

F1904199
April 4, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY: Your County Finance Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, reliable, high speed, affordable access to the Internet and e-connectivity is imperative for Berrien County residents, businesses, non-profit organizations and visitors; and

WHEREAS, internet and e-connectivity is changing how humans interact with each other and with the world at large, as well as being a driving force for the current and future economy; and

WHEREAS, internet and e-connectivity creates opportunity for increased innovation for consumers, businesses, agriculture, and government; and

WHEREAS, countries, states, counties, tribal nations, and municipalities that prioritize and provide access to advanced internet infrastructure such as fiber, are surpassing those that do not in terms of social, economic, and knowledge development; and

WHEREAS, Berrien County must plan and prioritize for the deployment and adoption of this infrastructure including but not limited to pursuing collaborations and partnerships in the effort to effectively achieve greater access to affordable high speed internet throughout the county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners acknowledges that access to the internet and e-connectivity is a crucial part of the Berrien County mission to provide leadership, cooperation with all units of government, sound fiscal management, and planning thereby promoting public safety, health, well-being and prosperity in order to improve the quality of life for present and future generations.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
BERRIEN COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mamie L. Yarbrough, Chairperson

Robert P. Harrison, Vice-Chair

Jon Hinkelman

Ezra A. Scott

