

# City of Waterloo, IA

## BROADBAND ASSESSMENT AND FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS

JUNE 2022



# AGENDA

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## Project Background

- Project Information
- Timeline
- Backbone Plan
- Fiber to the Home Plan
  - Consumer Survey Results
  - Buildout Concept by Phase

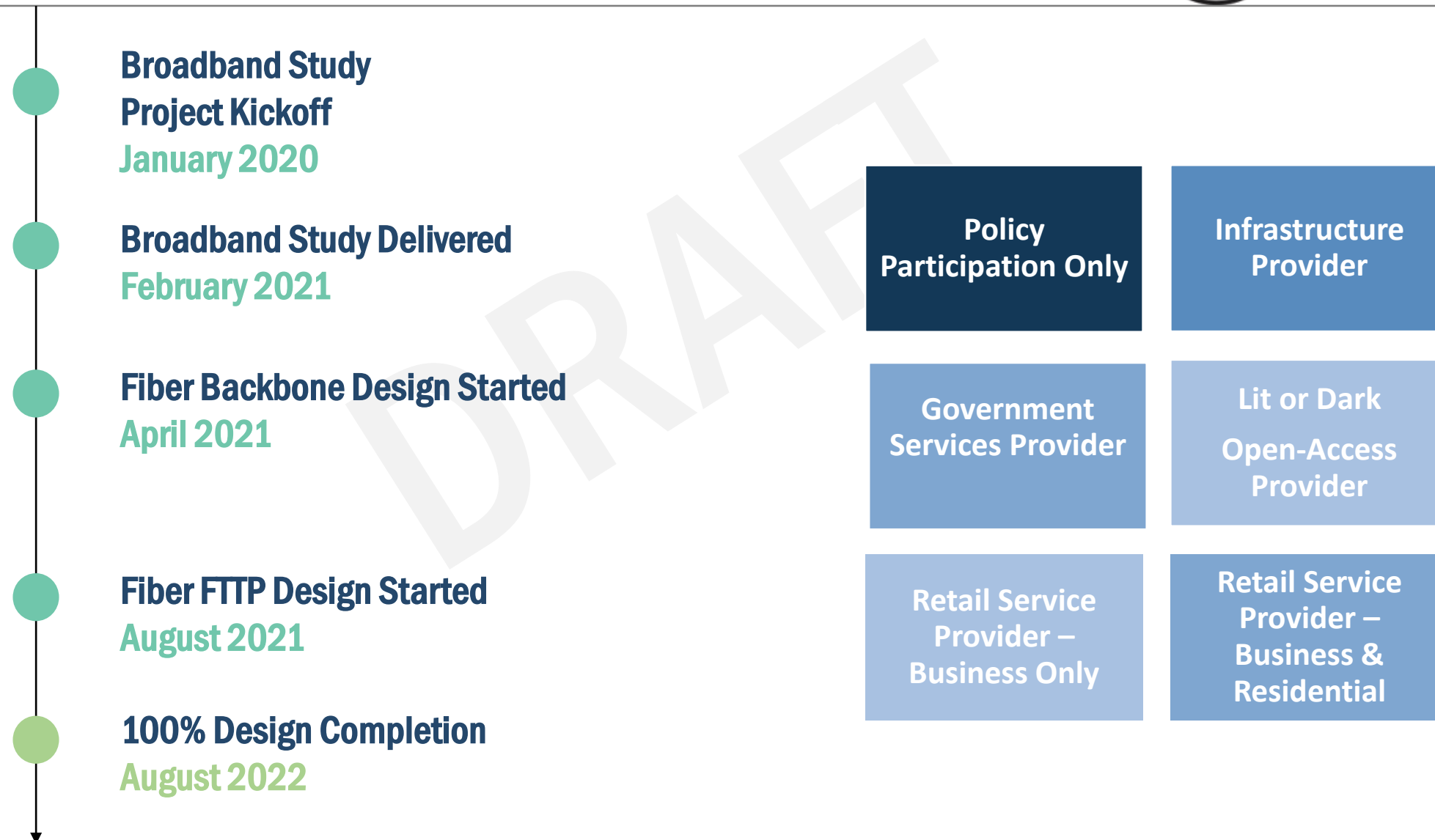
## Business Model and Deployment Options for Consideration

- Review Business Models
- Review Supporting Financials
- Project Phasing

## Recommendations & Next Steps



# Project Background



# Project Background

## Project Goals

- **Develop a Fiber Backbone to support City municipal operations, including utility operations, traffic, public safety and future Smart City initiatives.**
- **Develop a Plan to deliver next-generation Fiber to the Premise/Home services enabling high-speed access to every home and business throughout Waterloo.**

