STATEWIDE BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT

OFFICE OF P3 INITIATIVES AND MAJOR PROJECTS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
P3-21-01RFI

Addendum #1
RESPONSES DUE AUGUST 24, 2020
## Contents

1. INTRODUCTION 1  
   1.1 BACKGROUND 1  
   1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 1  
   1.3 EFFECT OF THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 2  
   1.4 SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS 2  
   1.5 SUBMISSIONS, QUESTIONS, AND COMMENTS 2  
   1.6 INDUSTRY FORUM 3  
2. ADOT PROJECT OVERVIEW 3  
   2.1 CURRENT CONDITIONS 3  
   2.2 PROJECT GOALS 4  
   2.3 SCOPE OF THE PROJECT 5  
   2.4 PROJECT SCHEDULE 5  
3. ANTICIPATED PROJECT PROCUREMENT PROCESS 5  
4. PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT DELIVERY 6  
   4.1 LEGAL AUTHORITY 6  
5. CONDITIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION 6  
   5.1 CHANGES TO THIS RFI 6  
   5.2 INFORMATION PREPARATION COSTS 6  
   5.3 CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSES 6  
   5.4 DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION CONTENTS 7  
   5.5 OWNERSHIP OF SUBMITTED MATERIALS 8  
   5.6 RIGHTS OF ADOT 8  
   5.7 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST 8  
APPENDIX A – MAPS Page A1  
APPENDIX B – QUESTIONNAIRE Page B1
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 SUMMARY

Reliable high-speed internet is a necessity in the 21st century economy. Educators, business owners, farmers, doctors, public safety officials, and citizens depend on high-speed internet to do their jobs, get an education, and participate in civic life every day. Fiber-optic connectivity is also important for the future of transportation delivery—opening the door for technology that improves traffic safety and efficiency as well as emerging technologies like connected and automated vehicles.

While broadband connectivity has improved dramatically in Arizona over the past two decades, many rural areas lack access to fast, affordable, and reliable broadband. Increasing broadband access to underserved and rural Arizonans is a key state priority. As part of a broader strategy to improve rural broadband access, the State of Arizona is interested in leveraging its assets in ways that lead to the development of “backhaul” and “middle-mile” fiber-optic infrastructure across Arizona. These new fiber routes will create more on-ramps to the internet for rural communities, which decreases the cost of building rural networks, and expands wired and wireless connectivity. The State will continue to work on developing these backhaul routes across Arizona that make accelerating rural internet development affordable and possible.

With that strategy in mind, the Arizona Department of Transportation (“ADOT”) invites interested parties to respond to this Request for Information (“RFI”) regarding a prospective future solicitation to install and/or operate broadband conduit and fiber along major interstate and state highway routes.

BACKGROUND

In April 2012, Governor Jan Brewer signed the Arizona Digital Highway Bill (SB 1402) to promote high-speed internet access statewide. The bill gives the ADOT Director permission to install broadband conduit as part of rural highway construction projects if ADOT receives funding to cover the cost.

In January 2020, Governor Doug Ducey included in his executive budget funding for ADOT to install broadband conduit along 514 miles of interstate highway that would be available for transportation purposes, as well as for partnerships with telecommunications companies to utilize the conduit to improve rural connectivity. The proposed “Smart Highway Corridors” would result in broadband conduit along the lengths of Interstate 17 (“I-17”), I-19, and I-40. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Arizona Legislature adjourned without passing a budget that included the Smart Highway Corridor initiative.

In June 2020, Governor Ducey dedicated $40 million from his AZCares: Flexibility and Funding for Schools and Families plan to install broadband conduit along I-17 and I-19 by January 2022. This conduit will be available for Public Private Partnerships (“P3s”) that result in connectivity improvements for K-12 education, higher education, and rural connectivity more generally. The routes
will help close the achievement gap by ensuring that children facing a digital divide have access to distance learning at home and at school, and provide opportunities for colleges and universities to increase their research capacity and connectivity. ADOT intends to install a single 2-inch or 2.5-inch multi-duct conduit containing one 144 strand fiber and additional vacant ducts to be used in partnership to expand backhaul and middle-mile fiber in ways that meet the goals described in this RFI.

In addition to the routes where ADOT is planning to install conduit (I-17 and I-19), the highest priority interstate routes for backhaul and middle-mile connectivity are the I-40 from the California border to the New Mexico Border, U.S. Route 89 from the Utah border to Flagstaff, and I-8 from Yuma to the intersection with I-10.

