

NYS Consolidated Funding Application # 135195
Organization Name: ErieNet Local Development Corporation
Project Name: ErieNet Municipal Infrastructure Program
City: **State:**

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March 7, 2024 - 03:58 PM

Region

Western New York

Questionnaire Questions & Answers

Standard Question

ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)

Q_15017 Do you acknowledge that the project(s) you are proposing for grant funding will meet the minimum project requirements as stated in the RFA and any subsequently published updates?

Yes

Applicant Information

	Applicant
Name of the Primary Applicant Organization	ErieNet Local Development Corporation
Applicant Street Address	1 Seneca Street, 29th Floor
Applicant City	Buffalo
Applicant State	NY
Applicant ZIP Code (please use ZIP+4 if known)	14203
Applicant organization website	https://www.erienet.com/

Q_14435 Is the applicant "Doing Business As" (DBA)?

No

Primary Contact Information

	Primary Contact
Primary Contact First Name	Melissa

Primary Contact Last Name	Hartman
Primary Contact Title	Executive Director
Primary Contact Telephone	716-771-9967
Primary Contact Email Address	Melissa.Hartman@erienet.com

Q_14736 What is the type of entity for the lead applicant?

Eligible Public Applicant

Q_14693 Please specify the Public entity type for the lead Applicant:

(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q_14736](#))

Entity established pursuant to Section 99-y of the NYS General Municipal Law

Q_14443 Select an applicant ID type from the list below that you normally use to identify your organization on application forms.

Employee Identification Number (EIN)

Q_14444 Based on your selection from the previous question, enter the associated ID number.

88-2744474

Q_14445 If you are a business, have you been certified as a New York State Minority or Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)?

N/A

Q_14695 What is the expected infrastructure ownership structure?

Public

Q_14696 Based on your selection from the previous question, please specify the entity or entities and entity type that will ultimately own the proposed infrastructure.

ErieNet, a NYS Local Development Corporation, will own the proposed infrastructure.

Q_14446 Please indicate if this application is submitted by a partnership or joint venture.

No

Q_14766 Please provide brief description of the operating model, specifying whether and how the infrastructure will be used by one or more internet service providers and what will be required of those ISPs.

ErieNet is a NYS Local Development Corporation (LDC) that is currently building a 400-mile dark fiber optic middle mile open access network. It will interconnect county, city, town and village buildings in a multi-ring topology, including Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs).

ErieNet's primary Point of Presence (PoP) is located in downtown Buffalo, NY with connections to WNY telecommunication carriers' and broadband providers' POPs. These connections will facilitate Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to offer network subscribers with advanced fiber optic network and communications services.

One of the goals of this network is to extend and interconnect our middle mile open access network to last mile providers to residences and businesses, particularly in un/under-served communities.

ErieNet will be a wholesale provider of fiber optic capacity throughout the county that will lease dark fiber to municipalities, enterprise, carriers and other entities that desire a secure, fiber optic network and offer multi-gigabit, symmetrical speeds to all customers of the network.

Empire Access has expressed interest in utilizing ErieNet and is targeting unserved areas in the northeastern section of Erie County. If this grant proposal is funded, Empire has also expressed interest in utilizing ErieNet to serve the Tonawanda Tribal Nation, which has tribal land in Erie and Genesee Counties.

Empire Access and any other ISPs would be required to provide: 1) minimum speeds of 100/20 Mbps, 2) offer a low-cost option, 3) participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or similar publicly-subsidized program, 4) adhere to net neutrality principles and 5) provide 24/7 customer service support, including managing and repairing outages.

ErieNet has also been reaching out to other ISPs to gauge their interest in building last mile connections off the ErieNet backbone. While no other ISPs are prepared to commit to utilizing the network at this time, we will continue to keep them apprised of developments as the 400-mile network is built out. ISPs generally do not engage open access networks until the backbone fiber is installed and turned over for operations within a 90-day window. We expect several ISPs and carriers to utilize ErieNet, and past experience with NYS open access networks is that a significant percentage of revenue is derived from the private carriers and ISPs.

Q_14697 How many years has the Primary Applicant's organization been operating in New York?

2

Q_14458 Briefly describe the history of the Applicant or team as well as ownership and legal structure.

The ErieNet LDC was formed by Erie County on November 29, 2021, pursuant to Section 1411 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law as a charitable not-for-profit corporation of the State of New York. The Certificate of Incorporation was filed with the New York Secretary of State on April 26, 2022. The LDC is governed by a 9-member board and is overseen by an Executive Director. The mission of ErieNet is to create a foundation to address the

broadband needs of unserved areas, improve services in underserved areas of the community, and enable world-class broadband investment and deployment countywide.

Q_14459 Briefly describe the Applicant's experience in broadband deployment in New York.

ErieNet, along with its Project Manager, ECC Technologies (ECC), have designed a 400-mile fiber optic network and is currently in the Make Ready process, as well as the fiber construction process. The Make Ready process started with pole application permits in the second quarter of 2023 with the recent selection of Make Ready contractors by the ErieNet LDC Board. Fiber optic underground construction began in the fourth quarter of 2023. Project completion is expected by the end of 2025.

Given that our project is well underway, we consider our grant proposal to be shovel ready and will be able to build the additional extensions off the 400-mile network by the end of 2026. ErieNet has experienced Broadband GIS Designers and Construction Managers in place to complete this project on time.

The ECC team has extensive experience overseeing broadband deployment projects, including the dark fiber middle mile open access networks for the Development Authority of the North Country and Southern Tier Network. Additionally, ECC is currently overseeing a 270-mile broadband deployment project in Madison County, which is expected to be fully constructed by early 2025.

Q_14698 How does the Applicant or team plan to staff for the project?

Applicant or team have a defined staffing plan to ramp up the resources for the project

Q_14764 Does the primary applicant have experience in broadband deployment – planning, project managing, delivering and/or operating broadband infrastructure?

Successful broadband deployment in New York

Q_14751 For aerial construction of the proposed broadband deployment, what is the applicant teams' ability to mitigate cost and timeline risks as it relates to pole make-ready and licensing?

Partial pole ownership and/or control

Q_14467 Describe prior experience coordinating with permitting authorities, utility pole owners, and existing utilities.

ErieNet's Project Manager, ECC Technologies, has extensive experience working with permitting authorities, including utility pole owners NYSEG and National Grid, NYS Department of Transportation, NYS Thruway Authority and county and local highway departments from all over the state. ECC oversees all pole application permits, the Make Ready survey and construction process, including bidding this work, as well as obtaining authorization for ducts for underground work and bridge and railroad crossings. As noted previously, ECC is currently overseeing the construction of the ErieNet middle mile network, which includes over 12, 000 poles, and Madison County, a project with over 8, 000 poles. ECC has also performed similar services for STN, DANC, Axxcess Ontario, Monroe Net, as well as nationally, for several broadband providers.

Q_14700 For underground construction of the proposed broadband deployment, what is the applicant teams' ability to mitigate cost and timeline risks as it relates to pathway to receive expedited

permitting for right-of-way (ROW)?

Can easily get permits and ROW

Q_14468 Do you have experience managing state or federal grants or loans for broadband deployment?

Yes

Q_14469 Have any of your grants or loans for broadband deployment been suspended, paused, or rescinded at any time due to lack of performance or compliance with program rules or applicable law?

(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q_14468](#))

No

Q_14470 Briefly outline the Applicant's background in overseeing state or federal grants or loans for broadband deployment. If applicable, explain the circumstances that led to any grants or loans that faced suspension, pause, or rescission due to performance issues or non-compliance with program regulations or relevant laws.

(This question is associated with your answer selection in question: [Q_14468](#))

For ErieNet's initial build of a 400-mile network, Erie County provided \$34 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. ErieNet, ECC and Erie County staff are overseeing the ARPA grant reporting process to ensure that we are following all federal guidelines for this funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). In addition to these reporting requirements, ErieNet provides annual budget reports to the NYS Authorities Budget Office (ABO).

Q_14473 Describe past record of responding to information requests to share data with the NYS Department of Public Service concerning broadband mapping initiatives, including the length of time taken to furnish the requested information.

ECC Technologies, the Project Manager for ErieNet, has extensive experience working with the NYS Department of Public Service concerning broadband mapping initiatives. In 2021 and 2022, ECC lead New York State's effort to create a statewide broadband inventory database, working closely with DPS to create this database. All requests by DPS for information were provided within the time required.

Q_14701 Describe your current or past participation in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or other public subsidy programs.

Given that ErieNet is a middle mile network, we do not participate in the ACP or other public subsidy program. However, any ISP that utilizes ErieNet to provide residential service will be required to do so.

Q_14702 Is the applicant team local to the proposed broadband deployment region in the New York State?

Yes

Approach and Scope of Services

Q_14703 Describe the broadband infrastructure project and the specific geography and locations it would service (the Project Area(s))?

The broadband infrastructure project we are proposing is 169 miles off the 400-mile backbone that is currently under design and construction in Erie County. This project will provide fiber optic access to many government and community facilities including community/senior centers, fire departments, emergency services, public works, boys and girls clubs, public housing, as well as other government/community buildings. In addition, this extension of ErieNet will provide an opportunity for ISPs to make last mile connections to unserved and underserved residential addresses. Our ISP partner, Empire Access, has also expressed interest in providing service to the Tonawanda Tribal Nation, which has some territory in the Northeastern section of Erie County in the Town of Newstead. The extensions shown in our proposal includes 1.5 miles on the Tonawanda Nation's territory.

Furthermore, the extension of ErieNet includes areas where high-speed, fiber optic cable is needed for economic development opportunities. This includes the Central Terminal in Buffalo that recently announced a 10-year, \$300 million project to create a commercial, entertainment and residential hub in East Buffalo. It also includes economic development areas in many towns, including the Towns of Boston and Aurora, which recently received a state Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant for the hamlet of West Falls.

For the purposes of this grant application, the Project Area is defined as one-quarter of a mile from the ErieNet backbone and the 169-mile extension.

Q_14704 What are the wealth and income demographics for the proposed Project Area(s)?

Predominantly mid-income mixed investment area

Q_14705 Provide a list of the existing Internet Service Provider(s) in the Project Area(s) along with their advertised range of speed (download and upload) in Mbps and any other services offered.

Spectrum 100/10 500/20 1000/35

Verizon 300/300 500/500 940/880

Greenlight 500/500 1000/1000 2000/2000 5000/5000

GoNetspeed 300/300 500/500 1000/1000 2000/2000

Niacom 500/500 1000/1000 2000/2000

Q_14706 Describe any patterns of non-investment or past challenges preventing Internet Service Provider(s) to provide services in the Project Area(s).

In the rural towns of Erie County, while investments by ISPs have occurred over the past 5 years, there are still pockets of unserved areas, including the Towns of Aurora, Brant, Collins, Concord, Evans, Holland, Newstead and Sardinia. Additionally, in many areas of Erie County, residents and businesses are served by coaxial cable, rather than fiber to the premises (FTTP) broadband technology. ErieNet lowers the cost of market entry for ISPs to provide FTTP technology.

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the numbers of broadband serviceable locations (unserved, underserved, & served locations).

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

Broadband Serviceable Locations

	Number of Locations
Unserviced Locations	52
Underserved Locations	0
Served Locations	165627
Total	165,679

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the numbers of broadband serviceable locations (residential, business, & community anchor institutions).

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

Broadband Serviceable Locations Type

	Number of Locations
Residential Locations	150824
Business Locations	14824
Community Anchor Institutions	31
Total	165,679

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the total miles of new fiber construction being proposed (aerial fiber construction, underground fiber construction, & drop fiber (aerial and underground) for the last-mile).

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

Miles of New Fiber Construction Proposed

	Total Miles
Aerial Fiber Construction	156
Underground Fiber Construction	13
Drop Fiber (Aerial & Underground) For the Last-Mile	10
Total	179

For the proposed Project Area(s), please provide the financial details (MIP grant requested, available or earmarked public funds, & available private funds). The "Total" should represent the Total Project Cost.

Note: Total is auto-populated after saving & moving to next page.

Financial Details

	Total Dollars
MIP Grant Requested	\$21,534,407
Available or Earmarked Public Funds	\$850,000
Available Private Funds	\$0
Total	22,384,407

Q_14707 Briefly provide the information about the available or earmarked public funds and/or the available private funds.

ErieNet’s current project to build a 400-mile network throughout Erie County is fully funded by the county through \$34 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. For the MIP grant application to fund 169 additional miles of fiber, there are no public or private funds currently earmarked for this project.

Q_14708 Describe Applicant or teams’ access to capital to address any potential debt or operating revenue shortfalls.

ErieNet currently has some funds set aside for operating as we launch services through 2029. ErieNet projects revenue sustainability to cover operating expenses by 2029 or sooner. We are prepared to obtain a bond or short-term loan as needed to offset any revenue shortfall that may occur over the project. ErieNet has access to capital through several banks and re-invests funds on a regular basis.

Q_14709 Describe the methodology and any assumptions made to determine the cost estimates.

