

Dakota County, Minnesota Information
Dakota Future Fiber application

1. General information

Contact person:

Bill Coleman, Executive Director of Dakota Future

651-491-2551

bill@dakotafuture.com

Name of governing body:

Dakota County, Minnesota

You can create a name for each response. Name of this response:

Dakota Future Fiber

List communities included in your response:

The following cities are within Dakota County: Apple Valley, Burnsville, Coates, Eagan, Farmington, Hampton, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Miesville, New Trier, Randolph, Rosemount, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, Vermillion and West St. Paul.

The following townships are within Dakota County: Castle Rock, Douglas, Empire, Eureka, Greenvale, Hampton, Marshan, Nininger, Randolph, Ravenna, Sciota, Vermillion and Waterford.

Contact person has authority to provide these answers as the official position of the responding local government?

Bill Coleman of Dakota Future does not have this authority.

For an official response, please contact:

Jack Ditmore_

Operations, Management, and Budget

Dakota County Government Center

1590 Highway 55

Hastings MN 55033-2343

(651) 438-4432

Jack.ditmore@co.dakota.mn.us

2. Background information about your community

Population (2008):

398,500 (2008 estimate from Metro Council)

Populated area in square miles:

800 per square mile with a range of 25 to 3,795

Please describe how the population is distributed:

The county encompasses 11 major cities, 10 smaller cities, and 13 townships (4% of the County's total population is in townships). Most of the population lives in the northern and western sides of the County. The 11 major cities include first, second and third-ring suburbs.

Median household income (\$ per annum)

\$75,266 in 2008 (Source: American Community Survey)

Number of housing units:

155,860 in 2008 (Source: ACS)

Number of single family homes:

118,697 (Source: Census Bureau)

Number of multi-family homes:

39,000 (Source: Dakota County GIS/Assessing)

Number of apartment complexes:

766 (this includes buildings of all sizes that are designated as apartments) with a total of 23,000 units (Source: Dakota County GIS/Assessing)

Average number of units per apartment complex:

30.14 units on average

Number of gated communities:

0

Average number of housing units per gated community:

NA

Approximate percentage of households in entire community with access to broadband Internet service (%):

98.6% (Connected Nation/Connected MN)

Approximate percentage of the households in entire community that are currently subscribing to broadband Internet service (%):

Surveys from the last four years within several cities and countywide indicate a rate of about 88% households with Internet access, but this includes both Broadband and dial-up. Also, this measure means % of those surveyed who are subscribers, not those who have access.

Terrain:

Local government:

Overall description of terrain:

The topography of Dakota County is generally flat with some areas of rolling hills and lakes created by glaciers. The Mississippi River and the Minnesota River border the county on the north and the east respectively, and are characterized by a landscape of floodplain and river bluffs.

Percentage of plains (%): 75%

Percentage of rolling hills (%): 20%

Percentage of mountains (%): 0%

Percentage other terrain (%): 5%

Climate:

Average annual highest temperature (°F): 54

Average annual temperature (°F): 45

Average annual lowest temperature (°F): 35

Average amount of snowfall per year (inches): 50

Average amount of rainfall per year (inches): 27

Average amount of hurricane or tornado activity in a year (days):

Minnesota average is 24 days

Form of local government (city, town, county, etc.):

County of Dakota

Local government rule: Home Rule - Limited Rule - Other

County administrator plan

Source of government decision making (city manager, city council, mayor, etc.):

Seven member County Board

Utilities:

Please list largest utilities and the approximate percentage of the community covered by each provider:

	Provider Name	Coverage (%)
Electric	Xcel Energy	300,000 customers in 63 square miles
	Dakota Electric	75,000 customers in 507 miles

Gas	Centerpoint Energy 30%	
	MN Energy Resources 30%	
	Xcel Energy 40%	
Water	Municipal utilities Virtually 100% coverage within urbanized areas	
Sewer	Municipal utilities within regional system Virtually 100% coverage within urbanized areas	
Cable	Comcast	65% of households
	Charter	30% of households
Phone	Comcast	30% market share
	Qwest	30% market share
	Frontier	20% market share
	CenturyLink	10% market

Market share for gas and telecommunications are estimates based upon the respective companies' service areas.

