

‘Ōlelo Community Television

Community Forum Comments

June 30 – July 2, 2008

‘Ōlelo recently held community forums to ask members of the public, educators and policymakers what they believed was important to include in the new franchise agreement between the State of Hawaii and Oceanic Time Warner. As part of these forums, people were asked what they would like to see as community benefits in the new franchise. Comments fell into four basic categories:

- *Increased channel capacity*
- *Technical improvements*
- *Facilities and equipment*
- *Other services and support*

Some comments received might not be related directly to the franchise. Those are also included for completeness.

In crafting comments and input to the DCCA, it is important to take as broad view as possible. Use examples that reflect your experience, and clearly articulate why your suggestions will result in meaningful resources that will better serve subscribers, positively impact your organization, as well as our community and O‘ahu as a whole--to include its many people, groups and causes.

Channel Capacity/Spectrum for Public, Education and Government (PEG) Access

- PEG channels should be located with local broadcast channels in the lowest tier. Channel numbers for all local channels should be between 2 and 20, if possible.
- More bandwidth should be dedicated to PEG access to ensure that they can use current and future technology.
- State-wide channels or channels for State government programs and other programs shared from all PEG access centers in the State, like youth programming, etc.
- Video on demand should be available at no cost for PEG programs.
- Increase the number of channels dedicated to PEG programming.
- Equal presentation on digital and analog guide.

Technical Improvements

- Increase the ability to go live from multiple points around the island, especially from community media centers and other key locations where the community gathers.

- Provide the ability for state-wide video teleconferencing and for live interactive testimony during government meetings. Ability to video conference from Hawaii to other video conferencing centers that could also be used for family members to talk to members in service or prisons on mainland. Community media centers could serve as local hubs for this process.
- Provide free Internet access at every community media center, with enough storage and bandwidth to support multiple services.
- Ensure that PEGs are provided with HDTV equipment and the capability to transmit HD programming.
- Expand the I-Net for use as a distance education tool for prisons.
- Provide the capability to embed info/data into access programs so that new technologies can be supported (like remote voting).
- Provide the technical resources for closed captioning of programs in various languages.
- Promote inter-Island cooperation and provide connections that allow PEG programs to be exchanged over a state-wide fiber network.
- Transmission of programs via the most current technology regardless of program origin.
- Ability for producers to upload programs from home.
- Satellite transmission

Facilities and Equipment Support

- Provide resources to obtain and/or renovate facilities in each community that are large enough to handle increasing community use and are expanded and updated throughout the term of the franchise.
- Provide resources to support Internet archiving of all PEG programs on a long-term basis.
- Ensure that enough equipment is available to fulfill needs in each community
- Ensure that PEG equipment keeps pace with changes in technology
- Fund the replacement of aging equipment throughout term of the franchise
- Provide remote production vans for each community media center
- Provide a satellite van for mobile live shoots
- Support a mobile studio
- Video teleconferencing
- Equip a music recording studio to create music for programs
- Underwater equipment
- Server-based editing (large server capacity)
- Equip a mobile learning center/media access lab

PEG Services Support

- Provide support for local media centers located in every school complex across the island of O`ahu
- Increase funding for services such as Summer Media Programs and Youth XChange.
- PEG to provide job training opportunities for youth
- More support for community outreach and capacity building efforts

- More copyright-cleared music and B-roll footage at no cost for community producers
- Community radio station
- Assistive technology and trained staff to help those with disabilities
- Connect and share resources between existing PEG providers and UH
- Collaboration with nonprofit organizations to document and share resources
- Provide resources for virtual and live forums
- Provide resources to support English as a Second Language programs and services at all PEG facilities
- Support programs that assist small businesses
- Provide more services and tools that are targeted toward senior citizens
- Expand community training to include video production, media literacy, culture, etc
- More support for multiple language programs including on-screen translations (open captioning)
- Provide grant funds for community producers that are administered by the PEG provider.
- Provide resources so that the PEG provider can more fully function as part of the Emergency Broadcast Network.
- Expand mentoring program
- Provide free advertising/promotions for PEG services and programming
- Specific listings in channel guides
- Expanded training staff for a low student/teacher ratio

Other Related Ideas

- Increase funding for PEG so that more can be accomplished
- Offer cable services at a lower cost for low income people
- PEG channels should be provided at a very low cost to all O`ahu residents as part of a basic tier of service.
- Provide free cable service at all access centers so that those in the community who do not subscribe to cable have a place to view the PEG channels.
- Create a youth position on PEG providers' boards of directors
- Create a media scholarship program
- Support staff development for PEG providers and other agencies
- Showcase and celebrate community productions and producers
- Provide childcare for PEG producers and staff to help enable the creation of programming.
- Support media literacy and integrate technology at all schools
- Provide community meeting space at media centers
- Cablecast news from other countries