

1. Please provide spreadsheet of homes to possibly get wired with aerial / underground fiber lengths.

Please see website for a per-premise spreadsheet (Premise_footage_forIFB2.xls) showing **estimates** for each premise. Note that if you add up foot totals for each type of installation it will NOT match the bid pricing sheet exactly because we have made adjustments for duplex installations and premises we know will not have service installed. Unit quantities on the Bid Pricing Form as well as the Premise Footage document are best guess estimates and are not guaranteed.

2. Please provide cut sheets on all MLP provided materials and devices.

MLP is only providing the ONTs and routers so there are no cut sheets. CORRECTION TO BID: We will NOT provide microduct couplers. This was a mistake on the bid.

3. Please list all homes that are to be installed as a duplex and get 2 fibers.

Please see website for the Expected Duplex Installations.xls. There are about 30 duplex installations estimated.

4. For CORI checks, will the MLP process these? Or will a CORI ran by the employer not greater than a year in advance suffice?

CORI checks must be processed by the employer no more than a year in advance.

5. Will prevailing wage rates be required for all Interior House Work? As well as the all exterior work?

Yes.

6. What brand of electronics for the ONT & WIFI Router are you supplying?

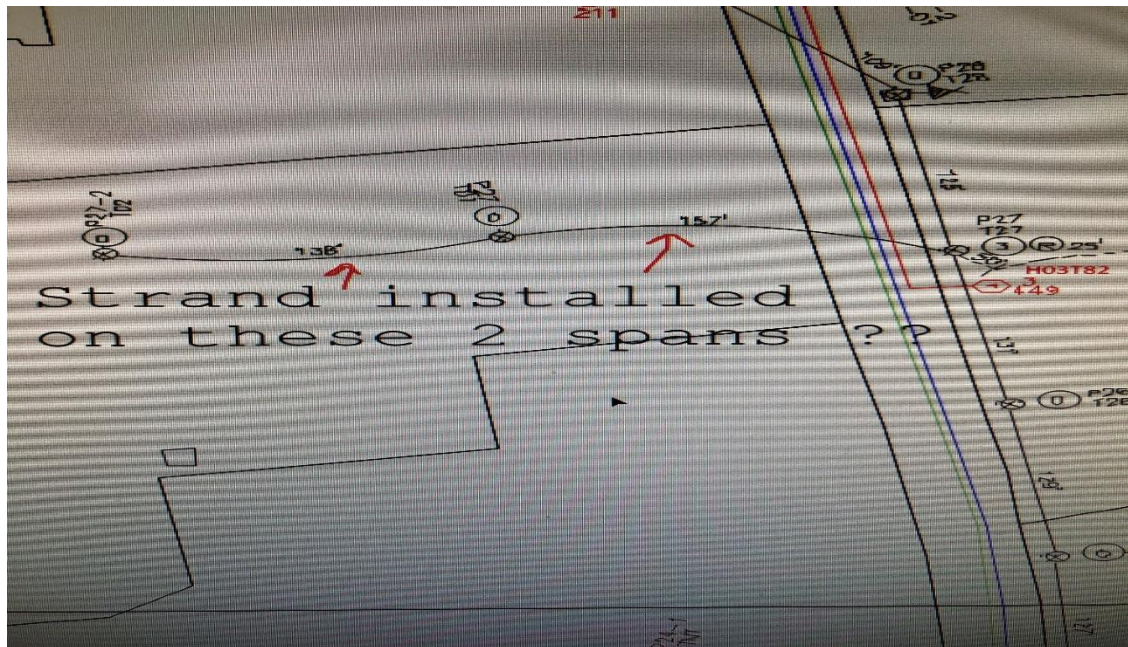
Calix 803Gv2 GigaPoint, 1 GE, 1 POTS -AM Type A

844E-1 GigaCenter, 2 POTS, 4 GE, Dual Wi-Fi, 1

SMLP reserves the right to change electronic brand/type.

7. You mentioned in Section 2.3.2 number 3 , that the Aerial Drop cable shall be overlashed in the sections of its pathway that includes a support strand provided by others. Could you clarify you would like us to overlash the drop cable on top of the sections that you have your distribution plant already lashed? See below picture from your design prints. Will strand be installed on those sections crossing streets, etc to last pole before house, if so will we need to

overlash ?



The contractor that is building the main distribution network will do full installation up to and including MSTs. We are not aware of any places where network extensions going down driveways have spans of over 170' that won't **already** have strand and fiber on them. If there are any of these cases you will overlash to the existing strand, put up by the distribution contractor. For spans less than 170' no strand is expected.