These initiatives to expand backhaul and middle-mile connectivity along major interstate and state highway routes align with the State’s broadband strategy. In February 2018, the State of Arizona developed the Arizona Statewide Broadband Strategic Plan to effectively coordinate, manage, and collaborate in the resources required to deliver accessible, affordable, and reliable access to broadband services statewide. At the direction of Governor Ducey, the Arizona Commerce Authority hired the State’s first State Broadband Director to coordinate and accelerate rural broadband development—focusing on middle-mile and last-mile strategies for rural Arizona. The Arizona Commerce Authority plans to leverage its Rural Broadband Development Grant program to accelerate eligible last-mile connectivity projects along the highway corridors.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

In support of these plans, ADOT is exploring the potential of a P3 that involves the placement of broadband in its rights of way, shown on the map in Appendix A – Map 1. The purpose of the RFI is to gather information that will lead to a successful RFP to install broadband in ADOT rights of way in a manner that meets the goals described in this RFI. Responses may include recommendations for a “business plan” or partnership model for how ADOT can best use its existing conduit and fiber previously installed by the State to expand broadband connectivity from main corridors to rural and underserved areas. Responses also may include best practices for using transportation networks to expand connectivity.

ADOT seeks the industry’s perspective and input on the overall potential scope and project delivery approach for this Project and how it would meet the project goals identified in this RFI. Interested firms and parties are strongly encouraged to submit responses with detailed comments. The information submitted in response to this RFI will assist ADOT in the planning and development efforts and provide ADOT viable options to consider in the delivery approach, procurement, design, installation, finance, operations, and maintenance for this Project.
1.3 EFFECT OF THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
This RFI is an inquiry only, intended solely to assist ADOT on an administrative level, and is not a formal solicitation or initiation of a procurement process. Submissions will not be evaluated. No contract or agreement will be entered into as a result of this RFI.

This RFI does not represent a commitment to issue a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) or a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) in the future, or a commitment that a subsequent procurement, if any, will follow the delivery approach described herein. Therefore, those choosing to respond to this RFI will not, merely by virtue of providing any manner of response, be deemed to be “bidders” on the Project in any sense.

Submission of responses is not a prerequisite for participating in a future procurement. Such participation would be subject to demonstrating satisfaction of the criteria stipulated in potential subsequent solicitation documents. Participation in this RFI and ensuing Industry Forum, or an election not to participate, will not confer on any party any preference, special designation, advantage, or disadvantage whatsoever in any subsequent procurement process related to the Project.

1.4 SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
ADOT welcomes responses to this RFI from independent companies, corporations, consortia, partnerships, and subcontractors. ADOT is interested in the maximum amount of constructive comments. It is not necessary for Respondents to respond as the consortia or partnerships that are planning to submit future bids, although ADOT is interested in being informed as to the formation of any future bidding groups for work on the Project. Such information will not be binding on the Respondents.

1.5 SUBMISSIONS, QUESTIONS, AND COMMENTS
Respondents shall submit electronic PDF documents of the requested information. Please enable the Commenting or User Rights Feature before uploading your response.

Please comply with the page requirements stipulated in the Questionnaire (Appendix B) and restrict submissions to a one-page cover letter, together with the information specifically requested in the questionnaire. ADOT requests that the cover letter include the firm name, RFI P3-21-01RFI, and the name, title, and contact information of the person responsible for interfacing with ADOT. Marketing materials are not to be submitted as part of a written response.

Respondent’s submission shall be emailed to the following address, in sufficient time so that ADOT receives it no later than 2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST) on August 24, 2020.
The “Firm Name” and “RFI P3-21-01RFI” must be clearly indicated in the subject line of the email and on the submission cover letter. Late submissions may not be considered. Email RFI submissions to P3Office@azdot.gov.

Any questions concerning this RFI are to be directed to ADOT’s Office of P3 Initiatives and Major Projects by 2 p.m. MST, July 23, 2020. Email questions to P3Office@azdot.gov. Interpretation of this RFI or additional information will only be given by written amendment to this RFI from the email address listed above.

1.6 INDUSTRY FORUM
This RFI is intended, in part, to provide an opportunity to receive industry feedback. To that end, an Industry Forum will be held from 9 – 10:30 a.m. MST on July 30, 2020. Due to ongoing COVID-19 precautions, ADOT will set up a virtual meeting. In order to get the login information, firms that wish to attend must send an email, listing their attendees, to P3Office@azdot.gov by July 23, 2020.