ErieNet is in the process of constructing the backbone of the Network. We are estimating these costs based on the current build costs. ErieNet’s consultant, ECC Technologies, has a proven business plan with construction, operations, and revenue estimation tools.

Q_14710 What is the projected take-rate % in the first five years of broadband service?

Q_14711 What is the take-rate % to break-even the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) expenses?

100

Q_14712 Describe efforts that will be made by the Applicant or team to keep costs reasonable and competitive.

Any costs incurred have been put through a competitive bid process. This process ensures that expenditures are reasonable and competitive. We are a not-for-profit local development corporation and we set our pricing models at a modest rate of return to cover operational costs and growth.

Q_14753 Please describe the revenue sharing model between the Applicant and partner(s), including but not limited to the Internet Service Provider (ISP).

ErieNet offers dark fiber connections to our subscribers. If a subscriber requires a Lit Service for Internet and/or managed network services, then ErieNet would subcontract to the Lit Service Provider. The Lit Service provider sets their pricing and includes ErieNet dark fiber costs for network transport. There is no revenue sharing, only revenue dictated by contractual terms.

Q_14713 For any proposed public-private partnership, what is the minimum duration in years of shared public ownership?

5

Q_14714 For any proposed acquisitions as a part of the project (e.g. fiber leases), describe the age and remaining useful life of the infrastructure.

There are no proposed acquisitions as part of this project

Q_14715 Within how many months of the project kick-off are the first connections expected?

13

Q_14716 Within how many months of the project kick-off will the project complete?

25

Q_14717 Describe the work that has been done to date in developing the project and explain why this grant is necessary to advance the Applicant's project to implementation.

ErieNet is in the process of building a fiber backbone throughout Erie County using funds that have already been received. The fiber backbone is currently being constructed. This grant will help fund laterals in a number of municipalities. These additional laterals will help expand the footprint of the network and get fiber optic broadband access closer to many underserved or unserved locations. Extending our fiber backbone farther into the communities will lower the barrier of entry for alternative providers.

Q_14718 How does the Applicant plan to share the newly built network infrastructure?

Open-access network with transparent pricing and unbiased availability for multiple ISP(s)

Q_14719 Describe the identified risks for the proposed project and plans to mitigate those (if identified).

The risks we have identified include keeping the project on time and on budget, given the multiple contracts that need to be scheduled. Make Ready, as with any broadband infrastructure project, is very lengthy and dependent on pole owners to ensure the project advances and meets all deadlines. Our team is experienced in working with pole owners and closely monitors this process with weekly updates from make ready contractors where any delays are addressed to quickly resolve issues. We also contract with multiple make ready contractors to mitigate risk from any one contractor. An additional risk is any state or federal funding guidelines that could delay the payment process for contractors and vendors. If awarded this grant, the 169 miles of additional fiber will be prioritized to meet the completion goals set forth by the MIP grant. Another risk we could face is that revenues will not keep pace with operating expenses. ErieNet has an established sales and marketing plan and already has a sales team in place to market and promote our service offerings and secure contracts. Our sales program is funded via commissions to mitigate operating budget impacts.

Network Design

Q_14720 Is the network design of the proposed Project Area(s) complete or close to complete? Please ensure to upload the network design in whatever stage it is at in the Documents tab.

Shovel-ready project design

Q_14755 Is the proposed network design completely fiber?

Yes

Q_14721 Are there any interconnection plans with the existing publicly controlled middle mile and/or last mile infrastructure assets?

Connects to a publicly accessible Point-Of-Presence or Data Center

Q_14722 Describe whether any existing infrastructure would or has been integrated into the design.

Subscriber connections included in our grant application will have lateral fiber builds to interconnect with the ErieNet open access dark fiber backbone network. ErieNet will interconnect to (3) carrier hotels (PoPs) at 350 Main St., Victory Technology Center, and 325 Delaware. ErieNet is negotiating with SUNY at Buffalo for providing diversified routes to the UB private fiber network, connections to the new UB Empire AI datacenter, as well as shared colocation PoPs for ErieNet, UB and/or NYSERNET for Internet-2 accessibility. Connections included in our grant application will be lateral builds off the existing ErieNet open access dark fiber network infrastructure.

Q_14723 Describe performance metrics of your proposed network, including the speeds, latency, average outage, network uptime, and existence of data caps or throttling.

ErieNet offers dark fiber, so the customer/subscriber sets the bandwidth speed. Our fiber optic infrastructure is being built to carrier industry specifications and will support industry standards for level of service for latency and network uptime. Our network topology is a series of interconnecting and overlapping rings for network redundancy, diversity, and resiliency. We are including CPE equipment, carrier grade switch/routers with optical lasers, for municipal endpoints (facilities) that will light the fiber for 1G, 10G or 25G of backbone bandwidth/speed (WAN). Each router also has 1G/10G internal LAN ports that interconnect to the subscriber's local network (LAN). The customer can impose data caps or throttling if it is to their advantage, and/or to manage throughput across their ring topology to minimize contention or oversubscription.

Service Quality

Q_14760 In addition to completing the Service Tiers and Pricing template under the Documents tab of this application, please also describe the service speeds and means of delivery of any free service tiers or free introductory periods available to end-users. Specify if such options will be generally available without ACP utilization or will require additional qualification.

Given the nature of a dark fiber, open access network, download and upload speeds are dependent upon the customer switch/router. The Customer Premises Equipment demarcation equipment from the ErieNet fiber supports multiple 1G and 10G ports to interface with the customer network. All customers off the ErieNet network will have access to multi-gigabit, symmetrical speeds, which our ISP partners would be able to offer as well for last-mile connections. Free service tiers and free introductory periods, as well as whether this is available without ACP utilization, will be determined by our ISP partners.

Q_14724 Describe plans to market the service to customers and plans to work with customers to enroll.

To effectively market ErieNet's broadband service and enroll customers a comprehensive strategy is essential. Here's an outline of the plans:

Market Research: Conduct extensive market research to understand the demographics, needs, and preferences of potential customers in ErieNet's target areas.

Strategic Positioning: Position ErieNet as a reliable, high-speed broadband network with a focus on affordability and accessibility. Emphasize the benefits of reliable internet for education, remote work, healthcare access, and economic development.

Multichannel Marketing: Implement a multichannel marketing approach to reach a wide range of potential customers. This includes digital channels such as social media advertising, search engine optimization, and email campaigns, as well as traditional channels like local newspapers, radio, community events, and incentivized discounts to encourage early adoption.

Partnerships and Collaborations: Collaborate with local businesses, schools, libraries, and community organizations to raise awareness about ErieNet's broadband network.

Education and Outreach: Conduct informational sessions and workshops in community centers, schools, and libraries to educate residents about the benefits of broadband internet and how to enroll in ErieNet's service.

Customer Support and Assistance: Utilize a dedicated customer support team to assist potential customers with the enrollment process.

Feedback Mechanism: Implement a feedback mechanism, such as surveys or community forums, to gather input from customers and address any issues or concerns promptly.

Continuous Improvement: Regularly assess the effectiveness of marketing strategies and enrollment processes and adjust as needed to optimize results.

By implementing these strategies, ErieNet can effectively market its broadband service to customers and streamline the enrollment process, ultimately expanding access to high-speed internet connectivity and driving economic growth in the community.

Q_14480 Specify the type and daily operating hours for all types of customer service provided for broadband subscribers including phone, email, SMS, and/or in person customer assistance (if provided). How is customer support provided outside of regular working hours and on weekends?

ErieNet will have an Operations Center that provides customer support 24/7 through a 1-800 number to report service problems. Our ISP partners will have a similar system, as well as email and SMS options for customers to utilize. Given the nature of internet service, where ErieNet customers need access 24/7, customer support will be available outside of regular working hours and on weekends.

Q_14481 What aspects of the customer service experience are automated and which are provided through live customer support?

The ErieNet Operations Center utilizes live agents only and will not have an automated system. After ErieNet customers speak to the live agent, the information regarding the customer service issue is forwarded to an On Call Technician for follow-up. There is a backup system for On Call Technicians that is escalated until the live agent speaks directly with an individual in the Operations Center.

Q_14482 What is the scope of any subcontractors providing customer support?

ErieNet will utilize a “pool” of live agents as subcontractors for customer support. This system ensures that ErieNet customers will always speak with an agent, rather than an automated system.

Q_14725 Describe how Applicant will ensure long-term, high-quality connectivity and support for residents, including a proposed Service-Level Agreement.

All ErieNet customers receive a Service Level Agreement (SLA) as part of their contract. The SLA outlines the details of fiber provisioning, maintenance of the fiber, service level commitments and repair time, among other items. The fiber service availability commitment in SLAs is 99.999% for the total applicable time for each month. Service credits, based on the number of hours the customer was out of service, were provided to the customer if they were out of service for more than four hours in one month.

Q_14484 How will the Applicant adhere to net neutrality principles, including commitments to no blocking, no throttling, no unreasonable discrimination in the transmittal of lawful internet traffic, and no paid prioritization?

ErieNet will abide by all net neutrality principles, including all of those listed in the question.

Q_14485 What measures and strategies will the Applicant take to safeguard the privacy and cybersecurity of residents and other end-users?

As a dark fiber provider, cyber security is the responsibility of the dark fiber subscriber. That said, the CPE routers we are specifying for our municipal grant participants is Cisco N540X series router that provides for end-to-end encryption.

Digital Equity Impact, Workforce Development and Diversity Practices

Q_14726 Describe Applicant or teams' outreach targets, including any plans to engage the community

with any non-English-speaking residents.

Our outreach targets have been elected municipal leaders (mayors, supervisors, and their staff), BOCES and school superintendents, higher education, public safety and municipal housing authorities. Our outreach also includes developing public private partnerships with broadband providers, ISPs, network service providers, and major data centers to light ErieNet's dark fiber infrastructure.

We are engaging with "Last Mile" broadband service providers to leverage our open access fiber so that these providers can offer competitive broadband access and services to our communities. We have identified some pilot communities, including tribal communities, that are of interest to ISPs, as well as ISPs supporting municipal housing with broadband services.

Q_14727 Describe Applicant or teams' prior experiences adopting community support programs and the outcomes of such programs.

ErieNet's Sales, Marketing & Operations Consultant (ECC Tech) has considerable experience in gaining community support and engagement of open access network infrastructure. Examples of successful programs throughout NYS are ErieNet, MonroeNet, Axxess Ontario, Southern Tier Network, and DANC.

Q_14728 Describe any plans to provide devices, skills and safety trainings, or provide other support to the community.

ErieNet intends to provide the municipality facilities connected by this grant with customer premise equipment (CPE) with routers to light the fiber for data (IP) communications. ErieNet will consult with each municipalities IT support team for network requirements. If the municipality elects to include ErieNet management of the network, then ErieNet will have managed network service provider under contract for such services.

Q_14729 Describe any accessibility plans to the community residents with disabilities.

No specific plan other than we are engaging and encouraging last mile providers to offer both residential and business/institutional services.

Q_14730 Describe the projected economic development and job creation impacts from the proposed project.

One of the primary goals of ErieNet leading to its formation is economic development. Included in our initial build are ECIDA targeted zones for agricultural, industrial, and business development. These are the Agribusiness Park in Evens, NY; Renaissance Park in Lackawanna, NY, and the Buffalo-Niagara Convention Center in downtown Buffalo, NY.

Our goal is for the open access ErieNet network to spur broadband competition, lower the barrier of market entry to under-served communities, and provide advanced broadband network services to all the communities of Erie County, including metropolitan, suburban, and rural communities.

Q_14731 Describe Applicant or teams' current practices aligning with NYS "good job" definitions and safety standards by committing to appropriate policies and investments to recruit, train, hire, retrain, and upskill a diverse workforce, particularly local workers and/or workers from historically disadvantaged communities, into good jobs that pay the prevailing wage.

ErieNet has a very limited staff of an Executive Director and Administrative Coordinator. Our Board is comprised of a diverse group of experienced leaders and managers. Our consultants and contractors are all encouraged to meet Erie County M/WBE goals. Overall, our initial 400-mile backbone project exceeds our M/WBE goals. All contractors are required to pay NYS prevailing wages for the appropriate labor categories utilized. All contractors are required to abide by local, county and state construction safety and OSHA regulations, and ErieNet's Construction Manager is responsible for safety compliance.

The real gains in workforce development, recruitment and training will be undertaken by the enterprises and institutions that utilize ErieNet's fiber infrastructure to grow and develop their workforce.

Q_14496 Describe current and planned future workforce training, certification, and licensure (e.g., in-house training, safety training, industry-recognized certifications, and offer of vocational training, apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, or other "earn and learn" opportunities) that are part of the Applicant's workforce development strategies.

See reply to 14731

Q_14732 Explain current and planned future efforts to diversify the talent pipeline by engaging underrepresented and/or underserved individuals, including any statewide, regional, or local partnerships in place to support recruitment and hiring.

