

## **Gigabit Fiber Initiative- Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q: What is the Greensboro City Fiber Network?**

**A:** A fiber optic network built within the City to address the telecommunications needs of the City. There are approximately 200 Miles of fiber installed throughout the City.

### **Q: Why was this network built?**

**A:** The fiber network was built to interconnect the 70 plus buildings, 500 traffic signals, 3,000 users and more than 2800 workstations used by City of Greensboro employees. The network is a foundation which allows the City to improve services unilaterally throughout the community.

### **Q: Is there Extra capacity in the City wide fiber network?**

**A:** Yes, the City believes it has excess fiber capacity across many of the routes of the fiber. The quantities will vary based on the number of City facilities along any given route but we believe that sufficient capacity exists that could enhance many community initiatives.

### **Q: Are there other options for using the fiber network outside of serving the City buildings?**

**A:** Yes, Other communities who have found themselves in similar situations have used excess capacity to support quality of life and community enhancements by making excess fiber available to entities within the community. Such initiatives include but are not limited to, education, healthcare, economic development and Broadband expansion.

### **Q: How does this work?**

**A:** The excess capacity in the fiber network can be made available to viable entities to use or provide services to support the citizens and businesses within the City. Entities such as those mentioned above can use the fiber to enhance services they provide to the community.

### **Q: What are the benefits of allowing others to use the fiber network?**

**A:** The fiber network offers significant benefits to the City including:

- Establishing collaborative opportunities between the public and private sectors
- The fiber can be used to draw technology companies into the City
- The fiber can be used to enhance educational opportunities between k-12, as well as higher educational entities
- The fiber will enhance healthcare programs while providing a foundation to lower costs
- The fiber will establish Greensboro as a globally competitive community with globally competitive broadband infrastructure.

### **Q: How would the fiber network be used to support economic development and job creation?**

**A:** Many hi-tech corporations are looking for dark fiber with diversity before they will consider relocating to an area. The City has several locations that are attractive to technology based companies, having the fiber at or in close proximity to these locations and making it available, would allow the City to market these locations as globally competitive with dark fiber access.

**Q: Will this compete with providers already offering services in the City?**

**A:** No the City would only offer dark fiber capacity and not lit services. The providers in the City would continue to provide lit services or could use the City fiber to provide services to the business community.

**Q: How would this impact the proposed Gigabit project in the City?**

**A:** Some of the fiber backbone could be used as a foundation to launch the Gigabit project or could be used to augment the capacity needed by those that would participate in the project.

**Q: How could the fiber be used to expand Broadband with the City?**

**A:** It is envisioned that the fiber could be used to incentivize service providers to offer high capacity low cost services throughout the City. Wireless and or wire based services could be supported.