



B.1 Local Broadband Initiatives

Broadband Advisory Taskforce

MUNICIPALITY	BROADBAND-ORIENTED INITIATIVES
Aurora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New LED streetlights being installed across Aurora are wi-fi-ready • Recently-developed Town-owned employment lands have been fitted with dark fibre • Currently in discussions with landowner to have new employment lands in 2C Planning Area serviced with dark fibre • Municipal documents that outline the process a service provider must follow to install their infrastructure on municipally-owned land or structures, including a new protocol for antenna systems • Through the 10-year capital plan, telecom services providers are made aware of road work schedules and that they will have an opportunity to install infrastructure • Aurora convenes a utility coordination committee which includes telecoms • Multiple broadband-supportive policies are included within the Strategic Plan and Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) Action Plan • Participating in discussions at the provincial level through surveys/conference calls on the GTHA Economic Growth Working Group – Broadband Sub-Committee • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
East Gwillimbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 council adopted a policy to revise engineering design standards, including installation of empty conduit and that conduit installation be required in collector road rights-of-way in all subdivisions, including those currently under construction. • Recently completed consultant studies on the gaps and opportunities regarding broadband access across the municipality. Study conclusions are being used to inform ongoing discussions with York Region and Internet Service Providers, and to provide a framework for determining next steps in advancing and/or providing for future broadband infrastructure • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
Georgina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquired the assets of the former South Shore Community Broadband consortium in 2013. • Completed a broadband coverage assessment of the Town of Georgina in the Summer of 2015, including creation of static maps relating to radio frequency coverage, clutter, paths/lines of site, etc. • Completed a secondary broadband coverage expansion study to obtain a budgetary design for footprint expansion of the wireless broadband infrastructure in Fall of 2015. • Ongoing work to leverage partnership opportunities with both private and public sector entities to provide the most connectivity at the lowest price.

King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported a Bell Canada Pilot Project in late 2014 and early 2015 in which a rural estate property subdivision on Dufferin Street north of King City received installation of Fibre-to-the-Address for approximately 104 households. • Currently working to revise the Official Plan to include policy language that supports the deployment of broadband infrastructure • Supported Vianet’s 2015 application for funding to the Ontario Government under the <i>Small Communities Infrastructure Funding Program</i> to support expansion of their investment within King Township • Considering a gap analysis survey in 2016 supplemented by a self-assessed broadband speed test that residents and businesses would be asked to submit to the Township. • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
Markham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently completed Phase 1 of a Digital Strategy study which explored how to improve access to and delivery of municipal services to constituents. • Currently planning Phase 2 of the Digital Strategy, which will investigate how to improve broadband access across the city • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
Newmarket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently updated the Official Plan to ensure language that supports the deployment of broadband infrastructure in new developments is included • Issued a RFP in early 2015 for a broadband build within a Gigabit Corridor pilot area that includes commercial and employment areas. The overarching requirement with any potential partner is that this network be a Top 10 in Canada in terms of speed and affordability. • Currently negotiating with one private sector company to arrive at a mutually-beneficial business model, while exploring other options that would assist in meeting the objectives of the RFP. • Actively involved in the GTHA Economic Growth Working Group Broadband Sub-Committee • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
Richmond Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing consultations with telecom services providers and Internet Service Providers regarding current and future service levels
Vaughan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Framework for the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) will include a section on integrating free wi-fi into the design of all public spaces within the VMC. This framework also includes the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enable investment in physical and digital infrastructure to support the development of the VMC ○ Work with developers, landowners and other stakeholders to ensure that the physical and built environment supports SMART technology platforms (e.g. mobile hotspots, fibre wiring, broadband improvements, etc.). ○ Consider planning for these technological networks through the VMC Utility Master Plan. ○ Ensure that policies are introduced through the 5-year Official Plan review to promote “smart” technology integration in intensification areas. • Ongoing discussions with telecom services providers regarding improving broadband access throughout the City and implementing “smart city” features in the VMC.

Whitchurch-Stouffville	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council recently approved the inclusion of Fibre-to-the-Address (FTTA) as an additional incentive offered to landowners in Downtown Stouffville as part of the Community Improvement Plan (CIP). This incentive allows landowners to offset the cost of investing in FTTA infrastructure, in turn, enabling the attraction of businesses that require access to quality, high-speed broadband. This is a competitive advantage that enables knowledge-based businesses to create jobs in Downtown Stouffville and allows retailers and merchants to leverage e-commerce and web-based applications to optimize their business operations.• Partnered with Vianet to provide Fibre-to-the-Address and Broadband services to residents in the Trail of the Woods community
------------------------	---