

TOWN OF
EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SELECTBOARD

Amy Willis (2017 – 2020)
Gene Troia (2018 – 2020)

Seth Gardner (2018 – 2021)
Carl Etnier (2019 – 2022)

October 21, 2019

Broadband Innovation Grant
Department of Public Service
112 State Street, Floor 3
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Re: Letter of Support for CVFiber's Grant Application for a Broadband Innovation Grant

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Town of East Montpelier is a member of the CVFiber Communications Union District. CVFiber is applying for grant funding under the Vermont Department of Public Service's Broadband Innovation Grant program.

The Town of East Montpelier is one of a number of communities in central Vermont that suffer both from a dearth of viable, affordable options for even basic internet service and from a complete lack of opportunity for highspeed broadband outside of very narrow corridors of service availability. Access to highspeed broadband is a prerequisite for our residents' ability to participate and effectively compete in modern commerce. In reality, for better or worse such access is becoming a requirement to participate in modern life. The future vitality of our community depends on the availability of highspeed internet service. The current options are simply inadequate. The need for improvement is urgent.

We wholeheartedly support the CVFiber application for a Broadband Innovation Grant. This grant will help CVFiber move forward in its effort to bring highspeed broadband internet availability to our entire community. We encourage you to look favorably on the CVFiber funding request.

Sincerely,

Seth B. Gardner
Chair, East Montpelier Selectboard