

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON TO SUBMIT A RESPONSE TO GOOGLE'S FIBER FOR COMMUNITIES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

WHEREAS: Google recently announced plans to test ultra-high speed broadband networks in one or more trial locations across the country, and seeks submittals from interested local governments by March 26, 2010; and

WHEREAS: Local technology and business development experts, City partner agencies and organizations, and people throughout our community have encouraged City officials to promote Bellingham for this opportunity; and

WHEREAS: 95% of people responding to an informal website survey answered "yes" to the question "Should the City of Bellingham submit a proposal for Google's Fiber For Communities Project?"; and

WHEREAS: Ultra-high-speed internet service could create tremendous benefits for Bellingham, including the opportunity for economic development and job creation in our area, increased technology capacity for public and private uses, and innovative, sustainable ideas spurred by the availability of ultra-high speed networking; and

WHEREAS: Bellingham has many features that should be very attractive to Google, such as a strong higher education network and progressive K-12 schools, the presence of a strong technology community, businesses that rely on and foster technology innovations, commitment to green initiatives and industries, active, engaged residents and beautiful natural environment; and

WHEREAS: Bellingham is a small city with big ideas, an ideal testing ground for Google's fiber installation. Uniquely positioned between Seattle and Vancouver BC, Bellingham is a progressive, entrepreneurial community with much to offer Google, in addition to the many benefits we would gain from being the home of ahead-of-the-curve technology infrastructure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM THE CITY WILL:

Submit a response to Google's Fiber for Communities Request for Information by March 26, 2010, in partnership with organizations and people who share the City's vision for and enthusiasm about this project; and

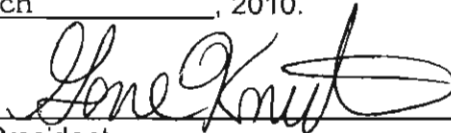
Identify a Google point of contact to ensure quick, accurate communications with Google officials; and

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-778-8270

If Bellingham is selected for further review by Google, identify a Google-ready rapid response team, authorized to address issues that may arise in a timely manner, consistent with all local, state and federal requirements; and


If Bellingham is selected for further review, identify and consider various public-private partnerships and other incentives to welcome Google to our community.

PASSED by the Council this 15th day of March, 2010.




Council President

APPROVED by me this 22nd day of March, 2010.



Mayor

ATTEST



Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Office of the City Attorney