

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Terrance Augustine
Brandon Haskell
Jeanne Pearl-Wright
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MEMBERS

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Dairus Reynnet
Wayne Ridge
Brian Lautzenheiser
Jim Mott
Jeremy Whittum
Barbara Rogers

1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CHARLOTTE

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Additions and Changes.
4. Approval of the October 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes.
5. Limited Public Comment.
6. Broadband Action Team Update.
7. Miscellaneous.
8. Limited Public Comment.
9. Adjournment.

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners may be present at this meeting.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION
COMMITTEE MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2022

4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Wayne Ridge, Dairus Reynnet, Brian Droscha, Brandon Haskell, Mark Mudry and Barbara Rogers

MEMBER ABSENT: Commissioner Brian Lautzenheiser

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Jeremy Whittum; Eric Daley, Nathan Nighbert and John Fuentes

The October 5, 2022 regular meeting of the Information Technology and Communication Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairperson Ridge.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Haskell moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Commissioner Reynnet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Haskell moved to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2022 meeting, as presented. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Technology Services Director, Eric Daley, provided an update on behalf of the Community Broadband Action Team. It was reported that the request for proposal (RFP) for broadband wired infrastructure was published. A pre-bid meeting was held on September 23, 2022 and eight (8) internet service providers were in attendance. A period to submit questions related to the RFP was provided and the County will post its responses to questions received by October 7, 2022. Potential bidders have until October 12, 2022 to submit a notice of intent to bid. Bids are due on November 10, 2022 and the Community Broadband Action Team is scheduled to meet on November 14, 2022 to begin the review and scoring process with the intent of presenting bids received and a recommendation to the Committee at its December regular meeting. Discussion held.

There was also discussion regarding the approved Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) projects within the County which are expected to be completed by 2025 to provide service in the approved unserved areas. Discussion held.

Technology Services Director, Mr. Daley also reported the tabletop exercise scheduled in coordination with Emergency Management to test the Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP).

It was also reported that Deputy Director Nathan Nighbert was recognized by the Michigan Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) as the 2021 911 Information Technologist of the Year.

Chairperson Ridge adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Information Technology and Communication Committee will be held at 4:00pm on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 in the Board of Commissioners Room in the Eaton County Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte MI 48813.

Wayne Ridge, Chairperson

The Eaton County Broadband Communication Action Team received a total of 6 proposals from internet services providers (ISPs) to increase the accessibility of reliable internet connectivity throughout Eaton County. Proposals were received from the following ISPs.

ACD.NET

AT&T

Comcast

HomeWorks

Mercury Broadband

Midwest Energy

Proposals were reviewed and scored individually by nine members of the Eaton County Broadband Communication Action Team. Upon review of the proposals, the team came to a consensus that the proposal submitted by ACD.NET would move forward as the recommendation. ACD.NET submitted 7 different bids zone covering various geographic regions of Eaton County identified as having less than 100 Mbps down / 20 Mbps up internet speeds.

As part of the selection process, the team selected 3 of the 7 proposed bids zones to move forward as the recommendation. Bids zone identified by ACD.NET as Carmel Township, West, and South East were selected be viable to move forward as a recommendation. These three bid zones account for a total of 2,134 addresses identified as having less than 100 Mbps down / 20 Mbps up internet speeds. This accommodates at total of 35.88% of the total addresses identified as being classified as underserved/unserved. The major contributing factor to selecting 3 of the 7 proposed bid zones was related to maximizing the leverage provided by utilizing available matching American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars as matching funds in pursuit of a Realizing Opportunity Infrastructure Network (ROBIN) grant. The total cost of the recommended 3 bid zone project is estimated at a total cost of \$14,405,250.00. These costs are broken down as the following:

\$2,881,050.00	Total Internet Service Provider Capital Investment
\$2,881,050.00	Total local funding commitments
<u>\$8,643,150.00</u>	Total ROBIN Grant Fund Dollars to be applied for in partnership with ACD.NET
\$14,405,250.00	Total Cost of three proposed ACD.NET bid zones.

Moving forward, the Eaton County Broadband Communication Action Team will be working with ACD.NET to start the ROBIN grant application process. At this time, the team is being advised that the ROBIN grant application process will open in early January, 2023. Upon opening, the application window will remain open for 60 days. The timeline of the review and award process for submitted grant applications is undetermined at this time. The Michigan High Speed Internet Office has a virtual meeting scheduled for December 15th, 2022 to share further details of the grant application process.

