

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 16, 2022**

## **Lt. Gov. Crouch, Indiana Broadband Office designate Pike County as a Broadband Ready Community**

**INDIANAPOLIS** (June 16, 2022) – Today, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Broadband Office announced that Pike County is now designated as an official Broadband Ready Community. The Broadband Ready Communities Program was created as a tool to encourage broadband development throughout Indiana.

The Broadband Ready Community certification sends a signal to the telecommunication industry that a community has taken steps to reduce barriers to broadband infrastructure investment.

“We remain committed to finding opportunities to bring reliable and high-speed internet to unserved and underserved Hoosiers across the state,” Crouch said. “Communities have been leading these efforts, and today Pike County joins a long list of certified Broadband Ready Communities. Congratulations to Pike County leaders for investing in your community and residents.”

The certification was approved by the Indiana Broadband Office following the Pike County Commissioners adoption of a Broadband Ready Community ordinance.

“Being designated as a broadband ready community validates the work of the Pike County Broadband Taskforce,” said Mark Flint, President of the Pike County Commissioners. “Pike County has more than \$12 million of broadband infrastructure being deployed throughout the county. It’s critical for Pike County’s residents and businesses to have quality broadband and this is a great step to have the county fully covered with high-speed broadband. The Pike County Commissioners are in full support and appreciate the millions of dollars coming to our county.”

Earnie Holtrey, Project Manager at the Indiana Broadband Office states his appreciation and recognition for Pike County’s hard work.

“Pike County has been actively putting in the resources and work to better the quality of life and connectivity in Pike County,” said Holtrey. “This Broadband Ready Community certification will only advance their efforts. Congratulations to them!”

Via 2020 legislation, the Broadband Ready Community Program was transitioned from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ([IEDC](#)) to the Office of Community and Rural

Affairs ([OCRA](#)). [IBO](#) began the day-to-day management of the Broadband Ready Community Program on July 1, 2020. For more information, visit [in.gov/indianabroadband](http://in.gov/indianabroadband).

-30-

*Under the leadership of [Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch](#), who also serves as the Secretary of Rural Development, the Indiana Broadband Office (IBO) mission is to assist residents in need of affordable and reliable broadband connectivity. This mission of reaching Hoosiers where they live, work and play is accomplished by communicating with stakeholders, providing resources to a diverse audience, and leveraging established relationships with elected officials, associations, and providers. For more information, visit [in.gov/broadband](http://in.gov/broadband).*