

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** March 2, 2010  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Rick Guidara, Information Technology Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** City Support for Google's Pilot Ultra High Speed Broadband Program

---

### **Recommendations**

Approve the attached resolution outlining the City's support for responding to Google's request for information (RFI) for communities interested in having an ultra high speed broadband network installed in their Community.

### **Fiscal Impact**

No direct fiscal impact at this time. It is expected it will take approximately 20 hours of staff time to research, develop, and submit a response to the RFI.

### **Background and Analysis**

On February 10, 2010, the Google Corporation announced they are looking for communities across the country interested in allowing Google to provide "fiber- to-the-home connections" with speeds over 100 times faster than what is normally available and at competitive prices. Their goal is to create a test bed community (or communities) to, "...experiment with new ways to make internet access better and faster for everyone."

They have put out an RFI to help identify interested communities and have asked for formal responses from local governments and support from members of the community. The response deadline is March 26, 2010. Any community is eligible to respond.

Several City of Davis community groups have already approached City staff at all levels with their support of this Google proposal. With approval of this resolution, City staff will focus their efforts on completing the RFI questions dealing with facility and regulatory processes. Several community groups are already rallying their supporters to go on-line and develop their own individual responses stating why they feel Davis would be an ideal candidate for this experiment. While there are still many questions about the details of this project, which Google does not even know the answers to at this time, all agree that submitting a response indicating Davis' strong interest is the key first step.

As this project progresses, more details will emerge and will be brought forward. Submitting an RFI does not obligate the city or Google at this stage.

### **Attachment**

1. Resolution

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-XXX, SERIES 2010**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GOOGLE'S PILOT ULTRA HIGH SPEED  
BROADBAND PROGRAM AND DIRECTING CITY TO RESPOND TO A REQUEST  
FOR INFORMATION**

WHEREAS, Google has announced an initiative to install ultra high speed broadband networks in a test community or communities; and

WHEREAS, Google has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to local communities, due March 26, 2010, to be considered as a pilot location; and

WHEREAS, being a community that is the beneficiary of this infrastructure could benefit Davis residents, businesses and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Davis community is well poised to utilize and benefit from additional capacity in broadband service, as home to the University of California, Davis and a technically savvy and active population and with a history of trying new and innovative ideas; and

WHEREAS, many community groups and organizations have already expressed interest in responding to Google's Request for Information.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Davis the following:

1. The Davis City Council supports Google's efforts to start a pilot project to install ultra-high speed broadband in a pilot community or communities and directs the City Manager to lead efforts to submit a formal response to the RFI by March 26, 2010.
2. The City will co-sponsor an initial community meeting on March 3, 2010.
3. The Davis City Council encourages community members to help by going online at <http://www.google.com/appserve/fiberrfi/public/options> and nominate our community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Davis on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2010 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

Ruth Uy Asmundson, Ph.D.  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Zoe S. Mirabile, CMC  
City Clerk