

## **AMENDMENT #1 TO NOFA # 2021-MBI-02**

### **Notice of Funding Availability Grants to Gateway Cities to Establish Community WiFi Hotspots**

**Date Issued: March 1, 2021**

**Section 1.1 is amended by deleting the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following new paragraph:**

Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (“Mass Tech Collaborative” or “MassTech”), on behalf of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (“MBI”) is issuing this Notice of Funding Availability for Grants to Gateway Cities to Establish Community WiFi Hotspots (“Hotspot(s)”) (NOFA No.2021-MBI-02) (“NOFA”). MBI is soliciting applications for grant funding from municipal officials in eligible Gateway Cities (“Applicant(s)”) to support the deployment of wireless access points and related technologies to establish and maintain internet access through December 31, 2021, through one or more indoor and/or outdoor Hotspots or comparable internet access solutions. MBI is also soliciting proposals from qualified organizations to establish partnerships that will support the goals and objectives of the NOFA. The partnership requirements and proposal submission instructions are provided in Section 2.3. The list of eligible Gateway Cities is in Section 2.1.

**Section 2.1 is amended to add the following Gateway Cities to list of Eligible Municipalities:**

- Brockton
- Lynn
- Lawrence
- Taunton

**The following new Section 2.3 is added to the NOFA:**

MassTech will accept and consider proposals from qualified firms, public entities or non-profit organizations to establish partnerships to support the goals and objectives of this NOFA to expand internet access in Eligible Municipalities through the deployment of wireless access points and related technologies to establish and maintain one or more indoor and/or outdoor Hotspots or comparable internet access solutions. MassTech will only consider partnership proposals from entities that have demonstrated prior experience in successfully working with municipalities on a collaborative basis to support project or program implementation.

The scope of responsibilities that the partner could undertake directly or through other contractual arrangements with other entities may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Coordinating with municipalities and other parties to identify locations for the deployment of wireless access points;
2. Procuring wireless equipment and related materials, installation services, and internet service;
3. Overseeing project implementation;
4. Community and stakeholder outreach; and
5. Serving as the contracting and fiscal agent for MBI grant funds.

Organizations that are interested in establishing a partnership (“Proposing Entity”) should submit a proposal by electronic mail to [proposals@masstech.org](mailto:proposals@masstech.org) with the subject line: “Partnership Proposal – NOFA No.MBI-2021-02”. The proposal shall include:

1. A description of the Proposing Entity and the relevant experience of the Proposing Entity that demonstrates the entity’s qualifications;
2. The Eligible Municipalities that will be covered by the partnership;
3. The proposed approach to implement the partnership, including the functional areas of responsibility that will be undertaken by the Proposing Entity; and
4. A proposed budget, including any administrative charges associated with the proposed partnership. The Proposing Entity should refer to the grant parameters in Section 3.1 of the NOFA as guidance for developing the budget.