Vendor Bid Zone	Selected Bid Zones			ACD.NET North West	ACD.NET North East	ACD.NET East	ACD.NET South West	Totals
	ACD.NET Carmel Twp	ACD.NET West	ACD.NET South East					
Road Miles	55.22	90.04	32.41	120.00	36.45	50.85	75.59	460.56
Number of Targeted Addresses	729	1009	396	826	364	343	523	4190
Grant or funding already awarded	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Service Provider Capital Investment	\$900,300.00	\$1,458,600.00	\$522,150.00	\$1,902,900.00	\$582,750.00	\$798,750.00	\$1,187,850.00	\$7,353,300.00
ARPA Funding Requested from Eaton County	\$900,300.00	\$1,458,600.00	\$522,150.00	\$1,902,900.00	\$582,750.00	\$798,750.00	\$1,187,850.00	\$7,353,300.00
Additional Funding Needed	\$2,700,900.00	\$4,375,800.00	\$1,566,450.00	\$5,708,700.00	\$1,748,250.00	\$2,396,250.00	\$3,563,550.00	\$22,059,900.00
Source of Additional Funding	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	ROBIN, BEAD	
Total Cost to Build	\$4,501,500.00	\$7,293,000.00	\$2,610,750.00	\$9,514,500.00	\$2,913,750.00	\$3,993,750.00	\$5,939,250.00	\$36,766,500.00
Total Unserved and Underserved Addresses Identified In Eaton County Broadband Study	5947							
Total Targeted Addresses of Proposed Project	2134	35.88%						Note: There were a total of 5,947 addresses identified as qualifying for this project in Eaton County.
Total Internet Service Provider Capital Investment	\$2,881,050.00	20.0%						
Total ARPA Funding Requested from Eaton County	\$2,881,050.00	20.0%						
Total ROBIN Grant Fund Dollars Being Requested	\$8,643,150.00	60.0%						
	\$14,405,250.00							

