

## Next step is an Open-access FTTH Business Plan

**On the City Council Agenda, Open-access Fiber to the Home (FTTH) will be discussed again during the 7 PM Monday, July 9 Council meeting ([CMR 261-07, attachments](#)).** At the June 18 Council meeting, staff summarized the progress being made toward forming a public/private partnership with the three-member 180 Connect consortium to build, own, and operate a citywide open-access FTTH network for Palo Alto.

**The City's exact role in the partnership needs to be determined.** It will be defined in a Business Plan which will include 1) the City's financial contribution to the project, 2) the list of City assets and/or other City services that could be leveraged for the project, 3) the relationship and agreements needed between the parties, 4) the financing plan for the project, and 5) the plan for City ownership of the citywide open-access fiber to the home (FTTH) network.

**The FTTH Business Plan will require considerable professional effort by both the consortium members and staff.** In preliminary discussions with staff, the thinking is that the Business Plan may require about six months and an investment of up to \$65,000 plus staff time to do it right. Council will discuss this matter with the likelihood they will agree on a next step Monday evening, July 9.

**Attend Council in person Monday evening** to show your support for open-access FTTH and add a "new face" in the audience. If you can't appear in person, you may view or record Channel 26 beginning at 7 PM or watch Council on the Internet using Media Center. Tuesday morning, July 10, you can read all about it on iPaloAlto.

Your participation on this issue underscores the value of "community."

**For sure, email Council something like: [I support open-access FTTH and encourage Council to take the next step toward completing the job.](#)** <mailto:City.Council@CityofPaloAlto.org> You may simply highlight the text in green and paste onto your email to City Council.

Please encourage others to do the same by forwarding this email to them.

Thank you for your support.

Bob Harrington