



Board of Commissioners

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August 2, 2022

Diane Wells, Deputy Director
Office of Broadband Development – MN DEED
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E-200
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Letter of Support for TDS Telecom application for the Monticello Project

Dear Deputy Director Wells,

This letter offers support for broadband expansion in the cities of Monticello, Otsego and St. Michael, and the townships of Buffalo and Monticello through an application with TDS Telecom for a Minnesota Border to Border Broadband Grant.

This project will upgrade approximately 417 properties bringing 1,000 Mbps speed. These residents currently struggle with slow internet speed and poor connectivity which adversely impacts school, work, and healthcare for these families.

This grant opportunity would greatly improve the quality of life for these residents and, as the pandemic has taught us, the unserved and underserved suffer the most in difficult times. This grant help would go a long way in addressing the discrepancies rural Minnesotans face on a daily basis.

This letter also serves as a commitment from Wright County to provide a local contribution to this project of \$64,300, if this project receives a Border to Border Broadband Grant from the State of Minnesota.

The Wright County Board of Commissioners strongly supports this project and appreciates your consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Christine Husom, District 1
County Board Chair

Darek Vetsch, District 2

Mark Daleiden, District 3

Mary Wetter, District 4

Michael Kaczmarek, District 5