

March 22, 2010

Mr. Ira levy
Information Technology
Howard County Government
8930 Stanford Boulevard
Columbia, MD 21045

Dear Mr. Levy:

The Community College of Baltimore County wishes to advocate for the Maryland BTOP grant application. We have a critical need for improved access to broadband service to help the College achieve our core educational and job-training mission. A critical starting point in fulfilling this mission is the broadband access that this grant would provide. If the grant is approved and the proposed broadband network implemented, the Community College of Baltimore County would be a participant in this service.

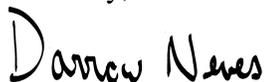
Our need for broadband connectivity promises to be a long-term issue. It is required to provide access to more educational opportunities, learning resources and institutional partners. The college has invested in broadband services for the college but cannot keep up with every growing need to expand it to keep up with enrollment growth, applications and online services. Budget constraints due to the ongoing economic crisis will affect our capabilities to purchase bandwidth sufficient for these current and future needs from private providers.

If the broadband network project is constructed and we are connected to the middle-mile infrastructure, our anticipated broadband service will enable us to:

- Improve capability to provide media rich instruction for students on campus and workforce development initiatives.
- Improve capability to create partnerships with other institutions and businesses through use of interactive online video and web conferencing.
- Inter-connect with all community colleges in the state of Maryland allowing us to leverage resources enhancing our ability to offer advanced learning experiences.

Thank you for including the Community College of Baltimore County as one of your network's community anchors. Construction of the network would represent a great opportunity for us and for the community we serve.

Sincerely,



Darrow Neves
Chief Technology Officer
Community College of Baltimore County
800 S. Rolling Road, Catonsville MD 21228