



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **City of Falls Church Applies for Google Fiber for Communities Program**

The City of Falls Church has submitted an application to Google's Fiber for Communities program, aimed at bringing higher-speed broadband service to one or more selected U.S. communities. "Our City is an ideal and manageable location for Google to demonstrate its new network," said David Tarter, chairman of the Falls Church Economic Development Authority. "We have a highly educated population with strong federal government employment ties that would make great use of this opportunity."

Falls Church is a 2.2 square-mile independent City of 11,200 known for its outstanding public school system and tree covered residential neighborhoods. Located inside the Capital Beltway, the City in recent years has experienced a surge of mixed use, infill development bringing higher density housing options, commercial and office activity to an area first settled by colonists in 1699.

"The City has put forward a strong proposal to be at the leading edge of the roll-out of this new platform so that our growing business community will have the tools they need to compete effectively in the global marketplace," City Manager Wyatt Shields stated. Shields noted that Falls Church is already among the best connected cable and wireless broadband communities in the nation.

Andy Rankin, president of Falls Church-based Viget Labs, also stressed the business benefits of a faster fiber network: "As a technology company that works strictly in the Internet industry we can already imagine some of the new applications that could be implemented in a place with ultra-high-speed data access."

From his perspective as a City resident, Rankin added: "Many people in our community already take advantage of tele-commuting as a way to reduce traffic and protect the environment. Having access to Google's fiber network would greatly improve that experience."

For more information about the City's application contact the Falls Church Economic Development Office at 703-248-5491 (TTY 711) or [rickgoff@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:rickgoff@fallschurchva.gov).

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