2. ADOT PROJECT OVERVIEW
2.1 EXISTING ASSETS
ADOT is responsible for the construction, operation, management, and maintenance of the State Highway System (“SHS”), which comprises more than 22,000 lane miles and 5,100 bridges and has a historical cost of more than $22 billion. ADOT operates its SHS through a variety of easements and parcels owned in fee. Use of the easements for non-transportation purposes may not be included in existing easements.

ADOT is interested in partnerships that utilize its existing assets, including existing broadband conduit installed within its rights of way. ADOT has a total of 129 broadband miles on the interstate highway system in Arizona. On I-10, there are 90 noncontiguous broadband miles between mileposts (MPs) 123 and 164, 187 and 219, and 250 and 267. On I-17, there are 35 broadband miles between MPs 194 and 229. And on I-19, there are four broadband miles between MPs 59 and 63. There are no state-owned broadband miles on I-8, I-15, or I-40. See Appendix A – Map 2.

ADOT is currently planning to install conduit on I-17 and I-19 by January 2022.

Statewide
ADOT operates an expanding Freeway Management System (“FMS”) in the urban areas of Phoenix and Tucson, and a vast array of Intelligent Transportation System (“ITS”) devices (cell modems, radio connections, and some leased fiber connections) in rural Arizona. The FMS allows ADOT Traffic Operations Center (“TOC”) operators to connect, monitor, and operate vehicle detection systems,
traffic signals, ramp meters, Dynamic Message Signs ("DMS"), and Closed-Circuit Television Cameras ("CCTV") in real-time.

Urban Area FMS

The FMS includes a trunk line, which is the primary conduit that carries the information collected by these devices between nodes to the TOC. Generally, the trunk line also carries the power for the FMS components.

Most of the urban freeway corridors are designed with a trunk line located on each side of the roadway that occasionally connect to each other to provide system redundancy. The FMS communication system includes three 3-inch conduits with fiber-optic cables that are typically located along the shoulders of the existing roadways, and generally 30 inches below the ground surface. The conduit system is encased in concrete and is typically attached to the bridge structures at the overpasses.

The node buildings are connected to each other with these redundant fiber-optic cables, termed a ring. In order to maintain communications during relocation, the cable on one side of the freeway (one side of the ring) must remain connected at all times.

In addition to the interconnectivity between the node buildings, the communication system is connected from the node to each individual ITS component. The typical application for this communication system includes:

- A twelve-strand Single-Mode Fiber Optic Cable ("SMFO") to communicate video from the CCTV, DMS, ramp meters, Wrong Way Detection System, and vehicular count stations to the node building.
- All FMS devices are connected to SMFO trunk cables on each side of the mainline freeway. These device signals are then sent to the TOC to manage ADOT freeway and arterial roadways.

2.2 PROJECT GOALS

General goals of the Project include, but are not limited to:

- Installing middle-mile fiber across Arizona in ways that result in fast, affordable, and reliable wired and wireless service to rural and underserved areas of Arizona—especially for the purposes of education, economic development, and public safety
- Enabling and accelerating network connectivity for last-mile service providers, particularly those servicing rural communities and consumers seeking reliable and affordable broadband services
- Expanding roadside fiber available to ADOT for the expansion of ITS technology and to build capacity for next-generation smart highway uses such as connected and autonomous vehicle technology on roads where ADOT does not have fiber installed
● Expanding network capacity for other state purposes and any other purpose that benefits the public
● Expediting project delivery and maximizing innovation in project financing and delivery
● Delivering long-term benefits in operation and maintenance costs and generating future revenue
● Advancing the project without impairing ADOT operations and users

2.3 SCOPE OF THE PROJECT
ADOT currently envisions a Project in which a developer would enter into a 30-year P3 agreement with ADOT to plan, design, install, operate, and maintain all broadband infrastructure. Any work must not adversely affect traffic, highway safety, nor impair the use and aesthetic quality of our SHS.

Potentially, existing state-owned conduit with available capacity could be used as part of the proposed ADOT Broadband Resource Sharing Model. This model leverages existing assets and maximizes in-kind trading opportunities that ultimately result in accelerated broadband expansion and reduced costs. The model is composed of Rights of Way Valuation and P3s. ADOT is open to other partnership models as well.

