



CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**

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**CITY OF PORTLAND RESPONSE TO TODAY'S GOOGLE ANNOUNCEMENT  
ON SELECTION OF KANSAS CITY, KS FOR INITIAL BROADBAND PILOT**

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*Portland Broadband Strategic Plan and other City broadband initiatives will continue*

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Google announced today <http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2011/03/ultra-high-speed-broadband-is-coming-to.html> / the selection of Kansas City, Kansas as the initial city chosen by Google for construction of an ultra high speed, open access fiber broadband system. The City of Portland was one of more than 1,000 cities to respond to Google's RFI (announced February, 2010) encouraging Google to build here. On behalf of the City Council, Commissioner Dan Saltzman emphasized that the City is already moving forward with multiple broadband initiatives, including the development of a Citywide Broadband Strategic Plan, as authorized by the City Council in September, 2010. The Broadband Strategic Plan is currently being developed by an interagency and community team for Council review later this year.

In the wake of Google's announcement today, Commissioner Dan Saltzman released the following joint statement on behalf of the Mayor and City Council:

*"We wholeheartedly thank all of the gifted citizen volunteers, businesses, and dedicated members of Portland's creative, high tech and social networking communities for helping us develop a response to Google last year that was uniquely "Portland" in both letter and spirit. The City's response to Google truly brought everyone together to focus on crucial broadband issues in support of this project. While we are disappointed that Portland was not selected by Google, the importance of affordable and accessible broadband to job growth and economic development in our city remains."*

*"We are already moving forward with the broadband strategic planning effort authorized by the City Council last year, and we will continue to develop ways in which the City can support broadband projects here, knowing that high speed affordable fiber broadband to every home and business represents basic infrastructure for Portland in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It means jobs, education, health care, and access to services across the digital divide---all key elements of a sustainable city. We remain committed to the broadband future Portland wants and needs."*



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## CURRENT CITY OF PORTLAND BROADBAND INITIATIVES (selected)

**Portland Broadband Strategic Plan** – As directed by the City Council in September 2010, City Bureaus working across portfolios and with community partners will prepare for public and Council review a citywide Broadband Strategic Plan, to be presented to the City Council by June, 2011. A Council resolution chartering the Citywide Broadband Strategic Planning effort, updated and refreshed with the energy and know-how developed in the City and community response to the Google RFI, was introduced by Commissioner Fritz and unanimously adopted by the City Council on September 22, 2010. The broadband planning resolution and additional resources on the Broadband Plan are available linked on this web page: <http://www.portlandonline.com/cable/index.cfm?c=54013>

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