



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

Date: December 6, 2010

To: City Council Member Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget

Referral to: City Council

Subject: Wireless Community accounts

Recommendation: Approve application for 1 free Wireless Community account for FOCUS Minnesota located at 1600 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

Previous Directives: None

Department Information

Prepared by:
David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____

Approved by:
Steven Bosacker, City Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: None

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Supporting Information

In its continuing efforts to make Minneapolis a wireless city that bridges the digital divide, the City of Minneapolis continues to accept applications for "Wireless Community" accounts, which are free wireless Internet accounts intended for non-profit organizations that provide free computer access to the public.

In 2009, staff completed two rounds of applications however accounts still remain for distribution. One application has been received and reviewed by the City of Minneapolis staff using the criteria established by a group of community representatives who have been working with the City on digital inclusion. The eligibility requirements established by the community representatives for Wireless Community free accounts:

Must be non-profits located in the city of Minneapolis, and that:

- Provide public computer access ("community technology centers")
- Provide technology literacy training, and/or
- Provide technology support for underserved communities

The staff recommends that the City Council approve this application for Wireless Community account.