



LMCC

LAKE MINNETONKA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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April 27, 2009

DEEPHAVEN To: Lake Minnetonka Communication Commission Member Cities,
EXCELSIOR Mayors, City Council Members, City Administrators and LMCC
Commissioners

GREENWOOD From: Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission

INDEPENDENCE Subject: LMCC to apply for Broadband Stimulus Grant

LONG LAKE

Over the past year, a committee of the LMCC has been studying how high-speed broadband communications could be made available to all residences, businesses, and governmental entities within the seventeen member cities. In January, the committee recommended to the LMCC that a project to develop plans for fiber optic based broadband service be undertaken. This recommendation was well received, but the committee was asked to hold on moving forward for two months.

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BEACH

Since January, the federal government has announced that \$7.2 billion will be made available to support the sort of broadband initiative that the LMCC has been studying. At its April 23rd Executive Committee Meeting, the LMCC Executive Committee discussed a proposal from Lookout Point Communications in which Lookout Point would conduct the research, create a high-level design and prepare pro-forma financials necessary for the LMCC to apply for a stimulus grant. The Executive Committee agreed to retain Lookout Point and to pay \$15,000 out of LMCC funds for its services.

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No contribution from LMCC member cities is being solicited for this grant application process. The LMCC funds being spent to apply are from the LMCC's franchise fee revenues and no tax dollars are involved.

SHOREWOOD

SPRING PARK

The stimulus grant process is still being developed by the federal government. Enough is known now to proceed with obtaining the information needed prior to actually writing the grant application. It's expected that application rules will be available for the first round of grants in early June and that there will be sixty days for applications to be submitted. Therefore, it's important to get the application pre-writing work started now.

TONKA BAY

VICTORIA

WOODLAND

Lookout Point staff and/or LMCC staff will need information about member cities and will be contacting city administrators. The information requested should be readily

available (such as number of miles of street in the city). So, placing a priority on supplying the information should not be a hardship to the city staffs.

The prime contact at Lookout Point is Eric Lampland. Please offer him your cooperation when he contacts your city.

I realize that the stimulus program and fiber optic-based broadband are very complicated subjects and that there will be lots of questions. Due to the short time available prior to submitting the grant application, it would be difficult to schedule meetings with all the member cities. So, I invite the cities to direct questions to me and meetings can be scheduled as-needed.

The January Executive Committee discussion does provide some information and is available on the Internet at:
<http://windowsmedia.alphameetings.com/LMCC/012009lmcc.wmv>. Fast forward to the 59 minute point to view the broadband discussion.

Sincerely,



Sally Koenecke
Executive Director
Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission