

## **Jim Keene remarks regarding Palo Alto Fiber to the Premises (FTTP)**

**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2009

**Re:** Public comments before Palo Alto Council by City Manager Jim Keene regarding the Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) proposal and reconciling ongoing negotiations with the consortium (Axia NetMedia, PacketFront, 180 Connect) with the proposed City application to the federal economic stimulus program for funding for FTTP

**Jim Keene:** “Fiber to the Premises is an initiative that is important to Council and the community. If there is an opportunity to pursue funding for it, we thought it should be in the mix.

“As the Council knows, you have a subcommittee of the Council (Yoriko Kishimoto, Larry Klein, and Greg Schmid) who has been working with the staff, and the staff has been pursuing proposals with the consortium to see whether or not there is an opportunity to put a deal together with them.

“I did want to report to the full Council that I believe we are in what I think are the final stages of a conversation with the consortium. I think that there are some challenges with the information they have presented us as far as it not being in keeping with the directives that the Council issued initially... basically, that we don't exceed our existing assets, we don't draw on General Fund or other money to make this thing work.

“So what I wanted to advise you, so that it is not confusing about why this item is on here (the economic stimulus application list), we expect to conclude our discussions with the consortium and have one more meeting with the Council subcommittee and then we would be back, I think at the first meeting in March, to be able to report to the full Council on where we are on the consortium item.

“I think that probably tracks and parallels pretty well with anything that will happen on the legislative front on the Fiber to the Premises proposal that we have.”