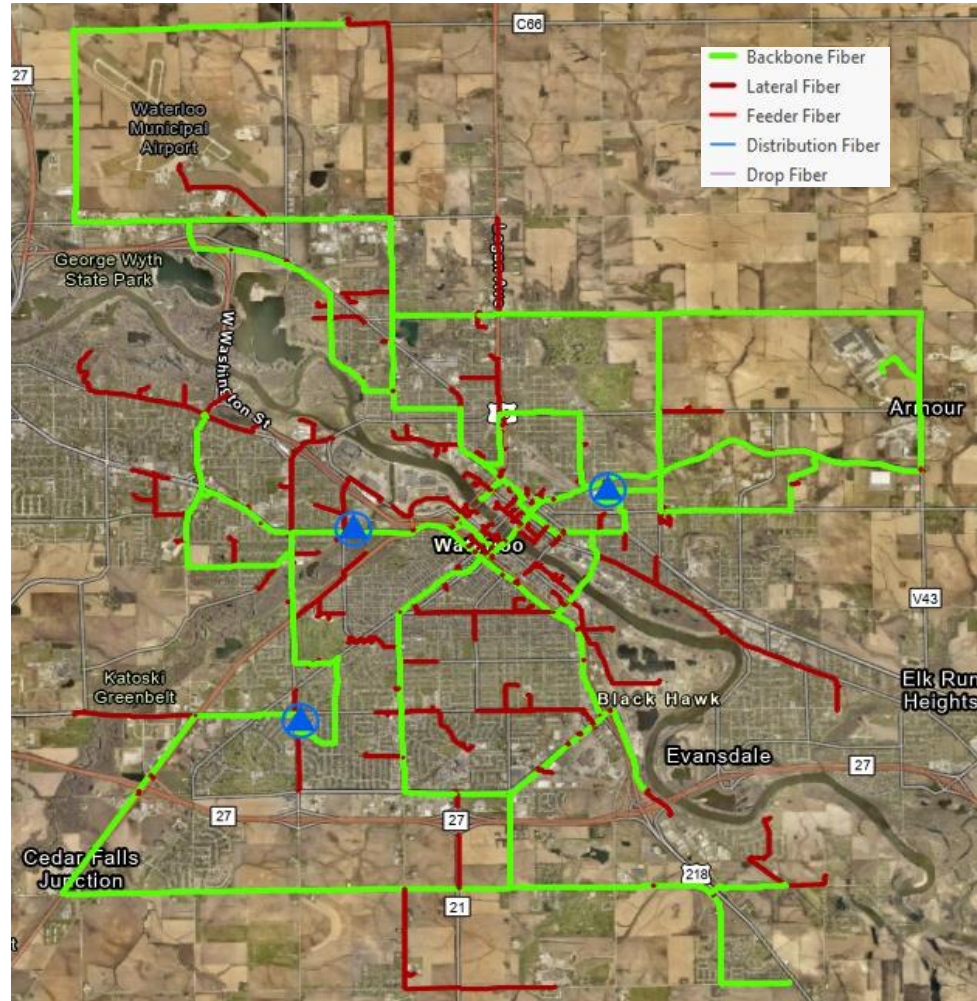
## Project Opportunities

- **Utilize one-time ARPA funding to support broadband deployment in select areas of the City where access, affordability and reliability are of concern**
- **Explore partnership with neighboring municipalities to simplify the deployment of retail services leveraging their core network and content**
- **Leverage additional funding opportunities, including potential EDA award, and upcoming Infrastructure funding programs**



