



## Broadband Access Survey

**SeaTac, WA (March 4, 2019)** –City leaders of SeaTac, Washington are currently seeking to understand if current broadband infrastructure and services are sufficient to support the area’s residents and business needs. To collect this data they enlisted the support of statewide broadband nonprofit NoaNet, who has been serving Washington State to support broadband infrastructure expansion for the past 20 years. Through this partnership, NoaNet has launched a city-wide community broadband survey to determine which, if any, areas are being negatively impacted by lack of quality Internet access, affordability, or choice.

Claire Ward, Marketing and Communications Manager at NoaNet is managing the city’s survey campaign. “So far we have had a very positive response from the community. We will have the survey open online for the next couple of months to collect as much data as possible from the community so we can hear from residents and businesses directly about how they feel about their current service options and availability. Coupled with mapping of current infrastructure, this will help us identify potential barriers to adequate broadband access within the City.”

Tim Ramsaur, Senior Management Analyst at the City of SeaTac who is overseeing the assessment feels strongly about ensuring the community has the infrastructure in place that is needed for robust broadband services. “The City recognizes the importance of affordable, quality broadband access for our residents and businesses, and that is why we are conducting this assessment” says Ramsaur. “Our kids need to have affordable quality Internet access in their homes for schoolwork and our businesses need reliable connections to complete in digital marketplaces. The City is doing what we can to ensure that our residents and businesses have access to the tools they need to thrive.”

For non-English speakers there are paper surveys available. “We understand there is tremendous language diversity in SeaTac and to reach SeaTac residents who are not English speakers there are paper surveys available in Spanish and Somali at the Valley View Library, at the local schools, and at City Hall” says Ward.

In addition to survey feedback, Ms. Ward is also currently looking for community Champions to lead outreach efforts. “Community champions are essential for letting people know the City is conducting this effort. We need people to help spread the word and get others to take the survey, so the City can make informed decisions about broadband infrastructure moving forward.” To sign up to be a broadband champion, you can do so at the survey portal website.

The survey will be open to the public until mid-May, when the aggregate data will be evaluated by NoaNet in conjunction with current infrastructure and services available to assess if there is a need for public investment in broadband infrastructure. Until then, the city will be collecting feedback from the public on an online survey portal at <http://noanet.servicezones.net/seatac>.

### **About NoaNet**

*Northwest Open Access Network (NoaNet) is a non-profit wholesale only telecommunications network owner and provider which operates fiber network spanning thousands of miles throughout the State of Washington. NoaNet engages their mission to serve Washington State by consistently looking for new opportunities to expand in meaningful ways that bridge the digital divide. For additional information on NoaNet visit <http://www.noanet.net>.*

**About the City of SeaTac:**

*Incorporated in February 1990, the City of SeaTac is located approximately midway between the cities of Seattle and Tacoma. The City of SeaTac is 10 square miles in area and has a population of 29,130\*. The City is a vibrant community, economically strong, environmentally sensitive, and people-oriented. The City boundaries surround the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, (approximately three-square miles in area) which is owned and operated by the Port of Seattle.*

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