

# Google Fiber Community Connections Program Overview

Economic Opportunity Committee

Adella Hawkins, TARA Officer  
June 8, 2015



# Community Sections am

Program Overview

Original Site Review &  
Assessment Criteria

Site Withdrawal &  
Replacement Process

Timeline



## Community Connections Program Introduction



- On April 9, 2013, Google Fiber announced they would construct a fiber network in Austin capable of delivering one Gigabit broadband to residential customers and to small businesses
- Google Fiber would also provide video service
- Austin was second fiber City - Kansas City, KS first
- Google will provide free, gigabit Internet service through its fiber network free of charge for 10 years, through April of 2023, to City Hall, the new Central library and up to 100 public and non-profit sites to be determined by the City.
- Community Connection service cannot be used for mission critical services
- Community Connection installed once Google Fiber builds out in fiberhood (demand-based model)

# Community Sections Program Introduction



- City Council adopted the review and assessment criteria, selection process and timeline per Resolution No. 20130822-083
- Using this criteria, staff developed the program application
- City received overwhelming response to application process : 158 different organizations applied for a total of 310 sites
- Organizations were organized into 4 categories:
  1. Social, health & well-being, including family services
  2. Arts, culture and community
  3. Education, workforce and higher education, including professional development and skills associations
  4. Public facilities (City, Independent School District and Housing Authority)

•

# Applications Created Using Law and Government Data

## Community:

- Does it promote digital inclusion?
- Will it serve the underserved?
- Does it offer a new community service to the public as a result of the connection?
- How will it enhance public participation in organization's service?
- Does the entity make the connection available and accessible?

## Innovation:

- Are there potential innovative applications?
- Does the entity have or foster high bandwidth applications?
- Does the entity have the interest, capacity and resources to advance their technologies?

## Pragmatic:

- Does the entity currently have access to affordable, quality, high-speed broadband internet?
- Does the entity have (or will they have) equipment necessary to connect?
- Will the connection help the entity financially?
- How long will the entity be at their current location?

ite map and  
ications are  
able on the  
Open Data  
|

data.austintexas.gov

Home Developers Videos www.austintexas.gov Help Sign Up



Unsaved View

Save As...

Revert

Based on Community Connections Program: 100 Gigabit  
Speed (Google Fiber) Public Facilities

