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May 19, 2009

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation  
CC Docket 02-6  
GN Docket No. 09-29 (Rural Broadband Policy)  
GN Docket No. 09-40 (ARRA Consultation)  
GN Docket No. 09-51 (National Broadband Plan)

Dear Ms. Dortch,

This is to confirm a meeting on April 1, 2009 at the FCC offices between myself, co-founder and principal of Digital Village Associates, a California consulting firm and Commissioner Adelstein as a follow up to meetings referenced in our December 18, 2008 filing (Docket 02-6), on the "Fiber to the Library" (FTTL) initiative to provide "next generation" broadband to the nation's 16,500 public libraries to become a spearhead project for a new national broadband strategy and in our March 11, 2009 filing (Docket 02-6), on how embracing the FTTL goal and determining optimal metrics for implementation, FTTL will support FCC national broadband planning needs as an experiential policy development tool and as a pervasive national subset of a general deployment strategy.

Adopting and achieving the FTTL goal of delivering next generation broadband to all public libraries would serve to rapidly extend the nation's physical network infrastructure, particularly into unserved rural communities. FTTL would also stimulate demand for next generation broadband in every community market by providing an open and accessible environment for hands-on experience of high-speed internet applications like high definition video conferencing for tele-work/medicine/education/gaming. Each such ICT-enabled environment could become a "high tech townhall" supporting civic engagement on issues from local to global singly or as an end point on a national 16,500 node civic network.

We do not propose FTTL as an end but rather as an interim goal to increase demand for next generation broadband infrastructure and new next generation applications. As discussed with Commissioner Adelstein, we support the view that infrastructure development is at the heart of the Recovery Act and that telecom infrastructure will become the nervous system for all infrastructure elements. All so-called “smart” infrastructures will have information systems that rely on telecom thus making it a kind of “meta infrastructure” woven through all others to maximize efficiency and productivity in the nation’s expenditure of trillions of dollars for ongoing infrastructure development and lifetime support.

Today, we further advocate that the FCC include criteria and incentives to stimulate development of telecom or broadband infrastructure plans at the local community level everywhere as a key implementation strategy of a new “national broadband plan.” As also discussed with Commissioner Adelstein, we assert that the chances of success for any new national strategy will depend heavily on the existence and quality of state and especially local community broadband strategies that support local goals.

Each self defined local community, within or across multiple public jurisdictions, is a distinct and unique configuration of demographics, density, topology, plus local-specific policy priorities. Therefore no single national strategy can possibly accommodate such wide variety of local market circumstances. As with other infrastructure elements like water, transportation, energy, etc., only local communities themselves can appropriately set the priorities and strategies for their own broadband infrastructure development and deployment.

To accommodate this reality and to help ensure success for a new national broadband strategy, we urge the FCC to adopt and promulgate the principles of the Community TeleStructure Initiative (CTI), a 5 year old public/private consortium including TechNet, IEEE, EDUCAUSE, as a national effort to “encourage local commitment to strategies and policies that will spur broadband deployment to all local communities and citizens.” See <http://telestructure.com>

“Principles:

Access to high performance digital communications is a fundamental prerequisite to participation in the global knowledge economy.

While CTI is deliberately neutral on which business models, technologies and local policy priorities may be appropriate for each unique local market, all communities should establish a comprehensive and viable broadband strategy.

CTI is dedicated to the principle that each community must accept responsibility for creating a local connectivity strategy that accelerates the availability of advanced broadband networks to all members of the community.”

Best regards,

/s/

Don Means  
Principal

cc: Rudy Brioche  
Jennifer Mckee  
Randy Clarke  
Jon Peha