



Rowan County Board of Commissioners

130 West Innes Street • Salisbury, NC 28144
Telephone 704-216-8181 • Fax 704-216-8195

February 21, 2022

The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Utilities Service
Telecommunications Program
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

It is a pleasure to write you in support for the Yadkin Valley TMC ReConnect Round Three FTTH Project grant application submitted by Yadkin Valley Telephone Membership Corporation to connect unserved and underserved areas of parts of Alexander, Iredell, Rowan and Yadkin Counties, North Carolina. Broadband access is very important to the quality of life of our community and to those that are considering relocating to Rowan County.

Access to high quality and reliable broadband services is a key factor in our effort to attract new jobs and will greatly benefit our local businesses by strengthening their position in an already very competitive environment. Broadband access will also support the ability to expand our educational and workforce development programs to train workers and ensure they have the necessary skills to compete in today's job market.

If approved, this grant will enable Yadkin Valley to continue its endeavor to provide state-of-the art broadband services to some of the most rural areas of North Carolina. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the USDA and the RUS in supporting the Reconnect program and sincerely request your favorable consideration of this application. Please feel free to contact the Board of Commissioners offices at (704) 216-8181 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Edds, Chairman

James C. Greene, Vice-Chairman

Michael D. Caskey, Jr., Commissioner

Judith A. Klusman, Commissioner

R. Craig Pierce, Commissioner