

Submitted Date: 8/18/2009 11:21:05 AM	Easygrants ID: 1445
Funding Opportunity: Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Broadband Adoption	Applicant Organization: City of Boston
Task: Submit Application - Non-Infrastructure Programs	Applicant Name: Donna Sorgi

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A. General Application Information

1. Applicant Information		
1-A. Name, Address, and Federal ID for Applicant		
i. Legal Name:	City of Boston	
ii. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	046001380	
Street 1:	One City Hall Plaza	
Street 2:	Room 615	
City:	Boston	
County:	Suffolk	
State:	MA	
Country	United States	
Zip/Postal Code:	02201	

1-B. Name and Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:		
Prefix:		
First Name:	Donna	
Middle Name:		
Last Name:	Sorgi	
Suffix:		
Telephone Number:	617-635-4097	
Fax Number:		
Email:	Donna.Sorgi@cityofboston.gov	
Title:	Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel	

1-C. Other Required Identification Number	rs			
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i. Organizational DUNS:	958165953
ii. CCR # (CAGE):	27BN9
iii. Funding Opportunity Number:	2
iv. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	BTOP CFDA Number: 11.557 BTOP CFDA Title: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

#### 1-D. Organization Classification

Local, State, or Other Government Entity

#### 1-E. Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation

Is the **Applicant** Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? **No** 

Federal debt delinquency Explanation:

#### 1-F. Congressional Districts of:

Applicant: Massachusetts - 8

Program/Project	
Massachusetts - 8	
Massachusetts - 9	
i	

#### 2. Project Title and Project Description

- 2-A. Project Title: City of Boston Public Computing Centers (BPCC)
- 2-B. Project Description: BPCC is a coordinated project among three community anchors to provide upgraded and expanded hardware, software, and public computing training in 26 public libraries, 11



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public housing developments, and 16 Centers for Youth and Families that have broadband connectivity but are at capacity and struggling to serve constituent needs. The project will increase training for sustainability.

#### 3. Project Type

Classify the particular project type for which you are seeking federal funding.

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Project ID: 2

#### 4. Application ID for Multiple Submissions for Identified Service Areas

The City of Boston also will submit a BTOP Infrastructure grant to fund the Boston Broadband Network, application number 641; and the BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption, application number 1804.

#### 5. Estimated Funding (\$):

Estimated Funding	(\$):
Federal	1,744,084
Applicant	436,021
State	
Local	
Other	*
Program Income	
Total	2,180,105

## **B.** Eligibility Factors

#### 6. Eligibility Factors.

The application must be completed fully, and all required supplemental documentation must be



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attached.

Applicants must commit to substantially completing their Project (as defined in the NOFA) within two years of the award date, and completing the Project within three years of the award date.

Applicants must credibly demonstrate that their Project advances at least one of the five statutory purposes for BTOP.

Applicants must demonstrate that but for Federal funding they would not have been able to complete their project during the grant period.

The budget for the project must be reasonable and all costs must be eligible.

**6-d.** Applicant is providing matching funds of at least 20 percent towards to the total eligible project costs or is requesting a waiver of the matching requirments. **Yes** 

**Matching Fund Waiver Request Explanation** 

## C. Executive Summary

#### 7. Executive Summary of Overall Proposal:

a. Statement of Problem With Regard to Improving Broadband Service Adoption Rates: High functioning public computing centers (PCCs) are an essential element of Boston's overall plan to effectively address digital inclusion for the City's most vulnerable families. (See Boston's other 2 BTOPS grants for other digital inclusion components.) For the most vulnerable residents and all of Boston's population, the demand for public computing and training has far exceeded the City's ability to meet the need. 3 citywide PCCs operate 66 centers serving a City of 600,000. Most are in need of equipment upgrades and expanded



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training. Boston's project will enable more computers, better software and substantially upgraded training and programming. An expanded base of residents will become comfortable with and then adopt and utilize broadband to improve their lives.

b. Overall Approach/How Grant Will Increase Broadband Adoption: The City's 3 partners who operate the 66 centers are established community anchor organizations which provide multiple services to constituents including public computing. PCCs are embedded in multiservice organizations providing ideal institutional setting for reaching a large audience of potential broadband adopters. These partners are: The Boston Public Library (BPL) and its 25 neighborhood branches; Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF), Boston's largest youth and human service agency serving over 90,000 residents annually in 46 facilities including 29 PCCs; and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) operating 62 public housing sites, serving 11,500 households, with 11 computer labs. With more and better computers and training, broadband education will become a more robust program offering. The needs and the grant-enabled solutions to increase broadband adoption: In 2008, BPL had twice as many applicants as available seats in the computer basics program, offered at only one of the 25 branch libraries due to funding constraints. Classes are fully enrolled up to 5 months in advance. With grant funding, waiting lists will be eliminated or much smaller. Training will occur weekly at all 25 branches and daily at the Library Headquarters. BCYF currently has 29 computer labs in its 46 facilities. More than half have outdated equipment and BCYF's 10 trainers themselves need additional training. With grant funding, 16 labs will have new hardware and software and much improved training ability. BHA currently has 11 computer lab sites with only 41 functioning computers, operating in 11 sites serving 6,273 households. 4 labs lack functioning equipment. The other 7 are operating but with very old hardware and software and most have less than 10 computers. With BTOPs funding, all 11 centers will be open with 10 computers each, almost triple the current number. While this is still a small number of computers to service all these households, it is a huge improvement and is a sustainable level of growth for BHA. Boston's proposal has united these 3 city organizations in joint planning to maximize use of all computing centers by publishing each others' programs and hours of operation to reach the largest possible number of residents. This coordination will result in 66 expanded computing centers operating at many hours of the days, nights and weekends, with many more public computing/program hours.

c. Areas served/population/demographics/estimated number of potential users in newly upgraded centers: Boston's 66 PCCs serve the entire city, with the substantial majority in the



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lowest income, majority minority neighborhoods, which is the proposed funded service area (PFSA) for Boston's Infrastructure grant. A very small % of the 117,506 households in the PFSA have adopted broadband at home making PCCs their only broadband access. Household incomes in this area are very low. The median household income in the PFSA is only \$34,626. This area includes residents in 11,000 units of public housing where the median income is \$9,606. All households in the PFSA are at or below Boston's median of \$46,362 which is already lower than MA and US medians of \$61,785 and \$50,007. In a high cost city such as Boston, these very low medians are indicative of true household financial distress and vulnerability where internet access and understanding can have significant positive impact to improve the life circumstances of the most vulnerable residents. For further evidence of the financial distress of residents in the PFSA see Q8 b in Infrastructure Grant. Sharon Gillett. who will soon become the Chief of the FCC's Wireline Bureau, told the Boston Globe in 2007 that Boston's Broadband Task Force on which she served found that 80% of Boston public school children had no broadband in their homes because: "It's not an access issue, it's an affordability issue." If Boston's Infrastructure grant is successful, the proposed network will solve the affordability issue, Boston's PCC grant will provide a location for residents to get basic training. This will extend into homes as residents take advantage of the home computers and innovative adoption training that through Boston's Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant. With all three grants funded, Boston will have the necessary components to close the digital divide. The current # of public computing center users is 11,045. This is expected to increase to 15.555, a 40% increase, in the newly funded centers during the 2 year grant period with the clear growth potential as residents become familiar with this expanded and refurbished resource and the associated training and programming. (See answer to Q 17 for detail.)

d.e.f. Qualifications of Applicants/Jobs to be saved or Created/Overall Cost of Project: Please see answer to (a) above, Qs 24 and 27 for qualifications. Total project cost is \$2,180,105m, offset by the City cash match of \$436,021 in BTOP grant request for \$1,744,084.