8. On the existing UG conduit locations both empty & occupied, how will you handle if instances where the contractor tries to rod/rope but is unable to install a pull line, due to blocked conduits, buried handholes, etc. How will the contractor be reimbursed for the lost time attempting to rod/rope, this would be a 2-man installation normally, should we include a 2-man UG crew Time & Material rate?

For failed rod/rope instances the Contractor can charge time and materials for the failed attempt, not to exceed the original rod/rope estimate. The installation then will be considered a New Underground situation.

9. Will your current ISP supplier only be doing the initial sale/customer contact, will they be using a work order system, if so what system will they be using that the contractor will have access too?

ISP has an order system and will issue work orders to the contractor by customer (name, address, contact information). Contractor will need to provide interface into their work order system (e-mail, web, etc). Contractor and/or ISP will coordinate with customer to establish installation timeline.

10. Will the ISP provider be provisioning the ONT & Router before we install? If not will the contractor be required to provision the equipment?

Yes, the ISP provider will be provisioning the ONT & Router before installation.

11. You mention that the contractor will be required to provide documentation for all installs including all test documentation, as-builts, pictures, etc. Will the contractor be required to provide this work order system for this project?? or will the ISP provider have a Work order system the contractor has access too. Documentation such as PON meter light levels, speed test data, equipment Serial Numbers, and model #'s , IP Addresses, customer signatures, etc. Is this a work order system that the contractor needs to provide such as Spry Mobile?
ISP will interface with Contractor work order system. Contractor needs to provide test results to ISP via e-mail referencing the Purchase Order Number (PON) of the original service order. ISP will maintain data.

12. Who will be providing the contractor with the IP addresses, Splitter Assignemts, MST Port #'s assignments, Fiber Hut port Assignments, who will be patching in the splitter tails, and patchcords at the Fiber Hut, and who will be supplying the patchcords required to do this work?

Bid respondents do not have to worry about any of this. The splitter assignments, MST port # assignments and Fiber Hut Port Assignments will be done by the distribution network contractor. The main distribution network will be active at the time of premise installations. The ISP will provide the IP addresses are dynamic via DHCP and assign by MAC address to end-user device.

13. What VOIP system are you planning on using, whose equipment, OOMA, etc ??
VOIP system is Broadworks using SIP. ISP will provision SIP settings on the ONT. Contractor will need to confirm dial-tone, dial a test number and connect ONT FXS port to existing house wiring.

14. Who is responsible to get information for porting phone number for VOIP Installs, customer will need to provide phone number, phone bill with account number, etc to make sure on day of install the VOIP can be installed as well.

ISP will manage porting process with customer. ISP will issue work order to contractor for service installation. Contractor will respond with firm installation date. ISP will activate number port when service is installed. If the installation is delayed for any reason, Contractor will need to inform ISP to cancel/restart porting process

15. Will the standard install include the ONT & Router to be installed next to each other within a few feet? Or will extra CAT 6 wire and jacks need to be installed from ONT to the router location??

Standard installation will include ONT and Router installed next to each other within 50 ft. of the NID. If the customer wants the router in a different location (other than next to the ONT) that would be an upcharge to the customer.

16. Please clarify who the contractor will be invoicing for the New UG conduit installs, the customer directly or the MLP?

Directly to the MLP. The invoice should clearly show if there are any customer-choice upcharges such as taking an indirect route to the home to avoid landscaping features so that the MLP can collect that additional amount from the customer.

17. The spec. mentions installation of the UG Realflex 5 drop cable be utilized on UG installs. This cable is designed to be installed by air-blown method of installation , new UG conduit only, it cannot be installed for any aerial application. How will you handle the Aerial to UG drops, and the Existing UG conduit locations where this cable cannot be installed? Can the contractor substitute the Realflex Flat Drop Cable ?

Yes, the contractor can substitute a flat drop cable whenever it makes the installation easier.

18. The Splicing Specification says .01db, please clarify this should be .10db I assume?

Yes. And we are expecting most drops to be connectorized. Less splicing.

19. Who is supplying the aerial hardware needed for installation including Lashing materials, fiber drop wedge clamps, P clamps, P-hooks,. Cable clips etc.

The contractor.

20. Please clarify who is paying for the police details, the pricing sheet states Police details will be reimbursed by the town ?? Does that mean the contractor is only required to arrange/set-up the police details when needed?

All police details are the responsibility of the Contractor. These will NOT be reimbursed by the town. The “recharge to the Town” means that the charges will be going to the Town’s police force. It does not mean they will be reimbursed to the Contractor. Police details are only needed for circumstances where a truck and equipment is IN the roadway. We encourage Contractor to batch the work together that requires police detail presence for efficiency and reduction in costs.

21. Who will be supplying the tracer wire for Existing UG applications.

The contractor.

