

**RESOLUTION NO. 7-0721**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATION AND MATCHING FUNDS COMMITMENT FOR  
BROADBAND PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Iowa County Board of Supervisors has declared that the economic activity and public benefits likely to occur as a result of the development and deployment of a reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband network throughout Iowa County constitutes a valid public purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, Iowa County, a certified Broadband Forward! Community, seeks to promote the development of high-speed broadband services to unserved and underserved areas within its boundaries and believes that cooperation with private-sector partners is necessary for the development of a county-wide broadband network that meets the needs of the County, its residents, and its businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 15, 2021, Iowa County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Reedsburg, acting by and through the Reedsburg Utility Commission ("RUC"), establishing a public-private partnership ("PPP") to facilitate the deployment of affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband internet service in parts of Iowa County ("MOU"); and

**WHEREAS**, attached as Exhibit A is the Preliminary Broadband Expansion Plan of the broadband project (the "Project") that RUC and Iowa County staff have developed to further Iowa County's goal of improving broadband access throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the MOU and in furtherance of the Project, RUC, with Iowa County as its public partner, have been preparing an application to submit to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ("PSCW") to obtain a \$2,500,000 broadband grant under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) ("Grant Application") for a \$5,000,000 project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grant Application requires that PPP partners make a commitment of matching funds for their proposed broadband project.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors that Iowa County's commitment of matching funds to support the Grant Application shall be realized as follows: In the Grant Application, Iowa County's share of the matching contribution will be one-tenth (10 percent) of the total project cost, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the County, which will be allocated as follows:

1. RUC is committed to have "LightSpeed" gigabit broadband service available to as many customers as possible within the preliminary service area described in Exhibit A no later than December 31, 2024. If this is accomplished, Iowa County agrees to contribute up to \$500,000 to this project upon its successful completion.

2. Iowa County also agrees to provide an in-kind contribution to RUC of the use of the County-owned 48-strand fiber "river crossing" as long as RUC is providing "LightSpeed" high-speed broadband internet service to customers in Iowa County.
3. Iowa County and RUC both agree to provide and share with each other, on a timely basis, the necessary reporting information required to justify and use, or be reimbursed by, the ARPA funding or any other funding source.
4. Additional terms and conditions between the parties will be included in a separate Broadband Expansion Plan Agreement, to be developed and executed after the successful awarding of the ARPA grant.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Iowa County Administrator is hereby authorized to review, modify, and approve any further Grant Application revisions necessary to complete the Grant Application so that it may be timely filed with the PSCW.

Respectfully submitted by the Executive Committee.

Adopted by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meyers, Chairman  
Iowa County Board of Supervisors

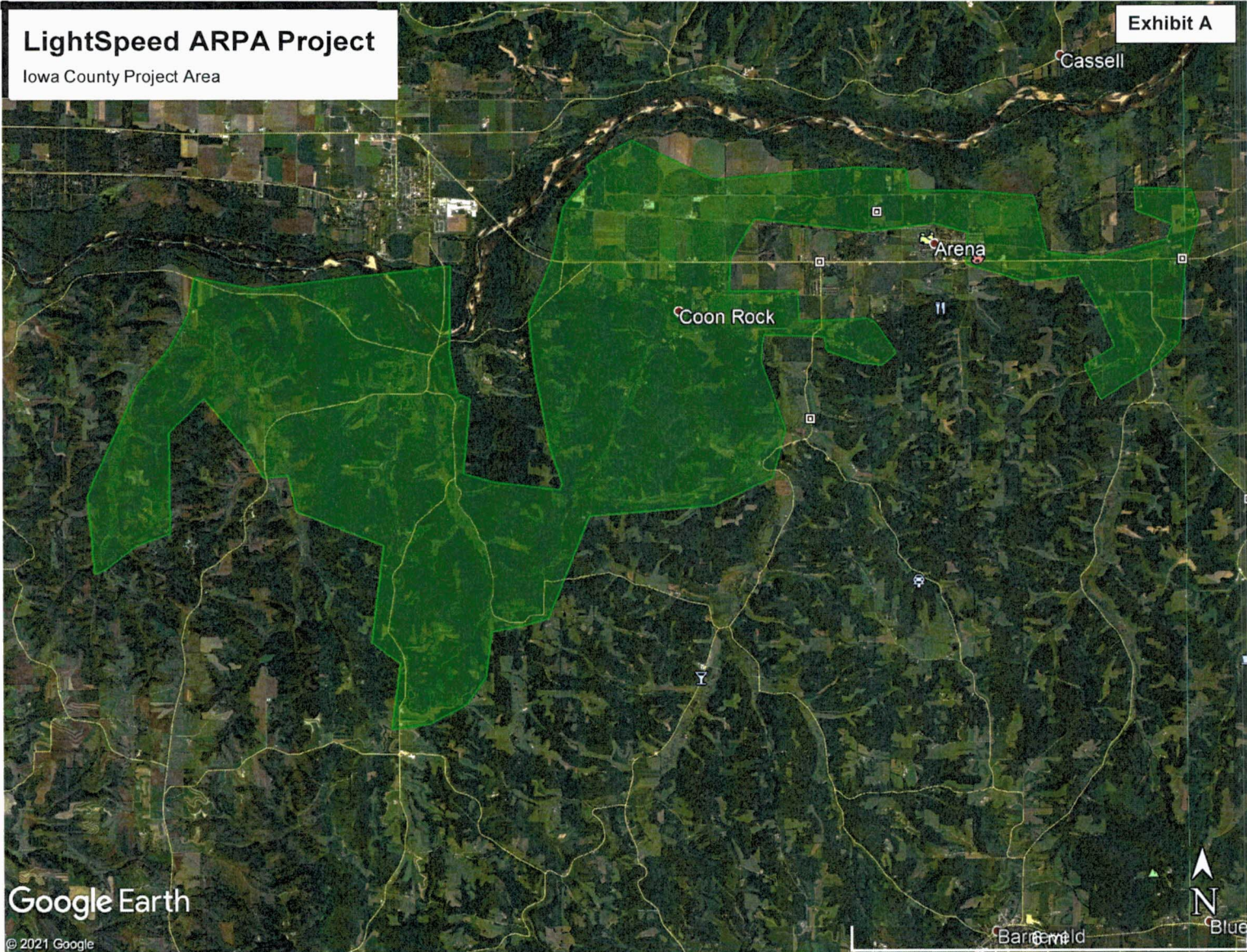
Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristy K. Spurley, Clerk  
Iowa County

# LightSpeed ARPA Project

Iowa County Project Area

Exhibit A



Google Earth

© 2021 Google



N