



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
First Level Engineering Study for Fiber to the Home Network
for Torrington, CT

OVERVIEW

The Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOCG), in cooperation with Northwest ConneCT, is seeking a qualified firm to carry out a first level engineering study for a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network in Torrington, CT.

It is a foundational goal of our region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to upgrade the region's broadband infrastructure with a FTTH network. These networks begin with engineering surveys that establish locations and strand densities of fiber optic cables, where to place intermediate distribution points, and where to locate splicing and splicing cases. Only when such a survey has been completed can a refined sense of network costs be developed. This project will conduct such a survey for Torrington, CT our region's largest municipality.

NHCOCG is a coordinating body for chief elected officials maintained by twenty-one municipalities in northwest Connecticut. NHCOCG will administer the funding for this work.

Northwest ConneCT is a non-profit advocacy group formed for two purposes: to orchestrate for our region a universal gigabit data highway using fiber optic transmission lines; and to promote economic and community development made possible by such a network. Northwest ConneCT is proposing a fiber network extending over some 25 municipalities in the northwest corner.

Torrington, CT parameters:

- 204 road miles
- Approximately 23 miles of existing undergrounding of utility wiring
- Approximately 16,600 homes

WORK PRODUCTS & TASKS

1. Conduct field survey of existing aerial and underground pathways for proposed Fiber to the Home (FTTH) network serving 16,631 living units in Torrington, CT
2. Address verification and wiring limits and identify existing Network Interface Devices (NID) locations.
3. Identify existing service wires as buried or aerial with distance from serving terminal to the home.

4. Determine High Level F1 feeder routes (lines connecting central distribution point to intermediate distribution points without servicing any premises directly) and proposed fiber strand count per cable.
5. Determine High Level F2 distribution routes (lines connected to F1 feeders that do thence connect to premises), size of fiber strands, proposed fiber counts per cable, and locations of intermediate distribution hubs.
6. Create Auto CAD drawings with feeder route boundaries, distribution fiber hub boundaries, and Bill of Materials for fiber cables, hubs, terminals, and splice cases.

PROJECT TIMELINE AND OVERSIGHT

The project will be initiated and completed between October 2020 and March 30, 2021. The consultant's work will be overseen by the NHCOG's Community & Economic Development Director and the President of Northwest ConneCT.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION OF CONSULTANT

A selection committee will review responses to this request for proposals. The recommendation of this selection committee will be forwarded to the NHCOG board to approve the selection of a consultant.

The following criteria will be used in evaluating proposals:

- Previous experience in the services required and overall qualifications of the consultant.
- Consultant cost estimate, and associated allocation of personnel resources for completion of the project tasks.
- Reasonable proximity to the Northwest Hills Region and knowledge of the region.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Name and address of firm or individual and contact name.
2. List of proposed personnel noting relevant experience.
3. Proposed scope of work and deliverables.
4. Cost estimate for proposed work.
5. Description of similar projects completed and contacts for professional reference.
6. Statement of capability to perform the required work within the required time frame.

To be considered, consultant proposals must be submitted in electronic form by email to jayer@northwesthillscog.org and be received **noon on September 18, 2020**.

No oral interpretations will be made to any potential respondent as to the meaning of any requirements specified within this RFP. In preparing the consultant's response, the respondent shall rely on what has been communicated in writing and no oral communication shall become the basis for any subsequent protest of the selection process. NHCOG retains the right to reject any submittals, request additional information, or re-issue this RFP.

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