

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: City of Auburn Washington

Project Title: City of Auburn, Washington Valley Cities Regional Broadband

Project Type: Middle Mile

Executive Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY I. Opportunity. The City of Auburn and the participating cities (Renton, Tukwila, Kent, Federal Way, Algona, Pacific, Sumner, Puyallup, Fife) initiated a process four years ago to study and analyze the public safety-based broadband and community needs in the South King County/Northeast Pierce County region. After securing \$98,000 of federal funding (COPS Technology grant), a study was commissioned to conduct an inventory and needs assessment for broadband technology services. The outcome of this study resulted in the development of a strategic plan for the construction of a regional fiber optic network. The goals and opportunities addressed by the City of Auburn and participating cities to enhance the broadband infrastructure and services within the region are to: 1) improve access to and use of broadband for public safety agencies; 2) efficiently deliver local government services; 3) stimulate broadband, local economic development and job creation; 4) enhance service to public health care and education institutions; 5) effectively manage public property and right-of-way; and 6) ensure equity, awareness and improved access to the public. The goals of the applicant and participating cities are compatible and consistent with the NTIA goals and grant funding obligations. Making the broadband system more connected and inter-operable will also help this region's cities significantly enhance technology services to public agencies and improve access to those agencies that are currently under-served or unserved. This type of project which has a key focus on improving public safety is envisioned as a significant asset by the State of Washington's "Governor's Broadband Advisory Council," which in its final report to the Governor notes: "applications that effectively leverage...public safety should be actively encouraged and supported" and, "In particular, the state should support those broadband infrastructure proposals that 'improve access to, and use of, broadband service by public safety agencies.'" General description of service area. This enhanced broadband infrastructure constructed within the proposed funded service areas will serve and benefit ten (10) cities within Pierce County and King County, Washington, within a 143 square mile geographic area. This project is designed to dramatically improve the connectivity and inter-operability of public safety and emergency communications systems, public education and health care institutions, and "unserved" and "underserved" within a population base of over 410,000 residents. The scope of the proposed funded project includes a fiber optic backbone from the City of Puyallup through Sumner, Auburn, Kent, Tukwila, and Renton to the Fiber Consortium's fiber ring. This project will provide connections to the backbone for Federal Way City Hall, Algona City Hall, Pacific City Hall, Auburn City Hall, Valley Communications Center, Kent City Hall, Tukwila City Hall, Renton City Hall, Puyallup City Hall, Sumner City Hall, the SCORE facility, and Puget Sound Access. This project will provide future inter-connections between three regional Public Safety Access Points: the Valley Communications Center, NORCOM (North

East King County Regional Public Safety Communication Agency), and LESA (Law Enforcement Support Agency -- Pierce County's emergency 911 center). "Puget Sound Access," the regional public access cable station, will be connected as a part of the project to ensure public access to emergency notifications. This fiber network build-out will also help realize a larger regional vision put forth by a "Fiber Consortium" of existing partners including the University of Washington; the cities of Bellevue, Renton and Kirkland; Evergreen Hospital; the school districts of Renton, Bellevue, and Lake Washington; Bellevue Community College; and the City of Seattle. This fiber optic network will support dedicated connections to Valley Communications Center, Puget Sound Access, and the SCORE jail facility from owner and client agencies and allow communication links for municipal Emergency Operations Centers and 911 public service access points in the region. The secondary phase of this project will use excess fiber for school districts which served a combined student population of these nine districts totals 116,177 students, health care institutions, inter-operability initiatives, economic development, municipal purposes, and the general public with focus on access by the unserved/underserved. # households and businesses passed. This grant application for funding a BTOP "Middle Mile" fiber optic backbone project. As a result of the scope of applicant's project, it appears that this question does not apply. # organizations passed and/or involved with project (health care, education, libraries). This project will provide essential broadband service within the ten participating cities located within the south Puget Sound region of the State. In addition to the public safety benefits, public education and health care institutions, the applicant will have the potential to work with the King County and Pierce County Housing Authority to bring services to low income communities. The second phase of the broadband network project anticipates opportunities for regional connections to other public agencies, including six hospitals, nine school districts, and the University of Washington. Valley Medical Center in Renton, the Auburn Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Hospital in Federal Way, Tukwila Diagnostics Imaging in Tukwila, and the University of Washington medical clinics could also be inter-woven into the broadband system, as well as the University of Washington's main Seattle campus and Tacoma branch campus, and the Auburn, Federal Way, Fife, Kent, Puyallup, Renton, Sumner, and Tukwila school districts (K-12). Proposed services and applications. Fiber will support dedicated connections to Valley Communications Center, Puget Sound Access, and the SCORE jail facility from owner and client agencies and allow communication links for municipal Emergency Operations Centers and 911 public service access points in the region. Excess fiber will be used for public safety communication, interoperability initiatives, economic development, unserved/underserved client access, and municipal purposes. Approach to addressing the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. As a "middle mile" project, there will be an interconnection point(s) which will terminate in unserved and underserved census tract(s) of the project area. Those terminus point(s) will include the following census tract(s): 305.01 The City of Auburn and participating cities intend that the portion of fiber that is not used for public safety, education and health care facilities will be used to serve the general public with focus on the unserved and underserved as provided and addressed by the participating cities coordinated network management policies. These policies will be developed in a manner that comply with the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. Type of broadband system. The type of broadband system that will be deployed within the scope of applicant's project consists of installing 288 fiber optic cable with 147,286 l.f. installed in existing city-owned conduit, 82,896 l.f. installed on utility poles within cities' rights-of-way, and 6,854 l.f. installed in new conduit. The network type and technology standards

used on this project will be multi-strand single mode fiber optic network with data throughput of one gigabit per second or more per site; Ethernet switching and routing between end points via Layer 2/Layer 3 VLAN configuration and routing protocols such as OSPF or BGP. Qualifications of the applicant. The qualifications of the applicant include the implementation of over 20 similar projects throughout jurisdictions that we have served. Each of these projects include management of construction and implementation of fiber and services such as Intelligent Transportation Systems and Municipal Wide Area Networks that run over this infrastructure. Overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system. The projected overall cost for the broadband system that the applicant is proposing is estimated at \$7,025,075. This total includes all associated expense relative to the installation of the fiber optic cable and equipment, in addition to the value of the City of Auburn's and participating cities' contributory assets of the existing conduit. As a result of the City of Auburn's and the participating cities' matching contribution of \$2,521,075 (\$2,371,075 "in-kind" contribution and \$150,000 Congressional Appropriation grant), the amount of applicant's BTOP grant funding request is \$4,505,000. Subscriber projections. This applicant is applying for funding for a BTOP "middle mile" project which will initially benefit public safety and emergency services, public education and health care institutions, and the excess fiber will provide benefit to the general public with focus on the unserved and underserved population. The public safety departments/agencies and emergency communication centers within the ten participating cities serve a population base of more than 410,000 residents. In addition, there are nine school districts with a combined student population of 116,177 and six regional hospitals that will access this fiber optic network. Jobs It is estimated that the planning, management and construction of this proposed federal funded project will create or save an estimated 100 jobs. The secondary or indirect costs by providing the development of this fiber optic infrastructure will have a very positive impact and benefit from an economic development perspective which ultimately will result in the creation of numerous additional jobs.