

THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Board of Commissioners

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March 11, 2010

Gregory Urban
Deputy Chief Information Officer
State of Maryland
45 Calvert Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. Urban:

The Board of Garrett County Commissioners strongly supports the OneMaryland Broadband Network's application for ARRA Stimulus funding to provide an advanced broadband network throughout all of Maryland.

Garrett County is one of the most "rural" counties in the State, and with a large land area combined with low population density, one of the least well served counties. The plans to construct a fiber optic backbone throughout Maryland's rural counties will allow current and future internet service providers to offer vastly improved telecommunications/internet services in an affordable and sustainable manner. These improved services will benefit private citizens, local businesses, education, healthcare providers, and local government.

The Board of County Commissioners looks forward to your success in securing ARRA stimulus funds, and the deployment of a truly state of the art broadband infrastructure throughout Maryland. The Board respectfully requests your support for the OneMaryland Broadband Network Grant Application now being submitted to the US Department of Commerce.

Thank you,

Respectfully,



Ernest J. Gregg, Chairman