

Suggested Recommendation to City Council by the Planning Commission for Broadband Pilot

Create Broadband and Wireless Ad-Hoc Committee to review Policy and Outline Goals for Broadband, Technology and Transportation Improvements in R&T Zone as a Technology Pilot Project Area:

Potential Goals and Policy Decisions that need to be met or made:

- Identify what the Broadband needs are for the City government – G2G
 - Connect City Facilities with Fiber (Recommendation of CTC Broadband Study)
 - Evaluate what leased lines the City is paying for from private carriers
 - Determine plan to eliminate all leased lines and create redundancy to wireless system (i.e. wireless should not be the only link between facilities)
 - Poll City Departments on any future City needs of connected G2G
 - Evaluate leasing our dark fiber resources to Seal Beach, Westminster, OCWD, the County (OCPW, OC Flood Control, Vector Control), or Caltrans for any of their needs
- Continued Wireless Attachment Policy - \$2000 versus \$270 for City Owned Street Lights. Evaluate using that money as Enterprise Fund rather than General Fund to continue funding for Broadband expansion (same for dark fiber).
- Dark Fiber Policy – What/Where/How much – set a fee schedule so City can advertise on the open market.
- Dig Once Policy (or Joint Trench as steppingstone) – Currently sitting at Public Works
- Evaluate if City Owned (Community Broadband) Direct Lit Fiber Service or a PON (Passive Optical Network) for Business is feasible in R&T pilot area as economic development tool.
- Evaluate Community WiFi on Public Property
- Evaluate Expansion of Community Broadband Policy to Residential customers adjacent to the Pilot Area
- Identify funding sources – AQMD, OCGo (Measure M2), General Fund, Gas Tax, Revenue Bonds, CBDG Block Grants for getting fiber in the ground. Library or School fiber projects or partnerships with the Community College / School district’s infrastructure upgrades as other potential sources of “Dig Once” opportunities.
- Evaluate using R&T Zone as Intelligent Traffic Management Systems (ITS) testing area. Real-time Traffic light synchronization and monitoring, public safety improvements, and autonomous vehicle testing can all be ancillary sources of fiber optic expansion for broadband resources in the pilot area, in addition to economic development drivers.

Summary: Huntington Beach needs a comprehensive plan and policy direction that staff, and the community can work towards. If our goal is Community Broadband, then we should create a plan to get there. If our goal is to cut IT costs, then we need to identify what those recurring infrastructure costs are. There is a huge economic upside to having a City Owned fiber optic network for businesses (including the hotels) that can service high speed connections and eventually hit our residential neighborhoods to encourage telecommuting (which cuts down on traffic) and startups that require high bandwidth without the need for colocation or offsite datacenters. Bringing in new types of businesses that are high paying and low impact is a primary goal of the R&T Zone.