



DONIPHAN COUNTY KANSAS

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Kansas Capital Project Fund: Broadband Infrastructure Program Phase II Comments Rebuttal Letter of Support

The Doniphan County Commission formally supports the partnership we have formed with the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska and local internet service provider Rainbow Communications in our application for Kansas Department of Commerce Office of Broadband Development's Capital Project Fund: Broadband Infrastructure Program.

Doniphan County supports this Phase II Comments Rebuttal letter since the challenge made by AMG/NextLink inhibits our goal to build fiber broadband throughout the entirety of Doniphan County.

Doniphan County, KS encompasses nearly 8,000 residents of which some are members of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska. Residents in the rural areas are severely limited to subpar wireless or satellite internet or are completely without access to the USDA's standard definition of broadband. Lack of access to quality broadband has not only been detrimental to those forced to work and educate their children from home during the recent pandemic, but has been a growth limiting factor for the county's population and economy for many years.

Doniphan County along with our aforementioned partners have a four-phase plan to build out fiber broadband throughout the county. The unique tree and bluff terrain in Doniphan County restricts any kind of wireless broadband from working at full capacity and also requires extra finances to build quality broadband. Therefore, FCC RDOF auctions are hard to believe that any company can truly build what they claim for the low cost they submitted. Previously awarded RDOF and CAF companies for Doniphan County territory have falsely claimed speeds and infrastructure which led to incorrect FCC maps, further causing rural areas like Doniphan County to have an extra difficult time with limited resources proving these inadequacies. Outside broadband companies, especially out of state companies unfortunately do not understand our problematic situation, terrain and plight.

We respectfully ask you to heed this rebuttal letter with sincerity. If local broadband experts are not consulted, Doniphan County will never receive the quality fiber broadband internet it needs to grow for current and future generations.

Thank you,

Doniphan County Commission