



## MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

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For Immediate Release - March 10, 2021

### Northampton Launches Online Municipal Broadband Surveys

Surveys will also be mailed to all Northampton Households

NORTHAMPTON - Today, Mayor David J. Narkewicz announced that the City of Northampton has launched two online surveys designed to identify the current and future broadband needs of Northampton's residents and businesses. All Northampton residents and all businesses located in Northampton are encouraged to complete the survey by April 23, 2021, to help the city evaluate the potential for municipal broadband.

The surveys can be found at the following links:

- Residential Survey: <https://projects.designnine.com/survey/northampton-residential>
- Residential Survey in Spanish: <https://projects.designnine.com/survey/northampton-residential-spanish>
- Northampton Business Survey: <https://projects.designnine.com/survey/northampton-business>

The residential survey will also be made available to every household in Northampton via a paper version sent through the U.S. Mail. Again, all Northampton residents and businesses are encouraged to complete the survey by April 23, 2021.

"The City of Northampton has been exploring the concept of municipal broadband for several years with significant encouragement from both residents and the business community. Now we want a deeper understanding of what Northampton consumers expect from their internet service, and to what extent those expectations are currently met," explains Northampton Mayor David J. Narkewicz. "This survey data will be critical to determining our next steps on municipal broadband and I urge everyone to participate and to encourage their friends and neighbors to take the survey."

The resident and business market surveys represent the next step in the exploration of this issue, which began in the summer of 2016, when the City of Northampton hired Percipio Industries, LLC, to examine the existing city fiber network for the potential of expanding into a municipal broadband network. Percipio advised the city to conduct both a professional market study as well as an in-depth technical feasibility analysis. Mayor Narkewicz proposed funding for both as part of his FY2020-FY2024 Capital Improvement Program and the City Council approved a total of \$70,000 over two years to fund them. Late last year the City of Northampton hired [Design Nine](#) to undertake the market study and a possible follow-up feasibility study.

For more information, please visit the city's [Municipal Broadband page](#), or email questions to [mbs-survey@northamptonma.gov](mailto:mbs-survey@northamptonma.gov), or contact the Mayor's Office.