



Town Hall, 262-843-2313
Fax, 262-843-4432
TownofSalem.net

Salem Town Hall 9814 Antioch Road, (STH 83) P.O. Box 443 Salem, WI 53168

March 16, 2010

Honorable James Kreuser
Kenosha County Executive
County Executive Offices
1010 56th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140

Good Morning Jim,

I am very **enthusiastic that you are advancing the initiative** for Kenosha County to participate in the **Google Fiber Optic program** of building and testing a ultra-high speed broadband network. I know all of those in **Kenosha County**, and **Town of Salem** will appreciate the 1 gigabit per second fiber to the home connections and welcome the benefits to our businesses and municipal locations as well!

Please accept this as my **letter of support of this marvelous tool**. I plan also to follow the guidelines of the project to complete the On-Line Google Nomination for our Town. I will complete the Google RFI questionnaire by the March 25th date. I have spoken with Marty Lacock, and will be following his lead regarding statistics that the County has for our town.

Please call attention to us and how we advanced **Smart Growth with efficiency**. Please also call attention to our size. We are the third largest town in the state by population, 8th largest by assessed value.

I have encouraged our citizens to complete the consumer/residential portion of the form and to give a vote of support for the program.

As you have mentioned, the important and key benefits to our community are:

- **Economic – Key component to spur economic development and supports priority strategies identified in the Economic Development Strategy for Kenosha County.** I believe that the growth of companies that currently exist and those who search for a new home will consider this high speed tool in their analysis! The opportunity is endless! The advancement of the fiber optics by Google in our area will provide a showcase. I do hope that we advance the use of **GMAIL, GOOGLE as our official SEARCH ENGINE, and advance the other Google products - GoogleEarth, GoogleStreet, Google Maps, Books, CHAT and BUZZ and PICASA.** E-Commerce can prevail!
- **Education – Support long distance learning for remote and dispersed students, researchers and allow educators to collaborate and share information.** I look forward to quick searching and presentation of query results to our students at school, at home and on their PDA. As you know, the Town of Salem is home to the **largest grade school district in the state** and we host two high school districts. High Speed will give these students the best possible internet access and response possible and will complement the technology that our taxpayers support in the schools!

- **Healthcare – Promotes telemedicine with healthcare professionals where video is often not otherwise possible.** I look forward to the use of the new YouTube interfaces to Google Products and their use within Healthcare and associated services. Certainly all the hospitals and support services will benefit from high speed.
- **Public Safety – Provide the backbone for an enhanced public safety communication system improving safety and data interoperability across multiple jurisdictions** – I look forward to the use of **GOOGLE Earth and GOOGLE STREETS** on all of the Public Safety and Fire/Ems Vehicles.
- **Competition – Fosters competition with the predominant cable and telecommunication Internet providers.** As you know, much programming is now available for download and viewing on computer, not thru the television. I think the use of high speed fiber optics will certainly advance this, in High Definition and beyond! I know I would enjoy the use of my computer and my cell phone for internet viewing if the speed of the download were acceptable! **I also would appreciate the availability of any programming of my choice,** regardless of regions or profit-taking districting. **High speed fiber optics is the answer!**
- **Quality of Life - I add the use of the internet for pursuit of personal interests and development to the list.** As you know, **I am a user of Gmail as my unofficial and official email addresses!** I have used Gmail as my email service of choice for over 6 years. I have regularly participated in official Google Group help boards. There are thousands of these boards to advance the interests of our residents. I have several that I administer, including MakingSalemBetter@googlegroups.com .All of them simple and free. I use **Picasa**, for all the photos that I take and the historical scanning project that I am involved in. And I can share these freely on **Google WEB**. I have experimented with **CHAT** and with **BUZZ** (a new product similar to Facebook). I use **Google Search Engine** extensively and exclusively. I use the information that I find exercising the **state of the art search tools** that are offered on Google.com and see that the quick speed of the results will only be quicker with fiber optics supported by Google! The secondary applications such as **translation** are ideal for my research in Germany and France. This speed will be beneficial for all of our residents and our international businessmen **Can you imagine** almost real-time viewing of our families on the other side of the world with their video cameras at the keyboard? . **Google is professional to work with and has well thought out programs. I would expect their work with fiber optics to be equally professional!**

Yes, as you expected, please include TOWN OF SALEM in the application. Thank you for taking the lead, for gathering information and for completing the RFI.

I welcome Google into this venue and hope that we are Google's number one choice for implementation. **Thank you for anything that you do to advance this for our area!** I hope someday, that every child, every adult, every business will be able to use the benefits of this initiative and resulting opportunity!

Sincerely,

Linda Valentine
Salem Town Chairman