

HARRISON COUNTY FISCAL COURT’S REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR EXPANDED BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICES

The Harrison County Fiscal Court is requesting proposals for the provision of expanded broadband internet services designed to provide adequate internet speeds to unserved and underserved households and businesses located in the County. This project will be funded in whole or in part using funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (“ARPA”), including Kentucky’s Broadband Deployment Fund established by House Bills 320 and 382 (Regular Session 2021).

INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

This Request for Proposals (RFP) contains specific submission requirements, general scope of service requirements, as well as terms, conditions, and other pertinent information necessary for submitting a proposal. Interested entities can obtain the Request for Proposal package from Bluegrass Area Development District at 699 Perimeter Dr. Lexington KY. 40517 or www.harrisoncountyfiscalcourt.com beginning 9/8/2023.

Questions should be directed via email to: Shane New at shanen@bgadd.org

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Harrison County Fiscal Court is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify a public/private partner(s) best qualified to assess the broadband needs for the county, design, engineer, and construct broadband infrastructure in the underserved and unserved areas of the county. And, once the infrastructure in place, the selected partner(s) will maintain and operate the network(s) and provide broadband services.

1. Installation and provision of broadband internet services that are designed to deliver, upon project completion, reliable symmetrical upload and download speeds of at least 100 megabits per second (Mbps), or, if such speeds are not feasible, reliable download speeds of at least 100 Mbps and upload speeds between at least 20 Mbps and 100 Mbps and be scalable to a minimum of 100 Mbps symmetrical download and upload speeds.
 - a.i. Harrison County request that all underserved/unserved areas in the county be served by FTTP infrastructure. If the proposed design includes other technologies, e.g., fixed wireless, respondents are requested to provide the following analysis:
 - a.i.1. Estimated CAPX variance between the proposed design and FTTP infrastructure
 - a.i.2. Estimated OPX variance between the proposed design and FTTP infrastructure

- a.i.3. Estimated speed-to-construct variance between the proposed design and FTTP infrastructure
- a.i.4. Can the proposed design be upgraded to FTTP in the future? If so, at what cost?

SUBMISSION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be received by the Harrison County Fiscal Court on or before 9/26/2023 at 12:00 p.m. Proposals may NOT be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days from the submission deadline.

Method of Submission: All proposal submissions shall be mailed or hand-delivered and addressed as follows:

PROPOSAL FOR BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICES
Judge Jason Marshall
Harrison County Fiscal Court
111 S. Main St. Ste 201
Cynthiana, KY 41031

Required Content of Proposal:

1. Contact Information

State the applicant organization's name and mailing address. State the primary contact person's name, title, telephone number, mailing address, and email address. State the project manager's name, title, telephone number, mailing address, and email address. State the application author's name, title, telephone number, mailing address, and email address.

2. Map and Description of Project Area

Describe the geographic coverage area of the proposed project. Include a map of the proposed project area. A map of a last mile project should include the service area boundaries and include place names, boundaries, buildings, road/street names or other features that clearly identify the project coverage area. For middle mile projects, the map should indicate the location of the middle mile facilities that will be placed.

3. Project Summary

Describe the project location, type of project construction, number of passings served and speed goals met or exceeded. Identify any project partners for the project. Provide a universal level of service that allows all residents and businesses to have access to comparable levels of service and pricing.

4. Anticipated Broadband Improvements

Identify the speeds currently available, if any, for each type of location and the speeds that

will be offered. Provide evidence demonstrating that, upon completion, the installed broadband infrastructure will reliably meet the minimum required 100 Mbps download speeds and 100 Mbps upload speeds. Identify the number of households and businesses located in the County that will be eligible for services upon project completion. Provide evidence in the proposal demonstrating that the proposed project is for unserved or underserved areas.

5. Funding and Costs

Identify and describe all sources of funding for the project. Identify the expected total costs to complete the project. If the project covers multiple counties, identify the expected costs to complete the portion of the project located in Harrison County.

6. Permits and Approvals

Provide copies of all preconstruction permits and approvals granted to begin construction in Harrison County.

7. Project Schedule/Work Plan

Provide the proposed project schedule, which shall include all key planning, procurement, construction, installation, testing, and service activation milestones.

8. Financial Information

Provide a five-year stand-alone financial plan for the proposed project, including a description of how the costs and anticipated revenue will result in the financial viability of the project over time.

RFP submissions must be submitted by 9/26/2023, at 12:00 PM, prevailing local time. Planned timeline and milestones:

DATE	MILESTONE
September 8, 2023	RFP Issued
Sept 11 – Sept 20, 2023	Questions and requests for clarification interval. Inquires due by September 20 at 4:00 PM prevailing local time
September 22, 2023	Final addendum to RFP/Responses to questions and clarifications issued
September 26, 2023	RFP proposals due by 12:00 PM prevailing local time*

CONTRACT/AWARD

The procurement of the contract will be through a competitive negotiation process. Due to the specialized services required to be rendered under the contract, the award of the contract will not necessarily be awarded based upon the lowest price. Rather, the contract will be awarded to the entity that the Fiscal Court determines, in writing, and in its sole discretion, has demonstrated the

capability to deliver fast, reliable, and affordable broadband internet services to the County's unserved and underserved households and businesses and whose proposal is the most advantageous to the County based upon those factors and the reciprocal preference for resident bidders required by KRS 45A.494.

The Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any formalities. The award will be made without discussion except as provided in KRS 45A.370.