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Organization: The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

Project Name: Metropolitan Unified Fiber Network

Project Type: Infrastructure

State(s): Wisconsin

Federal Award: \$5,106,373

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Metropolitan Unified Fiber Network project plans to deploy more than 100 miles of fiber-optic middle mile infrastructure to provide high-capacity broadband Internet connections for underserved community anchor institutions, and enable last-mile broadband services throughout the Madison, Middleton, and Monona, Wisconsin region. The project expects to directly connect nearly 100 community anchor institutions, including schools, public safety organizations, and a community college, at speeds of up to 10 Gbps. The project also expects to spur new or improved broadband Internet access for local residents and businesses, including as many as 47,000 households and 5,000 businesses, by enabling last mile service providers to connect to the project's open network.

The Metropolitan Unified Fiber Network project also proposes to:

- Promote public safety by enhancing broadband capabilities for fire, police, and emergency responders.
- Enable the use of electronic health records, telemedicine, and high-bandwidth medical research by a consortium of the University of Wisconsin (UW) School of Medicine and Public Health, UW Hospital and Clinics, American Family Children's Hospital, UW Medical Foundation, and Meriter Hospital.
- Improve educational opportunities and job creation by facilitating distance learning, research, and technological advancement at the area's institutions of higher education, including a local community college.
- Leverage a 42 percent match to maximize use of federal funds.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Metropolitan Unified Fiber Network is a collaborative metro fiber-optic network serving education, health, government, and not-for-profit community anchor institutions in the Madison, Middleton, and Monona, Wisconsin areas, and includes a partnership with Universal Electric, a Small Disadvantaged Business. The University of Wisconsin manages a 2,600-mile network across a six-state area and has a strong track record with similar projects. The City of Madison brings more than 20 years of conduit and fiber construction experience as well as fiber restoration, permitting, and planning expertise.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- City of Madison
- Dane County
- DANENet
- Madison Area Technical College
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Monona Grove School District
- State Lab of Hygiene
- South Central Library System
- Universal Electric
- Xiocom Wireless D/B/A MadCity Broadband

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant.

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

