

Initial Thoughts Regarding ARRA 2009 for Marin  
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Below are some thoughts on potential projects that fit the various criteria for the NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) contained in the overall Federal Stimulus Bill that could be used as examples for City and County officials. Essentially, key criteria that the NTIA will be looking for (and the more criteria that an individual project meets, the more likelihood of it getting funded) include:

- Provide the greatest broadband speed possible to unserved areas
- Provide the greatest broadband speed possible to underserved areas
- Shows the NTIA that the proposed project would not have been implemented during the grant period without Federal assistance
- Provides for sustainable access by disadvantaged populations (access at public locations, provision of computer and technology literacy programs, etc.)
- Provides for equipment and training at schools, libraries, health care providers, and community centers
- Provides for greater use of broadband by low income, aged and other disadvantaged populations
- Improves broadband use by and access to public safety agencies
- Improves public computing capacity
- Overall, helps to provide the greatest broadband speed possible to the greatest population of users within an area
- Projects must be completed within two-years of the award
- Projects are typically subject to a 20% match by the recipient, unless the recipient receives a waiver from the NTIA (MTA could show matches based on what is currently being put into MIDAS and into specific projects by the cities)

Accordingly, some of the projects we believe would apply include:

- Marin Transit – Piggyback on GGT's deployment
- Transit hubs and bus stops – Hotspot deployment
- Mill Valley Police – Further deployment of hotspots
- Novato Police – Deployment of available hotspots and more
- Sheriff's Department – Deployment of hotspots for remote access
- Public safety – Deployment of remote hotspots and mobile remote hotspots
- Public Works – Deployment of remote hotspots and mobile hotspots
- Libraries/Community Centers – Additional public access computers and training