

STRAFFORD COUNTY
268 County Farm Rd.
Dover, N.H. 03820
(603) 749-4445
FAX: (603) 743-3431
strafford@ceunh.unh.edu
extension.unh.edu



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

March 22, 2010

County Offices

Belknap County
527-5475

Carroll County
447-3834

Cheshire County
352-4550

Coös County
788-4961

Grafton County
787-6944

Hillsborough County
641-6060

Merrimack County
796-2151

Rockingham County
679-5616

Strafford County
749-4445

Sullivan County
863-9200

**Family, Home & Garden
Education Center**
629-9494 (Office)
877-398-4769 (Toll Free)

**UNH Cooperative
Extension State Office**
862-1520

The Honorable Larry Strickling
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

Ref. Support for Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Proposal

On behalf of UNH Cooperative Extension, Strafford County, I wish to express our support and commitment to the statewide broadband proposal titled Network New Hampshire Now (#4248) submitted by the University of New Hampshire to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round 2 program. Strafford County is impacted directly by a lack of available connectivity and by the high cost of connectivity due to insufficient supply and inadequate price competition in New Hampshire.

Robust and reliable broadband connectivity is critical to UNH Cooperative Extension's mission, to provide NH citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions which strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy. We rely on Internet connectivity to communicate with colleagues, volunteers, and clientele throughout the state. Reliable Internet connectivity is important for us to be able to provide programs to our clientele and volunteers through webinars and web based video clips.

We are currently unable to expand our services due to inadequate access to affordable broadband services. The Network New Hampshire Now Project will be extremely useful for us. It will enhance our ability to communicate with colleagues throughout the state, region and nation. It will also improve our ability to work with our local volunteers and provide us with the affordable broadband connectivity we need to communicate and deliver programs to clientele.

For these reasons, we at UNH Cooperative Extension, Strafford County are enthusiastically committed to New Hampshire's efforts at constructing the Network New Hampshire Now Project. We look forward to being a user of and provider on the finished network. We encourage the funding and construction of this project.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Njue
Extension Educator Agricultural Resources
and County Office Administrator



Recycled paper