

# **Ensuring High-Quality Broadband Access & Safeguarding Good Jobs in Telecommunications**

## **FY23 Budget Ask**

*Memorandum of Support*



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## **Deliver Universal, High-Quality Broadband to all New Yorkers and Protect Good Jobs for Telecommunications Workers**

- With a proposed \$1.6 billion in Federal and State funding for broadband access, we have an unprecedented opportunity to deliver high-speed internet to every New Yorker.
- Public dollars for broadband deployment should support the best quality networks and provide reliable delivery of high-speed broadband - and good jobs in the industry.
- Labor standards protect against low-road contractors, who often come from out-of-state and rely on a multilayered structure of subcontractors that lack accountability to the public and to their employees, compromising the safety of workers and the public and quality networks.
- Instead, labor standards give preference to high-road employers who:
  - Have high standards of safety training, certification, and/or licensure for all relevant workers
  - Support job pipelines for locally-based and traditionally marginalized communities
  - Have a directly-employed workforce
  - Demonstrate strong compliance with workplace protections
- Furthermore, to ensure New Yorkers get the high-speed, high-quality internet required for today's modern world, preference should be given to deployment projects that prioritize the use of fiber - which we know delivers the fastest speeds and best quality internet.

**Support Labor Standards & a Fiber Preference for all Publicly-Funded Broadband Deployment in the FY23 budget!**

