

CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

2450 E. Quincy Avenue
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113
www.cherryhillsvillage.com

Village Center
Telephone 303-789-2541
FAX 303-761-9386

INVITATION:

The City of Cherry Hills Village is soliciting information from broadband communications companies for an *Improved Broadband Communications Infrastructure Analysis*. The City would like to develop business partnerships with companies that can support and/or provide improved broadband communications services (i.e. 1 Gbps symmetric service) to residents to be implemented contemporaneously with the City's planned undergrounding of overhead utility lines. The City does not wish to be a direct service provider but instead would like to facilitate the development of a fiber optic or other platform to be used by private entities in the delivery of broadband communications services to all City residents and property owners. This could involve a combination of fiber, wireless or other technologies. The City's role in funding, construction, ownership of conduits and fiber optic lines and easements is negotiable. The City is interested in an open access system that would allow unrestricted entry for service providers that would not involve exclusive long-term rights to provide services.

CALENDAR:

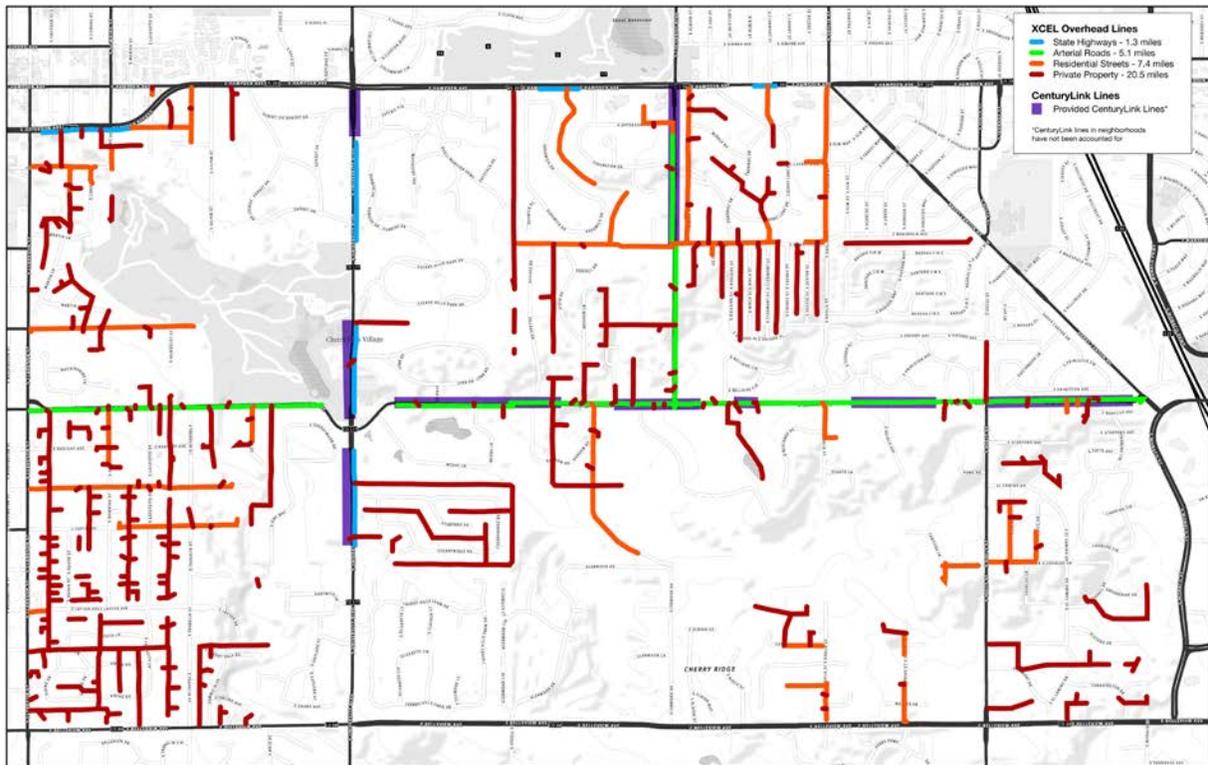
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| January 23, 2015 | Publish Request for Information |
| February 6, 2015 | Deadline for submission of questions and clarifications of the RFI |
| February 13, 2015 | If questions/clarifications are raised, an addendum to answer submitted questions will be issued |
| February 20, 2015 | Deadline for Submission of Information 4:00 PM |

Questions, requests for clarifications and responses should be submitted to Emily Kropf, Special Projects Coordinator, City of Cherry Hills Village, at 2450 E. Quincy Avenue, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113. You must email the City at ekropf@cherryhillsvillage.com with the contact information form to be included in all official notifications including any addenda. Available supplementary documentation for this RFI may be found at: <http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/uluscrequest.aspx>.

COMMUNITY PROFILE:

The City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado is located in northwest Arapahoe County and is bounded on the west by the City of Englewood, the north and east by the City and County of Denver and to the south by the City of Greenwood Village. The Village today consists of

approximately 6 ½ square miles in total land area. The Village has a population of 5,987 residents based on the 2010 Census. The median household income is approximately \$211,000. The community is predominately residential and consists of approximately 2,150 households. There are three schools, two country clubs, eight churches, three municipal buildings and a small commercial district with six businesses located in the Village. Services for the municipal buildings are currently purchased from a local cable and internet provider. Projected growth potential is limited as the City is almost completely built-out and land locked on all sides. See below for Village map with existing overhead utility lines.



BACKGROUND:

The Cherry Hills Village Master Plan identifies the task of burying overhead lines throughout the Village as a City goal as it would improve efficiency of the system and aesthetics of the community. Undergrounding contributes to public safety by eliminating traffic hazards and removing a significant cause of storm-related power outages. It also reduces the need for removal or aggressive trimming of the Village's tree canopy located in or near rights-of-way enhancing the visual appearance of the community. The City's Master Plan articulates the goal of burying overhead utilities to protect and enhance certain identified view corridors within the Village. Voters were previously asked to approve a ballot initiative in 2000 to fund the burial of overhead utility lines along several arterial roadways, but the initiative failed as 60% of voters elected not to approve the \$5,000,000 increase in debt.

In 2014, the City Council established the Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee to explore the long-standing goal of undergrounding all overhead utility lines. The City Council charged the Committee with considering several matters, including: the estimated cost of undergrounding, policy recommendations for cost-sharing, a priority ranking for the sequence of undergrounding, suggested changes to the Municipal Code or Village policies, a plan to finance the project and all other relevant matters. While exploring the goal of undergrounding, the Committee determined that the City should explore supplementary projects like leveraging the expected undergrounding in a way that promotes deployment of a network that can offer enhanced broadband communications services in order to further benefit the community for a minimal cost while incurring the expenses associated with undergrounding.

In the process of analyzing ownership of overhead lines, the cost and responsibility for undergrounding and individual franchise agreements, the Committee found that an improved infrastructure like a fiber optic and/or wireless network may represent one cost-efficient solution for providing enhanced broadband communications services to the City and its residents. The City is obligated to pay for the cost of undergrounding electric lines while the responsibility for undergrounding other lines largely falls on the owners of those lines. The City believes there is an opportunity to expand on the undergrounding program to add conduit and fiber optic lines or other technology for a marginal cost increase that would support enhanced broadband services. In order to finance the undergrounding project in a timely fashion, which is anticipated to include the installation of additional fiber optic and/or wireless facilities, the City will likely need approval from voters to authorize a dedicated revenue stream sufficient to raise the funding required for the City to successfully undertake and complete the comprehensive project that is currently envisioned by the Committee.

In anticipation of including such an initiative in the 2015 election cycle, Ballot Question 2F was submitted to voters in November of 2014. Senate Bill 05-152 requires the approval of voters to restore authority to local governments the right to use municipal communication network facilities, improvements and fiber optics infrastructure to provide directly or indirectly high-speed internet, advanced telecommunications and cable television services to residents and businesses. Ballot Question 2F asked voters to restore the local authority and foster a more competitive marketplace, by authorizing the right to provide broadband communications services directly or indirectly with public or private sector partners. Ballot Question 2F passed by an 80% majority.

Available Documentation (See <http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/uluscrequest.aspx>)

City of Cherry Hills Village Master Plan

One of the objectives of the Master Plan is to improve the efficiency of utilities and public infrastructure within the Village. The impacts of weather, wildlife and landscaping on above-ground utilities have often resulted in power outages and disruptions. Above-ground utility lines can also disturb scenic views in the community. The Master Plan states that the Village should explore opportunities and funding mechanisms to place utility lines underground so as to improve efficiency and aesthetics.

Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee Interim Report

The Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee began meeting in February 2014 to discuss a City-wide undergrounding project. Several topics were explored during the Committee's meetings, including: responsibility for undergrounding, communication with utility providers, the cost of undergrounding, financial scenarios, enhanced services and Municipal Code amendments. The findings of the Committee and proposed next steps are included in the Committee's interim report. A final report is expected to be presented to the City Council in June 2015.

REQUESTED INFORMATION:

The City is currently seeking information regarding several topics related to the installation and/or use of improved broadband communications infrastructure, including:

- A brief description of the company and its current business activities and services;
- A statement of interest in discussing a partnership with the City for the installation and/or use of conduit or other broadband communications infrastructure;
- A description of the role and support the company can provide to the City in pursuit of its objectives;
- A description, review and discussion of a business model for providing improved broadband communication services (i.e. 1 Gbps symmetric service) to a high demand/low-population density community;
- An explanation of how fiber, wireless or other technology can be used to provide services;
- A description of suggested roles for funding, construction and ownership of conduits and broadband communications infrastructure;
- A description of how development and ownership of an improved broadband communications network would function;
- A list of similar telecommunications projects that have been successfully completed by the company; and
- A list of any potential issues that should be addressed prior to the installation of enhanced broadband communications infrastructure.

IMPROVED BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

(Please Print)

COMPANY NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

FAX: _____

DATE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

All addendums will be posted on Rocky Mountain Bid System and emailed to individuals who submit this registration form.

Please submit this sheet to:
ekropf@cherryhillsvillage.com
or fax to 303-761-9386 Attention: Emily Kropf