



Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: November 1, 2004

To: Ways and Means Committee

Submitted by: Karl Kaiser, _____ (612-673-3180)

Approved by: John Moir, _____

Subject: Request approval to initiate a City of Minneapolis, Wireless Broadband Internet Services program.

Presenters in Committee: Bill Beck, Business Information Systems

Recommendation

Approve the CIO's request for authorization to initiate a program that will provide Citywide Broad Band Wireless Internet services to all residential, commercial and institutional users and closes the "Digital Divide". Approval is requested to proceed with the following activities:

1. Business Information Services is directed to initiate a Citywide Broad Band Wireless Internet Services project.
2. Issue an RFP to deploy, manage and administer ubiquitous Citywide Broad Band Wireless Internet services.
3. Develop a Citywide Broad Band Wireless Internet services business case based on a public/private partnership and responses to the RFP.

The City will fund this initiative through a public/private partnership. The private sector partner will be responsible for all acquisition, design, and implementation costs and will manage the network going forward at no cost to the City. The City will recover all soft costs expended from project planning through network completion from the partner upon contract execution.

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

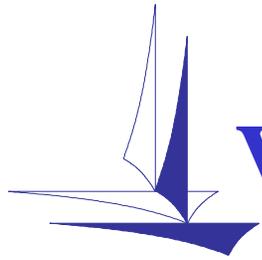
Background/Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis has developed a strategic vision to become a premier unwired city. Our goal is to develop and deploy an advanced, high quality and ubiquitous wireless broadband network throughout the fifty-nine square miles that comprise the City of Minneapolis. This communications technology infrastructure will provide City of Minneapolis residential, commercial and institutional users and Broadband communications services at an affordable

cost while progressively closing the *“Digital Divide”*. Three immediate benefits that the City will realize as a result of the implementation of this network include a reduction in costs associated with emergency communications; a tremendous leap forward in closing the “digital divide”; and the ability for mobile City workers to more effectively and quickly communicate from the field. In addition to providing affordable Internet broadband services in currently underserved areas, the City of Minneapolis has the opportunity to take a leadership role in closing the “digital divide” by establishing a set of principles to coordinate community technology initiatives that create a common technical platform and ensure the usefulness and consistency of services. The strategic use of wireless broadband technology can streamline City service delivery, help social service organizations serve a larger number of constituents, and stimulate economic development. The proposed approach has the benefit of facilitating fundamental change within the community by leveraging both the public/private partnership and our community-based organizations.

A key component of this initiative is to enhance and expand our institutional network (INET). The INET is a fiber and wireless based voice, data and video network that was created to provide cost effective high-speed connectivity between City facilities both in the core downtown business district, as well as to selected city locations throughout the City and the surrounding area. The INET is currently an mixture of numerous smaller networks and communications infrastructure. It includes the fiber and point-to-point wireless network supporting the City-owned parking ramps, the BIS-installed fiber network, and other isolated fiber connections between City sites.

City of Minneapolis Broadband Wireless and Fiber Network



Vision, Goals, Applications, and Timeline



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Project Highlights

- City of Minneapolis has completed initial conceptual designs and plans for the detailed design, implementation, and operation of a secure Metro-scale Broadband Wireless Access Network, as well as upgrade of the City's fiber-based institutional network (INET) to connect selected City facilities
- The City would benefit from a high-speed wireless network solution will support selected emergency and non-emergency mobility requirements
- The City will provide a private/public partnership agreement, access to assets (rooftops, streetlight poles, etc.) and community leadership for identified programs (closing the digital divide) in return for a revenue sharing opportunity

