

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. A(4)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2010

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Pursuing Google Ultra-High Speed Internet

DEPARTMENT: MANAGER'S OFFICE	WORKSESSION: NO
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stewart 918-7314

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board of Aldermen to consider a resolution in support of the Town of Carrboro's participation in an inter-jurisdictional effort to complete a Request for Information (RFI) for consideration as a host site for Google's Ultra-High Speed Internet project.

INFORMATION

In February 2010, Google, Inc. announced plans to launch an experiment to test ultra-high speed broadband networks in one or more trial locations around the country. Google has asked interested communities to provide information through an RFI that will be used by Google to determine where to build the network.

An inter-jurisdictional team has been formed with staff representatives from the Town of Chapel Hill, the Town of Carrboro and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to prepare the RFI, which is due on March 26, 2010. There is a public forum scheduled for March 15, 2010 at 7:00pm in the Chapel Hill Town Hall to receive public comment regarding community interest in the trial and specifically how the community would use the ultra-high speed internet. Comments from the public forum will be forwarded to the inter-jurisdictional team that is preparing the RFI.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

No fiscal impact is anticipated as a result of this resolution. Staff impact will be limited to those members serving on the inter-jurisdictional team to prepare the RFI.

RECOMMENDATION

Town staff recommends that the Board adopt a resolution in support of this effort.