



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

401 E. 3rd Street, Suite 200 • The Dalles, OR 97058
p: [541] 506-2520 • f: [541] 506-2551 • www.co.wasco.or.us

Pioneering pathways to prosperity.

May 7, 2025

Oregon Broadband Office
Attention: BEAD Program Funding Review Committee
Oregon Business Development Department
775 Summer St NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Review Committee,

On behalf of Wasco County, we are writing to express strong support for QLife's application to the Broadband Expansion, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. Expanding broadband infrastructure in the Mid-Columbia region is a critical need, and QLife is exceptionally well-positioned to deliver on this goal.

QLife is a locally focused public entity with a mission to facilitate access to scalable, affordable broadband infrastructure throughout Wasco County. Their vision—that every address in the county can connect to high-speed internet at an affordable price—speaks directly to the goals of the BEAD program. QLife has a strong track record of managing infrastructure projects, building strategic partnerships, and responding to local broadband needs.

Our community continues to face challenges related to internet access, particularly in unserved or underserved areas. These gaps limit opportunities in education, healthcare, and economic development. QLife's proposed project will help close this digital divide by providing high-speed, affordable broadband to the areas that need it most.

We are particularly supportive of QLife's commitment to addressing key broadband priorities in our region. Their focus on affordability ensures that both residents and essential public institutions can access reasonably priced internet service. Additionally, their efforts to connect community anchors such as schools, libraries, and healthcare facilities, with gigabit-level service will strengthen the foundational services our communities rely on every day.

This project is a high priority for our organization and our broader community. We strongly encourage you to support QLife's application to bring equitable, reliable broadband access to Wasco County.

Respectfully,
Wasco County Board of Commissioners

Scott C. Hege, Chair

Philip L. Brady, Vice Chair
Jeffrey L. Justesen County Commissioner