City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Allan L Roeder   From: Maria Stipe

Dept.:   City Manager   Dept.: City Manager

Subject: CONSIDERATION OF CITY   Date: January 13, 2015
          PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT
          CENTURY CITIES INITIATIVE

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is for the City Council to consider City participation in the Next Century Cities initiative.

BACKGROUND

At the December 23, 2014 City Council Meeting, Mayor Nguyen requested and the City Council authorized consideration of City participation in the Next Century Cities collaborative program.

DISCUSSION

Next Century Cities is a national initiative designed to support community leaders across the country as they seek to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable Internet.   There are currently 50 member communities from across the country participating in the initiative, eight of which are from California.   If the City Council approves participation, Garden Grove would be the first city in Orange County to become a member.   Attached are materials downloaded from the Next Century Cities website regarding the basics of the program.   Participation requires agreement with the following six principles:

- High-Speed Internet Is Necessary Infrastructure: fast, reliable, and affordable Internet – at globally competitive speeds – is no longer optional. Residents, schools, libraries, and businesses require next-generation connectivity to succeed.

- The Internet Is Nonpartisan: because the Internet is an essential resource for residents and businesses in all communities, the provision of fast, reliable, and affordable Internet transcends partisanship. This collaboration welcomes leaders of all affiliations and beliefs who believe fast, reliable, and affordable high-speed Internet access is essential to secure America's Internet future.

- Communities Must Enjoy Self-Determination: broadband solutions must align with community needs—there is no perfect model that is universally appropriate. Towns and cities should have the right to consider all options – whether public, nonprofit, corporate, or some other hybrid – free from interference.

- High-Speed Internet Is a Community-Wide Endeavor: building effective next-generation networks requires cooperation across communities. It is critical to involve and include multiple stakeholders and perspectives to succeed, including businesses, community organizations, residents, anchor institutions, and others. Everyone in a community should be able to access the Internet on reasonable terms.

- Meaningful Competition Drives Progress: a vibrant, diverse marketplace, with transparency in offerings, pricings, and policies will spur innovation, increase investment, and lower prices. Communities, residents, and businesses should have a meaningful choice in providers.

- Collaboration Benefits All: innovative approaches to broadband deployment present diverse challenges and opportunities to communities and regions. Working together, cities can learn from the experiences of others, lower costs, and make the best use of next-generation networks.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no cost to become a member city.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

- If the City Council decides to participate in the Next Century Cities initiative, the City Council must approve the six principles above.

MARIA STIPE
Deputy City Manager

Attachment: Next Century Cities Information

Approved for Agenda listing

Allan L. Roeder
Interim City Manager

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Next Century Cities

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About NCC

Next Century Cities: Connecting Communities

Next Century Cities supports community leaders across the country as they seek to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable Internet.

Across the country, innovative municipalities are already recognizing the importance of leveraging gigabit level Internet to attract new businesses and create jobs, improve health care and education, and connect residents to new opportunities. Next Century Cities is committed to celebrating these successes, demonstrating their value, and helping other cities to realize the full power of truly high-speed, affordable, and accessible broadband.

Our Principles

Next Century Cities believes that there is no single pathway to a smart, effective approach to next-generation broadband. What matters is meaningful choice, dedicated leadership, and smart collaboration. Our participating leaders and communities are committed to the following principles:

- **High-Speed Internet Is Necessary Infrastructure**: fast, reliable, and affordable Internet – at globally competitive speeds – is no longer optional. Residents, schools, libraries, and businesses require next-generation connectivity to succeed.
- **The Internet Is Nonpartisan**: because the Internet is an essential resource for residents and businesses in all communities, the provision of fast, reliable, and affordable Internet transcends

partisanship. This collaboration welcomes leaders of all affiliations and beliefs who believe fast, reliable, and affordable high-speed Internet access is essential to secure America's Internet future.

- **Communities Must Enjoy Self-Determination**: broadband solutions must align with community needs—there is no perfect model that is universally appropriate. Towns and cities should have the right to consider all options – whether public, nonprofit, corporate, or some other hybrid – free from interference.
- **High-Speed Internet Is a Community-Wide Endeavor**: building effective next-generation networks requires cooperation across communities. It is critical to involve and include multiple stakeholders and perspectives to succeed, including businesses, community organizations, residents, anchor institutions, and others. Everyone in a community should be able to access the Internet on reasonable terms.
- **Meaningful Competition Drives Progress**: a vibrant, diverse marketplace, with transparency in offerings, pricings, and policies will spur innovation, increase investment, and lower prices. Communities, residents, and businesses should have a meaningful choice in providers.
- **Collaboration Benefits All**: innovative approaches to broadband deployment present diverse challenges and opportunities to communities and regions. Working together, cities can learn from the experiences of others, lower costs, and make the best use of next-generation networks.

A 21st Century Partnership

We invite cities to join Next Century Cities and strengthen the ability of communities nationwide to prosper and compete in the 21st century. Next Century Cities supports communities and their elected leaders, including mayors and other officials, as they seek to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable Internet.

- **Elevating the Conversation**: cities that have or would like to develop truly next-generation networks are visionary cities, and their leaders recognize what it takes to be competitive in the 21st century. Next Century Cities will work with these leaders and their cities to make the case nationally and within communities that next-generation Internet is essential infrastructure that can deliver transformative benefits to communities today.
- **Supporting Cities**: communities stepping into the 21st century through next-generation networks face myriad challenges. It is essential to provide crucial support to facilitate these innovative projects. Next Century Cities and its partners will work to assist each other in overcoming obstacles to success.
- **Providing Tools for Success**: developing a next-generation network is a daunting task for a city of any size. It is important that communities have access to resources, advice, and tools to develop effective broadband Internet networks. Next Century Cities is committed to developing and aggregating resources to guide incipient projects, as well as tools to help those already equipped with this infrastructure better leverage their networks to yield community benefits.

We are excited to begin this initiative, and we look forward to working with diverse towns and cities across the country to lead a new conversation on what it will take to compete and thrive in the 21st century.

Next Century Cities welcomes partnership with any organization that shares our principles. Our work is currently supported by

a group of donors, including the Ford Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, and Google.

Next Century Cities is a project of New Venture Fund, a 501(c)(3) public charity. New Venture Fund hosts and incubates a wide range of conservation, education, global health, and other charitable projects.

Next Century Cities supports communities and their elected leaders, including mayors and other officials, as they seek to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable Internet. Join Us
Leadership

Deb Socia

Prior to her new role as the Executive Director of Next Century Cities, Deb Socia was the Executive Director of the Tech Goes Home program whose mission is to ensure digital equity. The program was selected as a ComputerWorld 2011 Laureate, was awarded the Public Technology Institute's 2011 Solutions Award and the 2009 Verizon Tech Savvy Award as well as being mentioned as an exemplary program in several national publications.

Before her more recent positions, Deb spent 32 years as an educator, director, and administrator. She was the founding principal of the Lilla G. Frederick Middle School, a Boston Public School in the Grove Hall neighborhood of Dorchester. She led the one-to-one laptop initiative at the Frederick and the school won several awards for its efforts at technology integration, including designation as an Apple Distinguished School in 2009 and 2010. The Frederick was named a "trauma sensitive school" by the state, was highlighted in case studies by Intel, Apple, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and was designated as a community "safe haven".

Other positions Deb has held include – district level Curriculum Coordinator, Program Director for the Coalition of Essential Schools, and middle school mathematics and science teacher.

Deb was named the NATOA Community Broadband Hero in 2013, received the 2013 Pathfinder Award from MassCUE, the 2010 "Leadership and Vision" award from CRSTE (Capitol Region Society for Technology in Education), the Quincy/Geneva Community Advocate award in 2009, and the Lilla G. Frederick Award in 2008.

She has written several pieces on technology in education, including a piece on digital citizenship for the Publius Project at Harvard's Berkman Center, several articles in MASCD Perspectives, AALF's on-line publication, Mass Literacy, and several guest blog posts for iKeepSafe and Wheelock University. Deb is an avid user of social media, particularly Twitter (@dsocia).

Chris Mitchell

Christopher Mitchell is the Policy Director at Next Century Cities as well as the Director of the Community Broadband Networks Initiative with the Institute for Local Self-Reliance in Minneapolis. Mitchell is a leading national expert on community networks and speaks at conferences across the United States on telecommunications policy.

On a day-to-day basis, Mitchell runs MuniNetworks.org, the comprehensive online clearinghouse of information about community broadband. His research and reports are available online. In 2012, he published three in-depth case studies of citywide publicly owned gigabit networks, called "Broadband at the Speed of Light." In 2011, Mitchell released the Community Broadband Map, a comprehensive map of community owned networks.

He was honored as one of the 2012 Top 25 in Public Sector Technology by Government Technology, which honors the top "Doers, Drivers, and Dreamers" in the nation each year. That same year, the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors named ILSR the Broadband Organization of the Year.

His Twitter identity is @communitynets

He earned a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Macalester College.

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Post

Tuesday, December 9th, 2014

Next Century Cities Is Now 50 Members Strong!

With the addition of Medina County, OH this week, Next Century Cities proudly shares that our membership has risen to 50 communities, representing 25 states from across the country. Each of our cities joins us in our mission to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable broadband Internet. These communities represent large cities, counties, and rural towns alike, each undertaking a unique approach to reach its broadband goals.

While our members represent a diverse range of approaches and circumstances, all share a commitment to Next Century Cities' Founding Principles. Thank you to each and every one of our members. We're excited to partner with you to drive the future of Next Century Cities!

Our members are (* indicates inaugural partner city):

- Ammon, ID*
- Arvada, CO
- Auburn, IN*
- Austin, TX*
- Beverly Hills, CA
- Boston, MA*

- Burbank, CA
- Carbondale, IL
- Centennial, CO*
- Centerville, UT
- Champaign, IL*
- Chattanooga, TN*
- Clarksville, TN*
- Columbus, OH
- Culver City, CA
- Gresham, OR
- Jackson, TN*
- Kansas City, KS*
- Kansas City, MO*
- Lafayette, LA*
- Leverett, MA*
- Lexington, KY
- Los Angeles, CA
- Louisville, KY*
- Medina County, OH
- Montrose, CO*
- Morristown, TN*
- Mount Vernon, WA*
- Opelika, AL
- Palo Alto, CA*
- Ponca City, OK*
- Portland, OR*
- Raleigh, NC*
- Rockport, ME*
- Salisbury, NC
- San Antonio, TX*
- Sandy, OR*
- Santa Cruz County, CA*
- Santa Monica, CA*
- South Portland, ME*
- South San Francisco, CA
- Stamford, CT
- Syracuse, NY
- Tucson, AZ
- Urbana, IL*
- Vancouver, WA
- Westminster, MD*
- Wilson, NC*
- Winthrop, MN*
- Yellow Springs, OH