



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Information Technology Department
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3050
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager
From: Brenda Cooper, Chief Information Officer
Date: 02/23/2010
Subject: Letter of Support for Broadband Technologies Opportunities Grant

RECOMMENDATION

City Council sign the attached memo supporting Bellevue's application for a Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program grant from the National Telecommunications and Infrastructure Agency.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

Bellevue is applying on behalf of our regional fiber consortium, which includes multiple cities, schools, and hospitals. The Kirkland-based partners include Evergreen Hospital and Lake Washington School District. The Consortium as a whole has grown to include cities as far south as Auburn and Kent and to also include Seattle in a few of our projects. We received a public-safety grant last year to help with the southward extension of the network.

This grant request is directed primarily at both extending the network and at providing more direct services to the public through partnerships with private agencies.

March 3, 2010

D R A F T

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
c/o David Kerr
City of Bellevue IT Department
PO Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98004

Dear Grant Administrator:

We in the City of Kirkland request your support for the City of Bellevue's application for funding as part of the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The City of Kirkland and our local Lake Washington School District, the University of Washington, and the City of Bellevue actually started the regional fiber system nearly a decade ago. We're very happy to see that it has continued to grow and to be successful in obtaining funding as it has extended southward and included other key players.

The further extension of this project that the consortium is asking for now would help us enhance community safety by developing better backup and recovery for our multiple regional dispatch centers in the area, help us provide direct connections among and between cities to support our successful regional eCityGov Alliance applications (see www.ecitygov.net), help us enhance our intelligent transportation systems, and provide economic development opportunities.

Specifically to Kirkland, part of this grant request is to help build a small section of fiber to connect our fiber into a ring which would make it much more likely to survive a cut. Also specific to Kirkland, we believe having this grant approved would help us provide wireless service to more citizens. We currently provide a free wireless program in our downtown which we get a significant number of thank you letters and emails about, and we would like to see this extended to other parks and business districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kirkland City Council

by Joan McBride, Mayor