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The Metro Connect Initiative

A Seakay Project

SeaKay is a nonprofit 501(c)3 California Public Benefit Corporation with a mission to improve the efficiencies and effectiveness of the not for profit sector. This mission will be demonstrated in improved service delivery to larger and larger populations. The expanding services are achieved as a result of the expansion of resources available to the not-for-profit sector.

Metro Connect is a national initiative which is generated from finding common ground between business and social /public benefit objectives. Metro Connect has built a collaborative of major high-tech industry companies that have a common business objective of lowering barriers to broadband access primarily through wireless technology. Wider access will benefit industry by opening up new markets for equipment, applications, and services. Industry sees an expansion of access to the internet as an opportunity to achieve business objectives and give back to the community. The fundamental objective of the Metro Connect collaborative is to enable ubiquitous internet access over large Metropolitan areas. This serves a Public Benefit by enabling high speed internet access to a wide range of underserved communities who for reasons of economic, geographic location or disability have not been able to put the internet to work to improve their situation.

The Metro Connect collaborative offers a solution for implementing and operating large municipal and regional wireless public networks. These projects have public benefit at their core. The network seeks to provide ubiquitous public access, free when economically possible, municipal services at low rates, public safety prioritization, and assurances to public entities of competitive pricing and financial viability. Network decisions can then be based on transparent financial controls and governance mandated by the not for profit public benefit regulations.

The network is directed towards serving the public at a grassroots and neighborhood level. Localized Metro Connect implementations include local governance, targeted content and tools to enable efficiencies by locally non-profit organizations consistent with SeaKay's mission.