

VOTE

YES FIBER OPTIC INTERNET BOND PROPOSAL

**VOTE YES
LAKETOWN
TOWNSHIP
FIBER OPTIC
BOND PROPOSAL
TUESDAY, MAY 3**

**THIS PROPOSAL
PROVIDES FOR
A COMMUNITY-OWNED
FIBER OPTIC
INFRASTRUCTURE
TO EVERY HOME
AND PROPERTY IN
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP**

What a FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE with INTERNET DATA SERVICES will mean for you and all LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP homes, businesses and property owners —

Network Cost of Ownership —

To pay for the Fiber Optic Infrastructure, the 15-year bond calls for an average annual levy of 1.66 mils per taxable property value — not market value. Here are three examples:

TAXABLE VALUE	1.66 MIL COST PER YEAR	1.66 MIL COST PER MO.
\$ 50,000	\$ 83	\$ 6.92
\$ 100,000	\$ 166	\$ 13.83
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,660	\$ 138.33

Speed & Value — True high speed Internet that gives upload and download speeds at a minimum of 100-120 Mbps — dedicated to the exclusive use of each Township home and business. The Fiber Optic Network will have no monthly data limits. Heavy usage by others cannot degrade your minimum speed. HD video and movies will stream without stuttering or buffering. The fiber will come to your home but its distance from the road will not affect your cost. High-speed Fiber Optic Internet adds to the market value and marketability of your home — buyers will be eager to buy Laketown Township homes.

Cost of ISP Data Services —

Laketown Township will negotiate the most advantageous contract possible with an Internet Service Provider (ISP) to operate and maintain the network and provide Data Services such as Internet, TV and phone. The cost of ISP Data Services is in addition to your annual cost of the 1.66 mil levy. Internet Data Service is expected to range from \$25 to \$40 per month, depending on the number of residents who subscribe for the service. The more subscribers, the lower the price. *Let's get everyone onboard to get the cost as low as possible — imagine having the fastest Internet in West Michigan for only \$25 a month.*

TV & Phone — Free or very low cost TV & phone services can increasingly be found and may be sufficient for many people. The ISP will also offer basic TV and phone services at about \$25 for TV and \$10 for phone per month. We anticipate a "Triple Play" could cost no more than \$65 per month.

Go to <http://www.laketowntwp.org/news-you-can-use/laketown-gig/>. The Laketown Township web site has the ballot information and Board minutes concerning this proposal.



This information sheet was created by your neighbors and paid for with regulated funds by Fiber Optic YES! Committee, P.O. Box 1283, Holland, MI 49422

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Frequently asked QUESTIONS (and the ANSWERS) about the Fiber Optic Network —

Q — How reliable is a Fiber Optic Network?

A — An underground Fiber Optic Network is not affected by lightning, rain, ice, snow or clouds. Fiber Optic Networks are the fastest, most-reliable data-transmission systems available — ideal for security systems, Webcam monitoring of your property or pets while away, remote medical or health services to seniors or sick residents — and letting you stay longer in your home instead of paying thousands to a nursing home.

Q — What are some additional benefits?

A — Fast, reliable Internet service has become a “must” for education, business, medical care, and home security. A community-owned system is the most efficient way to provide connectivity to every household — a requirement for homes with school-age children, college-level education, medical care, household finance, and home-based businesses. You can keep data and applications in the “Cloud,” enjoy access using multiple devices wherever you are and share work online. Video conferencing with family, friends and businesses will be smooth and without delays.

Q — Why a public-private partnership?

A — Homes in more than 50 percent of Laketown Township have no cable or other high-speed broadband services. This Fiber Optic public-private initiative will offer all homes and properties in the Township the option of high-speed Internet service. Cable and telephone service providers have not stepped forward to provide service to all Laketown properties, and are unlikely to do so. A public-private partnership offers the Laketown Township community lower installation and operating costs, as well as maintaining local control and ownership.

Q — Will there be a help desk if I have problems?

A — Yes. A 24-hour, USA-based help desk line will be provided by the Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Q — I’m happy with my current Internet provider. Will I have to change?

A — No you will not have to change. Laketown residents will be free to continue with their existing service providers if they choose to do so.

Q — Will my property taxes increase because my home is more valuable because of Fiber Optic services to my door?

A — No, not for current owners. State law stipulates that the assessed *taxable* property value for current residents cannot increase by more per year than the *lesser* of 5% or the rate of inflation. This past year the increase was .3 percent.

Q — Is the 1.66 mil property tax deductible for income taxes?

A — Yes, as a property tax it is deductible from income taxes. People who receive the State Homestead Property Tax Credit or the Poverty or Veterans Exemption will end up NOT paying the 1.66 mil levy for the Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure.

Q — Is the Fiber Optic Network future-proof?

A — The proposed Fiber Optic Network is state-of-the-art with built-in redundancy and the capacity to deliver the best connectivity for the foreseeable future. It has an expected life of 30 years.

Q — When will the Fiber Optic Network be completed?

A — Once Township voters approve the proposal, completion of the Network is expected within a year.

For more detailed information about this proposal and its many benefits, visit [Facebook](#) or go to Laketownfiberopticyes.com



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