

888 304 8889 • 307 673 0910

November 15, 2017

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

ACT supports the City of Gillette in their effort to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to expand the fiber infrastructure throughout the City. Based on our current relationship with the City of Gillette, this expanded infrastructure, coupled with their existing duct and fiber system will allow our company the opportunity to consider expansion to other areas of the community through our existing IRU and lease agreements.

Advanced Communications Technology (ACT) is a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) in the State of Wyoming. We offer next generation voice and broadband solutions, primarily to businesses throughout the State, including Gillette. As you are aware, the City of Gillette has had fiber and duct in place for several years, not only for their own internal use, but more importantly, to allow communications companies such as ours the opportunity to lease the facilities for use in serving the citizens and businesses in their community. ACT and other providers have taken full advantage of this opportunity over the years. As a result, businesses and residences in the Gillette area enjoy the option to choose from several broadband options and speeds to serve their needs.

Completion of this network in the City of Gillette will not only allow providers such as ACT the opportunity to build redundancy into our own systems, but it will also allow us to reach areas we are currently unable to serve. The work and effort the City has put into the development of this public/private partnership with communications providers has already proven to be a great benefit for the area. Expanding this relationship and this network will benefit residents and help to position the City of Gillette as one of the most well-connected communities in the State.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project which would enable our business/organization to better serve the community.

Sincerely,

David Berry Operations Manager Advanced Communications Technology, Inc.

290 N BROOKS ST . SHERIDAN, WY 82801





## **CITY OF GILLETTE**

Finance Department - IT Division Mike Porter, IT Manager 201 E. 5th Street • Gillette, Wyoming 82716 307.686.5365 • MikeP@gillettewy.gov www.gillettewy.gov

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

The City of Gillette Information Technology Division strongly supports the City of Gillette Utilities Division in their effort to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to improve the fiber infrastructure throughout the City. Fiber optic infrastructure is a key factor for fast, reliable connectivity that will allow a community to grow and diversify in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

As a local government technology division, we rely on fiber optic connectivity to connect our facilities as well as provide reliable internet connections. These connections provide the communications for government business, utility services and public safety.

The fiber improvements that this grant would assist in providing will improve upon the existing infrastructure. These improvements will allow more businesses to access faster and more reliable connections to branch offices or online services. This improved connectivity is becoming more and more important as many technology services are now being offered as "cloud hosted" solutions.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project that will enable better connectivity for our local businesses.

Mike Porter IT Manager City of Gillette Information Technology Division



INTERNET NETWORKING LAND MOBILE RADIO VOICE & DATA SURVEILLANCE & SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL FIRE LIFE SAFETY

November 13, 2017

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

We support the City of Gillette in their effort to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to improve the fiber infrastructure throughout the City. The fiber will provide reliable connectivity which is an important factor in our current business's operational success and future growth.

Collins Communications provides Internet Service for residential and businesses, Managed Wifi, Networking, Land Mobile Radio, Voice and Data, Surveillance and Security, Access Control and Fire Life Safety.

The installation of fiber would improve our Internet Services. The fiber will allow us to install it at our tower sites which will improve bandwidth available to rural customers. Fiber would improve the quality of service during adverse weather.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project which would enable our business to better service our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

WAM , halt

Rick Murray President Collins Communications, Inc.



307.682.5193

3795 Collins Road | Gillette, WY 82718 1.888.310.8170 | fax: 307.686.2145





Nov 8, 2017

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

We strongly support the City of Gillette in their effort to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to improve the fiber infrastructure throughout the City. The fiber will provide reliable, high speed connectivity, which is an important factor in for our operational success and productivity.

Campbell County is highly dependent upon voice and data communications technology to provide efficient public services. As technology usage continues to expand, the demands for high speed bandwidth to effectively move data is crucial. Lack of fiber in certain areas forces us to rely on other, slower technologies.

The addition of fiber in other locations may provide Campbell County with the opportunity to upgrade bandwidth to some of its facilities. The increased bandwidth will allow those agencies to provide their services in a more efficient manner. In addition, high speed fiber in certain areas may allow us to consolidate systems that previously were separate due to the slower speeds involved. These consolidations would help us lower our capital expenditures and remain fiscally conservative.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project.

Phil Harvey IT Manager Campbell County Government



Stimulate and facilitate a diverse economy through business retention, expansion, and recruitment.