2.4 PROJECT SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>RFI Published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>Virtual Industry Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>RFI Comments Due from Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>RFI Response Report to ADOT Executive Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADOT anticipates commencing work on fiber installation on I-17 and I-19 in 2021.

3. ANTICIPATED PROJECT PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Should ADOT decide to proceed with procurement for the Project, ADOT may issue an RFQ, or proceed directly to an RFP.

In a two-step process, ADOT would prequalify potential proposers through an RFQ. The RFQ would be followed by an RFP. Only those entities shortlisted by ADOT through the RFQ process would receive and be allowed to respond to the RFP.

The objective of the RFQ phase is to shortlist proposers that best demonstrate that they have the financial resources, qualifications, and experience necessary to complete the Project.

The draft RFP would be issued to all shortlisted proposers and would include a draft project agreement. Shortlisted proposers would be allowed to comment on the draft RFP and the draft
ADOT reserves the right to modify the draft RFP and/or draft project agreement before issuing the final RFP. In addition, as part of the RFP process, ADOT may issue further changes to the RFP documents by formal amendment to all shortlisted proposers.

The RFP would require proposers to make management, technical, and financial submissions that are compliant with and demonstrate full acceptance of the final project agreement terms. The terms of the final project agreement would be negotiated by ADOT and the successful proposer, and ADOT may reserve the right to enter into negotiations with other proposers should it be unable to negotiate agreement terms acceptable to ADOT in its sole discretion. A proposal bond or letter of credit may be required.

ADOT expects to use a “best value” evaluation approach as well as other selection criteria to award the contract to the proposer. Best value evaluation factors and weightings remain to be determined, but potentially will be based on such criteria as technical competency, technical approach, strength of management team, price, risk analysis, expected public benefits, and/or schedule for Project delivery and completion.

4. PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT DELIVERY

4.1 LEGAL AUTHORITY
The procurement process will be implemented in accordance with ADOT’s policies and procedures and in compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. ADOT may procure and deliver the Project under its authority to engage in P3s, as set forth in Arizona Revised Statutes §§ 28-7701 et seq.

5. CONDITIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION

5.1 CHANGES TO THIS RFI
At any time, in its sole discretion, ADOT may, by written addenda to this RFI, modify, amend, cancel, and/or reissue this RFI.

5.2 INFORMATION PREPARATION COSTS
ADOT shall not be liable for any costs incurred by any Respondent in the preparation, submission, presentation, or revision of its information and response, or in any other aspect of the Respondent’s activities related to its involvement in this RFI process. All such costs shall be borne solely by the Respondent. In no event shall ADOT be bound by, or liable for, any obligations with respect to the Project until such time (if at all) as ADOT authorizes and executes a written agreement, and then only to the extent set forth in such agreement.
5.3 CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSES

ADOT reserves the option, at its sole discretion, to contact a Respondent to seek clarification regarding information contained in its response, but shall have no obligation to do so. The decision to contact and request clarification from a Respondent rests solely with ADOT. In submitting its response, a Respondent should not assume that it will be provided an opportunity to subsequently clarify or otherwise discuss any feature thereof.

5.4 DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION CONTENTS

All materials and information submitted in response to this RFI, and any materials delivered to ADOT during the Industry Forum, are subject to the Arizona Public Records Law, Arizona Revised Statutes Title 39, and any other laws, regulations, and case decisions applicable to the disclosure of materials and information submitted under this RFI (collectively, the “Public Records Laws”).

Respondents are also advised that the Public Records Laws may exempt certain portions of the responses, such as certain trade secrets and commercial and financial information, from public disclosure and permit confidential treatment by ADOT. If a Respondent has special concerns about the confidentiality of materials and information that it desires to make available to ADOT, but which the Respondent believes is exempted from disclosure under the Public Records Laws, such Respondent shall specifically and conspicuously designate that material and information in writing and by placing “CONFIDENTIAL” in the header or footer of each such page affected, together with a concise written explanation as to why the information is exempt from disclosure. No oral designations of any kind will be accepted. Blanket written designations that do not identify the specific materials and information are not acceptable and may be cause for ADOT to treat the entire response as public information.

ADOT may disclose the contents of all responses to this RFI, except to the extent that a portion of the response may be exempt from disclosure in accordance with applicable Public Records Laws. By delivering a response, as well as by registering and participating in the Industry Forum with ADOT, each Respondent consents to such disclosure and expressly waives any right to contest such disclosure unless exempt under applicable provisions of the Public Records Laws.

