

# Los Alamos Monitor

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## Los Alamos wants in on Google test

◆ Company is looking for communities to test ultra high speed internet

**MANDY MARKSTEINER**

*Special to the Monitor*

Who has not wished that the Internet was 100

times faster?

If Laura Gonzales, the IT manager for Los Alamos County, convinces Google that Los Alamos residents can push the limits of technology, that wish may be realized.

Google is looking for communities to test ultra high-speed Internet, operating at one gigabit

per second.

At its meeting Tuesday in White Rock, the county council unanimously approved Gonzales's plan to submit an application for the Google Fiber Initiative by the March 26 deadline.

"It's a good opportunity," said Council Vice Chair Sharon Stover. "We need to pursue it."

Gonzales said she is

working with the chamber to create a YouTube video that shows what makes Los Alamos special. "It's something that I'm excited about and I'm willing to give my time, gladly," Gonzales said.

To help

influence

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## GOOGLE

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Google, residents may go online to [www.google.com/appserve/fiberfi/public/options](http://www.google.com/appserve/fiberfi/public/options), push the "nominate your community" button and fill out the form saying why Los Alamos should be Google's first choice.

Gonzales asked business owners to call the Chamber of Commerce to tell them how their businesses can benefit from the high speed Internet. The chamber plans to use these stories to strengthen the city's case.

Councilor Robert Gibson pointed out that thousands of communities are competing for Google's attention. "The odds are not high, but we should go for it," he said.

Whether or not Los Alamos is chosen, Gibson said, "We need to move aggressively on our own to get broadband to every household in the community. The local government has recognized its need but not the need of the community - which is where the opportunity lies."