



Schoharie County Economic Development

Coordinator: William Cherry, County Treasurer

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

BROADBAND SYSTEM OPERATION, MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

Issue Date: 06/01/2015

Title: County of Schoharie Broadband Initiative

Issuing Agency: Schoharie County Treasurer's Office,
Economic Development Division

Address: P.O. Box 9
284 Main Street, 1st Floor
Schoharie, NY 12157

Project Location: Schoharie County, New York State

Project Schedule: To be determined. This will be dependent upon the securing of New York State and Federal grants to support the implementation of the Broadband Initiative.

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Response to RFQ: Label envelope: Schoharie County Treasurer, Broadband RFQ

Responses are due before 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at the location listed above. Summaries of qualifications and experience will be stamped and recorded as they are received. Submissions received after this date cannot be considered and will be returned to the proposer unopened.

Responders must understand and be prepared to meet and/or satisfy the compliance guidelines of New York State and Empire State Development for Minority and/or Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).

Purpose:

The purpose of the RFQ is to solicit submissions highlighting qualifications and a summary of experience from public organizations, cooperatives and private companies working in broadband network planning, development, operations, and maintenance. Please include as a part of any submission the following:

- Broadband network planning examples;
- Broadband systems developed;
- Broadband system ownership examples;
- Broadband system operations;
- Broadband maintenance capabilities;
- Non-binding Letter of Intent to financially support the Broadband Initiative at appropriate levels citing examples when this has occurred;
- Non-binding Letter of Intent to provide fair and reasonable equity to public partners. Cite examples where this has occurred or has been proposed;
- Record of experience and success in preparing and securing New York State and Federal grant funds or low interest loans to support Broadband system development.

The County of Schoharie is seeking a business partner(s) to join in the implementation of a broadband coverage strategy for Schoharie County outlined in the recently completed FARR Broadband Coverage and Implementation Plan, a copy of which is available upon request.

The role of this partner(s) will be to potentially own the expanded broadband equipment and network, invest private and public sector capital to support the build-out, manage and operate the system, maintain the system, and provide equity positions to other public sector partners included in the business transaction when appropriate value is produced. It is anticipated that each phase of implementation will be viewed as a stand-alone project achieved through negotiations with all involved parties.

Evaluation:

The Schoharie County Treasurer and Economic Development Coordinator along with the County's IT Director, and the lead Senior Planner from the Planning Department will do an initial analysis and evaluation of submissions and rank the top three submissions along with a recommendation of the top candidate to the Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on June 17, 2015 with a request for full Board of Supervisors approval at their regular monthly meeting scheduled for June 19, 2015.