

Town of Castleton

263 Route 30N, P.O. Box 727, Castleton, VT 05735

June 8, 2020

Connecting all Departments (802) 468-5319

Manager - 203

Admin. Asst.-202

Tax Dept. -204

Town Clerk -201

Health Officer -207

Assessor -209

Zoning -208

Treasurer -205

Accounting -206

Police Department (802) 468-2750

Highway Dept. (802) 468-2459

Transfer Station (802) 468-3005

Wastewater Dept. (802) 468-5315

Fax - All Depts. (802) 468-5482

On the web: castletonvermont.org

Rutland Regional Planning Commission Opera House, 67 Merchant's Row Rutland, VT 05701

RE: Broadband Innovation Grant

On behalf of the Town of Castleton Board of Selectman, Planning Commission, and the Community Development and Economic Revitalization Advisory Committee, I am writing to express their support for the Rutland Regional Planning Commission – in partnership with the Center for Rural Innovation and ValleyNet – Broadband Innovation Grant application. This grant will support the feasibility study and development of a broadband business plan for the northern portion of Rutland Region Planning Commission towns.

The availability of reliable broadband is critical for our region and our town for many reasons, to include: supporting economic resilience, business growth, community development, and supporting education — especially in the era of students studying virtually, tele-health, and being a more attractive place for people to live and grow. The lack of robust and reliable broadband negatively impacts real estate valuation, impedes the growth and resilience of local businesses, makes it difficult to support emergency management initiatives, effective communication, virtual schooling, and the access to the option of tele-health.

Access to this Broadband Innovation Grant will enable the Town of Castleton, and surrounding communities to pursue the connectivity needed to meet economic, resilience, and other community planning needs as well as better support neighboring regions with their planning and connectivity needs as well.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Jones

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Town Manager