

COLUMBIA COUNTY

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April 28, 2025

Oregon Broadband Office
775 Summer St. NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Letter of Support – BEAD Program Application

Dear Oregon Broadband Office,

Columbia County is pleased to submit this letter of support for our BEAD Program application, in partnership with RSG Telecom.

Our project will build a community-owned, open-access broadband network to serve unserved and underserved areas across the county. Partnering with RSG Telecom, an experienced network operator, ensures the network will be expertly built, operated, and maintained.

This approach:

- Keeps ownership and control local
- Provides open access, offering residents greater choice
- Focuses on public benefit over private profit
- Aims for countywide coverage to connect every household
- Supports economic development, education, and healthcare
- Invests grant funds into lasting, community-owned infrastructure

Columbia County is committed to a digital future that is affordable, competitive, and community-driven. We urge your full consideration of our application.

Respectfully,
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

Casey Garrett, Commissioner

Margaret Magruder, Commissioner