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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

**Springfield Google Partnership Launches Facebook Page**

Citizens who want Google to choose Springfield for its “Think Big with a Gig” super high-speed Internet test project can show community support on a new Facebook page at www.facebook.com/googlespringfield.

Community members also can apply on Springfield’s behalf directly to Google via: www.google.com/appserve/fiberrfi/

The Springfield City Council on Monday night authorized the City to move forward on responding to Google’s Request for Information from cities interested in the trial project. Google is seeking responses from communities in the 50,000-to-500,000 population range interested in testing an ultra-fast broadband network that can deliver the Internet more than 100 times faster than most Americans can access it today.

Springfield’s application will be developed jointly by Springfield City Utilities, the City of Springfield, Greene County and the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce. The partnership’s preliminary review of the RFI indicates Springfield is well-suited for the criteria Google has proposed, particularly its position as a regional hub for business, medical and educational facilities.

There is no application fee to participate in the RFI and Google has indicated it is not seeking any financial assistance from the winning community or communities.

For more information, contact: Joel Alexander, City Utilities Manager of Communications, 831-8902; or Louise Whall or Mike Brothers, City of Springfield Public Information, 864-1010.