November 7, 2017

Karen Fate Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Subject: Gillette Broadband Project

Dear Karen:

Energy Capital Economic Development represents Campbell County and Gillette Wyoming and we are dedicated to supporting and growing our local businesses. Reliable broadband service is critical to business. The City of Gillette has demonstrated their support of the business community in many ways. One very important initiative taken by Gillette was the commissioning a broadband study to determine broadband needs and requirements of the business community. They are now working to implement the findings of that study. Energy Capital ED has been a partner with the city in the study, and now the implementation.

Energy Capital ED is working hard to diversify our economy. We support the Governor's ENDOW initiative and we are helping bring new, diverse business into the region. Every business we talk to requires good broadband service. This BRC grant will ensure that adequate and reliable service is available, and our economy will continue to grow.

Gillette is working with Buffalo and Sheridan in the NEW Growth Alliance. We have identified the following target markets:

- 1) Advanced Conversion Technologies
- 2) Advanced Manufacturing
- 3) Data Centers
- 4) Logistics and Distribution
- 5) Lifestyle Entrepreneurs

All of these targeted industries have a strong need for reliable and abundant broadband service.

We strongly support and endorse the BRC grant that Gillette is applying for and encourage you to approve the funding.

Phil Christopherson Chief Executive Officer

Lyla Downey Asst. Superintendent – Technology

Jodi Wiley Student Systems Computer Analyst

Jenny Mashak Electronics Master Technician

Mary Pat Anderson Technology Paraprofessional

Cathy McGeowan Technology Integration Specialist PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT 525 West Lakeway Drive, Suite 103 Phone (307) 687-1666 — Fax: (307) 687-7063 Gillette, Wyoming 82718

> Matt Holzwarth & Jeff Dameroon Network Engineers Lee Corley Electronics Technicians Troy Covell Electronics Technicians

Kelly Hornby Assessment / Staff Development

Wesann Brown Professional Development Specialist

Kathy Case Professional Development Specialist

Darcy Gillaspy Professional Development Specialist

> Michele Wenzel Staff Development Secretary

11/2/17

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

Please consider this a letter of support for the City of Gillette in their efforts to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to improve the fiber infrastructure throughout the City. Campbell County School District strongly supports the project because the fiber installation will provide reliable connectivity between our schools.

Campbell County School District provides Internet connectivity to over ten thousand student and staff members throughout the county. We service twenty four schools and six administrative service sites. Our district covers over 4,761 square miles in northeast Wyoming.

Access to high speed internet is no longer a luxury. It is a necessity. To handle today's digital learning and online testing demands, fiber connectivity is a must. We have many classrooms that are one to one. Students use technology daily to research, process, and present information in digital formats. Our students collaborate online with one another and with their instructors through shared documents. They often receive direct instruction through Google Classroom. In addition, our students participate in five online national and state assessments.

Currently the city provides fiber connections to fourteen of our locations. Presently, we have nine locations that do not have fiber connectivity. With this project, we would have the opportunity to upgrade two more of our locations to fiber. In addition, this proposal would provide redundancy to our fourteen locations already on city fiber.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project which would enable district to better service our kids. If you have any further questions, you can contact me at (307) 687-1666.

Sincerely,

Lyla Downey

Lyla Downey Assistant Superintendent -Technology Campbell County School District





Visionary Communications, Inc. 1001 S Douglas Hwy, Suite 201 Gillette WY 82716

October 31, 2017

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

We strongly support the City of Gillette in their effort to obtain a Wyoming Business Council Grant to improve the conduit and fiber infrastructure throughout the City. Conduit availability will help us provide an affordable Gigabit service which is an important factor in marketing our Internet and private network services.

Visionary is one of Wyoming's few locally-owned Internet Service Providers, and we are quite interested in pursuing services that provide us with an ability to serve Wyoming businesses and residences with affordable Internet and private network services.

We feed Gillette with 3x10Gbps circuits for connectivity to the outside world. We deliver service to our community through a combination of copper, microwave and fiber. In order to be ready for the future, and in order to offer a Gigabit-style of service, fiber availability and proximity are crucial. With this grant, the City will be able to complete a 7-way conduit system to be used by any provider to improve Broadband throughout Gillette.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for the City of Gillette Fiber Improvement Project which would enable our business to better service our community.

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Brian R Worthen CEO Visionary Communications, Inc.