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December 18, 2008

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TWB-204

Re: Ex Parte Presentation CC Docket 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to confirm a meeting on December 9, 2008 at the FCC offices between myself, co-founder and principal of Digital Village Associates, a California consulting firm and also the facilitating entity for the Community TeleStructure Initiative (CTI) and with James Bachtell, Anita Cheng, Randy Clarke, Gina Spade, and Matthew Warner, all of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss CTI's "Fiber to the Library" initiative and the CTI proposal to make connecting every library with 100+mbs connectivity by 2010 a leading component in a new national broadband strategy.

During the meeting, I presented our perspective on the emerging technology roles of the library in communities and how libraries are uniquely qualified to play the role of "technology hub" for local communities everywhere. American libraries are singular institutions in that most all of their services are free and open to everyone, a tradition conceived by Benjamin Franklin which survives and thrives today. We make this point as the basis for our recommendation that relevant parties undertake to prioritize libraries above all other institutions in their efforts to buildout broadband services. While schools are most worthy of enhanced communications services, it is not their responsibility to serve everyone.

We therefore, recommend a change in the Universal Service Fund to pay 100% of connectivity charges for libraries but with the proviso that each library match such grants by purchasing adequate equipment such as high definition(HD) monitors and cameras for HD video conferencing and routers to support multiple HD streams for such applications as training videos, that will utilize 100+mbs connection speeds. There should also be a staff development requirement to enable library staff to support typical user needs.

Each community should be challenged to tangibly support its own library as a critical resource in the digital age. Libraries can play a key role in assisting their communities in

accessing and navigating the growing multitude of e-government applications. Further, hardened libraries with backup power sources and communications capabilities could be critical first responders in disaster preparedness and recovery as well as potential hubs for autonomous emergency civic voice and data networks.

Perhaps as importantly, through whatever regulatory strategy, deploying fiber based, high performance connectivity to every library in the nation will cover a substantial portion of the total infrastructure buildout cost to reach every home, office and public facility. Further, that by having a publicly accessible facility where anyone may go to experience the “killer apps” deliverable at fiber enabled speeds, overall demand will be stimulated. Without such experience it is difficult to image how the average user can even imagine what such high speed performance could mean to them nor could they be expected to care based only on descriptions and numerical evidence.

In accordance with section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, an electronic copy of this notice with supporting documents is being submitted for inclusion in the record of the above-referenced proceeding.

Best regards,

DM

Don Means
Principal

cc: James Bachtell
Anita Cheng
Randy Clarke
Gina Spade
Matthew Warner