# Project Background

## Fiber Backbone Plan



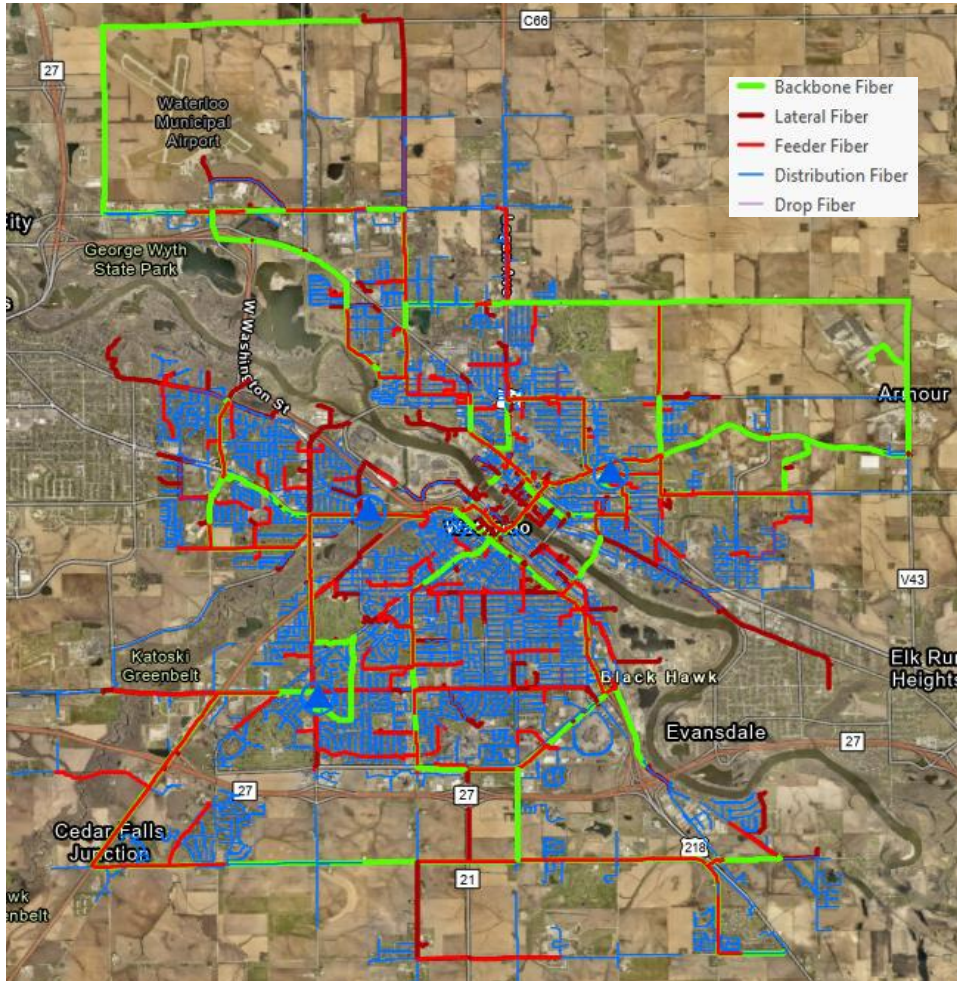
Backbone Cost Element	Description	Current Cost Estimate
Design	Design, Engineering, Permitting Preparation	\$922,049
Construction	UG Construction of Conduit and Fiber	\$23,000,000
Construction Contingency	Contingency	\$2,300,000
CEI and Project Management	Construction Management, Inspections Services	\$1,200,000
<b>Fiber OSP Construction Total:</b>		<b>\$27,422,049</b>
Core/Edge Network Equipment	Core Network Switches/Routers	\$500,000
Site Equipment	Premise CPE, rack, battery backup (\$3k per site)	\$984,000
Facilities	Data Center Renovation/Preparation or Pre-Fab	\$300,000
Software	Network Management Software, Fiber Management	\$75,000
<b>Fiber Backbone Project Total:</b>		<b>\$29,281,049</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> Backbone design was contracted by the City in 2021 and is underway.

<sup>[2]</sup> Estimated \$1.9M of construction is for costs associated with UG construction of critical/difficult crossings.

# Project Background

## Fiber to the Premise Plan



FTTP Cost Element	Description	Current Cost Estimate
Design	Design, Engineering, Permitting Preparation	\$3,854,000
Construction	UG Construction of Conduit and Fiber	\$46,250,000
Backbone FTTH Adder	Additional FTTP conduit included in Backbone segments	\$4,000,000
Contingency	10% Construction Contingency	\$5,250,000
CEI and Project Management	Construction Management, Inspections Services	\$2,400,000
Fiber OSP Construction Total:		<b>\$61,754,000</b>
Facilities	Data Center Renovation/Preparation or Pre-Fab	\$900,000
General Equipment and Vehicles	General Tools and Equipment	\$383,000
Core Network Equipment, Software, etc.	Hardware, Software and Storage	\$4,521,600
Fiber Drops to Premises	Based on Estimated Uptakes 35% Single-Family; 35% MDU, 35% Business	\$18,816,612
Fiber FTTP Project Total:		<b>\$86,375,200</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> Backbone design was contracted by the City in 2021 and is underway.

<sup>[2]</sup> Estimated \$4M of construction includes additional duct for FTTP to be included in the backbone route. Not needed if build is for backbone only.



# Project Background

## Consumer Survey

### Broadband Survey Overview

April 2022

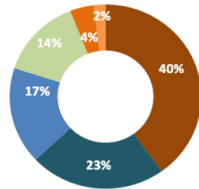


**2,727**  
SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

**98%**

HAVE BROADBAND

The top reason why **2%** of respondents do not have broadband is because it is **too expensive**.



- Too Expensive
- Services Slow/Unreliable
- Not Available
- Smartphone Meets Need
- Access Elsewhere
- Do Not Want



**COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

During this time, 83% of Waterloo's citizens said that their **needs for broadband access have increased**.

Providers in Waterloo

MEDIACOM  
CENTURYLINK

CFU  
T-MOBILE

RISE BROADBAND  
HUGHESNET

VIASAT  
OTHERS

**Median Speed**

**75.26 Mbps**  
DOWNLOAD SPEED

**22.42 Mbps**  
UPLOAD SPEED

**Average Price**

Per Expected Download Speed

**\$92.11**

25 Mbps

**\$3.68/Mbps**

**\$88.74**

100 Mbps

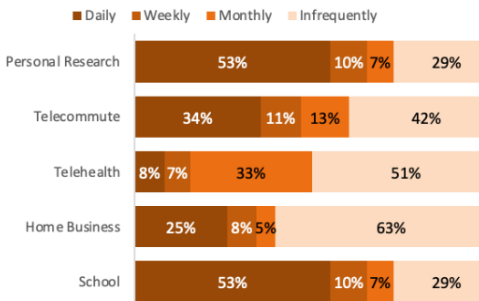
**\$0.89/Mbps**

**\$108.78**

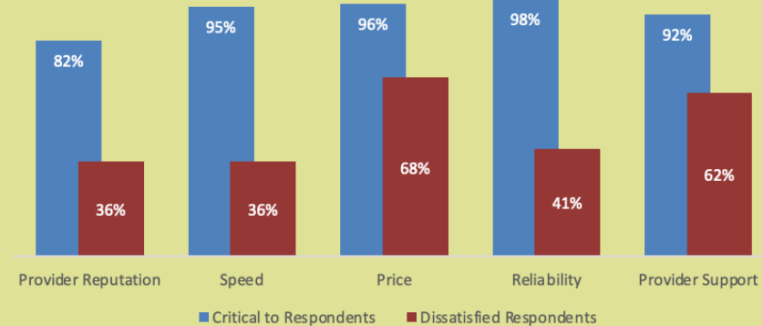
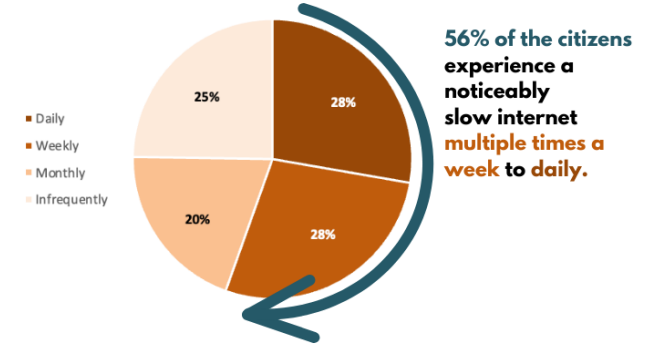
1 Gbps

**\$0.11/Mbps**

Frequency of Broadband Use per Residential Activity



How often does your internet slow down?



Most citizens consider **speed, price, reliability and provider's reputation and support** to be of critical importance to them.

Over half of them are dissatisfied with the **price and provider support** they are currently receiving.

