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

**INDIANAPOLIS** (Dec. 28, 2021) – Today, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Broadband Office announced that Clinton 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.

“The momentum continues with another community added to the state’s running list of Broadband Ready Communities,” Crouch said. “Today is a special celebration recognizing Clinton County as a Broadband Ready Community. Congratulations, Clinton County leaders, for your willingness to bring heightened quality of life and investment opportunities to your community. This is truly a celebratory day.”

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

“Good internet connectivity is essential to sustain and grow strong economic development in a rural area.” said Shan Sheridan, Executive Director at Clinton County Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development. “Clinton County is pleased to be a part of these designated like-minded communities in strengthening broadband coverage to serve rural areas with great potential for growth.”

In 2021 alone, Lt. Governor Crouch and the Indiana Broadband Office have designated 18 communities as Broadband Ready. Clinton County is the 60th Broadband Ready Community overall.

“Indiana’s broadband capabilities are becoming second to none. This is largely due to the investment and commitment from community leaders,” said Earnie Holtrey, Project Manager at the Indiana Broadband Office. “The efforts of Clinton County are certainly applauded.”

Via 2020 legislation, the Broadband Ready Community Program was transitioned from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ([IEDC](https://www.iedc.in.gov/)) to the Office of Community and Rural Affairs ([OCRA](https://www.in.gov/ocra/)). [IBO](https://www.in.gov/indianabroadband/) began the day-to-day management of the Broadband Ready Community Program on July 1, 2020. For more information, visit [in.gov/indianabroadband](https://www.in.gov/indianabroadband/).

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*Under the leadership of*[*Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch,*](http://www.in.gov/lg/)*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*](https://www.in.gov/broadband)*.*