Local economy mix (if available):

Total Employment: 174,517
 Number of high tech jobs: 18,000
 Number of manufacturing jobs: 19,442
 Number of education services jobs: 13,857
 Number of other service sector jobs: 25,000

Colleges and universities (List names and average number of students enrolled at each, if available):

Dakota County Technical College, Rosemount MN, 12,904
 Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights, 9,285
 Rasmussen College, Eagan NA
 Argosy University, Eagan NA
 Saint Mary's University of MN, Apple Valley NA
 Brown College, Mendota Heights NA

Major hospitals/health care facilities (List names):

Fairview Ridges Hospital, Burnsville
 Regina Medical Center, Hastings
 Apple Valley Medical Center, Apple Valley

Current providers of high speed Internet service (Company; DSL, Cable modem, wireless, fiber, etc.):

BevComm -cable modem, CenturyLink - Fiber, DSL, Charter - Cable modem, Comcast - cable modem, XO – fiber/leased copper; Stonebridge Wireless-wireless; Velocity – fiber/copper; Time Warner Telecom – fiber/copper; Integra CLEC; Norlight; BEVComm – cable modems; Zayo Bandwidth – fiber/copper

Other significant features of your community that could be relevant for this project:

*Dakota County, in an effort led by Dakota Future, was recognized by the Intelligent Community Forum as a Smart 21 global Intelligent Community. The county community has a well-deserved reputation for collaboration. Dakota Future serves as the link between government, business and education for the purpose of engendering innovation and collaboration. Full details are on the project web site at www.dakotafuturefiber.com.

*Broadband and broadband-based economic development has been on the agenda of Dakota County community leaders for some time with significant progress being made.

*Dakota County was the 1st market where Comcast deployed DOCSIS 3.0.

*Top employers are: Thomson Reuters, Fairview Ridges Hospital, Goodrich Sensors and Integrated Systems, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Unisys, Lockheed Martin, US Postal Service, UPS, Ecolab Research, Prime Therapeutics, Delta Dental, CHS, Delta Air Lines, FAA, Smead Manufacturing, Ryt-Way Industries, Con-Agra, Coca-Cola, Despatch Industries, Northland Insurance, Flint Hills Resources, Sportsman's Guide, and Uponer.

*INET Fiber connecting over 200 public sector buildings

*Significant number of two-worker households, some with long commuting distances that would welcome enhanced telecommuting opportunities.

*Significant number of workers who both live and work in Dakota County who would welcome the increased flexibility to work at home.

3.

Collaborating on a Google fiber trial

In this section, we ask you to share how your community would work with Google to enable us to proceed quickly and effectively.

Are you, the local government, willing to appoint an individual to serve as a single point of contact?

Yes

Jack Ditmore, Director
Operations, Management, and Budget
(651) 438-4432
Jack.ditmore@co.dakota.mn.us

As director of Operations, Management and Budget, Jack Ditmore is well positioned to provide immediate and effective liaison services to Google. Jack reports directly to the County Administrator. He has ongoing relationships with all county departments. He can obtain necessary information on a timely basis and can coordinate any required cross-departmental communications and decision-making.

Jack would coordinate the local government and community's interactions with Google, to obtain as promptly as possible whatever information Google may require, and to resolve any problems that may arise as quickly and effectively as possible.

Describe any current or planned programs in your community to accelerate and expand adoption and use of broadband Internet access:

Dakota County, through the coordinating efforts of Dakota Future, has been named a Smart 21 Intelligent Community by the Intelligent Community Forum (www.intelligentcommunity.org). All documents related to this effort on included on the Google Fiber project web site (www.dakotafuturefiber.com). Here is a sample of activities happening here in Dakota County:

- Dakota Future's ongoing Intelligent Community Initiative with leader-driven work teams on broadband, digital inclusion, knowledge workers, innovation and marketing/advocacy. These teams are dedicated to the proposition of furthering our technology-based economic development initiative. These teams are driving towards a list of strategies, leadership and resources by May 7, 2010.
- 220 computers at Dakota County libraries for public access; additional computers at our two community and technical colleges. More yet available at our public schools during and after the school day.

- Computer access and digital literacy training programs at our two workforce centers serving the unemployed and underemployed.
- A Gb I-Net fiber network connecting over 200 public buildings, including county, city, libraries and schools within the county.
- Inver Hills Community College's Cisco IT security program and after-school Cisco academy program for youth
- Inver Hills Community College and Dakota County Technical College are both partners in a statewide MN State Colleges and Universities BTOP Public Computer Centers application.

Additional reasons you believe that Google should select your community for this project:

The mission of the Dakota County government is to provide efficient, effective, responsive government that achieves the Board of Commissioners' vision for Dakota County: a premier place in which to live and work. Technology plays a critical role in our current and future plans for the delivery of services to our citizens. Dakota County has won several awards for e-government services.

Dakota County is privileged to be home to some of Minnesota's most successful high technology companies and their employees. These companies include Thomson Reuters Legal and Regulatory, Goodrich Sensors and Integrated Systems, Lockheed Martin, Unisys, Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Minnesota and thousands of smaller, but no less important companies. We have many, many citizens who work or run small businesses from their homes.

