



October 17, 2007

Toni Wheeler
City Attorney
The City of Lawrence
6 W. 6th St.
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Toni,

This letter serves as the quarterly report for Lawrence Freenet for the quarter ending September 30, 2007.

At the termination of the quarter the company had 1,144 paying subscribers and 90 individual low income subscribers. In addition, the organization is also providing free service to the new **Habitat for Humanity** neighborhood, the **Lawrence Humane Society** and any interested families at the **Lawrence Housing Authority**. The organization also provides reduced fee services to the **Lawrence Diploma Completion Center**, the **City of Lawrence Water Department** and the **Parks 'n Recreation** department.

In addition, the company has recently launched a free WiFi initiative for Lawrence merchants. Any merchant in Lawrence who has a seating area can get free WiFi for their patrons by simply calling and requesting service. Further details of this program are attached.

One thing that the board of directors has asked to have added to this report is a request for the City of Lawrence to appoint a representative to serve on the non-profit's board of directors. This representative would help with transparency and would be a valuable liaison for discussions regarding the proposed "T" project and the Lawrence Police Department's request for a demonstration project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kris Adair".

Kris Adair
Treasurer
Lawrence Freenet, Inc.
4105 W. 6th St.
Lawrence, KS 66049
Ph: (785) 371-4214
Fx: (785) 331-2086
Cl: (785) 840-7989

Lawrence Freenet Offers Free WiFi to Lawrence Businesses

October 8, 2007, Lawrence, KS – Lawrence Freenet, the largest operational municipal WiFi network in the Midwest, is proud to announce the completion of its downtown wireless project.

As part of this project the organization will encourage downtown patrons to use the wireless network free of charge. “We want to help the community as much as possible,” said Kris Adair the organization’s treasurer, “by providing free service to local merchants we can help to make downtown an even better place to be.”

The company will provide service in a very unique manner. “A lot of communities that build ‘hot zones’ provide unregulated access throughout the district”, said Joshua Montgomery, the project’s founder, “some merchants have limited room and want to turn their tables quickly. That is why we came up with a method that gives merchants a choice.”



Merchants who want to offer Free Wireless Internet can simply put out a stack of “day passes”. Each one of these scratch card passes allows a patron to get on the Internet for a full day.



Service is free to merchants that meet the organization’s criteria. To qualify merchants must have:

1. A seating area or waiting area for patrons
2. Two Lawrence Freenet Hotspot stickers posted in prominent locations.
3. A small display of free scratch cards for patron use.

The organization now has coverage throughout the downtown area, though it wasn’t easy to come by. “Getting the network built downtown was very difficult in light of the historic nature of the area,” said Montgomery, “we had to get inventive when placing our wireless antennas.” The inventive solution? Solar powered WiFi equipment located in newspaper boxes throughout the district.

The company now has 10 solar powered WiFi nodes operational in Lawrence Kansas. These WiFi nodes provide great data service using clean renewable energy. “We installed 5 solar powered units in the downtown area and another 5 units at Leanna Mar Townhomes,” said Montgomery, “This is all a part of Freenet and Leanna Mar’s Commitment to a cleaner environment. Lots of people talk about using alternative energy, we actually do it.”

Lawrence Freenet

A Community Connection



Though these solar powered units provide great coverage, some merchants may need an additional booster. These boosters are available free of charge to any merchant who wants one. “Our goal is to provide universal Internet access. What better way to do this than to make every business in Lawrence a wireless hotspot,” said Adair.

Lawrence Freenet currently provides free hotspots at a number of locations, including Hastings, Ecumenical Christian Ministries and the Westside Miller Mart. “As part of our commitment to

businesses in Lawrence, we are going to be expanding this offer to every business in the community by the end of the month”, said Montgomery.

Merchants who are interested in providing free WiFi to patrons can contact the company at (785) 371-4214 or online at <http://www.lawrencefreenet.org>.

Lawrence Freenet is a 501c(4) non profit organization that has as its goal the provision of broadband services to families that might not otherwise be able to afford it. The company is supported by paying members. It takes 10 paying members to support one needy family. The company was founded in April of 2005 and has build one of the most successful municipal WiFi networks in the country with no taxpayer dollars.

For additional information or to sign up for service members of the community can go to: <http://www.lawrencefreenet.org>.

Did you Know.....

Lost? Anyone can access Google Maps using the Lawrence Freenet WiFi network – no account required.

Bored? Use Lawrence Freenet’s city wide WiFi network to read the Lawrencian – no account required.

It takes 10 paying members to support each low income subscriber on the Lawrence Freenet Network.

The Lawrence Freenet network is iPhone & iPod ready, simply turn on your iPhone or iPod-Touch and connect the “Freenet” SSID.

Press package including images & text may be found at: <http://www.lawrencefreenet.org/press/freewifi.zip>