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## Karnes County Judge Wade Hedtke & Commissioners Court Advocate for Vital Infrastructure Investment

**Karnes County, Texas** – Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar has announced a transformative broadband grant award benefiting Karnes County, Texas, through the Texas Broadband Development Office's (BDO) Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT II) program. The award, totaling \$51,073,236.00 will fund broadband infrastructure to deliver fast, reliable, and affordable internet service to 5,460 homes across Karnes County.

Karnes County, located in South-Central Texas, spans 754 square miles and has a population of 14,710. The county's rural landscape has long made broadband access a challenge, but this new funding will provide residents with the high-speed internet needed for work, education, healthcare, and economic development.

The grant was made possible by an application from regional internet service provider VTX Communications, LLC, for broadband infrastructure expansion. Karnes County Judge Wade Hedtke and the Commissioners Court actively supported the grant application, recognizing the essential role that broadband plays in improving quality of life and ensuring access to modern services.

"This broadband grant is a game-changer for Karnes County," said Karnes County Judge Wade Hedtke. "Access to high-speed internet is no longer a luxury—it's a necessity. It will open doors for our residents in ways we've never seen before, from expanding economic opportunities to providing better access to healthcare and education."

Judge Hedtke and the Commissioners Court remain committed to securing additional broadband funding for the county in future state and federal initiatives.

"This is just the beginning," Judge Hedtke added. "We will continue to push for the resources necessary to ensure that every Karnes County resident has access to affordable, reliable broadband."

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