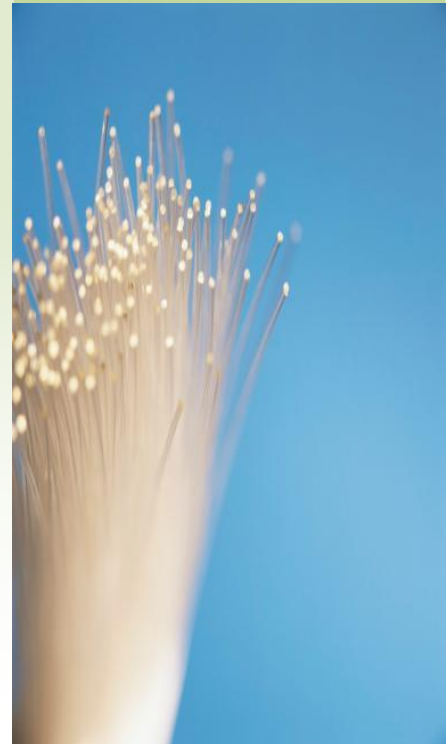# Community Connectivity Consortium

History

The consortium started in 2002 with a joint fiber project between the Lake Washington School District, City of Kirkland, University of Washington and the City of Bellevue. It then expanded to include Evergreen Hospital, the 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 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 institution**s – 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 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

- Completed: US Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants to extend the fiber network to Tukwila, WA.

- Planning: Optical network architecture for to 'Ring the Lake' to create a resilient high capacity core.

- Sizing: Defining the future needs of our community institutions – schools, public safety facilities, hospitals, government facilities - to scale the optical network design.

- Growing: Pursuing our strategic goals of expanding our network and adding partners along the way.

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.

The National Broadband Plan

Important Contacts

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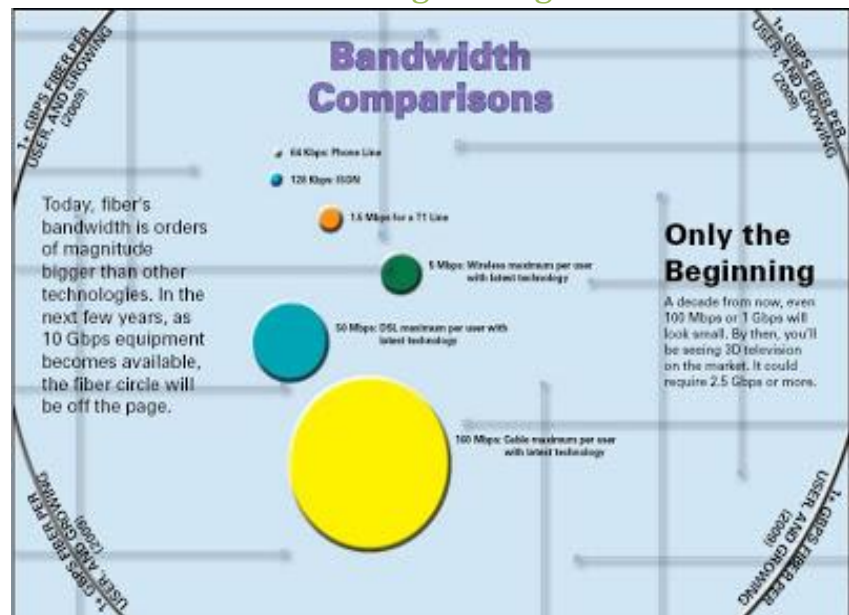University of Washington
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How Big Is a Gig?

From Fiber to the Home Primer

Why bandwidth matters?

More data, more devices, more connected things. Today, research institutions deal with large scientific data sets often collaborating with other universities and scientists around the world. A single DNA sequencer can use a 2.5 gbps connection. Schools and universities are moving into online curriculum with much richer content and more interaction with students from anywhere. Medical centers generate numerous large data files from digital imaging often sharing with specialists or clinics in the region. A single CT scan is one hundred times the size of a digital photo. High-tech companies need significant bandwidth for video streaming, cloud services, online gaming, 3D imaging, etc. Consumers also make up a large part of the demand growth with high-definition video streaming subscriptions, video calls to connect with families and friends, uploading photos and videos to social media sites, and a proliferation of mobile devices that are always connected to the internet.