

**BAD INTERNET, BAD BUSINESS, BAD IDEA**



GONs COST **taxpayers** **A FORTUNE**

and don't live up **TO THE HYPE**

**WHY GONs DON'T WORK**

**PLUNGE LOCALITIES INTO DEBT AND LOSE MONEY**

Local **governments put taxpayers millions of dollars in debt** to finance money losing GONs. A study of 20 GONs nationwide found **only two would recover their costs within 60 years — if ever.**

**TAKE MONEY AWAY FROM WHERE IT'S NEEDED AND LACK TRANSPARENCY**

Government officials often **shift taxpayer money from other funds** to cover GON deficits. Such budget gimmicks mean **valuable tax dollars are not spent maintaining roads, water mains,** and other critical services.

Governments **lack experience building quality networks,** charge residents who don't even use the GON, and **cannot keep up with advances in technology.**

**POOR QUALITY AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

**GONs HAVEN'T WORKED FOR OHIO**

**1 CITY OF LEBANON**

Lebanon **transferred taxpayer dollars for critical government services to cover GON deficits.** Despite that questionable funding, the **city ended up selling the network to Cincinnati Bell at a loss.**

**2 MEDINA COUNTY**

Since building its GON, Medina County Port Authority has **tapped into \$1.6 million in reserve funds to cover debt payments** on its GON.

**3 CITY OF HUDSON**

Hudson City Council **increased the city's debt by another \$450k – on top of its existing \$3.4 million debt – in a desperate attempt to prop-up its failing GON.**

**Local governments should focus taxpayer dollars** on providing their citizens with **safe roads and clean drinking water,** and **let the private sector worry about** providing broadband **networks.**



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE