

# Memorandum

To: Pend Oreille County Commissioners  
Port of Pend Oreille  
Pend Oreille Public Utility District

From: Community Connectivity Committee

Date: July 1, 2008

Re: Fiber Optic Deployment in Pend Oreille County

Earlier this year a citizen's committee was appointed to examine the issue of broadband services in Pend Oreille County specifically fiber optics. Over the course of the last five months the Committee has met to answer the following questions.

1. Is fiber optics the preferred broadband technology for the future of Pend Oreille County?
2. Where should the network be?
3. How should the system be paid for?

The core outcomes of the Committee's deliberations are as follows:

1. Plan for broadband services to serve all of Pend Oreille County.
2. Concentrate initial deployment on the 80% of the population along the north-south corridor and long-term deployment in the very rural areas with 20% of the population.
3. Capitalize on partnership opportunities.
4. Capitalize on the existing opportunity to deploy fiber for the future along three-phase lines of the Public Utility District. Use the Public Utility Districts bonding authority to provide the funding for rapid deployment of the fiber network.
5. Deploy the infrastructure as quickly as possible. Do it, but do it right!

The Community Connectivity Committee notebook contains the background information, meeting summaries, financing options, maps and other information considered by the Committee in the formulation of their recommendation regarding a fiber optic network in Pend Oreille County.

While the Committee has provided direction through their recommendation, they remain willing to lend their support and effort to the implementation and deployment effort as may be requested by the Pend Oreille County leadership.

Thank You.