

CREATING A WIRELESS BROADBAND COMMUNITY

A broadband wireless community network is a single, common network that everyone can use. A variety of devices such as cell phones, lap top computers and PDA's can be used to access the network.

High speed mobile data services can revolutionize emergency response. Police can gather critical information about a location without having to enter a situation blindly. They can access criminal data bases. Fire departments can access building plans and Hazmat systems in route to an incident. Paramedics and ambulance crews can transmit critical patient data to hospitals and clinics before they arrive. Hospitals and doctors can provide remote health care.

County government can use the network to deliver public information and on-line services to its citizens. Workers such as building inspectors, environmental inspectors and Service Authority inspectors would be more mobile and able to stay in the field longer.

The County can foster economic development and provide an image of a technologically advanced, business-friendly community through the deployment of the network. Local businesses can enjoy higher customer traffic through direct links with shoppers. Corporate workers can be more mobile. Education and training can be enhanced through distance learning. The network could enhance experiences for tourists, business travelers and other visitors.

Even though the County budget is tight, funding for a wireless broadband network is available from Federal agencies through grants and guaranteed loans. Companies such as Motorola will partner with localities to design, deploy, own and operate a wireless network that can connect government agencies and extend broadband connectivity to commercial customers, residents and visitors.

Through the development of a Wireless Broadband Community we can build the digital infrastructure of the future.

Jack Fraley