



January 7, 2019

Patricia Wiles
Fiscal Court Clerk/Executive Assistant
Hopkins County Judge-Executive's Office
56 N. Main
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Patricia:

The gap between Hopkins County's haves and have-nots widens with each passing day that broadband connectivity remains available to only some of our citizens. Safe, affordable, reliable broadband service is increasingly recognized around the world as no less than essential infrastructure—equivalent to roads and bridges—in terms of ensuring equal access to commerce, education, employment, government services, healthcare, information, etc. Here in Hopkins County, broadband connectivity is unfortunately limited to only those businesses and residents in certain regions, leaving our unconnected neighbors further and further behind.

In this light, the Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation appreciates the Hopkins County Fiscal Court's efforts to research and tackle the problem of lack of adequate broadband service locally. Indeed, we see this effort as fundamental not only to EDC's mission to "serve as the resource and catalyst for sustained economic growth and development in Hopkins County" but almost all local collaborative efforts to improve quality of life for our county's residents and visitors.

Please count on the Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation's support in this effort and let us know how we can contribute to the work.

Respectfully,

Raymond A Hagerman
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