

Why Local Solutions?

Investment from local government and co-ops improves internet access

#1. State and federal government won't solve the prob-

- The federal government has given billions of dollars to telecom companies like AT&T over several decades. Despite funding, incentives, and more, speeds still do not meet the FCC definition of broadband.
- State government is too focused on big telecom and its budget issues.

#2. Large Telecom/Cable companies refuse to invest in

- State Rep. Steve Reick (District 63) worked with Comcast and AT&T for months to get Internet access for residents on and near Rose Farm Road just outside of Woodstock. Comcast and AT&T said no, twice.
- The Village of Richmond asked Time Warner Cable, Comcast, AT&T, and more to come into their area to provide more choices. They said no.

Looking for more information?

Please visit our website

WWW.IFMCCO

On our website you can perform a speed test, read fact sheets, watch videos, sign up for updates, and more.

Updated: June 2021

#3. Local solutions for local problems

You know what is best for our community's needs. Local leaders can improve Internet access in a multitude of ways:

- **Adopting Dig-Once Policies** is a cost-saving way to lay fiber for the future by being proactive. Putting in empty conduit as part of a comprehensive plan during sidewalk replacements or gas line replacement makes it easy to install fiber later.
- **Connect our Institutional Networks** like businesses, libraries, schools governments, and hospitals to save money and improve speeds for critical things like public safety, education, and more.
- **Create a Community-Owned Fiber Network** with an open-access model allows multiple ISPs to operate on publicly-owned infrastructure, creating competition to improve speeds and lower prices.
- **Adopt a Simplified Permitting Practice** is a good way to encourage investment in our communities. Complex permitting processes can slow down fiber projects.

Internet Freedom for McHenry County is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the improved use of fiber-optics to provide Internet access to everyone within McHenry County.