See reply to 14731

Workforce Development

Q_14486 Describe the Applicant's current employee engagement strategy as it relates to ensuring good jobs for the Applicant's employees. Include an overview of compensation and benefits, job security, working conditions, worker engagement, and the organizational culture.

See reply to 14731

Q_14733 Describe the interest of one or more eligible partners and vendors to support the project. Detail any specific commitments that have been made.

As noted in this grant application, Empire Access has expressed interest in providing last mile services off this 169-mile extension of the ErieNet backbone, including the Tonawanda Nation that has some of its territory in the Town of Newstead in the northeastern section of Erie County. We have also been in discussions with Armstrong, Greenlight and other ISPs who have expressed interest in the ErieNet system once it is fully built out. Additionally, Pavlov Media, a company that provides internet, video, phone and software solutions to apartments, homes and businesses across 44 states, is interested in utilizing ErieNet for service to public housing. Pavlov serves MDUs and has in-house construction crews that install fiber optic infrastructure and has a Network Operations Center that provides 24/7 service to ensure reliability, stability and technical support. On the construction side, ErieNet is using CLW Consulting for construction of the network. CLW, an MWBE, is a leading supplier of network engineering, construction, and technical services for many networking operators throughout the United States. As noted in this proposal, ECC Technologies is our Project Manager, overseeing all Design, Make Ready and Construction, as well as Sales, Maintenance and Operations.

Q_14734 Please specify the level of commitment from the Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to operate on the proposed network build. For open-access network, the Applicant must have commitment from one or more ISPs to operate on the network.

Certification

Q_1038 By entering your name in the box below, you certify that you are authorized on behalf of the applicant and its governing body to submit this application. You further certify that all of the information contained in this Application and in all statements, data and supporting documents which have been made or furnished for the purpose of receiving assistance for the project described in this application, are true, correct and complete to the best of your knowledge and belief. You acknowledge that offering a written instrument knowing that the written instrument contains a false statement or false information, with the intent to defraud the State or any political subdivision, public authority or public benefit corporation of the State, with the knowledge or belief that it will be filed with or recorded by the State or any political subdivision, public authority or public benefit corporation of the State, constitutes a crime under New York State Law.

Melissa Hartman

Q_14767 By entering your name in the box below, you the Applicant acknowledges the following:

- Applicant will meet all Project Requirements and Applicant Requirements per the RFA.
- Application is not receiving funding from other federal or state sources for the same activities proposed for MIP funding.
- Applicant will provide additional cost estimates, if requested, for Properties in the portfolio agreed upon with CAO, including total grant amount requested and matching funds.
- Application will work with all appropriate agencies to obtain all required right of way approvals.
- Application will obtain all required permits and private easement approvals.
- Application will coordinate project deployment with all utilities.
- Application will obtain any necessary subcontractors.
- Application will provide on-site construction inspections to ensure proper design and execution.
- Application will coordinate and resolve third-party or private claims.
- Application will repair any and all damage to private and government property.
- Application will at all times, maintain an adequate staff of experienced and qualified employees for efficient performance.
- Application will at all times, furnish or perform any services in a safe, proper, and professional manner.
- Application will comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Application must submit a performance report to the State that includes the following key performance indicators, if selected to be a Grantee:
 - Project milestones and percentage of project/site completion, including construction milestones, quantity of fiber deployed, problems/issues encountered, and actions taken to resolve construction issues
 - Description of changes, challenges, or risks to project timeline, including environmental compliance and permitting challenges
 - Detailed reporting of actual construction costs, as compared to approved construction costs
 - Speed and latency test data at the address level for all locations served in the project area--including maximum download speed offered, maximum download speed delivered, maximum upload speed offered, maximum upload speed delivered, and latency.
 - Maps and associated data for all locations served, including all buildings/sites where service was installed.
 - Compliance with Prevailing Wage requirements, as determined during negotiations
 - Implementation progress of Digital Equity, Workforce Development, and Diversity Practices plans
 - Other reporting as required by grantor agencies or as mutually agreed upon by the Applicant and State.
 - Subscription information including the number of paying subscribers enrolled in the service, the number of low-income subscribers enrolled in ACP, and the number of subscribers enrolled in a low-cost service plan
 - Information about customers' Internet access prior to enrolling in the service including whether or not the customer had a previous fixed Internet subscription and the speed of that previous subscription
- Applicant acknowledges receipt of and compliance with addenda to this RFA.

Melissa Hartman

Q_2365 By entering your name in the box below, you are acknowledging that ESD's Contractor & Supplier Diversity policy will apply to this project. You are further acknowledging that you are aware of ESD's agency-wide Minority and Women Business Enterprise ('MWBE') utilization goal of 30%. Please note that each project will be assigned an individual contract-specific goal, which may be higher or lower than 30%. Furthermore, you understand that, should this project receive a funding award, the Applicant shall be required to use good faith efforts to achieve the prescribed MWBE goals assigned to this project and failure to attain MWBE goal could result in grant amount being reduced.

Melissa Hartman

Q_4182 By entering your name in the box below, you certify and agree that you are aware that your award will be reduced in proportion to the reduction of jobs and/or total project costs. Furthermore, you understand that, should this project receive a funding award, the Applicant will maintain such records and take such actions necessary to demonstrate such compliance throughout the completion of the project.

Melissa Hartman

Q_7341 By entering your name in the box below, you certify, under penalty of perjury, that the information given herein is true and correct in all respects for the company or organization applying for funding (the "Company"), presently and for the past five years: -the Company is not a party to any litigation or any litigation is not pending or anticipated that could have an adverse material effect on the company's financial condition;

-the Company does not have any contingent liabilities that could have a material effect on its solvency;

-the Company, its affiliates or any member of its management or any other concern with which such members of management have been officers or directors, have never been involved in bankruptcy, creditor's rights, or receivership proceedings or sought protection from creditors;

-the Company is not delinquent on any of its state, federal or local tax obligations;

-No principal, officer of the Company, owner or majority stockholder of any firm or corporation, or member of the management has been charged or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, indicted, granted immunity, convicted of a crime or subject to a judgment, or the subject of an investigation, whether open or closed, by any government entity for a civil or criminal violation for: (i) any business-related activity including, but not limited to, fraud, coercion, extortion, bribe or bribe receiving, giving or accepting unlawful gratuities, immigration or tax fraud, racketeering, mail fraud, wire fraud, price fixing or collusive bidding; or (ii) any crime, whether or not business related, where the underlying conduct relates to truthfulness, including but not limited to, the filing of false documents or false sworn statements, perjury or larceny;

-the Company or any of the Company's affiliates, principal owners or Officers has not received a violation of State Labor Law deemed "willful";

-the Company or any of its affiliates has never been cited for a violation of State, Federal, or local laws or regulations with respect to labor practices, hazardous wastes, environmental pollution or other operating practices;

-there are not any outstanding judgments or liens pending against the Company other than liens in the normal course of business.

-the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been the subject of any judgments, injunctions, or liens including, but not limited to, judgments based on taxes owed, fines and penalties assessed by any governmental agency, or elected official against the Company.

- the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been investigated by any governmental agency, including, but not limited to, federal, state and local regulatory agencies

-the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not been debarred from entering into any government contract; been found non-responsible on any government contract; been declared in default ore terminated for cause on any government contract; been determined to be ineligible to bid or propose on any contract; been suspended from bidding on any government contract; received an overall unsatisfactory performance rating from any government agency on any contract; agree to a voluntary exclusion from bidding or contracting on a government contract.

- the Company or any of its affiliates, principal owners or officers the company has not failed to file any of the required forms with any government entity regulating the Company. By entering your name in the box below, you agree to allow the Department of Taxation to share the Company tax information with ESD. By entering your name in the box below, you agree to allow the Department of Labor to share tax and employer information with ESD. Note: If any of the statements above are not true, in addition to entering your name, also include an explanation in the box below, indicating which issue you are addressing.

Melissa Hartman

Net New Jobs

No job answers necessary due to your associated programs.

Qualified Investments

No investment answers necessary due to your associated programs.

Total Project Cost

Total project cost: \$ 22,384,407

Funding Requested from Program

Program	Amount Requested
ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)	\$ 21534407

Attachment Questions & Answers

ConnectALL – Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP)

Project Summary

Q_14740 Provide a summary of the following key points of the project [Not to exceed two pages]:

- List of applicants and any eligible partners
- List of the proposed project areas with a percentage of unserved and underserved locations
- Total miles of proposed new fiber construction
- Brief overview of the proposed project approach
- Proposed infrastructure ownership model
- Approach for sharing the newly built infrastructure as open-access or reserved for exclusive use
- Total project budget with the amount requested from MIP grant funds

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName_Project-Summary_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Project-Summary_03.06.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Financial Capability

Q_14686 Upload the Applicant's most recent financial statements prepared in accordance with standard accounting procedures of the Applicant and all principals of the organization. Eligible Private Applicants should provide three years of audited financial statements.

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName_Finances_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Finances_03.06.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Experience and Relevant Qualifications

Q_14687 Please provide two case studies of relevant past work done by the Applicant or team, with preference to work conducted in New York State. Include reference to adhering to relevant state and federal regulations.

Case studies shall be brief and include the following for each:

- Number of addresses served
- Number of businesses subcontracted
- Route miles constructed, and costs incurred by category (e.g., make-ready, permitting, engineering/design, labor, construction)
- Description of the technology deployed and why it was the appropriate choice for the project
- Service level commitment offered
- Advertised download speed in megabits per second
- Advertised upload speed in megabits per second
- Monthly, non-promotional price for each service offered over the funded infrastructure
- Specifications of signal latency and service reliability parameters
- Descriptions of any delays or changes made to project timeline

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName_Experiences_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Experiences_03.06.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Deployment Timelines

Q_14688 Please provide a project management plan with timelines clearly identifying the time to first connections and the time to project completion.

Name your file using the following naming convention:
"ApplicantName_Deployment-Timelines_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are PDF and XLSX. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Deployment-Timelines_03.06.24.xlsx](#)
[Download](#)

MIP RFA Templates

Q_14765 Please provide the following information by filling out all four tabs of the MIP RFA Templates file (link to download below).

1. Project budget with a breakdown of costs using the “MIP Budget Templates” tab
2. Services and products that will be offered to the end-users, and pricing of those by completing the “MIP Service Tiers and Pricing” tab:
 - a) Include description of service tiers, speeds, and pricing, inclusive of all taxes and fees.
 - b) Indicate price, upload speed, and download speed for a product at or below \$30 per month, if such a price point is planned
 - c) Include description, including service speeds and means of delivery, of any free service tiers or free introductory periods, if available
3. Details on the intent to hire additional employees if the Applicant is selected to be a Grantee by filling out the “MIP Workforce Development” tab
4. A list of locations the project will serve by filling out the “MIP Location Data” tab. Provide all available location data such as FCC Location ID, address, and latitude/longitude for each location
 - a) Indicate which locations are Unserved, Underserved or Served
 - b) Business, Residential or Mixed
 - c) Community Anchor Institutions

Name your file using the following naming convention:
“ApplicantName_MIP-RFA-Filled-Templates_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is XLSX. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

Please use the link below to download the templates file.

[MIP RFA Templates](#)

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_MIP-RFA-Filled-Templates_03.06.24.xlsx](#)
[Download](#)

Network Design

Q_14689 Please provide a complete or close to complete network design and architecture, including:

- Network elements (both active and passive)
- Connectivity to the internet backbone
- Delivery to each served address with the required throughput and capacity
- Engineering decisions required to achieve service speeds and latency, such as:
 - Backhaul connectivity
 - Head end deployment
 - Core network electronics
 - Fiber capacity and strand counts on each segment of the network
 - Maximum line speed at the premises

- Oversubscription ratio
- Split ratios
- Splice points
- Drop installation
- In-unit termination specification
- CPE or router model and capabilities (including Wi-Fi interface)

Name your file using the following naming convention: “ApplicantName_Network-Design_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Network-Design_02.29.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Maps and Addresses

Q_14690 Please provide Maps and address lists indicating the fiber routes and accompanying infrastructure (e.g., poles and huts) that the MIP grants would fund. Include a list of publicly controlled assets the project may use to support deployment. Include a .kmz or shapefile of the proposed routing with clearly defined layers for the various types of infrastructure and any other information relevant to the design, including:

- Fiber routes and segment types (backbone, distribution, etc.)
- Installation method (direction bore, micro-trenching, etc.)

Name your file using the following naming convention: “ApplicantName_Maps-Addresses_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are kmz, kml, shp, and shx. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_Maps-Addresses.03.07.24.kmz](#)
[Download](#)

ISP Letters Of Commitment

Q_14691 For an open-access infrastructure, please provide Letters of Commitment to operate on the network from one or more ISP, indicating details of the ISP’s planned technology approach and demonstration of a currently functional network meeting CAO requirements elsewhere. Other supporting documentation may include letters of endorsement from ISP(s) currently operating on infrastructure built by the applicant elsewhere, and documentation from an operator using infrastructure built by the Applicant to host ISPs that meet CAO’s service requirements.