## D. Project Purpose

**Project Purpose: Recovery Act & BTOP Objectives** 

### 8. Project Purpose



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- a. The Significance of Problem: Boston is unable to meet the escalating demands of its residents for public computing facilities and training. The need is acute, particularly among Boston's most vulnerable citizens with little home access to the internet. Many of the 66 public computing centers currently operated by the Boston Public Library (BPL), the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) and the Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) have insufficient and/or outdated hardware and software and lack sufficient training capacity. The BHA has 11 computer labs with only 41 outdated computers to service over 6000 households. The computer labs at the BHA are staffed primarily by resident volunteers who need training. The BCYF has 29 computer labs but half have very old hardware and software. Its 10 Computer Instructors service the 29 Labs, supplemented by Youth Workers and Staff Assistants, all of whom need need additional training. The BPL Central Library and 25 branches have high speed connectivity but the public computing stations are at capacity and need to be upgraded and increased. Some branches lack a dedicated space for public computing necessitating mobile carts with laptops to enable training and public use. Only one BPL facility currently offers computer training, limited to 3 two hour sessions per week.
- b. How Solution Is Effective/Replicable: Boston's solution unites these three leading community anchors in a coordinated effort to make Boston a model city for 21st century urban public computing. All three have worked closely to prepare this application to insure that they exploit joint capabilities to supply first rate public computer sites, equipped with enough high quality hardware and software and open for public access and training during a wide array of hours, days, nights and weekends, directing their constituents to other sites when they are closed. All 26 BPL locations are broadband enabled via the City's existing fiber. With a successful grant, the BPL will supplement its current public computer inventory of 427 with 250 state of the art laptops for the 25 branch libraries and 30 workstations for Central and one branch, new software, presentation systems and classroom furniture, available to the public during all business hours when not being utilized for public training sessions. Public computing sessions and hours will more than double. Public training sessions will be conducted at all 25 neighborhood branches at least once a week and at the Headquarters at least once a day in a state of the art, dedicated training facility to be established there. This facility will offer all levels of tech training from basic computing to intermediate and advanced programs supporting information literacy, information fluency and information management, with 20 people/class. Community based organizations and local training programs will have access to the Training Room for more specialized computing instruction. If the City's Infrastructure grant is successful, Boston will deploy high speed connections to the City fiber



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ring to public housing sites. This broadband connection will enable a particular branch library located in one of the sites to be re-outfitted as a tech center with more computers and classes, adding additional computing capacity to supplement the Tenants Organization PCC. BPL also will have a project manager to insure planning, implementation and accounting of its programs and to develop staffing and curriculum models that can be sustained by current library staff. The BPL project manager will team with the BCYF trainers and the Director of Technology Goes Home (TGH) (see Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant proposal) to provide specialized training for Library, BCYF and BHA staff to enable all these computer center personnel to utilize TGH curriculum to offer real broadband adoption training at their sites. BHA will utilize grant funding to activate each of the 11 Computer Labs with 10 new computer workstations, software and other related equipment. BCYF will equip its centers with between 10 and 20 workstations and software. These refurbished labs will reach a significant population of broadband adopters. Additionally, wireless nodes will propagate the high speed City fiber connection already in each BCYF Center, insuring hi speed connections to all the BCYF public computers.

c. and d. The Proposed Solution Advances BTOPS Purposes/Works in Concert with Boston's other BTOPs Grants: Boston's PCC proposal advances three BTOP purposes: it significantly improves broadband access and training to consumers in the underserved area of Boston. 47 of the 66 Public Computing Centers are in the PFSA in Boston's Infrastructure Grant which meets the NOFA definition of underserved; it provides broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment and support to vulnerable populations and to the 3 community anchor/public computing organizations; it will stimulate demand for broadband among this vulnerable population. BPL, BCYF and BHA have much larger demand for public computing and training than they can meet. With fully equipped computing centers, more public demand and use is expected and will be met. The broadband adoption goals of BTOPs will be met most completely if Boston's other two grants also are funded. The Infrastructure grant will provide free broadband connection into the homes of Boston's most vulnerable citizens, letting those who utilize Public Computing Center training extend that broadband adoption into their homes as they acquire computers. The Sustainable Broadband Proposal will provide innovative broadband adoption programming and netbook computers to help Boston's most vulnerable citizens understand the life-relevance of broadband, access broadband at home and utilize it to improve their lives. All three grants work in concert to effectively address digital inclusion for Boston's most vulnerable citizens.



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### 9. Recovery Act and Other Governmental Collaboration.

The City of Boston's Public Computing Center proposal will support and leverage resources from Boston's Infrastructure grant that will fund Boston's Broadband Network, as well as the City's Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant. All three grants are components of the City's comprehensive approach to digital inclusion for Boston's lowest income neighborhoods. The City of Boston's Management Information Systems (MIS), the Boston Public Libraries, Boston Public Schools, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, the Boston Housing Authority, the Timothy Smith Network, and the Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Services have formed a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary collaboration to ensure that the three NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grants are complementary and enhance existing services. For example, the sustainable broadband grant will fund a program for on-line and job readiness skills for unemployed and dislocated workers, focused on those residents in disadvantaged neighborhoods without access to other computer services. In this way, Boston's Sustainable grant will leverage the city's recovery allocations for job training through the Department of Labor's Workforce Investment Act. The City also is using recovery act capital funding to modernize many of the public housing facilities that that will benefit the public computing centers located in public housing. The City's proposed Broadband Network will provide residents of public housing with in-home broadband connections which represents a further modernization of those housing facilities. Infrastructure funding will also connect Public Housing sites with the city's existing fiber network by high speed broadband connections that will backhaul the broadband traffic from the households in these sites and improve the efficiency and reducing the costs of public housing management. Recovery act funding through the COPS and Byrne grant has preserved jobs that employ people who will benefit from investments in broadband, including keeping more police on Boston's streets. Those police will further benefit from Boston's Infrastructure grant since Boston's Broadband Network will provide public safety "hot spots" so police can access crime fighting data in the field.

#### 10. Enhanced Services for Health Care Delivery, Education, and Children

Boston's PCCs are operated by the Boston Public Library (BPL), the Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), multi-service community anchor organizations whose core missions include supporting and assisting in the education, health and welfare of the children, adults and seniors they service each day. This insures that a grant to Boston will do far more than make computers and training available to a



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narrowly targeted public seeking computer access alone. The impact of the Boston PCC Grant will be magnified by providing a technology tool embedded in the programming residents seek in these multi-service centers. PCCs embedded in multiservice centers provides a model for how to maximize the value of public computing grants to benefit health, education and children replicable by other cities. Examples follow:

BPL constituents are students, researchers, job-seekers, new citizens, and seniors all seeking help locating a wide array of information including education, health and social services. Traditionally, the library is the anchor where literacy and fluency have been fostered and enhanced, skills essential for full on-line engagement. In the Information Age generally, and in this economy specifically, this role is even more critical. With grant-funded expansion of computer equipment and staff training, the BPL will be greatly helped in meeting these needs of library users. The 26 branches offer an after school homework assistance program. This program is heavily utilized by students but suffers from deeply inadequate supply of computers for staff to use to help children complete assignments and research projects on line. The grant will solve that key program problem with upgraded branch hardware and software. The Dudley Literacy Center branch is a key adult education facility that will be directly impacted by the better equipment and training, greatly enhancing its effectiveness in literacy training and serving as a model for other library branches.

The BCYF operates 29 computer sites with heaviest presence in Boston's lowest income neighborhoods. This grant will greatly enhance BCYF's technology programs at those sites for pre school/after school programs for ages5-13; job readiness/ enrichment programs, ages14-18; workforce development/ alternative education/ ESOL/GED prep ages 16-24; gang intervention/conflict resolution, ages 14-24. Seniors and adults will have much easier access to computers and the staff assistance to locate on line the health, social services, education and job related services they need.

BHA's 11 computer labs also will experience great program benefits. Programs offered for adults such as workforce development, ESOL, ABE and GED classes, after school education programs, health promotion services and programs in collaboration with neighborhood Health Centers will be greatly benefited by new computer equipment and software.

#### 11. Small and Disadvantaged Business Involvement

The Boston Public Library, Boston Housing Authority and the Boston Centers for Youth



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and Families, together with the Boston Public Schools, have an established partnership with P.J. Systems, Inc. d/b/a HiQ Computers for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining computer systems and peripherals.

