

**TOWN OF FAIRFAX
STAFF REPORT**

To: Mayor, Members of the Town Council

From: Michael Rock, Town Manager
Laurie Ireland-Ashley, Finance Director 

Date: September 11, 2010

Subject: Adoption of a Resolution of the Town Council adopting a Telecommuting Policy

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached Resolution and attachments creating a Telecommuting policy for the Town of Fairfax.

DISCUSSION

The Finance Department in the continued process of building a well defined administrative Town policy and procedure structure submits the Telecommuting Policy for Council review and adoption. As a result of Council input and recommendations the policy has been modified as follows:

- Teleworkers must spend 50% of the scheduled work hours in the Town of Fairfax office.
- The Town Manager approves all telework arrangements

The Council has previously passed Resolution 2514 on September 19, 2007, urging the creation of a program to encourage regional employers to allow their commuting employees to utilize telecommuting and flex time on a regular basis in order to decrease the number of vehicles on our roadways and reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by commuting employees. Council now has the opportunity to apply that environmental concern to the Town staff.

The Telecommuting policy is a comprehensive policy with specific and measurable attachments addressing the telework arrangement parameters, a safety checklist complete with work station arrangement to ensure an ergonomic setup.

The policy requires a submitted request for approval and is required to be renewed annually. It can be terminated immediately for cause, and terminated without cause, at any time, for any reason, by written notice, providing 30 days notice.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution adopting a Telecommuting/Telework Policy
2. Telecommuting/Telework Policy
3. Telework Arrangement (Attachment A)
4. Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement (Attachment B)
5. Setting up In-Home Office (Attachment C)
6. Supervisor Checklist (Attachment D)
7. Considerations for Selecting Teleworkers (Attachment E)

RESOLUTION NO. 10-__

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
ADOPTING A TELECOMMUTING POLICY

WHEREAS, simple and cost-effective means of reducing the number of vehicles on our roads include the use of telecommuting and flex-time to reduce peak traffic congestion; and thus reduce air pollution; and

WHEREAS, telecommuting stimulates employee productivity, and increases the options the Town of Fairfax can offer during recruitment, and for effective and efficient operation of the government of the Town of Fairfax; and

WHEREAS, Section 14200-14203 of the Government Code of the State of California encourages telecommuting or telework for the employees of California and has since September, 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax has adopted Resolution 2514, adopted on September 19, 2007 urging the creation of a program to encourage regional employers to allow their commuting employees to utilize telecommuting and flex time on a regular basis in order to decrease the number of vehicles on our roadways and reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by commuting employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. The employees of the Town of Fairfax, as set forth in the Telecommuting policy and exhibits, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, are hereby authorized to be implemented as provided upon the request of the Department Head and with the consent in writing of the Town Manager without further action by the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax.
2. The term "telework" or "telecommuting" as used herein shall include regular, casual, and emergency remote commuting for the benefit of the Town.

The foregoing Resolution was duly introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 11th day of September, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

Lew Tremaine, Mayor

Attest:

Judy Anderson, Town Clerk

TOWN OF FAIRFAX

TELECOMMUTING/TELEWORK POLICY

Introduction

Appropriately planned and managed, telecommuting is a work option that can benefit managers, employees, and customers. Telecommuting is an important means to reduce air pollution, traffic and parking congestion, the high costs of highway commuting, and demand for office space. Telecommuting stimulates employee productivity while giving workers more flexibility and control over their lives. The State of California was the first state government to embark upon the idea that work could be performed in alternate work locations. With the technology of the 21st century the virtual workplace has become a reality. The State of California has encouraged telecommuting or telework since September 30, 1990 under Government code section 14200-14203: State Employee Telecommuting Program. This policy is based on the January 2010 Statewide Telework Model Program.

Benefits

The Town of Fairfax (the "Town") expects the following benefits through the use of telecommuting – telework:

- Improved employee performance and morale
- Optimum use of office facilities
- Reduced absenteeism
- Improved employee health and wellness.
- Increased work options for employees on temporary limited duty
- Improved air quality and reduced traffic and parking congestion.
- Enhanced working experience and opportunities for those with mobility restrictions.
- Effective continuation of business as part of a disaster recovery or emergency plan.

Purpose

The purpose of the Town of Fairfax Telecommuting Policy is to establish the rules for the use of an alternate work location for employees to perform their usual job duties away from the central workplace

Audience

The Town Telecommuting Policy applies equally to all individuals granted telecommuting work arrangements with the Town.