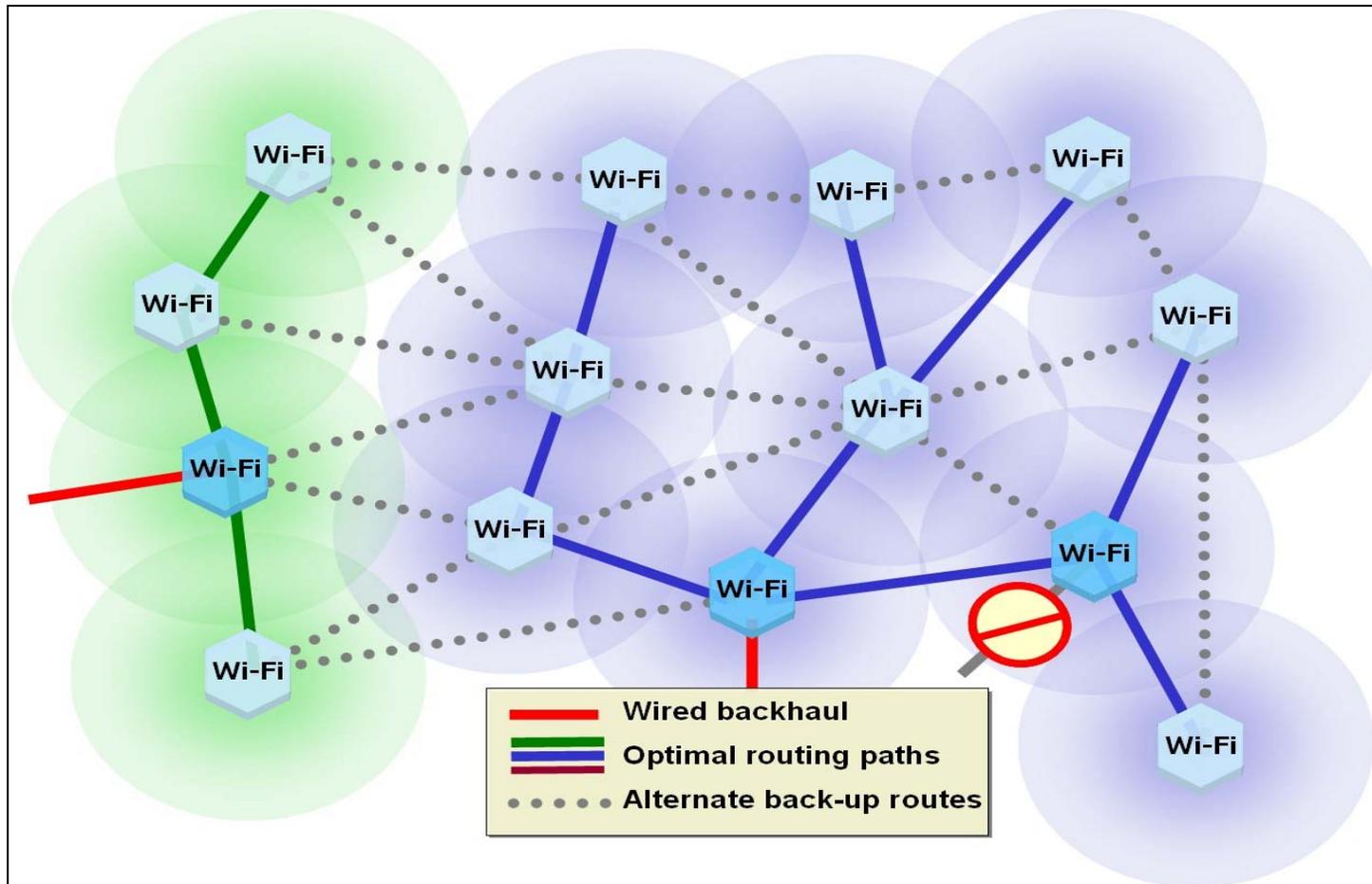
Project Benefits

- Provides City of Minneapolis departments, residents, visitors, businesses, schools, libraries, parks and public spaces with easy access to state of the art, broadband communications services at an affordable cost
 - Helps to close the “digital divide” (affordable broadband, expanded access to services and usable community information for all residents) by leveraging and coordinating the efforts of community-based organizations
 - Reduces City costs associated with mobile connectivity
 - Introduces a new revenue stream to the City
 - Promotes economic development of the City and enhances City’s image
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Broadband Access-Anywhere, Anytime

- Metro-scale wireless fidelity (WiFi) broadband network
- Highly reliable, standards-based, scalable, readily-managed
- Highly secure
- Interoperability with emergency communications systems
- Leverages municipal assets through public/private agreement
- Revenue sharing opportunity
- Support “Mobile Government” applications and services
- Enhance interdepartmental communications and systems
- Fixed and mobile access for residents, businesses and visitors
- Supports data, voice and camera video applications

Metro-scale Wireless Network



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Minneapolis Broadband Wireless Network



Key Customer Groups

- Residents
- Mobile Emergency Workers
- Mobile Non-Emergency Workers
- Businesses
- Visitors, conventioners, students

Timeline

- Phase 1 Detailed Design and Planning
 - » 12/06/04 – Specification
 - » 01/15/05 – Pilot Implementation and Evaluation
 - » 02/01/05 – Contract for Public/Private Partnership Signed

- Phase 2 Installation of Wireless Network
 - » 06/08/05 – Infrastructure Installation
 - » 06/29/05 – Selected City Workers Implemented
 - » 07/01/05 – Citywide Marketing Campaign Launched

- Phase 3 Citywide Launch

- Phase 4 Wireless Ongoing Operations

- Phase 5 Ongoing Upgrade Planning