22. Pricing sheet states in the Notes section “ Additional Work such as install of 2nd RJ45 outlet,” billed to homeowner directly? Please clarify if the contractor is installing the 1st RJ45 outlet. Or is this just a typo?

This is a typo. For standard installations the homeowner must supply an acceptable power source. Additional work such as install of **2nd** RJ45 outlet, extending CAT6 and router to a second floor, etc. would need to be quoted, accepted/signed by homeowner, and billed directly to the homeowner.

23. How will you handle homeowners that cancel the interior installs on the same day as the appointment, or if customer has an appointment and nobody is home? How will the contractor be reimbursed for his lost time?

For no-shows or less-than 24 hour cancellations the Contractor may charge the homeowner a \$50 cancellation fee. The Contractor should document the no-show and can charge the MLP for the missed appointment.

24. How will you handle any out of normal UG construction issues, rock/ledge , rock wall obstructions, landscaping restoration , tree root issues, etc?

Contractor shall contact subscriber and arrange site visit to inspect each service request location with the homeowner present. This applies for any situation where the homeowner has requested a consult, or any new conduit installation is to happen.

In consultation with Homeowner for each request, the Contractor shall sketch and estimate cost of new conduit work.

Have Homeowner sign estimate, clearly noting "Subscriber Billed Costs" for any requested installation upgrades (See section 2.3.4 in Invitation For Bid).

Submit estimate to the MLP Project Manager (PM) for approval.

After the approval, the contractor is granted a 10% allowance above the installation for abnormal underground issues.

25. On longer UG installs it is recommended to install handholes , who will be supplying if required?

The Contractor.

26. Will a storage location be provided to house all the electronics, drop cable, hardware, etc??
The contractor will be supplied a large flat area in the center of town to stage equipment. The contractor is responsible for securing all materials in this location.

27. You mention the contractor will be required to contact the homeowners and schedule the interior installation work? Please clarify that the ISP provider will not be scheduling the installs and that the contractors customer service group will be required to arrange for the install appointment, set the date/time, etc.

Our goal is to have convenient and reliable scheduling for the customer in-home installations. For many customers this will be their first experience with ShutesburyNet so we need it to be a positive one.

The Contractor will need to coordinate with the ISP for number porting and equipment provisioning. The ISP will contact the customer and schedule the work in coordination with the contractor. Contractor will need to provide an interface to their scheduling system. Contractor will need to agree to the installation schedule and meet with customer at the agreed upon time set forth by the ISP.

28. Will any permits be required?

We do not believe any permits are required.

29. Please clarify if any Town/State Roads need to be trenched/bored on this project. Or will all boring be under driveways, etc only?

Our premise report shows estimated 236 feet of boring under roadways or driveways, some of which may happen on Town/State Roads. We believe much of this can be bypassed with existing conduit or aerial solutions but won't know for sure until field visits happen. You are welcome to add a line item for bore under Town/State Roads vs. driveway.

30. Please clarify that only PON meter testing will be required as part of this contract. And that No OTDR testing will be required of the contractor ?

Correct, no OTDR testing required by contractor.

31. Do the risers need protection? How is the footage of risers taken into account for underground installations?

U-guards should be placed above grade for all underground installations per the specifications in the bid. We have not accounted for risers footage in the estimated amounts.

32. How will you deal with deviations from the footage lengths for the underground installations? Explain the process for the underground installations (new dig).

(From page 18) For all other Outdoor Installations (curb to NID), requiring underground construction Contractor shall contact subscriber and arrange site visit to inspect each service request location with the homeowner present. This applies for any situation where the homeowner has requested a consult, or any new conduit installation is to happen.

In consultation with Homeowner for each request, the Contractor shall sketch and estimate cost of new conduit work.

Have Homeowner sign estimate, clearly noting "Subscriber Billed Costs" for any requested installation upgrades (See section 2.3.4 in Invitation For Bid).

Submit estimate to the MLP Project Manager (PM) for approval.

After the approval, the contractor is granted a 10% allowance above the installation. (See Page 9, Section 3.3.4 in the General Conditions for full explanation)

33. Are police details the responsibility of the Contractor?

YES, note the line item in the bid for police detail amount. Per our police chief, police details are only needed for circumstances where a truck and equipment is IN the roadway. We encourage Contractor to batch the work together that requires police detail presence for efficiency and reduction in costs.

34. How much machine plow footage percentage do you expect and how much machine trench percentage do you expect?

We estimate 75% of the footage will be machine plow and 25% will be machine trench. Unit quantities specified in the Bid Form are based on total best guess estimates, to allow Contractor to gauge the approximate scope of the total work involved – but are only estimates.