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### **Future Wireless Cities Workshop - February 3, 2016**

The proliferation of wireless devices is astounding. The future proliferation of wireless devices that will be enabled by the Internet of Things (IOT), as everything from refrigerators to street signs have the capability of being networked, will dwarf the web of connectivity we see today.

Cities, including many trying to embrace innovation and transform themselves into Smart Cities, will benefit from enhanced connectivity of buildings, vehicles, equipment, signage, and other physical and human resource assets being connected via high-speed wireless networks. The backbone of this effort will be robust wireless networks deployed throughout the city to connect sensors and devices to high-speed, secure networks that enable real-time data sharing and decision-making on the part of citizens and city leaders.

Burlington is working to actively develop a tech-centric ecosystem, leveraging its many innovation assets and looking to the near future to embrace Smart City strategies, led by a Mayor who is committed to this vision of the future. It is a City poised to be a test-bed for next generation wireless networks for a variety of reasons. Among the assets and experience that Burlington would bring to such a test include but are not limited to:

- City leadership actively working to enable smart city technologies and embracing data driven approaches to the future.
- A locally built fiber-to-the-home wired network that covers much of the city and a soon-to-be-deployed SDN-enabled compute and storage cluster (i.e., GENI rack)
- BTV Ignite co-founders that represent key institutions in the City including:
  - City of Burlington
  - Burlington Electric (municipally owned electric utility)
  - Burlington Telecom (municipally built fiber optic platform)
  - Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
  - Champlain College
  - University of Vermont
  - University of Vermont Medical Center & Health Network
- Experience deploying a commercial wireless network to the Church Street Marketplace – our cities crown jewel shopping district that annually serves millions of visitors.
- Burlington Electric's willingness to share poles and power connections to enable deployment of an experimental wireless network.
- Burlington Telecom's willingness to house hardware to support an experimental wireless network.

With these assets Burlington is well positioned to be a leader in deploying next-generation wireless technologies for the benefit of its citizens.

Mike Schirling, Executive Director of BTV Ignite, would welcome the chance to attend the second day of the Future Wireless Cities Workshop on February 3. Mike has a deep technology understanding and served as the Chief of Police of Burlington for 7 and a half years. In that role he saw firsthand how the promise of new technologies can be deployed for the benefit of the citizens of Burlington and is eager to effect the same change across other sectors of the city.