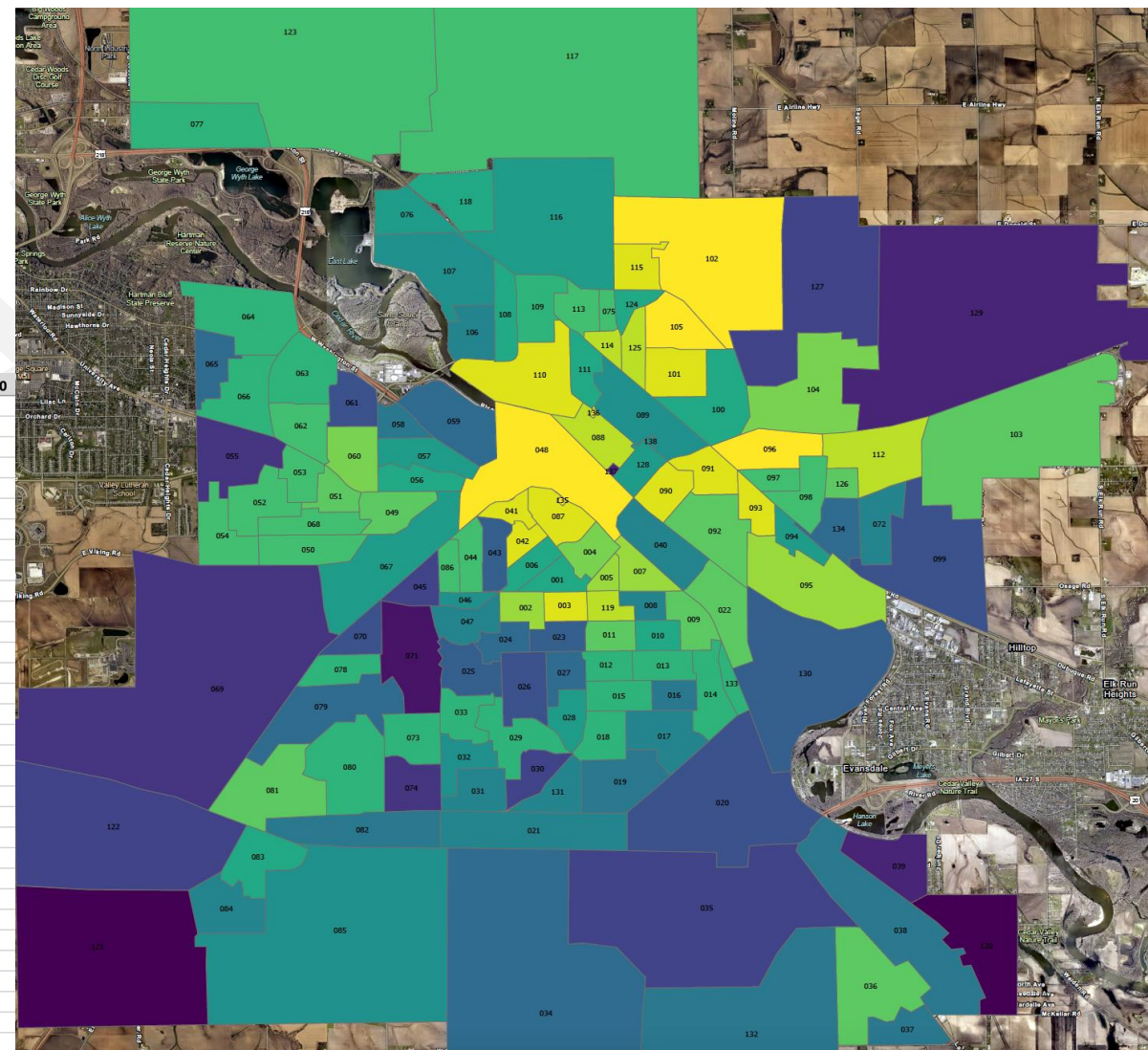


# Project Background

## Determining Priority Areas

- Route Distance
- Avg. Cost Per Foot
- Surveys by LCP
- HHP Counts
- Avg. Cost per HHP
- Download and Upload Speeds
- Total LCP Cost
- HUD Low/Mod
- 100/20 Speeds

