



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: BARBARA DELGLEIZE, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNET ACCESS PILOT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

As schools have started reopening, distance based learning has been the norm for our public education institutions here in Huntington Beach. While the logistics associated with distance learning are complex, most of our residents have access to high-speed / wireless internet access, which alleviates one of the major challenges associated with having students attend school remotely.

However, for some students in Huntington Beach, distance based learning is made nearly impossible without adequate internet access capabilities. I've been made aware of situations where economically disadvantaged families are challenged by not having the infrastructure necessary for their kids to access Zoom.

While internet access to facilitate distance learning is and should remain a school district responsibility, the stories I've heard have compelled me to request that the City Council consider directing the City Manager to develop an initial internet access pilot program for Huntington Beach students.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend that the City Council direct the City Manager to develop a school internet access pilot program for economically disadvantaged families in Huntington Beach for formal City Council consideration.