UTOPIA Fiber to the Home in Santa Clara

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Overview of Fiber to the Home with UTOPIA

Utah Infrastructure Agency (UIA)

- Sister interlocal agency of UTOPIA
- Governed by original 11 UTOPIA cities

New Partner Cities

- Cities can partner with UIA to become part of the UTOPIA fiber network
- UIA bonds for, installs, and manages the fiber network
- Only requirement of a new city is to backstop the 27 year bond with franchise and sales tax revenues
- If there's ever shortfall, the city would pay the bond payment, but it is recorded as a loan to the city

Overview of Fiber to the Home with UTOPIA

New Partner Cities, continued

- Similar model to roads and airports
- Customers would pay $30 a month to UTOPIA, and $35 - $55 to an internet service provider of their choice
- Citizens would have 8 - 10 ISP's to choose from on the network
- Symmetrical connections
- No installation fees, no teaser rates, no shared connections, no evening slowdown
- Residents who don't use the fiber pay nothing towards the system

Why Santa Clara Joined

Resident Feedback

- Residents have consistently complained about internet service in our city
- Our survey showed 78% of residents wanted the city to pursue better internet

(Un) Likelihood of Fiber

- ISP's are installing fiber in all new subdivisions now
- But Santa Clara is almost built out
- ISP's told us they would eventually overbuild (maybe in 20 years?)

Why Santa Clara Joined

Increased Competition

- No reliance on any particular ISP
- More providers means even those that don't use fiber will get better service and less expensive plans

Economic Benefits

- Many home-based businesses in Santa Clara
- Remote learning and work
- Internet is approaching the necessity of other utilities, so why rely on antiquated technology?

Potential Options for Ivins

Status Quo

- Any new development will likely get fiber from Century Link and TDS
- Existing homes will continue with current options (potential pockets of inequality?)

Join Utopia or Go Alone

- Can join UIA as individual city or partner with other cities in Southern Utah
- Can form a new city department and build your own fiber network like Ammon, ID

Questions?