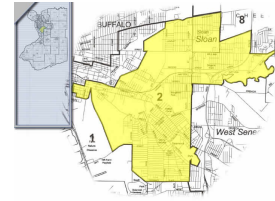




County of Erie
Timothy M. Kennedy
Erie County Legislator, District 2



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KENNEDY SPEARHEADS RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GOOGLE BROADBAND TESTING IN ERIE COUNTY

Buffalo, NY – The Erie County Legislature voted on Feb. 25th to approve a resolution spearheaded by Legislator Kennedy and sponsored by the Legislature to support the designation of Erie County as a test community for Google’s new broadband fiber ultra high speed network. This fiber optic trial would deliver internet speeds at more than 100 times faster than most currently accessible, with 1 gigabit per second connections to the internet for residents of Erie County.

“I am pleased to announce that the unanimous support of the Erie County Legislature can be counted on in bringing innovative, technological improvements to Western New Yorkers,” stated Legislator Kennedy.

Google has put out a Request for Information (RFI) from communities with a population cap between 50,000 to 500,000 to test this new network, specifically asking local government agencies to provide the necessary information that would determine how collaboration could develop, including local community support and other relevant factors. The resolution sponsored by the Legislature today calls for this RFI to be completed by the appropriate entities within County government.

Google will test ways to build fiber networks, work with community resources, and develop new deployment techniques, meanwhile working in conjunction with service providers such as Verizon and Time Warner to establish an open and transparent network.

“If Erie County was to be designated as a trial location for Google’s new fiber optic high-speed network, it would bring economic growth to the region and improve our ability to attract new businesses and opportunities. Most importantly, this initiative could also greatly benefit small businesses already here in Western New York.”

The response deadline for the RFI is March 26, 2010.

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