



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

YI-AN HUANG
City Manager

CMA 2025 #105
IN CITY COUNCIL
April 28, 2025

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Please find the below response to Awaiting Report #25-8 which asked the City Manager to create a plan with a schedule and milestones to move forward with the creation of a Municipal Broadband Network and present it for consideration by the Council at a Finance Committee meeting in the context of capital projects for coming years.

In response to this awaiting report, the City administration presented Municipal Broadband as a topic during the prioritization meeting held by [the Finance Committee on Wednesday, April 16](#). In addition, as part of this discussion, the Council's Finance Committee was presented with potential prioritization structures and options to determine which large and new projects to focus on in regards to requesting the City administration to begin the scoping process.

As discussed in committee, the City is committed to working with the Council on prioritization, but also recognize that preserving flexibility is critical given the heightened federal uncertainty. The next steps in this proposed prioritization plan is for the Finance Chair to survey the Council to formally submit capital and large scale ideas, followed by a working session with City leaders to work through the list of ideas. Recognizing that, given the heightened uncertainty at the federal level, investing in a stabilization fund instead of scoping new ideas, may be prudent to preserve the City's flexibility to respond to potential federal funding gaps in the future.

We appreciate the Council's ongoing work on these important issues and look forward to engaging in further discussions on future spending.

Very truly yours,



Yi-An Huang
City Manager