Community Connectivity Consortium

History
The consortium started in 2003 with a joint fiber project between the Lake Washington School District and City of Kirkland. It then expanded to include the University of Washington, Evergreen Hospital and the City of Bellevue. Followed quickly by the addition of Bellevue School District, Bellevue College, City of Renton, Renton School District, and City of Seattle. In 2011 the Consortium was formally organized as a government agency. The consortium continually finds opportunities to build out a fiber network on the eastside of Lake Washington to ‘ring the Lake.’ Our current focus is to extend into south King County and ‘expand in the Valley’, with the addition of Auburn and other cities.

We have built over 35 miles of fiber optic cable, creating strategic connection points along the way. Our partners use the fiber network to:

- Connect schools and universities to enhance learning.
- Connect hospitals, medical facilities and clinics to improve health care.
- Connect government facilities for public safety, transportation and other needs.
- Provide an open access network to serve the public with wireless and broadband access.

Future
Now that there are major connection points in Kirkland, Bellevue and soon Renton, we intend over the next five years to:

- Create a vibrant and competitive region by providing connectivity to meet the needs of our community institutions — hospitals, schools, city halls, public safety agencies.
- Expand the use of our fiber network to support new applications and needs.
- Build resiliency in our network and for our partners by adding redundancy and connecting with other regional networks.
- Ensure a sustainable organizational, governance and management structure to make sound, long-term decisions benefiting our customers.

Current Membership

- Bellevue College
- Bellevue School District
- City of Algona
- City of Auburn
- City of Bellevue
- City of Federal Way
- City of Kent
- City of Kirkland
- City of Newcastle
- City of Pacific
- City of Puyallup
- City of Redmond
- City of Renton
- City of Seattle
- City of Tukwila
- Evergreen Hospital
- King County
- Lake Washington School District
- NORCOM
- Northshore School District
- Renton School District
- University of Washington
- Valley Communications Center
- Valley Medical Center

Membership is through an interlocal government agreement.
Current Focus

- Awarded: US Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) 2009 grant for $600K to complete ‘ring’ through Renton

- Governance: Consortium reformed as a Non-profit public corporation effective October 18, 2011.

- Awarded: UASI 2010 grant proposal for $678K to connect to Seattle fiber network and connect to Westin and the PNW Gigapop.

Like electricity a century ago, broadband is a foundation for economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness and a better way of life. It is enabling entire new industries and unlocking vast new possibilities for existing ones. It is changing how we educate children, deliver health care, manage energy, ensure public safety, engage government, and access, organize and disseminate knowledge.

Important Contacts

Sally Askman, Board Member
Director of Technology
Lake Washington School District
saskman@lwsd.org
425.936.1364

Brenda Cooper, Board Member
CIO
City of Kirkland
bcooper@ci.kirkland.wa.us
425.587.3051

Tom Howley, Board Vice-Chair
Technology Infrastructure Manager
Renton School District
Tom.Howley@rentonschools.us
425-204-2481

Chelo Picardal, Board Chair
CTO
City of Bellevue
cpicardal@bellevuewa.gov
425-452-6106

Roland Rivera, Board Member
Director, Network Strategy & Telecommunications
University of Washington
rolandr@uw.edu
206-543-2276

Mehdi Sadri, Board Member
Director, Information Technology
City of Renton
msadri@rentonwa.gov
425.430.6886

John Storch, Board Member
Regional Communications Services Manager
King County
John.Storch@kingcounty.gov
206 263-1198

Ron Tiedeman, Board Member
CIO
City of Auburn
rtiedeman@auburnwa.gov
253.288.3160

Lora Ueland, Board Secretary
Director
Valley Communications Center
lorau@valleycom.org
253.372.1510

George McBride
Consultant
gmcbride@gm2.com
206.575.8559

How much bandwidth is enough?

Bandwidth Comparison

- Fiber (150 mbps – 1 gbps)
- T3 (44 mbps)
- FIOS (20 mbps)
- Cable modem
- DSL

How can we be more competitive?

A small-midsize organization can easily exceed T3-level capacity with its normal web traffic, video streaming, document sharing, data transfer and email volume. Commercial rates for a comparable T3 service (44 mbps) can range from $3,000 to $5,000 per month. Rates for 1 gbps service start around $3,995 per month.

A residential customer can easily exceed cable modem capacity (1-6 mbps) with its television, internet, voice and gaming use. Rates start around $80 per month.

www.communityconnectivity.org