



March 19, 2013

David Corliss  
City Manager  
City of Lawrence, Kansas  
City Hall  
6 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Re: City of Lawrence and KU Fiber Optic Network Memorandum of Understanding

Dear Mr. Corliss:

I want to thank you, your staff and the City Commissioners for allowing the University of Kansas the opportunity to discuss the collaborative development of fiber optic networks with the City of Lawrence. We strongly believe that it is in the best interest of both the City and the University, as well as our constituents, to work together to improve our respective telecommunication and networking technologies.

KU and the City both operate a large number of facilities throughout Lawrence that could benefit from direct access to fiber. KU currently has a number of academic facilities, research facilities and business incubation and collaboration facilities that require low-cost access to cutting-edge, high-throughput networking technology. By installing this fiber, KU will be able to better support and compete for research grants. This collaboration also will allow KU future opportunities to connect with other partners and stakeholders within the City as we seek to expand and promote a culture of engaged scholarship and entrepreneurship. Both of these opportunities are key goals of KU's *Bold Aspirations* strategic plan.

The City of Lawrence and its citizens will also benefit from this partnership. KU will help the City invest in fiber throughout Lawrence, which will bring costs down more than either party could alone. The City also will be able to accelerate the pace of connecting city buildings, traffic signals and other resources to a secure high speed network. And, this partnership will offer greater connectivity to present and future City/University co-development initiatives, such as the Farmland Industries site, East Hills Business Park, Bioscience Technology and Business Center, as well as other public/private partnerships.

On a personal note, it has been a great pleasure to work with Ms. Stoddard and Mr. Wisdom. Their drive, dedication and advocacy on behalf of the citizens of Lawrence is truly impressive. They, and the other city staff we've interacted with during these discussions, have been a joy to work with.

My staff and I look forward to working with the City to leverage technology as a means of benefiting the citizens, students and businesses of Lawrence.

My sincere thanks,

Jeff Perry  
Deputy Technology Officer  
The University of Kansas