



ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEEKING TO BE DESIGNATED AS A BROADBAND READY COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Jefferson County by and through the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners seeks to promote private investment in broadband infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County by and through the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners seeks to be designated as a Broadband Ready Community pursuant to I.C. §5-28-28.5,

NOW THEREFORE, Jefferson County by and through the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners adopts the following provisions pursuant to said statute:

Sec. 1. As used in Chapter 28.5 Broadband Communities Development Center (I.C. §5-28-28.5), "permit" means any local permit, license, certificate, approval, registration, or similar form of approval required by policy, administrative rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution with respect to a project.

Sec. 2. As used in said chapter, "project" means the construction or deployment of wireline or wireless communications facilities to provide communications services (as defined in I.C. §8-1-32.5-3) in a unit.

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Jefferson County Code, ordinances, regulations, policy or practice, the following shall apply to a Broadband Project:

The Board shall:

- (a) Appoint a single point of contact for all matters related to a project;
- (b) Establish procedures to allow all forms, applications, and documentation related to a project to be filled or submitted and signed by electronic means;
- (c) Review and approve or reject all applications for a permit related to a project within ten (10) business days after an application is filed or submitted;
- (d) Assure that after an application is approved pursuant to I.C. §5-28-28.5-7 (a), any inspections, including any additional necessary approvals, related to a project will occur in a timely and expeditious manner.

And (2)

Sec. 4. The Board or any applicable department of Jefferson County shall adopt adequate processes and procedures to implement the provisions of the above Sec. 3. Processes and procedures established hereunder may not do the following:

- (a) Require and applicant to designate a final contractor to complete a project;
- (b) Impose a fee to review an application or issue a permit for a project;
- (c) Impose a seasonal moratorium on the issuance of permits for a project; or
- (d) Discriminate among communications service providers or utilities with respect to any action described

In the section or otherwise related to a project, including granting access to public rights-of-way, infrastructure and poles, river and bridge crossings, and any other physical assets owned or controlled by Jefferson County, Indiana.

Sec. 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from its passage. Further this Ordinance shall become a Chapter of the Jefferson County Code of Ordinances designated Chapter ___ when said code is adopted.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 17th day of February, 2022, by:

BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA



Ron Lee, President



Robert Little, Member



David Bramer, Member

ATTEST:


Heather Huff, Auditor
Jefferson County, Indiana