

Making Connections/Creating Opportunity
Request for Proposal - Question Response
Medina County Fiber Network (MCFN)

The following is a response to questions submitted to the Medina County Port Authority regarding the Request for Proposal for the Medina County Fiber Network (MCFN). You will find the response in three sections, Technical Questions, Format Questions and General Questions.

Topic Area	Question	Response
1. Technical – Fiber Ring	Is the initial fiber build to be treated as a spliced and terminated "Dark Fiber Build"? Or a fully "lit" operational fiber ring?	Completion of this phase of the MCFN will result in a complete fiber build with predetermined splice and terminated dark fiber ring and segments.
2. Technical - Mapping	The image of the initial backbone design is lacking a great deal of detail. Are a larger map and/or drawing and/or GPS coordinates matching up to the small image from the RFP page 14 available in electronic form? Downloadable file? Paper?	The image will be posted on the web site. We do not have GPS coordinates. The initial drawing is the only detail we have. Our preference is that the each respondents proposal will have a more detailed design plan according to the system and or build approach.
3. Technical - Mapping	Please suggest an acceptable data file format for the requested MAP of FIBER ROUTE from paragraph "General Fiber Details" on page 21 of the RFP.	Our preference would be Map Info in an ESRI or MIF file format. Autocad in with world file coordinates would also be acceptable. Otherwise, a drawing of sufficient size and detail to review the physical path and proposed design detail along with an electronic PDF version.
4. Technical – Fiber Ring	Who is to provide the core fiber termination (DWDM / ADM (Add, Drop Mux) equipment for the MCFN?	This will be determined after the MCFN fiber system is decided on. There will be another RFP prepared and released in accordance with the fiber build schedule.
5. Technical - Equipment	If termination equipment is to be included in the proposal – is there a preferred manufacturer / model of gear?	Preference is left up to the Respondent.

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6. Technical - Hardware	Would you want the respondent to install the hardware?	Respondent should propose the installation racks, fiber termination panels and any additional facilities associated with the proper distribution and termination of the MCFN Fiber System.
7. Technical - Management	Who will manage the dark fiber and/or bandwidth?	The MCPA plans on contracting an operation service organization to manage the facilities and fiber services. The MCPA has asked for a fiber and facilities maintenance agreement as part of the Respondents proposal.
8. Technical - - Fiber Backbone	<p>Will the contractor establish the most feasible fiber optic (backbone) cable route preferably an aerial route within road right of way, or will it be as depicted in Figure 1?</p> <p>What happens when it becomes necessary to proceed underground because aerial is not available or feasible?</p>	<p>The MCPA is looking to the respondent for the optimal design based on any existing systems, new fiber build and experience in developing a regional fiber system.</p> <p>The Respondent will be evaluated on the optimal design/cost. It is up to the respondent to define in their proposal where Aerial or underground facilities are required.</p>
9. Technical - Build	Is this 100% new build? Can we utilize existing telephone and/or electrical conduit, if so who pays those fees?	All fees associated with the build and continuing operations should be identified in the Respondents proposal.
10. Technical - Design	Are we to provide a primary route, with one or two alternative routes?	<p>The MCFN Core Fiber rings by their nature should provide physical diversity and therefore redundancy.</p> <p>The MCFN site attachments should be considered as single attached sites.</p> <p>The Hub/Gateway/Co-location sites should have physically diverse primary and secondary entrances.</p>

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11. Technical – Project Management	Who is reasonable for locating and maintaining the dark fiber during the construction process?	The Respondent will have full responsibility of the fiber until the project is certified complete and accepted and transition to the MCPA.
12. Technical - Design	Are you open to a combination of lease and new build for the fiber ring?	Yes. It is up to the Respondent to identify and coordinate the agreements that would make up the entire MCFN fiber system.
13. Technical - Design	Do we need to take into consideration engineering and construction to each of the addresses/flags in Exhibit C & D as part of this proposal and price it at this same time?	The Respondent will be responsible for the engineering and construction to the site. For the purpose of the respondents proposal the cost should be identified to the curb only and not into the client building.
14. Technical - Design	Do the drops including building entrances, cable conversion (outside to inside), d-marc extensions, etc)	For the purpose of the proposal the Respondent will only consider the cost of providing facilities and fiber to the curb. The winning respondent will conduct a comprehensive survey of the customer sites after the award of the contract.
15. Response Format – Security	Please provide added detail on acceptable instruments for paragraph 5 and paragraph 6 "Security", RFP page 6.	Bid Bond or Cashiers Check.
16. Response Format - Informational	Please provide a sample of, or hot link to, an acceptable "Conflict of Interest" statement for Respondent as required on page 23, paragraph 2, as the apparent link is not active in the downloaded PDF file we have.	The Conflict of Interest statement is directed at the acknowledgement of any issues that directly affect the awarding of a contract to the Respondent with the winning proposal. It is meant to ensure that the respondent is providing a proposal without influencing any of the members of the MCAP, MCEDC or its associate contractors or evaluators.
17. Response Format – URL Links	Page 17, paragraph "Collocation Requirements" and Page 18, paragraph "Meet Me..." - Is a link (URL) to current Responder corporate policy and procedures guideline sufficient for stating these details?	If the reference link completely reflects the collocation facilities policies that will ultimately be reflected in a final agreement with service level definitions then yes.

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18. Response Format – “other improvements	Introduction, page 4, last paragraph. RFP states that MCPA and county reserve right to segregate and competitive bid the construction of various components including "other improvements". Please clarify the intent or definition of "other improvements".	<p>The MCPA will consider all options from the respondents for the MCFN network. The MCOA believes that there may be existing fiber systems that could become part of the MCFN design and wants to keep options open for the integration of additional fiber systems.</p> <p>The MCPA cannot make these kind of determinations until it is aware of the options available to it.</p>
19. Response Format – Exhibits	Exhibits C and D - Please provide list in Excel format (to facilitate mapping)	See Excel Spreadsheet on Website. Both Exhibit C and D will be converted to an Excel format. Street addresses and city locations are provided. Zip Codes can be determined by the Respondent.
20. Response Format – Exhibits	Exhibits C and D - Please elaborate on first column what the site target is and expectation to fulfill "network must appear" (reference: p. 19). For example Target is a specific building vs. name of an Industrial Park or future development. Fulfill the fiber "must appear" at site by building entry vs. slack loop for Industrial Park future use.	See Excel Spreadsheet on Website.
21. Response Format – Exhibits	Exhibits C and D - Please provide complete street address (number and street name, city, zip) if possible for each site (as opposed to intersection) to facilitate mapping	See Excel Spreadsheet on Website. – Street addresses are provided
22. Response Format – Exhibits	Exhibits C and D - Please confirm which sites require single path vs. dual/diverse path entry	See Excel Spreadsheet on Website. – path entry not known for site locations at this time
23. Response Format – Checklist	Proposal Checklist - Item 28 - What is intended? Please clarify.	The MCPA requires all MCFN splicing to fusion splicing.
24. General - Background	What is OneCleveland’s (OneCommunity) involvement with this project beyond the consulting/orchestrating of this RFP?	OneCleveland /OneCommunity doesn’t currently have a role in the MCFN network. Funding and direction of the project is the domain of MCPA.

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25. General – Construction Labor	Is construction labor based on prevailing wage?	Yes.
26. General - Project Funding	Has funding for the project been secured?	MCEDC and MCPA have identified the funding mechanisms for the MCFN. However, the funding mix and approach is largely dependent on the strategy proposed by the Respondents. The financing mechanisms will be put in place as soon as the Respondent selection is made and the construction or combination of construction and IRUs are clearly defined.
27. General - Financing	Is MCPA looking for help with financing?	The MCPA is interesting in identifying all options which may include vendor and commercial financing options.
28. General - Security	Is a bid bond sufficient for security purposes or is the check required as stated on page 6?	Either a bid bond or check will be sufficient. As a result of the Respondents conference the MCPA is willing to break out the make ready costs as a separate line item and deduct the make ready from the total cost considered for the bid bond.
29. General - Contractors	It appears that MCPA will be able to pick and choose different Contractors to complete different portions of the scope at their discretion, is this case?	MCPA would like the opportunity to review and potentially consolidate other fiber network systems into the overall MCFN plan where it makes sense. By no means is the MCPA looking at breaking up the backbone between the different Respondents. Please confirm your willingness to incorporate other fiber systems into you design.
30. General - Contracting	At POP site locations do we negotiate policies/contracts and agreements on behalf of MCPA?	Yes.
31. General - Policies	On behalf of MCPA, will the contractor establish Policies/restrictions covering who will be allowed to bring service to the facilities?	Yes. However, the intent of the MCFN is to enable any and all networks to have access to the MCFN fiber system. The MCPA will frown of restrictive proposals that restrict other networks from

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		connecting to the MCFN fiber system,
32. General – Project Management	Who will make the final decision for the fiber optic cable route?	The MCPA along with the Respondent with the winning proposal will determine the final fiber route.
33. General - Design	How will re-routes be handled and paid for?	It is anticipated that the Respondent with the winning proposal will contract with the MCPA for the final configuration. The contract will address Move/Adds/Changes responsibilities and change order process.
34. General - Design	If it is necessary to negotiate easements, who will the documents be titled to, who will negotiate them, and who will be responsible for landowner consideration cost?	The MCPA will be the licensee and delegated record holder.
35. General – Fees and Costs	Who is reasonable for procurement of permit fees, license fees, construction deposits and inspection fees; make ready fees that cannot customarily be determined until engineering and walkout are complete?	The Respondent is responsible for all permits, licenses, construction deposits, inspections and makes ready fees related to construction of the MCFN fiber system. The MCPA will be responsible for all recurring license and service fees.
36. General - Contracting	Will we be involved in the negotiation of license agreements?	Yes.
37. General - Meetings	As the build progresses through various municipalities how many meetings will we be expected to attend regarding license agreements, franchise agreements or permit requirements?	The MCPA will coordinate a community wide approach to facilitate and accelerate the process. The respondent will be responsible for the development of the individual agreements. The MCPA will participate as appropriate to ensure that progress is steady.
38. General – Bid Dates	If so, will MCPA consider extending the bid date to accommodate building surveys?	The MCPA has decided that it only needs quotes for fiber to the curb. The Respondent with the winning proposal will have the responsibility of doing the building surveys. The additional construction costs will be addressed under the contract Move/Add/Change order process.
39. General - Project	Are we expected to meet with property owners	As it relates to the individual sites and no as it relates

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Management	and determine location of equipment racks, cable management systems, etc,	to the issues outside of the site location.