

Broadband Equity Partnership Description

The City of Chicago has contracted with the Broadband Equity Partnership to design a citywide, neighborhood-specific solution for ensuring that all residents have access to a quality, affordable broadband connection that works for them. One of the first deliverables with BEP is crafting and administering a citywide survey. Existing Census data tells us which neighborhoods have the lowest broadband adoption – our citywide survey will go beyond this by prioritizing the least connected communities in our outreach and asking questions about *why* households aren't connected to get to the root cause of the issue. For example, the survey will explore whether factors such as cost, trust, language, past debts, service quality, etc. are barriers to home connectivity. BEP will help to draft the survey, and we will administer it through the Chicago Digital Equity Council network, specifically in partnership with Chicago Public Library and Chicago Housing Authority, who have locations in the areas of the city with the greatest barriers to digital equity.