



THE EUREKA REPORTER

[printer friendly format](#)[email this article to a friend](#)

Internet project surveys public needs

12/15/2007

Redwood Coast Connect, the pilot project led by Humboldt State University for regional Internet access, is conducting a telephone survey this month of residents of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties. Project officials are encouraging the public to take a few minutes to answer the survey questions at home or at work.

The market research will help Redwood Coast Connect estimate how many households and work sites have access to broadband Internet service in the four-county area. The survey also will estimate how many residents do not have access and how much they would be willing to pay to obtain it.

The findings about demand will be combined with a map of existing broadband infrastructure. Market projections will be packaged with alternatives for making broadband service feasible in the four-county region.

Redwood Coast Connect will issue its final report in June for consideration by the general public, policy makers, the business community, private investors, telecommunication providers and others interested in bringing broadband access to North Coast communities.

Included in the report will be a template for mobilizing the community and steps for other communities to conduct similar planning efforts suited to their unique circumstances.

In concert with the telephone survey, Redwood Coast Connect will host in early January the final two of seven regional meetings for public comment. One will be held on Jan. 8 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Healy Senior Center, 456 Briceland Road in Redway.

The other is scheduled for the same time on Jan. 10 at the Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center, located at 921 Waterfront Drive (next door to the Adorni Center) in Eureka, with parking in the lot on the east side of Waterfront Drive.

Refreshments will be served at both gatherings.

Redwood Coast Connect is a project of Humboldt State University in partnership with Redwood Coast Rural Action.

More information is available at <http://redwoodcoastconnect.humboldt.edu/> or 707-826-3919.

Funding comes from the California Emerging Technology Fund, the Headwaters Fund, the McLean Foundation, Humboldt Area Foundation and the Redwood Region Economic Development Commission.

Copyright (C) 2005, The Eureka Reporter. All rights reserved.