ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Utah Telecommunications Open Infrastructure Agency (UTOPIA), a collaboration between 16 Utah municipalities in the Great Salt Lake region of northern Utah, proposes to enhance its existing fiber network to bring improved broadband services to Perry, Layton, Centerville, West Valley, Murray, Midvale, Orem, and Payson, with the capacity to expand to the entire region. Government entities in the region, such as the offices of the Layton Chief of Police and the Mayor of Centerville City, have attested to the need for enhanced services to facilitate public safety, education and research, and day-to-day government transactions. UTOPIA also intends to use existing partnerships with the Utah Department of Transportation, the Utah Transit Authority, and the Utah Education Network to expand the network’s reach to more community anchor institutions, over 175 of which could benefit from the network.

The Community Partnership Project also proposes to:

- Construct 251 miles of new fiber while utilizing over 120 miles of existing fiber to offer speeds between 5 Mbps and 1 Gbps, capable of up to 10 Gbps. Twelve last-mile providers have already provided letters of intent to utilize the UTOPIA network to expand consumer Internet access to the approximately 154,000 households and 31,000 businesses in the area.

- Provide direct connections to approximately 400 anchor institutions, including as many as 161 public safety entities, 39 K-12 schools, one library, three community colleges, 12 colleges, 55 healthcare facilities, and 104 government buildings and centers.

- Leverage the benefits of the BTOP Round One $13.4M infrastructure award to the University of Utah by extending service to anchor institutions along the Wasatch Front.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

UTOPIA was formed in 2002 by 16 Utah cities as a way to provide critical telecommunications infrastructure to residents. Its network provides fiber service to the premises to allow subscribers to connect with friends, family, entertainment, schools, hospitals, and businesses with speed and clarity. Utopia plans to leverage an existing 24/7 network operations center in West Valley City to support service providers and respond to network alerts.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- University of Utah
- Utah Education Network

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.