Last Chance to Complete Jefferson County Broadband Assessment Go to www.jeffco.net/jc-echeckup today!

JEFFERSON COUNTY, OR – (June 3, 2022) – Jefferson County needs your help in documenting access to and the quality of high-speed internet in the region. If you haven't already completed an assessment for your household and/or your business, please do so today. You can find it at www.jeffco.net/jc-echeckup.

"It will take some time to complete, but the data is critical to documenting why Jefferson County families and businesses need better quality and more affordable connections to high-speed internet," said Lori Gleichman, coordinator of the Jefferson County Broadband Action Team.

"We are currently at a 4% response rate for Jefferson County households and 7% for Jefferson-county based businesses," Gleichman continued. The goal is to reach 12% response rate for both by mid-June, an average achieved in similar rural communities in Oregon. 12% is also important because this number reflects an engaged community demonstrating its commitment to improving infrastructure, something state and federal funders are looking for in applications.

"We also know that people are *much more likely* to complete the assessment if the link is included in an email or social media post *from someone they know and trust*. That's why we're asking people in the Madras, Culver, Warm Springs and Metolius communities to share the link with family, friends and colleagues with a personal request to complete it," Gleichman said.

The analysis portion of the project will begin in late June and the final report is expected to be completed in September 2022. It will be used as the basis for funding applications for federal and state funds being made available through the American Rescue Plan Act and the infrastructure bills.