P.J. Systems, Inc. is recognized as a minority owned business by the Massachusetts State Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA) and as such is considered a small and disadvantaged business. The contact at P.J. Systems, Inc. is Mr. Pei Lin Tsai.

## E. Project Benefits

## E-1 – Expanding Broadband Public Computer Center Capacity

Public Computer Center Capacity, Including Areas and Populations Served

### 12. Public Computer Centers Availability

The public computing sites of Boston Public Library, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, and Boston Housing Authority will be open to all members of the general public and most are free of charge. Some BCYF sites charge a nominal membership fee, that the center administrator may waive based on a family's ability to pay, which is used to sustain the programs and equipment offered at the site.

### 13. Restrictions on Public Computer Center Use

The use of the centers is not restricted.

### 14. Public Computer Centers Accessibility

All Boston Housing Authority and Boston Centers for Youth and Families computer centers are in compliance with ADA regulations, including accessibility through access to elevators or ramps. Staff at each organization have been trained in customer service and are committed to greeting and accommodating the needs of program participants regardless of disability. Each organization has its own special affiliations with the disability community. For example, the BHA's Director of Community Services is an active member of the Mayor's Disability Working Group and has a partnership with the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass/Boston.



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The Boston Public Library operates a central library and twenty-five neighborhood branches. Of the 26 total sites, 12 (44%) are fully accessible and 11 others (41%) are accessible with some assistance from a library staff member (usually in the case of operating a door). Of the remaining sites, three are not presently accessible and one is accessible in only half of the building. It is the strategic intention of the Boston Public Library to continue increasing the number of locations that are fully accessible in order to reach the organizational goal of 100% accessibility in 100% of locations. In addition, the Boston Public Library invests in technological products that provide solutions to increase accessibility for users - such as zoom capacity, high-contrast screens, simultaneous visual and audio alerts, and alternate solutions for items such as mouse and keyboards.

# 15. PCC - Center Locations, PCC - Center Capacity, PCC - Size and Scope of Target Audience.

#### PCC - Center Locations & Center Capacity & Size and Scope of Target Audience.

Public Computer Center: Boston Public Computer Centers

Address Line 1: One City Hall Plaza

Address Line 2: Room 615

City: Boston State: MA Zip: 02201

Computer Center Name / Type: Boston Public Computer Centers

Estimated # of Total Persons in your Service Area (or Specific Population Sub-Group): 600000

Hours Open to Public:

Average Hours Open to Public Per 120-hour Business Week: 34 Proposed Hours Open to Public Per 120-hour Business Week:41

Average Hours Open to Public Per 48-hour Weekend: 6 Proposed Hours Open to Public Per 48-hour Weekend:7

**Broadband Workstations:** 

Current # of Broadband Workstations: 662 Proposed # of Broadband Workstations: 1041

Facility Broadband Connection Speed (MBps):

Current Facility Broadband Connection Speed (MBps): 15.00 Proposed Facility Broadband Connection Speed (MBps): 15.00



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# of Persons Served:

# of Persons served per 120-hour business week (current): 9533

# of Persons served per 120-hour business week (proposed target): 15325

# of Persons served per 48-hour weekend (current): 2217

# of Persons served per 48-hour weekend (proposed target): 3378

### 16. PCC-SBA Population Demographics

Age Distribution	
Age Distribution: 5-19	
Age Distribution: 20-29	
Age Distribution: 30-39	
Age Distribution: 40-49	
Age Distribution: 50-59	
Age Distribution: 60-69	
Age Distribution: 70 and above	

Ethnicity or ethnicities	
Ethnicity: Hispanic	
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White	,
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Black	
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic American Indian	1 - Mark Arraham - W
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Asian	***************************************



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Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Other

Ethnicity: Two or More Races

Gender		
Gender: Female		
Candam Mala	<del>,</del>	 
Gender: Male		

Median Household Income		
Median Household Income: Less than \$9,999		
Median Household Income: \$10,000 - \$14,999		
Median Household Income: \$15,000 - \$24,999	· ·	
Median Household Income: \$25,000 - \$34,999	,	
Median Household Income: \$35,000 - \$49,999		<del></del>

Educational Levels	
Educational Levels: None	
Educational Levels: Nursery school - Preschool	
Educational Levels: Elementary - Kindergarten - Grade 5	
Educational Levels: Middle - Grade 6 to Grade 8	
Educational Levels: Secondary - Grade 9 to Grade 12	
Educational Levels: College	



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#### Disabilities status

Disabilities status: Blindness, Deafness or a severe vision or hearing impairment

Disabilities status: A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying

Disabilities status: A physical, mental or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more

#### **Unemployment Rate**

Unemployment Rate: 9.10

#### Language

Language: English - Primary

Language: English - Second Language

Language: Non-English Speakers

### 17. Public Computer Centers Outreach

Boston incorporates "automatic" outreach since all of the 66 public computing centers are located within multi-service community anchors, servicing hundreds of thousands of people a year in a wide array of services and programs. The BPL, The BHA, and the BCYF all have core missions to constituencies that go far beyond providing public computing. Each attracts many residents of all ages who regularly attend a wide variety of programs and services. This guarantees that with upgraded and greatly expanded numbers of computing workstations, a wide array of residents will see and have the opportunity to know about the availability of computers and opportunities for training that each will build into its permanent programs. Each will advertise the public computing services available by the others, to maximize use of all 66 public computing centers over the varied schedules each is open for business.



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Specific examples of outreach: BCYF centers partner with nonprofit councils made up of community residents who are elected to serve on the board. Board members help identify the needs of the local community and raise and oversee funds needed to support programming. In this way, each center is uniquely able to assess the needs of the children, youth, adults, and families of the neighborhood, to design programs to meet these needs and assist in outreach. This participant input creates greater buy in, encouraging participants to promote programs to family/neighbors/social networks. BCYF partners with local businesses and over 100 nonprofit organizations to increase its service to youth and their families. BCYF works to share information about available programs and services as widely as possible in each community by posting information on websites such as Boston Youth Zone/Boston Navigator/using local community newspapers/ flyers distributed through schools/libraries/ door to door in housing developments.

The BHA's approach to outreach is to use all of the following methods at the 11 public computing sites: door-to-door flyers and follow-up press release/kick-off events throughout the sites, in conjunction with the Resident Task Forces/local neighborhood partners/periodic special events to pull residents into the sites in conjunction with local health and wellness organizations/ one-stop career centers/local education/training partners. Special announcement/notices will be part of welcome packets for all new residents to ensure that they are aware of both the BHA centers and those of nearby BPL and BCY.

The BPL's outreach utilizes three channels: Staff members at each of the Library's 26 sites provide a hands-on and personalized experience through which library patrons learn about programs and opportunities; City departments cross-promote each other's work through electronic newsletters/ co-sponsored events and flyers. The Boston Public Library also promotes activities through listings on its web site/press releases/media outlets.

### Public Computer Center Capacity: Training and Educational Programs

### 18. Public Computer Centers Peripherals and Equipment

The base unit for BCYF and BHA workstations will be the HP COMPAQ DC7900 SFF (MASS), small form factor PC with 2 GB RAM and 160 GB hard drives. Each workstation



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will have a 19" wide, flat screen monitor, scroll mouse, keyboard. All equipment comes with a 3-year warranty.

Each computer lab at BHA and BCYF will be equipped with 1 high speed black and white laser printer (HP LASERJET P3005X PRT Q7816A). Cisco communications equipment (switch, router, appliance, etc.) will be installed at all BHA sites.

The BPL will purchase Apple 13" MacBooks (2.0 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo, 2 GB 667 MHz DDR2 SDRAM - 2x1GB, w/ Apple Care protection or equivalent PC-based laptops for all 25 library sites along with lockable, chargeable storage carts. One other branch and the Central branch will receive Apple 20" iMacs (2.66 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo, 2GB 1066MHz DDR3 SDRAM - 2x1GB, w/ Apple Care protection).

