



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Information Technology Department

Date February 21, 2012

To: The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Subject: Accept Grant from The Minneapolis Foundation for Minneapolis  
Community Technology Survey

Recommendation: Approval to accept a grant of \$25,000 from The Minneapolis  
Foundation's Digital Inclusion Fund for the 2012 Minneapolis  
Community Technology Survey in order to gather data regarding  
the status of the digital divide in Minneapolis.

Prepared by Elise Ebhardt, Interagency Coordinator, 612-673-2026

Submitted by Otto Doll \_\_\_\_\_, 673-3633  
Chief Information Officer

Approved by Steven Bosacker \_\_\_\_\_  
City Coordinator

Presenter in Committee Otto Doll

Policy Review Group  Not Applicable

Permanent Review Committee (PRC)  Not Applicable

Prior Related Directives:

Financial Impact:

- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget  
Department name: Information Technology (formerly Business Information Services)  
Fund Name: Other Local Grants 01600-8800110-507000-G6880DIGITALINC  
Amount: \$25,000
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase  
Department name: Information Technology (formerly Business Information Services)  
Fund Name: Other Local Grants 01600-88001100-321513-G6880DIGITALINC  
Amount: \$25,000
- Request provided to the Finance Department

## **Background/Supporting Information**

The City's Information Technology (IT) vision includes a component for addressing the digital divide in Minneapolis. As we move further into a technology-based society, it is important to ensure that all residents can participate fully in the economic, educational, civic and social activities of our communities.

The City's IT department is working with National Research Center, Inc. to conduct a survey to determine whether City residents have computers and access to the Internet; are digitally literate to use those tools effectively; and see value in incorporating computing and the Internet into their daily lives. Results will help set priorities for the City's digital inclusion initiatives, and help us engage businesses, community organizations, public sector partners, and funders to more effectively address community technology and economic development needs. In addition, the survey will provide a baseline to measure changes in our community over time and our effectiveness at closing the gaps.

In November 2011 we submitted a proposal to The Minneapolis Foundation's Digital Inclusion Fund to request grant funding in support of the community technology/digital inclusion survey project.

In January 2012 the Digital Inclusion Fund Advisors awarded a grant to the City for \$25,000 to be used for the survey. The total cost of the survey is budgeted at \$41,000. The IT department is using existing departmental funds to pay for the remaining \$16,000 not covered by the grant.

## **Request for Approval**

The Information Technology department (formerly called Business Information Services) requests City Council approval to accept a grant of \$25,000 from The Minneapolis Foundation's Digital Inclusion Fund for the 2012 Minneapolis Community Technology Survey to gather data regarding the status of the digital divide in Minneapolis.