

Snohomish County

County Council

October 11, 2021

Stephanie Wright, Chair Megan Dunn, Vice-Chair Nate Nehring Sam Low Jared Mead

Dawn Eychaner Acting Director – State Broadband Office P.O. Box 42525 Olympia, WA 98504-2525

County Executive

Dave Somers

Dear Dawn,

We are writing to express strong support for State Broadband Office funding for a broadband expansion project along the State Route 530 corridor in north Snohomish County.

This project would be implemented by Ziply Fiber. The proposed project area covers 5,598 specific locations that would have access to reliable internet access after completion. The project includes installation of 1,673,704 feet of fiber at a total cost of \$27,582,318. The project can be completed within 12 months of the start of construction. Ziply has successfully bid on the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Funds (RDOF) to help complete the project. Ziply will also be contributing to the project. The funding breakdown is as follows:

Ziply provider contribution	\$3,777,000
RDOF support	\$5,343,854
Doguested support	\$18,461,464
Requested support	310,401,404

We are requesting State Broadband funds provided by the State Legislature in the amount of \$18,461,464 to complete this project.

Similar to the State of Washington, Snohomish County has a mix of urban and rural areas with some extremely well served by broadband while others are broadband deserts. Early deployment of broadband expansion funds into Snohomish County will produce significant results that could be used as a model for expanding access in other communities across the state.

We are happy to provide any additional information you may need. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Wright

Council Chair

Megan Dunn

Council Vice-Chair

Nate Nehring

Councilmember

Dave Somers

County Executive

Sam Low

Councilmember

Jared Mead

Councilmember