### 19. Public Computer Centers Workstation Software

BCYF and BHA workstations will have Windows Vista, Microsoft Office 2007, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, plus special software for programming: News for you (ABE), Grammar Clear and Simple (ABE, ESOL), GED Connection, Pre GED Connection, WordSmart (SAT/ACT Prep), Study Island (MCAS), Media Blaze, Adobe Illustrator CS4, Adobe Photoshop CS4, and Family Tree Maker v9.

The Apple MacBooks will come with the latest Mac OS installed as well as Parallels software for Mac/Windows co-launch and Windows XP pro. Several different Internet browsers will be loaded onto each station. Any PC based laptops will come with the latest Windows operating system and software.

### 20. Public Computer Centers Training and Education Programs

BCYF community centers serve Boston residents of all ages, from Preschool through Seniors. Computing skills and use of the internet are central to the training and education programs, as follows:

Preschool, After-school and Tutoring programs: BCYF community centers offer 13 preschool programs and over 300 after-school and tutoring programs for children and teens. These programs are designed to achieve the education goal of supporting academic success by expanding educational enrichment programming to carry students' learning from the school day into after school, and therefore assist in bridging the achievement gap for children and



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youth. One of the key strategies for closing the achievement gap is to provide greater access to technology for all youth, especially those who may have limited access to technology due to family income or English language proficiency. Youth Employment: Each year, BCYF gives hundreds of teens their first job. In order to prepare youth with the skills they will need to be successful in the workforce, BCYF created the Fourteen year olds Acquiring Confidence, Training and Skills (FACTS) program. In this program, youth participate in a series of trainings to learn a variety of skills and expectations including professional behavior, customer service, and the use of office technology. Youth participating in FACTS and several other BCYF youth employment programs also have the opportunity to develop their first resume with the help of program coordinators. Workforce Development, Alternative Education/GED, ESOL, Family Literacy: BCYF alternative and adult education programs include City Roots Alternative High School, ESOL and Adult Basic Education/Pre GED courses, and GED preparation and testing. The technology requested in this proposal will help teens and adults to develop the academic and language skills needed to advance their education and secure greater employment opportunities. Senior Wellness and Recreation: Several BCYF sites host programs for seniors, offering opportunities for enrichment, recreation, and health and wellness. Today's seniors are increasingly interested in learning and using technology to explore the internet, communicate with family members, and even research their family tree. For BPL: The initial workshops on basic computer and email training offered by Boston Public Library are designed for students with little or no experience using computers. The training workshops are not only dedicated to building and enhancing students' understanding and use of computers and applications, but will be focused on teaching students how they can incorporate what they learned into their lives. This includes learning ways to increase knowledge, improve communication, interaction, and production of electronic documents, and how to prepare oneself to be competitive in today's job market. Given today's need for technological competency in society, along with the need for free classes to be available to the community, the Boston Public Library is dedicated to identifying this need and enabling its instructors to meet it. More advanced workshops will focus on web resource evaluation and search engine use and proficiency.

The training and education programs will be provided by a variety of instructors. In-house instructors will be primarily librarians (with MLS degrees). Visiting instructors will be contracted with. They will come from a variety of backgrounds -- some may be professors from local institutions, others will be information professionals or other persons having experience in the areas they are asked to cover.



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For BHA: All 11 locations will offer basic introduction to computers for "survival in the 21st century" which includes job search basics, using the internet for researching basic service needs, and emailing 101. Four of the lab sites will focus on computer services for adults including senior citizens. One lab currently offers a model adult computer educational program that shares the BHA computer lab and is an extension of the workforce development, ESL and GED program, providing a vital link between the education coursework and the job search components. Hours are tailored so that the students maximize their time with both the Job Search and Education staff, in addition to computer education. This model will be introduced to the other 3 adult education sites. The BHA's Community Services Director and several of her staff have extensive experience guiding low-income individuals through job readiness programming and job placement using computers. Youth Education, Tutoring and Mentorship: this programming is offered at 6 computer lab locations. In order to offer the best possible programming, BHA partners with a variety of groups, for example: a Community Health Center provides medical professionals as trainers; a local community development corporation will work with BHA to offer job readiness and counseling services; Philips Brooks House@Harvard University supports youth programming and will utilize the newly refurbished computer labs to enhance their program offerings; Boston College and West End House support a mentoring and tutoring program that will be greatly assisted by upgraded computing labs. All of these partnerships will contribute to the sustainability of the programming enabled by refurbished computer labs.

Finally, with a successful Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant, Boston's award winning TechnologyGoesHome@Schools (TGH) program will train staff at BCYF, BPL and BHA in TGH's unique broadband adoption curriculum which will provide staff with another training tool and program component to add to those outlined herein. SEE SUSTAINABLE BROADBRAND GRANT.

## E-2- Project Benefits - Sustainable BroadBand Adoption

### 21. Innovative Approach to Sustainable Broadband Adoption

### 22. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Household Subscribers.

How many total new home subscribers (household accounts) to broadband do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded?



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### 23. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Institutional Subscribers.

How many total new business and/or institutional subscribers to broadband do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded?

#### 24. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Users of Public Access Facilities.

How many total users of broadband in public computer centers or users of broadband outside the home (e.g., in a community college) do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded?

### 25. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Population Demographics.

Please refer to PCC – SBA Demographics section (Section E1- Question 17)

### 26. Sustainable Broadband Adoption People Trained/Educated.

If you intend to provide training or education, how many people in total will your program(s) reach?

#### 27. Sustainable Broadband Adoption - Scope of Training/Education Programs.

How many hours of training do you expect to provide *per person on average* for each participant in your training program(s), through completion of training for that individual? If you will offer multiple programs, provide estimates for each program.

#### 28. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Instructor Qualifications.

How many (FTE) instructors/facilitators will you employ for broadband and digital literacy training purposes, and what are their qualifications (training and experience)?

#### 29. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Equipment Purchased.

How many broadband-related equipment units (e.g. computers, wireless devices) do you intend to purchase overall?

#### 30. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Cost of Devices.

What is the total up-front cost of this equipment?

#### 31. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Loan Program Participants.

If you are providing an equipment purchase or loan program, for how many households, businesses and/or institutions do you expect to provide equipment or computers?

Number of Households:

**Number of Businesses:** 

**Number of Institutions:** 

### 32. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Loan Cost to Borrower.

If you are employing a loan program for purchases of service or equipment, what will be the total cost to the typical customer you assist over the life of the loan, including all interest and fees?

#### 33. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Target Population, Awareness Campaign.



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If you are conducting an awareness campaign, how many people do you expect your campaign will reach?

### 34. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Awareness Campaign Methods

### 35. Measuring Campaign Impact for Sustainable Broadband Adoption

#### 36. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Total Cost Per New Subscriber.

What is the total cost of your project per new subscriber (household, individual, or institutional) or new enduser?

### F. Project Viability

#### **Technical Viability**

### 37. Technology Strategy

#### 37 - A. Public Computer Center Technology Strategy

Boston's public computing center technology strategy is as follows for each of the three organizations which are partnering with the City in this coordinated public computing project:

The Boston Public Library (BPL) headquarters and 25 neighborhood branch libraries (BPL) will utilize existing broadband connections provided by City fiber at each library location for high speed connectivity to facilitate expanded, grant-funded public computing and training. Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) will utilize existing, recently installed City fiber connections, supplemented by deployment of grant-funded wireless nodes throughout the Centers, to enable full integration of broadband into BCYF programming, including expanded public computing. Boston Housing Authority (BHA), will utilize Infrastructure grant funding to connect Boston Housing Authority Developments and Computer labs (BHA) to City fiber and wireless broadband, replacing costly cable modem and T-1s now used for backhaul, utilizing that savings to maintain the grant-funded equipment, insuring sustainability..

Boston will use public computing grant funding to upgrade 51 of the 66 computing centers with the type of hardware and software needed to service the respective constituencies and varying programming needs of Boston Public Library (BPL), the Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA). At the 25 BPL neighborhood branch



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libraries, this will be Apple laptops and carts that will permit easy public access to computers and accommodate training sessions in branch libraries that lack dedicated public computing space. For the main branch library, the technology deployed will be permanent workstations to supplement existing workstations in dedicated public computing space where these workstations will be available to the public for all hours of library operation, except during computer/broadband adoption training sessions.