Definitions

Telecommuting: A work arrangement in which supervisors direct or permit employees to perform their usual job duties away from their central workplace, in accordance with work agreements.

Work Agreement: The written agreement between the employer and employee that details the terms and conditions of an employee's work away from his or her central workplace. Work Agreements are required for Telecommuting.

Alternate Work Location: Approved work sites other than the employee's main office where official Town business is performed. Such locations may include, but are not necessarily limited to, employees' homes and satellite offices.

Work Schedule: The employee's hours of work in the central workplace or in alternate locations.

Information Assets: All categories of information (confidential, personal, sensitive, or public), all forms of

information assets (paper or electronic), information technology facilities, equipment and software owned or leased by the Town.

Remote Access: the connection of an information asset (computing equipment, etc.) from an off-site location to an information asset on Town infrastructure.

Telework Schedules:

- *Casual:* a casual or limited telework arrangement to accommodate:
 - 1) convalescence from an injury or illness
 - 2) a recovering family member in need of limited in-home assistance
 - 3) the last weeks of pregnancy, and/or following childbirth
 - 4) an inaccessible main office
 - 5) blocked commute routes (i.e., major road construction, storm, or a disaster)
 - 6) special project work requiring an extended period of non-interruptible time.
- *Regular:* an established telework schedule of days per week or month that centers on the needs of Town of Fairfax.

Teleworker: an employee that teleworks.

Teleconferencing: holding a conference among people remote from one another by means of telecommunication devices (e.g. telephones or computer terminals).

Home Office: an area designated within the employee's home for the purpose of performing Town work.

Telework Policy

The Town encourages the use of telework as a management work option when achieved through a bilateral voluntary arrangement between Town management and employee. In accordance with the Town policy:

- Both parties must agree that the arrangement is mutually beneficial.
- The telework arrangement can be terminated by either or both parties when no longer mutually beneficial.

Telework means working one or more days away from the main office, either at home or at an alternative worksite.

- Home-based – working in a space specifically set aside as an office in an employee's residence. This arrangement is based on a voluntary arrangement.
- Mixed-use – includes the use of a combination of the main or central offices, telecenters and home offices.

Telework Arrangement

Completing the Telework Arrangement form (Attachment A) verifies that all essential components of a telework arrangement have been addressed prior to the actual start of teleworking. The required signatures indicate that the teleworker and supervisor have read and understand the Telework Policy and Procedures.

Management Responsibilities

The Town is responsible for the implementation of the Telework Program and encourages the use of the telework option where work conditions warrant. The Town will ensure that:

- Employee compensation benefits, work status, and work responsibilities will not change due to participation in the Telework Program.
- The amount of time the teleworker is expected to work per pay period will not change.

- Town information assets are secure and confidential, personal and sensitive information is protected.
- Ensuring compliance with all applicable policies, procedures, and guidelines.
- Identifying job tasks suitable for telework.
- Overseeing the day-to-day performance of teleworking employees, as they would on-site employees, including communicating general office updates and related information to teleworkers.
- Ensuring teleworking employees indicate the hours they have teleworked in accordance with the Town's established policy and procedures, as they would non-teleworking employees.
- Approval of the teleworker's use of sick leave, vacation, time off, or other leave credits, as well as any overtime work.
- Providing teleworkers with specific, measurable, and attainable assignments, just as they would non-teleworking employees.
- Ensuring employees who remain in the main office are not negatively impacted by handling the teleworker's regular assignments (answering telephone calls, dispensing information, etc.)
- Providing employee training in the use of equipment and software as required for teleworkers to function effectively and independently.
- Ensuring all software installed for the telework option will be in accordance with the software copyright laws and be compatible with the Town's Information Security Policies, and software standards
- Ensuring compliance with the Town's Information Security Policies to protect the Town's assets when accessing, storing, or transporting Town information.
- Reporting security incidents immediately when they occur

Employee Responsibilities

Employees interested in becoming teleworkers are responsible for:

- Understanding the requirements contained in the Town Telework Program Policy and Procedures.
- Submitting a request to telework to their supervisor.
- Working with their supervisor to develop mutually acceptable telework arrangement.

See the Telework Arrangement form, Attachment A.

When a telework arrangement is approved, employees are responsible for:

- Abiding by the provisions set forth in the Town Telework Program Policy and Procedures.
- Establishing and maintaining a work area that is clean, safe, and free from hazards.

Employees working at home must complete the Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement, Attachment B, and certify its accuracy on an annual basis.

