TO: ALA Executive Board

RE: Public Library Public Access Technology Benchmarks Project

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:
Update of current activities related to the development of public access technology benchmarks for public libraries.

ACTION REQUESTED BY:
Barbara Macikas, Public Library Association
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DRAFT OF MOTION:
N/A

DATE: 6-1-11

BACKGROUND:
A national coalition has formed to design and pilot a series of public access technology benchmarks for public libraries, with $2.8 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The coalition—which represents library and local government leaders and includes representation from the Public Library Association and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy—will develop guidelines that define quality technology services at libraries and how to continuously improve them to motivate local re-investment in public technology access at libraries.

PLA and OITP will provide an update of current activities and next steps for the joint effort.

Attachment: District Dispatch article announcing ALA OITP and PLA involvement in national coalition.