



Friends of Les Cheneaux Community Library

P.O. Box 332, Hessel, MI 49745 • flcclib@uproc.lib.mi.us

December 3, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Friends of Les Cheneaux Community Library (FLCCL) is pleased to offer this letter in support of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District's broadband development efforts. It is widely recognized that in today's world of education, library services, medical treatment, government, business endeavors, and other services the access to affordable broadband internet is essential to achieve success. The current need for Broadband availability in rural areas is in fact comparable to the now ubiquitous utilities of electricity and phone service, once a rural rarity.

Economical and easily accessible broadband service would enhance the quality of life in the Eastern Upper Peninsula (EUP) by facilitating the transmission and exchange of information between essential entities in the region. These include educational institutions, libraries, healthcare providers, governmental agencies, commercial entities, law enforcement and national security agencies.

In addition, affordable access to a fiberoptic network would also help to erase many logistical challenges faced by businesses located in the E.U.P. And videoconferencing would eliminate the drudgery, and sometimes danger, of long-distance travel for meetings at other educational institutions, libraries, and governmental entities. It could also save lives.

For all the above reasons, FLCCL welcomes and supports the Eastern Upper Peninsula Fiber Development Consortium's efforts to satisfy our broadband internet deficit by the establishment of secure, high-capacity broadband networks of fiberoptic conduit.

Sincerely,

Jessica Maze, President

Friends of Les Cheneaux Community Library