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The Honorable Ruth Asmundson
City of Davis
Russell Boulevard
Davis, CA 95616


Dear Mayor Asmundson:

As Chancellor of the University of California, Davis, I enthusiastically support the City of Davis' campaign to become a Google "Fiber for Communities" test site.

UC Davis is one of our nation's leading research universities, and as such is a primary generator of a host of new patents and scientific innovations each year. Our cutting-edge focus on sustainability, green technology, nano-technology, and research into alternative energy means that UC Davis is well-positioned to be at the center of continuing ground-breaking contributions to the national and global economy.

The presence of high-speed, fiber-optic-to-home internet connections would greatly enhance our connectivity as a community and act as a stimulus to the unique, collaborative network of researchers, science and medical professionals who call Davis home. In addition, the presence of 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students within the City of Davis, each proficient with technology and the Internet, only augments our profile as a highly-educated, well-informed and technologically-active community.

Consider the many ways the city and campus could collaborate in using a high-speed, fiber-optic-to-home network. It could revolutionize the way we teach, it could enhance our research methods and stimulate our local economy. It could enable our community to communicate more effectively and more efficiently. It could spark entrepreneurship and foster innovation. It would enhance our reputation for cooperation and collaboration.

It seems conceivable, for example, that we might choose to teach certain highly popular classes online to reduce the number of car trips during peak times in the city, thereby reducing our carbon footprint and easing traffic congestion. Or perhaps we could enhance access to academic materials for local K-12 students. Then again, we might collaborate on creating civic

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partnerships within the city by asking faculty members to address public policy issues via video conferencing to facilitate dialogue with community members. These suggestions are all speculative, of course, but they underscore the point that the Google "Fiber for Communities" initiative could have a dramatic impact on everything we do, including what we do and how we do it.

Please count on me as an advocate for the selection of the City of Davis as a "Fiber for Communities" test site. Our unique community, which includes such a dynamic blend of and interest in emerging, green technologies, our historic reliance on pollution-free transportation, and our devotion to scholarship and inventiveness, makes the City of Davis an outstanding candidate. I look forward to our selection!

Sincerely,



Linda P.B. Katehi
Chancellor

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