

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

WORKSHOP, 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

1. **Broadband Update:** Staff will update the City Council on the broadband project and ask for further input regarding the preferred Public Private Partnership structure and whether to contract to have a statistically valid broadband interest survey completed. [Attachment](#)
2. **Committee and Board Reports**
3. **Other Business**



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Memorandum

TO: Mayor Norris and City Council
FROM: Greg Caton, City Manager
Tim Moore, Deputy City Manager
DATE: July 13, 2016
SUBJECT: Broadband

At a March 14, 2016 Workshop Council articulated a number of goals for the broadband project that included a system that passes by all homes & businesses (Ubiquitous), which has equal upload and download speeds (Symmetrical) and provides a very high speed broadband service (Gigabit) for all residences and businesses at Google-like pricing. An addendum to the original Request for Proposals was issued and sent to the original respondents, which asked that the submitted proposals be modified to reflect the Council's economic development goals.

The various ownership models proposed by respondents were presented at an Executive Session held on May 23, 2016. City Council then directed staff and the City's consultant, NEOConnect, to enter into contract negotiations with a respondent based on a model similar to Westminster, Maryland. The elements of this model included:

- City builds the dark fiber network that passes every home and business in the City (e.g., a complete overbuild of existing networks)
- City finances and owns the network
- A contracted Network Operator provides the electronics to light the network, the resources to operate the network and to provide Internet services to end customers.

Staff will provide City Council with an update on contract negotiations in the Executive Session scheduled for July 18th.

In the workshop, Council will be asked to provide further input regarding:

- the preferred Public Private Partnership structure
- whether to contract to have a statistically valid broadband interest survey completed

The next steps for this project include:

- establishing an enterprise fund
- hiring staff to support the project
- retain a consultant to begin the design of the system