



# Mesa, Arizona Wi-Fi Project Goals

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# 2005 Background

- City budget condition bleak – two tax issues headed for the ballot, hiring freeze in place, and layoffs rumored
- City field employees using wireless EVDO connectivity limited due to cost
- Public perception that the City was inefficient and slow to adopt new ideas



# Other Factors

- Wi-Fi system deployment was underway in Tempe; Phoenix and Scottsdale were making plans for Wi-Fi
- Residents expressed concerns about high cost of cable modem Internet service
- Unsolicited proposals for Wi-Fi system were received



# City Planning Process

- City needs assessment
  - Numerous department meetings
  - Technology requirements gathering
  - Economic development opportunity
- Community stakeholder input
  - Downtown Mesa Association
  - Mesa Community College
  - Mesa Public Schools
  - Fiesta Mall Area Stakeholders



# City Needs

- Expanded field connectivity for employees
  - Now: Code Compliance, Utility Locators, Police Officers, Building Inspectors
- *New* field connectivity for employees
  - Engineering inspectors, park rangers, utility field staff, tax auditors, park maintenance staff, to name just a few
- Multi-department interests: AVL, VoIP, and video surveillance, access to GIS data and databases
- Meet specific department needs



# Project Goals

- Border-to-border wireless municipal mesh network to provide total mobility for City staff
- Ubiquitous Wi-Fi broadband coverage over Mesa for residents and businesses
- Expanded usage of the City Web sites and e-services by offering free “anywhere” access to [www.cityofmesa.org](http://www.cityofmesa.org), [www.mesalibrary.org](http://www.mesalibrary.org) and [www.mesaartscenter.com](http://www.mesaartscenter.com)



- Support Mesa Public Schools with free access to the school district website for parents and students
- Support the development of the downtown MCC campus with a Wi-Fi hotzone
- Benefit retail and restaurant districts (for example Downtown Mesa, malls, etc.) by negotiating to offer Wi-Fi access



# Proposed Business Model

- **Seek:** The most qualified/responsive service provider to be licensed to build a Citywide Wi-Fi system through an RFP process.
- **Offer:** Use of the municipally-owned street lights, traffic signals, and buildings for the service provider to deploy the Wi-Fi network.
- **Receive:** In-kind services to meet City network needs and to benefit the community.