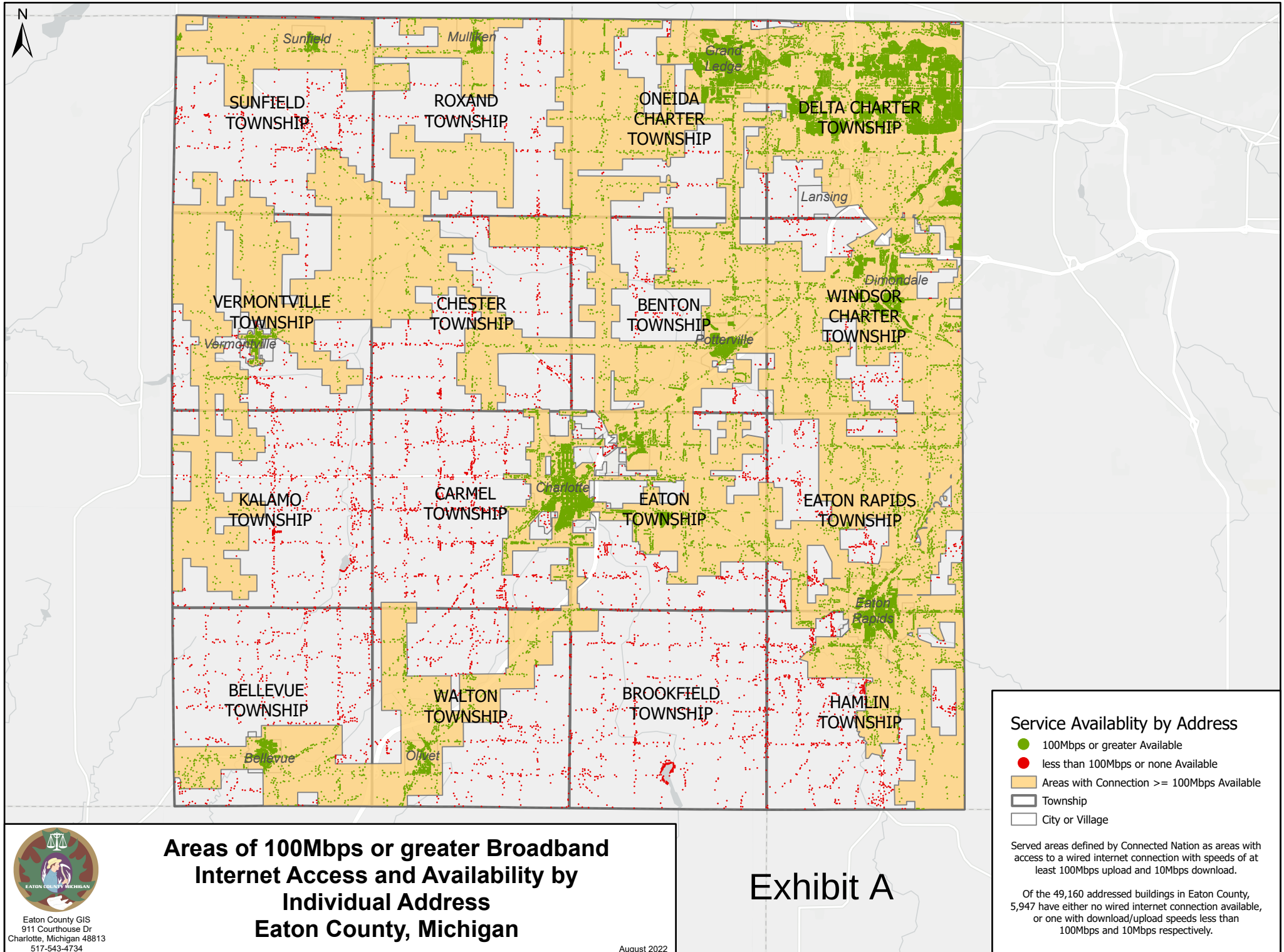
Notes: Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN)
Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Vendor	AT&T	Comcast	Mercury Broadband	Midwest Energy	Midwest Energy	HomeWorks	HomeWorks
Bid Zone	Undefined	All Unserved	All Unserved	A - Walton, Brookfield, Hamlin	Bellevue, Kalamo	A. North	B. West
Road Miles	0.00	350.00	527.93	43.00	114.00	54.8	130.9
Number of Targeted Addresses	983	3255	4406	554	908	433	1207
Grant orFunding Already Awarded	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Service Provider Capital Investment	\$0.00	\$9,541,883.00	\$7,801,473.51	\$874,900.00	\$2,036,750.00	\$990,609.00	\$2,406,926.00
Funding Requested from Eaton County	\$2,630,923.00	\$0.00	\$7,801,473.50	\$2,624,700.00	\$6,110,250.00	\$2,971,826.00	\$7,220,777.00
Additional Funding Needed	\$0.00	\$10,337,040.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Source of Additional Funding	Robin, BEAD, Eaton, Carmel	Robin, BEAD, Eaton, Carmel	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Cost to Build	\$2,630,923.00	\$19,878,923.00	\$15,602,947.01	\$3,499,600.00	\$8,147,000.00	\$3,962,434.00	\$9,627,703.00

Vendor
Bid Zone
Road Miles
Number of Targeted Addresses
Grant orFunding Already Awarded
Internet Service Provider Capital Investment
Funding Requested from Eaton County
Additional Funding Needed
Source of Additional Funding
Total Cost to Build

Comcast
Carmel
52.00
764
\$0.00
\$1,889,466.00
\$0.00
\$1,233,618.00
Robin, BEAD, Eaton, Carmel
\$3,123,084.00

Midwest Energy
Carmel
70.00
645
\$0.00
\$1,249,187.50
\$3,747,562.50
\$0.00
N/A
\$4,996,750.00



Areas of 100Mbps or greater Broadband Internet Access and Availability by Individual Address **Eaton County, Michigan**

Eaton County GIS
 911 Courthouse Dr
 Charlotte, Michigan 48813
 517-543-4734

August 2022

Exhibit A

Eaton County

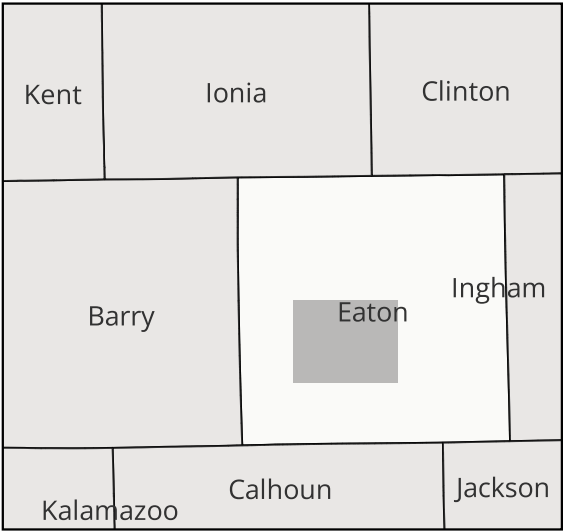
Broadband Wired Infrastructure
Expansion



