

RESOLUTION No.

Authorize the Office of Cable Communications and Franchise Management, in cooperation with the Portland Development Commission and the Bureau of Technology Services, to develop a citywide Broadband Strategic Plan and report back to Council by June 30, 2011. (Resolution)

WHEREAS, high-speed, accessible and affordable broadband is essential infrastructure for job creation, education, health care, the enhancement of safe and connected communities, civic engagement, government transparency and responsiveness, reduced carbon emissions, and emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, a strategic approach to Broadband will complement the City's Economic Development Strategy, which, among other things, focuses on strengthening four traded-sector industries, including clean technology, active-wear, advanced manufacturing and software, as well as Portland's diverse neighborhood business districts; and

WHEREAS, establishing the City's broadband objectives and initiatives will inform the Portland Plan and create tools to achieve the City's goals for prosperity, health, and equity; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has completed a national plan "for use of broadband infrastructure and services in advancing consumer welfare, civic participation, public safety and homeland security, community development, health care delivery, energy independence and efficiency, education, worker training, private sector investment, entrepreneurial activity, job creation and economic growth, and other national purposes." (National Broadband Plan, FCC, 2010); and local and State governments are involved in efforts to achieve the recommendations of the "National Broadband Plan"; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has established The Oregon Broadband Advisory Council (OBAC) to encourage coordination between existing organizations and sectors that can leverage broadband to their advantage, and the City is represented on this Council; and

WHEREAS, there are critical strategic fiscal, policy, and planning benefits to the City which will arise through coordinating and leveraging on-going and planned efforts related to improving broadband access for citizens and businesses throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City should develop broadband communications infrastructure and connectivity strategies to promote economic development by emphasizing business vitality and job creation, enhance government services, promote sustainability, transportation, health care and regulatory policies; and improve accessibility and responsiveness of government to citizens through connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the City currently has multiple programs and projects proposed or underway in different bureaus and portfolios that involve broadband initiatives and investments that should be coordinated in the most effective manner; and

WHEREAS, a completed long term strategic plan for accomplishing the City's Broadband objectives can guide efforts and investments made throughout the City, both on behalf of City bureaus and with our Local, State, Federal and private sector partners; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Cable Communications and Franchise Management has a long history of facilitating coordinated policy and regulatory leadership on the Council's behalf in the area of Broadband and advanced telecommunications services in the City and the Bureau of Technology Services is a recognized leader in delivering broadband and public safety communications services to City Bureaus and Offices as well as our regional government partners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Office of Cable Communications and Franchise Management is hereby authorized and directed to develop and manage the preparation of a draft City of Portland Broadband Strategic Plan that shall be presented in initial form to the Mayor and Council for review no later than June 30, 2011. The Office of Cable Communications and Franchise Management shall work with other Bureaus and Offices of the City including but not limited to the Portland Development Commission, the Bureau of Technology Services, the Fire Bureau, the Police Bureau, the Public Safety Systems Revitalization Program, the Office of Planning and Sustainability, and Mayor and Council Offices to ensure that a comprehensive, informed and inclusive broadband planning effort is undertaken that emphasizes equitable provision of services, business vitality and job creation, and continues on an ongoing basis.

Adopted by the Council:

Commissioner Amanda Fritz

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland
By

Prepared by: Mary Beth Henry & David C. Olson
Date Prepared: September 15, 2010

Deputy