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DANIEL P. MCCOY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY OF ALBANY OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE 112 STATE STREET, ROOM 1200 ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207-2021 (518) 447-7040 - FAX (518) 447-5589 DANIEL C. LYNCH, ESQ. DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

November 14, 2021

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The County Executive's Office is seeking approval from the Legislature to enter into a contract with Insight Public Sector Inc. for the purposes of a broadband gap analysis and feasibility study. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the essential role that broadband plays in our daily lives. Affordable high-speed broadband internet is a prerequisite to educating our children, growing our economy, and providing a quality of life that attracts and retains citizens. Broadband access has become a basic need of every citizen in the county regardless of their location or resources.

The proposed study will provide guidance for the planning and development of a broadband strategy within Albany County. It will begin with an inventory of existing broadband assets to determine service availability, accessibility, affordability and service gaps throughout the County. This data will be used to develop recommended solutions to address service gaps and improve availability and affordability. The consultant will work with relevant agencies to ensure mapping efforts are streamlined. The study will be completed in a timely fashion to position the County to apply for state and federal broadband funds. The contract request is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$175,000 with a base bid amount of \$154,600 and a contingency of \$20,400 for potential on-theground evaluation of broadband assets and service.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Daniel P. McCoy

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Albany County Executive

Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader cc: Hon. Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel