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Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Paul Krutko

SUBJECT: Downtown WiFi Launch

DATE: February 26, 2004

Approved

Ray Wine

Date

2/27/04

INFORMATION

On Thursday, March 11 at 11:00 the City of San Jose will celebrate the Launch of Free Downtown WiFi at the Circle of Palms. We encourage you to join us for this event.

Free WiFi Internet access is being offered in key outdoor areas Downtown—including Circle of Palms, Cesar Chavez Park, and San Pedro Square—in order to energize public spaces and position San Jose as a Tech Savvy City.

Free Downtown WiFi was developed by OED, RDA, and ConVis in partnership with Cisco Systems (donated equipment) and a Downtown startup company called GNI (donated WiFi network management services).

The launch event will feature a live demonstration of how to use the service, including a video clip from the new Cinequest On-Line. Palm/Handspring, with students from Downtown College Prep, will demonstrate new WiFi-enabled handhelds and phones.

The Free Downtown WiFi service was initiated by the Mayor's June 2003 Budget Message, and helps implement Strategic Initiatives #4 and #7 of the Economic Development Strategy: "Evolve and Position Downtown San Jose As a Unique Creative and Cultural Center of Silicon Valley" and "Make San Jose A Tech-Savvy City: Lead the Way in Using Technology to Improve Daily Life."

On Monday, you will receive an e-vite to the launch event, which you can forward to interested colleagues and constituents. The launch event will last approximately one-half hour.

PAUL KRUTKO

Director, Office of Economic Development