The 16 BCYF computing centers and the 11 BHA Computer Labs will both utilize the same brand of standardized computer workstations at each center and purchase the software needed to facilitate the programming particular to their own needs. This includes software for Alternative Ed programs, such as News for You and Grammar Clear and Simple for Adult Basic Ed and second language speakers and GED Connection and Pre-GED Connection; for Teen/Youth Programs, Study Island and WordSmart for SAT and other standardized test preparation, Cyberlink /Blaze Media/Adobe Illustrator and Photo Shop for Media/Photography programs; and for Senior Access Workshops, Family Tree Maker for the popular genealogy workshop program. Also, BPL, BCYF and BHA will use grant funding to purchase associated items such as laser printers, computer tables and chairs.

#### 37 - B. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Technology Strategy

### **Organizational Capability**

#### 38. Management Team Resumes.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

#### 39. Organizational Readiness

The 3 community anchor organizations which will house and sponsor the public computing center services funded by this grant are all established entities with deep experience operating projects of comparable size and complexity. The Boston Public Library, the Boston Housing Authority and Boston Centers for Youth and Families also all currently operate public computing centers in their various facilities, although in need of upgrading and expansion. They have come together to jointly plan this grant and to collaborate going forward because they understand the value and need for good equipment and broadband-adoption training for the constituents they serve. Once the existing labs have received grant-funded computers,



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software and other related items, the budgets of BPL, BCYF and BHA will be able to maintain these centers. Additionally, once the permanent staffs of each organization have been trained by grant funded project and technology managers to conduct computer skills and broadband adoption training, this capacity will be institutionalized. The BPL's public training program already exists on a small scale at the Dudley Literacy Center and as ad-hoc, over-the-shoulder informal tutorials. This proposal would simply formalize and expand many activities that are being practiced already.

In 2000, the BHA established a new network to extend the City's job readiness and supportive services into public housing thus connecting the services of 3 one-stop career centers to 7 public housing developments. Since that time the BHA has continued to provide these services to more of its sites through collaborations that include some of the BCYF sites and their neighborhood councils and as such as extended the services to many more public housing residents. In terms of other past grants/project management experience, the BHA has been awarded 3 HOPE VI redevelopment projects each of which includes several million dollars to fund resident service activities over 4 years. The BHA is completing a three-year \$500,000 grant for resident services which has allowed us to successfully place over 258 residents into jobs (average wage of \$11.19), skills training, and to provide computer access to further the goals of their families. In this particular case, the BHA has partnered with over 50 community partners to ensure success.

Since 2000, the BHA through funding from 4 federal multi-year grants, has served 2000 residents, assisted 780 residents become employed, assisted 1,016 residents receive health/wellness services and connect 650+ residents with children care services. These accomplishments like the ones proposed in this grant demonstrate our ability to successfully partner and managed this proposed grant program.

### 40. Organizational Chart.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

### **Community Involvement**

#### 41. Key Partners



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1,2 and 3: The three organizations operating the 66 public computing centers will provide the facilities and permanent staffing for these centers: the Boston Public Library (BPL), Tom Blake, Digital Projects Manager; the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), Rachel Goodman, Director, Community Services Department; and Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF), Noah Stockman, Associate Director of Administration and Finance.

- 4. The Timothy Smith Network (TSN), a private non-profit serving the needs of 34 member human services agencies (including 6 BCYF centers), dedicated to training clients to effectively access and use technology in the Greater Roxbury neighborhood. Susan O'Connor, Executive Director of TSN has greatly aided the City in assessing the right technologies for the public computing centers and in compiling much of the information needed for this grant application.
- 5. The Boston Digital Bridge Foundation, the private non-profit which, in partnership with the Boston Public Schools, operates the award winning family broadband education/computer supply program in 52 of Boston's middle and high schools, TechnologyGoesHome@Schools.org (TGH). The principal of the lead TGH School, Deb Socia, has contributed much time and expertise to the development of this public computing center grant and, assuming successful Sustainable Broadband Stimulus funding, TGH will provide training for the permanent staffs of the BPL, BHA and BCYF computer centers. Deb Socia, Headmaster of Lila Frederick Pilot Middle School.

6.openairboston.net, the private non-profit who has been Boston's technology partner during the past three years, deploying two wireless mesh pilots, and which will work closely with staffs of public computing centers to advance broadband adoption by spreading awareness and use of the free broadband network connectivity Boston will provide to our neediest residents, assuming Boston's Infrastructure grant is successful.

### 42. Partnering with Disadvantaged Businesses

The Boston Public Library, The Boston Housing Authority and the Boston Centers for Youth and Families, together with the Boston Public Schools, have a long established partnership with P.J. Systems, Inc. d/b/a HiQ Computers for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining computer systems and peripherals.

P.J. Systems, Inc. is recognized as a minority owned business by the Massachusetts State



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Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA) and as such is considered a small and disadvantaged business. The contact at P.J. Systems, Inc. is Mr. Pei Lin Tsai.

### Ability to Start Promptly & Timeline

43	Project	Timeline	and	Chall	enges
43.	TIUICCE	THIRTH	anu	CHan	CIIZCS

PROJECT PLAN ----Year 1---- Year 2----

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

CONSTRUCTION

Wiring at all sites

X X X X X

STAFF ACTIVITIES

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

BCYF: Technology Developers X X X X X

BCYF: Staff Training X X X X X

DC 17. Stall Halling A A A A A

BHA: Training X X X X X

BPL: Project Management X X X X X X X X X

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

BHA: Age appropriate Youth educational X X X X X X X X

materials

BHA: Adult job seeker service materials X X X X X X X X

BHA: General Health service referral info X X X X X X X X

BPL: Curriculum Development X X

BPL: Program development and scheduling X X

STAFF TRAINING

O1 O2 O3 O4 O5 O6 O7 Q8

BHA: All 11 sites--Train-the-Trainer X X X X X X X X

BHA: Twice yearly training for all project X X X X

staff



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BPL: Cross Platform training for internal

X X

**EOUIPMENT PURCHASES** 

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

BCYF: All sites

X X

BHA: All locations

X

BPL: All 23 locations

X X

INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

BCYF: All sites

X X

BHA: All locations

X

BPL: All 23 locations

X X

**ACTIVITIES AT COMPUTER** 

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8

BHA: setting up & shutting down

X X X X X X X

equipment

BHA: individual teaching of computer

X X X X X X X X

basics

BHA: group workshops on computer basics

X X X X X X X

BHA: adult edu sessions - ESL and GED

X X X X X X X X

BHA: homework and tutoring for youth

X X X X X X X X

BHA: open access

X X X X X X X X

BHA: maintenance and upkeep

X X X X X X X X

BHA: training for project staff/team members X X X X X X X

BHA: job search workshops & individual

X X X X X X X X

assistance

BPL: public internet availability/

X X

laptop check-out

BPL: public training sessions (basic)

X X

BPL: public training sessions (advanced)

XX

The key challenge to successful completion of this project is the timing to resolve potential



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electrical capacity in older buildings. Efforts have begun to address this concern.

SEE PROJECT PLAN ATTACHMENT IN SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION UPLOADS SECTIONS

## 44. Non-Infrastructure Projects - Licenses and Regulatory Approvals None

### 45. Legal Opinion.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

### G. Project Budget & Sustainability

Project Profile: Budget and Budget Narrative

### 46. Budget Narrative

The total project cost of \$2,180,100 offset by 20% City match results in a Grant request of \$1,744,084.

This grant award will result in a 70% increase in the number of computers available in Boston's public computing centers and a 41% increase in the number of residents served by these centers during the two years of the grant, with clear potential for growth thereafter.