LCP	Route	HHP	Total Cost	Cost per Ft	Cost per HHP	HUD Low/M	QT	DSPD AVG	UPSD AVG	100x20
DIST-001	11,934.35	235	\$ 292,861.65	\$ 24.54	\$ 1,246.22	1	15	113	46	Yes
DIST-002	11,497.48	248	\$ 261,877.25	\$ 22.78	\$ 1,055.96	2	25	143	16	No
DIST-003	8,732.32	255	\$ 219,665.02	\$ 25.16	\$ 861.43	1	28	85	14	No
DIST-004	16,857.87	299	\$ 465,946.96	\$ 27.64	\$ 1,558.35	1	11	96	14	No
DIST-005	7,831.01	160	\$ 178,457.51	\$ 22.79	\$ 1,115.36	1	10	97	33	No
DIST-006	14,726.89	293	\$ 360,385.89	\$ 24.47	\$ 1,229.99	1	10	192	31	Yes
DIST-007	7,086.28	169	\$ 224,372.31	\$ 31.66	\$ 1,327.65	1	9	26	6	No
DIST-008	8,516.95	239	\$ 241,397.15	\$ 28.34	\$ 1,010.03	2	19	106	39	Yes
DIST-009	17,290.79	253	\$ 429,703.46	\$ 24.85	\$ 1,698.43	1	34	57	19	No
DIST-010	19,534.77	225	\$ 410,055.70	\$ 20.99	\$ 1,822.47	2	19	93	19	No
DIST-011	11,710.75	253	\$ 257,352.05	\$ 21.98	\$ 1,017.20	1	35	103	18	No
DIST-012	12,642.09	258	\$ 289,971.72	\$ 22.94	\$ 1,123.92	3	36	87	16	No
DIST-013	20,651.20	259	\$ 413,913.31	\$ 20.04	\$ 1,598.12	2	29	98	40	No
DIST-014	13,281.83	158	\$ 277,453.60	\$ 20.89	\$ 1,756.04	2	13	99	24	No
DIST-015	17,848.21	241	\$ 361,699.70	\$ 20.27	\$ 1,500.83	3	24	134	17	No
DIST-016	9,206.12	248	\$ 224,437.36	\$ 24.38	\$ 904.99	2	16	128	31	Yes
DIST-017	18,336.43	386	\$ 443,437.76	\$ 24.18	\$ 1,148.80	1	40	112	21	Yes
DIST-018	16,646.32	218	\$ 338,965.06	\$ 20.36	\$ 1,554.89	2	28	99	12	No
DIST-019	25,599.20	576	\$ 618,629.26	\$ 24.17	\$ 1,074.01	1	24	113	23	Yes
DIST-020	28,298.08	232	\$ 738,720.80	\$ 26.10	\$ 3,184.14	1	22	138	35	Yes
DIST-021	8,849.91	43	\$ 191,302.96	\$ 21.62	\$ 4,448.91	3	2	127	12	No
DIST-022	12,125.13	135	\$ 318,585.01	\$ 26.27	\$ 2,359.89	1	4	124	15	No
DIST-023	13,027.54	185	\$ 264,360.43	\$ 20.29	\$ 1,428.98	2	27	138	61	Yes
DIST-024	10,485.93	230	\$ 243,359.27	\$ 23.21	\$ 1,058.08	2	25	112	21	Yes
DIST-025	26,902.51	244	\$ 534,171.38	\$ 19.86	\$ 2,189.23	5	41	74	13	No
DIST-026	19,855.33	257	\$ 442,223.15	\$ 22.27	\$ 1,720.71	2	25	126	23	Yes
DIST-027	15,190.94	254	\$ 316,367.48	\$ 20.83	\$ 1,245.54	2	29	136	23	Yes
DIST-028	21,576.63	251	\$ 416,901.53	\$ 19.32	\$ 1,660.96	2	25	68	21	No
DIST-029	21,549.20	414	\$ 445,410.76	\$ 20.67	\$ 1,075.87	2	42	98	17	No
DIST-030	10,336.72	120	\$ 274,729.19	\$ 26.58	\$ 2,289.41	1	20	142	32	Yes
DIST-031	22,844.50	274	\$ 423,429.33	\$ 18.54	\$ 1,545.36	4	38	46	16	No
DIST-032	14,385.58	247	\$ 269,953.00	\$ 18.77	\$ 1,092.93	4	26	76	17	No



