



City Wide Telecommunications Study

Situation

The City of Albany (NY) required a “road map” for the continued development of communications infrastructure within the City. In the late ‘90’s there were street openings and disruptions throughout the City caused by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and resulting competitive activities among telecommunications service providers. The City determined that it needed third party guidance and assistance in developing an overall plan.

Action

Significant deliverables included identification of future telecommunications trends, evaluation of current technologies available to install fiber and cable, identification of major user nodes, evaluation of local regulatory and franchising options, inventorying existing communications infrastructure incorporated into a City-wide data base, and development of an implementation plan and action strategy. HPA worked together with an Engineering firm on this project.

Key Results

- Solicited and acted upon service provider recommendations for modifications in City street-opening regulations
- Development of new procedures for City coordinated street restoration
- Coordinated an RFP process for the development of a fiber optic network in the storm & sanitary sewer systems. This will minimize street opening requirements and provide a revenue source for the City.
- Identified key telecommunications “hotspots” to help leverage City economic development initiatives
- Assisted the City in focusing its’ position in advancing the development of Citywide broadband network
- Coordinated the City Planning Process, meetings of the City Planning Committee and other review sessions with City leaders, and the final report documentation

Working with HPA

HPA Consulting Group provided the City of Albany (NY) with specialized expertise not available locally through more conventional planning and engineering consulting firms. HPA’s knowledge of the telecommunications industry helped us to develop a plan that satisfied all of our objectives.

Willard A. Bruce
Commissioner of General Services, City of Albany

