

Informal Request for Proposal: Sharon Township Fiber to the Home Feasibility Study

Responses Due: November 1, 2016

Sharon Township is a rural municipality in southeast Michigan with a population of about 1,737. This area is significantly unserved in terms of broadband access – a minority of households have access to DSL or fixed wireless, but no households have access to cable or other infrastructure capable of providing broadband speeds. This request is seeking informal proposals to conduct a feasibility study for fiber to all households in Sharon Township.

1.0 Project Description

1.1 Required Actions.

- **Stakeholder kickoff meeting.** Conduct a meeting, preferably in person, with project stakeholders discussing goals and decision points for the project.
- **On-site Plant Review.** Conduct on-site review and analysis of proposed service area to determine relevant location details that may inform aerial vs underground viability, boring vs trenching viability, property density, potential make ready costs, etc.

1.2 Required Deliverables.

- **Design narrative.** Discussion regarding the recommended approach to be used for access to rights of way, pole structure, outside plant fiber layout, impact of active versus passive networks, central hub equipment location, and other pertinent decision points.
- **Detailed project costs.** Analysis of all costs for design, implementation, and maintenance of fiber optic cable infrastructure build from a head end to each improved property in Sharon Township.
- **Route map.** A summary map depicting proposed routes and fiber sizes.
- **Bandwidth analysis.** Investigate local bandwidth providers and obtain quotes for appropriate levels of service.
- **Assumptions.** Enumerate assumptions and known unknowns including justifications for assumptions.
- **Financial model.** A model that takes into account project costs and projected take rates to determine overall project feasibility.

2.0 Qualifications and Experience

2.0 Experience and expertise. Applicants will be evaluated based upon prior experience and expertise. Please include the following with your proposal:

- A list of three (3) instances of your firm's work that best reflect your capabilities and their relevancy to this project.
- Current references for three (3) current or former clients.
- Briefly describe your firm's organizational capacity to complete this study (e.g. staff, equipment, software, physical space, office location, etc)
- An accurate, realistic time frame for completion of the study.

3.0 Submissions

3.1 Price quote. Submissions shall include a price quote to deliver the items in section 1.0.

3.2 Submission. Responses to this informal RFP shall be submitted by end of day on November 1, 2016 via email to info@mbcoop.org.

3.3 Questions. Questions should be directed to info@mbcoop.org or 734-436-1999.