

Item 3.5 - Actions Related to the Agreements Between the City of San José and the East Side Union School District and SmartWAVE Technologies LLC for a Community Wireless Network

City Council

October 22, 2019

Dolan Beckel, Director, Civic Innovation

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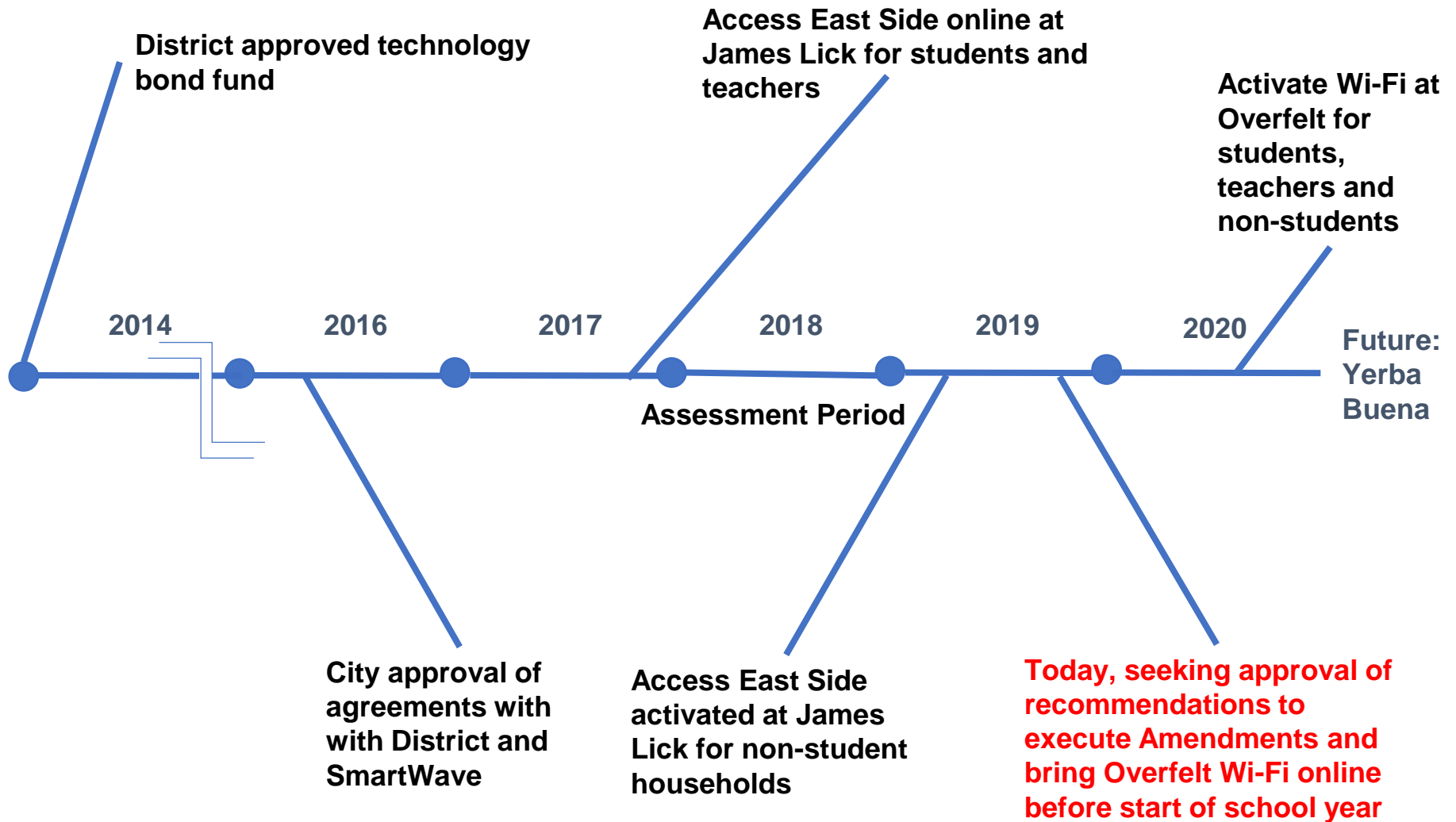
Randy Phelps, Chief Technology Officer, East Side Union High School District

Background

- Approximately 30% of the students in East San Jose do not have internet access at home.
- East Side Union High School District (District) passed 2014 technology bond to increase student access to computers and modern technology including allocation of \$2.7 million to close the homework gap (digital divide).
- District partnered with City to pilot free outdoor Wi-Fi access to student and non student households in three lowest income high school attendance areas (James Lick, Overfelt, and Yerba Buena) to help close the homework gap.
- City Council approved the deployment of “Access East Side” in the James Lick High School attendance area and directed City Manager to assess project and to report back on funding and project performance to Council before proceeding to Overfelt and Yerba Buena.



Timeline



Partnerships – It Takes a Village



- Capital (i.e. Wi-Fi equipment) funding
- City staff (permitting, etc) funding
- Operations and Maintenance funding

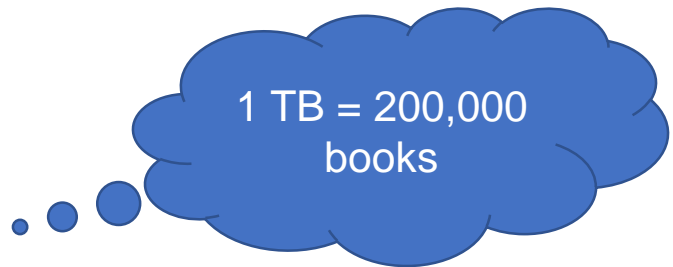


- Infrastructure assets (i.e. streetlights, power, backhaul)
- City staff design and construction support
- Leadership support and other in-kind contributions
- Library support for educational outcomes/digital literacy

- Implementation and evaluation



Assessment



1 TB = 200,000
books

- Customer Satisfaction - District very satisfied
- Student and Teacher Usage - over 1.5 Terrabytes (TB) per month
- Public Usage - over 5 TB per month (5 times greater than downtown, convention center and airport usage combined)
- Technology Solution - Mesh network provides a cost-effective means for connectivity with enhanced resiliency and reliability
- Technical Performance - Since November 2017, the Wi-Fi availability was 99.4% reliable
- Educational Benchmarks – District and City have agreed upon a set of educational benchmarks to be measured over time and compared to Overfelt and Yerba Buena
- Student and teacher satisfaction - Very satisfied. More student teacher engagement via email after school, etc.
- Testimonial - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x9loo1nD3g>
- Funding – Based on actual experience, there is an approximate \$1.4 funding gap for Yerba Buena installation and ongoing operations and maintenance
- District Perspective – CTO Randy Phelps

Next Steps

- Approval of recommendation to execute agreement
- Begin immediately the Overfelt design to meet school year
- Target deployment late July 2020
- Conduct educational assessments
- Pursue options to close funding gap for Yerba Buena installation and ongoing operations and maintenance

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