Many of our citizens are highly educated and highly skilled in the use of technology. They would make enthusiastic use of the network that Google proposes to deploy. With our existing high levels of broadband adoption, subscribers are sure to switch over to the Google Network to make full use of the new capabilities. Especially exciting is the symmetrical nature of this network that will enable the true creativity of our people.

In recent years, Dakota County has experienced some changing demographics. We have welcomed new Americans from Russia, East Africa, Asia and other global locations. The Google network would allow us to provide life changing services to these new residents, including English as a Second Language, adult basic education, translation services, job training. The possibilities are endless and we would welcome Google as a partner in designing and implementing new services across our government services spectrum.

Please provide a web link to any additional information you wish us to consider. Submissions using Google Maps or YouTube are encouraged:

www.dakotafuturefiber.com

4. Your community's support

Have you performed any outreach, study or analysis regarding support in your community for this type of trial?

Yes

Describe how you ascertained or plan to ascertain the level of community support for this project (e.g., surveys, public hearings, meetings with community groups, etc.):

Dakota Future was able to easily grow a coalition of eleven communities along with the Dakota County government. Each provided financial contribution and information and support. We have had multiple local news articles and positive response.

In the preparation of their own individual applications, four Dakota County communities have done surveys and rallied community support. Documentation of their work is provided on our project web site at www.dakotafuturefiber.com.

I encourage you to review our powerpoint presentation on the front page of our project web site for our perspective of our community's support!

If possible, describe your community's level of support for this project:

Dakota Future and our Dakota County communities have shown their long term support for broadband deployment and broadband-based economic development for the past five years through our E-Commerce Ready designation by the State of MN's Economic Development Department, through our Intelligent Community Initiative, and through community surveys and broadband planning initiatives.

Our Intelligent Community Initiative has 75 community leaders from business, education and government working together on broadband, digital inclusion, knowledge workers, innovation and marketing. These leaders are doing the work of community development and transformation. We believe that this work demonstrates our commitment in much stronger fashion than rallies and videos.

Please briefly summarize any additional comments or suggestions you would like to make to Google on behalf of your community:

We invite you to join us May 7 for our next Intelligent Community Initiative meeting. There, teams of community leaders will present their recommendations for next steps in our initiative. There we will demonstrate our orientation towards action. Leadership and resources will be in place to move our community into the future. Dakota County would be an excellent partner for Google! Plus, the Twins are in town playing in their brand new ball park!!

5. Facilities and resources

Deployment of a community-wide network will require Google to work closely with local government entities and other organizations. Google seeks to identify resources owned by the community that may assist in the rapid, smooth deployment of a residential fiber optic network. In this section, we ask you to share information about particular facilities and assets within the community that may be used or affected as part of such a facilities deployment, particularly those owned by the local government.

Please respond as completely and accurately as possible.

Pole Attachments: Please identify the entities, including units of the local government, which own or control utility poles in your community:

We have included this information in the spreadsheet on our project web site labeled Poles and ROW.

Conduits:

Please identify the entities, including units of local government, which own or control utility conduits in your community:

Entity Name: City of Burnsville

Linear feet of conduit owned or controlled: 150,000 linear feet

Annual rate per foot for conduit use (\$): Rates have not yet been established due to recent installation of these facilities. Rates would be very negotiable; could be very low for a 1Gb Internet supplier.

Entity Name: City of Farmington

Linear feet of conduit owned or controlled: 30,000 l.f.

Annual rate per foot for conduit use (\$): not established

Entity Name: Independent School District 196 w/joint powers board (this district covers portions of Eagan, Apple Valley and Rosemount

Linear feet of conduit owned or controlled: 165,000 l.f.

Annual rate per foot for conduit use (\$): not established

Rights of Way

Does your local government directly control and administer the use of all public rights of way within its jurisdiction?

Yes

Describe any other entities that control and administer the use of the public rights of way in your community:

Cities, Dakota County and State of Minnesota

With respect to your process for managing access to public rights-of-way, please estimate the number of days to complete the following steps, assuming full cooperation from Google:

Please indicate the amount or method of calculating all fees and charges

for use of the public rights- of-way, including the following (if applicable):

Community sensitivities and policies:

All of this information is provided in a document on our project web site at www.dakotafuturefiber.com. The page is labeled Poles and ROW.

6. Construction methods

All of this information is provided in a document on our project web site at www.dakotafuturefiber.com. The page is labeled Poles and ROW.

7. Regulatory issues

All of this information is provided in a document on our project web site at www.dakotafuturefiber.com. The page is labeled Poles and ROW.