City of Genesee



Tuesday, August 8, 2023

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Idaho Broadband Advisory Board c/o Ramón S. Hobdey-Sánchez, J.D. State Broadband Program Manager Idaho Department of Commerce 700 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

Re: Latah County Dark Fiber Network

Capital Projects Fund Application

Challenge Rebuttal

Dear Idaho Broadband Advisory Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the challenge from Ziply regarding service in the City of Genesee.

We have not received any application for permitting or any other materials, including designed and engineered plans, to review and approve from Ziply to build in Genesee. Even if we received those today, it would be several months before we could reasonably approve any plans for a city-wide fiber build.

Moreover, the City of Genesee does not want multiple internet service providers (ISPs) building multiple lines of fiber or conduit in City rights-of-ways (ROWs). We have limited space in our ROWs and limited resources, which is why we advocate for a single dark fiber network infrastructure throughout the city that is publicly owned and available to any and all ISPs.

We are interested in building infrastructure that yields the greatest benefit to our citizens. That's infrastructure that makes service more affordable, offers the most choices, and lasts the longest.

Please do not remove our citizens from the Capital Projects Fund grant application.

Sincerely,

John Hermann, Mayor

City of Genesee

Member of the <u>Latah County Broadband Coalition</u>: City of Potlatch, City of Bovill, City of Genesee, City of Kendrick, City of Juliaetta, City of Deary, City of Troy, City of Moscow, Latah County Library District, Moscow School District, Kendrick Joint School District, Genesee Joint School District, Potlatch School District, Troy School District, University of Idaho, Gritman Medical Center, Latah County, Highway Districts