21/2022 19:43 Joanna Jiga	Oberlin	I need access to fiber in the rural area I live in. Right now, my wifi signal gets lost a lot. Thank you.
9/21/2022 20:02 Pamela	Oberlin	I have relied on this company for a lot of years thru are phones to internet even in Brewster. Ks. . It would make a difference to convey the importance this move would go for, also assistance that goes out of their way to give you a good service when things come up
9/21/2022 20:40 Jill Seller	Oberlin	We had it in Hays & LOVED it!!
9/21/2022 21:49 Connie Miller	Oberlin	We are ready for better internet.
9/22/2022 2:08 Kyle Barnett	Oberlin	I want Fiber to Oberlin because I work 100% remote with Google Meets / Teams meetings frequently for a major solar company and need constant and reliable internet.
9/22/2022 7:44 Angie Wilson	Oberlin	It would allow for more remote jobs in the area. Right now reliability and speed are an issue, and I believe fiber would dramatically improve that. I work remotely for a company in Kansas City and need speed and reliability to get my work done effectively. Thank you!
9/22/2022 8:17 Cindy Lincoln/Circuitech Electric	Oberlin	A fast, dependable internet connection is an necessary part of our everyday lives: Medical, Insurance (Medicare, Social Security) Filing Personal and Business taxes online, Banking, Research for Electrical troubleshooting, Farm business,, Invoicing, news and weather alerts and the list goes on and on
9/22/2022 8:37 Rory Wendelin	Oberlin	I want Nex-Tech fiber because as a rural resident I grow tired of the weather affecting the cable lines and it being days before it can be put back into place. The wind also plays a factor in disrupting the Internet out here. I believe it is vital for us as a community to bring fiber to rural areas, as Nex-Tech is doing, to cultivate businesses, help people live and thrive here, and bring the community up to speed with the 21st century.
9/22/2022 8:46 Joanne Wendelin	Oberlin	I want Oberlin residents and businesses to be in the 21st-century with this kind of technology. It will make Oberlin more attractive as a community for people and for businesses.
9/22/2022 12:47 Kelly Wasson	Oberlin	I work at a chiropractic clinic in Oberlin and fiber would be amazing for our electronic medical records and billing system.
9/22/2022 16:20 Zach May	Oberlin	Access to high-speed internet has never been more important for me and my family's business. As with the rest of the world, agriculture has evolved drastically, and technology in this sector has grown exponentially. Data availability, agricultural software, and internet-connected machinery are all becoming more normal in our sector, and we must have reliable, high-speed internet to take advantage of the new tools that are available and keep up with the industry. It is apparent that the internet will be a fundamental aspect of this continued revolution.
9/22/2022 16:31 Carrie Morford	Oberlin	We have fiber internet at work, and I couldn't imagine working without it. It will get a great improvement for those who are always complaining about their internet being off.....
9/22/2022 16:34 Rachel Priest	Oberlin	Att is awful
9/22/2022 16:34 Pam May	Oberlin	We have lived outside of Oberlin for the past 28 years, and we have almost never had access to reliable, high-speed internet in our part of the county. Some of our neighbors still do not have an option for internet. I believe internet is intertwined in so many aspects of our lives and livelihood that reliable internet access is a true need. This is a need that could be met with fiber to every house in the county.

9/22/2022 16:37 Roland May	Oberlin	As a business owner and farmer in rural Decatur County, I can see that there is a true need for reliable, high-speed internet. This could be achieved through the initiative to bring fiber to all people in Decatur County. The farming and ranching industry is becoming more reliant on the internet every day through new tools and technology. We also have an increasing need for internet to communicate with and market to our customer base. Please move forward with the project to bring fiber internet access to all homes and businesses.
9/22/2022 16:39 Ryan May	Oberlin	High speed internet is a necessity in todays society. Fiber is merely an upgrade to how fast our internet can go.
9/22/2022 17:14 Teresa saul	Oberlin	I worked from home and run a boarding house and need fast and reliable internet.
9/22/2022 17:29 Chandler Pettibone	Oberlin	I want Fiber to have the latest fastest speeds to be able to have stable connectivity.
9/22/2022 18:57 Cheryl Sauvage	Oberlin	We want fast reliable internet to be able to stream and watch several devices at one time
9/22/2022 20:10 Wendy Scott	Oberlin	Fiber to my home would optimize educational opportunities for my family and facilitate my career, as I often have to work from home, create content for my students, and download their work. There are many things I simply can't do at home, currently, because the upload and download speed is not manageable.
9/22/2022 20:37 Jasmine Olson	Oberlin	I want it because my current internet isn't the best for working from home. I need something sustainable
9/22/2022 20:48 Jonna	Oberlin	I want Nextech fiber internet because my current internet is the best available right now but it's so slow that I can hardly download files or participate in streaming or similar activities.
9/22/2022 21:33 Zila	Oberlin	Faster speed, more reliable
9/23/2022 5:25 Chris keough	Oberlin	Speed and reliability
9/23/2022 5:47 Kristy Ostmeyer	Oberlin	
9/23/2022 11:54 Tyler Bruggeman	Oberlin	Faster internet and less outages.
9/23/2022 13:13 Angela marietta	Oberlin	We are barely within range for our current services. We have 2 at home offices one being a remote healthcare job and the other a personal business office. Some days our signal is less than par. Fiber would help ensure that both run smoothly.