



**WESTERN
NEW ENGLAND
COLLEGE**

March 3, 2010

To: Google Inc.
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View, CA 94043

From: Scott J. Coopee

RE: **Recommendation of Springfield, MA to Google Fiber Optic Network**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Western New England College, I am writing to support the candidacy of the City of Springfield, Massachusetts to participate in the trial membership of the Google ultra-high speed broadband network. One of the most critical components of economic growth and community development is the ability to integrate, manage, and leverage information technology into our community. Knowledge work and technology literacy are of manifest importance as a transformational agent in our society. Allowing Springfield the opportunity to participate in this Google initiative would have a profound impact on this transformation and on the lives of Springfield citizens.

Western New England College, as well as the other institutions participating in the Cooperating Colleges of Greater Springfield (CCGS) offer various degree, certificate, and cultural programs and opportunities. Many of the offerings utilize some form of technology component from on-line or blended learning environments, to distance education using the internet. The growth of media-rich pedagogical environments is reliant upon a sound infrastructure for delivery. With the availability of an affordable Google ultra high-speed network, the residents of greater Springfield, who may not otherwise have an opportunity to engage in the vast areas of educational enrichment offered by the Colleges, will now have the ability to do so. The Google infrastructure will serve as a catalyst for educating Springfield's citizens and encouraging future growth and development. As such, Western New England College fully supports and encourages establishment of the Google ultra-high speed network.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. Please contact me if I can provide you with any further detail relating to enhanced internet services and how they can be used to extend educational offerings and cultural opportunities.

Regards,

Scott J. Coopee
Assistant Vice President
Office of Information Technology
Western New England College
1215 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, MA 01119