- Maintaining Town and/or personally owned equipment, devices, and services associated with achieving a safe, secure and healthful telework environment.
- Reporting security incidents immediately to their supervisor.
- Repairing and/or replacing any damaged, lost, or stolen Town-owned equipment assigned to the teleworker, if the damage, loss or theft is determined by management to be due to gross negligence on the part of the employee.
- Complying with all applicable policies, standards, procedures, and guidelines.

- Complying with tax laws

The Town is not responsible for substantiating an employee's claim of tax deductions for operating an office in the employee's home. An employee should seek advice from a tax advisor concerning in-home office deductions.

Eligibility

It is the Town Manager's discretion to determine what employees are eligible to participate in the Telework program

Office Supplies

Town will supply approved teleworkers with necessary office supplies (pens, pencils, stationary, envelopes, etc.). These supplies should be obtained through the teleworker's supervisor.

Self-Certification

Teleworkers are responsible for self-certifying that the in-home office complies with identified safety requirements by completing and signing the "Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement" in Attachment B. Management retains the right to make inquiries as to the status of the in-home office work environment

Employee Equipment

Only Town-owned computing equipment may be used to connect to town IT infrastructure at the network-level unless the following conditions are met:

- Written authorization is provided by Town management.
- An exception in accordance with an authorized process has been approved.
- The teleworker's computing equipment and software complies with the Town Telework and Remote Access Security standards.

When an exception has been approved, the following applies:

- Employee's personally-owned equipment maintenance and repairs remain the responsibility of the employee.
- Town does not assume any liability for loss, theft, damage, or wear of employee's personally-owned equipment as a result of telework-related activity.

NOTE: Employees who use their personal computing equipment for work purposes subject their hard drive, software, and/or any other type of electronic storage media, to the possibility of subpoena or lack of privacy through legal action taken against, or by, the town (Electronic Communication Privacy Act).

Types of Telework Schedules

Town provides for two telework schedules:

Casual – Employees may be allowed to telework on a temporary and/or episodic basis as duty assignment permits.

Circumstances which may be appropriate for temporary telework include, but are not limited to the following:

- Special project work requiring extended uninterrupted time.
- During convalescence from injury or illness.*
- During the last few weeks of pregnancy and/or following the birth of a child.
- While all reasonable commute routes are blocked (i.e., major construction, storm, disaster).
- If the primary worksite is inaccessible or not habitable.

Regular – Regular telework is an established schedule per week or month. Supervisors and/or managers must

approve any change in the agreed upon schedule, and append it to the Telework Arrangement form.

- The supervisor and teleworker must take steps to prevent the teleworker from becoming isolated from the main office staff; therefore, in-home office telecommuters may be required to spend a minimum of fifty (50%) of scheduled work hours in the main office, except under unusual conditions.
- Full-time teleworking (100% of teleworker's hours) is permissible when necessary to accommodate medical restrictions or physical disabilities, recruit and retain highly skilled expertise or is contingent on the needs of the job.*

* *An employee may request a reasonable accommodation in accordance with the Town's policy and procedures*

Ending Participation

The Town's telework program is a bilateral voluntary arrangement between Town and the telework employee that can be discontinued by either management or employee/teleworker.

Employee/Teleworker - The employee may terminate participation in the Telework Program, without cause, at any time, for any reason, by written notice to his or her supervisor.

- When feasible, the employee shall provide such notice at least 30 calendar days in advance of terminating participation.
- When an employee's participation in the Telework Program is terminated, the employee must begin working at the main office as soon as possible, but no later than 30 calendar days after being notified.

Management – Management may terminate an individual employee's participation in the Telework Program at any time, including these reasons and provisions:

- For changed circumstances, operational needs, or performance-based reasons, providing 30 calendar days prior written notice with an explanation given to the teleworker.
- For cause. A telework arrangement may be immediately terminated and does not require advance written notice.

Legal Disclosure

Files, Documents, Emails, and attached electronic documents are, like their paper counterparts in the Town's files, records and as such are subject to discovery in any litigation and are deemed public records by the California Public Records Act, which requires the Town to disclose most public records upon request. (Note that the use of personal email systems, and personal equipment, for Town business can potentially open such systems to subpoenas or public records requests). In addition, under state law, the Town is required to retain certain official records for certain periods of time in accordance with the Town's record retention policies. Each user is responsible for becoming familiar with the Town's record retention policies and managing his/her files and emails accordingly.

Disciplinary Action

Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action which may include termination for employees (whether temporary or permanent, part or full-time); a termination of employment relations in the case of contractors or consultants; or dismissal for interns or volunteers. Additionally, individuals are subject to loss of Town Information Resources access privileges, civil, and criminal prosecution

ATTACHMENT A – TELEWORK ARRANGEMENT

Teleworker Name: _____

Office/Branch: _____

Telework Location: _____

Main Office: _____

(Street Address) (City) (Apt#)

Location (Street Address)

(Telephone) (E-mail)

(City)

(Supervisor/Manager Name)

This is my residence

This is a State telework center or satellite office

Other location (identify) _____

(Supervisor/Manager Telephone)

(Supervisor/Manager E-mail)

Telework Schedule: (Check One) **Casual** **Regular**

Permission is required for each telework day. Check regular work days & note start and finish of work hours.					
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly basis:</u>		<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Monthly basis:</u>		(Indicate work dates and hours here, if not covered in table)	
Days	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Tu <input type="checkbox"/>	W <input type="checkbox"/>	Th <input type="checkbox"/>	F <input type="checkbox"/>
Hours: (start)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
To: (finish)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Town Assets to be Used at Remote Work Site:

Description	I.D. Number
Town Information Systems to be accessed from remote work location (if any):	

I have read, understand, and acknowledge the Town of Fairfax Telework Program Policy and Procedure. I also understand that my use of any Town and/or personal computing equipment for Town Telework may result in a lack of privacy relating to those items. I have completed and certified the Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement. I have met with my supervisor and discussed my role in, the conditions under which I remain, and the termination process of teleworking at Town of Fairfax.

Signed: (Teleworker Signature) _____ (Date) _____

(Manager/Supervisor Signature) _____ (Date) _____

(Town Manager Signature) _____ (Date) _____

ATTACHMENT A – TELEWORK ARRANGEMENT

(Continued)

Both the manager/supervisor and teleworker understand that telework is a bilateral voluntary arrangement that can be discontinued at either party's request with no adverse repercussions.

- Supervisors must approve in advance the use of, vacation, time off, or other leave credits, as well as any overtime work.
 - A teleworker must forgo telework when their physical presence is required in the office on regularly scheduled telework day. Managers and/or supervisors should provide reasonable notice whenever possible. If required, the employee may be required to report to the office without advance notice.
-

The Town] may reimburse teleworkers for business expenses necessary for performing work assignments.

- ▶ Supervisors must pre-approve in writing all such reimbursements.
 - ▶ The Town will not be liable for telework expenses not identified in the telework arrangement.
 - ▶ Teleworkers must return Town owned equipment to Town for maintenance and repair.
 - ▶ Teleworkers should submit a Travel Expense Claim along with receipts, bills or other verification of expenses pursuant to travel expense claim procedures.
-

The Town will not pay for the following expenses:

- ▶ Maintenance or repairs of privately owned equipment.
 - ▶ Utility costs associated with the use of the computer or occupation of the home.
 - ▶ Equipment supplies (these should be requisitioned through the main office).
 - ▶ Travel expenses associated with commuting to the main office, other than authorized transit subsidies.
-

Additionally:

- Teleworkers must be available by phone or e-mail during their designated work hours.
- Telework is not a substitute for dependent care, and teleworkers must make regular dependent care arrangements.
- The teleworker has read and understands the Town Telework Program Policy and agrees to abide by this policy.
- The teleworker will carry out the steps required for information security, and has familiarized him/herself with Town information security requirements and procedures. The teleworker agrees to consult with his/her supervisor when security matters are an issue.

This arrangement expires in one year and must be renewed to continue participation in the Town of Fairfax Telework Program.

Initials: Teleworker _____ (Date) _____ Manager/Supervisor _____ (Date) _____

ATTACHMENT B – SAFETY CHECKLIST/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The following checklist must be completed for any in-home telework site and reviewed annually. All items must be evaluated by the employee as being satisfactory, and shall be installed and maintained in accordance with guidelines in "Setting Up An In-home Office," Attachment C.

I. Electrical	Yes	No
A. All electrical outlets in the work area are permanent in nature and properly grounded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. There are an adequate number of electrical outlets to support equipment in the work area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Electrical cords are not frayed or otherwise damaged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Extension cords are not being used as a permanent source of electricity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Electrical equipment and tools are properly maintained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Computers, peripheral equipment, and fax machines are connected to surge protectors to guard against damage from power surges.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II. Fire Protection	Yes	No
A. Smoke Detector		
1. There is a smoke detector placed in a location near the work area and any equipment used to support teleworking.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) and/or the State Fire Marshall approve the smoke detector, and it has a function test mechanism.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Smoke detector(s) have been tested at the time of installation and will continue to be tested on a monthly basis.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Fire Extinguisher		
1. A 2A10BC fire extinguisher is required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The fire extinguisher is fully charged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The fire extinguisher is within 10 feet of the electronic teleworking equipment and easily accessible to the teleworker.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III. Emergency Procedures	Yes	No
A. There is an evacuation plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. There is more than one way out of the work area (e.g., doors/ windows).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. A first aid kit is on site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. Environment	Yes	No
A. The work area is free of tripping hazards and is uncluttered.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. All equipment is adequately supported and free from the danger of falling.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. The work area has adequate lighting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Potentially hazardous chemicals are not stored in, or around, the work area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

V. Work Station Arrangement

(Check here if you will NOT be using computer equipment and skip to Section VI.)

A. Positioning When Seated

Yes No

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Are your forearms and wrists parallel to the floor and upper arms resting at your sides when positioned at the keyboard or work surface? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Are your thighs parallel to the floor? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Are your feet supported? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Is there at least 2 inches of clearance between your thighs and the working surface? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Is there space, approximately the size of a fist, between the edge of the seatpan and the back of your knees? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Is the top of the monitor at a comfortable height (<i>i.e. no tilting of the head back or downward</i>)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Is the monitor screen at a comfortable distance from your eyes when in use (<i>i.e. you don't have to lean forward or backward to see the text on the screen</i>)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Does your head and neck rest in a neutral position (<i>i.e. facing forward, chin slightly down, shoulders relaxed</i>)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Chair Adjustment

Yes No

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Is the height of the chair adjusted to allow you to sit in a neutral position (<i>see your safety officer for a definition of this position</i>)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Is the backrest of your chair supporting the curve of your lower back so that your spine is slightly arched? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C. Foot Support

Yes No

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Are your feet comfortably on the floor or a footrest? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. If a footrest is used, does it allow you to sit in a correct neutral position at your work station? (<i>skip to D if a footrest is not used</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Is the footrest non-restrictive to allow for leg movement and easily removable? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D. Video Display Terminal (VDT) Screen/ Monitor

Yes No

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Is your monitor placed to avoid glare caused by light sources? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Is your screen angle and/or brightness and contrast controls adjusted to reduce glare? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Is your screen clean and free from dust and smudges? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Is your screen adjusted for good image contrast and brightness? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

V. Work Station Arrangement (Continued)

E. Workspace Arrangement	Yes	No
1. Are materials and equipment accessed and/or used frequently typically positioned/placed within 16" of reach (comfort zone)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are materials and equipment accessed and/or used less frequently typically positioned/placed within 16" to 24" of reach (secondary zone)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are frequently used materials/equipment positioned so harmful postures and motions are eliminated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are documents placed in the same visual plane as the screen face to reduce back and forth neck motions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is the telephone placed within proper reach on side opposite from the writing hand (i.e., on the left side if right handed)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Are most of your reaching motions below shoulder height and/or above knee height?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Caution: "No" responses to any questions may indicate a potential problem with your in-home workspace arrangement. Management may deny or rescind telework based on home safety or suspected hazards.

VI. Acknowledgement

Since the State is ultimately responsible for insuring that employees have a safe work environment under Cal-OSHA (C.L.C. Section 6401.7(a)2), Town may require a safety inspection by a qualified health and safety inspector of a teleworker's home office space. If warranted, Town will provide 48-hour notice to the employee except in the case of an emergency.

Home office safety re-certification will be required on an annual basis.

I, _____ (print name) certify that my home office meets all the above requirements in the Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement.

Employee's Signature

Date

Supervisor's Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT C – SETTING UP AN IN-HOME OFFICE

In setting up a home office, select a location that is safe, efficient, and comfortable. Observe "travel patterns" in and around the work area and avoid high traffic areas.

The main considerations in designing an in-home office are:

Desk

Your desk should be sturdy and able to handle the weight of any peripheral equipment (computers, printers, fax machines and/or telephones).

- Conventional desks are typically 29" high.
- Computing surfaces are usually 26" high.

Chair

Your seat should be adjustable, including the headrest.

- Height of top of seat to floor should be between 15 and 25 inches.
- Back tilt on chair/lumbar support should be 15 degrees.

