



**Thomas A. Schatz, *President***  
1100 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
[ccagw.org](http://ccagw.org)

July 18, 2022

Tom DeBraun  
Shelbyville Mayor  
44 West Washington Street  
Shelbyville, IN 46176

Dear Mayor DeBraun,

The Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW) is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to reducing waste, mismanagement, and inefficiency in government through public education and lobbying activities. I am writing with great concern over the city of Shelbyville's plan to use the taxpayers' money to subsidize a broadband system that would be built by Meridiam, a foreign-based infrastructure company with no prior experience in building broadband networks.

CCAGW has a long history of promoting and lobbying for a vendor and technology neutral approach to broadband deployment. The organization has analyzed taxpayer-funded or subsidized broadband networks and found that they have a long history of failure, leaving residents in debt and threatening the financial health of cities and towns across America.

There are 195 residents of Shelbyville who have signed our petition (attached) urging the city's elected representatives to protect taxpayers and abandon the plan. I hope you consider their views and as the city continues to deliberate over the plan.

Sincerely,

*Tom Schatz*