



TO: All Potential Respondents to ESRB Request for Proposals for Broadband Planning Services

FROM: Eastern Slopes Regional Broadband

DATE: March 8, 2022

SUBJ: Questions Received Regarding Request for Proposals for Broadband Planning Services

As of March 3, 2022, the Eastern Slopes Regional Broadband Committee has received only one question regarding the Request for Proposals for Broadband Planning Services.

Question Received:

In the interest of time, given that there is utmost urgency to get details and projects organized, is the Committee open to receiving a full network design and construction fiber to the premise proposal by a respondent instead of a response to the currently issued RFP?

ESRBroadband Response:

Based on legal advice, the Committee may only consider Responses, or elements in Responses, which address the Request for Proposals and its requirements and criteria. If a proposal were received which contained full network design and construction, we could only use those elements for informational purposes, it would have no weight in the decision process, and a new proposal would be required for any future design-build phase.

That being said, the Committee and some member towns have had discussions with various telecommunications companies who have indicated an interest in providing broadband service over the past 18 months. We are always interested in seeing possible approaches from interested parties. As you are aware, as Maine municipalities, we are required to follow State procurement laws and will have to openly and fairly solicit proposals for broadband full network design, construction, and operations services.