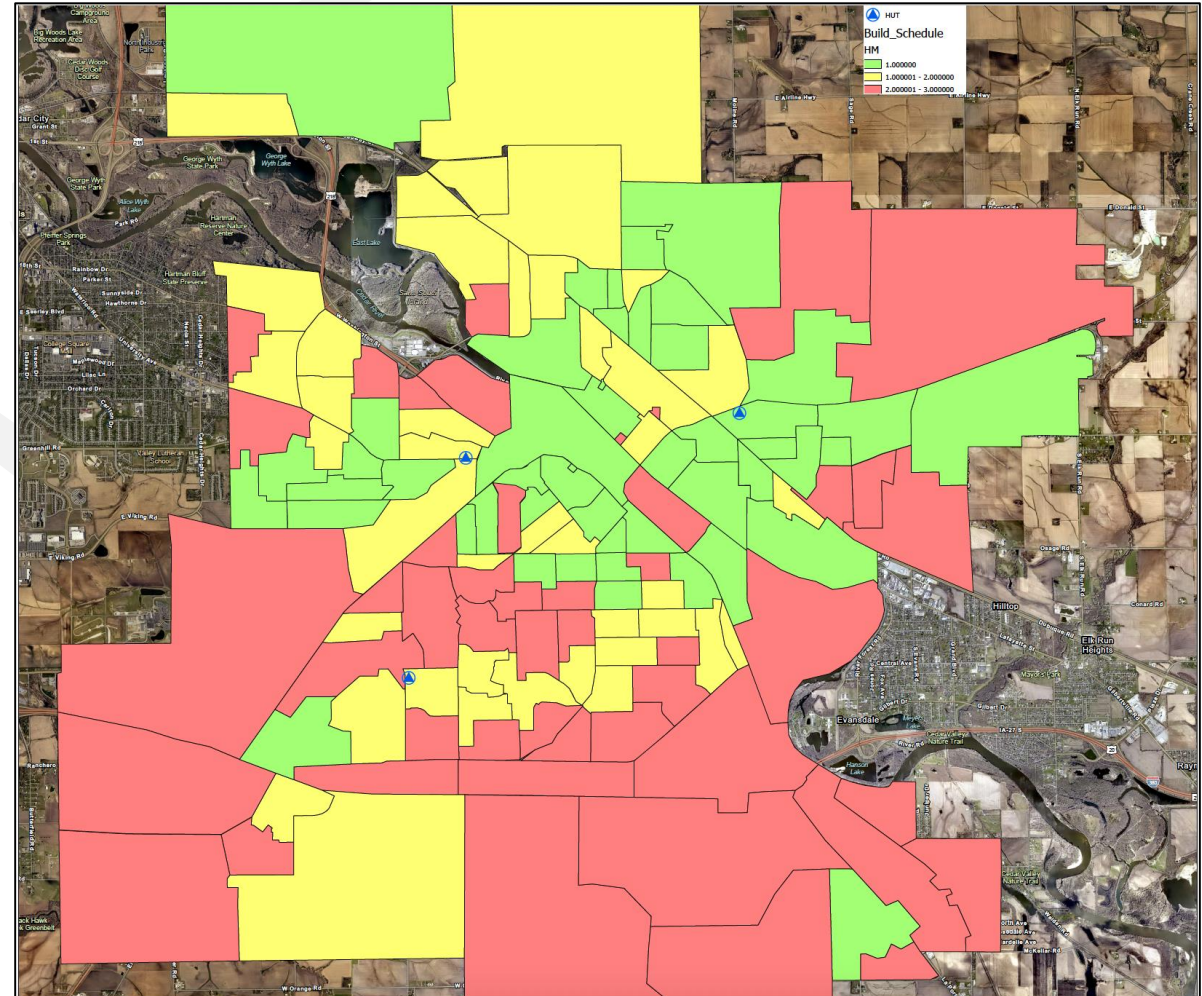


# Project Background

## Buildout Concept by Phase with OSP Costs

Phase 1	10,970 HHP	\$14.71 M	Green
Phase 2	9,326 HHP	\$14.60 M	Yellow
Phase 3	8,897 HHP	\$16.60 M	Red

LCP	Route	HHP	Total Cost	Cost per Ft	Cost per HHP	HUD Low/M	
DIST-002	11,497.48	248	\$ 261,877.25	\$ 22.78	\$ 1,055.96	2	1
DIST-003	8,732.32	255	\$ 219,665.02	\$ 25.16	\$ 861.43	1	1
DIST-004	16,857.87	299	\$ 465,946.96	\$ 27.64	\$ 1,558.35	1	1
DIST-005	7,831.01	160	\$ 178,457.51	\$ 22.79	\$ 1,115.36	1	1
DIST-007	7,086.28	169	\$ 224,372.31	\$ 31.66	\$ 1,327.65	1	1
DIST-009	17,290.79	253	\$ 429,703.46	\$ 24.85	\$ 1,698.43	1	1
DIST-011	11,710.75	253	\$ 257,352.05	\$ 21.98	\$ 1,017.20	1	1
DIST-022	12,125.13	135	\$ 318,585.01	\$ 26.27	\$ 2,359.89	1	1
DIST-036	21,703.79	441	\$ 396,033.88	\$ 18.25	\$ 898.04	2	1
DIST-041	11,306.10	223	\$ 298,388.42	\$ 26.39	\$ 1,338.06	1	1
DIST-042	10,921.86	230	\$ 268,215.48	\$ 24.56	\$ 1,166.15	1	1
DIST-044	12,259.77	250	\$ 270,017.38	\$ 22.02	\$ 1,080.07	2	1
DIST-048	6,787.01	250	\$ 242,334.87	\$ 35.71	\$ 969.34	1	1
DIST-049	12,902.61	244	\$ 271,137.10	\$ 21.01	\$ 1,111.22	3	1
DIST-050	14,522.22	215	\$ 287,902.53	\$ 19.82	\$ 1,339.08	3	1
DIST-051	11,279.64	233	\$ 288,169.82	\$ 25.55	\$ 1,236.78	3	1
DIST-052	13,903.55	219	\$ 309,998.09	\$ 22.30	\$ 1,415.52	3	1
DIST-054	16,118.33	255	\$ 323,327.59	\$ 20.06	\$ 1,267.95	3	1
DIST-060	22,132.22	285	\$ 491,359.93	\$ 22.20	\$ 1,724.07	1	1
DIST-068	8,854.49	132	\$ 179,537.96	\$ 20.28	\$ 1,360.14	3	1
DIST-075	4,597.90	118	\$ 117,363.10	\$ 25.53	\$ 994.60	1	1
DIST-081	17,153.54	460	\$ 390,605.35	\$ 22.77	\$ 849.14	2	1
DIST-086	9,115.57	185	\$ 210,930.67	\$ 23.14	\$ 1,140.17	2	1
DIST-087	21,482.02	471	\$ 618,279.79	\$ 28.78	\$ 1,312.70	1	1
DIST-088	11,268.93	165	\$ 313,713.55	\$ 27.84	\$ 1,901.29	1	1
DIST-090	13,722.10	250	\$ 360,935.86	\$ 26.30	\$ 1,443.74	1	1
DIST-091	16,302.73	249	\$ 402,533.93	\$ 24.69	\$ 1,616.60	1	1
DIST-092	18,163.65	239	\$ 432,329.04	\$ 23.80	\$ 1,808.91	2	1
DIST-093	12,472.99	234	\$ 261,039.94	\$ 20.93	\$ 1,115.56	2	1
DIST-095	17,365.05	274	\$ 352,500.72	\$ 20.30	\$ 1,286.50	1	1
DIST-096	12,956.82	299	\$ 290,294.96	\$ 22.40	\$ 970.89	1	1
DIST-097	6,829.43	193	\$ 161,239.78	\$ 23.61	\$ 835.44	1	1
DIST-098	6,428.18	250	\$ 163,716.34	\$ 25.47	\$ 654.87	1	1
DIST-101	25,301.64	250	\$ 496,465.53	\$ 19.62	\$ 1,985.86	1	1



# Business Model Review



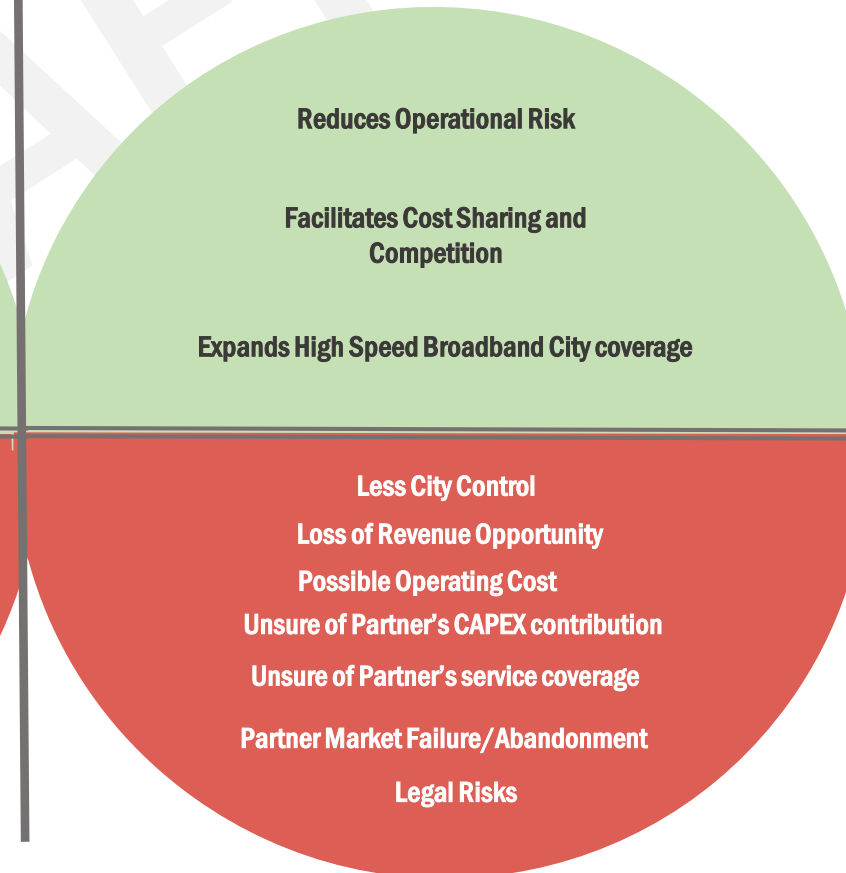
## Retail Provider

City's muni/revenue bond and broadband services revenue - funded network, only connecting paying residential and/or business subscribers



## Open Access

Competitively select retail ISPs to partially fund network build out, connecting paying residential and/or business subscribers





# Key Decisions and Direction

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- **What Business Model does the City Council Prefer?**
  1. Retail Model deployed under WCU to provide full retail services
  2. Open-access conduit and dark fiber system
  3. Build backbone, and wait and see of FTTP/FTTH
- **How should the City fund this project?**
  - ARPA allocations
  - Bond/Finance – General Obligation or Telecom Revenue
  - State and/or Federal Grants
- **If GO Bond financing is preferred, there is a mid-July deadline for referendum language**





# Recommendations & Next Steps

- **Finalize Design**  
**August 2022**
  - PE Stamps
  - Final Engineers Estimates
  - Complete Design Package
- **Procurement of Construction and Materials**  
**August 2022**
  - Release RFP for Fiber OSP Construction
  - Release RFP for Materials
  - Issue Contracts
- **Procurement of Project Components**  
**January 2023**
  - Procure facilities and begin renovations
  - Procure network equipment, software and services
- **Finalize Agreements for Services**  
**January 2023**

# QUESTIONS?

*June 20, 2022*

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