\*BETA dataset\* Community Connections Program: 100



Find in this Dataset

Manage

More Views

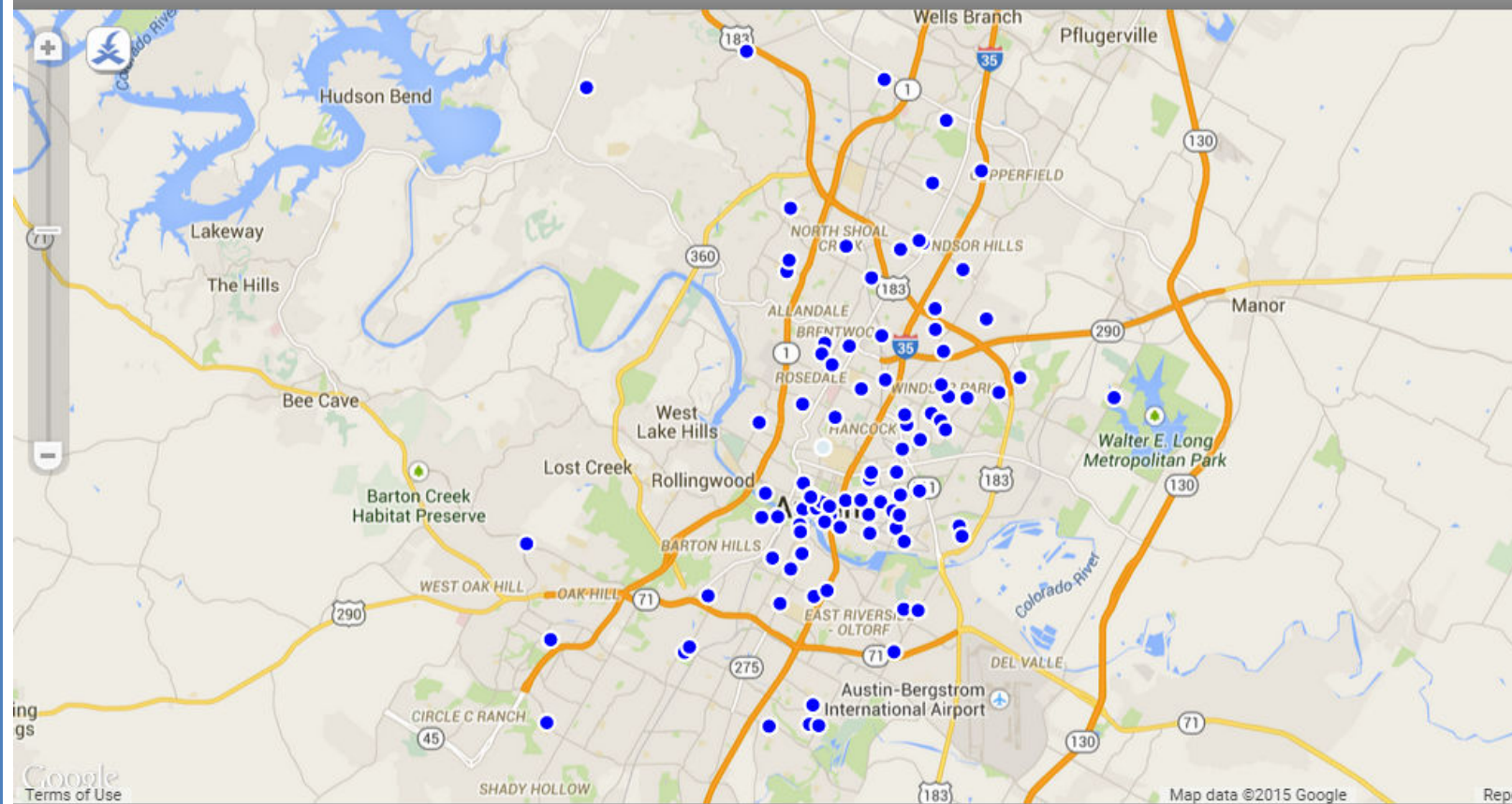
Filter

Visualize

Export

Discuss

Embed



## Withdrawal & Replacement Process

- In February of 2015, one of the recommended sites withdrew: Austin Travis County Integral Care – Dove Springs Integrated Care Facility, located at 5015 S 1H-35, Austin, TX 78744 (Category: Social, Health and Well-being, including Family Services)
- Council Resolution No. 20131212-070 states in the event of a vacancy, City Manager will collect suggestions from Council members and provide to the Emerging Technology and Telecommunications Council Committee (now falls under the Economic Opportunity Committee) to recommend a replacement site to City Council for approval
- At its March 11, 2015 meeting, the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission voted unanimously to recommend the City Council select a replacement site utilizing the adopted review and assessment criteria



## eline & ommended t Steps

- If the replacement site is in same geographic area, Google Fiber's deadline is August 31, 2015
- June 8<sup>th</sup> - Economic Opportunity Committee Overview on the Community Connections Program & review list of the eligible sites (who originally applied but were not selected) in 78744
- City staff will distribute memorandum to full Council requesting suggestions for replacement site by July 31<sup>st</sup>
- August 10<sup>th</sup> – Recommendation from the Economic Opportunity Committee to City Council on a replacement site for the Community Connections Program
- August 20<sup>th</sup> - City Council approval on the Community Connection replacement site

# A Digital Inclusion Team Contact

- [austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion](https://austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion)
- @COADigInclusion
- [digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov](mailto:digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov)
- Rondella Hawkins, TARA Officer
  - [Rondella.Hawkins@austintexas.gov](mailto:Rondella.Hawkins@austintexas.gov)
- John Speirs, Program Coordinator
  - [John.speirs@austintexas.gov](mailto:John.speirs@austintexas.gov)
- Sharla Chamberlain, Program Specialist
  - [Sharla.chamberlain@austintexas.gov](mailto:Sharla.chamberlain@austintexas.gov)
- Kirby Aull, Community Engagement Associate (VISTA)
  - [Kirby.aull@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kirby.aull@austintexas.gov)