This grant will fund three categories of expenditures:

\$ 1,464,207 for Equipment, predominately workstations and software (628 workstations/laptops; software to support programming at each facility) supplemented by a small amount of miscellaneous equipment such as smartboards/stands/speakers

\$516,448 for project managers/technology trainers to work with the public but particularly with the permanent staff of each of the three organizations to train staff to utilize the new equipment and train the public in computing skills and broadband adoption. BHA will hire 11 trainers for 10 hrs/wk each (primarily to staff the labs; BCYF will hire 3 technology developers to institutionalize technology training in each lab site with permanent staffers; BPL will hire one project manager to insure permanent staff are fully equipped to use the new equipment and offer competent training to the public, and to otherwise oversee grant implementation and



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### accountability.

\$58,300 to cover Public Housing Labs one time costs for cabling, chairs and workstations plus 2 years of equipment maintenance. Maintenance will be funded after the grant period by the BHA budget, including anticipated savings BHA will realize from connection to City fiber ring – See Infrastructure Grant, middle mile project)

These three categories of expense are necessary and appropriate to the public computing center solution Boston proposes for funding. Further, these expenditures will enable a very large impact through greatly increased public computing center usage by residents and are sustainable after the grant term.

### 47. Non-Infrastructure Projects - Budget Reasonableness

For a total project cost of \$2,180,100 offset by 20% City match, the NTIA funding requested is only \$1,744,084. All costs are eligible under NOFA guidelines.

This grant award will result in a 70% increase in the number of computers available in Boston's public computing centers and a 41% increase in the number of residents served by these centers during the two years of the grant, with clear potential for growth thereafter.

This grant award will have a disproportionately large impact in Boston and is highly cost effective.

The expenditures are almost exclusively for computer equipment, software and two years of costs for technology trainers to institutionalize training capacity among permanent staff of the centers. During the grant period, Boston projects that 4500 additional residents will utilize the new public computing each week. Annually, that equates to 234,000 new users for an NTIA cost/new user of only \$7.45. If the cost is divided just among the 4500 new weekly users, the cost/user is only \$387.57.

Because this grant is a one-time federal expenditure but will provide Boston with a computing center infrastructure that will deliver benefit year after year, far beyond the grant period, the value of this expenditure of federal funding is much larger than even this modest cost/user suggests.



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#### 48. Demonstration of Financial Need

This grant funding is of vital importance to the BHA's ability to support the much needed network of 11 multi-purpose community computer centers. Three of the centers are under the direct operation of the BHA's Community Services Department and in the past the BHA has received ROSS grant funding from HUD to operate its centers. Last year HUD denied the BHA's application for continued ROSS funding because HUD had moved to a lottery system of grant awards. Even though the BHA's application met all the threshold requirements include good past grant performance, the BHA did not receive additional funds.

For the past three years, the BHA, in collaboration with 12 other Massachusetts housing authorities, has sought support from the State legislature to re-instate a budget line item for public housing resident services. Unfortunately, the fiscal climate has not been right for us to be able to get the \$6 million per year budget line item that we were seeking despite good support of the concept in both the House and Senate.

In FY10, BCYF saw a 2% cut over FY09 funding levels. In addition to numerous cuts in non-personnel line items, the department had to layoff 28 employees to address a significant budget gap. Funding for technology equipment was zeroed out completely, as the only equipment left in the FY10 budget is that for various Recreation programs operating throughout the year. The equipment line of BCYF's FY10 budget was reduced by 83%.

This reflects the fiscal context in which the FY 2010 budget was developed, one of the most challenging processes of the past few decades. At the end of 2008, as the severity of the global financial crisis became evident, the city projected a FY 2010 gap of \$140 million and expects no growth in total recurring revenues.

The City anticipates that most recurring revenue, other than the property tax, will decrease mainly due to the economic downturn that is impacting government and private businesses across the country. The FY10 budget estimates that state local aid, the second largest source of revenue, will decrease significantly and this could be reduced even further as the state completes its budget deliberations. Appropriations have been reduced substantially as a result of the dismal revenue outlook.

Also in FY10, many City employees have made personal sacrifices to protect jobs and serve



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the public; 22 unions agreed to a one-year wage delay. The savings from this effort, combined with the wage delay of the non-unionized employees and the wage cuts for the City's senior staff, exceeded \$8.7 million. This was not enough to bridge the budget gap, though, and overall the city was forced to eliminate 689 positions including 429 layoffs.

#### 49. Historical Financial Statements.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

### Project Profile: Long Term Sustainability

#### 50. Sustainability.

### 51 - A. Public Computer Center Sustainability

This project will enable the public computing centers receiving grant funding to sustain themselves, providing ongoing services and maintaining community support beyond the scope of this grant, as follows: As outlined in response to Qs 8 and 22, all of these public computing centers are embedded in multi-service organizations that have always included public computing in their mandates. Each organization is a key community anchor organization with a long track record of serving the community with a variety of services and programs which will be enhanced by the availability of new computing hardware and software, in addition to expanding public computing services. Each organization only asked for grant funding for the amount of new equipment it believes it will be able to maintain, within realistic projections of budgets, beyond the two year grant period. Additionally, this grant will provide funding to "train the trainers" to insure that permanent staff of these centers are ready to work directly with the public to provide computer and broadband adoption skills during the grant period and thereafter.

The BPL and BCYF public computing centers now are connected to the City's existing fiber network providing permanent high speed connectivity at no additional cost to the centers. Only the 11 BHA Computer Labs await successful Infrastructure funding to receive this connectivity which will replace the cable modern connectivity and T-1s to BHA management offices. With that savings, BHA will have additional funding to maintain the new equipment this grant will provide.

BPL scaled its grant request to seek only a level of computers and software it would be able to



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maintain after grant funding. Similarly, BCYF will utilize some of the grant funding to hire three technology managers who will work during the 2 year period of the grant funding to "institutionalize" broadband at BCYF: fully integrate technology into BCYF programming, develop a long-term maintenance plan for technology related hardware and provide training to all BCYF staff, including the 10 technology staff, on how to integrate technology into programming and support public users in accessing the internet and understanding the life-relevance of broadband adoption.

With successful Sustainable Broadband Adoption funding, trainers from TechnologyGoesHome@Schools will provide an additional layer of broadband adoption training to the staffs of BCYF, BPL and BHA, to help export to other community anchor institutions the training TGH currently only conducts in schools. (See Sustainable Broadband grant for more on TGH.)

#### 51 - B. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Sustainability

#### Project Profile: Outside Leverage

#### 51. Matching Funds.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

#### 52. Unjust Enrichment

No

### 53. Disclosure of Federal and/or State Funding Sources

None

#### 54. Buy American.

Is the applicant seeking an individual waiver of the Buy American provision?

#### **Buy American Waiver Request Explanation**

No waiver requested



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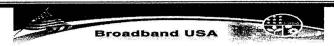
## H. DOC Environmental Checklist

55. SECTION 1 – Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

## I. Compliance and Certification

### 56. Certification and signature.

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.



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### Uploads

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
02. Q24 PCC; Q29 SBA - Management Team Resumes
03. Q26 PCC; Q31 SBA - Organization Chart
04. Q27 PCC; Q32 SBA - Key Partners
06. Q35 PCC; Q40 SBA - Historical Financial Statem
06. Q35 PCC; Q40 SBA - Historical Financial Statem
06. Q35 PCC; Q40 SBA - Historical Financial Statem
08. Environmental Checklist
09. Compliance and Certifications*
11. CD-512 Certification - Lobbying, Lower Tier
12. SF-424A Budget Information Non-Construction**
13. SF-424B Assurances Non-Construction



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17. Legal Opinion*		
18. Authentication*		
19. Supplemental Information 1		
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19. Supplemental Information 1		

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#### William G. Oates

#### **PROFILE**

Senior Level IT Executive ~ Public & Private Sector Strategic Planning ~ Business Alignment ~ Excellence in Operations

- Senior business executive with 25+ years of increasingly responsible technology management experience. Broad familiarity with global IT services and technologies, management and organizational issues. Excellent educational background (JD, LLM), superior leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Strong track record of creating sophisticated, proactive IT teams, supporting organizations through periods of acquisition, consolidation and growth. Extensive global experience working with corporate divisions and subsidiaries to influence, then jointly implement technology direction. Results oriented, with a strong focus on the bottom line.

