

ReConnect Proposed Funded Service Area
Resident Letter of Support for Red River Communications

Dear Rural Utilities Service ReConnect Grant Committee:

My name is _____ and I am writing this letter to support the Red River Communications grant application. Our rural community desperately needs affordable access to high-speed fiber broadband services and is disadvantaged compared to other towns in the area. A lack of sufficient bandwidth has limited our access to educational and economic development programs, telemedicine, and staying in touch with distant family and friends.

Over the last year, our rural community has experienced an increased need to access critical services that are only accessible with a high-speed broadband connection. I have personally experienced the struggle to obtain a reliable internet connection to allow me and my neighbors to stream video for healthcare services, attend classes for distance learning for all levels of students, and attend virtual meetings for everything from school board meetings to church services.

Another considerable need for our community is support for a virtual workforce. I know many of my neighbors who connect to their employer's corporate networks, attend virtual meetings, and have taken advantage of job opportunities that they may have otherwise never considered. A reliable, fast internet connection makes all this possible.

Other economic advantages include keeping our rural residents from moving to urban areas, providing our area farmers access to high-tech farming and agriculture technologies, and improving emergency response facilities. Fiber broadband internet will also help our community attract new employers.

As a resident, I support this project that will help provide tools to address our area's health, education, and safety issues.

Other comments:

I appreciate your consideration,

Name Phone Date

Physical Address City State Zip Code