



We, the undersigned, support the establishment of a municipal broadband network in the town of Milton, Massachusetts.

We believe a municipal broadband network - guided by community values, not distant shareholders' values - will put the increasingly significant telecommunications needs of our community first, to the lasting benefit Milton's residents, town government, local businesses, and non-profits.

We recognize that since 2017 the Select Board has made significant progress towards this goal, efforts that produced an in-depth cost and design report for a new, municipally owned, 100% fiber optic broadband network.

In this petition, we the undersigned urge the Milton Select Board to take the necessary next steps towards the establishment of a municipal broadband network.

Furthermore, we the undersigned:

- **Recognize** that as a global communications system the internet constitutes a vital component our civic infrastructure, on par with transportation networks, water systems, and power grids.
- **Recognize** that reliable and affordable internet access is a basic necessity of life.
- **Recognize** that in Milton internet access is dominated by Comcast, a near-monopoly in town whose role as gatekeepers to a vital component of our civic infrastructure is a detriment to the Milton community.
- **Are resolute** in our belief that the establishment of a municipal broadband network is the most profitable solution for all Milton stakeholders - both today and for decades to come.

We, the undersigned, strongly believe that Milton's Municipal Broadband Network will:

- strengthen community, family, workplace, and business bonds, as the covid pandemic has made abundantly clear the urgent need for high-quality, affordable, and reliable digital communications.
- help mend persistent social, racial, and economic inequalities with an unwavering commitment to universal access and affordable pricing for all.
- easily meet all the connectivity, data, and speed needs of our schools well into the future.
- provide increased resiliency and flexibility to all other municipal agencies, particularly our first responders, DPW, and libraries.
- lower the cost of internet access for all Milton stakeholders, now and decades into the future.