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Boston, Boston, MA Chief Information Officer

June, 2006 - Present

Cabinet level position, reporting to the Mayor of Boston. Responsible for leading City's technology initiatives and delivery of IT services in support of the various city functions.

Starwood Hotels and Resorts, Worldwide, Inc., White Plains, NY Sr. Vice President, Chief Information Officer

June, 2000 – January, 2006

Responsible for delivery of Company's global information technology services, including the direction, sourcing and operation of enterprise technology, including application development, operations, networking technology and end user support. Directly prepared and controlled central/shared services IT operating budget of over \$75 Million annually. Influenced significant IT spend in other divisions/subsidiaries.

tcmGlobal Services, LLC, Boston, MA Principal

**December 1999 – June 2000** 

Founder and Principal Partner of technology consulting and management practice focused on the travel industry. Clients included large corporations, technology providers and hotel property owners.

Starwood Hotels and Resorts, Worldwide, Inc. Braintree, MA Vice President, Information Technology

1998 - 1999

Reporting to Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer, responsible for the worldwide operation of the corporation's technology infrastructure, including communications technology, central system/network computing, systems management/operations and support.

## ITT Sheraton Corporation, Boston, MA

Director, Telecommunications and Technology Services

1991 - 1998

Reporting to ITT Sheraton Chief Information System Officer, responsible for corporation's technology service portfolio, including the global development and deployment of all property based technology. Responsible for linking global technology strategy with corporate business strategy.

Manager, Hotel Systems and Telecommunications

1987 - 1991

Responsible for the planning and implementation of hotel systems and telecommunications technology, worldwide. Includes familiarity with Property Systems (PMS, POS, Sales and Catering), telecommunications products (PBX, ACD, voice processing, wireless, local access, carrier voice and data) and services. Also lectured to industry groups regarding emerging technologies and industry trends.

#### **EDUCATION**

Suffolk University Law School, Boston MA.

LL.M. (Global Technology Law), May 2005
JD, Juris Doctor, June 1986, admitted Massachusetts Bar

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

Bachelor of Science Degree, A&S Honors Program, May 1978

## MEMBERSHIPS/PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

Inductee, International Hospitality Technology Hall of Fame (1996)
Board of Directors, Hospitality Technology/Finance Professionals (HFTP)
Technology Advisory Boards (University of Delaware, The Gartner Group)
Past Chairman, Technology Committee, American Hotel & Motel Association
Past Chairman, Telecommunications Committee, American Hotel & Motel Association
Member, Massachusetts Bar Association
Member, American Bar Association, Forum on Communications & Technology Law

## Donna Sorgi

Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel City of Boston Law Department City Hall, Room 615 Boston, MA 02201

Donna joined the Law Department in January 2007. Her primary focus is to help launch the Mayor's wireless broadband initiative and other technology/telecommunications matters.

From 1991 to 2004, Donna worked for MCI Telecommunications. During her last 4 years, she was Vice President of Federal Advocacy, responsible for MCI's public policy representation before the Federal Communications Commission, the Executive Branch, and the Department of Justice. In previous positions, Donna directed MCI's representation before state public service commissions and the legislative and executive branches of government in a 13 state region. Prior to joining MCI in February, 1991, Ms Sorgi had a 13 year career with the MA Attorney General's office. Her last position with that office was as Deputy Attorney General/Public Advocacy Bureau Chief, with responsibility for litigation and public policy in the areas of utility and insurance regulation, antitrust enforcement, and regulation of public charities. Ms. Sorgi is a native of North Carolina. She received her undergraduate degree with honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and her law degree from Northeastern University in Boston.

#### Noah Eldridge Stockman

#### **Employment:**

### Boston Centers for Youth & Families, Boston, MA

November 2007

to present

Associate Director of Administration and Finance

- Oversee the day-to-day functions of the Finance, Personnel, Facilities, Planning & Development, Technology and Labor & Law units of a 400+ employee city department with 46 sites across the City of Boston.
- Oversee the day-to-day financial and human resources business of the department relatina to all City funds and other funds as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Executive Director.
- Oversee the preparation of the annual budget for the department.
- Oversee preparation of all payrolls, invoices, transfers, purchase orders, and other transactions relevant to the city funds expenditures.
- Manage the BCYF City Wide Board finances and oversee all non-profit 501-C-3 business.
- Perform analysis of all city expenditures for the Executive Director to ensure that projected cost center budgets are working and overall departmental expenditures are in line.
- Other related duties as required by the Executive Director.

## City of Boston Office of Budget Management, Boston, MA

August 2005 to

November 2007

Management Analyst

- Provide city government with a broad range of analytical services aimed at improving productivity, reducing costs and increasing revenue.
- Prepare the Mayor's operating and capital budgets.
- Estimate impact of programmatic and policy actions on expenditures, researched policy and operational issues, developed problem statements and made recommendations to budget director and chief financial
- Evaluate the financial and operational performance of programs to ensure the city delivers the best combination of services at the lowest possible cost.
- Research issues across departments or intergovernmental agencies to become familiar with a wide variety of urban policy issues, concepts and best practices.
- Provide aeographical analysis of various city services and assets through the use of GIS.
- Improved performance measures for front-line departments to enable better decision-making about programs and policies.

#### Charles River Conservancy, Cambridge, MA

September 2003 to

August 2005

Project Manager

- Managed a complex public/private partnership with multiple state agencies to design and integrate a 40,000 square foot extreme sports facility under the Zakim/Bunker Hill Bridge.
- Identified and addressed the constraints of a highly complex, former brownfield site, worked with engineers and landscape architects to facilitate an architecturally dramatic and functional design, and coordinated a public process that reflected the input of over 400 young athletes.
- Raised nearly a million dollars toward construction of the park through foundation grants, individual and corporate donations and public funding.
- Addressed and resolved all multiple stakeholder issues that arose among the Conservancy, various state and municipal agencies, engineering and design firms, donor groups and future users of the facility.
- · Conducted project presentations and orchestrated coalition building among the public and the project team.

## Leadership/Volunteer Experience:

Young Advocates of Urban Improv Board Member, Jamaica Plain, MA

March 2006

to present

• Serve on a non-profit board to further the goals of an innovative youth violence prevention organization that uses structured theater improvisation to teach conflict resolution, decision making and impulse control.

# Roxbury Preparatory Charter School Teacher, Roxbury, MA

Spring 2004

 Taught a class of eight students in a manner that allowed them to understand relevant math concepts. The class achieved a ninety percent success rate on the State MCAS exam.

Century High School Youth Lacrosse Coach, Hillsboro, OR

Spring 2002

• Coached middle school level all-star team, organized practice and game schedules, road trip itineraries and league regulations.

## **Education:**

Brown University, Providence, RI

B.A. Economics, B.A. Organizational Behavior and Management, 2001

Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Career Discovery Program, Cambridge, MA Certificate, Urban Planning and Design, 2003

**Boston Architectural Center,** Boston, MA Continuing Education 2004

# THOMAS BLAKE



Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, MS, Library and Information Science, Archives Management, 2006

Rochester Institute of Technology, BFA, Professional Photographic Illustration, 1993

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Boston Public Library, Manager of Digital Services, 2008 – present

Digital Imaging Production Manager, 2005 – present

Currently responsible for the efficient creation of beautiful, sustainable, and accessible digital objects for deposit into the institutional digital repository and use in the digital library.

Massachusetts Historical Society, Digital Projects Production Specialist, 2004 - 2005

Responsible for the creation and support of digital access to historic manuscripts and images through image reformatting, metadata creation, cataloging, and web design.

## MIT Archives and Special Collections, Manuscript Processor, 2004

Assisted in the processing and preservation of faculty and departmental papers, and the creation of usable finding aids in compliance with accepted archival standards.

# Boston Photo Imaging, Head Photographer/Production Specialist, 1993-2003

Managed and executed all aspects of the digital and traditional imaging studio, performed location photography for high quality fine art reproduction printing, and liaised with historic repositories, universities and museums for major digital reformatting and database projects.