Name your file using the following naming convention: “ApplicantName_ISP-LOC_MM.DD.YY”

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_ISP-LOC_02.20.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Workforce Development

Q_15016 Attach letter(s) of commitment, if available, from partner organization(s) that demonstrate(s) Applicant’s current engagement, or future intent to engage, with partner(s) through advising on curriculum or program design, providing program funding, interviewing talent, hiring talent, building an apprenticeship or other program, or upskilling existing workers. Letters can be from labor

unions, workforce development organizations, state and local workforce boards, educational institutions, community-based organizations, or others relevant organizations.

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName_WorkforceLOCs_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file type for this question is PDF. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

No attachment, cannot upload

Additional Document(s)

Q_15018 Provide any additional document(s) to strengthen your application (e.g. letters of endorsement from the proposed area municipality).

Name your file using the following naming convention: "ApplicantName_AdditionalDocs_MM.DD.YY"

Please note that the accepted file types for this question are PDF and ZIP. If you have an issue with uploading any files, please reach out to cfa-programs@ny.gov and MIP@esd.ny.gov.

[ErieNet Local Development Corporation_AdditionalDocs_03.07.24.pdf](#)
[Download](#)

Legend

[x] = Expired Program

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**ERIENET LOCAL
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

*(A Component Unit of the County of Erie, New York)
Basic Financial Statements, Supplementary Information,
Other Information, and Federal Awards Information for the
Year Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022
and Independent Auditors' Reports*

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE, NEW YORK)

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Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors
ErieNet Local Development Corporation:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities of the ErieNet Local Development Corporation ("ErieNet"), a component unit of the County of Erie, New York, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise ErieNet's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the business-type activities of ErieNet as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS") and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* ("GAS"), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of ErieNet and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

ErieNet's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the ErieNet's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

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Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the ErieNet's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the ErieNet's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only ErieNet and do not purport to, and do not present fairly the financial position of the County of Erie, New York, as of December 31, 2023, and the changes in its financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Government Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

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Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise ErieNet’s basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (“Uniform Guidance”), are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the financial statements. The other information comprises the Real Property Listing but does not include the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinions on the financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 19, 2024 on our consideration of the ErieNet’s internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering ErieNet’s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

March 19, 2024

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A Component Unit of the County of Erie, New York)
Statements of Net Position
December 31, 2023 and 2022

ASSETS	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,938,996	\$ 932
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,104,616	34,000,000
Restricted investments	28,763,343	-
Prepaid items	5,415	-
Noncurrent assets:		
Capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>3,291,403</u>	<u>-</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 35,103,773</u>	<u>\$ 34,000,932</u>
 LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,079,296	\$ -
Accrued liabilities	3,374	-
Unearned revenue	<u>29,867,959</u>	<u>34,000,000</u>
Total liabilities	<u>30,950,629</u>	<u>34,000,000</u>
 NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	3,291,403	-
Unrestricted	<u>861,741</u>	<u>932</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 4,153,144</u>	<u>\$ 932</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A Component Unit of the County of Erie, New York)
Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating revenues:		
Other	\$ 230	\$ -
Total operating revenues	<u>230</u>	<u>-</u>
Operating expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	131,001	-
Professional services	647,646	-
Other	<u>61,991</u>	<u>-</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>840,638</u>	<u>-</u>
Operating (loss)	<u>(840,408)</u>	<u>-</u>
Nonoperating revenues:		
Grant income	4,132,041	-
Investment income	<u>860,579</u>	<u>932</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>4,992,620</u>	<u>932</u>
Change in net position	4,152,212	932
Net position—beginning	<u>932</u>	<u>-</u>
Net position—ending	<u>\$ 4,153,144</u>	<u>\$ 932</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A Component Unit of the County of Erie, New York)
Statements of Cash Flows
Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash paid for employee wages and benefits	\$ (127,627)	\$ -
Cash paid to vendors and suppliers	(699,297)	-
Cash from other revenues	230	-
Net cash (used for) operating activities	<u>(826,694)</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	(2,227,862)	-
Transfer from Erie County	<u>-</u>	<u>34,000,000</u>
Net cash (used for) provided by capital and related financing activities	<u>(2,227,862)</u>	<u>34,000,000</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(27,998,170)	-
Interest received	95,406	932
Net cash (used for) provided by investing activities	<u>(27,902,764)</u>	<u>932</u>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(30,957,320)	34,000,932
Cash and cash equivalents—beginning	<u>34,000,932</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash and cash equivalents—ending	<u>\$ 3,043,612</u>	<u>\$ 34,000,932</u>
Reconciliation of operating (loss) to net cash (used for) operating activities:		
Operating (loss)	\$ (840,408)	\$ -
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash (used for) operating activities:		
(Increase) in prepaid items	(5,415)	-
Increase in accounts payable for operating activities	15,755	-
Increase in accrued liabilities	3,374	-
Total adjustments	<u>13,714</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash (used for) operating activities	<u>\$ (826,694)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A Component Unit of the County of Erie, New York)
Notes to the Financial Statements
Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

ErieNet Local Development Corporation (the “ErieNet”) was created in 2022 under Section 1411 of the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law for the purpose of creating a foundation to address the broadband needs of unserved areas, improve services in underserved areas of Erie County (the “County”), and enable world-class broadband investment and deployment countywide. ErieNet was established through a \$34,000,000 grant from the County which was passed through the County from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Financial Reporting Entity

In evaluating how to define ErieNet for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in ErieNet’s reporting entity is based on application of these criteria, there are no additional entities included in ErieNet’s financial statements.

Measurement Focus

Management has elected to present ErieNet as a stand-alone business-type activity (proprietary fund). Accordingly, the activities of ErieNet are accounted for similar to those often found in the private sector using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position, revenues and expenses are accounted for through a single enterprise fund with revenues recorded when earned and expenses recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

Basis of Presentation

The basic financial statements of ErieNet have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of ErieNet’s accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts of ErieNet are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting. As such, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are incurred. The significant accounting and reporting policies used by ErieNet are described below to enhance the usefulness and understandability of the financial statements.

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Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments—Cash management is governed by State laws and as established by ErieNet’s written policies. Cash resources must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within the State. Management is authorized to use demand accounts and certificates of deposit. Permissible investments include obligations of the United States Treasury and its agencies, repurchase agreements, and obligations of the state or its localities.

Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments—Restricted cash and cash equivalents and investments represent cash from unearned revenue, including amounts received from the County related to American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Prepaid Items—Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in the statement of net position. The cost of prepaid items is recorded as an expense when consumed rather than purchased.

Capital Assets—Capital assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided over estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred; significant improvements are capitalized.

Capitalization thresholds to determine which asset purchases are added to capital accounts and the estimated useful lives of capital assets are presented below:

	Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life in Years
Building and improvements	\$ 10,000	5 - 40
Furniture and equipment	10,000	3 - 10

At December 31, 2023, capital assets consist of construction in progress for the ongoing broadband infrastructure project.

Unearned Revenue—Certain cash receipts have not met the revenue recognition criteria and are reported as unearned revenue. At December 31, 2023, ErieNet reported \$29,867,959 of unearned revenues. ErieNet has received grant money in advance but has not performed the related services and, therefore, recognized a liability.

Net Position Flow Assumption—Sometimes ErieNet will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted—net position and unrestricted—net position in the statement of net position, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is ErieNet’s policy to consider restricted—net position to have been depleted before unrestricted—net position is applied.

Revenues and Expenses

Operating Revenue and Expenses—ErieNet’s statements of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position distinguish between operating and non-operating revenues and expenses. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with ErieNet’s principal ongoing

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operations, which have not begun as of December 31, 2023. Operating expenses consist of program expenses incurred in connection with ErieNet’s programs, as well as salaries and benefits expenses for ErieNet’s employees.

Grants Revenues—Through the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, ErieNet received \$34,000,000 through the American Rescue Plan Act funds passed through the County of Erie, New York. ErieNet believes that it has met the requirements for use of a portion of these funds and has recognized \$4,132,041 during the year ended December 31, 2023 as revenue under GAAP. ErieNet did not claim any additional funds as revenues during the year ended December 31, 2023, and therefore, the remaining \$29,867,959 is reported as unearned revenues.

Other

Estimates—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Pension—During the year ended December 31, 2023, ErieNet established a defined contribution retirement plan covering essentially all of ErieNet’s employees. The plan requires a safe harbor employer matching contribution. In addition, ErieNet may make other discretionary contributions at the option of the Board of Directors. Employer contributions to the plan for the year ended December 31, 2023 amounted to \$5,982.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements—During the year ended December 31, 2023, ErieNet implemented GASB Statements No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*; No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*; and a portion of No. 99, *Omnibus 2022*. GASB Statement No. 94 improves financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnerships arrangements (“PPPs”). GASB Statement No. 96 improves financial reporting by establishing a definition for Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (“SBITAs”) and providing uniform guidance for accounting and financial reporting for transactions that meet that definition. A portion of GASB Statement No. 99 enhances comparability in the application of accounting and financial reporting requirements and improves the consistency of authoritative literature related to GASB Statements No. 94 and 96. The implementation of GASB Statements No. 94, 96, and a portion of 99 did not have a material impact on ErieNet’s financial position or results from operations.

Future Impacts of Accounting Pronouncements—ErieNet has not completed the process of evaluating the impact that will result from adopting the remainder of GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 2022*; No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*; and No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, effective for the year ending December 31, 2024; and No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, effective for the year ending December 31, 2025. ErieNet is, therefore, unable to disclose the impact that adopting GASB Statements No. 99, 100, 101, and 102 will have on its financial position and results of operations when such statements are adopted.

Tax Status—ErieNet is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as an organization described in section 501 (c)(3).

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2. CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

ErieNet's investment policies are governed by New York State statutes. All deposits are carried at fair value. Collateral is required for demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts and certificates of deposit not covered by Federal deposit insurance ("FDIC"). ErieNet has entered into custodial agreements with the various banks which hold their deposits. These agreements authorize the obligation that may be pledged as collateral. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are outlined in Chapter 623 of the laws of the State of New York.

Cash and cash equivalents of ErieNet at December 31, 2023 and 2022 consisted of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash on deposit	\$ 3,043,612	\$ 34,000,932
Total	<u>\$ 3,043,612</u>	<u>\$ 34,000,932</u>

Deposits—All deposits including cash in bank and money market funds are carried at fair value, and are classified by custodial credit risk at December 31, 2023 and 2022 as shown below:

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>Bank Balance</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Bank Balance</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>
FDIC insured	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Uninsured:				
Collateral held by pledging bank's agent in ErieNet's name	<u>2,909,899</u>	<u>2,793,612</u>	<u>33,750,932</u>	<u>33,750,932</u>
Total deposits	<u>\$ 3,159,899</u>	<u>\$ 3,043,612</u>	<u>\$ 34,000,932</u>	<u>\$ 34,000,932</u>

Custodial Credit Risk—Deposits—In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, ErieNet's deposits may not be returned to it. As noted above, by State statute all deposits in excess of FDIC insurance coverage must be collateralized. As of December 31, 2023, ErieNet's deposits were FDIC insured or collateralized by securities held by the pledging institution's agent in ErieNet's name.

Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments—ErieNet reports restricted cash and cash equivalents for resources received in advance related to unearned revenue. At December 31, 2023, ErieNet reported \$1,104,616 in restricted cash and cash equivalents and \$28,763,343 in restricted investments.

Investments—All investments are reported using a three-level hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy, established by GAAP, requires that entities maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as presented below:

- Level 1. Quotes prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets to which ErieNet has access at the measurement date.
- Level 2. Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include:

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- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets in markets that are not active;
 - Observable inputs other than quoted prices for the asset or liability (for example, interest rates and yield curves); and
 - Inputs derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or by other means.
- Level 3. Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs should be used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available.

Investments reported at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

	12/31/2023	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Treasury notes	\$ 28,763,343	\$ 28,763,343	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 28,763,343</u>	<u>\$ 28,763,343</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

ErieNet did not report any investments at December 31, 2022.

Interest Rate Risk—Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of deposits and investments. ErieNet's investment policy minimizes the risk by structuring the investment portfolio so that the deposits and investments mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations, thereby avoiding the need to sell deposits and investments on the open market prior to maturity. Deposits are primarily invested in short-term securities or similar investment pools with maturities less than one year. Investments are invested in long-term securities or similar investment pools with maturities greater than one year.

Custodial Credit Risk—Investments—Credit risk is defined as the risk that an issuer or other counterpart to an investment in debt securities will not fulfill its obligation. ErieNet's investment policy minimizes credit risk by limiting investments to U.S. Treasury notes are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government and are considered to be of the highest credit quality.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 was as follows:

	Balance 1/1/2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance 12/31/2023
Capital assets, not being depreciated				
Construction in progress	\$ -	\$ 3,291,403	\$ -	\$ 3,291,403
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,291,403</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,291,403</u>

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4. ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accrued liabilities reported by ErieNet at December 31, 2023, were as follows:

	<u>Total</u>
Salary and employee benefits	<u>\$ 3,374</u>

5. PENSION

In 2023, ErieNet established a defined contribution retirement plan covering essentially all of its employees. The plan requires a safe harbor employer matching contribution. In addition, ErieNet may make other discretionary contributions at the option of the Board of Directors. Employer contributions to the plan for the year ended December 31, 2023 amounted to \$5,982.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

ErieNet is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, vehicle liability, injuries to employees, health insurance, unemployment insurance, and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. There have not been any settlements which have exceeded commercial insurance coverage in the past three fiscal years. ErieNet purchases insurance for: commercial general liability coverage, commercial crime coverage, and umbrella insurance.

7. NET POSITION

ErieNet's financial statements utilize a net position presentation. Net position is categorized in net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted.

- ***Net Investment In Capital Assets***—This category consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by outstanding balances of any related debt obligations attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. A reconciliation of ErieNet's net investment in capital assets is presented below:

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ 3,291,403</u>
Net investment in capital assets	<u>\$ 3,291,403</u>

- ***Restricted***—This category consists of amounts subject to legal purpose restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments and enforced externally or through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. At December 31, 2023, there was no restricted net position.
- ***Unrestricted***—This component represents net position of ErieNet not restricted for any other purpose.

8. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation—ErieNet is party to various legal proceedings which normally occur in governmental operations. ErieNet believes that it is the ultimate liability, if any, in connection with these matters, will not have a material effect on ErieNet's financial condition or results of operations.

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Grants—ErieNet receives financial assistance from the County. Managing these funds generally requires compliance with the terms and conditions specified in the agreement and may be subject to audit by the grantor agency. Disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability for ErieNet. While the amount of any expense that may be disallowed cannot be determined at this time, management expect any amounts to be immaterial.

Commitments—ErieNet has approved various contracts related to the construction of its broadband infrastructure project. At December 31, 2023, open commitments totaled \$30,121,477.

9. RELATED PARTIES

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the County of Erie, New York allocated \$34,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to establish ErieNet and fund the construction of a broadband internet network.

10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 19, 2024, which is the date the financial statements are available for issuance, and have determined there are no subsequent events that require disclosure under generally accepted accounting principles.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Schedule of Corporation Investments Year Ended December 31, 2023

Annual Investment Report - §2925(6) of Public Authorities Law of the State of New York requires that each public authority must annually prepare an investment report which shall include (a) investment guidelines, (b) amendments to such guidelines since the last investment report, (c) an explanation of the investment guidelines and amendments, (d) results of the annual independent audit, (e) the investment income record of the corporation, and (f) a list of the total fees, commissions or other charges paid to each investment banker, broker, dealer and adviser rendering investment associated services to the Corporation since the last investment report.

- a. Investment guidelines—ErieNet’s investment policies are governed by State statutes. All investments are maintained in bank deposit accounts which are federally insured. ErieNet’s deposits are held at quality institutions.
- b. Amendments to guidelines—None.
- c. Explanation of guidelines and investments—These guidelines restrict investment of ErieNet’s funds to deposits in federally insured banks. ErieNet has not made any amendments to its investment policy.
- d. Results of the annual independent audit—The independent auditors have issued an unmodified opinion on ErieNet’s financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.
- e. Investment income (loss) record— Investment income (loss) for the year ended December 31, 2023 consisted of:

Interest income	\$ 95,406
Unrealized gain on investments	<u>765,173</u>
Total	<u>\$ 860,579</u>

- f. List of the total fees, commissions or other charges paid to each investment banker, broker, dealer and adviser rendering investment associated services to the Corporation since the last investment report—No such fees, commissions, or other charges were paid during the year ended December 31, 2023.

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OTHER INFORMATION

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Real Property Listing (Unaudited)
Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. **Real Property List** – §2896(3) of Public Authorities Law of the State of New York requires that each public authority must publish, at least annually, a report listing all real property of the authority. At December 31, 2023, ErieNet reported no real property.
2. **Real Property Acquisitions/Dispositions** – During the year ended December 31, 2023, ErieNet neither acquired nor disposed of any real property.

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FEDERAL AWARDS
INFORMATION

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor Program or Cluster Title (1a)	Federal Assistance Listing Number (1b)	Pass-through Entity's Identifying Number (1c)	Passed- Through to Subrecipients	Total Federal Expenditures (1d)
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY:				
<i>Passed through the County of Erie, New York:</i>				
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	n/a	\$ -	\$ 4,132,041
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY			<u>-</u>	<u>4,132,041</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS (1e)			<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,132,041</u>

The notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are an integral part of this schedule.

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the “Schedule”) includes the federal grant activity of the ErieNet Local Development Corporation (“ErieNet”), a component unit of the County of Erie, New York, under programs of federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (“Uniform Guidance”). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of ErieNet, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of ErieNet. The following notes were identified on the Schedule:

- a) Includes all federal award programs of the ErieNet Local Development Corporation.
- b) Source: Federal Assistance Listing Numbers, previously known as Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.
- c) Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available.
- d) Prepared under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and includes all federal award programs.
- e) Total federal expenditures for ErieNet’s 2023 fiscal year are reconciled to Federal sources as reported in the basic financial statements.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available. ErieNet has not elected to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Board of Directors
ErieNet Local Development Corporation:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, of the business-type activities of the ErieNet Local Development Corporation ("ErieNet"), a component unit of the County of Erie, New York, as of and the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered ErieNet's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of ErieNet's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of ErieNet's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of ErieNet's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether ErieNet's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of ErieNet's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering ErieNet's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 19, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

The Board of Directors
ErieNet Local Development Corporation:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the ErieNet Local Development Corporation's ("ErieNet") compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of ErieNet's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. ErieNet's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, ErieNet complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States ("*Government Auditing Standards*"); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* ("CFR") Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (the "Uniform Guidance"). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of ErieNet and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the ErieNet's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the ErieNet's federal programs.

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Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the ErieNet's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the ErieNet's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding ErieNet's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of ErieNet's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of ErieNet's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 19, 2024

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ERIENET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Section I. SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

Financial Statements:

Type of auditors' report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? _____ Yes ✓ No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ Yes ✓ None reported

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? _____ Yes ✓ No

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major federal programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? _____ Yes ✓ No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ Yes ✓ None reported

Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major federal programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? _____ Yes ✓ No

Identification of major federal programs:

<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>	<u>Federal Assistance Listing Number</u>
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs? \$ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? ✓ Yes _____ No

Section II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No findings noted.

Section III. FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No findings noted.

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NYS Connect All Office (CAO) Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) ErieNet Grant Application

Experience and Relevant Qualifications

Please provide two case studies of relevant past work done by the Applicant or team, with preference to work conducted in New York State. Include reference to adhering to relevant state and federal regulations.

Case studies shall be brief and include the following for each:

- Number of addresses served
- Number of businesses subcontracted
- Route miles constructed, and costs incurred by category (e.g., make-ready, permitting, engineering/design, labor, construction)
- Description of the technology deployed and why it was the appropriate choice for the project
- Service level commitment offered
- Advertised download speed in megabits per second
- Advertised upload speed in megabits per second
- Monthly, non-promotional price for each service offered over the funded infrastructure
- Specifications of signal latency and service reliability parameters
- Descriptions of any delays or changes made to project timeline

ErieNet's Project Manager, ECC Technologies, has extensive experience in building, operating and maintaining Open Access Networks (OANs). Two case studies include Southern Tier Network (STN) and Access Ontario. Others are available upon request.

Southern Tier Network

Southern Tier Network (STN) is a 501 c (3) not-for-profit, local development corporation created by the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board (STCRPDB) along with private and municipal partners to build and operate an Open Access (OA) optical fiber network in Steuben, Schuyler, and Chemung Counties of New York State. STCRPDB relied on ECC's expertise to provide all the necessary services to start, design, build, operate, monetize, and ultimately hand off the OA system. ECC services provided to the STCRPDB included: consulting, business plan development, public-private partnership development, grant writing, project management, network monetization through fiber sales, network operations and maintenance, construction management, service provider relationship development.

As the design and project management consultant for the network's construction, ECC directed the construction efforts, resulting in the projects being completed ahead of schedule and under budget. As the operational support arm of STN, ECC was responsible for monetizing the network by securing 189 contracts that amounted to \$20 Million in revenue, serving more than 460 enterprise and carrier locations. ECC secured contracts with eight new broadband carriers to extend their networks into the region leveraging the STN network.



In November 2015, Southern Tier Network was awarded \$5 million in grant funding by the New York State Empire State Development to expand the STN open access network by 134 miles to serve Allegany, Broome, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties. ECC designed the network and managed its construction to be completed on time and under budget.

Network operations of the expansion project were performed by ECC Technologies. In addition, ECC began monetizing the network by securing 28 contracts valued at nearly \$1.6 million. ECC arranged for the connection of 55 customer locations on the Southern Tier Network Expansion (STNE) service area. Three carriers expanded their service area into the STNE bringing competitive service offerings to these communities.

Fifteen rural New York communities now have fiber to the home with others being added on a continuous basis. In addition to the broadband improvements, this project also included fiber optic connections for K-12 schools, colleges, libraries, hospitals, and healthcare facilities, while also serving the business community at large. Each of the participating counties use the fiber to interconnect internal facilities including public safety towers, economic development sites and other key locations.

The technology deployed for this project was dark fiber for use by municipalities, enterprises, telecommunication carriers and other entities. Dark fiber strands were leased or provided by an indefeasible right of use to those customers who lit the fiber on their own or utilized a managed service provider. This type of system was established to allow other telecommunication carriers into unserved areas and provide end users with another service provider on an all-fiber network. As noted earlier, this network led to eight new broadband carriers extending their networks.

A Service Level Agreement (SLA) was provided to each STN customer, outlining the details of fiber provisioning, maintenance of the fiber, service level commitments and repair time, among other items. The fiber service availability commitment in SLAs is 99.999% of the total applicable time for each month. Service credits, based on the number of hours the customer was out of service, were provided to the customer if they were out of service for more than four hours in one month.

Given the nature of a dark fiber, open access network, download and upload speeds are dependent upon the customer switch/router. The Customer Premises Equipment demarcation equipment from the STN fiber supports multiple 1G and 10G ports to interface with the customer network. All customers using the STN network will have access to multi-gigabit, symmetrical speeds.

The monthly, non-promotional price is \$500/month/span for fiber leases and under an Indefeasible Right of Use contract, there is a \$1,000 one-time fee and \$300/month maintenance fee.

Delays to the project timeline were primarily due to Make Ready work, which is a lengthy schedule due to pole owner requirements on surveying and construction work related to Make Ready, such as pole replacements and moving existing electric and telecommunication lines. For unusual delays, we temporarily attach to poles to stay on schedule.



Other details requested in the MIP grant application:

Number of addresses served	15,000 residential 460 CAI's
Number of businesses subcontracted to build the network	18
Route miles constructed	453
Make ready costs	\$3,142,705
Permitting costs	\$614,823
Engineering/Design costs	\$1,538,390
Labor costs	\$6,867,143
Construction costs	\$6,691,539
Service level commitment offered	2hrs to respond/4 hrs to repair
Signal latency	5 microseconds/km
Service reliability	99%

Access Ontario

ECC Technologies was the lead consultant and instrumental in the creation, development and success of Access Ontario's Open Access Model in Ontario County, New York. In 2005, ECC developed the business model, designed the network, project managed its construction, and operated and monetized it. In 2019, Ontario County leadership determined it had successfully completed its mission and arranged a partnership with Empire Access a local ISP, to continue FTTH build out and operations of the network. Empire Access continues to expand their FTTH program within this network.

ECC designed the fiber optic network and managed the make ready and construction process completing the \$5.8 million, 200 + mile project on time and under budget.

As the sales and operational support arm of Access Ontario, ECC was personally responsible for monetizing the network by securing 95 contracts amounting to \$10.6 million in revenues serving 186 enterprise and carrier locations. Seven new broadband carriers were brought into the County via the AO network providing competitive services and investing millions in broadband technologies.

It should be noted that during the initial stages of Verizon 4G cellular development program, Ontario County was one of the first communities in the nation along with eh 32 NFL Cities to receive the newly developed services. This was a direct result of the partnership created between the network and Verizon which used the fiber network for roll out and testing. In addition to the cellular and broadband improvements, this project also included fiber optic connections for K-12, colleges, libraries, hospitals and healthcare facilities, energy utilities and the business community at large. Ontario County also uses the fiber network to interconnect internal facilities including public safety towers, economic development sites and other key locations.



Other details requested in the MIP grant application:

Number of addresses served	6,000 residential and 186 CAI's
Number of businesses subcontracted to build the network	18
Route miles constructed	200
Make ready costs	\$1,029,945
Permitting costs	\$360,000
Engineering/Design costs	\$474,838
Labor costs	\$1,979,379
Construction costs	\$1,958,309
Service level commitment offered	2hrs to respond/4 hrs to repair
Signal latency	5 microseconds/km
Service reliability	99%

**ErieNet CAO MIP Application
Network Design**

Network Design	Description
Network Elements	
Active	Cisco Network Convergence System 540X Routers; EXFO Network Monitoring
Passive	Prsymian™ Singlemode Fiber Optic Cabling (SMF) and related Components (Corning™ splice cases, patch panels, etc.), American Products Mini-Fort Telecom Pole/Pedestal Cross Boxes, Vertiv Racks & Cable Management Systems
Delivery Throughput and Capacity	Open Access Dark Fiber Network. Customer drop cable is min. 12-strands of SMF, with min. 2-strands lit by customer. Current optical lasers support 1G, 10G, 25G, 40G and 100G network throughput/bandwidth.
Engineering Decisions	
Backhaul connectivity	Min. 12-strands dark fiber SMF delivered to each address, with min. 2-strands lit. CPE Routers support 1G and 10G backhaul options, with multiple 1G or 10G port interfaces to customer network.
Head end deployment	Primary and secondary ErieNet Points of Presence (PoP), with multiple co-location with carrier PoPs and data centers.
Core network electronics	EXFO™ remote fiber testing & monitoring based on fixed OTDR test equipment placed at our primary PoP. Cisco™ network routers and switches. Cross connects to co-located carrier services for advanced networking and Internet services.
Fiber capacity and strand counts on each segment of the network	(2) 288-strand SMF back bone trunks into primary and secondary PoPs, with 96-strand and 48-Strands as fiber backbone is distributed out to communities. Each backhaul fiber has capability of supporting Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) supporting upto (80) wavelengths for each fiber strand.
Maximum line speed at the premises	Dependent upon customer switch/router. ErieNet CPE demarcation equipment supports multiple 1G and 10G ports to interface with customer network.
Oversubscription ratio	Customer decision, but ErieNet has multiple rings for network segmentation, redundancy and resiliency. Customer networks on ErieNet fiber would have no oversubscription in many cases, upto 2:1 oversubscription dependant upon laser optics chosen.
Split ratios	Currently not employing passive optical network technology to split fibers or wavelengths.
Splice points	Utilizing (22) Pole/Pedestal mounted Telecom Cabinets to minimize pole line splice enclosures. Current estimate is approximately 400 splices across the entire network.
Drop installation	Drops to municipal facilities using 12-SMF cable drop spliced from backbone into the facility. Cisco NS540 router installed into customer provided rack with power.
In-unit termination specification	All customer fiber terminations are fusion spliced onto Corning fiber housing and patch panels, patched to Cisco CS540 router using duplex APC-LC SMF patch cable.

ErieNet CAO MIP Application
Network Design

CPE or router model and capabilities (including Wi-Fi interface)	Cisco Network Convergence System N540X Routers supporting 1G and 10G WAN connections, 1G/10G LAN connections.
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February 20, 2024

Melissa Hartman
Executive Director
ErieNet
Seneca One Tower
1 Seneca St.
29th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

Re: ErieNet Middle Mile-OAM MIP Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Hartman,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Empire Access is in support of the proposal that ErieNet is submitting to secure NYS Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) funds to support the continued development of an Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network in Erie County. It is my understanding that this network will be used to improve efficiencies of government and support broadband development and expansion for last mile services to every city, town, and village in Erie County.

As we learned over the past few years, broadband access has become a critical piece of infrastructure, especially when it comes to our rapidly developing virtual learning, healthcare, and economic development. In considering this proposal, it is important to note that the expansion of this Open Access Fiber network currently being constructed in Erie County would help connect unserved residents and improve internet access thereby creating a more resilient community in the process.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to provide this letter of support for this important initiative in Erie County. It should be known that Empire Access has and is using Open Access Networks across New York State to expand services to unserved and underserved areas. I look forward to working with members of your team to explore how our organization and members can support this initiative and participate more fully in efforts to improve broadband service in the Erie County communities.

Sincerely,

Bob VanDelinder
Vice President of Sales

Empire Access
607-661-8761
bob.vandelinder@empireaccess.com



NYS Connect All Office (CAO) Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) ErieNet Grant Application

Project Summary

ErieNet is a New York State Local Development Corporation and 501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit Corporation. ErieNet is a dark fiber optic middle mile open access network supporting the communities of Erie County, NY. Our fiber optic backbone spans the entirety of Erie County interconnecting the county, cities, towns, and villages with 400 miles of dark fiber optic infrastructure, being constructed in a multi-ring topology.

ErieNet's primary Point of Presence (PoP) is in a secure room co-located within the Erie County Rath Building 15th Floor Data Center at 95 Franklin St. in downtown city center Buffalo; and our backup PoP is fully funded, but in location identification phase. Our PoPs will have connections to WNY telecom carrier and broadband provider PoPs within Erie County, as well as community anchor institutions (CAIs). Our connections to telecom and broadband provider PoPs and major data centers facilitate Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to offer our network subscribers with advanced network and communications services.

The goal of ErieNet is to provide our communities with improved broadband access, performance, reliability, and competitive value through an all-fiber network. Through our PPP relationships our goal is to extend and interconnect our middle mile open access network to last mile providers to residences and businesses, particularly in un/under-served areas of our communities.

Our ErieNet MIP proposal will extend our network infrastructure for an additional 169 miles to each municipalities' Village, Town or City Hall out to all of its municipal facilities, thereby building new fiber optic infrastructure throughout communities. In addition, this route will traverse residential areas, providing even more access and incentives to ISPs to provide last mile services to unserved and underserved residents, utilizing an all-fiber network. While much of this extension of the ErieNet network is considered served, we estimate that 92% of the rural areas along this proposed route do not currently have access to fiber. This all-fiber proposal will assist with redundancy, future economic growth, and public safety, since all police/fire/EMS throughout the county will have access to fiber off ErieNet once this extension is built.

While our MIP Location Data in the MIP RFA template indicates there are 31 Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) along our proposed route, that information is coded per the FCC Broadband Data Collection. In our design of the extension, we identified 342 CAIs, including community centers, boys and girls clubs, fire/police/EMS stations, schools and recreation centers, among other community buildings.

Included in our proposal request is customer premise equipment (CPE) with routers to light the fiber for data (IP) communications. ErieNet will consult with each municipalities IT support team for network requirements. If the municipality elects to include ErieNet management of the network (this cost is not included in the grant application), then ErieNet will have a managed network service provider under contract for such services.

We are actively engaged with several ISPs, including Empire Access who provided a letter of commitment, to extend the ErieNet fiber backbone for last mile services to communities, tribal communities, and municipal housing. Our program also encourages local ISPs to deliver their services across ErieNet fiber to offer greater access and performance at a competitive value.



Our initial project to build 400-miles of dark fiber interconnecting all of Erie County’s communities, is fully funded by County designated ARPA funds. Our design is complete, and we have started construction. Parts of the fiber backbone will come online in Q4 2024, with substantial completion anticipated by mid-year 2025. This 400-mile route is displayed on our KMZ in this grant application with an orange line.

Our grant proposal for \$21.5 million in MIP funding will add 169 miles of fiber optic cable to the ErieNet backbone and is “shovel ready”. This 169-mile route is displayed on our KMZ in this grant application with a blue line. The total project cost is \$22.3 million. If funded, we will immediately begin permitting and utility make ready, to be followed by a rolling construction phase as network segments are cleared by utilities for our fiber infrastructure. Our anticipated completion for grant subscriber installs is by Q3 or Q4 2026.



KAREN MCMAHON
Assemblymember, 146th District

5500 Main Street, Suite 224
Williamsville, New York 14221
716-634-1895
FAX: 716-634-1250

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Task Force on Women's Issues

COMMITTEES
Environmental Conservation
Higher Education
Judiciary
Libraries and Education Technology
People With Disabilities
Transportation

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart:

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

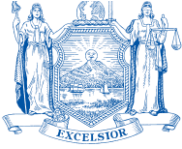
As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP request would enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), providing access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

Specifically, the expansion of this network will provide much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas, including my New York State Assembly District. The grant application would provide \$1.2 million for ErieNet extensions in the 146th Assembly District. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I strongly support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Karen M. McMahon
Member, 146th Assembly District



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW
YORK ALBANY

CHAIR
Majority Steering
COMMITTEES
Governmental Operations
Judiciary
Transportation
Science & Technology
Transportation
Higher Education
Consumer Affairs and Protection

MONICA WALLACE
Assemblymember 143rd
District Erie County

March 5, 2024

Mr. Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart:

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) for \$20.7 million in state funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

Today, less than half of our communities in Erie County have access to fiber network. To address this need, Erie County formed ErieNet, LDC and committed \$34 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to expand fiber optic networks in our community. ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County to provide service to underserved and unserved communities.

ErieNet's MIP grant application will support this project by supporting an additional nearly 200 miles of fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas, including my New York State Assembly District. The grant would provide millions for ErieNet extensions in the 143rd Assembly District, including \$2.3 million for the City of Buffalo. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

For these reasons, I strongly support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Monica P. Wallace
Member of Assembly
Assembly District 143



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

COMMITTEES
Education
Energy
Local Governments
Science & Technology
Tourism, Parks, Arts & Sports Development

WILLIAM C. CONRAD, III
Assemblymember 140th District
Erie County, Niagara County

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile, fiber-optic middle-mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) and provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber-optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my New York State Assembly District. The grant application would provide \$1.1 million for ErieNet extensions in the 140th District. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is asking for a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to telehealth, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'William C. Conrad III'.

William C. Conrad III



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 26, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Re: Letter of Support for MIP

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

On behalf of my administration, please accept this letter of support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas across Erie County. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

If you have any other questions or concerns related to Erie County, please do not hesitate to contact my office at County.Executive@erie.gov or 716-858-8500.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mml

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Lovejoy District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, including community centers and public housing. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

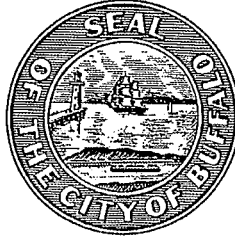


Bryan J. Bollman, President Pro Tempore

City of Buffalo Common Council - Lovejoy District

The Buffalo Common Council

JOEL P. FEROLETO
DELAWARE DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER
65 NIAGARA SQUARE, 1414 CITY HALL
BUFFALO, NY 14202-3318
PHONE: (716) 851-5155 ♦ FAX: (716) 851-4553
E-mail: jferoleto@buffalony.gov



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COMMITTEES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CLAIMS

SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT
LOGAN S. MARQUARDT

SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT
ALLYSON E. EDWARDS

February 29, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Delaware District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, including community centers and public housing. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

JOEL P. FEROLETO, Councilmember
City of Buffalo Common Council - Delaware District

Working for Today – Planning for Tomorrow



A COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF

The City of Buffalo Common Council

ACHIEVEMENT • CONCORDIA • KNOWLEDGE

Fillmore District Council Member Mitchell P. Nowakowski

To: Joshua Breitbart, Senior VP, ConnectALL
From: Mitchell P. Nowakowski, Fillmore District Council Member
Date: March 1, 2024
Subject: NYS ConnectAll MIP Grant for the Expansion of ErieNet

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

ErieNet is constructing a 400-mile network throughout Erie County to bridge the digital divide and foster economic development. This grant application seeks to further enhance the network by connecting more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs). This would allow ErieNet to construct an additional 197.3 miles of fiber, bringing the benefits of high-speed, reliable internet access to even more residents, businesses, schools, and healthcare facilities.

The application proposes allocating \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, specifically targeting community centers and public housing facilities. The expansion will bring a much-needed, symmetrical, multi-gigabit fiber optic internet service to currently unserved and underserved areas, including the Fillmore District. The funding from this grant will address the digital divide, enabling greater access to telehealth services, educational resources, and online opportunities for individuals to contribute to the economic and social well-being of our city and the county.

I believe ErieNet's proposed expansion plan aligns with the goals of the Municipal Infrastructure Program, particularly its focus on addressing existing disparities and promoting economic growth. Therefore, I urge you to support ErieNet's vision for a digitally connected and thriving region, ensuring no community is left behind.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. For questions, I can be reached at (716) 851-4138 or by email at mnowakowski@city-buffalo.com.

Sincerely,

Mitchell P. Nowakowski
Fillmore District Council Member



CITY OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

BYRON W. BROWN
MAYOR
March 1, 2024

Mr. Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) and provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the city and county.

The expansion of this network will provide much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the city and county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, including community centers and public housing. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very pleased to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Byron W. Brown".

Byron W. Brown
Mayor, City of Buffalo

Common Council
CITY OF BUFFALO



RASHEED N.C. WYATT
UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER
65 NIAGARA SQUARE, 1508 CITY HALL
BUFFALO, NY 14202-3318
PHONE: (716) 851-5165 • FAX: (716) 851-4580
E-mail: rwyaht@city-buffalo.com
Website: <http://www.city-buffalo.com>

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CHIEF OF STAFF
SANDRA D. MUNSON
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT II
DORIS CORLEY

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the University District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, including community centers and public housing. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rasheed N.C. Wyatt".

Rasheed N.C. Wyatt, Council Member

City of Buffalo Common Council - University District

"Unity in University"



A COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF

The City of Buffalo Common Council

ACHIEVEMENT • CONCORDIA • KNOWLEDGE

Zeneta B. Everhart, Masten District Council Woman

February 27, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Masten District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the City of Buffalo, including community centers and public housing. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Zeneta B. Everhart
Masten District Council Member
Buffalo Common Council



RULES
OVERSIGHT
AGRICULTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3223

March 4, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Re: ErieNet's 2024 Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) Application

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

Currently, much of Erie County remains without fiber optic internet service. This severely limits the fundamental capabilities of our community anchor institutions, households, and local businesses. To meet this demand, ErieNet has been developing and implementing a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. If granted, their MIP grant application would significantly enhance this network—providing a new \$12.4 million internet investment into New York's 23rd District—thereby connecting more of my constituents with reliable and affordable internet service for tele-health, education, commerce, and numerous other services.

Please give ErieNet's MIP grant application full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable statutes and regulations. If you have any questions, please contact my Clarence District Office at (716) 547-6844.

Sincerely,

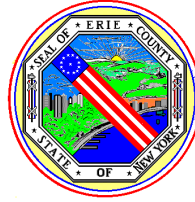
Nicholas A. Langworthy
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. APRIL N.M. BASKIN

CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATURE

2ND DISTRICT LEGISLATOR



92 Franklin St., 4th Fl.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716/858-8869
FAX: 716/858-8895

March 5, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my Legislative District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in Erie County District 2. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Baskin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



HON. HOWARD J. JOHNSON
1ST DISTRICT LEGISLATOR
Erie County Legislature

1367 Fillmore Ave | Buffalo, NY 14211 | 716-842-0490

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my Legislative District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in Erie County District 1. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Howard Johnson

Legislator Howard Johnson
Erie County District 1



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

February 29, 2024

HON. JOHN J. MILLS
11TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR
MINORITY LEADER

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my endorsement for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding to advance the ErieNet expansion.

ErieNet is presently in the process of establishing a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my Legislative District. The grant application would provide \$2.4 million for ErieNet extensions in Erie County District 11. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In conclusion, I am very wholeheartedly endorsing ErieNet's MIP grant application and remain hopeful that the ConnectALL Office will allocate the necessary funds to facilitate the expansion of this vital network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "John J. Mills".

Legislator John J. Mills
Erie County District 11

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. MICHAEL H. KOOSHOIAN

3RD DISTRICT LEGISLATOR



1701 Hertel Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14216
716/832-0493
FAX: 716/832-0494

92 Franklin St., 4th Fl.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716/858-8868
FAX: 716/858-8895

February 29, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my Legislative District. The grant application would provide \$1.1 million for ErieNet extensions in Erie County District 3. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is asking for a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Kooshoian
Erie County Legislator, 3rd District

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. TIMOTHY MEYERS

MAJORITY LEADER

7TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR

March 5, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my Legislative District. The grant application would provide \$512,949.00 for ErieNet extensions in Erie County District 7. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is asking for a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,



92 Franklin St., 4th Fl.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716/858-7500
FAX: 716/858-8895

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
SENATOR PATRICK M. GALLIVAN
60TH DISTRICT

February 27, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

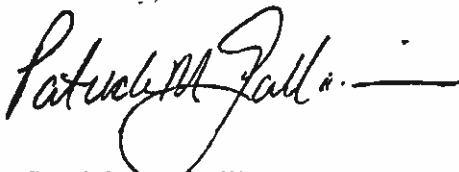
I am pleased to support ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my New York State Senate District. The grant application would provide \$2.3 million for ErieNet extensions in the 60th District. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to telehealth, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

Thank you for your consideration. Feel free to contact my District Office, should you need anything further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick M. Gallivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Patrick M. Gallivan
Senator - 60th District

CHAIR
Commerce, Economic Development
and Small Business

COMMITTEES
Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
Codes
Internet and Technology
Judiciary
Labor
Libraries

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



**SENATOR
SEAN M. RYAN
61ST DISTRICT**

ALBANY OFFICE:
944 Legislative Office Bldg.
Albany, New York 12247
Phone: (518) 455-3240
Fax: (518) 426-6738

DISTRICT OFFICE:
40 La Riviere Dr., Ste. 121
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone: (716) 854-8705
Fax: (716) 854-3051

EMAIL: ryan@nysenate.gov

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33 rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart:

I am writing this letter to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet. As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), providing access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my New York State Senate District. The grant application would provide \$2.5 million for ErieNet extensions in the 61 st District. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is asking for a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable. This access is imperative for the health and wellbeing of my constituents in my district and across the WNY region.

I offer my strong support for ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean M. Ryan".

Sean M. Ryan
New York State Senator, District 61

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY
SENATOR, 63RD DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
STATE-NATIVE AMERICAN RELATIONS
COMMITTEES
BANKS
CITIES 2
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FINANCE
INSURANCE
RULES

ALBANY OFFICE:
ROOM 708
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-2426 OFFICE
(518) 426-6851 FAX
DISTRICT OFFICE:
37 FRANKLIN ST., SUITE 550
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202
(716) 826-2683 OFFICE
(716) 826-2793 FAX
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
KENNEDY@NYSENATE.GOV

March 4, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Mr. Breitbart:

I fully support ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle-mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), providing access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county where there is currently little to no access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas, including to communities within my New York State Senate District. The grant application would provide \$775,816 for ErieNet extensions in the 63rd District. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is requesting a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education, and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

For these reasons, I support ErieNet's MIP grant application in full and encourage the ConnectALL Office to provide funding to expand this network. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Should you have any questions, I welcome your call

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy M. Kennedy".

Timothy M. Kennedy
New York State Senator, 63rd District





Patrick B. Burke
Assemblyman 142nd
Erie County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR,
GREAT LAKES
TASKFORCE

COMMITTEES:
Banks,
Governmental Employees,
Economic Development,
Job Creation,
Commerce and Industry,
Environmental Conservation,
Science and Technology,
Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports
Development

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

March 5, 2024

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express my support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) requesting \$20.7 million in funding for the expansion of ErieNet.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including my New York State Assembly District. The grant application would provide \$1 million for ErieNet extensions in the 142nd district. My district also includes the City of Buffalo, where ErieNet is asking for a total of \$2.3 million. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, I am very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Patrick B. Burke



Town of Amherst

Brian J. Kulpa
Town Supervisor

February 27, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

As Supervisor of the Town of Amherst, NY, I am writing in support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP). Much like every community in Erie County, the Town of Amherst deals with providing reliable communication services to every part of our community.

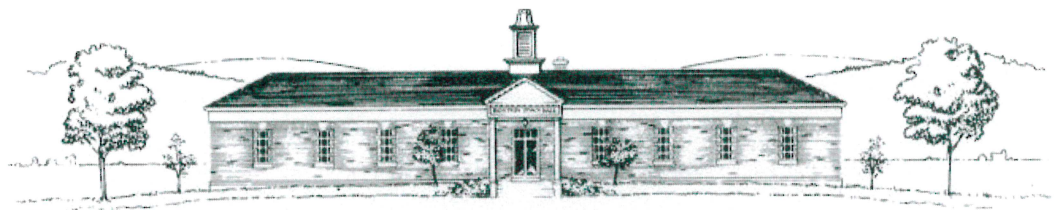
Fortunately, ErieNet is in the process of building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. The MIP grant would enhance ErieNet's network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs); provide access to unserved; and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will allow for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas, including the Town of Amherst. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to telehealth, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

Thank you for considering ErieNet's MIP grant application and I hope that the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Brian Kulpa
Supervisor
Town of Amherst



TOWN OF BOSTON

February 8, 2024

JASON A. KEDING
Supervisor

MICHAEL A. CARTECHINE
JENNIFER L. LUCACHIK
KELLY L. MARTIN
KATHLEEN SELBY
Town Board

SANDRA L. QUINLAN
Town Clerk -Tax Collector

ROBERT J. TELAAK
Highway Supt.

DEBRA K. BENDER
KYLE CALABRESE
Town Justice

SEAN W. COSTELLO
Town Attorney

LAURIE BAKER
Prosecutor

THELMA HORNBERGER
Assessor

THOMAS C. MURPHY
Code Enforcement Officer

Town of Boston
8500 Boston State Road
Boston, New York 14025

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our town's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County which will enhance internet access for local businesses, libraries, schools, government buildings and emergency services. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), providing access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Boston. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Jason Keding
Town of Boston Supervisor
supervisor@townofboston.com
716-941-6518

TOWN HALL
(716) 941-6113
Fax (716) 941-6116

TOWN SUPERVISOR
(716) 941-6518

TOWN COURT
(716) 941-6115
Fax (716) 941-5169

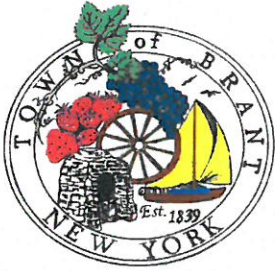
HIGHWAY GARAGE
(716) 941-5869
Fax (716) 941-3677

NUTRITION PROGRAM
(716) 941-5773

8500 Boston State Road Boston, New York 14025-9848

The Town of Boston is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call 1-866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or fax 202-690-7442 or e-mail at program.intake@usda.gov.



Town of Brant Erie County New York

SUPERVISOR
MARK DECARLO
716-549-0301
ext#3

TOWN CLERK
BARBARA J DANIEL
716-549-0282
ext# 2

COUNCILMAN
MICHAEL MUFFOLETTO
DONNA MARIEN
JANICE ROSS
LINDA GIANCARLO

2/23/2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP). I represent the Town of Brant.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Brant. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Mark DeCarlo
Supervisor
Town of Brant

1272 Brant North Collins Rd, PO Box 228, Brant, New York 14027 PH (716)549-0282 (716)549-0623
TDD NY RELAY 1-800-662-1220

"The Town of Brant is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866)632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202)690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov."

Town Of
COLLINS
ERIE COUNTY NEW YORK

KENNETH MARTIN, SUPERVISOR
JACQUELYN McLEAN, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR
BECKY JO SUMMERS, TOWN CLERK



BOARD MEMBERS:
JIM HOTNICH
SARA JANE SION
ROBERT O'CONNOR

February 13, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our Town's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Collins. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,



Kenneth E Martin
Supervisor
Town of Collins

14093 MILL STREET PO BOX 420 COLLINS, NEW YORK 14034 716 532 4874 FAX 716 532 3968

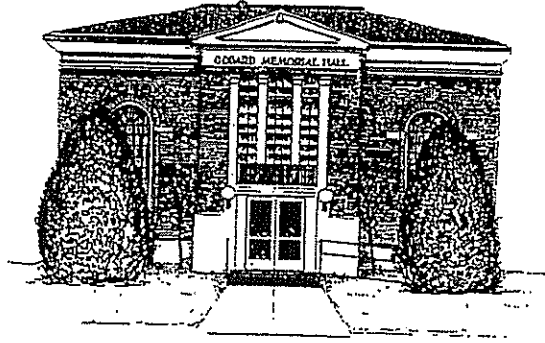
This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3732 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

Town of Concord

Philip Drozd
Supervisor

Clyde M. Drake
Deputy Supervisor

Brian F. Attea
Attorney



Kenneth D. Littel
Council

William F. Snyder, III
Council

Kimberly Krzemien
Council

February 9, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express the Town of Concord's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Concord. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

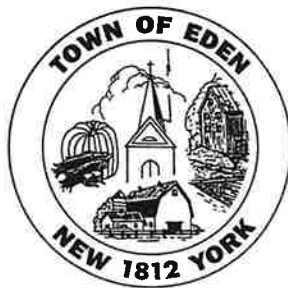
Sincerely,

Phil Drozd
Supervisor
Town of Concord

MICHAEL M. BYRNES
GARY E. SAM
VINCENT V. VACCO
SUSAN F. WILHELM
COUNCIL MEMBERS

MICHAEL G. COOPER
MELISSA ZITTEL
TOWN JUSTICES

RONALD A. MAGGS
SUPT. OF HIGHWAYS



RICHARD S. VENTRY
SUPERVISOR

EMILY N. HAWKINS
TOWN CLERK AND
TAX COLLECTOR

DAVID L. RICE
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

SUSAN L. JOHNSON
NYS CERTIFIED ASSESSOR

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express Town of Eden's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Eden. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Richard Ventry
Town Supervisor
Town of Eden



TOWN OF EVANS

8787 Erie Road • Angola, NY 14006-9600
www.townofevans.org

RAY ASHTON SUPERVISOR
Telephone: (716) 549-5787

JEANNE M. MACKO
COUNCILWOMAN

LAURIE H. REITZ
COUNCILWOMAN

MICHAEL R. SCHRAFT
COUNCILMAN

JOHN D. WILSON
COUNCILMAN

February 8, 2024

Mr. Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart:


I am writing to express the Town of Evans' support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Evans. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,


Raymond J. Ashton
Supervisor
and the Evans Town Board

TOWN OF HAMBURG

6100 South Park Avenue • Hamburg, New York 14075 • (716) 649-6111 • Fax (716) 649-4087



Supervisor
RANDALL A. HOAK

Councilmembers
DANIEL M. KOZUB
ELIZABETH C. FARRELL LORENTZ
FRANK M. BOGULSKI
MEGAN A. COMERFORD

Town Attorney
KENNETH J. FARRELL, Esq.

