

## **Broadband USA Applications Database**

**Applicant Name:** City of Union City

**Project Title:** 802 wireless mesh corridor

**Project Type:** Public Computer Center

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### **Executive Summary**

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The immediate need is to reduce city costs reducing the burden on local taxpayers while providing needed services to the local community. The City of Union City's approach is to embed the delivery of the broadband services within routine support of City facilities.

The unique aspect of our approach is that while eliminating reoccurring City expenditures (by utilizing 802 wireless mesh technology); we make that technology (which the taxpayers pay for in the first place) available for direct use by the general citizens. This approach also ensures the sustainability and longevity of the service - the support is incorporated within the normal City support operations rather than as an increased workload from an additional service. Providing broadband access for local citizens becomes a transparent part of providing broadband (network) support to the City offices and facilities.

The City's Community Centers and Police substations are inherently located in those areas of the city most in need of City services. The result of this approach is that these services will be available to the most disadvantaged members of our population first.

The more affluent members of the population either have already obtained these services themselves or have the ability to obtain them. While the goal is to eventually provide the services ubiquitously throughout the City, using our approach the most disadvantaged are benefited first, instead of last.

In addition to providing computers, software and broadband access at Public Computer Centers at our City facilities this approach also provides direct broadband access to the population in these '802 corridors'.

Phase 1 – serves the initial set of City facilities and reaches approximately 25% of our population. (See map - 1) This phase will be accomplished through use of the 20% matching funds which the City has already budgeted.

Phase 2 – serves the remaining City facilities and reaches approximately another 25% of our population over a broader geographic region. (See map – 2) This phase cannot be accomplished without the BTOP grant.

Phase 3 - of the project reaches the remaining 50% of our population. Funding for this phase has not yet been designated.

Full City Demographics will be attached separately demographics specific to individual Designated Computer Center are highlighted here:

The Ralph and Mary Ruggieri Senior Center

- Primary service group - Senior Citizens

The Senior Center provides services to approximately 2,500 Senior Citizens a month.

The services provided include everything from meals program, Insurance Counseling, Health screening to Basic Computer Classes The classes include; Basic Computer orientation and skills e.g. Use of Internet, Microsoft Office programs; Word, Excel, etc.

The Decoto Resource Center and Alvarado Resource Centers

- Primary service group – At risk Youth and Family

The Y & FS program has recently been expanded with the creation of the Youth Violence Coalition to address the of escalating youth violence in Union City, including 4 youth homicides (under 23 years of age) in the past 13 months, requiring effective programs for violence prevention, intervention and education programs for youth and families.

## The Centro de Servicios

- The Centro de Servicios is a non-profit, non City controlled organization which the City supports in its public service mission. Featured in the Tri-CityVoice "Local Heros' newsarticle (<http://www.tricityvoice.com/articlefiledisplay.php?issue=2009-01-14&file=story1.txt>). The mission statement for the Centro de Servicios is: "to help needy Tri-Cities residents secure the services necessary to live happier, healthier and more productive lives"

For the Fiscal Year 08/09 the Centro provided services for 13,719 families.

The top five services performed were; Food, Assistance with State benefits, Information & referral, Health Care, Immigration and Citizenship

Geographic Area Served; 50.6% Union City, 19.6% Hayward, 11.6% Fremont, 8.7% Newark, 9.5% Other areas

Demographics; 72% Latino, 8% Asian, 8% African American, 6.5% White, 5% Middle-Eastern, 5% Pacific-Islander

## Kennedy and Holly Community Centers

Primary service group – general community with emphasis on teens

(The Kennedy Community Center –KCC is adjacent to the Logan High School)

With the new school year we are establishing the Teen Homework Club. The Homework Club / Public Computer Center will provide a safe and controlled after school environment for teens.

Qualifications of the applicant that demonstrate the ability to implement the project and achieve its intended results.

The City has already successfully implemented six (6) 802 hot spots for Police Department and City Hall staff use. These 802 hot-spots have been in use for over three (3) years without issue.

The preferred vendor for this project's 802 WiFi Mesh equipment is Tropos Networks which has a long and proven track record in successful implementations and survivability in harsh and disastrous conditions.

Jobs to be saved or created.

Project management consultants; The City will retain an outside Project Management firm.

Construction; installation of WAPs in City Facilities (the City does not maintain a staff for construction projects).

Construction; installation of WAPs and helper nodes on City Street Lights (the City does not maintain a staff for construction projects)

Construction; Future construction of radio tower.

Overall cost of the proposed project.

Phase 1 - \$80,000 - The City has already funded the \$80,000 for the initial phase which will provide a backbone upon which to build-out to provide services to facilities and citizens and reduce reoccurring expenditures by \$16,800 year and prevent additional \$4,800 increase in reoccurring costs. The City is unable to proceed to Phase 2 without BTOP grant.