

Draft Broadband Policy Resolution

It is recommended that the City Council adopt policies to expand and improve broadband facilities in the City of Gonzales and direct staff to return on or before _____, 2014 with recommended specific actions to implement these policies, as follows:

1. Draft an ordinance based on the San Francisco "dig once" model for the City. (reference: CCSF).
2. Require the installation of additional publicly owned conduit in the public right of way when a street opening or encumbrance permit is processed on behalf of any telecommunications provider, utility service provider or communications carrier. (reference: CCBC model policy bank).
3. Require the incorporation of publicly owned conduit in the design phase of new street, sidewalk, or other related transportation projects and in publicly funded capital improvement projects. Costs for construction and materials of conduit network in a new transportation project shall be factored into overall cost of said project and . (reference: Mono County, Humboldt County, Santa Cruz County).
4. Establish a dedicated revenue account to be funded through leases or rents of City property, including publicly owned conduit, for the purpose of communications infrastructure, and to be made available for construction and maintenance of public owned conduit. Prospectively work with utility and telecommunication companies to facilitate private sector financial participation in publicly owned conduit construction and maintenance. (reference: Mono, Santa Cruz County).
5. Finalize conduit specifications in collaboration with Public Works, other jurisdictions in Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties, and broadband providers. (reference: Santa Cruz County conduit specification draft).
6. Work with the City Attorney and Public Works to establish master lease agreements that allow the installation of broadband infrastructure on utility poles, light standards and City assets. (reference: Santa Cruz County).
7. Allow the installation of equipment within public right of ways, subject only to "time, place and manner" of access, through the City's encroachment permit process. (reference: Santa Cruz County).
8. Streamline the application process for encroachment permits and ensure fees are based on actual costs. (reference: Santa Cruz County)
9. Digitally collect and disseminate information on proposed extensions to the City's communications and broadband infrastructure. (reference: CCBC model policy bank).
10. Adopt a statement of strategic support for broadband as a driver of economic development. (reference: CCBC model policy bank).

Respectfully submitted,