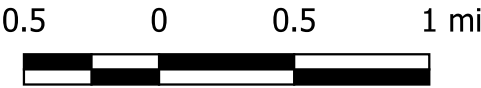
Bid Zone ID: Carmel
Road miles: 55.22
Addresses: 729

Legend

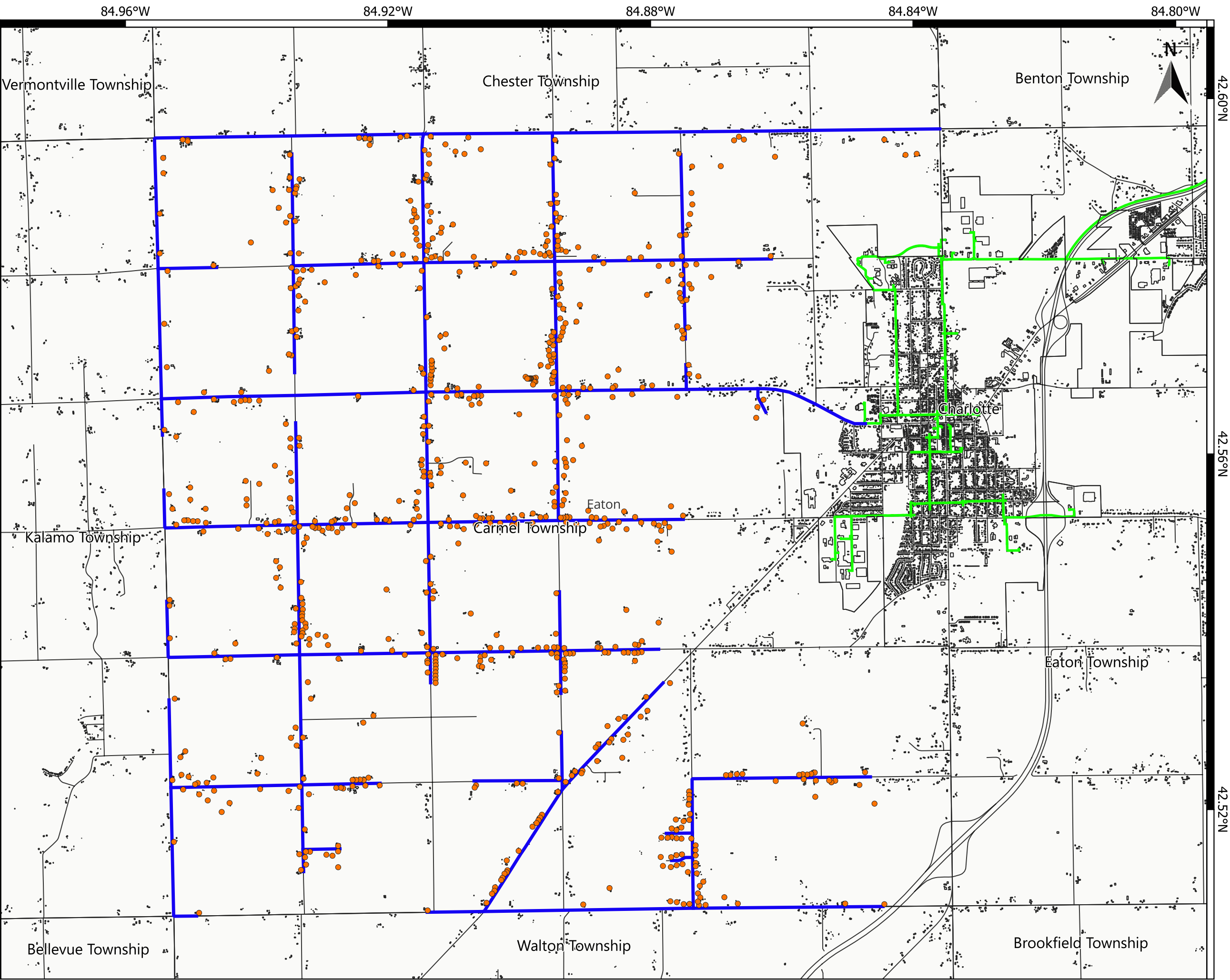
- Target Address ●
- Proposed Fiber —
- ACD Network —



Scale 1:45,000



Geographical Coordinate System
Datum: WGS 84 - EPSG 4326



Eaton County

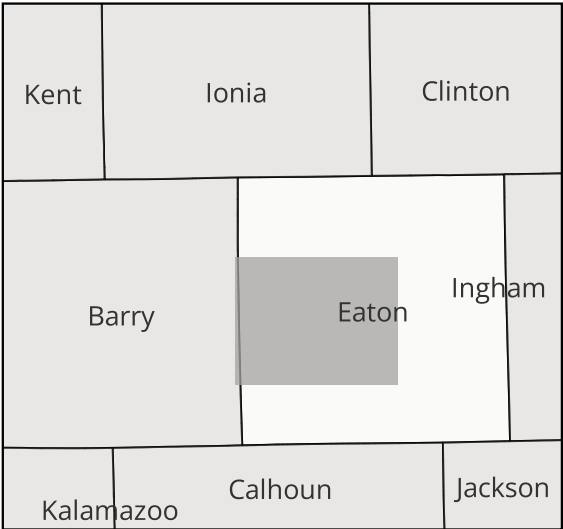
Broadband Wired Infrastructure
Expansion



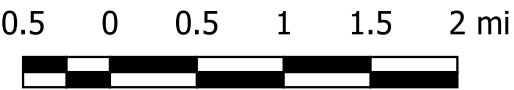
Bid Zone ID: West
Road miles: 90.04
Addresses: 1009

Legend

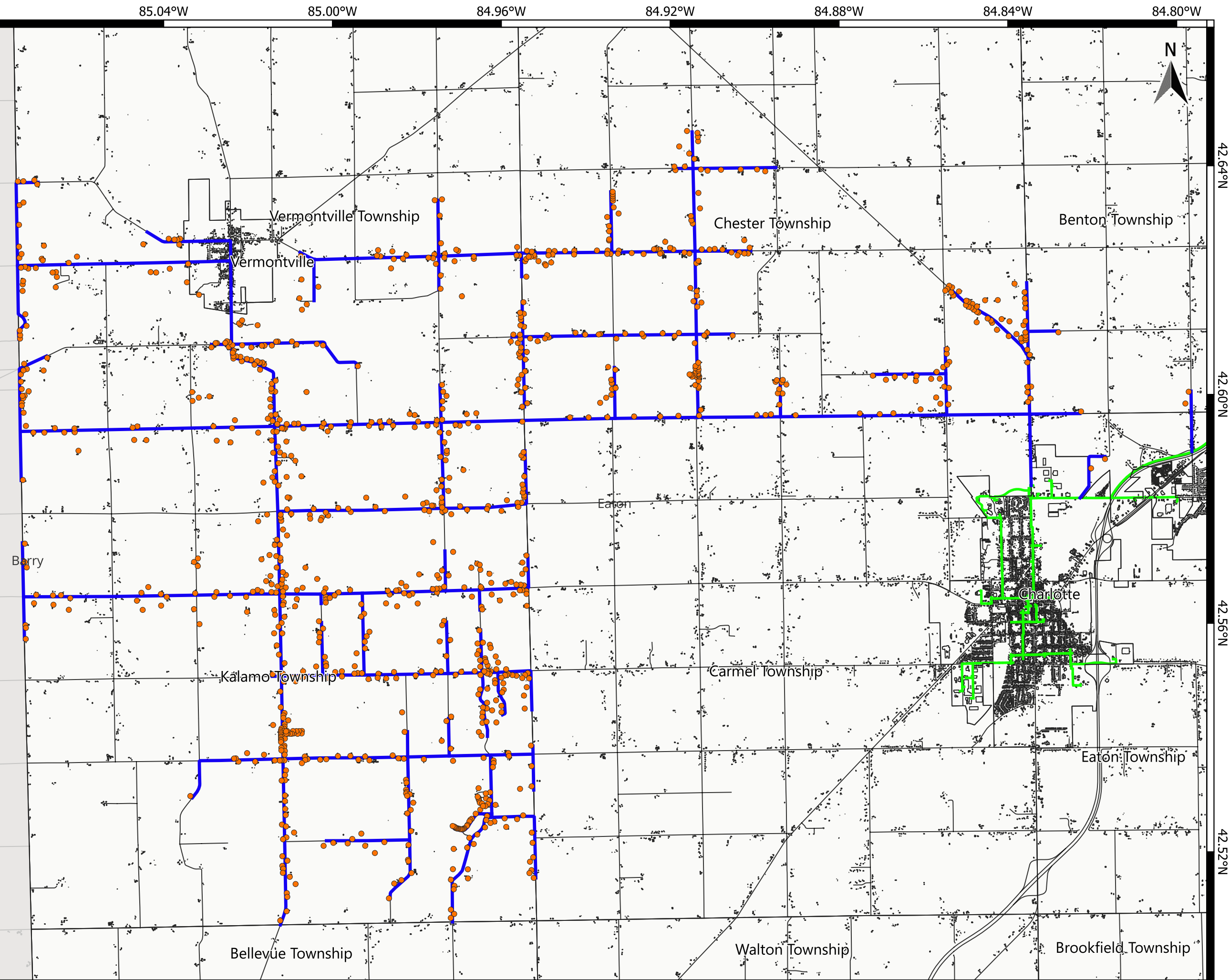
- Target Address
- Proposed Fiber
- ACD Network



Scale 1:70,000



Geographical Coordinate System
Datum: WGS 84 - EPSG 4326



Eaton County

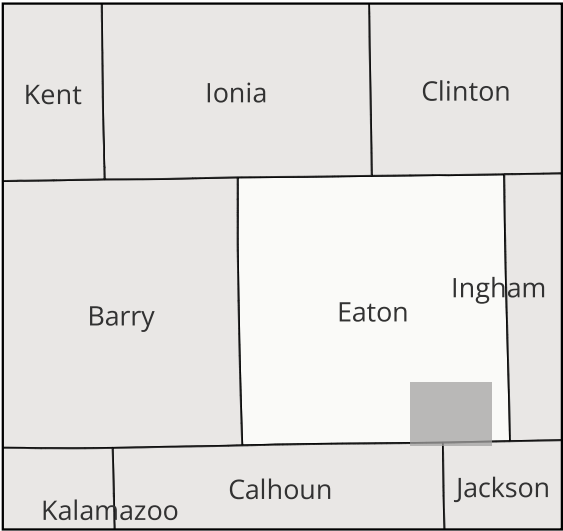
Broadband Wired Infrastructure
Expansion



Bid Zone ID: SouthEast
Road miles: 32.41
Addresses: 296

Legend

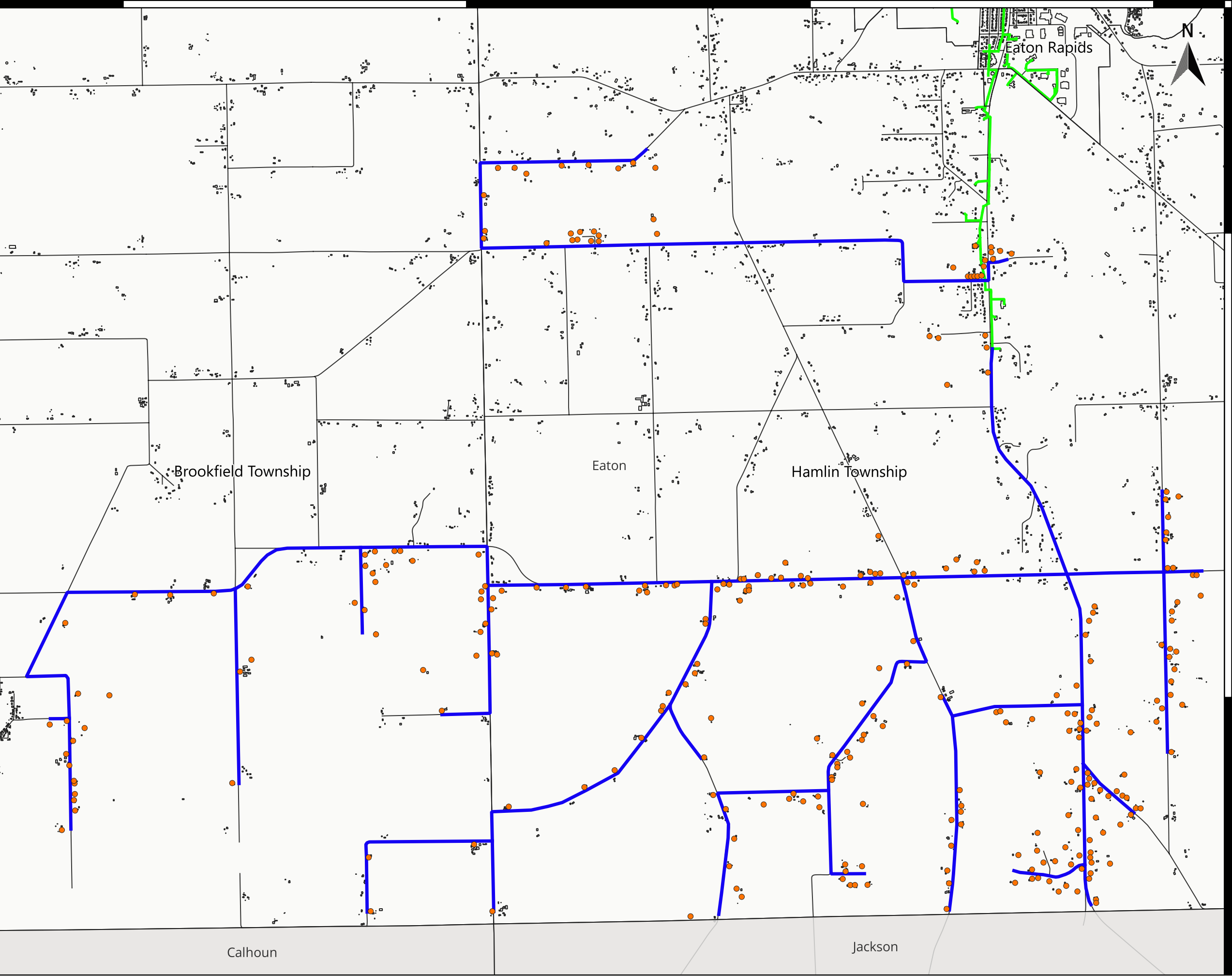
- Target Address
- Proposed Fiber
- ACD Network



Scale 1:35,000



Geographical Coordinate System
Datum: WGS 84 - EPSG 4326



Realizing Opportunities with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN)

Program Fact Sheet

In early 2022, Governor Whitmer and the Michigan Legislature passed the [Building Michigan Together Plan](#). The plan includes \$250.6 million to expand high-speed internet service to unserved locations in the state. On October 7, 2022, the [United States Treasury announced](#) the approval of Michigan's plan for the use of these funds. The following provides an overview of the ROBIN Program.

- + ROBIN will be administered by the [Michigan High-Speed Internet Office](#) (MIHI) located within the Prosperity Division of the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.
- + The funding for ROBIN comes from the [Capital Projects Fund \(CPF\)](#) which is managed by the United States Treasury. The CPF was part of the American Rescue Plan Act that passed in 2021.
- + \$238.7M will be available through ROBIN for internet expansion to unserved locations. The remaining balance of funds (5% of the total award) will be used for program administration.
- + Unserved locations are homes, businesses, and institutions without internet service available at a speed of at least 100/20 Mbps from at least one internet service provider.
- + Up to 35% of ROBIN funds can be used for middle-mile projects that support deployment of broadband service to unserved areas. The remainder is dedicated for last-mile service projects.
- + Broadband service built with ROBIN funds must deliver a symmetrical end-user internet connection of at least 100 Mbps upstream and downstream unless significant topographic, geographic, or financial impracticability exists in the project area.
- + Eligible applicants for ROBIN include internet service providers, those licensed under the MI Telecommunications Act, franchise holders under the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act, or any entity currently providing broadband service in the state.
- + Governmental entities may apply for grants only as a public-private partnership with an internet service provider. Public-private partnerships must demonstrate a competitive bidding process and comply with applicable state laws.
- + Final grant criteria are still being developed by MIHI, but will include, at a minimum: the applicant's experience and financial wherewithal, readiness to build, operate, and maintain the project, long-term project viability, network scalability, and demonstrated community support.
- + All ROBIN grantees must participate in the [FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program](#).
- + MIHI anticipates opening the 60-day ROBIN grant application window in mid-December 2022.
- + All program funds must be expended by the end of the 2026 calendar year.
- + Interested applicants should refer to the [US Treasury Guidance for the Capital Projects Fund](#) as well as the [boilerplate legislation \(Sec. 359\)](#) appropriating the CPF funds to the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for more information.

Please direct any questions to the MIHI Office at: LEO-MIHighSpeedInternet@michigan.gov