Town Clerk
CATHERINE A. RYBCZYNSKI

Supt. of Highways
EDWARD S. HUGHES

February 27, 2024

Joshua Breitbart, Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP). I represent the Town of Hamburg.

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) and provide internet access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Hamburg. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

The Town of Hamburg is excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hopes the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 716-649-6111 ext. 2216.

Sincerely,

Randy Hoak
Town Supervisor



Town Clerk – Tax Collector
JILL DIX

Highway Superintendent
JASON SIMMONS

Town Attorney
RONALD P. BENNETT

Assessor
TAMMY ADSITT

TOWN OF HOLLAND

GEOFFREY W. HACK
Supervisor

Town Justices
CHRISTOPHER O'BRIEN
JILL ANDERSON

Council
KAREN L. KLINE
WILLIAM KOLACKI
DANIEL F.C. LOTITO
LYNNE ROTH

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

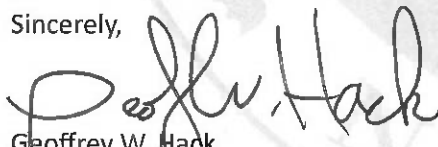
I am writing to express our town's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Holland. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,


Geoffrey W. Hack
Supervisor, Town of Holland



TOWN OF MARILLA

S-1740 TWO ROD ROAD
MARILLA, NEW YORK 14102

(716) 652-5350
FAX: (716) 652-2541
TDD 1-800-662-1220

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our Town of Marilla's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Marilla in Erie County NY. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Earl Gingerich
Supervisor
Town of Marilla



Town of Newstead

P.O. Box 227 - 5 Clarence Center Rd - Akron, NY 14001
(716) 542-4573

Supervisor: **option 5*** Town Clerk: **option 2*** Court: **option 1***
Assessor/Code Enforcement: **option 4*** Fax: (716) 542-3702
Calls for Hearing Impaired: **1-800-662-1220**

February 20, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express the Town of Newstead's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community here in Newstead.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Newstead. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Dawn D. Izydorczak
Newstead Town Supervisor

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



TOWN OF NORTH COLLINS

10569 Main Street
North Collins, New York 1111

February 7, 2024

John M. Tobia
SUPERVISOR
10569 Main Street
PO Box 640
North Collins, NY 14111

Lynn M. DiVincenzo
TOWN CLERK
10569 Main Street
PO Box 2
North Collins, NY 14111

David J. Winter
HIGHWAY SUPT.
2982 Shirley Road
North Collins, NY 14111

Ellen M. Mathis
COUNCILMAN

Miguel E. Ortiz
COUNCILMAN

William R. Moritz
COUNCILMAN

Peter D. Robbins
COUNCILMAN

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

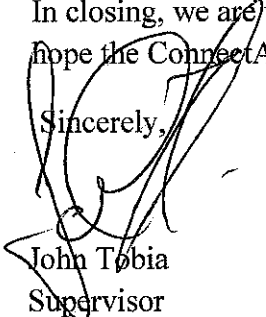
I am writing to express Town of North Collin's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of North Collin's. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,



John Tobia
Supervisor
Town of North Collins



2919 Delaware Avenue - Room 11 • Kenmore, New York 14217 • (716) 877-8804
Fax: (716) 877-1261

February 7, 2024

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue - 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express the Town of Tonawanda's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP). As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Tonawanda. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,



Joseph H. Emminger, Supervisor
Town of Tonawanda

"A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY"





TOWN OF WEST SENECA

TOWN SUPERVISOR
GARY A. DICKSON

TOWN COUNCIL
ROBERT J. BREIDENSTEIN
SUSAN K. KIMS
JEFFREY A. PIEKAREC
SCOTT D. ROBERTSON

GARY A. DICKSON
TOWN SUPERVISOR

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

I am writing to express our Town of West Seneca's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

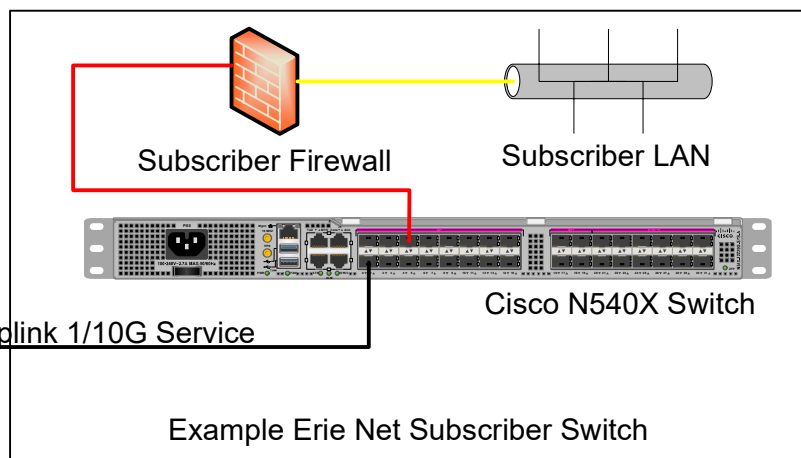
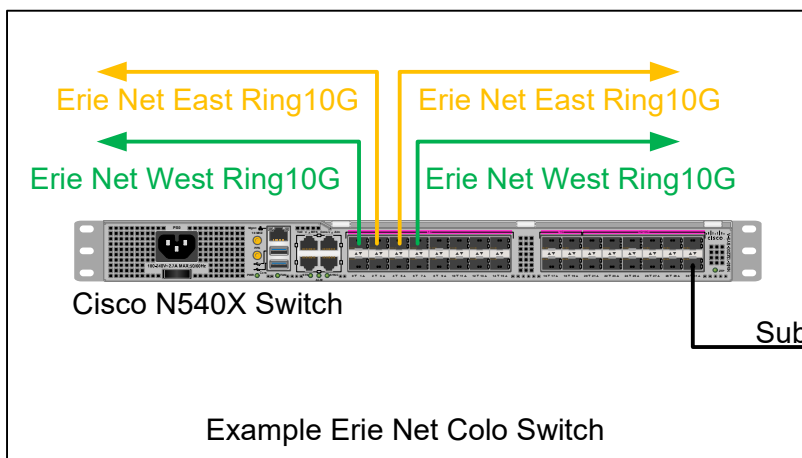
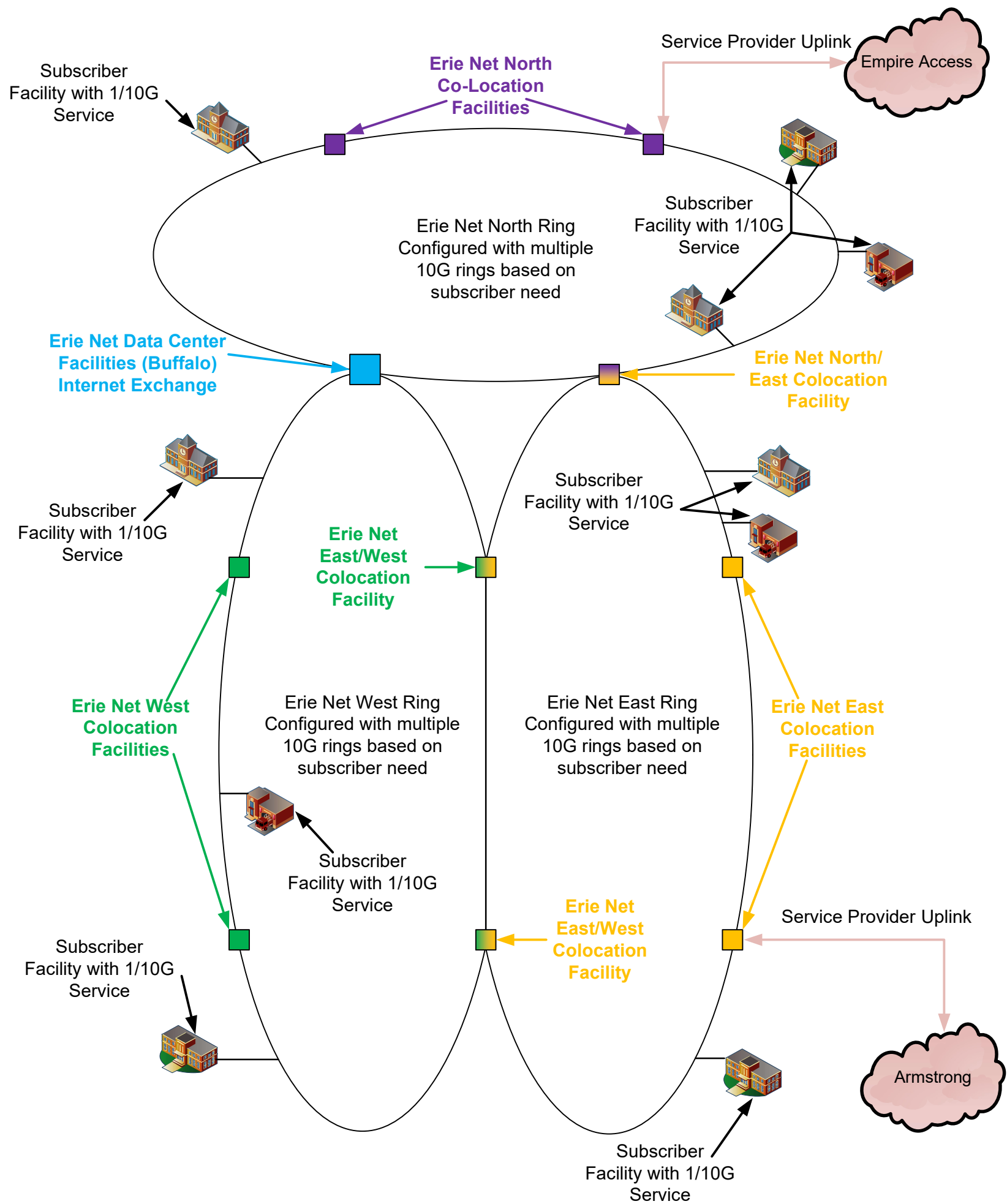
As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of West Seneca in Erie County NY. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,

Gary Dickson
Supervisor
Town of West Seneca





TOWN OF EVANS

8787 Erie Road • Angola, NY 14006-9600
www.townofevans.org

RAY ASHTON SUPERVISOR
Telephone: (716) 549-5787

JEANNE M. MACKO
COUNCILWOMAN

LAURIE H. REITZ
COUNCILWOMAN

MICHAEL R. SCHRAFT
COUNCILMAN

JOHN D. WILSON
COUNCILMAN

February 8, 2024

Mr. Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart:


I am writing to express the Town of Evans' support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of Evans. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,


Raymond J. Ashton
Supervisor
and the Evans Town Board



TOWN OF NORTH COLLINS

10569 Main Street
North Collins, New York 1111

February 7, 2024

John M. Tobia
SUPERVISOR
10569 Main Street
PO Box 640
North Collins, NY 14111

Lynn M. DiVincenzo
TOWN CLERK
10569 Main Street
PO Box 2
North Collins, NY 14111

David J. Winter
HIGHWAY SUPT.
2982 Shirley Road
North Collins, NY 14111

Ellen M. Mathis
COUNCILMAN

Miguel E. Ortiz
COUNCILMAN

William R. Moritz
COUNCILMAN

Peter D. Robbins
COUNCILMAN

Joshua Breitbart
Senior Vice President
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Breitbart,

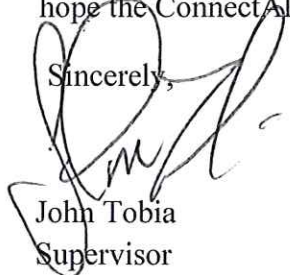
I am writing to express Town of North Collin's support for ErieNet's grant application to the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP).

As you know, ErieNet is currently building a 400-mile fiber optic middle mile network throughout Erie County. ErieNet's MIP grant application will enhance this network and connect more Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), provide access to unserved and underserved areas of the county and our community.

The expansion of this network will provide for much-needed fiber optic internet service to many areas of the county that currently do not have access to fiber, bringing symmetrical, multi-gigabit speeds to underserved areas including the Town of North Collin's. This high-speed internet network will address the digital divide and provide greater access to tele-health, education and other services over a network that is reliable and affordable.

In closing, we are very excited to support ErieNet's MIP grant application and hope the ConnectALL Office will provide funding to expand this network.

Sincerely,



John Tobia
Supervisor
Town of North Collins