



Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association
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Mr. Paul Ostrow, Council Member First Ward
City of Minneapolis
350 South 5th Street
Room 307
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Council Member Ostrow,

After considerable discussion, it is the opinion of the HNIA Board of Directors that the future ownership structure of a citywide high-speed information system is a critical issue. It is our understanding that the City Council currently favors a plan for a privately owned citywide wireless network. We hope that there is no final decision on this matter until there can be a complete review of all options. We feel that there has been little if any opportunity for public education and public input on the matter. All important action plans, particularly ones pertaining to citywide infrastructure, should have an open and robust public vetting. We write to urge you to stop the implementation of and commitment to a privately owned network until the above suggestions are taken. The Board finds it compelling that other cities have determined that broadband is infrastructure and should be publicly owned. Many cities have successfully implemented publicly owned information infrastructure. All options in which public ownership can manifest should be explored, with an eye toward the City ending up in the best position to leverage a positive outcome for the public good.

As always thank you for your time and attention,

P. Vince Morey, President
The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association Board of Directors