

Council Technology Application Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Hayward City Hall

777 B St. Hayward

Conference Room 4A

Hayward, CA 94541

AGENDA

Public Comments: (Note: For matters not otherwise listed on the agenda. The Committee welcomes your comments under this section but is prohibited by State Law from discussing items not listed on the agenda. Your item will be taken under consideration and referred to staff.)

- 1. Minutes of September 27, 2005**
- 2. Council Members' Biographical Information for City's Website**
- 3. Wi-Fi Developments Affecting Municipalities**
- 4. Demonstration of Human Resources Applicant Tracking System (HR Director presentation)**
- 5. Member Comments**

Distribution:

Mayor and City Council	Police Chief
City Manager	Library Director
Acting Assistant City Manager	Technology Services Director
Assistant to City Manager	City Attorney
Daily Review	City Clerk
Fire Chief	Acting Finance Director
Post	

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**Council Technology Application Committee
Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2005**

Members Present: Olden Henson (Chair), Bill Quirk, Bill Ward, Jesus Armas, Perry Carter, Clancy Priest, and Millie Saad.

Others: Larry Arfsten, Robert Bauman, Deanna Bogue, Desi Calzada, and Lloyd Lowe.

I. Public Comment: None.

II. Approval of Minutes

The Committee accepted the minutes of June 15, 2005.

III. Public Safety Radio Communication Report

Clancy Priest presented an overview of the current Public Safety Radio System, installed in 1984, and recommendations on addressing short and long-term system requirements.

Phase I will be a limited overhaul of the current radio system that will prolong its use for another five years. Phase II is a new expanded system that will relate to a regional network at the highest level of interoperability.

Councilmembers asked about cost and the timeline. Phase I will cost about \$1.6 million and will take one year to implement. There is not enough information available about the future regional system to estimate the cost and timeline.

Councilmembers requested that staff prepares a 3 - 5 year financing plan, and ideas on how to address the protocol issues related to a shared radio system.

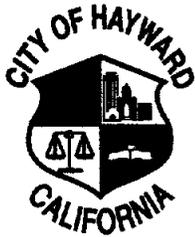
IV. Request by NextG Network, Inc.

Clancy Priest presented the staff recommendation to enter into an agreement with NextG Networks, Inc. for their use of the City right-of-way and street poles for placement of telecommunications equipment. NextG has agreed to pay the City a \$300 annual fee for every City-owned street light used, and to provide the City with a one gigabit wavelength of capacity in their fiber optic connection network for the City's own use at no cost.

Councilmember Quirk suggested a use in filling in the telecommunication gaps in hill neighborhoods. Councilmember Ward suggested that an overall identification of areas with limited service be done and included in negotiations with NextG. Councilmember Henson suggested that enhanced service around the Hayward Airport be considered as well.

VI. Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be Wednesday, December 21, 2005.



**CITY OF HAYWARD
STAFF REPORT**

AGENDA DATE 3/15/06
AGENDA ITEM _____

TO: Council Technology Application Committee
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: WiFi Developments Affecting Municipalities

Background:

Wireless Fidelity (WiFi) is an inexpensive, short range, line-of-sight, broadband wireless technology that uses the same unregulated radio frequencies as microwave ovens and cordless phones. The primary use of WiFi technology is to provide wireless access to the Internet and WiFi connectivity is available in many locations. The sight of someone accessing the Internet in a local coffee shop with their laptop computer has become an all too common occurrence. However, the deployment of WiFi on a broad scale is relatively recent and both private and public entities are providing WiFi service. In some cases the user pays a fee and in other instances, the service is free.

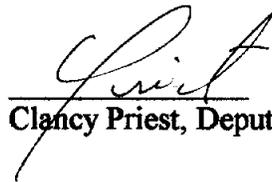
From both a private and public provider perspective WiFi is a developing area. In particular, government is addressing several important public policy issues such as access, competition with private providers and cost. Generally, private providers wish to provide the service for a fee. Many cities see Internet access (via WiFi) as a basic City service and are mindful that not all can afford to pay for WiFi access. Currently, private companies are approaching cities seeking franchise or other agreements to provide WiFi service, including the City of Hayward. In brief, private providers are seeking agreements allowing them to place antennas and other equipment on light poles and various public facilities to create a WiFi network. On the other hand, some cities have opted to provide WiFi service through a City owned and operated WiFi system. As the Committee is aware, Hayward offers free WiFi service in the Downtown area through a City owned and operated system. The area covered is limited, however, and at this time there are no plans to expand the City system.

Given the interest expressed by private companies to install and operate WiFi networks staff believes that there is an opportunity for the City to expand WiFi coverage in Hayward. More specifically, Hayward has been contacted by a WiFi provider, MetroFi, which is currently installing WiFi networks in several Bay Area cities. MetroFi, a Mountain View based company, most recently kicked off a six month pilot project in Concord. The project will establish a one mile square WiFi zone in the downtown area that will allow anyone with a wireless-enabled computer to access the Internet for free. If the pilot program is successful, Concord will look to expand the service city-wide. While access to the Internet is free, the Concord model provides for advertising space on the users' computer. For example, when a user logs on to the Internet through the Concord WiFi system, a one inch banner with advertising is displayed at the top of

the users computer screen. The company sells this space, generating advertising revenue, which allows it to provide access to the Internet for free.

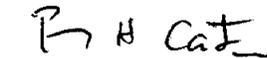
At this point, staff is recommending that the City contact MetroFi and request that the Company make a proposal to Hayward to provide a city-wide WiFi zone. While it is not possible to predict exactly what MetroFi might propose, staff is recommending the goal of free Internet access on a city-wide basis as a minimum. Once MetroFi responds to the City, then staff can evaluate the proposal and report back to the Committee, and if appropriate, recommend a course of action.

Prepared by:



Clancy Priest, Deputy City Manager, Technology Services Director

Recommended by:



Perry H. Carter, Acting Assistant City Manager

Approved by:



Jesús Armas, City Manager