ADOT will not advise a Respondent or other party as to the nature or content of documents entitled to protection from disclosure under the Public Records Laws, as to the interpretation of such laws, or as to the definition of trade secret or other proprietary information. Nothing contained in this provision shall modify or amend requirements and obligations imposed by the Public Records Laws. The provisions of the Public Records Laws shall control in the event of a conflict between the procedures described above and the Public Records Laws.

In the event of any litigation or other proceeding concerning the disclosure of a Respondent’s materials or information or portion thereof submitted to ADOT, the Respondent shall be responsible for prosecuting or defending such action at its sole expense and risk; provided, however, that ADOT reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to intervene or participate in the litigation or other proceeding.
in such manner as it deems necessary or desirable. All costs and fees (including attorneys’ fees and costs) incurred by ADOT in connection with any litigation, other proceeding, or request for disclosure shall be reimbursed and paid by the Respondent whose response is the subject thereof. In no event shall the State, ADOT, or any of their respective agents, representatives, consultant, directors, officers, or employees be professionally or personally liable to a Respondent, a Respondent’s team member, or any other party for the disclosure of any materials or information submitted in response to this RFI or at the Industry Forum, including materials marked “Confidential,” whether the disclosure is deemed required by the Public Records Laws or an order of court or occurs through inadvertence, mistake, or negligence.

5.5 OWNERSHIP OF SUBMITTED MATERIALS
All materials and information submitted in response to or in connection with this RFI shall become the property of ADOT and will not be returned to the submitting parties. ADOT shall have the right to use such materials and information and ideas set forth therein without restriction.

5.6 RIGHTS OF ADOT
ADOT reserves to itself all rights available to it under applicable law, including, but not limited to, the unqualified right, at any time and in its sole discretion, to change or modify this RFI, to reject any and all information, to seek clarification of information, to request additional information, and to undertake communications with one or more Respondents or others who, at any time subsequent to the deadline for submissions to this RFI, may express an interest in the subject matter hereof.

No Respondent or any other person or entity shall have any rights against ADOT arising from the contents of this RFI, the receipt of information, or the incorporation in or rejection of information contained in any response or in any other document. ADOT makes no representations, warranties, or guarantees that the information contained herein or on the Project website or in any addenda hereto or thereto, is accurate, complete, or timely or that such information accurately represents the conditions that would be encountered during the performance of any subsequent contract issued from a separate procurement. The furnishing of such information by ADOT shall not create or be deemed to create any obligation or liability upon it for any reason whatsoever; and each Respondent, by submitting its information, expressly agrees that it has not relied upon the foregoing information, and that it shall not hold ADOT liable or responsible therefore in any manner whatsoever.

5.7 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
Respondents are advised that the following entities and individuals are precluded from submitting a response to this RFI and from participating on a Respondent’s team in the event of a future solicitation, unless otherwise authorized by ADOT:

Any consultant firm that has been contracted by ADOT to provide expert professional services in connection with the ADOT Office of P3 Initiatives and Major Projects, including, but not limited to:
Any entity that is a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of any of the foregoing entities, or that is under common ownership, control, or management with any of the foregoing entities; and any employee or former employee of any of the foregoing entities who was involved with the P3 Program delivery approach or P3 Program procurement while serving as an employee of such entity.
APPENDIX A

MAP 1

State Highway System

Note: The State of Arizona makes no claims concerning the accuracy of the data shown on this map, including data that is referenced from the State's own sources.

Prepared by: Arizona Department of Transportation Technical Planning Division
Transportation Analysis GIS Section
July 2020
MAP 2 – EXISTING FIBER MAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interstate</th>
<th>Broadband Start (Milepost)</th>
<th>Broadband Finish (Milepost)</th>
<th>Total Broadband Miles</th>
<th>Total Interstate Miles</th>
<th>% Completed Broadband</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I-17</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-10</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-10</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-10</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-19</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
<td><strong>1169</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>11%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B – QUESTIONNAIRE

Respondents are invited to return the following questionnaire together with a one-page cover letter to ADOT. Total page count for the response to the questionnaire must not exceed 15 pages, utilizing 12pt Calibri type font, inclusive of the cover letter. Please follow the format below.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1) Briefly provide the following descriptive information for the Respondent and its team members (if any). The purpose of this question is to aid ADOT in understanding the identity and type of business of the Respondent and its team members (if any).
   - Name of Respondent and its team members (if any)
   - Description of the principal business of Respondent and its team members (if any)

2) Describe in detail any similar broadband projects implemented by the Respondent and the lessons learned from those efforts.

3) Describe in detail your understanding of similar broadband projects implemented by others.

4) What states should ADOT look to in considering how to manage its rights of way and state-owned conduit for broadband purposes? What characteristics of those states’ programs have made them successful?

PROJECT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1) What solution(s) would you recommend and where would you like to place your solution(s)?

2) Given the availability of Arizona/ADOT assets described in this RFI, what asset(s) would you be interested in leveraging and how would you use these assets? How would your system(s) interact with these assets? Provide insights into investments and partnering models, technologies, and best practices as they relate to design, installation, and ongoing use. Any across-the-board, value-added, future outlook, and comprehensive, integrated solutions are welcome.

3) What are your goals and how will achievement of your goals benefit the public and Arizona government (state, counties, municipalities, education, medicine, last-mile connectivity in rural Arizona, etc.) goals? How does your concept help you reach your goals and ours?

4) Describe any concerns and best practices for implementing your recommended solution(s) (environmental approvals, rights of way, underlying land ownership, permits, timely communication, decision making, transparent transaction process, performance specifications and key performance indicators, etc.).

5) Describe the availability and implementation time of your recommended solution(s). Are there barriers that you recommend be addressed by ADOT to implement your solution(s)?

6) Describe your willingness to form teams composed of multiple manufacturers or vendors to achieve the goals of your recommended solution(s).
7) What are the key success factors facilitating and barriers impeding success with delivering this Project?

8) What are the top risks for successful delivery of this Project and why? What potential impact could the identified risks have? What potential mitigation strategies could be employed to decrease the identified risks?

9) Do you foresee federal and/or state legislative issues that would hinder the feasibility or underlying economics associated with this Project? If so, what are they and how could they be resolved?

10) Are there any security issues you foresee with this Project?

11) What information would you require to facilitate Project development?

12) What delivery methods are available for this Project? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each delivery method? Which delivery method do you prefer and why?

13) Do you foresee a financing structure that would provide the most feasible and best value for Arizona?

14) What would you provide directly in return and/or what direct public purpose would be served? Would you propose free access, a number of strands, a lease of space, conduit, or other telecommunications infrastructure to be dedicated for any use by the State, its partners, or other last-mile broadband service providers?
   ● In what ways should we be looking at our assets as a revenue generating commodity?
   ● Are you aware of any programs being used by other governments in the U.S. or elsewhere that have provided successful monetization of government property like rights of way?
   ● Do you have an in-kind contribution solution?
   ● Do you believe or are you aware of any other public or private assets that could be leveraged?

15) What timeframe for the recoupment of investments do you foresee?

16) Looking ahead, would you be interested in submitting a committed proposal for this Project? Are there any particular concerns that may prevent you from engaging in this Project? How might those concerns be resolved?

17) What are the key elements of an RFQ and/or RFP for this Project? Please provide reference to other RFQs and/or RFPs that have effectively elicited innovative proposals for broadband projects in rights of way and resulted in successfully completed projects.

18) What is the minimum amount of time required for developing and submitting a committed detailed proposal for the Project after issuance of a potential RFQ and/or RFP?

19) What are the minimum qualifications that should be required for interested firms or teams?

20) What are the critical path items for the procurement of this Project and why?
21) What other considerations should ADOT take into account when developing an RFQ and/or RFP that best meets the goals specified in the RFI?

22) Describe any material considerations or expectations that you have with respect to any items likely to be negotiated by the successful proposer (insurance, indemnities, warranties, dispute resolution, other contracting issues not specifically mentioned).

23) Are there any recommended performance metrics and capabilities that should be used to measure the success of this Project in meeting the goals specified in the RFI?

24) What major steps are needed from Notice of Award for the Project to full operations of the Project? What are the approximate elapsed times associated with these identified steps? What are the key decision points in the process (go/no-go decisions) and why?

25) Describe your capabilities to field inventory any and all existing fiber capacity available statewide. Some conduit may be available in the urban areas of Phoenix and Tucson. Would your company propose that an inventory be provided by the State or performed by your forces?

26) Would you propose using a fiber management software to track all fiber deployment that would be shared with ADOT? Would it be preferable for ADOT to track fiber placement and usage with a state-owned fiber management software?

27) Are there any specific new technologies that should be used or would be beneficial to the Project?

28) Other than the answers already provided, what information would help you make the decision to partner in this Project?