

# Digital Inclusion Coalition's Recommendations for the Wireless Minneapolis Community Benefits Agreement

## Executive Summary

Community members met regularly at open round table meetings sponsored by the Community Computer Access Network and the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, supported by contributions of the Minneapolis Foundation's MSNet Fund.

The focus was "Closing the Digital Divide", recommending a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) to be negotiated by the City of Minneapolis with the Wireless Minneapolis Vendor so that:

**"All residents, communities and neighborhoods of Minneapolis will receive equal benefit from this public-private partnership."**

The meetings resulted in recommendations that 7% of the Vendor's revenues be contributed to support community benefits projects via an intermediary organization or organizations under advisement of a community board. These revenues are to be directed to initiatives in Minneapolis that will address the Digital Divide, including those that:

- Subsidize Internet access and needed home hardware for low-income residents
- Provide free or subsidized service to non-profits, schools, libraries and other agencies that provide Internet access to the public and teach computer skills
- Provide support for Community Technology Centers (CTCs) and programs providing volunteers for CTCs
- Support existing and new programs and initiatives to teach computer skills in underserved communities
- Support training and tools that help communities develop their own relevant, local online content

Additionally, the Vendor will:

- Design the delivery system for Wireless Minneapolis to ensure equal access and benefit for everyone in Minneapolis
- Donate and maintain server space for community projects
- Display prominently community benefits links on the log-in page
- Protect the privacy of all users engaged in legal usage
- Adhere to network neutrality

Also recommended, the City of Minneapolis should:

- Support development of relevant, local content
- Use this network and the benefits derived from the Digital Inclusion Fund to increase Internet use for all residents of Minneapolis to receive information from and engage with the City government
- Advocate for free, ubiquitous Internet access for all residents and businesses