Lighting

Your work lighting should be directed toward the side or behind the line of vision.

- Bright light sources can bounce off working surfaces and diminish the sense of contrast.
- Northern daylight is optimal for both the office and operating a computer.

Electricity

You should have enough electrical outlets in the room to avoid overloading any circuits. If necessary, consult your local power utility.

1. To avoid tripping hazard, cover interconnecting cables or place them out of the way.
2. Use a surge protector/master switch to connect electronic equipment, such as computers, monitors, printers and fax machines.
3. Position equipment close to electrical outlets.
4. Make sure electrical outlets are grounded.

Noise

You should avoid or keep distracting sounds to a minimum, such as the television or outside traffic or lawn mower sounds

- Diffuse unavoidable noise by shutting a door or using a room divider.
- Use soft background music to keep productivity up and reduce boredom.
- Note: no noise can be just as stressful as too much noise.

Protecting Data and Equipment

You must prevent costly computer breakdowns and the loss of crucial data by following these computer safeguards:

1. Position Equipment away from direct sunlight or heat sources.
2. Place equipment on well-ventilated surfaces and provide for sufficient air space around them.
3. Dust office space regularly.
4. Do not eat or drink near valuable equipment.
5. Never place food or beverages on your computer equipment, even temporarily.
6. Do not touch unprotected floppy diskette or compact disk (CD) surfaces, set heavy objects on them, or expose them to heat, dirt, smoke or moisture.
7. Keep all magnets, telephones, fluorescent lamps and electric motors away from computer equipment, floppy diskettes, and portable storage devices.

Safety

Review the "Safety Checklist/Acknowledgement," Attachment B.

ATTACHMENT D – SUPERVISOR’S CHECKLIST

Teleworker Name: _____ Office/Branch: _____

Date: _____

Teleworker's Telephone at Telework site: _____

Teleworker's Schedule: Casual Regular

All of the following items must be checked off as completed before the employee begins teleworking:

- Employee and Supervisor have read and agree to abide by the provisions of the Telework Program Policy and Procedures.
- The employee has read and signed the Telework Arrangement Form prior to participation in the program.
- You have documented Town issued telework equipment. The employee has received, and clearly understands the requirements for care of Town equipment.
- The employee is familiar with requirements pertaining to the security and confidentiality of data and information.
- Performance expectations have been discussed and are clearly understood.
- Phone contact procedures have been clearly defined.
- Any necessary remote access forms have been completed and approved.

Print Supervisor's Name: _____

Supervisor's Signature: _____ Date _____

ATTACHMENT E – CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTING TELEWORKERS

Many Town jobs contain tasks suitable for teleworking. Tasks that can be successfully managed in telework programs are those where the employee works independently handling information, including writing, reading, analyzing, telephoning, computer work and data entry.

The following considerations should be explored:

- ┌ Does the employee have the necessary knowledge to perform the required job tasks away from the office, or require input from others in the main office?
 - ┌ What portion of the employee's job is devoted to face-to-face contact with other agencies, the public or internal staff? Are there alternatives to needing this contact? Can this contact be structured to allow for communication via phone or computer, and if not, can it be redirected to the employee's planned non-telework days?
 - ┌ What portion of the employee's job requires the use of reference materials or resources located in the main office? Are these resources portable and able to be temporarily removed without interfering with the job performance of co-workers? Or are these resources available off-site through other means such as the Internet or a local library?
 - ┌ Will the employee's computer resources and software meet Town IT standards and allow for required productivity? Are there remote access hardware limitations? Does the Office have available resources to supply the employee with computing equipment?
 - ┌ What portion of the employee's job relies on access to photocopiers, fax capabilities or other specialized equipment? Can access needs, be met on non-telework days or can these needs, be serviced by a facility near the employee's telework office?
 - ┌ What portion of the employee's job uses confidential information? Can this information be secured in accordance with information security policies if taken or accessed off-site?
 - ┌ Can a variety of tasks that do not require information or equipment from the main office, be grouped and scheduled as telework? Can staff meetings and conferences be grouped and scheduled for non-telework days or accommodated with teleconferencing?
 - ┌ Does the employees' job involve fieldwork? Can trips begin or end at the employee's telework office rather than at the main office? Can associated paperwork be done away from the main office?
 - ┌ Is the employee reliable, responsible, self-directed and able to work independently in performing his or her work duties? Has the employee demonstrated the ability to establish priorities and manage his or her time? Does the employee require close supervision?
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