



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Information Technology

**Date:** March 30, 2015

**To:** The Honorable John Quincy, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

**Referral To:** Full City Council

**Subject:** Wireless Minneapolis Community Account

**Recommendation:** Approve application for free Wireless Community account for the African Community Senior Center

**Previous Directives:** None

### Department Information:

Prepared by: Elise Ebhardt, Interagency Coordinator, 612-673-2026 Submitted by: Otto Doll, Chief Information Officer Approved by: Spencer Cronk, City Coordinator Presenter(s) in Committee: Otto Doll, CIO 612-673-3633
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Reviews	Approval	Date	Not Applicable
Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Civil Rights Approval:	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Policy Review Group (PRG):	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Financial Impact

None. The value of the Wireless Minneapolis Community Account is \$280 for installation and one year of Internet service.

### Supporting Information

In its continuing efforts to make Minneapolis a wireless city that bridges the digital divide, the City of Minneapolis continues to accept applications for "Wireless Community" accounts, which are free wireless Internet accounts intended for non-profit and community organizations that provide free computer access to the public and/or digital literacy training. These accounts are available as part of the community benefits agreement of the Wireless Minneapolis contract with U.S. Internet Wireless.

The City's Information Technology (IT) Department has a new request for use of a free account at the African Community Senior Services at 3040 4th Ave South in South Minneapolis.

African Community Senior Services is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) community organization helping African seniors and others referred to them by providing referrals and information services for housing, transportation, school enrollment for their children and for themselves, and health and wellness services including enrolling in the Affordable Care Act services. The program assists residents in navigating these services online and therefore requires Internet access. Staff use laptops in the office and for outreach in the community. They also have a computer station and a laptop in the office for residents and the general public to use, and three laptops they loan out for their clients to use to enroll in health care or other programs.

IT staff have reviewed the request and determined that the program meets the established eligibility criteria for the Wireless Community Accounts:

Must be non-profits located in the city of Minneapolis, and that:

- Provide public computer access ("community technology centers")
- Provide technology literacy training, and/or
- Provide technology support for underserved communities

Groups eligible to apply for Wireless Community accounts:

- 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations located in Minneapolis and serving Minneapolis residents
- Nonprofits that are not 501(c)3 designated, but who have a fiscal agent
- Neighborhood, community-based, and faith-based associations or groups