#### SKILLS

- Familiar and useful with (X)HTML, CSS, SQL, METS, MODS, MARC, Dublin Core, VRA Core, TEI, EAD.
- Proficient in all formats of traditional and digital photography hardware and software.
- Familiar with advanced principles of digital imaging theory, standards, and best practices.
- Highly meticulous and organized.

#### Rachel L. Goodman

#### **Skills & Education Summary**

- Extensive experience in program management, development and coordination
- Creative manager of public and private sector workforce development programs
- Expertise in intergovernmental relations, interpretation and implementation of public policy and programming
- MA in Linguistics/Teaching English as a Second Language University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,
- BA in English Literature/Theater Studies Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

#### **Professional Experience**

## Director, Community Services, Boston Housing Authority, Boston, MA

2002 to Present

Responsible for the development and overall administration of the Authority's resident services, including the operation of 3 computer labs, and overseeing at budget of \$1million and a staff of 15.

- Provides oversight, supervision and evaluation of staff
- Collaborates with governmental, non-profit, and private sector organizations
- Oversees and coordinates reporting and submission of performance to funders
- Identifies and acquires alternate funding to support new and on-going programs

#### Program Manager, Boston Housing Authority, Boston, MA

2000 to 2002

Administered Economic Development & Supportive Services/HUD grants, placed >300 residents in jobs.

- Developed on-site job training and readiness programs to promote economic self-sufficiency using computer labs and in-class workshops to prepare a diverse low-income job seeking population
- Collaborated with Career Centers, community-based organizations, City Government, and tenant organizations to ensure program success

#### Career Associate/Counselor. JobNet Career Center, Boston, MA.

1997 to 1999

Designed and implemented workshops for customer focused One-Stop Career Center.

- Developed customer-centered presentations & collaborated with vendors & community-based groups.
- Worked with economically-disadvantaged customers including the use of various technologies designed for a diverse, multi-lingual population.
- Placed 80 hard-to-place customers into quality jobs annually

#### Program Manager, Mass Job Training, Inc. Boston, MA

1994 to 1996

Managed performance-based contract that successfully placed over 800 welfare recipients into unsubsidized employment.

- Supervised 15 employment specialists, providing on-going job development and job preparation services to 1,200+ job seekers and 500 area employers
- Streamlined job placement strategies and marketing material to boost program performance
- Improved communications between MJT staff and the Welfare Department (funder) by streamlining reports and data collection

#### Employment Services Manager, MA Dept. of Employment & Training, Boston.

1990 to 1993

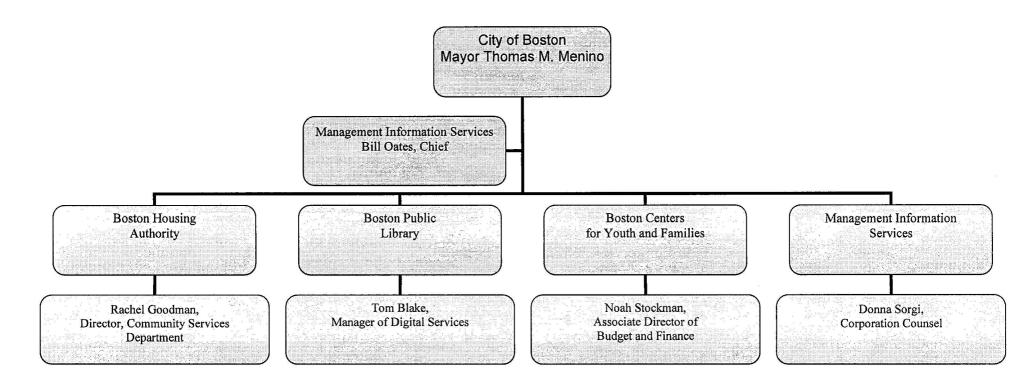
Created and implemented statewide strategies resulting in placement of over 3,100 job seekers.

- Ensured successful receipt of a \$1 million performance-based contract for the Greater Boston Region
- Designed and initiated corrective action plans for 15 field offices
- Developed and facilitated statewide training sessions

# Lecturer & Program Coordinator. Boston University Center of English Language. 1980 to 1989

Designed English language curriculum and taught international university-bound students& administered ESL Program with 100 foreign students.

• Supervised junior lecturers, monitored classroom instruction, taught and evaluated student performance.



**Boston's Public Computing Center Project** 

# **City of Boston**

BTOP Public Computer Centers Application

## **Key Partners**

- 1,2 and 3: The three organizations operating the 66 public computing centers that will provide the facilities and permanent staffing for these centers: the Boston Public Library (BPL), Tom Blake, Digital Projects Manager; the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), Rachel Goodman, Director, Community Services Department; and Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF), Noah Stockman, Associate Director of Administration and Finance.
- 4. The Timothy Smith Network (TSN), a private non-profit serving the needs of 34 member human services agencies (including 6 BCYF centers), dedicated to training clients to effectively access and use technology in the Greater Roxbury neighborhood. Susan O'Connor, executive director of TSN has greatly aided the City in assessing the right technologies for the public computing centers and in compiling much of the information needed for this grant application.
- 5. The Boston Digital Bridge Foundation, the private non-profit which, in partnership with the Boston Public Schools, operates the award winning family broadband education/computer supply program in 52 of Boston's middle and high schools, TechnologyGoesHome@Schools.org (TGH). Deb Socia, the principal of the Lila Frederick Pilot Middle School, which serves as the lead TGH School, has contributed much time and expertise to the development of this public computing center grant and, assuming successful Sustainable Broadband Stimulus funding, TGH will provide training for the permanent staffs of the BPL, BHA and BCYF computer centers.
- 6. openairboston.net, the private non-profit who has been Boston's technology partner during the past three years, deploying two wireless mesh pilots, and which will work closely with staffs of public computing centers to advance broadband adoption by spreading awareness and use of the free broadband network connectivity Boston will provide to our neediest residents, assuming Boston's Infrastructure grant is successful.

#### Broadband Infrastructure Application Submission to RUS (BIP) and NTIA (BTOP)

### **Certification Requirements BTOP**

## U.S. Department of Commerce Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

- (i) I certify that I am authorized to submit this grant application on behalf of the eligible entity(ies) listed on this application, that I have examined this application, that all of the information and responses in this application, including certifications, and forms submitted, all of which are part of this grant application, are material representations of fact and true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entity(ies) that is requesting grant funding pursuant to this application and any subgrantees and subcontractors will comply with the terms, conditions, purposes, and federal requirements of the grant program; that no kickbacks were paid to anyone; and that a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims on this application are grounds for denial or termination of a grant award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.
- (ii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
- (iii) If requesting BTOP funding, I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has and will comply with all applicable administrative and federal statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements set forth in the DOC Pre-Award Notification, published in the Federal Register on February 11,2008 (73 FR 7696), as amended; DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (Mar 8, 2009); DOC American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Award Terms (April 9, 2009); and any Special Award Terms and Conditions that are included by the Grants Officer in the award."

(iv) If requesting BTOP funding, I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement or received a waiver.

Aug. 12, 2009 Date)

(Authorized Representative's Signature)

William Oates

Name:

Chief Information Officer

Title:

City of Boston

## **Broadband Infrastructure Application** Submission to RUS (BIP) and NTIA (BTOP)

#### **Certification Requirements BTOP**

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- (ii) I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
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(iv) If requesting BTOP funding, I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement or received a waiver.

(Authorized Representative's Signature)

William Oates

Name:

Chief Information Officer

Title: City of Boston

# U.S. Department of Commerce Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

I certify that I am the duly authorized representative of the applicant organization, and that I have been authorized to submit the attached application on its behalf. A copy of the applicant organization's authorization for me to submit this application as its official representative is on file in the applicant's office, and I am identified as the applicant organization's Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) in the Central Contractor Registration database. By signing this certification, I certify that the statements contained in the application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that if an award is made, the applicant organization will comply with all applicable award terms and conditions.

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14/2009 (Daye)

(Authorized Representative's Signature)

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