

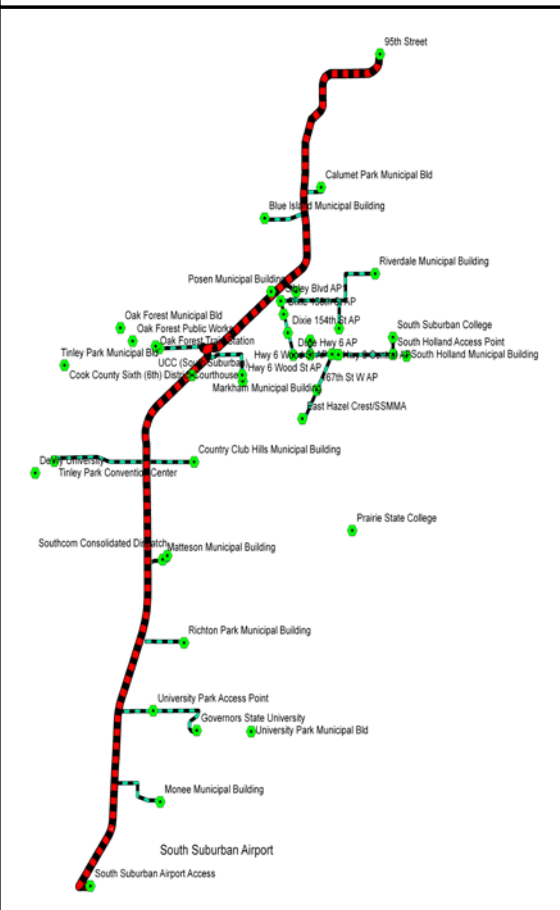
Chicago-Southland Fiber Network

"This project provides another critical step forward in the southern suburbs' efforts to strengthen our economy and create jobs."

*- Richard Hofeld,
Homewood Mayor*



Chicago Southland Fiber Network



"We're going to be leaping into the 21st Century; not just walking into it."

*- Joan Patricia Murphy,
Cook County Commissioner*

For more information about the Chicago Southland Fiber Network, contact:
Ed Paesel, Executive Director, SSMMA,
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The future is now in Chicago-Southland.

CRITICAL HIGH-SPEED FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Building of the "information highway" today will position the Chicago-Southland Fiber Network and its communities to be able to compete and succeed in the future. The broadband initiative is laying important groundwork for future generations, just like the nation's interstate highway system and rural electrification program did for current generations.

What is the Chicago-Southland Fiber Network?

Better Broadband. Better Lives. Cook County and the South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association (SSMMA) are part of a leading-edge national effort to provide high-speed fiber optic infrastructure to its communities. Already at the forefront with unsurpassed economic development opportunities in Logistics, Transportation and Green Manufacturing, the addition of high-speed fiber optics will allow our communities to compete successfully in the global economy.

The Chicago-Southland Fiber Network, with grant funding from the State of Illinois, will initially consist of more than 60 miles of high-speed fiber optic backbone infrastructure linking Southland Chicago municipalities, public safety sites, community colleges and business and industrial site access sites along the I-57 corridor. The network will be complete by summer 2013.

The infrastructure will be used to provide high speed data connectivity to SSMMA constituent communities. It will establish access to high capacity Internet services, Illinois Century Network access for education and public institutions, and dark fiber resources at competitive rates for both public and private entities to use for point-to-point or multi-point network, data applications and new technology including high-speed wireless communications, smart phones and mobile applications.

The initial goal of the project is to offer public sector organizations and local businesses new ways to deliver services, improve efficiencies, promote economic development in the Southland, expand the Network over time and continue to make the Southland a better place to live and work.

The Value of Connectivity

Private

- ♦ Create a competitive marketplace
- ♦ Enhance established Logistic, Transportation and Manufacturing hubs
- ♦ Enhance quality of life
- ♦ Enable economic and social inclusion
- ♦ Reduce data and telecom costs

Public

- ♦ Increase efficiency
- ♦ Create more attractive place to live
- ♦ Increase economic development
- ♦ Better constituent services in healthcare, education, government services
- ♦ Enhance Public Safety effectiveness through use of technology in the community



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